



# INSIDE NORTH VALLEY

*A monthly publication of North Valley Friends Church*

**November 2010**

## **ADVENT, IN THE MANNER OF FRIENDS**

During November we will walk through Thanksgiving and arrive rather suddenly at the first Sunday of Advent. The celebration of Advent by Quakers (mostly pastoral meetings) is a comparatively recent departure from Friends' traditional avoidance of the rites, liturgies, and language marked by the Liturgical Calendar. This tension between non-liturgical and liturgical expressions makes us ask if there is a way to think about this wonderful season that is uniquely Quaker and that draws upon Friends faith and spiritual practice.

I have a suggestion as to how this might look for Friends. The following article tries to articulate that suggestion by starting with a personal story and then winding its way via the Friends practice of "Speaking Truth to one's condition" to a newly formed understanding of Advent. You are invited to follow this labyrinth from its beginning to its climax in hopes that you, also, will discover a new way to rejoice in the ongoing miracle of Truth becoming flesh.

I'm alive to write this because a liver specialist listened to me. After he had listened just a few minutes, he called an ambulance without consulting me, and procured the immediate care I needed. Did he listen because he cared about me? Maybe a little, but he listened mostly because he cared about my brother, Kent – a respected colleague – and he knew Kent cared for me. Kent had asked him to listen to me because Kent loves me deeply, profoundly, unconditionally. The physician had the skill and insight to see my condition and "spoke to my condition" in that phone call.

Isn't that how the Kingdom is supposed to work? Its a chain of caring beginning with Jesus' love for us – a love that draws us into a deep love relationship. In turn we care about others even though they are relative strangers because we know Jesus loves them deeply, profoundly, unconditionally; we care about them because we want to care about those whom Jesus loves. So we listen to others and care for them on behalf of Jesus. Because Jesus' love for us is deep, we listen to others with all our hearts. We listen past their sometimes obnoxious exterior; we listen past their shallow ramblings, or their political narrowness; we listen past their masks; we listen through their anger, hurt, and resentment, as well as their joy; we listen until we get a sense of their hearts; we listen until we, in George Fox's words, "know their condition."

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## ADVENT IN THE MANNER OF FRIENDS (CONT.)

Then we "speak to their condition." This may or may not mean that we address their condition directly, it may or may not mean that we share profound insights regarding their lives, but it always means that we speak in response to their condition, and that we speak words insinuated to us by revelation not by cognition. We have no words of our own, just words engendered by Love, words that speak truth and love into their very souls. It may be true that we don't speak directly to them at all, perhaps we just call an ambulance. Perhaps we speak on their behalf to some oppressor or someone who, with cruel intent, has spoken razor blade words meant to shame, belittle, or crush them. We may speak directly to their flagging spirits in discouragement, to their despair in great loss, to their paralysis in great fear, to their ego in its lost esteem, and/or to their souls in their seeking. This is the work that God asks of us as our part of God's mission.

This Truth spoken is not fashioned from our theological formulations, it is formed in the heart of God in much the same way as we were formed in our mother's womb. We give birth to it through our obedient speaking, and the Truth becomes a living thing. It is Advent, the coming, it is the Word incarnate – Christ with us – born of God – in the speaking of Truth.

Advent celebrates the birth of Truth in the form of a living being – Jesus. It is a joyous remembering of the greatest event in human history. But to leave the celebration there, is both to miss the point and, even worse, to miss the joy of sharing in a new Advent born of our obedient delivery of the Living Truth spawned by God and spoken in Love. It is a saving, healing truth that, having been born in our speaking, becomes flesh and, like the "Word" in John's prologue, shines into the darkness, and the darkness can neither comprehend it nor overcome it.

Rejoice, for unto us, a savior is born...again...and again...and again.

