

Hot Summer!

by Susie Beil

Boy, it's hot out! Everest VBS Kids Camp brought us visions of snow and ice amidst an 80 degree week. We loved it though, as we danced and sang and studied stories from Scripture of God's mighty power. A big shout out to Bethany Nupen and Nathan Perry for their hard work organizing and leading VBS this year. And what a set we had! Major kudos to Peggy Hitchcock and Christina McGaughey for designing and building a spectacular Mt Everest for us. And thanks to all who donated tents, climbing gear, artificial trees and other items. Kids and leaders alike had a great time in God's word, singing praises, and learning what it means to trust God and serve others.

In the midst of our warm days of VBS planning and leading here at Summit, reports of racial violence and landmark decisions from our Supreme Court heated up the news. A single white man shot and killed nine black people at a church prayer meeting and Bible study in South Carolina. In response, whites and blacks in some places hugged and held each other, promising reconciliation; while down the road hate-filled whites celebrated the murders and burned down black churches.

Health care reform is here to stay. Same-sex marriage became legal in all 50 states. Rainbows decorate profile pictures in support of this decision throughout my Facebook feed, while angry rants or shocked silence adorn other Facebook updates. It's been quite a summer so far. Hot weather and hot issues.

One of our boys walked into the kitchen this morning with his shirt on backwards. When I pointed this out to him, he replied, "Hey, this is a free country; we can do whatever we want." I'm not too

worried about backward shirt-wearing, but I did clarify to him that our freedom was bought in this country to liberate us from the Tyrant, not so that we can *do whatever we want*. Furthermore, our freedom as Christians is freedom from sin to serve Christ, not ourselves.

In Eugene Peterson's *Message* paraphrase of the Bible, Colossians 3 reads: "Your old life is dead. Your new life, which is your *real* life – is with Christ in God. . . and that means killing off everything connected with that way of death: sexual promiscuity, impurity, lust, doing whatever you feel like whenever you feel like it, and grabbing whatever attracts your fancy."

We celebrate Independence Day with fireworks and BBQ's, which I LOVE. Yet many Americans continue thinking freedom is about doing whatever we feel like whenever we feel like it. Which I DO NOT LOVE. We were set free from King George in order to determine our own laws and taxes. We were set free from sin in order to love Christ, love others and serve the world. Not serve ourselves.

People wonder what I think about these hot news topics. I am heartbroken over the violence against blacks. The Apostle Paul fought racial violence in his day, too, and kept declaring in every way he could that "From now on everyone is defined in Christ, everyone is included in Christ: (Colossians 3:11, *The Message*). I believe we are one in Christ, and we are to love all people, no matter their color, size or perspective.

So, what about same-sex marriage? For centuries, Christians have lumped homosexuality under Paul's list of "sexual promiscuity, lust and doing whatever you want." What many don't remember is that for a long time even heterosexuality - yes, marriage between men and women – was understood to be rooted in lust and impurity by the Christian church. Marriage was viewed as second rate (celibacy being true holiness for men and women), and only (finally) given the blessing of the church for three reasons: to keep the human race going, to keep people's urges contained, and (although this was disputed) for the affection and companionship between the married couple.

What if welcoming same-sex marriage makes room for more people to raise fami-

lies, cultivate faithfulness, and cherish another? I know same-sex couples who have adopted and raised foster children abused by their birth parents, or AIDS orphans, or just babies in need of a loving home. I know other same-sex couples who choose not to raise children but pour themselves into their communities and serve the poor, care for children and families in life-giving ways. God commands faithfulness; what if giving legal parameters within which to be married holds more couples to a higher standard of faithfulness? I hope it does.

We could talk for a lifetime about these hot topics. Maybe we will. I certainly don't have it all figured out, and my guess is that you don't either. But I'm glad to be on the journey with a congregation willing to talk about hard things and wrestle with issues on which we don't always agree. Let us hold on to Christ and to his grace as we listen and learn and live. And remember that doing whatever we want whenever we feel like it is not true freedom; it is simply self absorption. My prayer for you and for me, as hot weather and hot topics warm our days and conversations, is that we remember we are all defined by Christ and all are included in Christ. May we love and serve all with joy and faithfulness.

