



INSIDE NORTH VALLEY

A monthly publication of North Valley Friends Church

July 2009

ARE WE LIVING BY FAITH OR BY RELIGION?

One of the books I am presently reading is; “Reading Lolita in Tehran.” It’s a wonderful book for students of fiction (the book itself is non-fiction) and, for me, it’s a heartbreaking book about religion and human rights. Here’s a conversation between two members of a reading group in Tehran – a group that meets at great peril.

*“What else do I have but my religion, and if I lose that...” Mahshid turned her gaze to the ground.
“I know what Mahshid’s talking about,” Yassi broke in. “The worst fear you can have is losing your faith. Because then you’re not accepted by anyone-not by those who consider themselves secular or by people of your own faith. It’s terrible. Mahshid and I have been talking about that, about how ever since we could remember, our religion has defined every single action we’ve taken. If one day I lose my faith it would be like dying and having to start anew again in a world without guarantees.” (p 327)*

There’s much to admire just taking these comments at face value, although the context of what would seem to us a very repressive religion colors such admiration. That aside, I can’t help but react to this confession by wondering if many Christians feel the same about the religion of Christianity. I’m using religion to mean the system that provides boundaries and structure to faith. One could conceivably be Christian without buying into the Christian religion and vice versa.

Some Christians function as though their religion is like a turtle shell. Inside the shell they feel safe and protected from challenges to faith and some of the larger questions. The shell repels perceived threats to faith and neatly divides belief into largely black and white categories. Movement and range are limited but easily controlled. Other Christians function as though their religion is like a human skeleton. It provides strength, structure, shape, and a strong center but leaves religion somewhat vulnerable to change and at risk of injury. These folks enjoy an adaptable faith and are free to move around and try the big questions. Still others prefer a religion that is free to adapt to any circumstance, much like a single celled amoeba. Belief is sort of like a nucleus and is vulnerable to change depending on the experience of the amoeba. This is clearly the least definable of the three. There is no room for dogma from outside, belief comes from simply interpreting experience. It may change at any time and is not attracted by boundaries of any kind.

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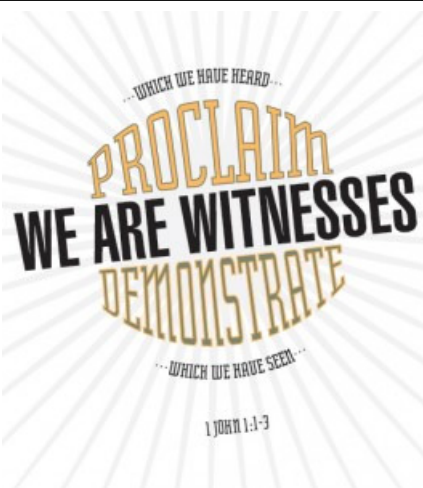
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All analogies break down, but perhaps this one provides some fodder for reflection on our own religion. Does religion define every single action we take? Should it? Personally, my faith colors my every thought and reaction to the world, but my religion??? Not so much. Jesus' ministry took place in the context of religion gone awry. Much like the expression of Islamic religion to which Mahshid and Yassi were reacting, the religion of the Jews served to control nearly every action Jesus' people undertook. There is a point at which religion no longer enables faith, but squelches it. Every religion seems to eventually give in to the impulse to control and colonize. We should be aware that, though it's easier to follow a religion in lock step manner, it is also more dangerous. Shouldn't we be asking if our religion supports and enables faith, or if our religion confines faith to a set of behaviors or a creed. Doesn't God call us to a living, dynamic faith? Is there a way to make sure that our religion frees us to live fully into such faith whether we are turtles, skeletons, or amoebas?

- Stan

ANNOUNCEMENTS



NORTHWEST YEARLY MEETING SESSIONS

JULY 26-30, 2009

George Fox University

REGISTRATION IS ONLINE: www.nwfriends.org/registration

Everyone participating in Yearly Meeting sessions is asked to register, *even if you will only attend during the day.* Registration is being handled online, with prepayment available. When you show up at Yearly Meeting, you will merely need to check in and pick up your packet of information. *If you are unable to access the internet, please pick up a hardcopy of the registration form from the church office.*

CHECK OUT THESE GREAT WORKSHOPS:

Let Your Voice Be Heard - *Jim Teeters and Nancy Thomas*, facilitators A 'round robin' format to share original poetry and writings in an open mic setting.

