



# INSIDE NORTH VALLEY

*A monthly publication of North Valley Friends Church*

September 2011

## **DISCIPLESHIP: TOGETHER ON THE JESUS WAY**

**LYNN HOLT**

Eugene Peterson, writes in *The Jesus Way*, “To follow Jesus implies that we enter a way of life that is given character and shape and direction by the one who calls us. To follow Jesus means picking up the rhythms and ways of doing things that are formed by the influence of Jesus. To follow Jesus means that we can’t separate what Jesus is saying from what Jesus is doing and the way he is doing it.”

We have spoken often over the past year about our desire to “go deeper.” For this desire to be realized it is a matter of being in community with those who are traveling on the Jesus Way: it is being open to the influence of our Present Teacher by spending time in silence, reflection, prayer, scripture reading and other spiritual disciplines. It is learning to allow God to live God’s life through us. In all cases it is growing and maturing a relationship of love and trust.

Together we have agreed that we want to be, according to our mission statement, “a Quaker community of ministers who seek to follow Jesus Christ faithfully . . . “ So when Jesus invites us to “Come, follow” what does that look like in our individual lives of family, work and play and in the life of our community at North Valley?

The primary term for identifying the followers of Jesus in the early church was “the Way.” The Way that is Jesus is not simply the roads that Jesus walked in Galilee and to Jerusalem, but also *the Way* Jesus walked on the roads: the way he acted, felt, talked, gestured, prayed, healed, taught, and died and the Way of his resurrection. The Way that is Jesus cannot be reduced to information or instruction. Knowing Jesus is a deeply intimate and transforming friendship built upon abiding (John 17:3). The Way is a person, Jesus, whom we believe and follow as God-with-us.

For both the first-century followers of Christ and the twenty-first century followers at North Valley, Jesus invites us to enter into the fullness of life in God. George MacDonald wrote, “God offers life, but we must choose to live. This is a far different thing than choosing to be ‘saved’ or accepting ‘salvation.’ This is no matter of mere belief but a description of how one lives.”

Over the next year we will travel together on the Jesus Way, our focus in worship and adult education will be on discipleship. Jesus deliberately chose the way he would live. If we choose to follow him, we must be just as prayerful, attentive and deliberate as we make our way.

In our Fall sermon series we will be using the Gospel of Mark to explore the message and ministry of Jesus who proclaimed the good news of God, saying, “The time has come, and the kingdom of God has come near” (Mk 1:14). Our study of this gospel will inform, encourage and challenge us to “be with Jesus” in such a way that our lives will flow our witness to God’s Kingdom and God’s purpose and mission of reconciliation and transformation.

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# MEETING FOR BUSINESS INFORMATION

## MONTHLY MEETING | SEPTEMBER 14 | 6:30 PM

Join us for our bi-monthly Meeting for Worship for Business. This month we will discuss, among other things, a proposal from the Clerk to restructure our Administrative Committee (AC) to be more like the Yearly Meeting's AC, and to meet our community's needs more effectively. The proposal was sent to the church e-group and is also available in the foyer and at this [link](#). We will also be discussing proposed Employee Manuals for both Pastors and Staff. There are three copies in the foyer available to borrow or you can review the documents by following these links: [Proposed Pastors Employee Manual](#) and [Proposed Staff Employee Manual](#).

### **From the Presiding Clerk, Shawn McConaughey**

I am looking forward to serving the North Valley congregation as its clerk this coming year. This will be a new experience for me in leadership, so you can help me and the business process in a few ways:

-Show up to business meetings. Show up and be a part of the process. We believe that a dynamic and spirited experience takes place when we humble ourselves as a community and listen to God's leading together. As in the recent past, meetings will be on Wednesday nights starting September 14<sup>th</sup>. We meet 6-7 times a year in regularly scheduled meetings. There may be special called meetings if needed. Scheduled meetings are September 14th, November 9th and December 14th.

-Come to meetings prepared. I will commit to come to meetings having spent some time praying and listening to God. I invite you to do the same. Let the agenda be a prayer guide for you. Cherice Bock (assistant clerk) and I will try to have agendas out several days ahead of our meetings. We will also look to have any written material out ahead of time as well.

NOTE: This means that if your committee has items that are to be on the agenda that they must be ready by the Wednesday or Thursday prior to the meeting so the office has time to get them printed and/or emailed to folks prior to Sunday. Generally we will not put decision items on the agenda if there has not been time to distributed the pertinent information at least the prior Sunday.

- It is also helpful if you come with a spirit that is ready to listen. When our hearts and minds are focused on a particular outcome, we can miss the opportunity to listen well. Being truly open to God's direction is not easy. When we begin by recognizing our own bias and we are honest about our tendencies when a decision may not be going in the direction we had hoped, we are able to be more open to what God wants rather than our own desires. It is also good to review times that God has helped lead us together. This gives us a sense of hope and reminds us that God is faithful.