Susie



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Summit Life is a monthly publication of:

Summit Avenue Presbyterian Church

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Sunday Worship Schedule

- 9:00am Adult S.S Classes
- 9:00am Brass Handbells
- 10:00am Chancel Choir
- 10:30am Worship**
- 11:00am Kids Sunday School
- 11:45am Coffee Hour
- 3:00pm Youth Group

Current Sermon Series:

Finding Our Center

- July 5** Colossians 1:1-20
Pastor Susie Beil
- July 12** Colossians 1:21-29
Pastor Susie Beil
- July 19** Colossians 2:1-7
Nathan Perry
- July 26** Colossians 2:8-15
Paul Du Fresne
- Aug. 2** Colossians 2:26-23
- Aug. 9** Colossians 3:1-4
- Aug. 16** Colossians 3:5-11
- Aug. 23** Guest Mission Speaker
- Aug. 30** Colossians 3:12-17

Audio sermons available at www.summitave.net

Would you like to serve on a Sunday? Mark a blue card with your name and how you'd like to help, and we'll contact you!

Office Hours

Monday—Thursday

Communion

- July 5 Sue Hall, Bethany Nupen
- Aug. 2 Brian Henderson, Sue Kela

Liturgist

- July 5 Griff Ames
- July 12 Sue Kela
- July 19 Griff Ames
- July 26 Sharon Peterson
- Aug. 2 Barbara Stark
- Aug. 9 TBA
- Aug. 16 TBA
- Aug. 23 TBA
- Aug. 30 Barbara Stark

Usher & Greeters

- July 5 Joyce Hersch, Bud Taylor
Aggie Schultheis
Bethany Nupen
- July 12 Aggie Schultheis, Ray Goodale
Ken & Sue Davis
- July 19 Sue Kela, Alison Bowling
John & Jeannie Lemm
- July 26 Mike & Bev Kelly
Shannon & Jennifer Griffin
- Aug. 2 Joyce Hersch, Bud Taylor
Delcea Wills, Bethany Nupen
- Aug. 9 Aggie Schultheis, Pam Morton
Ken & Sue Davis
- Aug. 16 Sue Kela, Alison Bowling
John & Jeannie Lemm
- Aug. 23 Mike & Bev Kelly
Shannon & Jennifer Griffin
- Aug. 30 Kent & Terese Edmonds

Time For Young Disciples

- July 5 Nathan Perry
- July 12 Wallace Ross
- July 19 Bethany Nupen
- July 26 Sharon Peterson
- Aug. 2 Nathan Perry
- Aug. 9 Tineke Dahl
- Aug. 16 Tim Taylor
- Aug. 23 TBA
- Aug. 30 Pastor Susie Beil

Acolyte

- July 5 Collin Beil
- July 12 Maxx Kelly & Nathan Taylor
- July 19 Cameron Ross
- July 26 Ruth Ross
- Aug. 2 Jayke Kelly & Jonah Griffin
- Aug. 9 Caleb Beil
- Aug. 16 Maxx Kelly & Nathan Taylor
- Aug. 23 Cameron Ross
- Aug. 30 Collin Beil

Organist

- July 5 Woody Bernas
- July 12 Len Guyt
- July 19 Len Guyt
- July 26 Woody Bernas
- Aug. 2 Joann Richardson
- Aug. 9 Len Guyt
- Aug. 16 Woody Bernas
- Aug. 23 Joann Richardson
- Aug. 30 Len Guyt

