

## CONGRATULATIONS!

We are pleased to share that Rev. John Bristow of Spokane has received word that publisher Harper Collins would like to re-release his book, What Paul Really Said About Women, into an ebook. First published 23 years ago, this new format will bring the book to a new audience.

NWRCC Summer Camps 2011

# Got Spirit?

## Finding God... in the Everyday

Make sure your calendars are marked and make plans for your youth to attend a Summer Camp this year! *Registration coming soon...*

### Zephyr - Liberty Lake, WA

Kids - Entering Grades 2 & 3: August 1 to 4

Junior - Entering Grades 4, 5, 6: August 1 to 6

Chi Rho - Entering Grades 7, 8, 9: July 25 to 30

CYF - Entering Grades 10, 11, 12 and New Grads: July 25 to 30

### Gwinwood - Lacey, WA

Kids - Entering Grades 2 & 3: August 8 to 11

Junior - Entering Grades 4, 5, 6: August 8 to 11

Chi Rho - Entering Grades 7, 8, 9: August 15 to 20

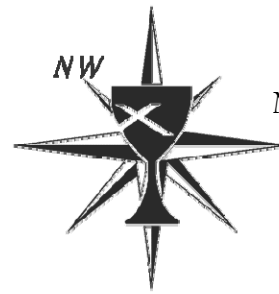
CYF - Entering Grades 10, 11, 12 and New Grads: August 15 to 20

## DISCIPLES CENTER STAFF TO MOVE TO TEMPORARY DOWNTOWN LOCATION

(Indianapolis, Ind. – DNS – April 15, 2011) - Disciples Center employees will work from a temporary location in downtown Indianapolis starting next week as clean-up and building restoration efforts continue at the permanent office site, damaged April 5 in a small early-morning fire.

Nearly all of the building's 180 employees will now work from 135 N. Pennsylvania, about two blocks from the current office. Phone, fax and e-mail numbers will remain the same. The Disciples Center operates from a leased facility at 130 E. Washington St.

The incident resulted in significant smoke damage throughout the Washington Street building, requiring most staff to either work from home or at alternate sites.



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April 2011

## REFLECTIONS ON THE JOURNEY...

Rev. Sandy Messick

### Easter and New Life!

As I write this it is Monday of Holy Week. Yesterday we celebrated Jesus' entry into Jerusalem with palms waving and even a donkey or two in some places. This week we will remember the last events of Jesus' earthly ministry: a sacred meal shared with his closest friends in that upper room, a betrayal from someone who should have known better, a moment in the garden where Jesus revealed that he too knew what it felt to be utterly alone and abandoned, a trial, and then crucifixion. It no doubt seemed to some that the story was over; the last chapter written. But God is not one to be satisfied with such an ending. In God's realm, death does not have the final word and so on Sunday we will gather to celebrate Resurrection! New Life! Easter Sunday. However we understand what happened on that "first day of the week" so long ago (and as good Disciples we have a wide variety of understandings), what we celebrate is that life triumphed over death, that evil did not win the day, and that just when we expect to see the words "The End", God turns the page and writes a new chapter. Resurrection! New Life!

New life is what I see happening all over our region as we are seeking to be faithful in the midst of changing circumstances. New life is happening in our congregations who are engaged in processes that intentionally seek God's vision for a new day. New life is happening as congregations seek to worship God in new ways and to sing a new song for the next generation of believers. New life is happening in congregations that are moving away from survival mentalities and embracing ministries to the least of these: feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, seeking justice for all of God's creation. New life is happening all around us, and new life is happening within us. I am grateful for the Easter story, the Spring that is coming and is already here in the Northwest Region, and I am grateful to be walking this journey with you.

Blessings,  
Sandy Messick

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Rev. Monica Myers Greenberg and Noah Greenberg welcomed the arrival of infant son Samuel Greenberg on April 15, 2011. Monica is the pastor of Northwest Christian Church in Seattle and the Region joins with the Greenbergs and the congregation in welcoming baby Samuel.

