

September 2016

Vol 4 Issue 9

How Is It With Your Soul?

By Susie Beil

On the last weekend of August, our MOPS Steering Team headed to Dabob Bay for a leadership retreat. The retreat came at what was possibly the busiest week of my whole year. I won't even get into what was going on (it will stress me out all over again). Saturday morning, Jeannie Lemm invited us all to spend 30 minutes alone, in quiet meditation and prayer over our theme verse for this year:

This is what the Lord said: 'Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.' Jeremiah 33:2-3

I walked down to the beach and sat on a driftwood log, listening to the quiet lap of the tide. Others had come down to the beach as well, but each of us found our own space, our own slice of solitude. It was heavenly.

As we gathered back together in the retreat house, we each of us shared how powerful those 30 minutes alone were. We all know we need it, and are supposed to find that "quiet time," but rarely do we really carve it out. The rest of the day flowed out of a collective sense of peace and strength, for we each had sat with Jesus and been filled with his Spirit.

Spiritual director Ruth Haley Barton encourages us to stay involved with our souls, to make time to ask: *how is it with your soul?* Keys to "staying in-

volved" are solitude, silence, and community.

A young Moses fled to the desert when things got heated in Egypt, and there God met him. In later years, he left the crowds to climb a mountain and be alone with his Maker. Elijah ran to the hills after calling upon the Lord to perform one of the greatest miracles in the Bible, and he found God in the stillness after the whirlwind. When the crowds sought Jesus, he snuck out of town to be by himself and pray. John the Evangelist wrote some of his best work while exiled to an island.

Solitude is to be alone, away from the crowds and the busyness of our lives. But even when we are alone, our thoughts can be loud. Silence is necessary to make space for conversation with you and your God. It's hard work, for sure. It's much easier to make shopping lists, or Google the answer to a trivia question swimming around in your brain. Many people find a journal helps quiet their minds by giving room for a "brain dump" of all the swirling thoughts.

Solitude and silence allow us space to stay involved with our soul, and to give God's Holy Spirit room to stir and deepen us. I invite you to find time for quiet; put it on your calendar, find a space away from distractions. Start with 10 minutes. Work up to 30, 60. And may your solitude and silence bring you back into community renewed and strengthened.

Summit Life is a monthly publication of:
Summit Avenue Presbyterian Church

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Susie



Holy One,

*There is something I wanted to tell you
but there have been errands to run,
bills to pay,
arrangements to make,
meetings to attend,
friends to entertain,
washing to do. . .*

*and I forget what it is I wanted to say
to you, and mostly I forget what I'm
about, or why.*

O God,
don't forget me, please,
for the sake of Jesus Christ. . .

O Father in Heaven,
perhaps you've already heard
what I wanted to tell you.

What I wanted to ask is
forgive me,
heal me,
increase my courage, please.
Renew in me a little of love and faith,
and a sense of confidence,
and a vision of what it might
mean to live as though you
were real, and I mattered,
and everyone was sister and brother.

What I wanted to ask in my blundering way is don't give up on me,
don't become too sad about me,
but laugh with me,
and try again with me,
and I will with you, too.

Ted Loder, *Guerillas of Grace*

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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 Summit Kids
 11:45am Coffee Hour
 3:00pm Youth Group

Audio sermons available at
www.summitave.net

Every Member a Minister

As Presbyterians, we believe God calls and equips all of us to serve and lead in the church. The following list of names is a reminder to those who have signed up to serve in the coming weeks. Like to be on this list? Give the office a call or mark a blue card with your name and how you'd like to help, and we'll contact you!