-Finally it would be great if you began to consider how you might be involved in leadership at N. Valley. We need you! Several of our committees are functioning with very few members. So consider how you might serve in this way. That may mean it is time to enter the church membership process for some of you.

If you have questions or items for business please feel free to contact me at [smcconaughey@nwfriends.org](mailto:smcconaughey@nwfriends.org) or Assistant Clerk Cherice Bock at [chericebock@gmail.com](mailto:chericebock@gmail.com).

## WEDNESDAY WITH FRIENDS

### WEDNESDAY WITH FRIENDS | SEPTEMBER 14

Our first Wednesday with Friends dinner for the Fall will be from 5:30 pm to 6:15 pm on Wednesday, September 14. Adult education classes will begin the following week, September 21, at a new time, 6:30 pm and plan to end at 8:00 pm. Nursery care will be provided, and children age 4-fifth grade are invited to participate in the Kids Alive program.

### KIDS ALIVE | SEPTEMBER 14

Kids age 4-fifth grade are invited to participate in Kids Alive on Wednesday nights from 6:30-8:00 pm. Gennie Harris and Aletha McKennon will offer leadership, as well as our George Fox University interns.

### MS YOUTH GROUP | SEPTEMBER 14

Weekly youth group gatherings will begin again soon! Middle school youth group will meet on Wednesday nights at 6:30 pm at the Newberg Friends Church Youth House beginning September 14. Middle school youth can meet us there, or come to North Valley for dinner starting at 5:30 pm and meet Leslie for a ride to NFC at 6:15 pm.

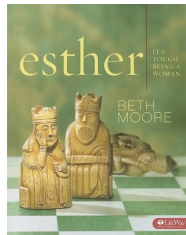
### HS MOVIE GROUP | SEPTEMBER 21

Beginning on Sept. 21 Darleen Ortega will host a small group for high school students to discuss "Joan of Arcadia," a television series in God appears to a teenage girl. God shows up in lots of different forms--the cute boy on the bus, the cafeteria worker at school, a UPS man delivering a package to her home, a child on the playground. Each time, God gives Joan something to do or poses a question for her to think about--and Joan, being a feisty teenage girl, argues and wheedles and doubts and opposes. But she also mostly obeys, and finds that God is usually up to something. This excellent series openly explores issues of faith in the context of the believable problems of a teenage girl and her parents and her two brothers. It proves to be great discussion fodder for our own faith struggles.

## ADULT WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASSES | SEPTEMBER 21

### BETH MOORE "ESTHER" STUDY

Women are invited to join Heidi Pender in studying the book of Esther together using Beth Moore's study guide. Talk to Heidi if you want to join the group so we can order a book for you. Books are \$14.95.



while taking notes regarding the sermon and our thoughts in response. We then center each day to ask what God is bringing to us and continue with the discipline of journaling so that we can share our thoughts with others. As we share with one another, we seek connections between our individual life and our corporate life and then look for appropriate applications of our learning in our daily lives. This class will be facilitated by Scot Headley and Nancy Thomas.

### CONTINUING THE CONVERSATION

This Wednesday night study group gathers to continue the weekly conversation which started during the previous Sunday morning worship service. We gather to review the key ideas from the sermon, our own spiritual recognitions and the results of our listening together and individually throughout the week. Our shared commitments and practices include participating faithfully in the worship time,

### PRACTICING THE DISCIPLINES

In this class we will spend time understanding and deliberately experimenting with a wide variety of spiritual disciplines that can be practiced as a means of increasing our understanding of God and His work in our world. We will spend time with some of the more common disciplines such as prayer, service, and solitude; but we will also explore some of the lesser

known disciplines such as fasting, simplicity, guidance, celebration and keeping watch. All will be examined as potential ways of placing us closer to God's will and guidance. The plan for this class will be to introduce and discuss a couple of disciplines each week and then let each class member choose a particular one to practice during the week and then share about their experiences in the following class.

### **ENRICH YOUR MARRIAGE**

Paul & Miriam Bock and Joel & Cherice Bock will lead couples in exercises to help strengthen their marriages utilizing the Prepare-Enrich curriculum. A \$30 online assessment is optional. Couples will discover their strengths and growth areas, work on these together and find support from other couples.

### **FALL SUNDAY ADULT ED. CLASS OPTIONS | 9:30—10:30 AM (Click here for more info!)**

Discussion of the book "Falling Upward" by Richard Rohr. Beginning September 18 at 9am in the **meeting room of Chapters Books and Coffee**. If you have any questions feel free to contact Debbie Headley at [d.headley@comcast.net](mailto:d.headley@comcast.net) or 503 543-7993.

