



INSIDE NORTH VALLEY

A monthly publication of North Valley Friends Church

September 2009

LAMPS, LIGHTS, AND BARRY MANILOW

I can't get the chorus "Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path" out of my head. It's driving me crazy – a short drive indeed. I've even tried listening to Barry Manilow's "Copacabana" in an attempt to horrify the chorus and send it packing...no luck. Might as well go with it, I guess. So let's ask, "How is God's Word a light unto your path?"

Quakers, of course, immediately think of the Spirit of Christ, the inner light, as the lamp that illuminates one's path. The prologue to the Gospel of John informs us in that regard. "In the beginning was the word - Greek word, *ὁ λόγος* (The Word) - and the word was with God, and the word was God." And, "The word became flesh and dwelt among us." Clearly, John is referring to Christ. John gets even more specific later in that passage... "The true Light which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world."

It is this belief – Christ the light is always present in everyone – that gives us faith to wait in silence in worship and business, believing that Christ, the light, will make the truth known to us and will lead us together to an unwavering sense of direction. So we wait, listen, give voice to our leadings, and sometimes suffer together in the process of discernment and worship.

Other groups of Christians believe that the Bible is the Word that lights our path. That teaching often refers to the Greek word *ρήμά* (Rayma) which means a specific declaration or direction, as in "...man does not live by bread alone but by every *word* that proceeds from the mouth of God." That teaching gives God's written word (Rayma) authority but doesn't elevate it to the status of "The Divine Word."

It seems to me that both views (and those in between) are true and helpful. The point I want to dwell on here is not the dispute but the reality that both are necessary in order to really get a full sense of what God loves, hates, wants of us, and hopes for as God's kingdom is made visible through God's followers.

I like Tony Compolo's idea of "Red Letter Christians" as a way of pointing out the importance of heeding the teachings of Christ as recorded in the Gospels. If Christians everywhere would focus on living out those wonderful teachings, the world would be a far less dangerous place. Still, such an idea assumes that Christ's words are easy to understand and apply. Not so.

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Jesus' words make use of parables, they are rife with paradox, mystery, and "insider" language. Christ was a product of His times, even as an expression of God's fullness. We need the "present teacher," the light of Christ to help us discern the deeper truths of these teachings. We also need Christ's spirit to soften our tendency to apply our understanding in a legalistic, dogmatic, and/or judgmental way.

So, I believe it is vital to our spiritual health to saturate our minds with the truth as revealed in Scripture. As the word (rayma) sinks into the deep places of our hearts, incredible transformation takes place. Often such transformation is so subtle that our friends or family notice it before we do.

It is equally important to our spiritual growth to spend time alone with the Light. In the silent waiting, Christ's spirit teaches us truth on a level completely unintelligible to our minds. God's vision for our world and God's sense of justice and righteousness take root in our souls on a level that can't be reached any other way. It is on this level that we often "share in the sufferings of Christ." It is at this level that we see (rather than think) the Kingdom as it will be in its fullness.

May God bless you as you grow and struggle to understand God's Word (rayma) and experience The Word (Logos) the Lights that guide your feet and light your way.

- Stan

ANNOUNCEMENTS



ALL-CHURCH RETREAT
January 22-24
 Twin Rocks Friends Camp

If you are interested in helping plan this year's retreat, please contact Lynn.

NEW OFFICE HOURS




CHURCH OFFICE HOURS


The office will be
CLOSED ON WEDNESDAYS
 beginning the week of September 13th.

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

BUSINESS MEETING

On Wednesday, September 16th we will have a Business Meeting from 6:30-8:15 pm. Please plan to join us. Dinner will be served at 5:45 pm, and we will have Kids Alive for the children. Middle School Youth Group will meet as well.





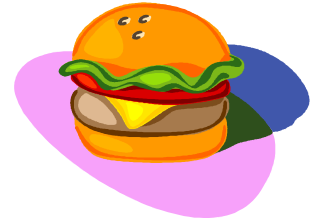
CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATES

We are working on updating the church directory. For three Sundays in September (13, 20, 27), there will be a table in the foyer where you can make corrections/additions. Please take a moment to stop by the table to be sure all of your information is complete and accurate.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Kickoff Sunday BBQ and Ice Cream Social Sunday, September 13th



Get ready for the last BBQ of the summer...September 13th after worship. The meat, beans and lemonade will be provided. Please bring a salad or chips to share. You may even want to bring a blanket so you can lie out on the grass. Also, don't forget that the (homemade) Ice Cream Social is right after the BBQ. Who will take home the Pewter Scoop Award this year? If you would like to make some ice cream for the contest, please contact Earl Tycksen (503-537-2208) or Jessica Baker



CPT FUNDRAISER Sunday, September 27 6:30-8:30 pm

There will be a fundraiser for Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT) on Sunday, September 27 at the Newberg Friends Church Friends Center gym from 6:30-8:30 pm. Come enjoy some delicious snacks and enjoy entertainment by Seth Martin and Bill Jolliff. There will be a dessert auction, so come prepared to be the highest bidder on a fabulous homemade dessert!