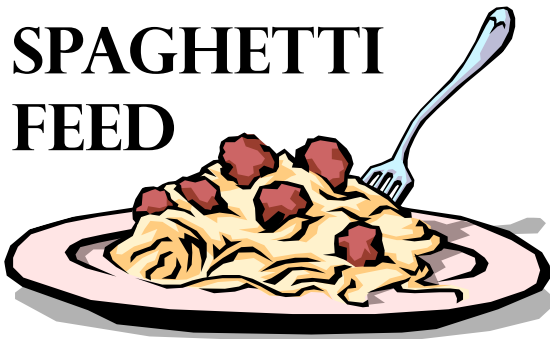
Beyond Color Blindness - *Randy and Edith Woodley* Building churches that reflect God's passion for diversity and community in our ethnically changing culture.

Plugged In: Impact of Technology - *Doreen Dodgen-Magee* Technology has an impact on the brains, souls, and interpersonal lives of those who use it. Overuse can be detrimental in each of these areas. Information will be presented on the effects and on how to manage them for children and adults.

For a complete list of workshops, visit www.nwfriends.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SPAGHETTI FEED



—JULY 12—

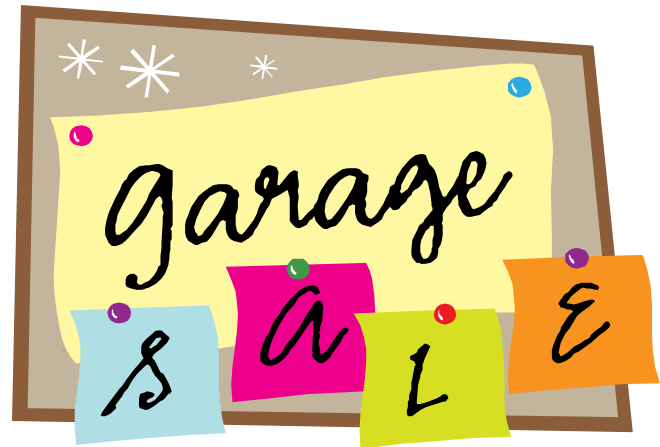
Join us after worship on Sunday, July 12th for a Spaghetti Feed. Donations will be accepted with proceeds going toward George Fox University scholarships.



TILIKUM DAY CAMP JULY 27-31

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

If you are able to help out during camp (7:30 am-4:00 pm), please contact the church office. We can use all the help we can get... whether it's just one day during the week, or everyday. Please let us know!



GARAGE SALE FOR SCHOLARSHIPS!

SATURDAY, JULY 18TH

9:00 AM-2:00 PM

NORTH VALLEY PARKING LOT

This event is a fundraiser to help out our
George Fox students!

Remember: "One man's trash is another man's treasure."

Please support this event by:

1. donating your garage sale items. Donations may be dropped off at the church gym starting Monday, July 13th, or you can bring your items Saturday, July 18th at 8:00am.
2. stopping by the sale on Saturday from 9:00 am-2:00 pm to purchase all kinds of new "treasures"!

GET READY FOR SUMMER 2009 AT TWIN ROCKS!

Girls Camp: July 5-10 (for girls entering 4 th -6 th grades next fall) \$271 (\$241 if pre-registration postmarked by June 19)	LAST DAY TO REGISTER: June 29
Boys Camp: July 19-24 (for boys entering 4 th -6 th grades next fall) \$271 (\$241 if pre-registration postmarked by July 3)	LAST DAY TO REGISTER: July 13
Tween Camp: July 12-18 (for youth entering 7 th -9 th grades next fall) \$292 (\$262 if pre-registration postmarked by June 26)	LAST DAY TO REGISTER: July 6
Surfside Camp: August 9-15 (for youth completing 8 th -12 th grades) \$292 (\$262 if pre-registration postmarked by July 24)	LAST DAY TO REGISTER: Aug. 3

Pay particular attention to the LAST DAY TO REGISTER for each of the camps this summer. There will be NO walk-ons this year to ensure adequate staffing at camp. More information can be found in the church foyer or at www.twinrocks.org.

MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS



Wednesday Night with Friends

JULY 22

Join us for an evening filled with fellowship and discussion for adults, and fun-filled activities for the kids.

