



The

Pilot Light



October 2009

"Columbia Presbyterian Church: encouraging you to enter into a life-changing relationship with Jesus, and helping you find your place in God's work."

Hearts Aflame



Stepping Out in Faith

Stewardship Campaign 2009

"...where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Luke 12:34)

More details coming soon in early October. Check your mailbox!

THE VIEW OUTSIDE MY WINDOW

God's Dream and Ours

God has a dream for His creation. Another way of understanding this is to say that God has a vision for our world and our lives. This vision shows up all through the Bible, but one of the best places to catch a sense of this dream of God's is in the Parable of the Sower. The end result of God sowing the seed of the Word in the world is a bumper crop – as Jesus puts it in Matthew 13:8-9: “*Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop – a hundred, sixty, or thirty times what was sown.*”

That isn't just a story. It's a picture of God's dream for the world, which is that the whole world will one day receive God's Word in Christ with great openness and grow and multiply into a healthy, mature crop, ready for the harvest. Yes, some seed will fall on hard ground, or rocky soil, or be choked by thorns – but the expectation is that most of the seed will flourish.

This means that God is at work right now in Vancouver to plow up the ground of people's hearts so that they can be the kind of 'soil' that can allow the seed of God's Word to grow into something grand and good – something that will multiply throughout Vancouver and bring real life where it doesn't yet exist. Whatever we might look out upon and see for the future of our lives and our community, *God* looks out on the future of our lives and Vancouver and sees a vast, positive response – many will respond to God, the sower.

Our Vision

What's *our* vision for Vancouver? As a church, what's our vision for our *future*? What does it look like to play our part in helping people enter into a life-changing relationship with Jesus and find their place in God's work? The Session has been working on clarifying what we believe to be God's dream for us as a congregation. A vision isn't a statement – it's a picture of what the future *looks like*.



First – the vision looks like a flourishing group of new believers, old and young and in-between. We

Fitz Neal,
Pastor



see a future of the congregation filled with people ready and excited to grow in Christ and share his life with others. This is because of God's dream and God's work that we know is already going on in Vancouver. We believe that God is calling us to reach out to those in Vancouver who don't yet know the love of Christ personally.

Second – the vision God is giving us of our future has to do with whole-life and whole-church discipleship: learning to say yes to God in Christ at every level of our lives and in every arena where we live them. This kind of discipleship involves the whole

church, calls for training and growing spiritually, and includes the expectation that every believer is working on knowing what their unique call from God is in life. This is what is meant by becoming *an equipping church*.

Third – the vision God is giving us for our future is *Orange*. The Orange concept is a philosophy of doing church in a way that combines the red of the shared blood-life of the family, mixed together with the blazing light of the Gospel – a brilliant yellow! Mix them together and you have orange. We believe God is calling us to a future in which we work with families, rather than competing with them to help parents and kids grow spiritually together, rather than apart.

Can you see it? Can you see God's dream for Vancouver coming into focus? Can you see the fields that are white unto harvest that Jesus talked about? Our part in that dream is as compelling a vision as I have ever experienced. As we move into the Columbia Activity year of 2009-10, know that we will be covering more information about our future as the Session is discerning it and preparing to follow our Great Master into the future. We have some building needs that we will be addressing soon. We will be looking at how to staff for this vision going forward. We will be planning to budget for this vision. But most of all, I ask that we all commit ourselves to pray for us to see what God sees in us and in Vancouver. Then, we can get on our hearts what has been on God's heart from before eternity – His creation and its needs.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fitz'.

