

CrossCurrents

Pastor's Perspective

As I head into my third Pacific Northwest summer, I'll be bringing with me some new knowledge I've picked up so far about this season.

1. In spite of the local saying, summer may or may not begin on July 5th. You have to be at the ready, and whenever the first real summer day arrives – bright blue skies, temperatures in the 80s – jump at the chance to begin enjoying the outdoors again without worrying about layering, muddy boots, or sudden downpours.
2. Unlike with folk from my former homeland of the desert southwest, most Seattle-area resident don't plan long summer vacations. Why would you leave here the 10 to 12 weeks when our weather is as good as any place in the country, and our outdoor recreational opportunities are almost limitless? We earned our chance to enjoy it, too, after six months or more of gray and gloom. Summer is the time to stay and play! Side note - long-time western Washingtonians travel in January, and February, and especially March – and many of them go to Arizona!
3. Summer is for fun, but it's also the time to get stuff done. Like de-mossing your roof, and yard, and maybe even your car. And gardening – which compared to Arizona is remarkably easy for me here.



Summer Worship Schedule

During Sundays in the summer we worship together in one service at 10 am. Sometimes the service is more like our Traditional worship offered at 9 am the rest of the year. Other times it's Mosaic style, our casual 11 am service. Often there are elements of both, or a blend of the two styles. And from time to time during the summer we try some "holy experiments" and worship in completely unique and creative ways. That's part of the fun of summer – being together and worshipping our Lord Jesus Christ in all kinds of styles.

Our summer schedule is bookended by the two holiday weekends that are the unofficial beginning and ending of the season – Memorial Day in May, and Labor Day in September. That means this year we go to our Summer Worship Schedule on Sunday, May 28. The last Sunday of our combined service is September 3.

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Speaking of getting stuff done, there are lots of plans for a productive and enjoyable summer at Cross of Christ.

- May means the return of Congregations for the Homeless, a major ministry here, and a chance to meet some awesome guys who truly appreciate our fellowship, and good cooking! May is also Synod Assembly for the Northwest Synod of the ELCA.
- In June we already have planned Confirmation Sunday on June 4, which is also Pentecost Sunday and our Annual Congregational Meeting – big day! The summer programming for Adult Faith Formation begins the next Sunday, June 11.
- July will feature a Summer Congregational Fellowship Event on Sunday, July 30
- August is ramp-up time for the program year. On a personal note, I'll mark the 15 anniversary of my ordination August 18.

Additionally, some big summer-long projects include continuing the process of planning for the roof truss repairs in the Sanctuary, a significant organ console upgrade funded by a generous donor, improvement to the sound system to enhance worship already approved and funded through the Lilleby Bequest, three Eagle Scout projects to continue to develop the back picnic and firepit area, and worship planning with our still relatively new Director of Music Ministries Ben Fowler.

While it's true that some of our programs either take the summer off or have a more relaxed summer schedule, this is indeed the season to tackle some projects, do some planning, and worship together with our combined summer

services. And get out and enjoy what truly is some spectacular weather here in the gorgeous Puget Sound! See you in worship, in service, and maybe even on the golf course or hiking trail.

Grateful to serve with you,

Pastor Dave

P.S. Read more about many of these summer plans elsewhere in this summertime edition of CrossCurrents!



Summer BBQ and Picnic
July 30 after 10am
Reunion Sunday
Service

GIVING MADE EASY! Please take the opportunity to learn about the direct deposit service available to you. It is a way to have your giving done automatically—a worry-free way to give! Contact Denise Fuentes for more details. 746-7300 EXT. 108

BOOKKEEPER@COFCL.NET

YOUTH

It's May already—are you feeling the spring fever? Come shake a bit of it off with us--we have several things planned!

On Friday, May 12, we'll be serving dinner for Congregations for the Homeless while they're visiting Cross of Christ. We'll gather at 5:30pm to prep food for this annual chance to serve our neighbors.

At the end of the month, a few of us will be venturing up to Holden Village for their High School Youth Weekend, where we'll spend a few days having fun and learning while surrounded by some of God's most beautiful creation.

The following Sunday, June 4, is Confirmation Sunday. Come help us celebrate our new Confirmands and stick around afterwards for



CofC's Annual Meeting! It's after Memorial Day, so there's only one service at 10am.

The following Sunday, June 11, we'll be having another celebration, this one for our high school graduates! Come help us bless them on their journeys forward, and stick around for cake afterwards.