Communion

Sept. 4 TBD

Liturgists

Sept. 4 Tim Taylor
 Sept. 11 Kurt Spitzer
 Sept. 18 Bethany Nupen
 Sept. 25 John Lemm

Usher & Greeters

Sept. 4	Joyce Hersch, Delcea Wills Bethany Nupen, Bev Pratt
Sept. 11	Aggie Schultheis, Ken & Sue Davis, Peggy Hitchcock
Sept. 18	Sue Kela Alison Bowling, John & Jeannie Lemm
Sept. 25	Shannon & Jennifer Griffin, Mike & Bev Kelly

Time For Young Disciples

Sept. 4	Nathan Perry
Sept. 11	Wallace Ross
Sept. 18	Bethany Nupen
Sept. 25	Sharon Peterson

Acolytes

Sept. 4	Jayne Kelly
Sept. 11	Jonathan Beil
Sept. 18	Maxx Kelly
Sept. 25	Ruth Ross

Organist

Sept. 4	Woody Bernas
Sept. 11	Joann Richardson
Sept. 18	Len Guyt
Sept. 25	Woody Bernas

Hospitality Team

Sept. 4	Ken & Sue Davis, Ray Goodale, Bethany Nupen
Sept. 11	Jean & Chuck Feth, Griff Ames, Delcea Wills
Sept. 18	Karen & Rick Chapman, Jennifer & Shannon Griffin
Sept. 25	Lori & Keith Hamilton, Dan & Megan Kranenburg
Oct. 2	Jerry Dick, Mary Jenson
Oct. 9	Larry & Chris Hall, Lisa Barfield
	Sandy Bochonok
	Paul & Shar Dufresne
Oct. 16	Tineke Dahl, Pam Morton, Christina & Phil McGaughey
Oct. 23	Kathy Walker, Jim & Alonda Droege
	Steve Van Hoff
	Kathy Kuyper
Oct. 30	Mary Fischer, Ruth Martin, Ellen & Paul Middents

Fall Sermons

listen online: summitave.net

Date	Scripture	Sermon Title	Preacher
September 4	Nehemiah 1	Rebuild	Rev. Susie Beil
September 11	Nehemiah 2	Get Ready	Nathan Perry
September 18	Nehemiah 3	Find Your Place	Rev. Susie Beil
September 25	Nehemiah 4	Opposition Makes Us Stronger	Rev. Susie Beil

SummitFest 2016!



Is It Fall Already?

One thing I love about living in the Pacific Northwest is that we get to experience changes of the season. With it comes a sense of nostalgia and peace. New beginnings seem to bring with it a sense of hope and anticipation. However, once that feeling of nostalgia disappears we are left with long months of dreary fog, drizzling rain, early sunsets, and lack of vitamin D!

But here are a few things I am looking forward to this fall. My wife would say that she is excited to layer up, wear coats and such, and I'd have to admit I am too. Also, I enjoy getting back into what seems like a "normal" routine in our weeks. And as always, Hawk fans are amped for the beginning of another promising season.

For the youth and kids the end of summer is a time to reflect and also look forward. I'm looking forward to offering a confirmation class for our youth this upcoming fall as well. We have noticed a lot of growth in the spiritual lives of our students these last couple of years and the question has come up multiple times about what the next step for them could be. Some have already been baptized but besides that I have scratched my head about a practical next step to help them grow. A couple of things that I think should mark the life a follower of Christ is a love for God and a love for His church, whom He died for. In many churches we emphasize the love for God part. But what about committing to being a part of the body of Christ? For our youth, I believe this is just as significant. They have zeal, passion, energy, and gifts God has given them to edify and serve the church and to expand the kingdom.

Our confirmation class seeks to help students develop a firm Christian identity, to understand the history of their faith and the traditions that are being passed down to them. They are also going to be given an opportunity to visit services of other Christian denominations in order to discuss the Nicene Creed and Apostles Creed of what all Christians everywhere believe. From there we'll talk briefly talk teach some church history, the reformation, and lead to who we are as a Presbyterian denomination. What does it mean to be part of the Presbyterian church. Towards the end our goal is that each student would have the opportunity to write their own statement of faith and to help lead a worship service. They will also have the opportunity to find a place in the church where they would like to serve. Whether with kids on Sundays, or help in the nursery, or join the choir, serve once a month with the buildings and grounds committee, greet guests on Sundays, or serve with the hospitality team. This may be a reach but what would it look like to have the youth represented during session by a student?!

