

First Presbyterian  
Church of Kent  
Reverend Carol  
Kirkpatrick

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We're on the web!

WWW.KENTFIRST.NET

#### MISSION STATEMENT

We are a welcoming and inclusive community worshipping in the reformed tradition. As we are empowered by God's grace we strive to educate, serve, and witness to members and friends of Kent First Presbyterian Church and to the people of Kent and surrounding communities, in, with, and through Christ's abiding love.

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF KENT



### From the Pastor's Desk

April 2010

The most successful educational opportunities offered at First Presbyterian Church of Kent is our Sunday morning Adult Education class. Here is an interview I had with Tom Kirkpatrick, leader and facilitator of the class, so that you may learn more about this wonderful learning opportunity.

Question #1: To what do I attribute the growth of our Sunday morning adult education class from 5-7 10 years ago to over 20 now in 2010? What keeps attracting people? What must we be doing right?

Yes, an astonishing thing is happening. Over the last 10 years our class has grown to include nearly 1/3 of the adults in the congregation. Two characteristics of our success are our *style or approach to learning*, and the *simplicity of our group process*.

What most attracts people to our class is their freedom to ask questions. In theological terms, they are "seekers" after truth. This style of learning involves an openness to listen to views different from one's own, and an eagerness to learn something new. Simple-though-profound, this "learning style" is vastly different from the "simple-answers" approach that is attractive to many of today's churchgoers. Sadly, many people want "easy-answers" to "complex-questions." They want to be told what to think, believe, and do. Not the learners in our Sunday morning adult education class. We thrive on asking and living the questions. It reminds me of how Jesus goes about "making disciples" as depicted by the gospel writers. Especially evident in Mark's gospel, Jesus *modus operandi*, his approach to learning, is geared to attract people who stay around after the crowd is gone and ask questions. He seeks "seekers." Perhaps, then, our class is doing just what Jesus intends for us to do as Christians. We are becoming just the type of "followers" Jesus seeks. Truly, our discipleship, our spiritual formation, is being nurtured in attractive, healthy ways!

Question #2: What happens in a typical class?

Most often we use a video-discussion format. We view a 20-30 minute stimulating video presentation by a well-known theologian, pastor, or educator on a topic of interest to class members. Stimulating content seems to produce stimulating group discussion. In fact, I simply ask class members, "What struck you in the video?" Nearly everyone in the class finds something that "strikes" them. Moreover, most everyone is both willing and eager to share her or his observations and reactions.

Question #3: So how would you summarize our formula for attractive, lively adult education?

By offering an inquiry-based, question-centered, or seeker-oriented approach to learning, stimulating content, and stimulating discussion.

Question #4: What are your hopes for the future of our Sunday morning adult education program?

Toward the end of May we do our planning for the next year (Sept.-May). We consider "options" from a wide array of resources, e.g. books and media catalogues, on-line curriculum services, class member suggestions, etc. We then select the most interesting, challenging, and stimulating options, schedule them, and present our recommendations to Session (in the Presbyterian church, session approves all curriculum).

Sometimes, we create our own programs such as the very popular "sharing faith stories" series last fall. We invited guests to come and share their faith stories- -stories very different from our own. You may remember some of faith story-tellers: an Episcopal priest who grew up Mormon, an Iranian minister who grew up a Moslem, a Pakistani Moslem minister involved in interfaith dialogue, Hispanic pastors who fled death squads in Guatemala and El Salvador, a male-to-female transgender Presbyterian minister, and a Noble peace laureate educator.

We are always excited about the plans we make each year. And we always hope others in the congregation will join us. So far, they have. And we hope to continue serving more and more of our KFP adults – perhaps even 50% participation in the not-too-distant future!

Hope this was informative and that you see it as an invitation to join this educational endeavor that will enrich your faith journey.

Blessings,

Pastor Carol

## BUILDING AND GROUNDS

**New refrigerator** The old refrigerator in the downstairs kitchen quit working on Sat., March 6. Several stores were shopped for a replacement refrigerator including Sears Surplus, Maytag Store, Lowe's and Fry's. The best price was found at Fry's. The refrigerator had minor blemishes and the price was reduced by \$70. This information was presented at a special session meeting on Sun. morning, March 7 and approval was given to proceed with the purchase. The new refrigerator was delivered on Monday afternoon Mar. 8.

**Lawn Mowing Season** The 2010 mowing season started early this year. If anyone is willing to take on this job or assist with it, please contact Bill Jones. Keeping the lawn cut and trimmed presents a good image to those who pass by.