We'll give you a couple of weeks off, but then in July we'll be taking a trip to Compline at St. Mark's Cathedral in Seattle. This short and unforgettable service is held at 9:30pm (yes, PM!) in an equally amazing location--the beautiful and timeless stylings of St. Mark's Cathedral. We'll hit Molly Moon's on Capitol Hill afterwards for a sweet treat.

I hope we'll see you there
--Kristie Walker

CONGREGATIONS FOR THE HOMELESS MAY 2017

THE CFH SHELTER - will be hosted by Cross of Christ the month of May. First, we ask that you keep the whole ministry in your prayers especially the clients, staff and volunteers. It is our desire that we can make them feel welcomed and



show God's love to them through this ministry. Cross of Christ is responsible for the meals May 1-14. This includes items for breakfast, supplies for sack lunches and sandwich makers, and a hot nutritious evening meal, join with others to provide a portion of a meal and help to serve it. Please stop by the CFH table to volunteer to be a part of this ministry, many hands are needed. We welcome volunteers to stop by the shelter, 7-8:30 pm to visit with the men. Please contact Bob Shelley for more information.

If you have other talents or ideas for ways to be involved please contact:

Ann Huseby, ahuseby@comcast.net

425 92-6319 or

Nadine Bentsen, nadinebentsen@yahoo.com

425 747-1543.

Cross of Christ Interfaith Covenant Committee Summer Report

We head into summer riding high after several successful events these past months. One was hosted by Cross of Christ, this year's Interfaith Lecture Series, featuring Seattle-area pioneer in interfaith dialogue Father William Treacy as keynote speaker. At 97, Father Treacy showed once again why he remains a powerful voice for interfaith communication and understanding. With passion, insight, and with an engaging and winning manner, Father Treacy shared his vast experience in the interfaith movement in the greater Puget Sound area over the years, and spoke about the challenges facing the interreligious movement today. About 150 people attended the event, which included a freewill offering in support of Hearts and Hammers, raising \$423. Cross of Christ also hosted this year's "Blessing of the Palms" early Palm Sunday, with about 60 in attendance from CofC, Episcopal Church of the Resurrection and St. Louise Catholic Church. The Covenant Committee met in both April and May.

Emerald City Ringers Concert Sunday, May 7 - 3pm at Cross of Christ



They reviewed the Covenant Charter, first created in 1993 and revised in 2008 when Jewish Temple B'nai Torah joined. Additionally, an invitation for a one-year guest membership was extended by the Committee to the Islamic Center Eastside. Hearts and Hammers will have two work days this year, on Saturday, May 6, and Sunday, May 7, to allow those who worship/rest on

either day to have the opportunity to participate. Hearts and Hammers does lawn work, painting, light repairs, and similar projects for community residents in need.

Cross of Christ's member on the Committee are Joyce Johnson, Ebenezer Jeyaraja and Dick Hanner. Please feel free to speak with any one of them to learn more.

Contact Us

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Spring is here, the rain is here,
and the Ark is still afloat!



Lots of fun activities are coming up in the months ahead:

May has our annual Mother's Day Tea party, Staff Appreciation Week and Spring Cleaning.

June is our biggest event: Graduation/Birthday Celebration on June 9 and then Father's Day breakfast on June 16.

July will be our July 4th Parade & Ice Cream Social and

August will have a field trip or two....We don't want to forget

to give Ms. Hildegard

a big hand. After all the years of teaching the children German at the Ark, she is still going strong. Vielen Dank fur alles!



Have a wonderful summer & thank you for supporting the Ark as a ministry of Cross of Christ!



Ark Retreat

In April the teachers enjoyed a great weekend Retreat in Seaside, Oregon. The Ark Board members gave us all a surprise bag. It was like a little treasure bag with snacks, soft drink, water or tea and much more, even a personalized cup! What a treat! Thank you and God Bless You. We had a great time resting, relaxing and enjoying each other.



Synod Assembly May 20

Cross of Christ
delegates will gather
with their



Northwest Washington Synod brethren on Saturday, May 20. New this year, the Assembly will be a one-day event. The decision to go to a single day was made in part to allow more participants and to reduce costs. The Synod in Assembly also voted to hold Assemblies every other year.

This year's Assembly will be hosted by Salem Lutheran Church in Mount Vernon. The Churchwide Representative will be the Rev. Daniel Rift, Director for the ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal.

