

FIRST PRESS

NEWSLETTER



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
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SPOKANE

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Just when you'd gotten used to relaxing days at the lake, applying ample sun-screen, and long summer evenings, fall is here with all that it implies. It's time to think about packing away the flip-flops and beach towels and buying back-to-school supplies. But whether you view summer's end with a sense of relief or dread, fall offers a lot of new opportunities in the life of our church.

New service times go into effect September 7th, with services at 9:15 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 6:05 p.m. September 7th is also the kickoff date for children's ministries (pg. 4) and the adult Sunday School classes (pg. 3).

Beginning Thursday, September 11th, Thursday Night Live is back! TNL (pgs. 6-7) is a great place to come together

with others, share a meal, and grow in faith through study, discussion, and service.

A new sermon series focused on being claimed and called by God (pg. 2) starts up September 14th. Junior and senior high ministries will begin in September, too, along with many other offerings detailed inside.

There are many, many ways to learn and grow, connect with others, and give of yourself in the upcoming season. Although fall marks the beginning of the end of the calendar year, we hope it can also bring a sense of newness and possibility to your life, your faith, and your relationships.



New Sunday schedule Sunday, September 7th

9:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

*Worship
Discipleship classes for adults
Childcare for infants - kindergartners
King's Kids - after the children's sermon*

10:30 a.m.
"connections"

10:45 a.m. - 12:00 noon
Sunday school for children 2 years - 6th grade

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
*Worship
Discipleship for teens and adults
Childcare for infants and toddlers*

6:05 p.m.
*Worship
Childcare for infants - kindergartners*

Ramblings from the Reverend — September 2008

Dear Friends:

Do you know that you are claimed by God? God has claimed *you* because he loves you. You are unique and special to God. But not only has God claimed you, he has called you as well. God wants not only to love you and be in relationship with you, he wants to send you and call you to trust in him and share his blessings with others.

This fall it is my hope that in our worship, and then reinforced in our sermon-based small groups, we will focus on Old Testament men and women who are claimed and called by God. The Old Testament is filled with these stories, stories that are rich with God's promise and steadfastness but also with the way in which the ones claimed and called respond to God. As we explore these Old Testament characters, I believe that they

Claimed and Called: God's Blessings to Us and Our Response The Fall Sermon Series at First Presbyterian Church Spokane

Sept. 14: The Creation Mission of God – Genesis 1-3

What was God up to at Creation? And what does that say about him now? And then what does that say about those of us who were created in his image? He takes nothing and creates abundance; he takes chaos and creates goodness. God's work and mission become our model.

Sept. 21: The Call to the Family Business – Genesis 2 and 3

God creates abundance and beauty in his creation. God gives to Adam and Eve "dominion" over creation. As sons of Adam and daughters of Eve, what does it mean for us to be stewards of God's creation? In our lives, how do we foster abundance and beauty and witness to life in Christ and life in God?

Sept. 28: The Call to Go and Trust – Genesis 12-21

God's call to Go(!) is a call to follow him. Abraham models to us what it means to go and follow God and what it means to follow him in trust. Though Abraham and Sarah are imperfect in their trust in God, their faith in him and friendship grow. How do we follow God in an active faith, and what does it mean to trust him, even in the face of the "natural" evidence?

Oct. 5: The Call to Supreme Trust – Genesis 22

It is one thing to trust God in the everyday situations of life, or to trust God when to do otherwise brings no great consequence. But what if God demands everything of you? What if God asks you to invest so fully in him that you sacrifice everything that you hold dear – even your family? God fulfills the call to Abraham and Sarah with the birth of Isaac. Then God tests Abraham by asking

him to sacrifice the "son he loves." Will *Abraham* obey the supreme call of God? Will *God* provide? To whom is *our* primary allegiance?

Oct. 12: The Call to Accept the Blessing of God and to Extend Reconciliation – Genesis 25–35

Do you struggle in your faith? Do you accept the blessing of God or do you feel compelled to contend for it? Are you a schemer – even though God has claimed you and promised great things for you? How difficult is faith when it runs up against the cultural norms? For Jacob, everything is a struggle until he wrestles with God. Once he accepts his blessing, then Jacob can extend reconciliation with his estranged brother Esau.

Oct. 19: *The Call to Combine God's Dream with our Vocation and our Families – Genesis 37-50*

Oct. 26: *The Call beyond Your Skills and into Your Passion – Exodus 3*

Nov. 2 (Stewardship #1): *The Call from God to be Loyal to Others – Ruth*

Nov. 9 (Stewardship #2): *The Call to Return Thanks – I Samuel 1*

Nov. 16: (Stewardship #3): *The Call to Restoration – Nehemiah*

Nov. 23: (Stewardship #4): *The Call to Eat your Vegetables – Daniel 1:1-17*

Get involved with a sermon-based small group! For more information, see the back cover.

I look forward to worshiping with you during this next season of the life of our church! Blessings,



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The deeper the roots...