The end of our confirmation class will end with an overnigher or retreat as a group and possibly a question night where they can ask leaders, elders, our pastor, or myself questions any questions they have about faith their faith. After they have developed a strong sense of Christian identity I'd also love to take them to a local synagogue and/or mosque to understand the differences and similarities to other Abrahamic faiths. For me, these experiences have helped strengthen my faith and my understanding of the gospel of Jesus

Christ.

My goal is to have other leaders, elder(s), deacon(s), Pastor Susie, and others interested in helping teach a subject or help chaperone when we visit other church/religious services. I can't teach on what it means to be a Presbyterian but many of you in the congregation can! If there is interest in being a part of this fall's student confirmation class please don't hesitate to contact me! If you are reading this and someone crosses your mind that you think may be interested or able to teach let me know who you are thinking of and I can talk with them personally.

I'd also like to invite all those interested to join us at our Youth Team Meeting Thursday, September 15 in the Don Serry room from 6:30-8pm to plan. The goal is to advertise and have sign-ups through September and to start sometime in October for 8-10 weeks.

If you are a parent of youth I'd highly encourage you to consider this being a significant part of their fall schedule. If you'd like to help lead, join us! and help invest in the future of these youth. Who knows how formative this could be in their faith and how it will impact them and others in their school, family, and jobs for years to come. It will possibly be the most impactful investment you could make this fall!

In Christ's Service,
Nathan Perry



Youth Camp Out



Triennium 2016: GO!

Triennium is the name of a youth conference hosted by the Presbyterian Church USA once every three years in Indiana. Thousands of students come to this conference from all over the United States and some groups even come from different countries. Summit Avenue Presbyterian Church (SAPC) partnered with the Presbytery of Seattle and formed our own delegation of 21 individuals comprised of 4 leaders. Out of this group 3 were from SAPC. Myself, Cameron Ross, and Emily Hamilton were all first time attenders to an event like this.

Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana hosted the youth conference.

This year's theme at Triennium was "GO!" It is said that the leaders were more concerned about what happens after the event more than they were concerned about the event itself. The idea was to inspire and empower youth to return home and be a light in their communities; to notice the brokenness around them and to respond to the call of Christ to fulfill the great commission in word and in deed. What areas in our families, our schools, or in our church commun-

ties have we not tapped into in order to spread the love of Christ?

The schedule was pretty well laid out but for first time attender, it was a bit to take in all at once. We would start each morning with our *delegation group*. Delegation group was the only time (other than worship and meals) that we as a Seattle group were together.

Triennium leadership ensures student interaction and to help break down social barriers is by a tradition that requires each delegation to create and bring a pin or button that represents their delegation. They would then trade pins with people from different groups in order to get to know others from different churches.

Later in the day there was some down time in which students were encouraged to go to the prayer hall or exhibition hall connect with missions groups. We'd have corporate worship each day, which was incredible with over 5,000 students and leaders in one room worshiping God together. After worship each afternoon they held a large group event for students. One particular event was to have each student make sandals out of old jeans that each delegation brought. These thousands of sandals that were made by hand by the students would be sent overseas to communities in need of them.

During these afternoon events for students, leaders were able to participate in youth leadership tracks. I spent three days in an intensive on youth ministry and how to create Christian identity within our youth. It focused on evaluating our ministries and learning how to create environments for students where their voices are heard, where they are trusted

and given responsibility, but also how to participate in prayer and worship as a community. It was inspiring and I left with many questions and ideas and my wheels were turning in my head evaluating what kids and youth ministry could look like at Summit this upcoming year.

