



RENTON CONGREGATION

WE PROCLAIM JESUS CHRIST AND PROMOTE COMMUNITIES OF JOY, HOPE, LOVE AND PEACE

Community of Christ

AUGUST 2010

SUNDAY			MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
1	<p>"God's Love Is Steadfast" Speaker: Janet Worthington</p> <p>11am—Communion Worship</p>	Planner Steve Pomeroy Presider Steve Pomeroy Offering Julie Lewis Prayers Donna Needham Deacon Twyla Fletcher	2	3	4 7 pm—Worship Commission Meeting 7:45 pm—Congrega- tional Council Meeting	5	6	7  10am Church Work Day	
Servers: Burt Sargeant, Cleo Sargeant, Roger Wickstrom, Claudia Beckman			Camp Chimacum (boys grades 7-9), Samish Island — August 1-7						
8	<p>"Put Faith into Action" Speaker: Video Presentation</p> <p>11am—Good News & Worship Service 3pm—Mult-Congregational Picnic, St. Edwards State Park, Kirkland</p>	Planner Steve Pomeroy Presider Steve Pomeroy Offering Bonnie Pomeroy Prayers Claudia Beckman Deacon Harvey Hawks	9	10	11 7:30pm- Prayer Service Presiding: Bob/Iris Smith	12	13	14	
			Camp Kimtah (Sr. High), Samish Island — August 8-14						
15	<p>"See with Eyes of Faith" Speaker: Film</p> <p>10am*—Good News & Worship Service</p> <p><i>*Note special start time</i></p>	Planner Twyla Fletcher Presider Twyla Fletcher Offering Roger Fletcher Prayers Steve Pomeroy Deacons Bob/Iris Smith	16	17	18	19	20	21	
			Northwest Singles Reunion, Samish Island — August 15-21						
22	<p>"Proclaim Freedom" Speaker: Erik Skoor</p> <p>11am—Good News & Worship Service</p>	Planner Bonnie Pomeroy Presider Steve Pomeroy Offering Paul Crinzi Prayers Bobbi Crinzi Deacon Claudia Beckman	23	24	25 7:30pm- Prayer Service Presiding: Roger Wickstrom	26	27	28	
29	<p>"Walk Humbly with God" Speaker: Rich Sowers</p> <p>11am—Good News & Worship Service Baby Blessing of Finnegan Patrick McClaskey (grandson of Larry & Nancy Dobson); reception following service</p>	Planner Steve Pomeroy Presider Steve Pomeroy Offering Susan Watkins Prayers Bruce Worthington Deacon Roger Wickstrom	30	31	AUGUST ANNOUNCEMENTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aug. 7—Inside Work Day, 10 am • Aug. 8—Multi-Congregational Picnic, 3 pm at St. Edward's State Park, Kirkland • Aug. 15—Special start time, 10 am • Aug. 29—Baby blessing of Finnegan Patrick McClaskey, 11 am, reception following 			LOOK AHEAD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sept. 3-6—Bend Institute (Bend, OR) • Sept. 10-12—Melchisedec Priesthood & Spouses Retreat, Tuality (Tigard, OR) • Sept 17-19—Samish Young Adult Retreat • Sept. 17-19—Lewis River Youth Retreat • Sept. 19—Return to regular Fall schedule 	



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CONTACT INFORMATION

WEBSITES

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STAFF

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RENTON REFLECTIONS

August 2010

LOVE, FAITHFULNESS...AND A LITTLE PRIDE

Steve Pomeroy, Pastor

In Lamentations 3:22-23, we read: "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

That passage brings to mind the lyrics of one of our familiar hymns, "Great Is Thy Faithfulness." The beauty and message of many of our hymns and scripture passages serve to encourage and uplift us as we struggle with the difficulties and opportunities of every day life. The very thought of a God who is faithful to me in all things provides hope that, though I fall woefully short of living as God would desire many times, I am never without God's love. The security of that hope is a true blessing and inspiration to always seek to move my life into alignment with what God calls me to be.

There are times when our efforts to live as reflections of the God that created us may allow us to feel a certain pride of accomplishment that can inspire additional similar efforts. However, to many, such a feeling of pride is viewed as not in any sense "godly." I think it is important to remember that pride is not always a bad word. It is not always the equivalent of egoism: of thoughtless self-assertion at the expense of others. We can understand what true pride is when we realize that the opposite of pride is shame. It is shame that denies the worth of people when we send

them into exile far out of our sight, or even worse when we needlessly hide within ourselves for fear of others or even for fear of God. People do that because they believe, or are made to believe, that the God who brought all into being and at the close of the act of creation blessed it and called it all good, had, in some notable cases, made some terrible mistakes. That is a wrong view; to drive hatefully or fearfully any part of God's creation into the dark corners of shame is to question the very integrity of the Creator. And that act questions the very nature of the God whose promise it is never to abandon those who have been divinely fashioned in his own image and who are chosen, called, and blessed by his love.

As we continue to seek answers to difficult questions that confront our lives and confront our church, we can encounter those troublesome moments when we may question where God is, or if God is, present in our struggles. But God is always present; as the scripture and the hymn tell us, the steadfast love of God for us never ceases and his faithfulness to us never ends. Maybe it will be helpful in our searching to remember that the answers we seek must be framed in that same context—as expressions of a steadfast love and faithfulness that we are also called to share with each other. Such answers—and the lives they inspire—would definitely be something to be proud of.



HAPPY
Birthday



Best wishes to the following people celebrating their birthday in August!

- 4 — Bob Boren
- 6 — Lori Elworth
- 12 — Michelle Beckman
- 13 — Evelyn Sargeant
- 22 — Judy Powell
- 22 — Joanne Thompson
- 23 — Barb Illi
- 23 — Marjorie French
- 23 — Brian Dahlquist
- 27 — Gary Pomeroy