ADULT SPIRITUAL FORMATION

“Connections”



Are you interested in learning more about Columbia Presbyterian Church; what we believe, how we are organized and what ministries we offer? Do you want to get **connected** to others in a meaningful way? Then plan to join us for lunch on Sunday, October 25 from 12:30 to 3:00 PM in the Cascade Fellowship Hall. This is an informal time, led by Pastors Fitz Neal and Bruce Armstrong. Child care is available by reservation. For further information, contact Viva Dennis in the church office, 694-7549, ext. 213 or email at info@columbiapresbyterian.org

Grief Workshop

The death of a loved one is difficult, even for the mature Christian. As humans, we must grieve the losses in our lives. Starting October 7 (Wednesday) from 2:00 – 3:00 PM, Columbia Presbyterian Church will be providing a Grief Share workshop entitled, “Your Journey from Mourning to Joy”. The workshop will be 13 weeks long, ending December 30.

The Workshop will begin with a 30 minute video on topics like, “Living with Grief”, “The Journey of Grief”, “God’s Prescription for Grief”, “Stuck in Grief”, and “Heaven”. Each week we will cover a different topic, so you don’t need to be concerned if you can not attend each week. After viewing the video, the small group will discuss the video and be given the opportunity to share their own experience or ask questions. A workbook to assist with the topics covered is \$12. Journaling will also be encouraged. Grief Share, with its biblical, Christ-centered perspective, will help people examine questions about death, dying, and eternal life. It will provide you with tools to help grieve and heal as we focus on Christ and study what the Bible says about grief. Please come join this new group if you have lost a loved one and want to learn more about the grieving process. We all need to share and be encouraged by others. On October 7, we will meet in the Multnomah Room. Future meetings will be held in the Chapel. If you have questions, please contact Vera Wheeler, 737-6780, or Mary Lange, 882-0551.

Sunday Morning Adult Education

There are three Adult Education offerings on Sunday mornings. At 9:30, Church History in Plain Language class meets in the Chapel, and An Ordinary Day With Jesus class meets in the Cascade Fellowship Hall. At 11:00, The Life and Teaching of Jesus meets in the Chapel. **“Take the Next Step”** to grow in faith!



Bruce Armstrong,
Associate Pastor

KITCHEN “POLICY”

Our “*Wednesday Night Live!*” dinners are now being totally prepared in our kitchen, instead of being provided by a caterer and Erick Anderson is our primary chef. We are expecting to prepare for over 100 people each week, so this is quite an undertaking for Erick and a team that he has assembled. Erick has spent numerous hours over the Summer “re-organizing” the kitchen for his convenience on Wednesdays. Therefore, kitchen items (including food) may not be where you expected to find them! We have also stored some items that are not regularly used. If you have any questions please contact Pastor Armstrong, (694-7549, ext. 209) or bruce@columbiapresbyterian.org.



NEWS FOR YOU-TH



Middle School
9:30-10:30 AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL IN THE YOUTH CENTER
"DISCOVER THE POWER OF THE CHURCH COMMUNITY"
THROUGH STUDENT LIFE BIBLE STUDY

High School
9:30-10:30 AM

YOUTH GROUP...

- ✚ High School Grades: 9-12
- ✚ Youth Center
- ✚ Every Sunday
- ✚ 6:00 (sharp)-8'ish
- ✚ Theme: Parables (exegesis)
- ✚ Games, small groups, singing, talking, praying, connecting...

- ✚ Middle School Grades: 6-8
- ✚ Youth Center
- ✚ Every Wednesday, 6-8 PM
- ✚ Theme: The Lord's Prayer
- ✚ Dinner (\$3), Games, Bible Study, Small Groups, Talking, Stunts...
- ✚ Friends always welcome!

BACK TO SCHOOL RETREATS...

High School Back to School Retreat *AKA Messy Game Weekend*

What: a weekend away to relax, rest, connect, play the MESSIEST games EVER, eat, laugh, praise...

When: October 2-4

Where: Son Lodge...Welches, OR

Contact: Chris Keinath
(503-805-5837)

Cost: \$85 (scholarship available)

Middle School Back to School Retreat....

What: a wonderful adventure away in the woods...a great time to really connect with friends!!!