If you would like to help out (besides coming to the event and bidding on desserts), we can use folks to provide snack and desserts. The snacks will be Middle Eastern-style, so donate garden veggies (especially tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers), and homemade or store-bought hummus and pitas. To donate a dessert contact Phil Smith, psmith@georgefox.edu; to donate snack items contact Cherice Bock, chericebock@gmail.com.

To learn more about CPT, visit their website at www.cpt.org.



GFU SERVE DAY September 9th

North Valley will be participating in GFU's Serve Day again this year. We will have approximately 30 George Fox students working at the church on Wednesday, September 9th. If you are available to lend a hand on Serve Day, please contact Sandi Thornton (sandwich@comcast.net or 503-380-8627) or the church office.

FALL SMALL GROUPS



Wednesday with Friends begins September 16. Dinner will be served at 5:45 pm. The first meeting of the fall will be a business meeting for the adults, and Kids Alive for the children. Middle School Youth Group will begin on the 16th as well. Small groups for high schoolers and adults will begin on September 23rd.

The “**Friendly Discussion**” small group (Sept. 23-Oct. 14, facilitated by Stan Thornburg) will be just that, i.e. a conversation about the basic spirituality of Friends. We’ll talk some about Friends History but mostly about how Friend’s testimonies work themselves out in our lives. We’ll talk about the testimonies to peace, simplicity, equality of persons, authentic worship, sacramental living, and integrity and how those testimonies suggest a lifestyle rather than just a list of beliefs. We’ve scheduled four weeks to get the conversation started. This should give those new to Friends an idea of the basics and those considering membership at North Valley a handle on what it means to make take that step. We’ll also have the opportunity to field questions and talk about each other’s experience of Friends.

Biblical and Practical Aspects of Discernment (Sept. 23-Nov. 11): Paul Anderson will lead a small group discussion on discernment, looking at how it is developed in the Bible and also how Christian leaders can facilitate groups coming together around a sense of Christ’s leading. While there will be good opportunities for discussion and engagement, Paul will also present an outline each week drawing from his research and the findings of the Congregational Discernment Project that he has been directing at George Fox University since 2004 (georgefox.edu/discernment). All are welcome, especially those interested in clerking, Quaker decision-making process, leadership, and more generally how to know and follow God’s will for our lives.

Women’s Prayer Group: *Prayer is at the very heart of our spiritual life because it leads to the awakening of our understanding of God’s love and desires for us and is the foundation from which we move out to bless our neighbors.*

We are always invited to listen for God, to see the hand of God at work in our lives, and as Paul tells us, to pray without ceasing. (1 Thess. 5:17). Yet at the same time we are confronted with great mysteries. Who hasn’t struggled with the puzzle of unanswered prayer? Who hasn’t questioned whether prayer really works?

The goal of our time together will be to encourage a life of prayer. To this end we will explore some of the timeless writings & practices of prayer to deepen our prayer life and we will use some of the group time to pray together.

The **High School Small Group** (led by Darleen Ortega) will be watching and discussing the award-winning TV series, “Joan of Arcadia”. (See page 5 for more details)

YOUNG ADULT SUNDAY NIGHT SMALL GROUP

Colin and Janine Saxton will lead a Bible study and discussion group on Sunday evenings (September 13 through November 29) for folks ages 18-24(ish). The group will meet at the Saxton’s house (511 East 3rd St.). A light supper (optional) will be served at 5:30 pm, then a gathered worship at 6:00 pm, with the bible study, discussion, and prayer following from 6:15-7:30 pm. This will be a time for connection, accountability and discipleship! (There will be no child care available, sorry!)

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP



Youth Group for Middle Schoolers will begin on September 16th. They will meet at Newberg Friends Church from 6:30-8:00 pm on Wednesdays. Leslie will transport youth each week from North Valley to Newberg Friends. The van will leave from NVFC at 6:20 pm and return at 8:15 pm.



QUESTIONS?

Contact Leslie via phone at 503-538-5340 (office) or 503-260-7615 (cell).

You can also email her at leslie@northvalleyfriends.org.