Friends & Gospel Order This class will begin meeting September 25th in the preschool classroom 104 and will be led by Lynn. "We will look at how we are spiritually formed as a community through learning about some of our Quaker history and discussing implications for our shared life today." Talk to Lynn, look on the website or get a copy in the foyer of the pamphlet to read for the class.

Adult Friends Class studying Genesis: A story of God's Promises This class meets in the room off the kitchen in the fellowship hall.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **KICKOFF BBQ | SEPTEMBER 11 (FOLLOWING THE SERVICE)**

We will be grilling hamburgers, hotdogs and veggie burgers. Please bring side dishes and desserts to share.

### **HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP | BEGINS SEPTEMBER 11 | 7:00 PM**

High school youth group will meet on Sunday nights at 7:00 pm at the Newberg Friends Church Youth House beginning September 11.

### **CHILD DEDICATION | SEPTEMBER 18**

We will be dedicating children during the September 18th Sunday service. If you are interested in having your child or children dedicated that day please contact Lynn Holt.

### **INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE | SEPTEMBER 21 | 11:45 AM**

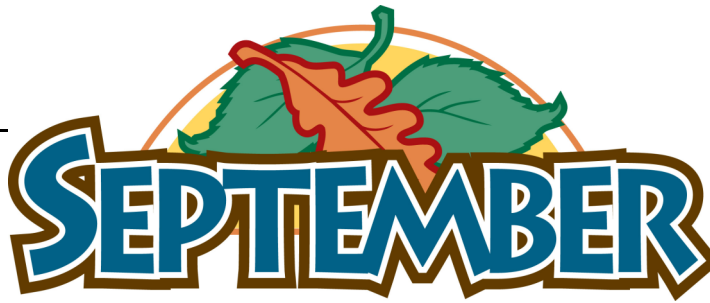
Wednesday, September 21, is the **International Day of Peace**. Also known as World Peace Day, the United Nations adopted this day as a time to foster peace throughout the world, a day on which all people are invited to commit or reaffirm their commitment to non-violence and the peaceful resolution of disputes. Many observe this day with a moment of silence at noon on September 21.

We will have an opportunity to observe this day together. On Wednesday **September 21** we will gather together by the prayer flags at **11:45am**. This gathering will begin with a time of worship through music. At noon we will observe a moment of silence followed by a time for people to speak out their prayers. On that day the Peace Flags will be flying and there will be opportunity to add new flags with our prayers for peace. Please feel free to invite a friend.

### **BUNCO NIGHT | SEPTEMBER 23 | 7:00 PM**

Childcare will be provided. Please bring a snack to share.

**All church Retreat | February 3-5, 2012 at NVFC | Save the date!**



# SEPTEMBER

2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 10 am HS Girls Group	2	3
4	5	6 7 pm Missions Cmte.	7 9 am Serve Day	8	9	10
11 12 pm Fall Kick-off BBQ 7 pm HS Youth Group, NFC Youth House	12	13 6:30 pm Land Use Cmte.	14 5:30 pm Dinner 6:30 pm Monthly Meeting for Worship for Business	15	16	17 8 am Men's Breakfast @ the Hospital
18 7 pm HS Youth Group, NFC Youth House	19	20 7 pm Stewards Cmte.	21 11:45 am Int'l Day of Peace  <b>Wed. w/ Friends</b> Dinner: 5:30 pm Activities: 6:30 pm	22	23 7 pm Bunco Party	24 8 am Clerk & Committee Training
25 12 pm Of a Certain Age Lunch 7 pm HS Youth Group, NFC Youth House	26	27	28 <b>Wed. w/ Friends</b> Dinner: 5:30 pm Activities: 6:30 pm Kids Alive MS Youth Group HS Movie Group Small Groups	29	30	