When: November 6,7,8, 2009

Where: Camp Tadmor

www.camptadmor.org

Thank you all for your prayers, encouragement and support as Lance and I were married September 19, 2009. How blessed we have felt by our Columbia community!!! We're looking forward to a wonderful adventure ahead discovering all that God has prepared for us... God is Good!!! ~Suzie Gilmore



Suzie Gilmore,
Interim Youth Director

Welcome aboard to our year-long student intern... Jon Quesenberry. Jon will be serving as a youth ministry intern helping lead in the areas of middle school and high school youth group and high school Sunday school.

Jon is a junior at Warner Pacific College. He brings a deep commitment to the Lord, amazing musical skills, a thoughtful mind and a unique sense of humor to Columbia's staff!! ☺ cheers for Jon... Cheer! Cheer! Cheer!

Children's Ministries



It was great to greet our children as they began a new year of Sunday school this fall and to welcome some new families as well. We also welcome several new leaders in our Sunday morning programs:

- ☺ Linda Bisch – First Grade
- ☺ Linda Vohs – Pathfinders Shepherd
- ☺ Jessica Greulich – Pathfinders – Zacchaeus' Home
- ☺ Katie Brereton – 11:00 Toddlers
- ☺ Lea Yonker – Godly Play

We are very thankful to our dedicated teachers who are returning for another year of ministering to our kids. **We do still have some areas which are in need of leaders.....a half-time assistant in the 4's-K class and a shepherd for the 4th-5th graders, both at 9:30. We also need substitutes when our regular leaders are sick or out-of-town.** Please talk to Sharon Franklin if you have interest in any of these areas of ministry.

Children's Gift Bible Sunday – September 27, 2009

All of our 2nd grade children will receive Bibles on this day as a gift from their church family at both the 9:30 and 11:00 services. Older children who have not received Bibles may also be included if you let us know who you are. Call Jennifer Neal in the church office, 694-7549, ext. 204.



SHARON FRANKLIN,
CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES
DIRECTOR



Circle of Friends Preschool



This year brought a few challenging moments as children adjusted to separating from their mommy's and daddy's. This is also true for the parents learning to let go and trusting that we will lovingly watch over their precious little gifts. The last couple of years we have offered refreshments for parents who are uncomfortable leaving the building during that first day of school. Returning families volunteer to play host to the new families and offer reassurance that it does get easier. Everyone is slowly adjusting to the new routines and now more and more laughter can be heard coming from the classrooms. This is such a joyful sound.



Sharon Wallenborn,
Director



Debbie Johnson



Miki Strobel



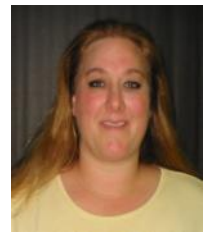
Tricia Bonine



Carrie Smith



Beth Short



Darsi Ross



Jana Postma



Lee Ann Gates



Julie Panebianco



Becky McPhun



Michell Freeman



Laura Veasy

We are fortunate this year to have all of our staff returning. One additional teacher was hired to accommodate a fulltime teacher choosing to work a half day. Welcome Miss Darsi.

We leave traces of ourselves wherever we go, on whatever we touch.
~Lewis Thomas





FALL 2009 CHURCH SALE OCTOBER 8 ~ 10



Can we do it again? Last May we were challenged to meet the needs of the community during this time of economic downturn. We still have economic problems and family needs. At the spring sale you came forward with many contributions of time and items that people need. We were also able to fully fund the missions and ministries we help support. There were many more shoppers than usual. We still have our goal of making it easier for our friends and neighbors to find what they need and for a reasonable price. So, YES, we can do it again!!

One of the benefits of the sale has always been to be an outreach to our community. We have given people in our community an opportunity to shop at bargain prices. We will pledge to continue that practice and will not be raising any prices on the items donated. We know that many of the families outfit their children for school and summer at our sales. They are often heard to say that this is the best sale in town. We hope to keep it that way.