*- Stan*

## PROPOSAL FOR PASTORAL STAFFING AT NVFC

In order to hear your responses, answer questions, and encourage discussion about the proposal for pastoral staffing, the elders and clerks of the monthly meeting are offering to host small group meetings. These will take place over the next few weeks, during the Sunday school hour (9:30-10:30 am) and during the Wednesday evening class time (6:45-8:15 pm), simultaneous with the regularly programmed classes. They will be held in room 104 in the pre-school wing of the church. At least one elder or clerk will host each meeting. **The dates are Oct. 31, Nov. 3, Nov. 7, Nov. 10, and Nov. 14.** We encourage you to choose one of these times. We are also setting up a time for you ask questions directly of the staff (time still to be determined). In our next business meeting, Nov. 17, we will consider the proposal.

If you cannot be at any of these meetings and would like to talk with the elders or clerks, please call one of us and we will find a way to get together.

NV elders

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



It is time once again to prepare for **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**. Organized by Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations worldwide

through gift filled shoeboxes and the Good News of God's love. We will be packing our shoeboxes during an Inter-generational gathering during the Sunday School hour on **NOVEMBER 21**. Please find the sign-up sheets in the foyer to provide the items needed for the shoeboxes and bring them to the church foyer by Wednesday Nov. 17. Also needed are shoeboxes with detachable lids. Donations will be accepted during the event; each box costs \$7 to ship. On Nov. 21 we will gather to wrap and package the boxes and enjoy some breakfast rolls together. Also during that time we will be packaging breakfast bags to be used at the Love, Inc. Shelter. All are welcome to join in the fun.

### *High School Black Butte Retreat*

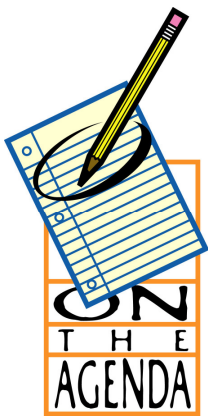


November 19-21

*(leave at 3:30 pm on 19<sup>th</sup>, return by noon on 21<sup>st</sup>)*

Cost \$50

Come retreat in a beautiful setting with Newberg Friends and West Chehalem Friends youth group. Please see Leslie for more information!



### MEETING FOR BUSINESS

Plan to attend the Meeting for Business on Wednesday, November 17 at 6:45 pm.

The agenda will include:

- Continued discussion of the Elders' proposal for staff configuration
- Presentations of the 2011 budget

### ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

There is an Administrative Committee Meeting scheduled for Monday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the foyer. The purpose of the meeting is to review a draft of the budget for 2011 and to interact with Elders about their feedback on the staffing proposal, in anticipation of both of those items being featured on the agenda of the Meeting for Business scheduled for November 17.



We will not meet for Wednesday with Friends dinner and activities on November 24<sup>th</sup>.

We'll re-gather on Wednesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>.

## CHRISTMAS PROGRAM INFORMATION

# *Living Christmas*



December 19,

There are many vastly talented people here at North Valley with gifts of humor, word, and song. We sometimes need encouragement to share those talents with each other, so here is an opportunity.

Our Christmas celebration this year is entitled *Living Christmas Cards*. On December 19 at 6:00 pm, we will meet together to share our performances with one another. *Living Christmas Cards* is an opportunity for anyone to show gifts of original video clips, readings, poetry, skits and short dramas, and of course, musical selections both instrumental and/or vocal for solos, small groups and ensembles, etc.

Plans are already in the works for some parts of the program to be scenes performed by North Valley Children, but we'd also like Middle School, High School, College, and adult selections as well. Variety is welcomed.

Consider this a Christmas card that comes to life and the messages for the season are what we want to share. We would enthusiastically love families to do something together. Solos and ensembles are equally wanted. As we mentioned, **VARIOUS TYPES OF CHRISTMAS GREETINGS ARE WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR.**

The time commitment is flexible. Children will have CDs at the start of November to learn music and scripts for the scenes and will need to practice at home. In December, we will have **3 rehearsals** to put together the scenes and get ready for performances. So those days (*December 4, 11, and 18 from 10 am-noon*) are important.

