



# INSIDE NORTH VALLEY

*A monthly publication of North Valley Friends Church*

**March 2012**

## **THE INSPIRATION OF MOTHER THERESA BY BONNIE KISER 1993**



While living in India as a Peace Corps Volunteer, I was fortunate and privileged to meet Mother Theresa in Calcutta. This was in 1965 before the world recognized her as a "Living Saint" and fourteen years before she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

I had no idea, at the time, of the world's significance of this lady in the simple widow's white saree. All I knew is that this little stooped lady made me feel SO humble and SO loved. She inspired me to desire to be 'more Christ-like' in my daily living and to keep my life simple so that I might better be able to focus on those around me.

I did not meet Mother Theresa until my second year in India. My mother died at the end of my first year in India and I returned stateside for four months. I was still working through my own grief when I met Mother Theresa. My emotions were still very raw and I grieved every time I saw a beggar or an un-cared for child or a sick or dying person laying on the sidewalk.

As a Peace Corps Volunteer I was the first white woman that most of the villagers had ever seen, and often the only white person they knew that spoke their language. In my own villages, I was accepted as a neighbor and co-worker, albeit an unusual one. However, whenever I left my own familiar villages I was besieged by the beggars who saw me as a wealthy 'mim sahib' (white woman). Denying these beggars troubled me deeply for I knew, as well as they did, that I had infinitely more than they. I asked Mother Theresa's advice on how to handle this situation.

She replied SO gently that I was called to India to do a job as a Peace Corps Volunteer and that I must focus on doing the best job I could. I was not called to India to care for the poor or the dying or the orphans as she felt she was. Our jobs were different and I should not feel guilty for doing my job and not doing her job. But she hoped that I would be able to learn from her job and that it would help me to do my job better. Indeed, I have never forgotten her or her job or her calling.

She taught me to appreciate what God has given to each of us, no matter what that be. She took me with her to hold her babies, to feel their pain, but also to feel their joy at being held and cared for. I remember being afraid to touch these tiny, malnourished bag of bones! But with Mother Theresa's gentle encouragement, I learned to appreciate these tiny gifts from God and delighted in their each small gain and grieved in their each loss.

I talked to Mother Theresa about my mother's death and my feelings of loss and bewilderment. She was so gentle and encouraged me to come with her to her Home for the Destitute and Dying. The name in Bengali was enough alone to strike terror in me - 'Kalighat', the house of death. I marvelled at how she could sympathize and, indeed, empathize with these poor creatures that were often walking skeletons

Continued →

### **TABLE OF CONTENTS:**

The Inspiration of Mother Theresa ...1	NVFC Announcements...4	Community Announcements...7
Group Discernment Workshop ...2	All Church Retreat pictures...5	Calendar...8
SS Planter Box project pictures...3	Committee Spotlight...6	March Worship Calendar...9
		About Our People...10

## THE INSPIRATION OF MOTHER THERESA, CONTINUED

covered with sores and badly maimed. For one whole day she took me from bed to bed holding, talking, feeding and bathing these people. And by the end of the day, I could put aside my terror and revulsion and go about the job to be done. But even after many more talks with Mother Theresa, I still had difficulty accepting God's hand in their and my own mother's deaths. I, however, could better understand what had drawn Mother Theresa to this place on earth to do this work.

Mother Theresa also invited us to spend a day with her Sisters of Charity, starting and ending the day in their Convent. I considered our PCV living conditions quite spartan compared to back home or other foreigners living in India. But ours was nothing compared to the Sisters' spartan living conditions. They literally followed Jesus' call to give away everything. They lived simply, ate simply and did all their own work...all before 6 AM. Then they prayed and meditated and went out to do God's work about 8.

After seeing how simply these Sisters of Charity, including Mother Theresa, lived and how hard and humbly they worked to help others, I found that I felt I required less "things" to live. This idea of simple living that Mother Theresa lived and advocated inspired me to prioritize my "needs", whether it be physical, emotional, or social. And working with Mother Theresa, albeit a very short time, encouraged me to focus my life, not on me or mine, but doing the best I can while helping and serving others.

In no way do I even come close to serving or helping others the way that Mother Theresa does, or her Sisters of Charity. But I can accept that that is not my calling. What I have to caution myself to remember is to respond when I am called.