If you are new to CPC (either a member or non-member) and would like to meet some new friends the sale is the place to do just that during this week of fellowship, mission and fun. Each day workers are provided with a delicious lunch prepared by our capable kitchen crew.

Another benefit of working at the sale is the fellowship that takes place as we work together. CPC has been blessed with wonderful people who love the Lord and love each other. **We thank the staff for the support they give us. We also thank those who may be displaced or inconvenienced for the week. You are contributing to missions in a big way.**

Last but not least, we are able to use the proceeds from the sales to give to missions both here in Vancouver and in the far reaches of the world. This is what makes our effort most worthwhile.

You will be hearing more about the sale as it draws closer. You will have the opportunity to sign up during September. Do plan to come and spend some time (and money) with the nice people of Columbia.

If you are willing to help with setup before, use your pick-up truck to collect items, sort items, cashier and do general oversight during the sale, or cleanup after, or call workers from home to remind them when they are scheduled, **please take a moment to stop by the signup table after services through September 27.**

Donation Details:

All items should be clean, wearable or in good working order. Please bring your donations on **Sunday, October 4** between 12 noon and 5:00 p.m. or **Monday, October 5** between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. **No items will be accepted after that time.**

Here is a list of items needed:

Clothing, shoes and accessories for all ages and sizes

Housewares and dishes

Furniture and lamps, sporting goods, bikes and toys, tools and hardware items

Garden equipment, plants, bulbs, and seedlings

Linens and bedding (**except for bed pillows**)

Books, magazines, tapes, CD's DVD's and records

Crafts and remnants, patterns, yarn, sewing supplies and "made by you" items

Baked goods, jams, jellies and candies (no cream filled items)

And paper grocery bags of various sizes stacked in a sack bottom side up and going in the same direction.

We cannot accept computers or monitors.

Questions? Call Donnetta Spink at 944-6716 or Eileen O'Neil at 892-4868

MISSIONS



YoungLives Bunko for Babies

YoungLives, a teen mother mentoring program is sponsoring a fundraiser here at Columbia Presbyterian Church in the Cascade Fellowship Hall Thursday, Nov. 5th, 6-9pm \$5 donation per player

Feel free to fill a table or two with your friends, family or fellowship group
Childcare provided for \$5 per child

Questions?

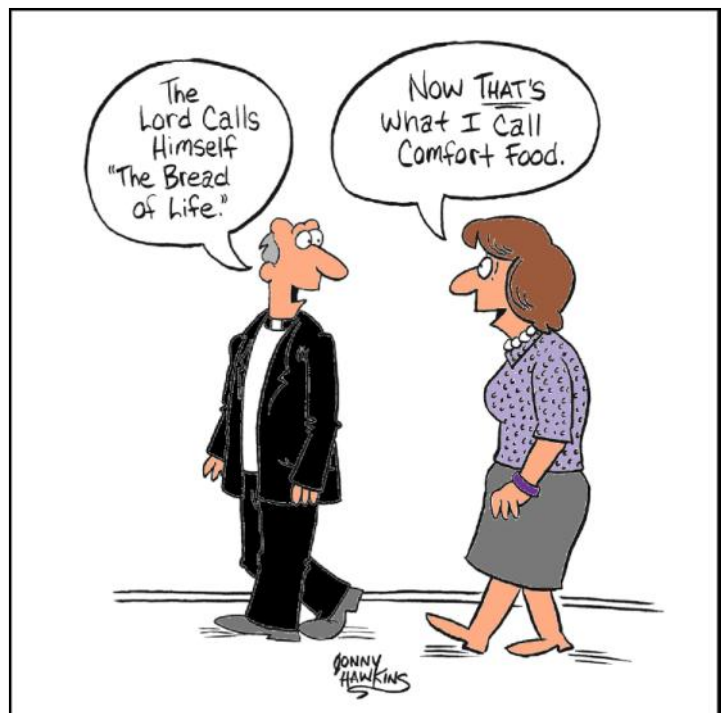
Contact Emilie Schrieber:

emilieschrieber@gmail.com or 360- 609-1252



YoungLives is looking for a childcare coordinator for the club nights for teen mothers.