Other performers are on their own to ready their 'greeting/offering' or to find rehearsal time, but could get assistance if needed.

This is not like a talent show and needs more organizing. If you have ANYTHING that could be shared and you have an interest (no matter how small) with sharing something with the rest of us that evening, please contact the church office or Aletha McKennon (mckennona@gmail.com or 503-554-8511).

Be a part of the fun evening. Consider joining those wishing a special Christmas greeting this year in *Living Christmas Cards*.

## MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS



As most of you have probably heard, I have resigned from the position of administrative assistant at North Valley (my last day will be October 31<sup>st</sup>). Though this is hard news to share, I'm really excited to spend some time doing some personal reflection and see where that takes me. God has given me a verse from Isaiah in a couple of situations over the past weeks that has been affirming to me: *"Be alert, be present. I'm about to do something brand-new. It's bursting out! Don't you see it?"* (Isaiah 43:19, The Message).

I consider North Valley my community and will continue to worship with you all. I look forward to continue to minister at North Valley in other capacities.

Thank you for being my community!

-Jennie

### MISSIONARY UPDATE

We recently had the opportunity to talk with the Neifert family via Skype during the morning worship service. Patrick and Christy and their children live and work in Haifa, Israel with Cross Media Ministries, broadcasting the hope and joy that comes through faith in Jesus Christ to the Arab world, mostly through internet radio and television. They are sent out as missionaries from the Northwest Yearly Meeting of Friends Churches. One of their biggest prayer needs right now is the need for broader financial support for their ministry to continue. There are prayer cards available in the church foyer. Please consider God's leading your family to begin (or to increase) monthly support of the Neifert family. Even little amounts go a long way as we join together.

### 2010 THANKSGIVING OFFERING

Each year, the people of Northwest Yearly Meeting partner together in ministry through the generous support of the Thanksgiving Offering. This annual gift is dedicated to encouraging ministries both at home and abroad.

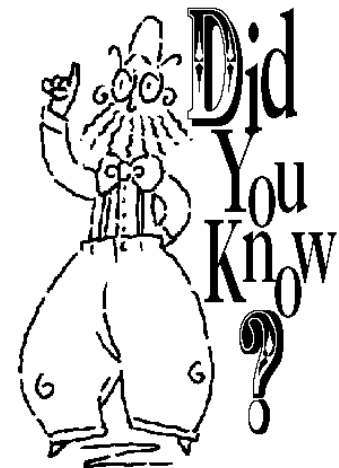
This year, the Thanksgiving Offering is staying close to home as we assist in the training and support of the pastors who serve our local congregations.

Training for future and current pastors will be enhanced as half of this year's offering will go toward completing a Friends Center scholarship for graduate students at George Fox Evangelical Seminary. Friends students seeking theological and ministry training is at the highest level in many, many years. Friends Center scholarships provide up to half of the tuition costs for Friends seminary students, especially those who are called to ministry in the local church.

The other half of the Thanksgiving Offering will be dedicated to the Pastoral Assistance Fund under the care of the NWYM Board of Elders. This support system for pastors, established many years ago as the Beebe Fund, helps cover the costs of professional counseling for pastors and their families who are in need. Studies repeatedly confirm that pastoral ministry takes a huge toll on ministers and their families. NWYM has been and will remain committed to effectively caring for our pastors, especially in difficult times. This Fund is one way many of our pastors received support just when it was needed.

**Please consider a generous gift to this year's Thanksgiving Offering when it is received at you local church! You may also mail a check to NWYM at the address listed below.** You will be making an important investment in the men and women pastors who serve us so faithfully and sacrificially.