This little stooped lady in the simple white widow's saree is emblazoned on my memory as if I met her just yesterday. Her inspiration is as vivid as it was thirty years ago. I think of her lessons many times every week and each time I get goose-bumps and that feeling of awe just as vividly as I did that first time. That feeling of awe I have never felt at any other time in my life, but then, I don't believe I have ever met another Saint.



### **LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE FOR GROUP DISCERNMENT MAY 21-24, 2012 | TILIKUM RETREAT CENTER**

George Fox University, NWYM and Good News Associates are teaming together to sponsor this group discernment workshop.

Institute Content includes:

- Theology of group discernment
- Individual discernment
- Interface of spiritual gifts & discernment process
- Steps in discernment process
- Conflict resolution through discernment
- Clearness Committees & Listening groups
- Group discernment in youth ministries
- Individual Discernment plan for your congregation/ organization
- Church leaders sharing their group discernment experiences

Leadership for the Institute include Paul Anderson, Lon Fendall, Lorraine Watson, Patricia Thomas and Jan Wood. For more information and registration, see the flyers in the church foyer.

# SUNDAY SCHOOL PLANTER BOX PROJECT



## NVFC ANNOUNCEMENTS

# Chili Cook-Off



*March 4  
Following  
Worship*

Want to show off your chili making skills? The categories for competition are: Traditional, Spicy, Vegetarian and Most Unique. For those who do not wish to make chili, we still need your participation to help judge; so bring some cornbread, salad, or a dessert and join the fun!

Please click on the link below to let us know what you plan to bring.:

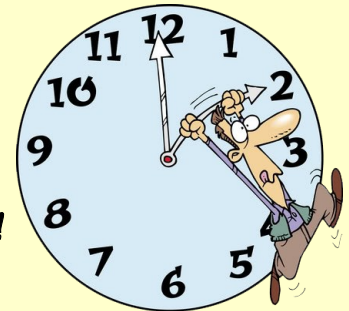
[Chili Cook-Off Sign up](#)

Click [HERE](#)  
to see a blog post from  
*Dr. Doreen  
Dodgen Maggee*



about the role  
of extended  
families in the  
lives of adop-  
tive families.

*Spring  
Ahead for  
Sunday,  
March 11th!*



## North Valley Work Day | March 17



The Stewards would like to invite you to join them for a work day here at the church on Saturday, March 17 from 8am - 5pm. Drop in as you can! The plan is to work on yard work, deep cleaning and inside maintenance issues. Please RSVP to the office if you are available to help so we know what types of jobs to tackle.

Lunch will be provided.

ALL CHURCH RETREAT!



## SPOTLIGHT: GIFTS AND LEADINGS COMMITTEE



### SPOTLIGHT: GIFTS AND LEADINGS COMMITTEE

The Gifts and Leadings Committee's work is ramping up. In the months leading up to June, the committee members meet monthly to discuss the various committee appointments that will need to be brought to the June business meeting. Jessica Trout and Laurie Conant, along with pastoral

liaison Lynn Holt, can be found talking to many people, asking them to prayerfully consider a term on one of the many committees that help guide and support North Valley Worship.

This last year, Gifts and Leadings met with some of the clerks of different committees to get a better idea of the areas they were experiencing energy or challenges, and to encourage them in their service. The committee also attended newcomer gatherings to bring resources and information about North Valley committees to the people who are new to our church body.

One of the most recent things the committee did was create “Facebook” pages for the different committees that give an overview of each committee's work, the people on it, and opportunities for the congregation to join the work they're doing. The pages were posted in the Fellowship Hall during the All-Church Retreat and will be available there for a couple more weeks.

Gifts and Leadings members are appointed by the Elders, and must be members of the church, but there are many ways for people to support them: Gifts and Leadings loves meeting with people to get an idea of their gifts and even perhaps guide them to committees or groups where they might use those gifts—or to find out how those people are already using their gifts! They love to find people with a passion to join the work the church is already doing, or people with a leading for a new project.

