

# CrossCurrents

JULY/  
AUGUST  
2015



*Ark Daycare Graduation 2015*



## Pastor's Perspective

Summertime, and the living is....well, if not easy, at least less hectic for me and the staff at Cross of Christ. Some of our programs take a summer hiatus. Some of our members do, too – blessings on your summer travels! So the pace of life changes during these long, and so far very sunny days of summer.

But summer's different pace doesn't equate to ministry coming to a standstill. I've learned that summer is the best time – the only time I have, really – for three important "P's" for any pastor. My three summer "P's" are planning, prepping, and perspective.

During this summer, three program areas are getting extra planning attention from me. Jumping into the deep end as I did in October, when programming was already underway and ministry was full steam ahead, I didn't have the time to plan much in the areas of worship, youth ministry, and adult faith formation. For each of these I've scheduled two dedicated planning days – one each for June, July and August. This is a time when I'm off campus and focused specifically on mapping out the upcoming program year. On those mini planning retreats I meet with other staff to together chart the course ahead. By the end of summer we will have calendars in place for each of these important ministry areas.

Drawing from a summertime image, planning is like deciding where you want to go on vacation. Prepping is getting everything ready for the trip. Part of our summer prep work this year is the continuing work of deciding how to best use and care for one of our most

important ministry tools, our campus and facilities. Thanks in large part to the Lilleby Bequests, summer projects to enhance the use of the gift of our building and grounds include the sanctuary lighting project, phase two of our sign project in the parking lot, and the ongoing evaluation of our storage needs and space usage. Task teams have also been formed to evaluate and prep for improving our sound system, our office computers and other technologies, and the congregation's online outreach including our web page.

Summer also allows me a little breathing room to think and pray and dream. Gaining perspective is vital for any leader. Sometimes that means you need a broader point of view. One analogy I've heard uses the image of a large, formal dance – imagine a movie scene of a ballroom filled with waltzing couples. From the dance floor, in the midst of all the motion, your perspective is limited. To really get a feel for the spectacular taking place, you need to leave the dance floor for a view from the balcony. Summer's reduced daily demands gives me the opportunity to get away from the action and evaluate better the progress we're making, as well as consider what adjustment might need to be made.

Blessing to you on whatever your summer plans may be. May the sunshine of this season be a reminder of the warmth of God's love for us.

Pastor Dave



## Youth Discipleship May Retreat

## Cross of Christ Summer Youth Activities

They call these the Dog Days of summer, that period of approximately 40 days between mid-July and late-August where the weather is hot and the Dog Star is bright. As an idiom, it's often used to refer to those hot and miserable days where you want to find an AC and huddle over it all day... even here in the Seattle area!



But not only are you all much too busy to lie around, but there's much too much to do! Coming up this summer will be another adventure to Compline at St. Mark's with a picnic at Volunteer Park beforehand, a mid-summer's night's picnic in early August, and a Back-to-School Bonfire and service opportunity in late August. We'll also be rolling out the first draft of the calendar for next school year before it actually starts.

One opportunity we have that begins NOW: the God's Work, Our Feet challenge. More info can be found here <https://goo.gl/gmEGyK> but in short, it's a chance for us to use our feet, hands, and hearts to

make it to ELCA headquarters in Chicago. The CofC Youth will be challenging the Pastors to see who can log a higher average of weekly miles over the course of the challenge. For more info, talk to me or email: [youth@cofclc.net](mailto:youth@cofclc.net). We haven't settled on a prize for the winner yet, but I'm pretty sure it could be epic!



Blessings to you all wherever your summer travels may take you. I love hearing about your adventures, whether it's via postcard, email, picture text, or carrier pigeon! And if you're having a Dog Day one day, let's do Starbucks—my treat.

--Kristie Walker, Youth and Family Ministries

## Sunday School

Sunday School for ages 2-12 is coming this fall! Watch this space for details, or email Kristie ([youth@cofclc.net](mailto:youth@cofclc.net)) for info.



**Preparing Dinner for Congregations for the Homeless.**

## Youth Discipleship

As part of their final retreat of the year, the CofC Youth Discipleship students spent the day together learning, playing, and serving. One of their activities was to rewrite the Lord's Prayer, keeping the meaning while bringing new life to the words. Here's what

Sky Daddy, You're pretty cool.  
 Bring us to where You rule.  
 Help us to do Your will.  
 Give us please our daily fill.  
 Teach us to forgive,  
 And in Your pathways always live.  
 Away from danger help us trod.  
 Everything is Yours.  
 Yay God!







