

**Baseball**

by Susie Beil

Baseball season is here! The Mariners look promising this year; we'll see. Our three boys are each on a local youth team. They have practices through the week and games will start in a week or two. We're outside playing catch as often as possible.

I love baseball. It's the sport of my youth, my whole family played, coached, umpired, you name it. For good or ill, I know way too much about the game. I'm not a statistics person, but the game itself is in my blood. I love the sights, sounds and smells of baseball: the crisp spring air, the crack of the bat, the scent of an old leather glove, and the swish-pop of a ball well caught. What I love most of all is teaching the game to my kids, watching them learn it and love it and, most of all, play it. I know, some of you are groaning - baseball is so boring (especially the MLB - way TOO MANY games, in my opinion). But I love it anyway.

I recently read a line in a book that stopped me in my tracks. Kenda Creasey Dean, Professor of Youth, Church and Culture at Princeton Seminary, wrote a humbling book called *Almost Christian: What the Faith of our Teenagers is Telling the American Church*. In it, she writes: 'we "teach" young people baseball, but we "expose" them to faith.' Boy, that's a hard one to swallow. It is quite an easy thing to take the kids out and play catch,

coach their little league team, take them to a Mariners game and teach them how the game is played. Maybe soccer, dance, or theatre is your game - teaching your kids the skills, practicing those sports and arts, well, these are things that may come easily to us. Or just talking with kids - and even adults - about sports, music, etc. we find much more comfortable ground than the things of faith.

*We teach young people baseball, but we expose them to faith.* I am knocked down a bit by this statement. I'll admit, even as a pastor, conversations in our house are much more likely to be sports-related than God-centered. (Sigh!) At the same time, I am encouraged to embrace the imagery of baseball - or whatever sport/art works for you - as I think about teaching my kids (and people of any age, really) what it is to trust and follow Jesus.

Developing muscle memory for any sport or art is vital. I hadn't thrown a ball since last summer, but because of years of practice through my youth, I could pick up my glove and have a catch with my boys. Yes, my arm hurt afterward, but my arms and hands knew just what to do. Being in worship each week, reading and even memorizing Scripture, participating in a group, serving in mission - each of these activities builds muscle memory for both body and soul. So when we head out into the day to living of life, our hands and feet, mind and words are practiced in forgiveness and community.

I love the church. I love even more the Lord who calls us to be the church - not the building, but the gathered and sent people of God. I love the sights and sounds of a Sunday morning, the heart-full feeling of serving in mission, the Spirit-filled friendships that blos-

som and grow in small groups. But most of all, I love watching God work in people's lives and grow their hearts to trust Jesus more. I love teaching the faith to people in every generation, watching them learn and love it, and most of all, live it.

Susie



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Summit Life is a monthly publication of:

**Summit Avenue Presbyterian Church**

403 S Summit Avenue  
Bremerton, WA 98312  
360.377.2740  
office@summitave.net

## Sunday Worship Schedule

9:00am	Adult S.S Classes
9:00am	Brass Handbells
10:00am	Chancel Choir
<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Worship</b>
10:45am	Children's S.S.
11:45am	Coffee Hour
3:00pm	Youth Group

### Winter Sermon Series:

## The Gospel of Mark

- Apr.5 Mark 16:6  
*Resurrection*
- Apr.12 Speaker: Sharon Peterson
- Apr.19 I John 3:1-7  
*What Love*
- Apr.26 I John 3  
*In Truth & Action*  
Youth Sunday

### Hearing Loop

Our sanctuary is equipped with a hearing



Audio sermons available at [www.summitave.net](http://www.summitave.net)

### Office Hours

Monday—Thursday

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## Communion April 5

9am Paul DuFresne  
10:30am Ray Goodale

### Liturgist

- Apr. 5 9am Nathan Perry
- Apr. 5 10:30am Tim Taylor
- Apr. 12 Griff Ames
- Apr. 19 Nathan Perry
- Apr. 26 Youth Sunday

