

THE COVENANT CONNECTION

Volume XV No. 20

July 14, 2010

Covenant United Methodist Church

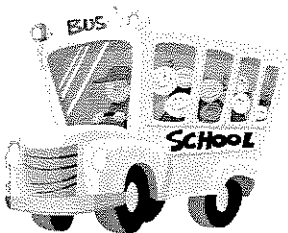
Back to School

New Hope is preparing to hand out school supplies. We are in particular need of backpacks, pencil sharpeners, index cards, binders (1 1/2", 2", & 3"), post-it notes, calculators, composition notebooks, pencil pouches, dividers, markers, colored pencils, fine tip markers, pencil boxes, red pens, permanent markers, Ziploc bags, Kleenex, paper towels, and baby wipes.

We also hope to be able give out new packages of children's underwear and socks. Please phone New Hope at 467-2900 if you have any questions.

North County Food Pantry, affiliated with New Hope Resource Center, is in dire need of a refrigerator. Please phone Jeanna at 251-1427 if you have one to donate.

Thank you for participating with New Hope in helping to meet needs in north Spokane County in Jesus' name.



Interfaith families are coming to Covenant

August 1-8, 2010

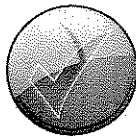
Check your calendars and come to church ready to sign up to HELP!!! Covenant has been housing homeless families for a week every 12 weeks for the past 14 years. Great Job - you should all be very proud.

We will have 50 opportunities for you to choose from ... setup and take down teams, food preparation, wash laundry, conversation as dinner hosts, overnight hosts and drivers.

Questions call Karen Dashiell, 466-1129

Big News!

Interfaith Hospitality's furniture partner, Spokane Community Warehouse, has been accepted in the July **Pepsi Refresh Project**. This is an opportunity for SCW to win \$25,000 to keep it operating next year. Interfaith is asking support and host churches' congregations to please help by voting everyday in July as the non-profit with the most votes wins. Please sign up for a **confidential** daily reminder to vote, as well as the Pepsi link address, at SpokaneCW@gmail.com with the words "Subscribe" in the subject line. *(Your email address won't be shared and will only be used for this project)* You can also find the Spokane Community Warehouse and Interfaith Hospitality of Spokane on **Facebook** and get more information. If you have any questions at all please call Interfaith's Case Manager Renee Norris at 747-5487.



Come Shop the Sister Church Garage Sale

July 16 & 17

The sister church committee is having its annual garage sale to help fund our scholarship program for students in El Salvador. The sale will be held **July 16th and 17th at Bob and Fleeta Holcomb's house (317 E Silver Pines Ct.** We can also use help during the sale itself; if you'd like to contribute your time toward this project, let Fleeta know, 466-3356.

Thank you, Covenant, for your faithful support of our committee's work.

Sister Church Ministry Team



From the Pastor's Desk

Hello Friends,

I am so grateful for each of you, and pray that this letter finds you all well. Are you getting rested and finding recuperation this summer? Most of you know that my schedule this summer is quite busy, and as I write this I am preparing to head to El Salvador with our delegation that will visit our sister church there. As I prepare to go to El Salvador,

I want to leave you with two invitations:

Would you please pray for us as we travel and spend time with our sisters and brothers in El Salvador? If you are looking for other ways to connect with our journey, I will be updating my blog regularly, and hope to upload pictures along the way. I will be sharing our journey so that you can feel like you are there with us, and understanding how this journey is impacting us.

Please prayerfully consider participating in our Tuesday night worship experiences! We meet at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary for an opportunity to connect with each other and with God. We have started emailing reminders on Monday and Tuesday each week, so let Karen know in the church office if you haven't been receiving one and you want to!

I am grateful to be your pastor, and look forward to my next opportunity to connect with you all on July 25th when our group that traveled to El Salvador will share in worship. This coming Sunday Sue Robinson will be preaching, so please support her and each of your fellow companions on this journey of faith here at Covenant UMC.

Prayerfully,

Gregg

Pastor Gregg

In Our Prayers

Sharon Colman
Boosie Longmeier
Gloria Murphy
Ron VanNoy



The 2010 Sister Church delegation team from Covenant: Mahlon and Kathy Dirks, Dave Hayward, Judy Reed, Don and Jeanne Tomlinson, and Pastor Gregg Sealey.

The people & community of our Sister Church in El Paisnal, El Salvador

To: Covenant Methodist Church,

I am the Chaplain at Rockwood at Hawthorne Retirement Community located near the corner of North Division and Hawthorne. Our retirement community holds two weekly worship services – Sunday evening Vespers and Thursday morning devotions. Both of these services utilize volunteers to provide music for our residents. We usually have a piano player to provide music for hymn-singing. We also have special music – soloists, quartets, choirs, instrumentalists, etc.