HIGH SCHOOL SMALL GROUP

Wednesdays beginning on September 23: "**Joan of Arcadia**" hosted by Darleen Ortega

"What if God was one of us? Just a slob like one of us?" The award-winning TV series explored that musical question via the adventures of a high school student, Joan, who begins having encounters with God, who appears to her in various forms, ranging from a cute boy on the bus to a grave school-age girl to a sarcastic older woman to a cafeteria worker to a Goth teenager. Joan wonders if she is crazy--and yet God finds ways to engage her, and she responds with her real self, including all her questions and her snarky attitude. God always manages to respond in kind.

The series is a wonderful basis for exploring the tough questions that plague us as humans--especially in high school. Why does God allow terrible things to happen? Why does God appear to answer some questions and not others? How can one possibly help a person who seems to be a lost soul? Does God really talk to human beings? Why doesn't God make the answers clearer?

We'll explore these and other questions on Wednesdays at 6:45. Hope to see you there!

MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS



Women's Fall Retreat

For an inspirational and fun-filled weekend, plan to attend the Women's Fall Retreat at Twin Rocks, October 1-4, 2009. All women are invited.

The guest speaker will be Betty (Eichenberger) Southard. As a youth she attended 1st Friends in Portland. Our own Nancy Thomas will present the Mission Moment. There will be silent and oral auctions, a craft event, craft swap table and more.

For more information, pick up a brochure in the church foyer. The early registration deadline for a discount is September 17, 2009.

Plan now to attend!



Friends Women Meeting

Summer break is over and Friends will have their first fall meeting September 15 at 1:00pm in the home of Jan Thompson, 17940 NE Lewis Rogers Lane, Newberg (503-538-5565). The speakers will be women from 2nd Street Church that went on the Serve Trip to Mexico.

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS & INFORMATION



Love INC
Love In the Name of Christ

Love INC

September News



Love INC
Love In the Name of Christ

The ministry of the month for September is Monday Meals. Zion Lutheran will begin serving dinner on Monday evenings from 5:30 to 7:00pm starting in September. With this addition, we are able to offer a free dinner meal 3 nights a week! Below, you will find the time and location for the meals. Dinner meals are meant to provide food to the hungry, help those that are trying to make ends meet and offer a place to share a meal and conversation with new friends.

Community Dinner Nights:

Monday Meals – Zion Lutheran 301 South River **Mondays** 5:30 – 7:00pm

Simple Suppers – River Street Church of God – 715 South River – **Wednesdays** 6:00 – 7:00pm

Community Kitchen – Newberg Christian Church – 2315 Villa Road **Thursdays** 5:30 – 7:00pm

Use your talents to help!



Go God Music Festival – September 12th
GoGODmusicfestival@yahoo.com



SPA DAY – September 13th
1:30 – 5:00pm
Looking for manicure and pedicure professionals

Serve and Celebrate – September 19th
www.serveandcelebrate.org



A CULTURE OF GENEROSITY

The culture of generosity that abounds at North Valley continues to amaze me. Even in the midst of a recession, we have increased our giving over the previous year. I can't express how much I appreciate and respect your faithfulness to the ministries of North Valley. Our expenses have increased as well, but we are keeping close to our goals as we move through the year.

On top of that, we have responded generously to several fundraising events and causes, and have done much to help needy folks from the area find help. Not enough good can be said about the trust and faithfulness of this community of Friends. I hope each person at North Valley appreciates and feels rewarded for his/her unselfishness. We are investing in the Kingdom where neither "moth nor rust can corrupt!" Thanks so very much.

- Stan

SEPTEMBER

2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 7 pm Missions Committee Mtg.	2 6:30 pm Land Use Committee Mtg.	3	4	5
6 6:30 pm Iglesia de los Amigos	7	8 7 pm Fellowship Committee Mtg.	9 GFU Serve Day	10	11	12
13 Kickoff Sunday BBQ & Ice Cream Social - after worship 6:30 pm Iglesia de los Amigos	14	15 1 pm Friends Women Meeting	16 Wed. w/ Friends Dinner: 5:45 pm Activities: 6:30 pm Kids Alive MS Youth Group Business Meeting	17	18	19 8 am Men's breakfast at J's
20 6:30 pm Iglesia de los Amigos	21	22	23 Wed. w/ Friends Dinner: 5:45 pm Activities: 6:30 pm Kids Alive MS Youth Group Small Groups	24 7 pm Social Concerns Committee Mtg.	25	26 1 pm Tycksen's 50 th Anniversary Celebration  50 th ANNIVERSARY
27 6:30 pm CPT fund- raiser @ NFC Friends Center 6:30 pm Iglesia de los Amigos	28	29	30 Wed. w/ Friends Dinner: 5:45 pm Activities: 6:30 pm Kids Alive MS Youth Group Small Groups			

