



The Monthly Heartbeat

The Hope in Christ Church Newsletter

Volume 23 AUGUST 2016 Issue 8

Embrace

Enfold

Encourage

Equip

Exalt

VITALITY COMMUNICATION

SUBMITTED BY PASTOR SCOTT

How often have you said something only to have the other person miss it, misinterpret it or get angry about it? Unfortunately, this is a persistent problem whenever people gather together in one place. We are human, God made each of us special, and that means we all have a unique blend of personality and communication style. We have strengths and weaknesses; my humor is likely not the same as your humor. How I approach conflict is probably different than how someone else approaches it. Someone who has a great concern for how the words that are spoken will be felt by another likely takes my comfort level with direct communication devoid of emotional undercurrents as an affront, probably considering me a rude jerk. All of this, and so much more is what hinders communication. But it doesn't need to.

Because we are created in God's image, we are called to love one another, to grow in our understanding and to learn how to communicate with each other in a way that limits, or removes anything that might hinder our ability to get the message to the other person faithfully, lovingly and respectfully.

As a church we have an amazing opportunity as part of our Vitality Renewal Process. Tena Crosby, of FastTrack Communications, will be coming to lead our congregation through an amazing process of learning and listening to one another as we share about how our communication choices are perceived by others. This will be a highly participatory process with a lot of candid discussion. Because of the nature of the training, it is imperative that people be present for the entire process. Please plan on joining us for this day and a half workshop on Friday evening, September 16 and all day, Saturday, September 17.

Armed with an understanding of how our communication choices affect others, we will be able to effectively and honestly address the 2nd phase of the vitality process by looking internally at our gifts and externally at the community's need in order to seek God's direction for Hope in Christ Church.

When God doesn't seem to answer prayer

Submitted by Pastor Scott

Another pig died yesterday. After 4 years of raising hogs, this is the first year we have incurred a death. We have lost not 1 or 2 or 3 pigs, but 8 pigs this season. Medicines don't seem to be working, prayer seems to be unanswered and the loss is huge. What is more difficult is that one begins to wonder, 'Why isn't God answering our prayers for the health, healing and vitality of the animals? Why is he letting these animals die slow deaths as they waste away?' Sometimes you can't soften the loss, but how you approach the questions can help you to grow or shrink.

I don't have an answer to these questions, but one thing I have learned through these losses is that I still believe in prayer. I still believe God is in control. And I still believe that God is powerful enough to defeat whatever is in our herd. But even more than these three important truths, I believe that God is Good. When God doesn't seem to be answering our prayers, each of us must wrestle with the very character of God and come to a conclusion about who he is. For it is this conclusion about his character and his nature that will either drive us to him more completely, more consistently, more fully, or it will drive us away from him.

....continued on page three

Items of Interest from June's Council Meeting

By Mike Boer

Council approved the motion to move forward with the Vitality Plan presented by committee with a Communication seminar on September 16-17: Friday 6-9 and Saturday 8-5 (Tina Crosby will be the speaker). A Motion to spend an additional \$1300 to cover seminar was Approved by council

Epic workshop in January – Team of Classical CRC people to assist

Guest pastor schedule was presented for August

World Renew Mission project – "A success, so what's next" is the question.

Status on getting rid of 3-room portable building – Offer to congregation first then ReStore for demolition.

Envision Ministry - Elders would like to give Mitchell and Rochelle Senti January off again – planning stage of discussion

Automated External Defibrillator (AED) money has been tithed - David R. researching the purchase of one for the church.

Thank you from the Konings

We are so extremely grateful to you, our church family, who rallied with us to put on such a successful rummage sale last weekend. We were able to raise \$3600!! On top of all the many generous donations, I don't think it is an over estimation to say that there were more than 500 man-hours involved in moving stuff, sorting, pricing, sign hangers, flag wavers, floor crews, cashiering, clean-up. We are humbled and grateful. We could not have done this without you. Thank you for being a tangible picture of God's provision for our family's adoption story!

For those who we might not have been able to connect with yet, we also wanted to give you a quick update on our little guy. Unfortunately we received a medical update on the child we were matched with which revealed that he had more significant medical conditions outside of the medical parameters we had originally set up. With heavy hearts we decided to decline the referral. We are asking that God use this opportunity to grow our trust in His timing as we now await another referral hopefully in the near future. Love, The Konings

Sunday school and Children and Worship teacher recruitment has begun!

Submitted by Diane Button

Children's Sunday school and Children and Worship update for this coming year. I've ordered and received the curriculum for this year and I am excited about beginning a new year!