The broader the reach



Fall's Sunday Morning Adult Classes

ADULT CLASS @ 9:15 AM

The Gospel of Luke

Bruce Gore teaching in the Gym



Most of us have experienced the feeling of being left out - somehow we don't quite fit in. Sadly, one of the places people often feel like an outsider is in the Christian community, where the huge mysteries of God have been reduced to the respectability of

club rules. But with God there are no outsiders – no one is beyond the reach of God's love. And Luke, an outsider himself, the only Gentile in an all-Jewish cast of New Testament writers, makes this abundantly clear. We see Jesus interacting with the very people who are typically treated as outsiders by the religious establishment of the day. Jesus with women, with common laborers, with those who are racially different, with the poor and the sick. As Luke tells the story, all of us who have found ourselves on the outside looking in on life (and who of us hasn't?) now find the doors wide open, discovered and welcomed by God in Jesus.

Bruce Gore, well-loved Bible teacher at FPC, will devote this first class hour to making sure you understand the culture, the people, and the mes-

sage of Christ – then and now. Don't miss this chance to sink your roots deep into scripture with one of the best! Note the new time & location!!

ADULT CLASSES @10:45 AM



What on Earth Was Jesus Doing for Heaven's Sake? Jesus and the Kingdom of God

Dr. Keith Beebe teaching in the Gym

Reformed Theologian NT Wright tells us in his introduction to the gospels that if we don't understand the Kingdom of God we won't understand the Christian faith. It's true: the heart of Jesus' message and ministry was based on understanding "the Kingdom of God," a topic he talked about more than any other. And yet, the Kingdom of God confounded Jesus' first followers...and continues to be misunderstood by the Christian church today. As if that's not confusing enough, a primary purpose Jesus has for His church is to exhibit the Kingdom of God to the world. How can we obey Christ when we don't understand his premise? This class will call us to recover Jesus' central message concerning the reality and power of God's reign, and will explore practical ways we can engage ourselves more fully in the life-transforming, Kingdom-driven ministry to which we have been called.

Back by popular demand, Dr. Keith Beebe, Chair and Associate Professor of Theology at Whitworth University, will be teaching in his primary area of expertise – the



Kingdom of God. If you've not heard Keith teach, you are in for a real treat. This class will be informative as well as interactive.

FIRST COVENANT CLASS for YOUNG ADULTS

10:45 AM

Grant Erickson, John Gregg, and YA Team
In the Fireside Room

For information on one-time-only Sunday morning classes, see page 10.

Children's Ministries

Gearing up for Fall!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES is gearing up for a whole new family-friendly schedule on Sunday mornings! King's Kids will begin after the children's message at the 9:15 worship service. Sunday School for 2-year-olds through 6th graders will begin at 10:45 downstairs.

Our King's Kids Children's Worship will be learning about the elements of worship and what it means to worship God. The 1st – 3rd graders remain with their families in worship on the first Sunday of each month (beginning in November) to experience the aspects of worship they are learning about. Our Sunday school classes for 2-year-olds through kindergarten students are Bible-based, hands-on, separated by grade level, and led by a team of loving and fun individuals. Our Bible workshops for 1st – 4th graders feature classes in cooking, drama, storytelling, science, art, games, puppets, and Bible knowledge as an experiential way to learn about the Bible. Fifth and sixth graders grapple with preteen issues that get kids digging into the Bible to relate faith to real life and find answers to the questions they ask most.

It is a high and important calling to share God's love and truth with those who are building lifelong foundations for their faith. If you feel God nudging you to be a foundation-builder while growing in your own faith as well, call Tani Starbuck-Carlson at x111. **We still have openings for 2's through Kindergarten teachers, 1st-6th grade Small Group Leaders, Workshop Teachers, Preschool or Early Elementary King's Kids Worship Leaders, hospitality hosts, music team pianist, and more!**



VBS Power Lab 2008

Cynthia Johnson

"He's got the power; everyone's talking about his power, Look up, look down, look all around and you will see his power!"

The miraculous power of Jesus was the theme of this year's VBS, where 236 children, from four-year-olds to fourth graders, heard that Jesus gives us power to be thankful, be brave, help others, live forever, and tell others about God. Each day our kids heard the Bible point explicitly expressed at each of seven rotations: Bible Blast (drama), Test Tube Treats, Wacky Works Crafts, Cinema Science, Hyperspeed Games, Sonic Sing and Play (music, dance and Biblical point) and Faith Fusion Finale (skits, Biblical point, music and mission). Each day there was also a "Daily Challenge" where kids chose a practical application activity they could do at home after that day's lesson. We quickly saw our balcony draped with paper chains, each link indicating a child's completed challenge. As a mission project, our kids collected \$1442.00 to assist in the digging of a freshwater well for our neighbors in Africa.