# SEPTEMBER WORSHIP CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER	4	11	18	25
<b>Greeters</b>	Vonnie Burton	Janine Saxton		Verna Munn
<b>Ushers</b>	Daryl Burton	*Bill Rourke	*Don Parrish	*Daryl Burton
	Michael Pender	Ron Fieldhouse	Jim Allison	Anna Baker
	Jared Jones	Stuart Griffith	Jeremy Baker	Alan Parry
	John Frost	Jessica Trout	Jon Holt	Eric Funk
	George Piper		Lucas McKennon	Eric Funk
<b>Music</b>	Sandi Thornton	Joel Bock	Jared Jones	Janine Saxton
	Lukas McKennon	Nathaniel Ankeny	Brian Bews	Michael LeClair
	Emily-Grace Cropper	Melissa Thomas	Colby Spell	Linda LeClair
	Peter McKennon			Steve McKennon
	Adria McKennon			Aletha McKennon
	Steve McKennon			
<b>Sound</b>	Rawlen Smith	Mike McConaughey	Steve McKennon	Austin Huelsbeck
<b>Power Point</b>	Jennie Harkema	Nathan Murray	Jessica Trout	Peter McKennon
<b>Media</b>	Sandi Thornton	Joel Bock	Bryan Boyd	Aletha McKennon
<b>Preach/Facilitate</b>	Andy Henry	Lynn Holt	Lynn Holt	Paul Bock
<b>Monthly Focus</b>		Peace	Child Dedication	
<b>10:45 Nursery</b>	Katrina McConaughey	Adina McConaughey	Anna Baker	Janelle Oliveraz
through age 3		Leanne Baker	Adria McKennon	Joseph Oliveraz
		Betsy LeClair	Jenna Allison	Brenna Baker
<b>4s-K</b>	Bryanna Henry	Angela Kantz	Jered McConaughey	Kim Boyd
		Amanda McConaughey	Miriam Bock	Jonah Harkema
		Maggee Hodgdon	Ryan Murray	Abby Woolsey
<b>1st-3rd</b>	Emily Cropper (girls room)	Kristy Longstroth	Mindy Allison	Lydia Cathers
		Erinn Baker	Kasey Allison	Priscilla Lowery
		Becky Headley	Brenna Bews	Elsie McConaughey
<b>4th-5th</b>	Austin Huelsbeck (boys)			

## SMALL GROUPS

### THESE THINGS WE CALL SMALL GROUPS

**PAUL BOCK**

Did you know that Jesus didn't have an official small group program? Yes, we do read a lot about the twelve disciples, but actually there were "disciples" moving around with that group, both men and women. Then there are also a number of gospel passages that refer to Jesus taking Peter, James, and John into special situations with him, but I don't think they met on a weekly basis at a Galilean coffee shop.

But here we are in today's American church with small groups being a significant part of the mix. How come?

It might be because there is something about our society that tends to isolate us from each other. Maybe busy schedules, lots of people not living near families of origin, the general, social value placed on individualism and other factors cause folks to feel alone. And the reason they feel alone is...well...because they are in fact spiritually alone.

This is a problem. Why? Because according to Jesus, the Christian life is supposed to be lived with others. If a person is experiencing a stagnant Christian life, one of the first, if not THE first thing one should address, is the depth of the level of fellowship one is experiencing with other Christians.

Sunday morning worship is an important part of one's spiritual life, but sharing with others what is going on in the core of one's life and how Christ is speaking into it doesn't usually happen on a Sunday morning. That's what can and should happen in a small group setting.

Now when you hear the phrase small group, what do you see? You may imagine eight to ten people sitting in someone's living room beginning their time together chatting, having an opening prayer, spending sometime reading their Bibles together, sharing prayer requests, praying, and finishing with some dessert. Yes? No?

There's a lot of good to that format, but that's just one way to do a small group. Here at North Valley, there have been all sorts of small groups, like book studies in coffee shops, fellowship after working in the church kitchen together, a reflection group around the previous week's sermon, a Bible study with video teaching, prayer groups, committees that provide spiritual support, and on and on it goes.

Whatever the format, it seems a small group that creates a space for people to share on a deep level and confront the spiritual isolation of our day should include elements of open and honest sharing, listening to God through some form Scripture reading and prayer, and deeds of reaching out to others.

At this point, there isn't going to be a formal small group program provided at North Valley. However creative, grassroots, and diverse small groups are active in our community. If you're not in a small group, but are interested in connecting to one of some sort, let Paul Bock know and he'll be glad to explore possibilities with you.

We all need to be living into the depths of the spiritual life with other followers of Jesus.

# NORTH VALLEY FRIENDS CHURCH

4020 North College Street  
Newberg, OR 97132

## NORTH VALLEY FRIENDS CHURCH

### Staff:

- Lynn Clouser Holt Lead Pastor
- Leslie Murray Pastor, Children & Youth
- Paul Bock Pastor, Worship & Community Life
- Erinn Hampton Administrative Assistant
- Cherice Bock Media & Website Administrator
- Noel Carey Children's Education Assistant
- Lauren Dodge Youth Ministry Intern

*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.*

## CHURCH OFFICE

### Hours:

Monday 8:30 am-12:30 pm  
Wednesday 8:30 am-12:30 pm  
Thursday 8:30 am-12:30 pm  
Friday 8:30 am-12:30 pm

**Phone:** 503-538-5340

**E-Mail:** [office@northvalleyfriends.org](mailto:office@northvalleyfriends.org)

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

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

## VISIT US ONLINE:

**NVFC:** [www.northvalleyfriends.org](http://www.northvalleyfriends.org)

**NWYM:** [www.nwfriends.org](http://www.nwfriends.org)

*This newsletter is available online at [www.northvalleyfriends.org](http://www.northvalleyfriends.org)*