



THE KEYS

St. Peter's United Methodist Church

17222 NE 8th Street, Bellevue, Washington 98008

Near the Crossroads where North meets South and East meets West

Volume 34, No. 2 February 2012

A Devotional Thought for February

In a dramatic scene near the end of the 2010 movie “Robin Hood” starring Russell Crowe, a lackey of a very angry king rides into a village of Nottingham, a town suffering from the corruption of a despotic sheriff and crippling taxation, and reads a proclamation from a rolled up parchment, which declares “Robin Longstride, also known as Robin of the Hood, is an outlaw and is to be shot on sight.” At the conclusion of the reading, the representative of the king places the parchment against a nearby tree and yells: “Quickly – a hammer and a nail.” And out of nowhere, an arrow with the speed of lightening, barely missing the man’s head, nails the parchment to the tree. He got more than he asked for, even though Robin Hood was only trying to help!



The beginning of the second month of a new year is a good time to admit that I got more than I asked for when, soon after I arrived in 2008, I started using the phrase “Near the Crossroads where North meets South and East meets West” in various printed materials relating to our local church. At the time it seemed more or less obvious that St. Peter’s is located near the crossroads, given that we are a brisk twelve minute walk from Crossroads Mall, a shopping center that also serves as a symbol of the diverse and vibrant neighborhoods that surround it. The phrase, however, was not only my attempt to state the obvious, it was my hope that *we would quite literally move toward the crossroads* so that the presence of the living Christ – mediated through our actions, prayers and proclamation of the Gospel – could be experienced in new ways. But little did I know that *the crossroads would quite literally move toward us!*

We started 2012 with renewed confidence and joy, having hosted the Eastside Winter Shelter for 40 consecutive days. It has been a wonderful experience watching us find pride and purpose in welcoming our homeless guests into the warmth of our fellowship hall. And it has been exciting to hear from families and individuals who live nearby who have not only thanked us for hosting the EWS but have volunteered their time and resources toward the success of the operation. We are learning things about others and ourselves that we would not have discovered had the reality of homelessness on the Eastside remained a remote and peculiar experience of nameless and faceless people. We have crossed a threshold and are finding our way at the edges of the difficult reality of homelessness.

Journalist Anne Fadiman expresses the importance of working from the edges: “I have always felt that the action most worth watching is not at the center of things but where the edges meet. I like shorelines, weather fronts, international borders. There are interesting frictions and incongruities in these places, and often, if you stand at the point of tangency, you can see both sides better than if you were in the middle of either one.” (*The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down*, Page X)

May God continue to bless us as we live and work on the edges...“Near the Crossroads where North meets South and East meets West.”

Until next month, Rev. Tom

Lay Leader Commentary

by Dick Clark



Each month we are treated to an insightful column regarding St. Peter's and our programs, as seen through the eyes of **Dick Clark**, our Lay Leader.

As many of you know, Dick is facing a major health issue and was not feeling up to contributing to the newsletter this month. We hope that he'll be feeling better soon, and will fill this space in the March newsletter with more of his intellect, sense of humor and insight.

To follow Dick's journey, his son, **Cam** has set up a site on Caring Bridge:

www.caringbridge.org/visit/richardclark
You can also follow on a group Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/304447119605776/>.

Ash Wednesday Soup Supper & Service
Feb. 22nd, 6P Supper, 7:15P Service
Imposition of Ashes

More information in Sunday bulletins

**The M&M's
Corner**
By Rose Hart

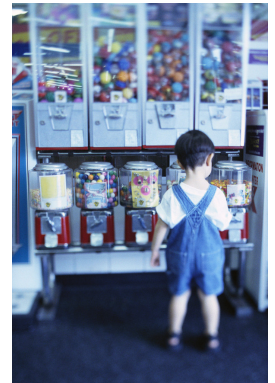
We had 14 nice church family folks attend the M&M's for lunch at Canyons in Redmond. The food was excellent and the service was very good. Canyons gave us a nice separated room to enjoy our meal, so we stayed late and chatted.

Next stop is Coho's in Redmond. They do have a similar facility on E Lk Sammamish, but the Redmond location was voted a go for us on Thursday, Feb. 2nd at 11:30-11:45 a.m. start. The address is Coho's Café, 8976-161st Ave NE, Redmond at the Bella Bottega Plaza or close by the theater. Their telephone number is 425-885-2646. At Redmond Way near the bridge, take a first left, go four blocks north to Bella Bottega shopping center. Restaurant and movie theater are on the right. Coho's is on the corner behind some trees and bushes. There is a fireplace outside so it is easy to find; before but near the theater. Park in front of the restaurant. Please call me at 425-641-5309 or email Jrose2@comcast.net to RSVP and to arrange ride-sharing, if needed. May the Lord always be present at our table...for the fellowship of our M&M's group of St. Peter's church.

Stewardship

by Roger Allington

Johnny was on the way to church when he stopped by the corner store. He was going to use his Sunday school money to buy candy when the proprietor, who knew the family well, put up his hand. "Son, you should give that money to the church." Johnny replied, "I have a better idea, I'll buy the candy, and then YOU can give it to the church!"



There's nothing wrong with buying candy as such. Johnny is a steward of the money he has, as everything belongs to God. God lets us use His assets but we should use them in such a way that we support God's mission. Exchanging a liquid asset (money) for a commodity asset (candy) is not in itself bad stewardship. However, as Johnny was to use the liquid asset (money) for Sunday school, then to be a faithful steward for God, the equal value commodity asset (candy) should go to the Sunday school!