I am looking for an additional teacher for Children and Worship, which will now be held during the Sunday school hour after the service. These children will become part of the entire worship service. Ages are 3 years old through kindergarten. It's fun, it's rewarding, it's easy! Let me know soon if you are interested. Helpers are needed too, so please let me know.



For Sunday school, I need several people willing to teach. Last year you may remember I had blocks of 6 weeks set up to sign up for because each session of lessons is 6 weeks long. This year, I will post the option of signing up for 3 consecutive weeks, or 6 consecutive weeks. We do have some flexibility for the 6 week stint to have a substitute should you need one for a week.

For Sunday school, the classes will be divided up by the following grade levels, and all three of the classes will be using the Dwell curriculum that we started last year.

Wonder- 1st, 2nd graders (4 students)

Marvel– 3rd, 4th, 5th graders (7 students)

Dive- 6th, 7th, 8th graders (6 students)

Children and Worship- 3 years-K (4 students)

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns. So recruitment for teachers/helpers has officially started!

I will put up a poster for the entire year soon so you can sign up! Watch for it by the entryway into the foyer. Or if you'd like to just e-mail me and tell me to put you in a slot, that works too!

Please consider teaching-even if you've never done it. And please sign up soon! My hope and prayer is that all the slots will be filled before we start Sunday school on September 11th.

Diane

continued from page one...When God doesn't seem to answer prayer

If we believe He is good, loving, powerful and sovereign, then no matter what the situation or circumstance, we will continue to turn to him, seek him and trust in his word. If however, we doubt his goodness or his power, or worse yet, we decide that he is capricious, impotent and distant, then we will turn from him and run from him and deny him his rightful place as the center of our life. Though I don't know why God doesn't answer, I have learned that even in the silence, he is teaching me about his character and He is leading me to trust him more than I ever have before.

May these words encourage you in your trials.

Training Opportunity on "Educated Compassion"

"You are invited to a Renewal Forum – Hans Erchinger-Davis, Executive directory of the Lighthouse Mission is a great speaker and he'll be sharing valuable information that we can all use. Feel free to invite others to join you!"

Date / Time: 6:30-8pm at FPC, August 31

Details: August Renewal Forum is with Hans Erchinger-Davis, Executive Director of the Lighthouse Mission, speaking on "Toxic Charity."

Toxic Charity is the title of a book that speaks on pitfalls of charity work and seeks to foster wisdom with compassion. It's been on many of our hearts to provide local training seminar opportunities on the topic of "Educated Compassion" for Christian ministers who are serving those in need.

I would like to present this as a training opportunity on educated compassion for board, staff and volunteers.

Please check your calendars and rsvp to Kim Jones hoovie928@gmail.com

Childcare for kids up through 5 years old with your reservation by 8/29. This event is appropriate for ages 6 and up.

RSVP To Kim Jones and she will RSVP to First Presbyterian Church for your attendance and childcare needs.

Deacon's Digest By Terry Vander Woude

The Deacons wish to thank all those who donated toilet paper and baby wipes for the Interfaith Homeless Drive held in July. We were able to give a substantial donation to this worthy cause.

If you are out of town, your monthly giving may be sent to the church office at 710 E Sunset Dr., B'ham 98225. If you wish to have your donation go to a specific cause, such as general fund, adoption, building, etc. please be sure to designate it on your check.

The Deacons had set aside \$1900 for the Mission Trip to Okanagan and of that amount we had approx. \$200 left, which will be used as "seed" money for the next trip.

Giving in June 2016

	<u>June</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Designated Fund Offerings:	\$ 1,054	\$ 11,065
General Fund Offerings	\$ 15,501	\$107,235
Rent / Utilities Income	<u>2,513</u>	<u>18,292</u>
Total Undesignated Income	18,014	125,527
General Fund Expenses	<u>(16,166)</u>	<u>(117,981)</u>
Income Over(Under) Expenses	\$ <u>1,848</u>	\$ <u>7,546</u>
Total 2016 budget, including ministry quotas		\$ 201,659
Year-to-Date Budget for 7 months		\$ 117,634
Total Undesignated Income		<u>125,527</u>
Income Over (Under) Budget		\$ <u>7,893</u>

Loan Balances:

Classis: \$ 22,500

Guidance from Wesley

John Wesley (1703-1791) offered the following "Rules of Conduct" for Christians:

Do all the good you can,
By all the means you can,
In all the ways you can,
In all the places you can,
At all the times you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as ever you can.