The commitment is for 2-1/2 hours a month at the meeting site here in Vancouver plus time spent emailing/calling volunteers. If your heart is calling you to help in this local mission outreach, please contact Geo Plumberg at 260-8096 or email at geoplumberg@bc.com.



CPC NEWS

How are we doing?



Whew! We have just about made it through summer, and so far we are in the best financial condition in years. Even though we have a small deficit through August, pledges and offerings exceeded our budget by about \$36,000. At the same time, expenses are about \$43,000 less than budget. Details are as follows:

	Actual	YTD Budget
Pledges & Offerings	\$ 729,000	\$ 693,000
<i>Expenses:</i>		
Programs	\$ 33,000	\$ 45,000
Mission Ministries	\$ 91,000	\$ 92,000
Personnel	\$ 479,000	\$ 496,000
Operations	\$ <u>133,000</u>	\$ <u>146,000</u>
<i>Total expenses</i>	\$ 736,000	\$ 779,000
<i>Net Surplus (deficit)</i>	(\$ 7,000)	(\$ 86,000)

It is not unusual to have a deficit at this time of year, and it is part of our budget plan. On another note, worship attendance this summer is the highest in a decade, which can affect giving in a positive way. On behalf of the Trustees, thank you for your prayers and faithful giving to Columbia.

~ Bruce W Farnsworth, Treasurer

Session Member Contact Information

Glen Baunsgard	834-7991
Bob McFarlin	834-7169
Dave Nacke	254-8136
John Van Dinter	891-0804
Alan Garcia	369-6382
Nancy Bishoprick	695-8589
Jennifer Mears	737-7952
Susan Murphy	882-1370
Marc Hartquist	834-4098
Sheena Brooke	571-4170
Dennis Gish	891-7443
Geo Plumberg	260-8096

Clerk of Session:

Donnetta Spink	944-6716
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God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called.

PILOT LIGHT DELIVERY CHANGES



In an effort to control costs we are asking all those who are able, to view the Pilot Light electronically. It is as simple as going to Columbia's website, www.columbiapresbyterian.org, and clicking on the "Publications" tab. Click on the picture of the lighthouse for the current issue or if you would like to view a previous issue, click on that month. If you are currently receiving a copy by mail and would be willing to switch to the full color electronic version, please contact Viva in the church office, 694-7549 ext. 213 or by email at info@columbiapresbyterian.org.

CPC NEWS

Children's Ministry and Circle of Friends Preschool
invite you to attend:



Parenting with "Love and Logic"

Raise children who are self-confident, motivated, and ready for the real world with this win-win approach to parenting by Jim Fay, Foster Cline M.D., and Charles Fay, Ph.D. Your children will win because they will learn to solve their own problems while gaining the confidence they need to meet life's challenges. And you'll win because you'll establish healthy control - without resorting to anger, threats, nagging or exhausting power struggles.

Parenting with Love and Logic puts the fun back into parenting!

Location: Circle of Friends Preschool @ Columbia Presbyterian Church
805 Columbia Ridge Dr., Vancouver 98664

When: Thursdays 9:30 to 11:00 AM; October 15-November 19, 2009

Cost: \$25/person or \$35/couple (Please make checks payable to Maureen Griffin)

Contact and Course Info: Sharon Wallenborn @ 696-9926/cof@columbiapresbyterian.org

Internet Info: www.loveandlogic.com

Childcare: Available for children preschool age and younger upon request.

A one time fee of \$5.00 per child is asked to help defray the cost.