*“Congratulations and blessings to our 2015 Confirmands, Kyle Pohle and Samantha Thom!”*



## Congratulations Graduates



**Kamilah Constable**, daughter of Brian and Alma Constable graduated from Sammamish High School and plans to attend Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in the fall.

**Griffin Paulson**, son of Craig and Carolyn Paulson and grandson of John and Marlys Paulson graduated Valedictorian from Sammamish High School.

**MacKenzie Thom**, granddaughter of LaNita Landru graduated from Kentridge High School/Bellevue College Running Start.

**Benjamin Morgan**, son of Vic Morgan and SaraKatherine Goldsmith, graduated in December from the University of Washington with a Masters in Electrical Engineering.

### “Good Start Back to School”

– Coming soon to a congregation near you!



It's almost time for Congregations for Kids annual drive for much needed backpacks and school supplies for over 1,500 low income Bellevue School

District Students.

We will be collecting donations July 26 thru August 9. Look for the yellow bus box in the narthex. More information and a new list of needed supplies will be available after mid-July.

For more information contact Arlene Palmerton at 425-746-9599.



## NEWS FROM THE ARK

We recognized our 2015 Ark graduates! Six students graduated at the June 12 graduation ceremony. We also celebrated the Ark's 22nd birthday!

Our Ark families made Staff Appreciation Week very memorable last month, too. The teachers were treated to lattes, flowers, a box lunch and gift cards in honor of their hard work and dedication to our young learners.



**(Extra) Ordinary Time**

**GOD'S WORK,  
OUR FEET**



**Let's go to Chicago!**

*Keep track of your miles, and together we can make it from Cross of Christ to The ELCA headquarters in Chicago.*

*Challenge Goal:  
Make it a round trip, 4152 Miles.*

Step One:

- Earn your miles:** Walk, bike, or run a mile distance. Participate in other activities like gardening, yoga or water aerobics for 15 minutes = 1 mile. Do service: take someone in for a medical appointment, deliver a meal to someone in need = 1 mile.

Step Two:

**Log Your Miles**

When you come to church, enter your name, the date, and number of miles completed. Or Call/email/ tell Pr. Adrienne ([pastoradrienne@cofcl.net](mailto:pastoradrienne@cofcl.net)) with your name, date, and number of miles.

**Bonus:** Pray for someone else for 15 minutes = 1 mile. Are you under age 18? You get double miles!

*The Grief Group*

*The Grief Group will continue meeting through the summer. Third Wednesdays of each month: June 17, July 15, and August 19.*

**God's Work, our Feet Blog**

Pastor Adrienne will be blogging weekly, including a running total of miles completed by the congregation, at: [pastoradriennesh.blogspot.com](http://pastoradriennesh.blogspot.com).

**Want to earn miles by praying for others?**

Consider praying for those who aren't able to participate in regular Sunday morning worship: Lillian Anderson, Jim Bone, Pat Budzius, Gerry Katt, Leona Lenschow, Mary Moen, Jo Paulson, and Jane Pittenger.

**Want to earn miles?**

Meet Pastor Adrienne on Tuesdays at noon at Larsen Blueberry Farm. If you can't make it right at noon, or need a shorter walk, find us out on the trails until 1 pm.



# FINANCIALS

## LILLEBY BEQUEST STATUS AS OF 5/31/15

	Allocated	Dispersed	Remaining
Synod - Benevolence	\$36,000	\$36,000	\$0
Outreach*	\$101,000	\$51,000	\$50,000
Congregational Care*	\$98,000	\$77,000	\$21,000
Worship	\$75,000	\$0	\$75,000
Global Mission	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$360,000</b>	<b>\$164,000</b>	<b>\$196,000</b>

\* Moneys for the Youth Director and Associate Pastor have been moved to a Dedicated Ministry Staff Account.