**Sanctuary Lighting** Burned out lights in the sanctuary (11 total) were replaced Wed., morning March 17<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to Emil Drivdal, Dan James, Bill Jones, Lud Ludwig, Larry Millam, Rod Parkinson and Mawi for assisting with this task.

**Earthquake straps** On March 10<sup>th</sup>, Puget Sound Energy moved the church's hot water tank back against the wall, installed earthquake straps and added an expansion tank to the system..

**PLEASE REMEMBER! APRIL 4TH, IS WE CARE SUNDAY.**

Please bring your gifts of nonperishable food and clothing to church. Mission Committee volunteers will deliver them to The Kent Community Service Center whose shelves are in constant need of our donations. All categories of food are needed, including baby food and infant formula. Donated clothing goes out quickly. All sizes, infant through adult, are welcome. Just remember that used clothing should be clean and ready to wear because the Service Center does not launder or mend donations.

Monetary contributions are also welcome. You may place your check or cash donation in the bank on the table. Make your check out to Kent First Presbyterian Church and write *food bank* in the memo area. Our treasurer will send your donations to the Community Service Center.

The response of our congregation to those who need help has been warmly received. **Thank you for continuing to CARE.**

**NEWS FROM THE OUTREACH MINISTRY TEAM**

Heads up to teachers in the congregation! Whether you're a retired teacher, practicing teacher or would-be teacher, your opportunity may be coming up next school year to reach out to students and families near our church. In our March meeting, the Outreach Ministry Team will begin to lay the groundwork for a new tutoring program for students in apartment complexes near the church. Watch for further announcements as the planning progresses.

**NEW LIFE**

Thank you for your most generous donations to the New Life fund. Everyone who receives help with their power bill is so appreciative, regardless of the amount we give them.

**DRAFT HORSE PLOW AT MOTHER EARTH FARM....SATURDAY, APRIL 3...10:00AM - 3:00PM.**

You are invited to the annual Draft Horse Plowing of the fields at Mother Earth Farm! The Hames and Tugs Draft Horse Club return each year for this exciting community event. You'll want to watch these amazing folks work their incredible horses on the eight-acre organic farm. A potluck lunch will happen around the noon hour, so bring a covered dish, a lawn chair and your camera! Carpooling is strongly recommended, as parking is limited at the Farm.

To participate in carpooling from Kent First, meet in the parking lot at 9:00 a.m. To attend on your own, pick up a map from the bulletin board in the Narthex. Call Carole Millam (253-631-6987) for more info.

**MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS FUND RAISING EVENT**

The MS Walk for a Cure will take place on Sat., Apr. 10, 9AM, at the Ft. Steilacom Park in Lakewood. Bill and Ruth Jones are once again participating in this event and we are inviting our friends to participate with us either by walking or making a donation.

Science is quickly learning so much about MS, but for people living with this disabling disease, progress can't come fast enough.

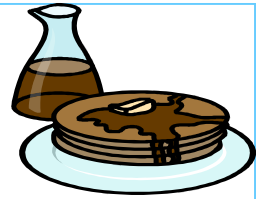
Walk MS supports researchers who are united by a single purpose: a world free of multiple sclerosis.

Share in the hope for the future because every dollar raised supports the mission to create a world free of MS.

Contact Bill or Ruth for more information or to donate. Thank You!

**SAM HUSTON MEMORIAL EASTER BREAKFAST**

The customary pancake breakfast with the usual extras will be served on Easter morning in the Fellowship Hall from 8:00 to 10:00 by the Men's Breakfast Group. Plan on coming early on Easter morning to enjoy this great meal and the fellowship it brings. Donations will be accepted to help cover the costs.



**WOMEN'S SPRING LUNCHEON**

An Invitation to the Women of First Presbyterian Church:



You are cordially invited to the 2010 Women's Spring Luncheon, Saturday, April 24, 12 noon to 2:30 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall of the Church. Enjoy a delicious lunch of assorted salads prepared by members of Early Edition Odyssey, listen to the beautiful music of violinist Marie Heft and pianist Pat Carleton, and hear from Liz Hooks, representing The Church of Mary Magdalene (a Christian ministry with homeless women in Seattle). Liz will be accompanied by some women from the ministry to share their journey through homelessness and the impact The Church of

Mary Magdalene has had on them. A five-minute video of one Mom's struggle through homelessness also will be shared.

As a gift to the many women served by The Church of Mary Magdalene, donations of travel-sized toiletries and funds are being collected to be presented to the representatives at the luncheon. Jeanne Alexander is Chair of the luncheon; contact her with your donation(s) or if you have any questions. She may be reached at 253) 631-6867 or e-mailed at [wendell.alexander@yahoo.com](mailto:wendell.alexander@yahoo.com). Hope to see you there.