June 2016 Elder/Deacon
Districts

(Separate Elder/Deacon
District)

Generally in alphabetical order
Except when Elder/Deacon fam-
ilies and Relatives overlap.

Lou Kooistra – Avis Kaemingk
District

Anderson, Ken
Barringer, Elaine
Bean, Jim & Linda Bean
Benedict, Mabel
Boer, Michael & Jenn & Family
Bosman, Del & Pat
Bowman, Helen
Bravener, Tricia & Family
Brouwer, Bud & Lorraine
Brakke, Alice
Braun, Yvonne
Buma, Gary & Nina
Buma, Joel
Butenschoen, Marlene
Button, Mike & Diane
Childs, Todd

Don Recker – Terry VW
District

Boenig, Tom & Caroline
Cunningham, Mike & GERALYN
Dahlstone, Frank
Davis, Sissy – Victor Johnson
Dean, Chuck
Dillard, Chris & Jeannie & Family
Doezema, Denise
Emory, Scott
Estrada, Paulino & Georgie
Feller, Bill & Peggy
Figenbaum, Jessie
Figenbaum, Virginia
Funk, Karen
Geleynse, Anne
Geleynse, Sandy
Goble, Carolyn

Dave Richards – Ali Laninga
District

Groothuis, Darryl & Gloria
Grover, Dan
Hop, Jerry & Faye
Ireland, Mark
Brewster, Bill
Johnson, Glenn (Junior)
Kaiser, Marilyn
Kelln, Wilma
Knutson, Don & Connie
Koning, Brian & Melissa
Kooistra, Lou & Evelyn
Kudsk, Mary
Larsen, Carmen
Mans, Larry
Martin, Marion
McAlister, Arbadella
McAlister, Solomon & Rosa
McConnaughey, Linda

Joe Pruitt – Dan Obbink
District

Oppenhuizen, Lisa
Perry, Dale & Deloris
Reamer, Debra
Reardon, Mona
Renne, Darrel
Renne, Grant
Ruiter, Mark & Rockelle/family
Scholten, Doug & Jan
Schultz, Joanne & Family
Seim, Vicki
Senti, Mitch & Rochelle
Sentkowski, Keith
Sentkowski, Kyle
Speyer, Aaron & Megan

Michael Boer – Lisa DeSalvo
District

Skovron, Phil/Jolene & Family
Smith, Karen & Chris Pike
Smits, Amber & Family
Snapper, Don & Elaine
Speyer, Lanny & Christine
Spingola, Tony & Sue & Jeffrey
Stadt, Ruth
Van Beek, Donna
Vanden Bos, Roland & Esther
Vanderpol, Don & Tena
Van Hemert, John & Jean
Veenstra, Leroy & Arlene
Wick, Ken & Elaine
Zylstra, Joe & Barb

Elder/Deacon
District

Lou Kooistra/Avis Kaemingk
Laninga, Herm & Ali
Roberts, Scott & Jen

Don Recker/Terry VW
Boer, Michael & Jenn
DeSalvo, Dave & Lisa

Dave Richards / Ali Laninga:
Kaemingk, Jay & Avis
Kooistra, Lou & Evelyn

Joe Pruitt/Dan Obbink
Recker, Don & Darlys
Vander Woude, Len & Terry

Michael Boer/Lisa DeSalvo
Pruitt, Joe
Obbink, Dan & Tanya

Dear Scott and Hope in Christ Family of God. Thank you so much!

THANKS BE TO GOD WHO GIVES US THE VICTORY THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST. THEREFORE, MY BELOVED...BE STEADFAST, IMMOVABLE, ALWAYS ABOUNDING IN THE WORK OF THE LORD, KNOWING THAT YOUR LABOR IS NOT IN VAIN IN THE LORD. 1 Cor. 15:57-58.

Dear Partners in Prayer, Hope and Joy for the best news in the whole world.

Thanks so much for your prayers, love and help for some of the most forgotten.

.....SHORT PORT REPORT OF THE SEAFARERS.....

THE PORT OF PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

.....Last Spring we celebrated the opening of the Seafarers Center and Chapel for providing worship, hospitality, counseling and a safe place to phone, and relax. After ten years, we sowed with tears and now we are reaping with Joy.

.....THE CRUISE SHIPS. The Grand Celebration, 1300 Passengers and 600 Crew.

Every other day to FreePort, Bahamas. When I have time, I may rent a cabin to provide midnight worship services and counseling. We have a volunteer couple who meet with Crew when docked. Thank God for Ken and Darlene.