VBS week required the efforts of 122 volunteers, from 12 to 79, coming together to greet, play musical instruments, encourage, teach, sing, play, and show Christ's love in countless ways. As adults, we were richly blessed to be a part of VBS. Our daily devotional time centered us in the truth of God's word and we experienced what Paul described in Philippians 2, where he exhorts us to be of one love, spirit, and purpose. Working with others to share God's love and power caused us to participate in daily, ongoing worship that bathed our souls in kingdom life.

The Children's Ministry staff and VBS volunteers thank you, the members of our congregation, for your gifts of resources and prayer. Of the children in attendance, 60 indicated they attend church elsewhere, and 78 stated on their registration card that they had no church affiliation. We ask that you continue to pray for our kids: that the foundational blocks for a discipleship journey will take hold in their lives, and that those who first heard about the love and power of Jesus Christ may have other encounters that lead them to a life of faith.

FPC Christian School

Honoring Returning School Staff and Welcoming New Staff

We are very excited to be getting a fresh start this year with many returning staff and some new faces. Shawna Armstrong will be taking a leave for a year to be with her children and work on her Masters. She will be returning in the fall of 2009 to teach first grade when we begin expanding our school! Our returning and new staff include...

RETURNING STAFF

Denise Bordonaro – 3- and 4-year-olds
Dee Lafferty – 4-year-olds
Mary Jo Andrews – 4-year-olds
Patty Jo Schafhausen – Kindergarten
Jennifer Morrison – Music Teacher
Jan Haney – Teaching Assistant
Lisa Flaherty – Teaching Assistant
Linda Butler – Administrative Assistant

NEW STAFF

Tracy Blue – Principal/Director
Cathy Orness – Kindergarten
Sue Reidt – 3-year-olds
Jackie Davis – 4-year-olds
Rebecca Paul – 3-year-olds
Susan Barrantine – Teaching Assistant
Amy Schroeder – Teaching Assistant

We are so thankful for all of the wonderful teachers and staff who will be working in our school this year. Please be praying for each one of these people as they prepare and begin their year with our students! Thank you.

Dates to Know:

Sept. 2: First Day of School – Slow Start Week – See schedule in packet

Sept. 17: Back to School Night

Youth Ministries

SENIOR HIGH

SH kickoff night

Wednesday, September 24, 7-9 PM

FREE FALLING! It's the big retreat with the entire Presbytery at Riverview!
Weekend of Oct. 31- Nov. 2

JUNIOR HIGH

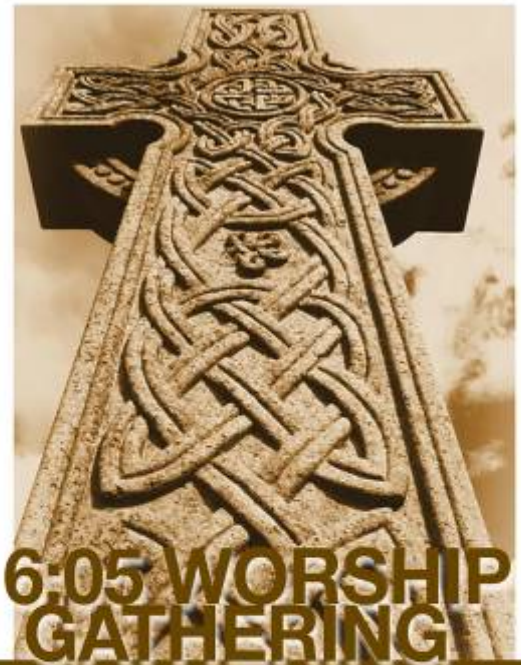
JH kickoff night

Tuesday, September 23 – 7-9 PM

JH Fall Retreat at Riverview
Weekend of Dec. 5-7

Get involved in the lives of teens!

We are always looking for adults who have a heart for junior and senior high students. If you enjoy the energy and creativity of teens and you have a heart for them to be encouraged in their faith, call Daryl (x131, junior high) or Randy (x130, senior high). Teenagers need the presence of *adults of all ages* in their lives. We offer three levels of involvement to accommodate your life.



**A COMMUNITY AT WORSHIP
EACH SUNDAY EVENING
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN**

CHILDCARE AVAILABLE

THURSDAY NIGHT LIVE

Jesus taught his disciples as they shared life together. We believe Jesus modeled this kind of discipleship for us as the best setting for following him. Thursday Night Live is a place to come together with other followers of Jesus to share a meal, care for one another, and grow in our faith through scripture-based study, discussion, prayer, and serving others.

FALL TERM
September 11 – November 20

DINNER at 6:00-6:30 PM
\$5 per adult (kids eat free)

CLASSES & ACTIVITIES at 6:45 PM

For Children

Please register each child (infants—teens) for one of the following choices.

MUSIC & MOVEMENT and ARTS ALIVE
September 11 – December
Ages: 1st – 8th grade

A place for kids to sing, dance, play and create. You'll learn to use music and drama in worship and you'll interact with real artists who will help you discover all sorts of intriguing art forms and materials.