Dinner: 5:30-6:15 pm

Activities for all ages: 6:30-8:30 pm

Adults—Movie—*Pray the Devil Back to Hell*

(see movie description at right →)

Nursery—babies through age 3

Wacky Wednesday—age 4 through 5th grade

Middle School & High School—Youth Group



**“LIFE.
SUPPORT.
MUSIC.”**

(POSTPONED FROM LAST MONTH)

Please join us on Wednesday, July 8 at 6:45 for a viewing of this remarkable film (postponed from last month). It tells the story of Jason Crigler, a young guitarist and father-to-be who suffered a brain hemorrhage while on stage in New York City. It appeared at first that he likely would not recover and that, if he did, he would be in a vegetative state. Yet his family—most prominently his wife, sister, and divorced parents—driven by their courage, their love for him, and signs that the person they knew as Jason was still inside his broken body, refused to give up. With doctors telling them he wasn't there, they persisted, devoting themselves to spending time with him round the clock, sending him what his sister terms “smoke signals,” drawing him out, stimulating the parts of his body and brain that lay dormant. The film carefully chronicles their and his agonizing progress to a miraculous recovery. Snacks will be provided. Hope to see you there!



Pray the Devil Back to Hell is the gripping account of a group of brave women who demanded peace for Liberia, a nation torn to shreds by a decades-long civil war. The women's historic achievement finds its voice in a narrative that intersperses interviews, archival images, and scenes of present-day Liberia

together to recount the memories of a few of the women who were there. In 2003, Liberia was a country devastated by decades of political dislocation, humanitarian crisis, and street-to-street urban warfare. Charles Taylor, then President of Liberia, had emptied the country's pockets as creatively as any dictator in memory. His ascent to power led to the deaths of thousands of people and a nation in complete ruin. Out of the wreckage, more than 2000 Christian and Muslim women throughout the country began to organize and banded together in an effort to bring an end to the fighting. At great personal risk, they protested creatively and persistently for peace in the worst days of brutal and protracted civil conflict. The Academy Award-nominated team Gini Reticker, Kate Taverna and Kirsten Johnson teamed up with Abigail E. Disney to produce this powerful documentary feature.



IGLESIA DE LOS AMIGOS

The ministry, Iglesia de los Amigos, that uses our building on Sunday night, is going really well. Let's continue to keep this group in our prayers!



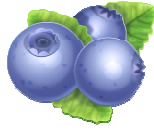
We are still in need of volunteers to assist Lukas McKennon & Emily Cropper during Children's Church Sunday Mornings. One volunteer is needed on July 19, and we need two volunteers on July 26. We also need help August 2, 9, 16, 30, and September 6. Please contact the church office if you are able to help out.

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS & INFORMATION

*Support local youth and buy delicious,
fresh-picked local BLUEBERRIES**



*\$18: Flat
\$10: Half flat
\$5: Basket*



***Place your order today at:
Newberg-Dundee Youth Outreach
719 E. First Street, Newberg
or call 503-538-8023***

** These berries are not sprayed with pesticides or other chemicals!*



BEGINNING GLASS MOSAIC CLASS

The Community School is offering a Beginning Glass Mosaic class July 13-22 on Mondays & Wednesdays.

A launch pad for creating your own mosaics at home! In this class we will learn how to create a work of art using morsels of other material. We will begin with designing the mosaic and then learn the process of breaking the materials, gluing and grouting.

You can register by phone at 503-537-2909, or register online at cprd.recware.com (as well as check out other activities offered by the Community School). If you have questions, call 503-554-6640.



Love INC

July News



Children's Health Day is just around the corner on August 8th - Free teeth cleaning, vision screening, well health checks, sports physicals, speech and hearing testing. After each medical appointment, a prize is given to each participant. Backpacks and school supplies are given to all participants. If you want to help with the 4th annual Children's Health Day, email polly@loveincnewberg.org. If you know of a child between 4 and 18 that could use these services, please have their parent contact Love INC at 503-537-3999 to get preregistered.

GAP MINISTRY OF THE MONTH

In July, we are highlighting our furniture ministry. Currently, we offer furniture pick up on the 3rd Saturday of each month. If you have a truck or a strong back and a heart to help, the furniture ministry could use you. Contact Susan, our volunteer coordinator for more details.