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP CALENDAR

	6	13	20	27
Greeters	Earl Tycksen Annie Tycksen	Janine Saxton	Rob Felton	Verna Munn
Ushers	Daryl Burton Jim Allison John Frost Sam Conant	Don Parrish Jess Howell Ryan Libby Terrel Smith Jesse Lowe	Bill Rourke Michael Pender Mike McBride Jared Jones	Alan Parry George Piper Anna Baker Lukas McKennon
Music	Janine Saxton Aletha McKennon Steve McKennon Michael LeClair Linda LeClair	Sandi Thornton Lukas McKennon Peter McKennon Emily Cropper Amy Saxton Steve McKennon	Darleen Ortega Dave Kinnunen Wes Cropper Jon Holt Michael LeClair Linda LeClair	Bryan Boyd Jared Jones Colby Spell
Sound	Mike McConaughy	Steve McKennon	Rawlen Smith	Steve McKennon
Power Point	Peter McKennon	Ben Kantz	Jessica Trout	Nathan Murray
Media	Aletha McKennon	Sandi Thornton	Darleen Ortega	Bryan Boyd
Preach/Facilitate	Stan Thornburg	Lynn Holt	Stan Thornburg	Stan Thornburg
Monthly Focus	Missions	Gifts & Leadings	Peace Prayer	TBA
10:45 Nursery	SUMMER PROGRAMMING	Janelle Olivarez	Jenny Fisher	Valerie Lapham
	Nursery/2's & 3's	Joseph Olivarez	Heidi Pender	Troy Lapham
	Jennie Harkema	Erinn Baker	Scott Conant	Amanda McConaughy
	Abby Woolsey	Jenna Allison	Della Anderson	Brenna Baker
	Elsie McConaughy			
2's & 3's		Tabatha Weaver Brent Weaver	Beth Woolsey Greg Woolsey	Ruth Headley Jered McConaughy
4's - K	4'S - 5TH GRADE IN THE GYM	Pricilla Lowery Katrina McConaughy	Lydia Cathers Shirley Kyte	Kristi Longstroth Angela Kantz
	Emily Cropper			
1st - 3rd Grade	Leslie Murray	Kim Boyd Gennie Harris	Kathleen Gathercoal Kim Felton	Mindy Allison Jim Allison
4th - 5th Grade		Joel Sandoz	Amy Lutz	Leslie Murray

ABOUT OUR PEOPLE



Earl and Annie Tycksen were married September 26, 1959.
Today, their children and their families invite you to
celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

*Please join us for an Open House
at North Valley Friends Church
Saturday, September 26, 2009
1:00 to 3:30 pm*

This is truly one of life's most significant events
and we look forward to sharing this special day
with our family and friends.

Please RSVP by September 12th
to Mike at 509-543-9988 or tycksens@gmail.com

Your love and friendship is a treasured gift, we request no other.



BIRTHDAYS:

- 6 Kaden Fisher
- 7 Tony Longstroth
- 13 Luke Holt
Ben Kantz
Graely Sanders
- 16 Charity Benham
- 18 Darryl Brown
Paul Weaver
- 21 Coen Schneiter
Barry Tharp
- 22 Kari Libby
Rebekah Schneiter
- 23 Cole Pender
- 28 Earl Tycksen
- 29 Nancy Thomas
- 30 Jacob Cox
Brendan Heath
Bruce Longstroth

ANNIVERSARIES:

- 4 Jesse & Dawn Lowe
- 5 Nathan & Margaret
Whittlesey
- 9 Jim & Kristin Sanders
- 26 Earl & Annie Tycksen



WELCOME ELISE!

Jared & Jody Jones are heading to Ethiopia on September 12th. They will return with their daughter, Elise Bethlehem Doyle Jones on Friday, September 25th.

The Jones family would appreciate prayers for Lisi's transition from the children's home into their family, for safe and healthy travel, and for Ethan and Levi who will be staying home (Jody's folks will fly out from Wisconsin to be with them).

Also, Jared & Jody are looking to borrow a couple items for their trip. If you happen to have an **SD card** (1GB or larger), an **AC converter** (220 Volts to 50 Hertz), and/or **plug adapters** (with two and three round holes) that the Jones' could borrow, please contact them at 503-538-4036.



Congratulations to Sarah Anderson (Paul & Carla's eldest daughter)! Sarah is getting married on Saturday, September 5th at the Anderson's house.

NORTH VALLEY FRIENDS CHURCH

Staff:

- Lynn Clouser Holt Education/Spiritual Formation
- Leslie Hodgdon Murray Youth
- Stan Thornburg Pastoral Ministry
- Kim Boyd Children's Ministry Facilitator
- 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