**COFFEE HOUR**

we are in need of volunteers to host coffee hour. The sign up sheet is on the bulletin in the narthex. I can be reached for any questions at [cindyjoaquin@comcast.net](mailto:cindyjoaquin@comcast.net) or 253-856-7521

**GREAT MISSION DINNER AND AUCTION**

Looking (and Thinking) Ahead: The Great Mission Dinner and Auction is coming! It's the Number One Social Event of the entire Year!! Reserve Saturday, June 12, 2010 for the annual Dinner Auction. Get your creative juices flowing with ideas to entertain, feed, provide, or ??? As in years past a Silent Auction sets the pace for the evening, followed by dinner, then culminating with the Oral Auction. And remember, mid-way through the Oral Auction is the Dessert Auction. So many chances to share your talents, hobbies, culinary expertise, plu\$ fun opportunitie\$ to \$pend money! Proceeds benefit Mission programs through the Church. What do YOU plan to donate?



**Nurture Ministry Team Minutes**

March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Fireside Room 7 P.M.

- Action Items: Move that the date for teacher recognition Sunday be May 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Present: Jim Drinkwine and Margaret Johnson, elders, Cindy Joaquin, Tom Kirkpatrick, Guest: Maureen Dean
- Scripture reading and opening prayer was by Cindy. She used Proverbs 3:5.

**Nurture Ministry Team Minutes continued:**

## Old Business:

1-We continued getting the names of people who attend the various small groups and will put together a master list when we collect all the data. This will also include what each group emphasizes as it's mission, be it Bible study, fellowship, mission, or a combination.

## 2-Children's Christian Education

Maureen Dean is the leader for this until the end of the current church school year. She attended this meeting to provide a list of the responsibilities for the person or persons who serve in this capacity. We discussed possible church members who can be asked to take over these duties. Maureen suggested that it might be easier to fill the position by having 2 people share the duties.

Margaret will contact Susan Doody and Linda Bollman to discuss the responsibilities, so they can be aware of what is involved. Both of these people are retired schoolteachers and are familiar with preparing lesson plans and supporting materials. Margaret will provide them with copies of the planning and supporting materials supplied by Maureen Dean.

The church schoolteachers who have served on a rotational basis this year are Carole Millam, Linda Bollman, Waverly James and Becky Roelle, Kay Payne, Sue York and Maureen Dean and Janelle McCarty

There is a Presbyterian requirement that background checks be done on all people who work with children. This has been neglected unintentionally for the past several years. Jim and I will bring this up to Pastor Carol Kirkpatrick this week so we will meet this requirement from now on.

Attached to this report is an in-depth record of the duties and responsibilities and time lines for church school leaders. This will be supplied to the Office Manager so it will be available in the church files.

Maureen commented on the line item for Bibles for 3<sup>rd</sup> graders and high school graduates having been eliminated for the Bibles. We will take care of reinstating this item for the budget for 2011. Or it may be included in the regular line item for Christian Education supplies.

## New Business:

## 1-Vacation Bible School:

Maureen provided information regarding VBS and suggested people who may be willing to serve as coordinator from our church, which is an effort of 3 local churches. Attached is information for whom to contact. Since we have such a small number of children in our VBS age group there haven't been any children attending for several years. However, both Pastor Carol and Maureen Dean have participated each year.

## 2-Letter to Session From Day Care Leader

Members were provided with a copy of the letter about all the damage done to the Day Care equipment by the Hispanic Congregation's children. Pictures of some of the damage were shown. We concur with the recommendations of the Administration Ministry Team.

3-Our meetings will be held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month from now on, beginning April 8<sup>th</sup>. Margaret will email Michelle to put this information on the calendar.

The deadline for the April Newsletter is Friday March 19<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Cindi at 8:30p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Margaret Johnson

## AFTERNOON CIRCLE

Afternoon Circle will meet April 1st, 2010 at 11:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room. All women are invited to join us for fellowship and Bible study. Bring a sandwich to share. Dessert, coffee and tea are furnished. Call the church office 253-852-3370 or Marian Willhite 253-852-2881.

## PRIME TIME JOURNEY

**Prime Time Journey** meets the first Monday of each month. The next meeting will be April 5, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. in the fireside room. We will conclude our discussion of [Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide](#) by Pulitzer Prize winners Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn.