## Usher & Greeters

- Apr. 5 **9:00am Service**  
Bud Taylor, Delcea Wills  
Pam Morton
- Apr. 5 **10:30am Service**  
Joyce Hersch, Bud Taylor  
Delcea Wills
- Apr. 12 Aggie Schultheis, Bud Taylor  
Ken & Sue Davis
- Apr. 19 Sue Kela, Alison Bowling  
John & Jeannie Lemm
- Apr. 26 Mike & Bev Kelly  
Shannon & Jennifer Griffin

## Time For Young Disciples

- Apr. 5 Nathan Perry
- Apr. 12 Tineke Dahl
- Apr. 19 Tim Taylor
- Apr. 26 Pastor Susie Beil

## Acolyte

- Apr. 5 Ruth Ross
- Apr.12 Jayke Kelly & Jonah Griffin
- Apr. 19 Caleb Beil
- Apr.26 Maxx Kelly & Nathan Taylor

## Organist

- Apr. 5 Woody Bernas
- Apr. 12 Joann Richardson
- Apr. 19 Len Guyt
- Apr. 26 Joann Richardson

## Hospitality Team

- Apr. 5 Duey & Virginia McBride  
Wallace & Julie Ross
- Apr.12 Joyce Hersch, Bev Kelly  
Wayne Jordheim, Mike Kelly
- Apr.19 John Lemm, Sonia Turner  
Rick and Kathi Walker
- Apr. 26 Midge Kettel, Marsha Kane  
Margaret LeFevre, Barb Stark
- May 3 Griff Ames, Mary Fischer  
Ray Goodale, Judy Wieck
- May 10 Aggie Schulteis, Delcea Wills  
Brian Henderson, Bud Taylor
- May 17 Tineke, Oliver, Solveig Dahl  
Kathy Kuyper
- May 24 Alison Bowling, Janet Postel  
Tim & Jennifer Taylor
- May 31 Ann Sveen, Audrey Robinson  
Russ & Maxine Warren

## Easter Blessings We invite you to join us for

### Holy Week and Easter 2015

- Palm Sunday March 29 @10:30am
- Maundy Thurs April 2 @ 6:00 pm Supper & Communion
- Good Friday April 3 @ 6:30pm Service of Shadows

### Easter Sunday April 5

9am - Contemporary Service ♦ 10:30 am - Traditional Service

**Kids!** Children of all ages begin in the worship service together with their families. After a brief time, 1st - 6th grade are invited to Summit Kids, and birth - K to the nursery for playtime and lesson. Nursery care provided for little ones for all or part of service.

## A Grace-full Winters Eve a great Success!!!!

What a wonderful night of Fellowship and graces! And let us not forget the sugar rush of the delectable choices of desserts. Summit has the privilege of having many talented people blessed by God.

Although, the evening was planned to give us something to look forward to in the long Northwest winter, the day (and winter) was not quite like we had expected! The day reached 51 degrees and no rain! It was a great day that led into an enjoyable night.

The displays delighted our eyes, amazed us with people's skills, and gave us an opportunity to learn just a little more about each other. Performances kept us laughing, a bit of crying, and got us singing along.

**Thanks to those that planned and worked to make this night possible.**

Paul Dufresne : Master of Ceremony extraordinaire



Sue Hall, Marsha Kane, and Griff Ames for set up  
Sue Kela, Marsha Kane, Ann Sveen, Peggy Hitchcock, and Sue Hall



**Thank you to all that performed and brought your graces to share.**

The night was special because of you!

Thanks to those that brought all the great desserts!  
We were on a sugar high for days!  
And last but not least, thanks to every single one of you for attending and making this an "Evening to Remember"!