To register: Contact Ruth Michaelis at 747-1058 x301 or 535-7218.

KID ZONE
September 11 – November 20

Ages: Kindergarten through teen

Hang out with friends in the Kid Zone to play games, listen to music, or do homework. This is a place for kids to have safe choices with some supervision by childcare staff.

To register: Contact Carole Spotts at 747-1058 x114.

CHILDCARE
September 11 – November 20

Ages: infant, toddler, preschool

The nursery is staffed with loving people who care for our infants, toddlers, and preschoolers.

To register: Contact Carole Spotts at 747-1058 x114.

Bible Study

SERMON-BASED SMALL GROUP
September 11 – November 20

Thursday is a great point in your week to revisit the scripture and sermon from the previous Sunday. Explore with others how the scripture is impacting your conversation with God and how you are living.

For more about the Fall Sermon Series see the back cover. To sign up for this group contact Brenda Norton at 747-1058 x220.



DISCIPLE BIBLE STUDY
September 4 – May

This is a weekly small group class designed to give you an overview of the entire Bible in 32 weeks.

Why should YOU sign up? You will grow in your knowledge of the Old and New Testament, meet and make new friends and be changed as a result. We see when we look at the New Testament that people who met Christ and spent time with him were transformed by simply being WITH him. What was true then, is still true today. When we spend time with Christ – when we begin to immerse ourselves in his word – especially in the company of other believers – and pray for one another... our lives are changed dramatically. So if you are looking for a place to be fed (literally and spiritually!) and a place to connect with others in the process – please consider committing to Disciple Bible Study.

"I loved the study...I loved learning and discussing what I was learning with others...and I loved making new friends who came to mean a great deal to me over the course of the year!"

Orientation is Thursday, September 4

Classes begin Thursday, September 11

Cost: \$40.00 (scholarships available)

For more information contact: Ron Johnson at 327-7291 or Jeanne Walsh at 747-1058 x200.

Servant Training



STEPHEN MINISTRY
September 25 – March 26

What do Stephen Ministers do?
Stephen Ministers listen... they care... and they pray.

FPC is a Stephen Ministry Congregation, which means we are beginning now to train laypersons who will serve God by bringing healing love to hurting people inside and outside FPC. This ministry will expand the caring ministry our ordained pastors already provide.

For information about our Stephen Ministry Program, please contact Cynthia Johnson at 327-7291 or aslan6220@airpipe.com or Jeanne Walsh at 747-1058 x200 or jeanne@spokaneipc.org.

Faith Building Blocks



ALPHA September 11 – November 20

Is There More to Life Than This?

If you or someone you care about are asking basic faith questions or want to refresh your understanding of what is foundational about Jesus and Christian faith, the Alpha Course is a great place to ask questions and connect with others seeking answers.

Alpha is an 11-week series that includes a weekend retreat. Each week the evening includes a shared meal, a video about various aspects of Christian growth, and concludes with small group discussions. The small groups allow people to ask questions about the information presented as well as about their personal faith journey in a non-threatening environment. The weekend retreat discusses the Holy Spirit in-depth, in a relaxed and fun setting.

Join us for our **introduction evening on Thursday, September 11 from 6:00 to 8:30 PM.** After dinner, we will watch a video titled, "Christianity: Boring, Untrue, Irrelevant?" There will be a time afterwards to ask any questions about Alpha.

To sign up or have any questions answered, you can email us at alpha@spokaneipc.org. Alpha brochures are also available in the kiosk at the church.

THE TRUTH PROJECT

September 11 – December 4

A recent survey conducted by the Barna Research Group reveals that only nine percent of professing Christians have a biblical worldview. This may account for the similarity between the lives of Christians and non-Christians evident today – particularly in the areas of significant living, use of resources, and important relationships. To counter this slide within the body of Christ, Focus on the Family has launched a new DVD-based small group curriculum entitled **The Truth Project**. The purpose of The Truth Project is to develop a biblical worldview which *becomes the foundation governing every area of the Christian life*. The 12-week curriculum is taught by Dr. Del Tackett and will be facilitated at FPC by John Beal. Each lesson will be biblically based and will focus on the relevance and importance of living the Christian worldview in daily life.

To join this group please contact John Beal at 326-0171 or jbeal08@comcast.net or Jeanne Walsh at 747-1058 x200.

Family and Relationships

DIFFERENT BY DESIGN

October 16 – November 20

The ability to honor differences is an important skill in marriage or any relationship. Barbie and Craig Olson will teach how to identify and make the most of the ways you and your spouse are different in personality, love languages, and spiritual languages. To register, contact Barbie Olson (448-2765) or Jeanne Walsh (747-1058 x200).

DIVORCE RECOVERY

September 25 – May 7

For anyone suffering the grief and loss which comes from divorce, Thursday Night Live offers a safe and strong support group. Acceptance and empathy, hope and healing, recognition and renewal come as we walk together toward the transformation God offers.