Please be in prayer for our delegation, Cheryl Buettemeier, Kristie Walker, Pastor Dave, and for Bishop Kirby Unti, and all who will be gathering at the Synod

Memorial Service for Gerry Pittenger

A Service of Thanksgiving and Celebration of Life for long-time member Gerry Pittenger will be held at Cross of Christ on Saturday, May 6, at 11am. A luncheon reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall. All members are invited to attend.

Adult Faith Formation The Life and Letters of the Apostle Peter

Simon Peter was a lot of things: passionate, impetuous, bold, brave, imperfect and forgiven. Through his life and his writings (First and Second Peter) we learn what it means to be real in our faith and in our followership of Jesus. Our study will take us into the Gospels, the books of Acts and Galatians, as well as the epistles that bear Peter's name, as we discover more about the life and theology of this most human, compelling, and relatable apostle.

Pastor Dave leads this series, which will include both presentations and interactive study methods. Come open to learning and sharing! And don't worry – you won't be asked to do any homework. This is "summer school" after all!

Summer Adult Faith Formation meets in the Library from 11:15 am to noon, following our single summer worship service at 10 am, beginning June 11 and concluding August 27. Please note – we will not meet July 30 due to the special Summer Fellowship Event scheduled for that day following worship.

Third Saturday Hikers

We have a full summer planned.

- May Untanum Canyon, off the Yakima River south of Ellensburg
- June Boulder Cave, bat caves east of Chinook Pass
- July Greenwater Lakes, east of Enumclaw
- August Artist Point, Mount Baker
- Sept. Hurricane Ridge, Olympics National Park

These are a mix of easy to medium hikes. All are welcome to join us as we enjoy God's creation in one another's good company. Question? See Erik Paulson.



TIME TO TEE IT UP AGAIN -

Join the golfing
fun and
fellowship by

joining the Cross of Christ Golf Group this summer. The group plays at Snoqualmie Falls Golf Course in Fall City on Thursdays, beginning May 4, and is open to golfers of all skill levels. A sign-up sheet is at the Information Desk. To learn more, call Tom or Heidi Fine at 425 885 6750.

FINANCIALS

Financial Report
Month and YTD Ended February 2017

	Month			Year - to - Date		
	Actual	Budget	Fav (Unfav)	Actual	Budget	Fav (Unfav)
Revenue						
February 2017 General Fund Receipts	\$ 33,800	\$ 36,046	\$ (2,246)	\$ 341,841	\$ 363,558	\$ (21,717)
February 2017 Other Income	\$ 5,214	\$ 2,592	\$ 2,622	\$ 28,508	\$ 24,917	\$ 3,591
February 2017 Total Income	\$ 39,014	\$ 38,638	\$ 376	\$ 370,349	\$ 388,475	\$ (18,126)
Expenses						
February 2017	40,799	39,328	(1,471)	350,820	390,694	39,874
Net/Year to Date Net	<u><u>\$ (1,785)</u></u>			<u><u>\$ 19,529</u></u>		

Financial Report
Month and YTD Ended March 2017

	Month			Year - to - Date		
	Actual	Budget	Fav (Unfav)	Actual	Budget	Fav (Unfav)
Revenue						
March 2017 General Fund Receipts	\$ 32,785	\$ 37,196	\$ (4,411)	\$ 374,626	\$ 400,754	\$ (26,128)
March 2017 Other Income	\$ 4,520	\$ 2,467	\$ 2,053	\$ 33,027	\$ 27,383	\$ 5,644
March 2017 Total Income	\$ 37,305	\$ 39,663	\$ (2,358)	\$ 407,653	\$ 428,137	\$ (20,484)
Expenses						
March 2017	37,489	39,688	2,199	388,308	430,382	42,074
Net/Year to Date Net	<u><u>\$ (184)</u></u>			<u><u>\$ 19,345</u></u>		

CROSS OF CHRIST

SUMMER WORSHIP TIME
CHANGE
10AM
MEMORIAL DAY
THROUGH
LABOR DAY



The deadline for the Fall CrossCurrents is August 15. Please email or hand deliver your articles to the office before this date. Thank you

Office Hours / Email
Main Office Hours:
Mon-Thurs
9:30am-2pm
425.746.7300
Main Office Email
Office@COFCLC.NET

Bulletin deadline:
Wednesdays at noon
Next Newsletter
deadline:
August 15



The office will be closed Monday, May 29 for Memorial Day, July 3 and 4 for the Independence Day Holiday, and September 4 for Labor Day.



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