**NWYM 200 N Meridian Street, Newberg, OR 97132**



You can access the weekly bulletin announcement on our website at [northvalleyfriends.org](http://northvalleyfriends.org). If you miss worship or need to check some information, it's available to you on the member's tab of our website.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

5<sup>th</sup> Annual  
**Sing-Along**  
**MESSIAH**

December 5, 2010  
4:00 pm

First United Methodist Church  
1205 Deborah Road, Newberg

Enjoy a performance of Handel's Messiah  
Come listen or sing-along

**FREE Admission**

Donations benefit Faith in Action

Featuring:

Memorial poinsettia's for \$15

*Preorder by Dec 1st*

Musical scores available for \$10

*Limited number of books to borrow*

Reception following event

**For more information, call 503-537-1549**

[www.faithinactionnewberg.org](http://www.faithinactionnewberg.org)

*Helping people who face challenges related to health or aging*

## George Fox University

Auxiliary

November 5-6, 2010

Friday 10 am-5:30 pm Saturday 10

# bazaar

am-4 pm

**Ron Gregory Atrium**

George Fox University, Newberg campus

Featuring 20 artisans selling handcrafted jewelry, holiday décor, folk art, linens, soaps, candles, ornaments, scarves, clay art, plants, food items and a silent auction table.

Relax and stroll through the atrium attached to George Fox University's historic Wood-Mar Hall.

**Free admission**

Free, easy-access parking in the Hoover parking lot

Questions?

Janet Lyda 503-538-3032

Danya Ochsner 503-537-8369 or

## IGNITE THE LIGHT

*Lighting the Spark Within*

Chehalem Youth & Family Services (CYFS) invites you to join us for Ignite the Light, a complimentary lunch program on **Tuesday, November 9**, held at **Newberg Christian Church**. A brief networking event will begin at **11:30** and **the lunch program starts promptly at noon**. Ignite the Light is a benefit for CYFS! Please come and learn more about the services we provide to support our shared goal of offering hope and healing to a broken world.

RSVP: 503-538-4874 ext. 103 or [events@cyfs.net](mailto:events@cyfs.net)

# NOVEMBER 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 <b>Wednesday with Friends!</b> 5:45 Dinner 6:45 Activities	4	5	6
7 7 pm HS Youth Group 7 pm Iglesia de los Amigos	8 7 pm Admin. Committee Mtg.	9 6:30 pm Land Use 7 pm Missions Committee Mtg. 7 pm Stewards Mtg. 7 pm Fellowship Committee Mtg.	10 <b>Wednesday with Friends!</b> 5:45 Dinner 6:45 Activities	11	12	13
14 12:30 pm "Of a Certain Age" lunch 7 pm HS Youth Group 7 pm Iglesia de los Amigos	15	16	17 <b>Wednesday with Friends!</b> 5:45 Dinner 6:45 Business Mtg.	18	19	20 8 am Men's Breakfast @ Hospital
21 3 pm GAGA Mtg. 7 pm HS Youth Group 7 pm Iglesia de los Amigos	22	23	24 No Wednesday with Friends	25 <i>Thanksgiving</i> 	26	27
28 7 pm HS Youth Group 7 pm Iglesia de los Amigos	29	30				