.....The Nieuw Amsterdam transitioned from the Caribbean schedule to the Alaskan schedule with 2100 Passengers and 860 Crew. I received, providentially, the opportunity to sail along to be the Chaplain for the passengers, and Crew, which is optional. This was 2 days in April for worship service on days at sea, 11, and crew at midnights. This event? A joyful opportunity for the Gospel.

.....PORT OF VANCOUVER, CANADA. It gets even better. Every Saturday the Nieuw Amsterdam is back in Vancouver from Alaska. The staff invites me back to meet with Crew. We have a special table in the Crew mess diner where we may bring Bibles and good books.

FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER: #1 Thank God for the opportunities for the Gospel. #2 Pray for Seafarers and their families separated for ten months at a time. #3 Pray for more sponsors. Please send the need list back for Seafarers.

....CONTACT INFORMATION...Tel. 561-351-1239; 206-778-1523

SUMMER/WEST: 1101 E Terrace Dr., Lynden, WA 98264;

WINTER/EAST: 6178 Via Vermilya, Lantana FL 33462

pastorvanhemert@gmail.com

Ms. Jean and Pastor John



THE 1 | GOING THROUGH PANAMA CANAL



COME IN GUATA MALA, LADIES ACCEPT SP



Preaching Series:

- 8/7 Pastor John Van Hemert
8/14 Pastor Al Vander Griend
8/21 Pastor Gordon Terpstra
8/28 Ephesians 5:21 Submission



Offering Schedule

- 8/7 General Fund
8/14 General Fund
8/21 Outreach Fund
8/28 General Fund

Greeters Schedule

Outside Doors

- 8/7 Dale and Deloris Perry
8/14 Bud and Lorraine Brouwer
8/21 Lisa Oppenhuizen and Helen Bowman
8/28 Lanny and Christine Speyer

Ushering Schedule

- 8/7 Dale and Deloris Perry
8/14 Ken Wick and Lou Kooistra
8/21 Bud Brouwer and Joe Pruitt
8/28 Helen Bowman and Don Knutson

Coffee/Snack Schedule

- 8/7 Tanya Obbink, Lisa Oppenhuizen
8/14 Deloris Perry, Mona Reardon
8/21 Darlys Recker, Ida Richards
8/28 Jen Roberts, Rockelle Ruiter

Congregational Birthdays For August

- 1 Josiah McAlister
6 Thaddeus Speyer
7 Don Knutson
13 Joe Zylstra
15 Micah Obbink
15 Scott Emory
17 Dan Grover
21 John Van Hemert
24 Abee Koning

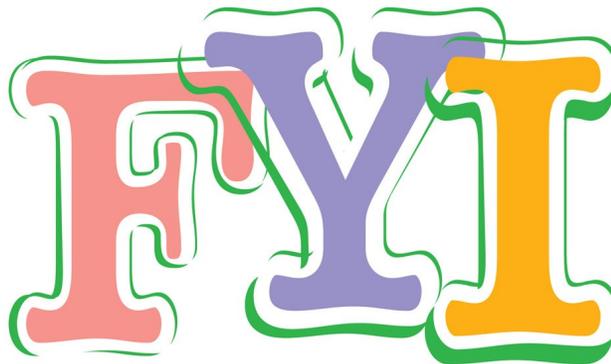


Serving Assistants

- 8/7 Mairi, Mattea, Abee, Maggie
8/14 Michal, Chantel, Mairi, Mattea
8/21 Amber, Abee, Magee
8/28 Michal, Chantel, Mairi, Mattea

Prayer Room

- 8/7 Lanny Speyer
8/14 Del Bosman
8/21 Herm Laninga
8/28 Ida Richards



• FOR YOUR INFORMATION •

August 2016

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1	2	3 <i>Noon: Ladies Potluck</i> <i>7pm Elders and Deacons Meet</i>	4 <i>6:30am Men's Study Group</i> <i>7pm Worship Practice</i>	5	6
7 <i>9:30 Worship Service</i>	8	9 <i>10-4 Kids Crafting with Darlys</i>	10 <i>10-4 Kids Crafting with Darlys</i> <i>7pm Council Meets</i>	11 <i>6:30am Men's Study Group</i> <i>7pm Worship Practice</i>	12	13
14 <i>9:30 Worship Service</i>	15	16	17	18 <i>6:30am Men's Study Group</i> <i>7pm Worship Practice</i>	19	20
21 <i>9:30 Worship Service</i>	22	23	24	25 <i>6:30am Men's Study Group</i> <i>7pm Worship Practice</i>	26	27
28 <i>9:30 Worship Service</i>	29	30	31			