Needed Items:

Mattress (all sizes)
Box Springs (all sizes)
Bed Frames (all sizes)
Bunk Beds
Cribs

Entertainment Centers
Dressers
End Tables
Coffee Tables
Lamps

Recliners
Kitchen Tables & Chairs
Couches
TVs

Visit www.loveincnewberg.org for more information.

July

2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	
5	6 Last day to register for Tween Camp!	7 7 pm Missions Committee Mtg.	8	9 12pm Education Committee Mtg.	10	11
TWIN ROCKS GIRLS CAMP						
12 Spaghetti Feed after Worship 	13 Last day to register for Boys Camp!	14 7 pm Fellowship Committee Mtg.	15	16	17	18 9 am - 2 pm Garage Sale for GFU Scholarships 8 am Men's Breakfast @ J's
TWIN ROCKS TWEEN CAMP						
19 7:30 am Stewards Committee Mtg.	20 5 pm Elders	21 6:30 pm Admin. Committee Mtg.	22 Wednesday with Friends: Dinner@5:30pm Activities@6:30pm	23 7 pm Social Concerns Committee Mtg.	24	25 Boomer Band & Fireworks @ Renne Field
TWIN ROCKS BOYS CAMP						
26	27	28	29	30	31	
NORTHWEST YEARLY MEETING SESSIONS						

JULY WORSHIP CALENDAR

	5	12	19	26
Greeters	Verna Munn	Janine Saxton	Vonnie Burton	Earl Tycksen
				Annie Tycksen
Ushers	Bill Rourke	Alan Parry	Don Parrish	Daryl Burton
	Jess Howell	Jim Allison	Michael Pender	John Frost
	George Piper	John Frost	Jesse Lowe	Anna Baker
	John Frost	Jared Jones	Terrel Smith	Mike McBride
	Ryan Libby			
Music	Sandi Thornton	Darleen Ortega	Jared Jones	Janine Saxton
	Lukas McKennon	Dave Kinnunen	Bryan Boyd	Aletha McKennon
	Peter McKennon	Jon Holt	Colby Spell	Steve McKennon
	Emily Cropper	Wes Cropper		Michael LeClair
	Steve McKennon			Linda LeClair
Sound	Rawlen Smith	Mike McConaughy	Steve McKennon	Rawlen Smith
Power Point	Nathan Murray	Peter McKennon	Ben Kantz	Jessica Trout
Media	Sandi Thornton	Darleen Ortega	Jared Jones	Aletha McKennon
Preach/Facilitate	Stan	Stan	Stan	Lynn
Monthly Focus	Peace			Missions/Yearly Mtg.
10:45 Nursery and 2's & 3's	Janelle Townsend	Jennie Harkema	Heidi Pender	Valerie Lapham
	Joseph Olivarez	Becky Headley	Scott Conant	Troy Lapham
	Abby Woolsey	Erinn Baker	Jenna Allison	Scott Conant
	Elsie McConaughy	Brenna Baker	Amanda McConaughy	Della Anderson
SUMMER CHILDREN'S CHURCH SCHEDULE 4-year-old through 5 th grade (in the gym)				
4-year-old's through 5th grade	Lukas McKennon	Lukas McKennon	Lukas McKennon	Lukas McKennon
	Emily Cropper	Emily Cropper	Emily Cropper	Emily Cropper
	Bryna Parry	Jessica Trout	Elaine Cropper	TBA
	Alan Parry	Jessica Baker	TBA	TBA
				

ABOUT OUR PEOPLE

JULY UPDATE ON THE STAVE FAMILY IN LITHUANIA



As many of you remember, every summer for the past 6 years, Andrew and Kim Stave and then Ieva, their 3 ½ year old daughter, have returned to Oregon each summer and we have been blessed to have them return to North Valley and share with us about their ministry in Lithuania. Andrew and Kim were part of North Valley prior to leaving for Lithuania to serve at Lithuania Christian College International University.