You can join this group at any time. There is a \$45 fee for materials. For more information, pick up a brochure from the kiosk at the church or contact Hazel Newkirk at 235-5895 or Brenda Norton at 747-1058 x220.

Serve

MEAL TEAM

Dinner is the highlight of our community experience for the evening. The spirit that permeates this time is the result of a wonderful team of servants. Would you like to experience the joy and blessings that come through serving? You can commit to serve every week this term, once a month, or anything in between.

Cook—4:00-6:45 Hospitality—5:45-7:00

Setup—4:30-6:00 Cleanup—6:15-7:15

Bake—Wednesday afternoons (2 hours)

For more information, contact David Moe (davidwmoe@msn.com or 928-2354) or Brenda Norton (brendan@spokaneipc.org or 747-1058 x220).

CHOIR OR PRAISE TEAM

Join our community of musicians who prepare on Thursday evenings to lead Sunday worship each week. Choir Contact: Bonnie Robinson, 468-2607
Praise Team Contact: Jonikka Erickson, 921-2298

For Your Health

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Join this pickup game any week in the gym. Contact Travis Trent at ttrent@efulcrum.net.

Opportunities...

To Connect and Grow

WEEKEND CORE CLASS: SEPT. 25-27

If you are considering joining the church, want to hear about our vision and passion for ministry, or simply want to learn more about what it means to be Presbyterian, **Core** is the place to begin. Through **Core** you will get a sense of what we as a community of faith believe, meet the pastors, and have a chance to ask questions. If you decide at the end of the class that you'd like to join the congregation, you will be received in both worship services on **Sunday, Oct. 12**. We've planned a celebration brunch during the Sunday school hour on that day.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Thursday, Sept. 25, 6:30 - 8:30 PM

Come enjoy Thursday Night Live dinner at 6:00

Friday, Sept. 26, 6:30 - 8:30 PM

Dessert provided

Saturday, Sept. 27, 8:30 AM - Noon

Continental breakfast

Sunday, Oct. 12, 8:15 - 11:30 AM

Join day - brunch included

For more information or to sign up, pick up a brochure from the kiosk in the Fellowship Hall or call or email Pastor Kevin (747-1058 x225 or kevinf@spokaneffc.org).

THURSDAY WOMEN'S STUDIES

Fall Session: Sept. 11 – Dec. 11

Thursday mornings, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m., Fireside Room

Join women of all ages as we study **1, 2, and 3 John** using Dee Brestin's study, "**A Woman of Beauty**". As you practice the beauty secrets found in John's letters, your confidence, joy, and love will increase—giving you a radiance that will not fade, and causing you to be a reflection of Christ to the world.

If you are you **new...**to the church...to Bible study...to small groups...to group prayer, be encouraged! Women's Studies is always open to new members. It is a great place to grow in the knowledge of God's Word, to draw closer to God, and to form relationships.

To **register**, look for a brochure in the kiosk, or come at 9:15 a.m. on Sept. 11. \$25 registration fee. Scholarships available. Childcare provided with **pre-registration** (contact Carole Spotts, x114). Contacts: Robin Gray 536-4392 or Brenda Norton 747-1058 x220.

MEN'S RETREAT

Oct. 10-12

Pinelov Park Conference Center on Deer Lake

Friday dinner through Sunday morning worship

Speaker: David Barton, Pastor of The Gathering at Windsor, Windsor, CO.

Topic is Discipleship 24/7: Following Jesus in a Foreign Land. Details and registration forms are available in the kiosk, or on the church website under Community Life/Men.

KEENAGERS

Join us Sept. 18 for "How My Faith Helps Me in the Newsroom" with Julie Humphries of KHQ. Please make reservations by the Sunday prior at 747-1058.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Save the date—our next Men's Breakfast will be Oct. 7!

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

MONDAY EVENINGS, 6:30-8:00 PM

BEGINS SEPTEMBER 22

"A TIME TO MOURN... A TIME TO HEAL"

"I was hesitant to go to a bereavement support group but I decided to take a risk and I'm so grateful I did." While grieving is always a unique experience, the journey does not need to be solitary. "I have become a stronger person because of the support I've received here."

This is a new 12-week Bereavement Support Group for men and women, facilitated by Gloria Nielsen. Times for the class will be 6:30-8:00 PM Anyone who is grieving the death of a loved one is encouraged to come. This is a place to express feelings, to give and receive love, support, and understanding in a safe Christian environment—and to begin to move toward a new way of life, in partnership with Christ, meeting the challenges of transition after loss. There is a \$30 fee to cover the cost of textbooks. For more information and to register, call Gloria Nielsen at 838-3283 or Jeanne Walsh at 747-1058 x200. **Note:** You do not need to be connected to FPC to attend.



MOPS: ADVENTURES IN MOTHERING

MOPS at FPC

Begins Tuesday AM, Sept. 9

Topic: Who Me? Angry???