“If you have always wondered whether you can change the world, read this book. Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn have written a brilliant call to arms that describes one of the transcendent injustices in the world today—the brutal treatment of women. They take you to many countries, introduce you to extraordinary women, and tell you their moving tales. Throughout, the tone is practical not preachy and the book’s suggestions as to how you can make a difference are simple, sensible, and yet powerful. The authors vividly describe a terrible reality about the world we live in but they also provide light and hope that we can, in fact, change it.” -Fareed Zakaria, author, *The Post-American World*

Like to plan ahead? Our next selection will be: [The First Drop of Rain](#) by local author Leslie Parrott.

Join us for lively study and conversation! For more information, contact Maureen Dean: 253-939-5528.  
[thorsmoml@aol.com](mailto:thorsmoml@aol.com)

## PRAYER CHAIN

Prayer chain. Our church has two prayer chains, one telephone and one e-mail. If you are in need of prayers for your life or would like to be part of this ministry you may call the church office 253-852-3370, Maureen Ludwig, 253-852-7532 or e-mail Gene [Sherwood@g12gesher@aol.com](mailto:Sherwood@g12gesher@aol.com).

## EARLY EDITION ODYSSEY

The Early Edition Odyssey Circle will meet Tuesday, April 27, in the Fireside Room at 1:00 p.m. All women are invited to attend this afternoon event of fellowship, study and refreshment. Sharon Drivdahl will be hostess, assisted by Margola McKean. Nora Fisher will lead devotions and Sharon Drivdahl will facilitate the study, chapter 7 of [Joshua](#).

Contact Nora Fisher, Early Edition Odyssey chair, for more information.

## MENS BREAKFAST

The **Men’s Fellowship** group meets the second and fourth Saturday of each month at the Golden Steer restaurant in Kent, located at 240th and 104th. Join other men from Kent First on April 10th and 24th at 7:30 AM for good food and fellowship!

## MORNING PRAYER

Get a powerful start to your Monday Morning!!!

You are invited to join us every Monday morning at 7:00 for a quiet, but powerful, time of prayer. We gather in the sanctuary, the setting is comfortable, and the prayers are informal but meaningful.

If you have questions please contact Pastor Carol.

## OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH

Out to Lunch Bunch meets the 3rd Sunday of each month. We enjoy fellowship with each other over lunch at a local area restaurant. All are welcome to join us. Questions? - call Maureen Ludwig, 253-852-7532.

## **SUMMARY OF MINUTES OF SESSION FEBRUARY 18, 2010**

- Lud Ludwig was elected chair of the Nominating Committee.
- A potluck lunch will be held on March 7. Gil Craig will talk about their recent mission trip to China.
- The Outreach Ministry Team will host a fund raising auction on Saturday June 5 to raise money for mission causes. Mark your calendar
- Nurture Ministry Team will acquire a memorial plaque to acknowledge money given to Kent First in individual's names.
- A congregational retreat will be held Saturday, May 22.

## **SUMMARY OF MINUTES OF SESSION MARCH 18, 2010**

- Church members will be invited to go out to single family homes in the neighborhood to invite them to Holy Week services.
- Bajo de Unicion (formerly El Poderoso de Israel) will be contacted regarding their stewardship of Kent First property.
- May 23 will be Teacher Recognition Sunday

## APRIL 2010

4th	11th	18th	25th
LAY READER			
Tom Kirkpatrick	Waverly James	Margaret Johnson	Maureen Dean
USHERS			
Jeanne Alexander	Lud Ludwig	Glen Sherwood	Al Dermody
JoJo Gibson	Maureen Ludwig	Sharon Drivdahl	Rod Parkinson
GREETERS			
Jeanne Alexander	Carol Dunford	Sharon Drivdahl	Neil Bolkom

### \$\$\$ TREASURER'S REPORT \$\$\$ FOR THE PERIOD FEBRUARY 1 THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 2010

#### GENERAL FUND SUMMARY

##### **INCOME**

General Fund	\$39,303.62
Other Giving	\$392.31
Building Use	\$4,440.00
Reimbursements	\$210.00
Other	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$44,345.93</u></b>

Program	\$8,354.58
Mission	\$2,042.40
Payroll	\$22,076.00
Reimbursable Expenses	\$210.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$32,682.98</u></b>

#### RECONCILIATION

##### **GENERAL FUND**

Beginning Balance	(\$989.91)
Income	\$44,345.93
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>\$32,682.98</u>

**Ending Balance** **\$10,673.04**

**Specified Funds \*** \$77,945.19

**Gen/Spec Funds** \$88,618.23

**Bank/BECU Bal.** \$88,618.23

\* Specified Funds includes  
Reserve Fund of \$16,000.00