# NOVEMBER WORSHIP CALENDAR

November	7	14	21	28
<b>Greeters</b>	Verna Munn	Vonnie Burton	Rob Felton	Janine Saxton
<b>Ushers</b>	Daryl Burton	Daryl Burton	Don Parrish	Daryl Burton
	Michael Pender	Ron Fieldhouse	Jared Jones	George Piper
	John Frost	Anna Baker	Mike McBride	Alan Parry
	Jessica Trout	Jeremy Baker	Eric Funk	Joesph Olivarez
<b>Music</b>	Joel Bock	Janine Saxton	Sandi Thornton	Darleen Ortega
		Aletha McKennon	Lukas McKennon	Wes Cropper
		Steve McKennon	Emily-Grace Cropper	Jon Holt
		Michael LeClair	Peter McKennon	Michael LeClair
		Linda LeClair	Adria McKennon	Linda LeClair
		Mike McBride	Steve McKennon	Dave Kinnunen
<b>Sound</b>	Steve McKennon	Mike McConaughy	Rawlen Smith	Steve McKennon
<b>Power Point</b>	Peter McKennon	Peter McKennon	Jennie Harkema	Jessica Trout
<b>Media</b>	Joel Bock	Aletha McKennon	Sandi Thornton	Darleen Ortega
<b>Preach/Facilitate</b>	Stan Thornburg	Stan Thornburg	Paul Bock	Stan Thornburg
<b>Monthly Focus</b>	Peace Prayer			Missions Moment
<b>10:45 Nursery</b>	Janelle Olivarez	Heidi Pender	Adina McConaughy	Jeanne Boyd
	Joseph Olivarez	Amanda McConaughy	Leanne Baker	Bryna Parry
	Becky Headley		Brenna Baker	
<b>2's &amp; 3's</b>	Tabatha Weaver	Jered McConaughy	Lydia Cathers	Beth Woolsey
	Brent Weaver	Angela Kantz	Jonah Harkema	Greg Woolsey
	Betsy LeClair	Olivia Pugsley	Erinn Baker	Abby Woolsey
	Adria McKennon			Elsie McConaughy
<b>Blue Room</b>	Kristi Longstroth	TBA	Mindy Allison	Priscilla Lowery
Kindergarten-2nd	Lynn Holt		Jim Allison	Ben Kantz
			Kasey Allison	
<b>Yellow Room</b>	Kathleen Gathercoal	TBA	Leslie Murray	Jody Jones
3rd-5th			Amy Lutz	Katrina McConaughy

## ABOUT OUR PEOPLE

### *Blows the Fog Away*

*Some days regret like cold fog  
whirls about nooks and crannies  
of the soul, warping memory  
within a gray miasmic mist.  
We grope for familiar landmarks.  
Our way forward becomes clouded.  
What could or should have been  
floods the mind, distorts the view.  
We crave clear light, and warmth.*

*Fortunately, gratitude blows  
away the gloom, A conscience  
quickenened by remorse is something  
to be thankful for. Also memories  
of roads well chosen and followed,  
of the helping hands of friends  
and family, of opportunities  
to begin again, of forgiveness,  
divine and human. Gratitude!*

Arthur O. Roberts  
from his book *Let the Spirit Soar*



#### BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Emerson Harris  
Karen Pugsley
- 9 Dawn Lowe
- 11 Mikell Benham  
Ron Fieldhouse  
Mary Weaver
- 12 Ethan Harris
- 15 Peter Crackenberg
- 19 Asher Connelly
- 21 Priscilla Lowery  
Bev Tharp
- 22 Landon Townsend  
Ian Woolsey
- 27 Colin Saxton
- 30 Keith Baker



#### ANNIVERSARIES

- 7 Arthur & Fern Roberts
- 11 Ron & Meredith  
Fieldhouse
- 26 Nathan & Leslie Murray
- 29 Joel & Kristen Sandoz

#### NEW OFFICE HOURS

As we're in the process of hiring a new Administrative Assistant, Cherice Bock will be filling in as the interim. While Cherice is in the office, the hours will be as follows:



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

# NORTH VALLEY FRIENDS CHURCH

4020 North College Street  
Newberg, OR 97132

## 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
- Cherice Bock Interim Administrative Assistant

*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](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)*

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

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

**Summer Hours:**  
Monday 9:00 am-1:00 pm  
Tuesday 9:00 am-1:00 pm  
Wednesday 9:00 am-1:00 pm  
Thursday CLOSED  
Friday 9:00 am-1:00 pm  
**Phone:** 503-538-5340  
**E-Mail:** [office@northvalleyfriends.org](mailto:office@northvalleyfriends.org)

## CHURCH OFFICE