## Love and Life is Found in Christian Community

### Greetings Summit Ave!

I'm a firm believer that growth does not just happen by attending church once a week on Sundays. It could be easy to show up and not once really allow others to have the opportunity to know what is going on in your life. When asked, "How are you?" we can easily hide behind our answer, "I'm good." Even if we are not. I believe that the church shouldn't be a place where we hide our doubts, fears, and failures and try to act like we have it together. That would make the church feel like an isolated and lonely place.

Rather, I believe the church should be the one place people are desperate to go when they have these problems. Like how one goes to the hospital in an emergency, one should view the church as a refuge to receive prayer, love, and support. Jesus himself said he didn't come to seek those who thought they were righteous but to seek those who knew they were sinners. Healthy people don't need a doctor, sick people do. Jesus died for our sins so why would we attempt to hide them or manage them on our own strength? Give them to him!

A paraphrase of:

When you are

going through a hard season, is the church a place you feel you can run to? Or is it a place you want to avoid so you don't have to face others in your struggle?

I grew up in a family that it was the norm to try to hide our faults. We wanted to appear better on the outside than we were on the inside.

A few years back I joined an accountability group and one particular week I told the leader I didn't want to come to group because it is humbling to admit failures, and that I needed help and growth in my character.

His response changed how I viewed church and groups completely. He said, "Why wouldn't you want to come to group to be loved unconditionally?"

I realized in a real way that the group was not trying to fix me. They were showing love and concern for me by walking through some of the hardest times in my life with me. They were encouraging me, and praying for me. By being in genuine community you are inviting others into your life and giving them the opportunity to love you simply as you are. By not being in community you are robbing yourself of experiencing that kind of love. Don't you know God works through his church? His love is reflected by his people. We cannot call ourselves Christians and be separated from God's community. James 5 tells us *to pray for one another so we may be healed.*

We are created for genuine community. I hope this is something you experience and have been experiencing here at Summit Ave Presbyterian Church.

For this reason I've been really encouraged by our Lenten Groups this season. If you have not been a part of a group, YOU SHOULD!!! It is not too late to join a group. I may be biased when I say this, but the group I've joined at 12:30 after church in the library is the best! It has been rejuvenating to really connect with others and get poured into as much as I pour out. I've been encouraged by the faith and desire for God that those in my Lenten Group have! I can't tell you how rewarding it has been for me and it is something I look forward to weekly.

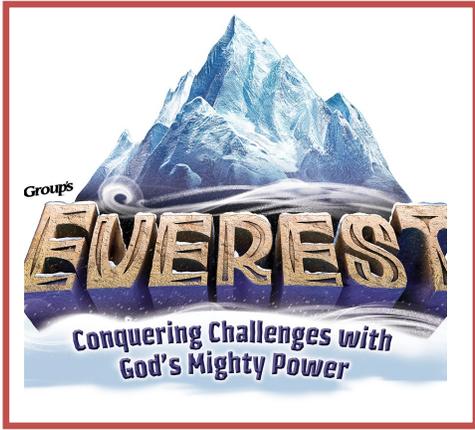
I originally had not intended to join a group as I didn't think I had the time. I live in Kirkland! And I have kids and youth on Sundays! However, I was surprised when I was invited to a group that fit my schedule. If I can get plugged in, than there is no reason you can't either!

If you are leading one, continue to invite others too! Who knows, maybe all someone is waiting for is a simple invitation!

In Christ's service,  
Nathan Perry



*1 John says that if we confess our sins he is just and faithful to forgive us and the blood of Christ cleanses us from all unrighteousness and we have fellowship with one another. But if we say we have no sin we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is*



## VBS Kids Camp 2015!

June 22-26

9:00 am - noon

Ages 4 yrs - entering 6th grade

Got kids? Know some kids?  
Spread the word now!

Our theme this year is Everest!