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Class Topics</u>
Oct 15	Raising Responsible Kids
Oct 22	The Love and Logic Formula
Oct 29	Control That's Shared
Nov 5	Ownership of the Problem
Nov 12	Opportunity for Thinking/Decision Making
Nov 19	Let Empathy and Consequences Do the Teaching

Registration

-----Detach here and mail or return to Sharon Wallenborn with payment -----

Name(s): _____

Street _____ (Apt#): _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Tel: _____

Childcare request: Yes / No Number and ages of children: _____

CONTACT INFORMATION

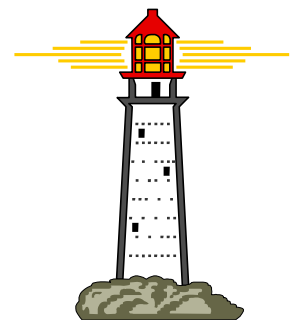
How to Reach Us:

Please call the church office at 694-7549 to reach any of the church staff. Staff can also be reached via e-mail by using the person's first name followed by @columbiapresbyterian.org. *Example: bruce@columbiapresbyterian.org*. The only exceptions to that rule are Sharon Franklin, Sharon Wallenborn and John Ignoffo. In those cases, use their first name with the first initial of their last name.

		Phone Extension
Fitz Neal	Pastor	x 206
Bruce Armstrong	Associate Pastor	x 209
Jeff Haagenson	Minister of Worship & Music	x 210
Sharon Franklin	Children's Ministries Director	x 211
Suzie Herman	Interim Youth Director	x 208
	<i>Direct Youth Line</i>	823-0220
Terry Robertson	Church Business Administrator	x 207
Jo Coila	Head of Staff Admin. Asst.	x 201
Jennifer Neal	Interim Children/Youth Admin. Asst.	x 204
Viva Dennis	Communications Specialist	x 213
Marilyn Roberts	Bookkeeper	x 222
John Ignoffo	Media Ministry Specialist	x 205
Rich Raitano	Facilities Manager	x 216
Diana Gage	Nursery - 833 -1017	
Anna Haagenson	Kingdom Kids - 891-1494	
Sharon Wallenborn	Director, Circle of Friends Preschool - 696-9926	x 212
	Deacon Line	x 250

The *Pilot Light* is a monthly publication of Columbia Presbyterian Church.

The next Pilot Light deadline is October 13, 2009. *Articles turned in after the deadline will not be published and all articles are subject to editing.* Whenever possible, announcements and articles for publication should be sent via email to: info@columbiapresbyterian.org.



Visit us online at
www.columbiapresbyterian.org



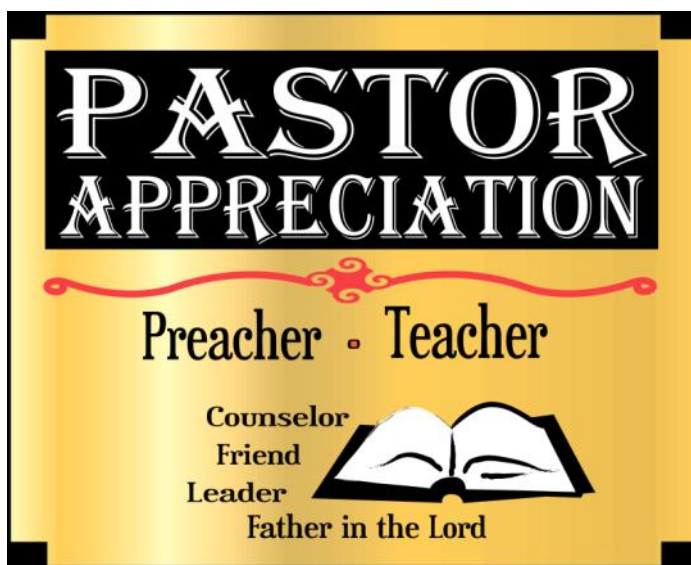
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October is Clergy Appreciation Month



The month of October is “Clergy Appreciation” month. Don’t forget our wonderful pastors. Cards and notes of appreciation may be mailed to the church office.