## NEWS FROM THE WIDER CHURCH

**General Assembly is Coming to Nashville:**  
**Tell it! July 9 - 13 – Nashville, TN**

Registration is open now at [www.disciples.org](http://www.disciples.org)

**Pre-Assembly National Evangelism Workshop:** will be held July 8-9 prior to the start of General Assembly. Keynote speakers will be Ed Stetzer and Bill Easum. Over 25 workshops will be offered as well. For more information, please visit: [www.nationalevangelismworkshop.com](http://www.nationalevangelismworkshop.com)

**Leading Change Learning Track:** One of our NW pastors, Joan Dennehy, will be one of the presenters at the Leading Change Learning Track on Monday and Wednesday of General Assembly. Joining her will be other pastors sharing their stories about the transformational change they are witnessing in their congregations. This learning track is open to clergy and lay leaders alike who are seeking hope, possibility and encouragement for their own transformational journeys. Find the event information flyer at <http://www.disciplesnw.org/docs/LeadingChangeFlyer.pdf>.

**Habits of Wholeness:** A developing idea is to have Regions sponsor rooms in each of the hotels to offer spiritual practices for those who are staying at the hotels. The Northwest Region will be staffing one of those hotels and offering three choices for spiritual practices each morning (Monday-Wednesday of the Assembly) from 7:00-8:00am. Thank you to Wahhab Baldwin and Sharon Nichols who have offered to lead groups. If you have a gift for leading Bible Study, staffing a labyrinth room, teaching yoga or contemplative prayer and wish to offer that gift for the wider church, please contact Sandy Messick.



Here is a sampling of what's going on around our regional Community of Communities. To add your congregation's story to this list, go to the website, [www.disciplesnw.org](http://www.disciplesnw.org) and click on the Connections tab. Please limit your news item to 2-3 sentences.

**First Christian, Olympia** – The following open letter was recently printed in the Reader Salutes of the Olympia newspaper.  
*"I want to commend the members of First Christian Church for their hospitality and openness. I am a member of Emmaus, a small faith*

*community in Olympia, which is part of the Ecumenical Catholic Communion. We had been meeting in the Lacey Women's Club, which was a wonderful home during our seedling years.*

*Our members, however, desire a more accessible, church-like setting. In our quest, we met Pastor Amy Walters of First Christian Church. She and the community welcomed the request of sharing space and set about refurbishing a room and creating a "sacred space" for Emmaus to use.*

*Since both congregations will make use of this room, a joint blessing was recently conducted. The first liturgy was held in this space by Emmaus on April 3. Both congregations joined in fellowship after their respective services, and the members of Emmaus again felt warmly welcomed. Since ministry is an integral part of the makeup of both congregations, Emmaus plans to join the community outreach efforts presently undertaken by the Disciples of Christ. I believe we will find we have many more commonalities than differences.*

*Inclusion rather than exclusion, working together rather than competing, focusing on God's work rather than any one denomination's work – these are the actions that will help us walk in Jesus' shoes.*

*Thank you, First Christian Church, for your open minds, compassionate hearts and warm hospitality, from the members of the Emmaus community, who love God wholeheartedly as do you! Connie Hanser, Emmaus ECC, Federal Way"*

**University Christian, Seattle** – The University Christian Church has scheduled for a work camp at the Yakama Christian Mission the week of June 19-24. Work will be both on projects on the Mission property and in the town of White Swan aiding in the restoration of homes destroyed in the tragic fire earlier this year. There are still slots open for more volunteers. It will offer a great opportunity for building community both among the volunteer workers and the Mission and White Swan communities. Persons who would like to explore this opportunity can contact Loren Arnett at [lorarnett@comcast.net](mailto:lorarnett@comcast.net).

**All Pilgrims Christian, Seattle** – has received recognition and funding from the United Way of King County for their Community Supper program that provides hot meals on several nights each week. The funding will help pay for kitchen remodeling at the All Pilgrims church.