As many of you are aware we are planning our VBS and our theme this year is called “Everest: Conquering Challenges with God’s Mighty Power!” Registration is now open online. You can go on our website and there is a link with more information as well as a place to sign up. It is \$10 per child or \$15 dollars per family. Limited Scholarships are also available for those needing financial assistant. We want to make sure there is no obstacle keeping your family or neighbors from being able to ex-



### HOW CAN I HELP?

Looking for Volunteer to help! We will be looking to fill some very crucial roles for this year’s

VBS. If you are interested in serving e-mail me at [youth@summitave.net](mailto:youth@summitave.net) or talk to me in person.



In order to keep our budget low we will need help in getting supplies and props for set up. Our goal is to make the sanctuary

stage look like the base camp of Mt. Everest by covering the floor in white cloth (snow) and having some tent gear and Christmas trees on stage.

Some simple supplies you can help provide are:



As many White Sheets as we can get to cover the floor of the stage area (We seriously can’t have too much so!!! We need lots!)

- Climbing gear and rope (just for props as well)
- Hiking boots
- Backpacks
- Tents
- Christmas Trees



- Cotton or quilt batting

We will be sure to get back whatever item you let us borrow the following week after VBS.

Just be sure to somehow mark clearly what is yours by either writing on the item itself, or by attaching a tag or tape that is clearly labeled. We will be storing VBS equipment and supplies in the upstairs class rooms and leave it locked until we actually

begin set up in June.

If there are any other ideas or ways you feel like you can help, please don’t hesitate to contact me!

Blessings!

*“Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think.”*

–Ephesians 3:20

Nathan Perry



### Bremerton Foodline

Their **Vision:** Striving to Nourish and Enrich the Lives of Our Neighbors in Need.

Their **Mission:** Providing food assistance and other services to reduce hunger and improve self-sufficiency for those within our community.

*Let's help the Foodline reach their Vision*

### Foodline Alert!

Help us reach our goal of 250 pounds!

Check out the sign in the Narthex. For the next few months we will be filling in the goal chart so you can see the progress we together are making.

Newly labeled cart ready for your donations.

### Kitsap Rescue Mission

First Sundays of the month at 3 pm we partner with Kitsap Rescue Mission to feed the hungry and homeless in Kitsap County. If you would like to be on one of our monthly teams, please let us know on a blue card, or contact Aggie Schultheis or Ellen Middents.

### Deacons Offering

Is collected the first Sunday of each month. The Deacons offering is used to help people in need through our local mission outreaches.

### Helping Hands offering

Third Sunday of each month. The Helping Hands offering is used to purchase Safeway cards (*that can only be used for food or fuel*)

### Presbyterian Women



Presbyterian Women will be meeting on Tuesday, April 7 at 2pm in the Don Serry Room. We will begin a new study of the journeys of Paul. Please read the first chapter of Corinthians.

Lois Kroehler will lead the prayer and study. Refreshments and fellowship after the study.

### City Life Crew

*We Make it Clean and Keep it Green!*

We will work hard for you to keep your yards and house looking good.

#### What you get:

- ⇒ Group of hard working boys
- ⇒ Excellent service they won't leave until you are satisfied with their work.
- ⇒ The chance to invest in youth, provide them valuable job experience and evaluate them after they are done



- ◇ Mow Lawns
- ◇ Weed/Trim
- ◇ House Cleaning
- ◇ Help you Move
- ◇ Any other labor services needed

**Prices are negotiable and determined by you.**

The City Life Crew is part of a Youth for Christ program designed to teach youth valuable life skills and to motivate

#### Contact Information

Cell Phone: (360) 328-3794

E-mail: [joshm@westsoundyfc.org](mailto:joshm@westsoundyfc.org)

### Lenten Groups

Have been such a great success once again! Thank you to all who have led or hosted a Lenten Group! We had close to sixty people in Lenten groups this season – what a blessing to share in the journey of faith together with our brothers and sisters in Christ!