The highlight of the whole event was on the final night of worship. Over 5,000 students and leaders packed a hill at an outside pavilion. When the sun dropped each student was given glow sticks and we partied! We worshipped, danced, jumped around, and heard an inspirational message. We ended the worship with lighting candles. It was quite a sight. Everyone was handed a candle but no one had a lighter or matches. This was a beautiful picture of the gospel in which one leader had a power source, a lighter, and lit their own candle. With that candle that person began lighting the candles of others, and so on. Within minutes the hill by this outside pavilion was covered with a multitude of tiny lights that lit up the whole grounds. Is this what it looks like from heaven when God looks down on a dark world and see the light of Christ shining through each individual? When none had any light in them, God sent his one and only son into the world. He was the light of the world and by the power of his Holy Spirit he was able to shine God's light through each person who believed in Him. This was a perfect picture of what it looked like to GO! As they had emphasized all week.

I pray that as each student went home to their own communities that those lights would shine wherever they are just as they did on that hill. I pray that this upcoming year we can further the kingdom even more in order that God's glory would shine through the lives of his servants. And that a blind world would begin to see the goodness and glory of God and that his Kingdom would be ushered in.



Fall Group Guide is Out!

Be sure to check out the new Groups Guide. There are lots of groups to join. Summit groups are open to anyone, just contact the group leader and let them know you are interested in joining.

If you are interested in starting a group, just let the office know. Please note the times and dates listed in the Fall Groups Guide are subject to change.

Help us get organized!

If you are a dedicated person that likes to organize paper, we would love to have you come volunteer to get the church archives in order. The archives are located in the basement and you are free to work at your own pace, on your own time schedule.

If this is something you might be interested in, stop by the office anytime.

Fall Foodline Items.

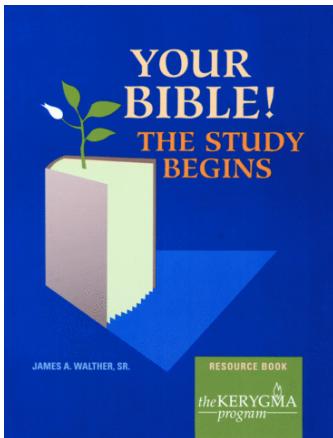
Did you know that the Bremerton Foodline collects more than just food? They are also always in need of the following items:

- ◆ Diapers, baby wipes, baby food and formula
- ◆ Pet Food and Cat Litter
- ◆ Laundry detergent, dish soap, cleansers, etc.
- ◆ Personal hygiene items (soap, toothbrushes, tooth paste, shampoo, feminine hygiene products, etc.)
- ◆ Adult diapers,
- ◆ Toilet Paper
- ◆ Small, sturdy can openers
- ◆ Zip lock bags ALL sizes

If you think you can help with something on this list, just drop your donation into the blue wagon located in the Narthex and we will take it to the Foodline for you!



This month's Groups Highlight:



Sundays @ 9 am Beginning Oct 2

Books: \$12
Leader: Pastor Susie
Meet: Don Serry Rm

Ever wondered:

1. What Is the Bible?
2. How Did the Bible Come to Be?
3. What Is the Old Testament About?
4. What Is the New Testament About?
5. How Has the Bible Been Preserved?
6. How Shall We Study the Bible?
7. What Is the Place of the Bible in Our Lives?

Join us and find out!

First Sundays - Deacons Offering

The first Sunday of each month. The offering is given to organizations in our community. They in turn reach out to those in need.

Third Sundays - Helping Hands Offering

The third Sunday of each month. Helping Hands offering is used to purchase Safeway gift cards to be given to families in need of food. Perishable food items and basic toiletries are also welcome at any time!

New Things Coming!

We have had a dedicated team of volunteers working hard renovating the upstairs classrooms. They have been cleaning, clearing and painting in preparation for MOPS to start up again. If you would like to help us finish up, we would love to have your help! Contact Susie for more information.