However they are **NOT** returning this summer due to **two hospital visits during the month of June**. First, Ieva had her tonsils and adenoids removed on Monday, June 1st. Kim wrote that she did very well and recovered amazingly fast. Then three days later, baby brother Isak Andrius was born on Thursday, June 4, 2009, at 2:20 pm weighing 7.8 lbs. and 21.35 inches long. Kim reported that her recovery has been slow (she had forgotten that c-section recoveries aren't easy), but Isak is doing well and seems to be a generally peaceful and content little guy! The Staves plan to return to Oregon in December and the missions committee will be hosting a baby shower for 6 month Isak sometime in December.



Please keep Kim, Andrew, Ieva and Isak in your prayers as they return to their home and Ieva adjusts to a new baby. Kim has asked for prayer for this school year as she is taking a different job position as Vice President of Student Life. If you are interested in seeing pictures of Isak and Ieva, learning the story behind how they chose Isak's name, and what is in store this next school year, check out their blog site (www.kimandrewstave.blogspot.com).

CHANGE OF ADDRESS



TAKE NOTE OF THESE NEW ADDRESSES:

Andy & Leanne Baker
3000 Dogwood Ave.
Newberg, OR 97132
New Phone #: 503-487-6097

Amy Watson
14967 SW Kenton
Tigard, OR 97224

**Fireworks and
The Boomer Band
at The Old Fashion Festival**

Join folks from the North Valley Community on July 25 at the Renne Athletic Field to watch fireworks and listen to the Boomer Band - featuring our own Michael & Linda LeClair!

The fireworks begin at 10:00 pm, but come early to listen to music and enjoy each other's company!



Joseph Olivarez & Janelle Townsend are getting married on July 11! They will be having a small ceremony at the coast.
CONGRATULATIONS!!!

ABOUT OUR PEOPLE

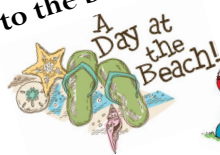
WILLAMETTE FAMILY WELLNESS



Tabatha Weaver's business, Willamette Family Wellness, is having a grand opening on July 11. Drop in any time between 1:00-4:00 pm. There will be drawings for massages, relaxation training and other local services. Food and drink will be served, and kids are welcome! The address is 108 East Second Street, Newberg. Please call 971-832-8187 with questions.

JUST FOR FUN

Planning a trip to the beach?



Want to go swimming?



How about a bike ride?



Hiking anyone?



If you are planning an activity this summer and you think it would be fun to have others from the North Valley Community join you, please let the office know. We can send out an all-church email with details of the activity.



- 1 Jessica Trout
- 2 Cathy Thornburg
- 3 Torey Smith
- 7 Darleen Ortega
- 8 Deb Mortimer
- 12 Kyle Smith
- 14 Carla Anderson
- Betsy LeClair
- 17 Sharon Longstroth
- Henry Murray
- 18 Debbie Headley
- Joel Sandoz
- 19 Roy Gathercoal
- 21 Vonnie Burton
- Ethan Jones
- Bryna Parry
- 22 Janae McDonough
- 23 Truman Connelly
- 25 Amy Saxton
- 26 Abby Woolsey
- 27 Michael Pender
- 31 Paul Bock



- 3 Brent & Tabatha Weaver
- 5 Terrel & Jane Smith
- 8 Rob & Kim Felton
- 11 Doug & Karen Pugsley
- 28 Jeremy & Jessica Baker
- 30 Torey & Christy Smith

NORTH VALLEY FRIENDS CHURCH

Staff:

- Lynn Clouser Holt Education/Spiritual Formation
- Leslie Hodgdon Murray Youth
- Stan Thornburg Pastoral Ministry
- Jennie Harkema Administrative Assistant

CHURCH OFFICE

Hours:

Monday 9:00 am-1:00 pm
Tuesday CLOSED
Wednesday 9:00 am-1:00 pm
Thursday 9:00 am-1:00 pm
Friday 9:00 am-1:00 pm

Phone: 503-538-5340

E-Mail: office@northvalleyfriends.org

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday:

9:30 am Sunday School of all ages
9:30 am Unprogrammed Meeting
10:45 am Programmed Meeting

North Valley Friends is a Quaker community of ministers who seek to follow Jesus Christ faithfully, love each other deeply and continue His ministry in the world.

VISIT US ONLINE:

NVFC: www.northvalleyfriends.org

NWYM: www.nwfriends.org

This newsletter is available online at www.northvalleyfriends.org

NORTH VALLEY FRIENDS CHURCH

4020 North College Street
Newberg, OR 97132