Worship God  
Grow in Faith  
Share the Gospel  
Serve others  
Welcome All

June Expenses So Far -

Chancel Hardwood Floor Refinishing - \$ 1845.00

Financial Report						
Month and YTD Ended May 2015						
	Month			Year - to - Date		
	Actual	Budget	Fav (Unfav)	Actual	Budget	Fav (Unfav)
<b>Revenue</b>						
May 2015 General Fund Receipts	\$ 32,585	\$ 30,000	\$ 2,585	\$ 32,585	\$ 30,000	\$ 2,585
May 2015 Other Income	\$ 3,127	\$ 1,725	\$ 1,402	\$ 3,127	\$ 1,725	\$ 1,402
<b>May 2015 Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 35,712</b>	<b>\$ 31,725</b>	<b>\$ 3,987</b>	<b>\$ 35,712</b>	<b>\$ 31,725</b>	<b>\$ 3,987</b>
<b>Expenses</b>						
May 2015	35,685	38,485	2,800	35,685	38,485	2,800
<b>Net/Year to Date Net</b>	<b>\$ 27</b>			<b>\$ 27</b>		

Financial Report						
Month and YTD Ended April 2015						
	Month			Year - to - Date		
	Actual	Budget	Fav (Unfav)	Actual	Budget	Fav (Unfav)
<b>Revenue</b>						
April 2015 General Fund Receipts	\$ 42,349	\$ 39,971	\$ 2,378	\$ 411,978	\$ 457,150	\$ (45,172)
April 2015 Other Income	\$ 3,242	\$ 1,633	\$ 1,609	\$ 24,881	\$ 20,850	\$ 4,031
<b>April 2015 Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 45,591</b>	<b>\$ 41,604</b>	<b>\$ 3,987</b>	<b>\$ 436,859</b>	<b>\$ 478,000</b>	<b>\$ (41,141)</b>
<b>Expenses</b>						
April 2015	33,460	39,981	6,521	443,602	478,000	34,398
<b>Net/Year to Date Net</b>	<b>\$ 12,131</b>			<b>\$ (6,743)</b>		



**October  
10, 2015**



**SAVE THE  
DATE!**

**More Details  
in the Fall**

## Commissioned Handbell Composition

We have received our commissioned composition of Amy Grant's *Breath of Heaven* from our arranger, Sandra Eithun. While we haven't had a chance to ring through the composition yet, I've found through my study of the score that it is a solid arrangement which will honor the memory of Karen Conley.

A little bit of history behind the arrangement... Several years ago, Karen convinced Rachel Horton (or perhaps the other way around) to learn a bell duet for Christmas. Their requested piece was *Breath of Heaven*. For those of you who don't know the song, it has some fairly complex parts with arpeggios, exposed melody lines, and other things that make it slightly difficult to adapt to a handbell duet. Ultimately, we were unable to pull off the duet arrangement, but I had promised to look for an arrangement of the song in my review of bell music catalogs.

Only one arrangement for handbells exists, and it included a bunch of extra instrumentation that took it, in my opinion, over the top. When I started talking to people about commissioning an arrangement in Karen's memory, *Breath of Heaven* was just about the first option brainstormed, and we didn't need to go any farther. Then came the task of finding someone to write the handbell arrangement.

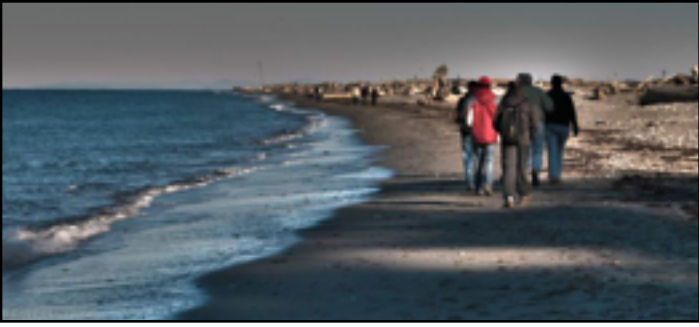
Handbell music can be challenging to write (thumb damps, mallets on the table, suspended mallets, martellatos, echo, bells vs. chimes, different types of bells, octave range... the list goes on). Last summer, I had the opportunity to ring in the Area 10 All-Star choir, and we played an arrangement of *Savior of the Nations, Come* by Sandra Eithun. It's perhaps one of the best arrangements I had heard in quite some time, was fun to play, and showed that Sandy had a mastery of a full range of bells and chimes, and various textures afforded by different types of bells.

I made initial contact with Sandy and found that *Breath of Heaven* had been on her list of arrangements she had wanted to do – it's one of her favorite songs – for quite some time, and I knew that she was the one to ask to write the arrangement. She had time in her schedule to get to it this spring, and just a few weeks ago, she sent the draft score for review.