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 newsletter, we report on:

July 2016

	Actual	Monthly Budget (expected)	Year to Date
Income	\$41,717.00	\$22,100.91	\$154,875.93
Expense	\$23,945.32	\$23,233.82	\$174,785.35

You'll notice our income is almost twice that of our expenses at the end of February. This is due to a Presbytery grant we received for the Youth Director position, as well as a handful of members who pay their tithe in one lump January sum.

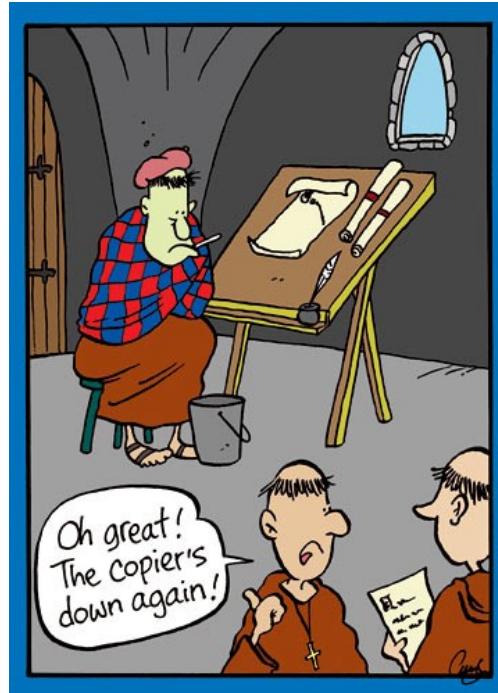
While of course this is great news, these funds are meant to be stretched through the end of the year.

Statistical Report for June/July 2016

Average Worship Attendance: 106/88
 Lord's Supper: 83/83
 Nursey: 2/3
 Kids: 5/5
 Youth: 5/5
 Groups: 80/80
 MOPS did not meet

Wanted:

We are in collecting any umbrellas that you are no longer using. The only requirement is that they still go up and down. Please drop them off to the office or to Christina. Thanks!



Summit Leadership

Session

Sharon Peterson	Personnel/Youth Team
Griff Ames	Building and Grounds
Bethany Nupen	Worship/Kids
Tim Taylor	Youth/B&G/Acolytes
Brett Harrison	Mission/Outreach
Russell Warren	Groups
Paul Du Fresne	Finance/Stewardship
Ken Davis	Mission/Memorials
Ruth Martin	Outreach/Hospitality
Dan Kranenburg	Personnel/B&G
Rick Chapman	Finance
Bev Kelly	Youth/Personnel
Lori Hamilton	Clerk

Deacons

Moderator: Delcea Wills	Jeannie Lemm
Joyce Hersch	John Lemm
Mary Fischer	Jerry Dick
Audrey Robinson	Ann Sveen
Chris Hall	
Kurt Spitzer	
Cheryl Sanlin	
Sue Davis	

Staff

Pastor: Rev. Susie Beil
Parish Associates: Rev. Jerry Benjamin
Youth & Children's Ministry Director: Nathan Perry
Childcare Ministry Coordinator: Robyn Achevarra
Choir Director: Gary Dahl
Handbell Choir Director: Cheryl Sanlin
Organists: Woody Bernas, Joann Richardson, Len Guyt
Office Administrator: Faith Parker
Communications Coordinator: Julie Mirth
Custodian: Darlene Randall
Treasurer: Cathy Best
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
Tuesday	Sharon Plowman & Joyce Hersch
Wed.	Phil McGaughey & Judy Wieck
Thurs	Mary Urwin, Sue Kela, Sue Hall

Subs: Ray Goodale, Bud Taylor, Laura Blair

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

Summit Summer Fun!



Missions Pot Luck, August 18th.



MOPS Steering Retreat, August 26th.

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday
9am - 2pm

Phone: (360) 377-2740

Check out our website at:
www.summitave.net

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