Hospitality Team

- July 5 Ken & Sue Davis
Rick & Karen Chapman
- July 12 Joyce Gearhart
Steve Van Hoff
Mary Urwin
Mabel Richardson
- July 19 Jan Collier, Sue Hall
Paul & Blossom Murphey
- July 26 Chuck & Jean Feth
Phil McGaughey
Mary Fischer
- Aug. 2 Peggy Hitchcock, John Lemm
Jerry & Connie Wheeler
- Aug. 9 James & Alonda Droege
Joyce Hersch, Marsha Kane
- Aug. 16 Ray Goodale, Midge Kettle
Wayne Jordheim
Margaret LeFevre
- Aug. 23 Griff Ames, Bethany Nupen
Duey & Virginia McBride
- Aug. 30 Beverly Pratt, Sonia Turner
Wallace & Julie Ross

Summit Avenue Summer 2015 Groups Guide

Summer Groups

Groups are a great way to connect! Some of our groups take the

summer off, while other groups happen only during the summer. See if there's something here you'd like to join.

To Join a Group:

Give the contact person a call, or write on a blue card in worship what group you are interested in, or call the church office.

Summer Supper Groups!

This summer we encourage you to gather with friends for dinner fellowship. To the right you'll see a list of people who have volunteered to host a dinner one night this summer. We'll have sign ups in the Fellowship Hall, or talk to a host about coming to their dinner. Hosts may provide the whole meal or delegate items, or just call for a potluck. More info on dates will be coming soon. If you would like to host a Summer Supper Group, let us know, or just gather a few friends new

Study & Prayer

1. Mudhouse Sabbath Contact: Susie Beil 377-2740	Sundays 9:00 am	Don Serry Room downstairs
2. Isaiah Contact: Judy Wieck 373-9976	Sundays 9:00 am	Library
3. Women's Study Group Contact: Kathy Kuyper 697-1036	Thursdays 10:00 am	Youth Room
4. AGEMO Contact: Joyce Hersch (895-2002)	1st & 3rd Thursdays	In homes
5. Book Club Contact: Judy Wieck 373-9976	Thursdays 10 am	Robinson Fellowship Hall
6. Prayer Group Contact: Faith Parker 377-2740	Mondays 10 am	Sanctuary

Summer Supper Groups (one time)

Chuck & Jean Feth 479-2892	Saturday, August 1	Bremerton (Kitsap Lake)
Kent & Terese Edmonds 362-6812	TBA	Bremerton (Rocky Point)
Wallace & Julie Ross 692-4390	TBA	East Bremerton/Silverdale Kids welcome
Dave & Susie Beil 621-2219	Saturday, August 8	Bremerton (Rocky Point) Kids welcome
Joyce Hersch 895-2002	TBA	Port Orchard
Aggie Schultheis 876-3195	TBA	Port Orchard
??? Maybe you??		



Summit MOPS starts up Wednesday mornings this October! If you know of a mom with young children (zero to Kindergarten) who is looking for a great way to connect with other moms in the area, spread the word! If you or someone you know is looking for a great way to support moms with young children by volunteering once a month in our Moppets childcare program, please let us know!

Keep our Steering Team in your prayers as we meet this summer to plan a great first year of MOPS!



Greetings Summit Ave

It has been about 2 weeks since I've been home from Israel and we have hit the ground running. There has been so much to do to prepare for VBS and now that it is over, Israel already feels like a distant memory! I want to thank all those who served and made Everest VBS possible for the kids, and a special thanks to Bethany Nupen and Pastor Susie Beil for all the work they did in my absence.

ISRAEL TRIP

As you can imagine it is difficult to share in short all that I experienced in Israel. My group was with Northwest University where there were 24 of students as well as our Campus President and his wife which made 26. We also met up with universities around the United States. The number of people in our tour group was over 100 people making us the largest group this company has had to lead so far. During the semester we had a class that met to prepare us for Israel. In this class we did 80 hours of geography and map work, as well as reading and writing on the history of Israel prior to our trip.

Our trip was led by a man named Marc Turnage who I was told is one of the leading scholars with the Assemblies of God and is trained as a historian and a linguist. He specializes in Greek, Ancient Hebrew, and Aramaic and has studied the history and geography of the Bible Lands extensively. His team, which I refer to as the Bible Land's "A-Team", was made up of experts in the history, geography, archaeology, and Biblical knowledge of the

land. One of our tour guides, Eli Shukron (you can you tube or google him) is one of the leading archaeologists in Israel.