This is, as far as I have been able to find, Cross of Christ's first commissioned handbell composition. Thank you to those of you who have contributed to the project. There's still time if you would still like to contribute – you can make checks in any amount payable to Cross of Christ with "Handbells – Composition" on the memo line. Emerald City Ringers, our Artists in Residence, will likely premiere this piece at its concert this fall, and *Carillon* has plans to perform it on Christmas Eve.

For more information, contact Colin Walker, director of handbells – [colin@colinwalker.org](mailto:colin@colinwalker.org).





**Third Saturday Hikers** – Ten and a half years ago, a small group of people began to explore God’s world together. In that time, we’ve met and made new friends, both from within the Congregation, and from without. We met people from Tanzania, Kenya, India, and Brazil, and a few others I can’t remember now. Some decided they liked us so much they have joined together with us in our shared ministry. Others returned home with stories and good memories. A few have had a chance to speak with a Christian in a meaningful way. Although I, being a goal - oriented type of person, like to get on with things and get to the destination, looking for the odd Geocache when the group tolerates me, I know to stand back and let conversations grow in the middle of the trail or alongside a beautiful mountain lake - discussions of grief, pain, joy. For this is what is important, what God calls this

group to do. The hike down the trail to that beautiful viewpoint is just the means to build relationships with others, and with God.

So, where next? We usually meet the third Saturday of the month. In July, we delay a week due to vacation schedules, meeting July 25 and travel to Red Top Lookout, overlooking the Blewett Pass Highway. In August, on the 15th, we go to Mount Rainier National Park and to Sunrise when we hike to another lookout on Mt. Fremont. These will be moderate hikes with some length and some elevation gain. September we go to the southern end of Chuckanut Drive and hike to the Oyster Dome, overlooking the San Juan Islands. October will be to Leavenworth and perhaps a little Octoberfest. If you’d like more information, please look me up



## Congregations for the Homeless

During the month of May we hosted the Congregations for the Homeless shelter program. This year we hosted close to 30 men each night. The response of our congregation is generous and greatly appreciated. Each one of you is important to the success of the program. Thank you to all who provided the delicious nutritious evening meals, hot breakfasts on the weekends, provided supplies for breakfast/

lunch, or donated funds so we could purchase needed items, and the Dental Van. Much care and God’s love was shown by those serving and visiting with the men. The prayers by our congregation as a whole, and those who prayed for the individual men are greatly appreciated. We may never know specifically the results, but we know how important prayer is. The men receive much from us, but we also receive so much by reaching out to them.

I wish you could have heard the gratefulness and many “thank you” from the men.

Main Office Hours: Mon–Thurs 9:30am–2pm  
425.746.7300

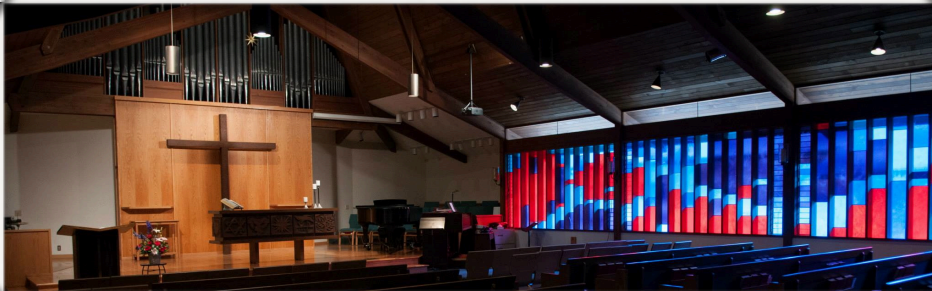
Contact Information

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 Church Council [Council3@cofcl.net](mailto:Council3@cofcl.net)  
 The Ark Childcare 425-644-5414 [thearkatcofc.org](http://thearkatcofc.org)

JOURNEY THROUGH JOHN'S EPISTLES

The three letters of John in the New Testament are short books, but they are long on assurances of our faith and solid advice on Christian living. Pastor Dave will facilitate a summer journey through 1, 2, and 3 John in a nine-week Adult Faith Formation series that continues in July and August, with breaks on July 19 and August 2. Each session begins approximately 10 minutes following the end of the worship service, and wraps up around noon. You are invited as we gather in the Library for this lively and interactive study.

The Next CrossCurrents will be published in September. Please have all articles to the church office by August 15. Thank you.



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