Dr. Kristina Roberts presenting

MOPS is a great place for mothers of preschoolers to enjoy a delicious brunch, meet and connect with other young moms and mentor moms, enjoy 2+ hours of outstanding childcare, and learn from excellent speakers. FPC sponsors MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) because we care about young families and because we want to find ways to support and nurture parents and children and introduce them to Jesus Christ. MOPS exists to encourage,

equip, and develop every mother of preschoolers to realize her potential as a woman, mother, and leader, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Our featured speaker this month is **Dr. Kristina Roberts** who will be addressing a topic requested by FPC moms: What does a mom of little ones do with HER anger and frustration? Kristina, a highly regarded therapist in Spokane and a young mom, will bring her skill and expertise on this challenging topic, as well as her delightful sense of humor and real-life experiences.

If you are the mother of a preschooler or if you know a young mom who would benefit from MOPS, please consider attending on Tuesday mornings once a month.

Pre-registration onsite: Wednesday & Thursday Sept. 3 and 4 from 10:15-11:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall

Pre-registration offsite: Contact Wendy (499-6647) kirkhamw@hotmail.com

Cost: \$35.00 - scholarships are readily available

Questions? Information? Need to Register? Call Kim (465-8023) or Rachel (893-3672)

MOPPET WORKERS STILL NEEDED: MOPPET Workers provide excellent care for little ones from 6 weeks to 5 years. It is a high privilege to support young families this way – and it's rewarding and fun! Our MOPPET workers are male and female – a variety of ages and stages – and they all care about children. If you are available to help with childcare on the first Tuesday morning each month, or if you'd like more information about MOPPETS, please contact Angie Reynolds (443-6864 angiekr@hotmail.com), Liz Little (455-8123), or Jeanne Walsh (747-1058 x200 or jeanne@spokanefpc.org).

To Give and Receive



JUBILEE SALE

20 YEARS AND COUNTING!

PDA? Appointment book? Family calendar? Outlook calendar? Whichever you use, please make a note that the 20th anniversary Jubilee Sale is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 14 and Saturday, Nov. 15! If you would like to join the planning group, there are still fabulous jobs to be filled and many volunteers needed. *It takes a village to make Jubilee happen—and the outcome is that we make a world of difference in many villages around the world!* Start telling your friends **now** about this event—we don't want anyone to miss it! Contact Dia at 328-3237 for info.

MISSION COMMUNITY OUTREACH

CENTER (1906 E. Mission)

This ministry provides services for **free** to qualified low-income individuals. They have a need for infant care items, personal care items, household items, and back-to-school supplies (including backpacks). Volunteers are also needed! Contact Linda Key at 534-9002 for info.

PENCIL PROJECT IS BACK!

Items most needed include: colored pencils, washable markers, lined paper (wide- and college-ruled), child-sized scissors, #2 pencils, pens, spiral and composition notebooks, and backpacks. Gifts of cash will be turned into supplies, too! Collection bins are in the Reception Room upstairs and on the lower level at the preschool office. See the bulletin for more info or call Tracy Blue, x120, or Lesa Painter, x113.

BARTON SCHOOL BEGINS 40TH YEAR

Barton School has begun its 40th year of educational mission to our community. Additional tutors are needed at this time. If interacting with an interesting person from another culture sounds intriguing, check out what we have to offer. You can add a little international mission to your life without leaving home! Call Barton School (747-1058 x150) or Kirsten Harrington (838-1061).

MOVE

Do you have the time and the desire to come alongside a young person with a disability? MOVE, an organization in partnership with Big Brothers and Sisters, is matching mentors with 16- to 21-year-olds who need direction and guidance after completing high school. MOVE is trying to match 30 youths with mentors by Sept. All that is required is an open heart and a willingness to befriend and support a disabled youth looking toward their future. For info, contact Kerry Whitsitt at (509) 209-2856.

For Your Marriage

Check the Marriage Ministries brochure for details on these fall events.

New Beginnings: Marriage Prep Weekend

Marriage prep weekend for couples who are engaged, seriously dating or newly married. Tues. Oct. 14 6:30-9:30; Fri. Oct. 24 6:30-9:45; Sat. Oct. 25 8:30-5:30 (\$150)

Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage (Seminar)

Seminar with Mark Gungor helps couples deal with tough issues in a way that is fun and non-threatening. Sept. 27-28, Valley Assembly of God. (More info at www.laughyourway.com.)

Family Life Weekend to Remember

Marriage enrichment and strengthening at the Coeur d'Alene Resort (10/31-11/2 or 11/7-11/9; \$99)

Fireproof Movie: Coming to theaters 9/26/08

FIREPROOF will have audiences laughing, crying, and on the edge of their seats as they are drawn into the world of a firefighter, his wife....and a marriage worth rescuing.