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THE WARRIOR**  
MCO Productions Presents:  
The Story of David and Uriah  
by Marilyn Olson



**Performances**  
Alpenrose  
Opera House  
6149 SW Shattuck Rd  
Portland, OR 97221  
Friday, Feb. 24 - 7:30 pm  
Saturday, Feb. 25 - 7:30 pm  
Sunday, Feb. 26 - 3 pm  
Friday, March 2 - 7:30 pm  
Saturday, March 3 - 7:30 pm  
Sunday, March 4 - 3 pm

Elsinore Theater  
170 High St.  
Salem, OR 97301  
Friday, March 9 -  
7 pm  
(noon dress rehearsal for  
Salem-area students)

Free open seating;  
donations welcome.  
For information  
on preferred  
seating by  
reservation:  
503-625-4373 for Portland shows  
503-375-3574 for Salem shows

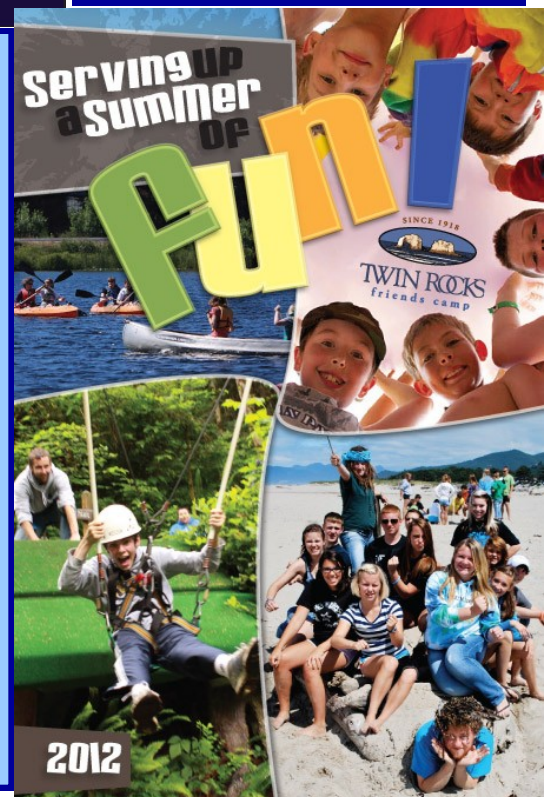
mcoproductions.net

North Valley's own McKennon family is very involved in this production of "The Warrior: The Story of David and Uriah". Come see Peter, Larissa and Adria in action as actors, Lukas and Vicki Burgess working the lights and Steve and Aletha running sound.

(An informational poster is also hanging in the church foyer.)

## TWIN ROCKS FRIENDS CAMP SUMMER SCHEDULE

- **GIRLS CAMP** July 3-8 Girls entering 4th-6th grade
- **BOYS CAMP** July 17-22 Boys entering 4th-6th grade
- **TWEEN CAMP** July 10-16 Youth entering 7th-9th grade
- **SURFSIDE** August 7-13 Youth completing 8th-12th grade
- **FAMILY CAMP** September 2-5 Labor Day Weekend
- **ADULT FELLOWSHIP CAMP** September 14-17
- **OUTDOOR SCHOOL FOR HOMESCHOOLERS**  
September 17-21 4th-7th graders
- **COUPLES CONFERENCE**  
October 12-14 Marriage enhancement
- **SEMINAR BY THE SEA**  
October 26-28 A study-oriented retreat





# MARCH

2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 <b>9:30am Home-made Donuts and Rwanda</b>  <b>12:30pm CHILI COOK-OFF pot-luck</b>	5 7pm Stewards Committee Mtg.	6 7pm Missions Committee	7 <b>Wednesday with Friends Dinner (5:30pm) Activities(6:30pm)</b>	8	9	10 <b>Time Change: Spring Ahead for Tomorrow Morning!</b> 
11 12:30pm Admin Committee Meeting  12:30pm Of a Certain Age lunch  5:30pm Adoptive Families Gathering	12	13 6:30pm Land Use Committee	14 <b>Wednesday with Friends Dinner (5:30pm) Activities(6:30pm)</b>	15	16	17 8am Men's Breakfast @Providence Newberg Hospital  <b>8am CHURCH WORK DAY</b>
18	19 7pm Elders Mtg.	20	21 <b>Wednesday with Friends Dinner (5:30pm) Activities(6:30pm)</b>	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 <b>No Wednesday with Friends due to SPRING BREAK</b>	29	30	31