I am looking for people to serve as volunteer musicians or vocalists for these services. Volunteers can serve on a one-time basis or on a more regular basis as fits their interests and their schedules.

I would greatly appreciate it if you could let the people of your congregation know about these opportunities. Anyone who is interested in one of these opportunities can contact me at 466-0411 (ext. 125) or by email at BradB@rockwoodretirement.org.

Thank you very much for your assistance.

Sincerely yours,
Rev. Brad Buff
Chaplain
Rockwood at Hawthorne

Sister Church Golf Tournament Fundraiser

The Third Annual Covenant United Methodist Sister Church Fund Raising Golf Tournament is on the calendar!

When: Sunday, September 12, 2010

Where: Deer Park Golf Course

Time: Tee times beginning at 12:00pm

Cost: \$60 per golfer

A hosted BBQ will be held in the church's multi-purpose room following the tournament. Entry forms will be mailed out, and also be available through the church newsletter in early August.

We are hoping to increase the number of participants this year, so please feel free to invite friends and other family members. This year's tournament will again be a mixed four person scramble format, so all skill levels are welcome and encouraged to participate and have fun!

Questions? Contact Dave Hayward
diggerandrobinahome@comcast.net , or 443-0631

BOOK REVIEW SCHEDULE 2010

Second Tuesdays 9:30 am

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Book</u> |
|-------------|--|
| Aug. 10 | <i>Mountains Beyond Mountains</i> / Kidder Dr. Paul Farmer a man who would cure the world |
| Sept. 14 | <i>The Help</i> /Kathryn Stockett Civil rights |
| Oct. 12 | <i>The Art of Racing in the Rain</i> /Garth Stein Narrated by a dog |

Future Books:

The Silver Linings Playbook/Matthew Quick

Sarah's Key/Tatiana de Rosnay

Invictus/John Carlin

Everything will be Alright/Douglas Wallace

I am Not Sidney Poitier/Percival Everett

Thank You

Our deepest gratitude for the prayers and meals received after Pam's surgery. We are so blessed and thankful for all that the Covenant community has done for us!

The Tsuchida Family

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Thank you all for the prayers, cards, and the Stephen Ministry blanket given to us during Mark's stay in California for cancer treatments. The time went quickly and smoothly, and Mark feels super - we know in big part because of your support.

Mark & Nancy Reser

~~~~~

Every time I think of you I give thanks.

—Phil. 1:4

Apostle Paul said it so well and so I pass on the words to you.

THANK YOU.

We all grew this summer at RENEW: The Green VBS. Over 60 kids joined us for a week of crafts, games, and deep planting in God's love and faith.

On Monday, I encouraged the helpers to rejoice always, pray continually, and give thanks in all circumstances. So we did and God knows how all those seeds will grow and reap great fruit. Thank you all for praying, supporting, bringing in your recyclable materials, being hands-on during the week, and believing in the ministry of children.

May you be richly blessed this summer.

We'll see you next year!

Sarah

Summer Worship Schedule

Sundays10:00am
Tuesdays..... 7:00pm

Covenant Staff

PastorRev. Gregg Sealey
Church Secretary.....Karen King
Worship Arts/Children's Ministry Coordinator .. Sarah Marken
Pianist..... Mac Merchant
Custodian..... Stan Gray
Assistant Custodian..... Kyle Smith
Youth Director..... Bethany Pyle
Nursery Supervisor..... Shawna Viren
Preschool Director..... Angie Canavan

Summer Office Hours:

Mon.-Thurs..... 9:30am-3:00pm
Closed Fridays

"The Covenant Connection" is printed twice a month by Covenant United Methodist Church. **Deadline to turn in articles for the next newsletter is Tuesday, July 27**

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Strength For the Journey

is a four-day spiritual retreat for persons living with HIV/AIDS. Again this year the retreat will be held at Camp N-Sid-Sen on Lake Coeur d'Alene, in late August.

Though the retreat is sponsored by the Pacific Northwest Conference of the United Methodist Church we need (and have) a broad base of support from other denominations, churches, and individuals. Our all-volunteer staff is comprised of clergy, counselors, medically skilled works, retired persons and many other caring, compassionate colleagues.

We'd like to present the members of your community with an opportunity to support this ministry and offer the following possibilities.

- Prayers for the participants as they travel and spend time in retreat
- Donations for scholarships to the retreat. Checks can be made out to "Strength For the Journey"
- Snacks and home-baked cookies, or fresh fruit and veggies.
- Notes to the participants which will be placed in their "mail box" every day. You can write "To a friend" using words of encouragement and inclusiveness. You may sign your name or just sign "a friend". There will be 40 participants and 15 staff at the retreat this year.

Thank you for supporting others in their journey by making ***Strength for the Journey*** possible.

Flora Bowers, UMC Pastor, Chaplain ***Strength for the Journey***