Two One-Time-Only Classes



ARE YOU A LOCAVORE? September 14 @ 9 & 11 AM Kelly LaGrutta, Guest Teacher Room 210

"You care for the land and water it; you enrich it abundantly...you crown the year with your bounty, and your carts overflow with abundance." Psalm 65:9-11

Are you a Locavore? Who knows? Did you plant a garden this year? Did you decide to let local gardeners provide you with the fresh bounty from the land? Then you're getting there! Actually, if you BUY and EAT locally grown food, you are a Locavore. Would you like to know how you can do more local buying and eating?

Join **Kelly LaGrutta** Sunday morning Sept. 14 for a one-time class on this important topic. Kelly represents Slow Food Spokane River and has advice and information for those of us who would like to increase our local eating habits. Did you know there is a source for local grass-fed beef available? Local ~~honey, chicken, cheeses, and all types of produce~~ can grace your table. Come join us for a fun and informative session about caring for our world by enjoying our locally grown abundance.



INFANT BAPTISM CLASS September 28 @ 10:45 AM Jeanne Walsh teaching, Room 209

Baptism is one of two sacraments celebrated in the Presbyterian Church and it is a covenant we take seriously. If you are planning to have your baby or child baptized at FPC or if you have questions about infant baptism, please consider joining us for this informative and interactive parenting class. And please contact Jeanne Walsh (x200) or Annie Gill (x213) by Sept. 24 so we can get materials to you prior to class. Note: Parents of baptized children must be members of FPC.



SPOKANE CITY FORUM
Helping to Build a Better Community

12th Season Kickoff!

"Water Wars: The Global Warming Crisis"
With Seattle University Professor & Ethicist
Dr. Gary Chamberlain
Wednesday, September 17th at 11:45 AM
Spokane First Presbyterian Church

As the Spokane River's future is being contemplated, water rights are becoming a much debated topic. If water is a basic right, what are the duties and obligations of peoples and governments to protect this resource while providing safe and abundant access? In the Spokane City Forum Season Opener, Ethicist and Seattle University Professor Dr. Gary Chamberlain will examine questions of ethics and religion and their application to issues of water and conservation. Chamberlain will provide an international overview to the global water crisis as well as speak about the local issues facing Washington State.

Dr. Chamberlain has taught in the Theology and Religious Studies department of Seattle University since 1979. An author and speaker, Chamberlain has lectured both nationally and published nearly fifty articles on subjects pertaining to water rights, ethics and religious issues. His latest book, ***Troubled Waters: Religion, Ethics and the Global Water Crisis*** (Roman & Littlefield, 2007), examines questions of ethics and religion and their application to issues of water and conversation and proposes a new water ethos to help address the growing conflict over water access.

Chamberlain has also given his time to numerous faith-based organizations in the Puget Sound area and is a member of several professional organizations, a Danforth Associate, and a past holder of Seattle University's Gaffney Endowed Chair. Chamberlain holds undergraduate degrees in Philosophy and Political Science from St. Louis University and the University of Chicago, a Ph.D. in Religion and Society from the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California and has done post-doctoral studies in moral development and faith development at Harvard University and Boston College.

Cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for students (includes lunch), payable at registration or at the door. Childcare is available by reservation at \$4 per child. Reservations are required by Mon., Sept. 15 by contacting Spokane City Forum at (509) 777-1555 or by e-mail at info@spokanecityforum.org You may also visit our web site at www.spokanecityforum.org.

Congregation Life

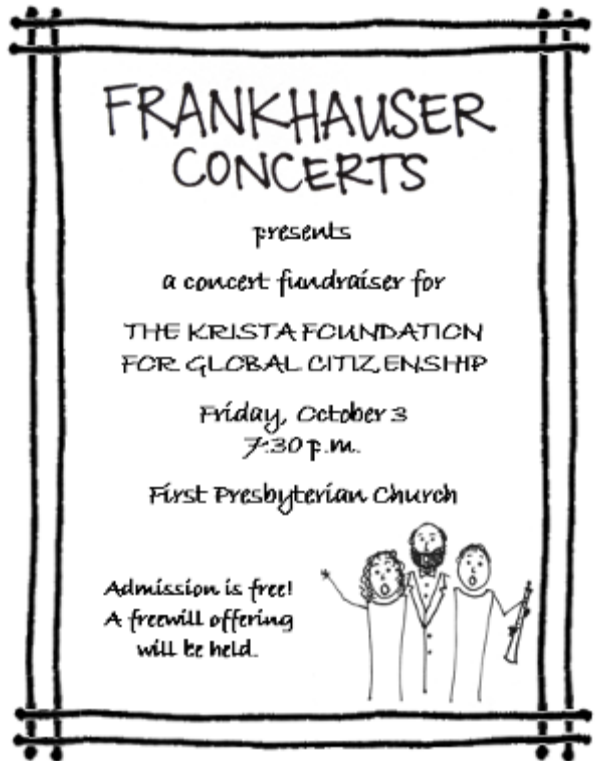
WDDD: What Do Deacons Do?