A few people have said to me that they wish their group could keep going! Well, there's nothing stopping you from continuing on. The sermon texts are listed each month in the newsletter – feel free to use the Lenten Guide structure but just change the Bible passage. Or perhaps your group might be interested in reading a different book together. The important thing is that we do life together as

## TREASURER'S REPORT:

Our Treasurer's report reflects what was approved at the previous month's Session meeting, giving us a month's lag time. So for this April newsletter, we are reporting on February 2015:

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$Over/Under Budget</u>
Feb.	\$21,689.73	\$21,261.17	\$428.56
	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$Over/Under Budget</u>
	\$28,257.30	\$23,491.50	\$240.20

### Statistical Report of February 2015

Average Worship Attendance: 110  
 Lord's Supper: 112  
 Kids: 9  
 Youth 4  
 Sunday school - Adults: 15  
 Groups: 145

Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, **2** fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at

## Session Highlights

Your Summit Elders enjoyed a day retreat at North Point Church in Poulsbo. Using a resource provided by the PCUSA Mission Council called "Starting New Initiatives: A Discernment Process," we reflected on God's faithfulness in the past and our call to the future. After lunch, we gathered for our monthly meeting.

Hooray! Our mortgage has been paid to the bank! The payment of that debt was completed through the generosity of several church members and will be repaid over the next five years on promissory notes.

In addition, more pledges have been received so that adjustments to the budget will be forthcoming.

Thank you to all who continue to give faithfully and generously!

## Summit Leadership

### Elders

Sue Hall	Hospitality/Sp Events
Sue Kela	Worship/PW
Sharon Peterson	Personnel/Youth Team
Griff Ames	Building and Grounds
Bethany Nupen	Worship/Children's Team
Ray Goodale	Missions/Felloship/Worship
Tim Taylor	BSA/Bldg & Grnds/acolytes
Judy Wieck	Clerk/Missions/Fellowship
Rick Walker	Worship/Soundboard
Brett Harrison	Mission/Outreach
Russell Warren	Worship/Groups
Paul DuFresne	Finance/Stewardship
Ken Davis	Outreach/Memorials

### Deacons

Moderator: Delcea Wills	
Joyce Hersch	Mabel Richardson
Ellen Middents	Kathy Kuyper
Chris Hall	Ann Sveen
Sharon Plowman	Kurt Spitzer
Cheryl Sanlin	
Sue Davis	

## Staff

**Pastor:** Rev. Susie Beil  
**Parish Associates:** Rev. Jerry Benjamin  
 Rev. Barbara Benjamin  
**Youth & Children's Ministry Director:** Nathan Perry  
**Childcare Ministry Coordinator:** Kristen Hargett  
**Childcare Assistant:** Solveig Dahl  
**Choir Director:** Gary Dahl  
**Handbell Choir Director:** Cheryl Sanlin  
**Organists:** Woody Bernas, Joann Richardson, Len Guyt  
**Office Administrator:** Faith Parker  
**Custodian:** Darlene Randall  
**Treasurer:** Jennifer Taylor  
**Kitchen Facilitator:** Sue Kela  
**Sound Technicians:** Rick Walker, Tineke Dahl, Karl Jensen, Rick Chapman, Oliver Dahl  
**Pastor Emeritus:** Rev. Mel Lord-Unruh  
**Choir Director Emeritus:** Audrey Robinson  
**Desk Volunteers:**

Monday	Aggie Schultheis
	Bethany Nupen
Tues	Sharon Plowman
	Isobel Merchen
Wed.	Joyce Hersch
	Judy Wieck
Thurs	Mary Urwin
	Sue Kela
	Sue Hall

**Subs:** Ray Goodale, Alice Lord-Unruh, Bud Taylor,

*Growing disciples in all generations by loving God, loving others, and serving the world.*



The American Guild of Organists presents:

## Raleigh McVicker Memorial Organ Recital

April 19, 2015 - 3:00 pm

Summit Avenue Presbyterian Church

Featured Artist: Douglas Cleveland

Admission Price: donations (suggested \$20)

The AGO is pleased to present this opportunity to honor Raleigh McVicker and celebrate excellence in pipe organ music. We hope you can join us!