A typical tour day in Israel for us started at 6am. We'd have breakfast at 6:30am and then get ready to leave on the bus at 7:30am. As soon as we got on the bus we'd start with a devotional and prayer. Then we'd start our lecture. Often they'd describe where we were currently driving. They'd point out significant mountains, bodies of water, plains, or cities as we drove by them. But they'd mainly be teaching us about the first site we were about to visit. We'd visit anywhere from 3-5 sites a day every day except on Saturdays which were Sabbath. We were in Israel for 26 days so that should give you an idea of how much we did!

Once we got to a site we'd have anywhere from a 40 minute lecture to 2 hours. It usually was supposed to be about an hour but when you have over a hundred students and professors you naturally get a lot of questions that lead to deeper and LONGER discussions!

Around 12-1 o'clock we'd all go out for lunch. After lunch we'd visit a few more sites before returning back to our hotel at around 6:30-7pm. We'd eat dinner and often after dinner we'd have another lecture for about an hour and a half. To give you an idea of how much we were learning academically, the lecture times throughout the day from being on the tour bus, being at sites, and then during our lectures at night totaled about 7 hours of lecture a day. This is NOT an exaggeration either! This trip was not just mentally demanding from all the teaching, but it was physically demanding because of the long days, lack of sleep, all the hiking, and the heat! Not to mention how spiritually

challenging it was!

Our leaders let us know often that we have stayed in the Bible Lands longer than most people who have their PhD in New Testament have had. The privilege we had during our visit is going to serve us for the rest of our lives in our ministries.

EVEREST VBS

Our Everest VBS was amazing. I grew as a leader learning a bit of all that goes into planning an event like this for the kids. It has given me a deeper appreciation for the leadership and hard work that goes into reaching youth and kids in ministry. Our leaders and volunteers in churches really are servants! I was grateful to see how much everyone worked together to make this happen. I lack words to really communicate just how thankful I am to everyone who participated and served.

LOOKING AHEAD

Because of my trip in Israel and with the VBS this past week our leadership team for kids and youth have not had a chance to meet to plan out the summer before this newsletter. Before I had left we had only planned May, June, and our Youth event at the end of July. However there will be some events coming up to officially welcome those entering 7th grade into our youth program and to officially graduate them from our Sunday School also known as Summit Kids. Be on the lookout either through announcements on Sundays, in e-mails, our Youth Group Calendar by the fellowship hall, through our Facebook page, and on our website at summitave.net about upcoming events in the Summer!



In Christ's service,

Delcea Wills
Cannon Yanase
Gavin Yanase

Decoration Team:

Peggy Hitchcock
Christina McGaughey
Nancy Snapper

Directors:

Bethany Nupen
Nathan Perry & Pastor Susie Beil

Thanks to all our VBS Volunteers:

Caleb Beil
Collin Beil
Richard Chapman
Karen Chapman
Solveig Dahl
Mary Fischer
Emily Hamilton
Olivia Hunter
Ella Hunter
Debbie Little
Ellen Middents

Edi Parker
Sharon Peterson
Peg Powell
Zach Storey
Ann Sveen
David Snapper
Teagan Taafe
Mallory Terpening
Rick Walker
Bellana Walker
Connor Walker
Kathi Walker



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.

Helping Hands offering

Third Sunday of each month. Helping Hands offering is used to purchase Safeway gift cards to be given to families in need of food for their family.

Deacons Corner

[The Deacons Offering](#) is collected the first Sunday of each month. The offering is giving to organizations in our community. They in turn reach out to those in need.

Bremerton

Foodline Alert!

Help us reach our goal of 250 pounds! Check out the sign in the Narthex. Labeled grocery cart ready for your donations. Thank you.

Thank You!