(each month, one ministry of the deacons will be featured)

As set forth in Scripture, a deacon is a person of sympathy, witness, and service after the example of Jesus Christ. It is the duty of deacons to minister to those in need: the sick, the friendless, and anyone in distress, whether within and beyond the community of faith. Our deacons bless the congregation every day.

One of the most active ministries is the Prayer Chain, faithfully led by Muriel Rossing. Did you know that if you call 487-7898 and leave a request for prayer, within 24 hours your request is circulated to six prayer chains and 30 people begin praying? Requests are kept in strict confidence and treated with great respect. Requests for prayer can also be left in the box at the front desk.

Muriel would love nothing more than to have more members involved in the Prayer Chain ministry. Many people have served there for years and consider it a great privilege to assist their brothers and sisters in this way. If you feel called to serve with the Prayer Chain, call Muriel at 487-7898.




FRANKHAUSER
CONCERTS

presents
a concert fundraiser for
THE KRISTA FOUNDATION
FOR GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

Friday, October 3
7:30 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church

Admission is free!
A freewill offering
will be held.



FPC Library

Did you know?

Our library is undergoing changes! Stephen Winterer and the facilities team walled off the two ends of the library to make more space for our reference collection and more audiovisual. This fall, we will be labeling and shifting the collection, as well as removing one of the spinning racks and the card catalog, which was 20 years out of date.

Your adult library has always been a cozy space to gather and meet people and we think it will be even more inviting to our congregation. The funds made during our Colossal Sale provided FPC with much-needed expansion and new materials. Thanks for your support!

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE October issue: Sept. 1

Contact Sarah Hauge, our new Communications Coordinator, for all things newsletter or bulletin! sarahh@spokanefpc.org or 747-

Rummage Sale Coming Soon

GOOD RUMMAGE NEEDED!

It's time to clean out the basement! We can use your *clean, saleable* rummage for the PW Fall Rummage Sale. You may drop off items at the 4th Avenue entrance on **Saturday mornings, September 6, 13, 20, and 27** from 9:00-noon. Please ring the bell and someone will be there to help you. If possible, please save your larger items until Thursday morning, October 2 and bring them directly to the gym.

WORKERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed for the Fall Rummage Sale. Lots of helpers are needed for this huge fundraiser for Presbyterian Men's and Women's Ministries. Making lunch for the workers is especially needed. Mark your calendar for October 2-4 and sign up at the Ministry Fair on Sunday mornings. Call Linda Browne at 448-2513 if you can help in the kitchen or with any questions.

Financial Update

2008 Operating Budget

	Income	Expense (-)	Income/(Loss)
July 08	\$104,562	\$140,407	(\$35,845)
1/2008 - 2/2008	\$905,230	\$936,289	(\$31,059)

Pledged income is slightly below target for the year and Non Pledged is exceeding our expected level of giving. Net income loss this time of year is normal and this amount can easily be overcome by a robust return to activity in the fall. Thank you for your faithfulness!

Your Finance Committee

WORSHIP SERVICES

THE GREATEST SERMON EVER

SERMON ON THE MOUNT SERIES

8/31 **Matt. 7:12-23 - Warnings**

John Sowers preaching

9/7 **Matt. 7:24-29 - Inevitable Floors and Indomitable Foundation**

John Sowers preaching

SERMON-BASED SMALL GROUPS

Fall Sermon Series, September 14 – November 23

Claimed and Called: God's Blessings to Us and Our Response

Get the **SbSG Guide** each week at www.spokanefpc.org, available by 2:00 PM on Mondays. Click the word "Sermon" on the menu on the left. If you don't have access to a computer, you can pick up a printed copy of the guide from the kiosk at the church.

What is the benefit of the Sermon-based Small Group model?

This model enhances the effectiveness of the large group worship experience by unifying the congregation in an ongoing, common dialogue with God through his word. Also, in a culture that tends to fragment us, this model encourages individuals toward focus and depth - creating space for God to transform us. Sermon-based small groups are great for both new and mature Christians.

If you are not in a small group, please consider joining a new group forming at Thursday Night Live. For other options or more information, please contact Brenda Norton at brendan@spokanefpc.org or 747-1058 x220.

Contacts

(509) 747-1058

Extensions Below

Pastoral Team

John Sowers (222)

Kevin Finch (225)

Janeen Steer (227)

Children

Tracy Blue (120)

Tani Starbuck Carlson (111)

Child Care

Carole Spotts (114)

Junior High

Daryl Geffken (131)

Senior High

Randy Brothers (130)

Director of Adult Equipping

Jeanne Walsh (200)

Director of Community Life

Brenda Norton (220)

Barton School

Mildred Scheel (250)

Prayer Line/Deacons Line

(150)

Office Hours

Monday - Friday

9am - 5pm

For more information about ongoing programs, visit our website at www.spokanefpc.org or pick up a brochure in the Information Center or Kiosk.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
318 SOUTH CEDAR STREET
SPOKANE, WA 99201-7030