# MARCH WORSHIP CALENDAR

<a href="#">March</a>	4	11	18	25
<b>Greeters</b>	Verna Munn	Vonnie Burton	Annie & Earl Tycksen	Janine Saxton
<b>Ushers</b>	Bill Rourke	Daryl Burton	Don Parrish	
	Jim Allison	Jeremy Baker	Lukas McKennon	Alan Parry
	Jared Jones	Darryl Brown	Ron Fieldhouse	Erik Funk
	John Frost	Jessica Trout	Jon Holt	Brian Bews
	George Piper		Michael Pender	Anna Baker
<b>Music</b>	Paul Bock	Jared Jones	Janine Saxton	Joel Bock
	Michael LeClair	Colby Spell	Michael LeClair	Nathaniel Ankeny
	Linda LeClair	Brian Bews	Linda LeClair	Melissa Thomas
	Wes Cropper	Anne Bracco	Mike McBride	
	Joel Bock		Steve McKennon	
			Aletha McKennon	
<b>Sound</b>	Mike McConaughey	Steve McKennon	Rawlin Smith	Steve McKennon
<b>Power Point</b>	Nathan Murray	Nathan Murray	Peter McKennon	Jessica Trout
<b>Media</b>	Paul Bock	Jared Jones	Aletha McKennon	Joel Bock
<b>Preach/Facilitate</b>	Andy Henry	Lynn Holt	Brian Bews	Paul Bock
<b>Monthly Focus</b>	Missions			
<b>10:45 Nursery</b>	Anna Baker	Heidi Pender	Adina McConaughey	Janelle Oliveraz
through age 3	Liz Majdecki	Michael Pender	Leanne Baker	Joseph Oliveraz
	Gino Bracco	Maggee Hodgdon	Brenna Bews	Betsy LeClair
<b>*** CHILDREN'S CHURCH ***</b>				
<b>4s-K</b>	Angela Kantz	Jered McConaughey	Beth Woolsey	Kim Boyd
	Jonah Harkema	Miriam Bock	Greg Woolsey	Amy Lutz
	Jenna Allison	Elsie McConaughey	Abby Woolsey	Ryan Murray
<b>1st-3rd</b>	Jody Jones	Kristi Longstroth		Mindy Allison
	Bryanna Henry	Erinn Baker	Katrina McConaughey	Jim Allison
	Brenna Baker	Betsy LeClair	Adria McKennon	Kasey Allison
<b>4th-5th</b>	Scott Conant	Eric Bock	Priscilla Lowery	Webb Thomas
	Bryna Parry	Ramona Ford	Rob Felton	Amanda McConaughey

## ABOUT OUR PEOPLE

# Congratulations!

- *Emily Smith recently became engaged to Zack Brown. They plan to marry on May 26, 2012. Congratulations!*
- *Daniel Headley is getting married March 3rd! Best Wishes!*



Are you or a family member graduating from college this spring? If so, please send your degree information and graduation date to the NV office. Thank you.

## CONNECT ONLINE!

"LIKE" US ON [FACEBOOK](#)

See photos of North Valley events and connect with other attendees.

CHECK OUT OUR [WEBSITE](#)

North Valley's website has contact info for our staff, info about upcoming events, calendars, photos and more.

[SUBSCRIBE](#) TO OUR [PODCAST](#)



### BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Adria McKennon
- 7 Kiah Harkema  
Laura Dunn
- 8 Justice Sandoz
- 10 Scott Majdecki
- 11 Lydia Cathers
- 14 Anna Baker
- 16 Susan Parrish
- 17 Bryan Boyd
- 19 Sydnie Lowe
- 20 Grace Bews  
Jim Fisher
- 21 Jenna Allison  
Mike McConaughy  
Joseph Olivarez
- 23 Leanne Baker  
Louise Clements
- 26 Janine Saxton
- 28 Mykel Boyd
- 29 Aidan Lowery  
Brenna Bews

### ANNIVERSARY

- 14 Keith & Anna Baker

# NORTH VALLEY FRIENDS CHURCH

4020 North College Street  
Newberg, OR 97132

## NORTH VALLEY FRIENDS CHURCH

### Staff:

- Lynn Holt Lead Pastor
- Leslie Murray Pastor, Children & Youth
- Paul Bock Pastor, Worship & Community Life
- Erim Hampton Administrative Assistant
- Cherie 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.*

### 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)*

## CHURCH OFFICE

### Office Hours:

Monday 9:00 am-1:30 pm  
Wednesday 9:00 am-1:30 pm  
Friday 9:00 am-1:30 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