Good bread, date bars, flowers, candy, cards, visits, cute toys, prayers and many kindnesses:

Barbara and Jerry Benjamin thank you for all that you have done for us.

The people of this congregation mean a lot to our health and hope.

Memorial Service for Jo Feldbush

July 11 at 10:00am

At Summit Ave. Presbyterian Church

Jo was a faithful member of Summit for many years, before moving to Friday Harbor to be close to family.

An excerpt from Missionary Pam Shubert's

June letter:

Thank you for your prayers, we are seeing God's kind provision. . . . One of the things that has most encouraged me this past semester has been watching God at work in the life of Umika. She is a young woman who is studying for her Master's degree in Sociology. Her parent's are not religious but raised her to think for herself and to value education and democracy. She considered herself a "moral" person but not necessarily "religious".

About two months ago she had a dream about Jesus and began questioning what it meant. Several days later when sitting at a park, she found a book that someone had left or forgotten. On examining the book more closely at home, she understood it was a new testament in Persian. She began to have more questions and wished to speak with the one Christian friend she knew, a German former classmate. A day or two later, before she had had an opportunity to contact him, this Christian called her unexpectedly and informed her that he would be making a short visit to her city. During his visit she asked many questions and was interested to visit the church with him.

There she met the Pastor and several other students her age. A student from the church/student group began to meet with her weekly to answer questions regarding what she was reading in the new testament. Her mind was full of questions, she had a hunger to understand: "What way is True?" "What do I believe?" After several weeks of searching with her heart and mind, she came to faith. She has started to attend the church and continues meeting weekly to study the Bible with this young woman.



Finally, please keep the Turkish congregation in your prayers. Twelve people were baptized in April, three of these from the deaf community. Eight people from the deaf community have been attending quite regularly and one of the Pastors has learned sign language in order to communicate with them.

I am thankful for your steadfast care. Your partnership in prayer and support is vital in keeping me here.

May God's deep love uphold you, Pam

TREASURER'S REPORT:

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

May 2015

	Actual	Monthly Budget (expected)	Year to Date
Income	\$21,046.58	\$21,261.00	\$157,392.25
Expense	\$19,607.36	\$21,331.50	166,287.98
Net ordinary income			-\$8,895.73

Statistical Report of May 2015

Average Worship Attendance: 111
 Lord's Supper: 106
 Kids: 6
 Youth Sunday: 6
 Youth Activities: 4
 Sunday School - Adults: 15

More VBS Pictures



Yeddy



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/Fellowship/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 Du Fresne	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:

Mon	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,

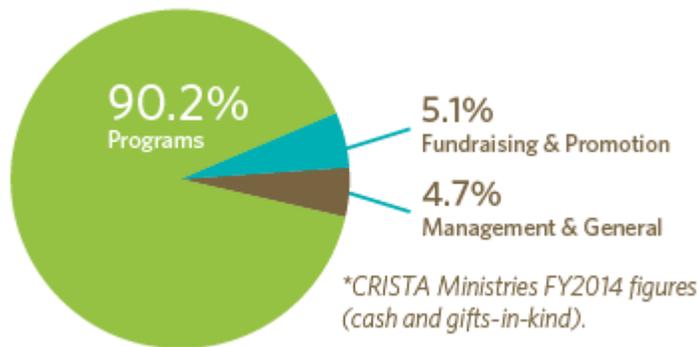


Operation Kid-to-Kid: Pray For Nepal

In response to the devastating 7.8 earthquake that rocked Nepal on April 25 we have helped raise a total of \$853.21 to reach people in remote areas who are in desperate need of shelter, food, and emergency supplies. As a church, our donation goes to provide immediate assistance and long-term recovery aid as people begin to rebuild their homes and lives.

More so, our donation was also matched by World Concern Sponsors; meaning our donation is automatically doubled when we donated by the 30th. For this reason, we can celebrate that our efforts helped raise \$1,706.42!

For more information visit: <https://donate.worldconcern.org/nepal>



Check out our website at:
www.summitave.net

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Return Service requested