We don't know what Johnny did with the candy—do you?!



"A Happy Song!"

The theme of this year's UMW Agape Breakfast is "A Happy Song." All the women of the church are invited to attend this special Saturday morning breakfast and program on Feb. 11th from 9 a.m.—12 noon.

Introductions will be given by UMW President, **Betty Vene McConnell**. **Carol Jones** will make presentations at the beginning and ending of the event. **Juli Steffen** will give grace, and **Jackie Taubel** will present our 12 new members and entertain us with her wonderful humorous readings (which, each year, prove to be a highlight of the morning). Our United Methodist Men will be serving us and **Donna Kenney** will be giving a special "thank you" after our meal.

As in year's past, you are asked to bring a bread, fruit or cheese platter. Because of their tight serving schedule, no food will be reheated and your food must be on plates and 'table ready.'

After our meal, we will meet in the sanctuary to sing "Song of the Sparrow," a classic hymn that has sold more copies than practically any other hymn. Our guest speaker, **Becky Showalter**, will follow, presenting a message that is sure to inspire us all. Rev. Tom will serve us communion afterwards.

Anne Beishline would like to thank all the women who have worked with her to make this event a meaningful one. We thank God for their warm love in service.

Just a reminder: the men are invited to join us in the sanctuary to hear Ms. Showalter. We ask all who attend to invite a friend, family member or neighbor to join you. This is a wonderful opportunity to turn an acquaintance into a friend!

Our sanctuary flowers for the 11th and 12th are from the Altar Guild and will celebrate Agape Love. **Vicki Bridwell** will be the designer.

Taco Time Coupons

As they did last year, Taco Time is offering, to non-profits, books with 5 coupons for \$1.00 off specially selected entrées. We are selling the books through the end of March; coupons are good through the end of April.

We get these books for no-cost and are selling them for \$1.00 each (pure profit!) to benefit the General Fund.

See **Sherry Magnuson** for your book(s). Sell them to friends, family and neighbors (or pay the money and keep them for yourself!). Last year we made \$254—let's try to double that this year!



Meet Someone New!

by Carol Jones

New member, **Shirley Jaccard**, prefers to be known as "**Winkie**." She is a retired elementary school teacher and mother of four, grandmother of eight. Winkie is a Washington native and has lived in the Bellevue area since 1949, when the only way into downtown Bellevue was Northup Way.

Winkie is an avid traveler and has been to every continent. She has taught in China and Australia and has taken mission trips to Africa. Winkie says she has always been an outdoor person—hiking, skiing, and swimming. She plays bridge "to keep my brain active."

Please join me in welcoming Winkie Jaccard to St. Peter's; she is sure to be a wonderful addition to our church family.

*Next month we'll be introducing you to **Jason Roberts**.*



Get Ready for the Great St. Peter's Yard Sale!

This year's sale will be April 13th and 14th and it could be the best one yet! What we need to make it a great sale are those items that are stashed away in the closet, attic or garage in boxes, bags or bins. We need things like books, DVD's, jewelry, kitchen items, small appliances, camping gear, sports gear and small furniture. Purses, scarves, clothing and linens are welcome as well.

Donations for the yard sale can be brought to the church right after Easter and we will start setting up on Tuesday, April 10th. Of course, anyone helping with the set-up, pricing or selling gets first look at the treasures that are for sale! For more information or to sign up to help call **Pat King** at 425-396-5141.



Gourmet Dinner & Auction

St. Peter's has been a strong supporter of The Sophia Way for homeless women for several years, and we are pleased to see what that organization has accomplished in a short period of time. Many formerly homeless women are being placed in transition housing or apartments of their own.

One of the major fundraising events for The Sophia Way has been their Culinary Journey dinner, with auction items and a raffle for a Holland America cruise.

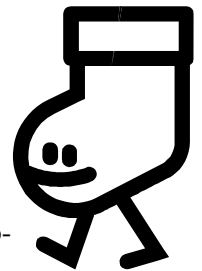


This year, the dinner will be held at The Harbor Club in Bellevue, featuring 12 premier local chefs showcasing their specialties. Auction items include trips to such exotic locations as Delhi and the Taj Mahal, sporting and cultural events tickets and custom jewelry. In conjunction with the dinner, there will be a raffle for tickets for a Holland America cruise. See **Diana Wilson** or **Pat King** for raffle tickets.

The Sophia Way is near its goal for fundraising which will enable them to move the overnight women's shelter from Bellevue First Congregational Church to St. Luke's Lutheran, where there is basement space that can be remodeled to provide a larger shelter.

Socks are a Hit!

Thanks to the generous people of St. Peter's, and with the help of Snoqualmie UMC and the youth groups of both churches, we were able to distribute a new pair of socks to each person at the shared breakfast for the homeless at Seattle First UMC on Christmas morning.



There were some socks left over, enabling us to share those with the men staying at our Eastside Winter Shelter in the Fellowship Hall. Staff at the EWS report that the men have been asking for socks as the weather gets colder.

Thank you to everyone who contributed socks to this valuable service effort!

Be watching for the announcement of our new church website! **Cathy Reylea** has been working diligently to design our new site, giving it a fresh look and better maneuverability, as well as adding new categories to help you find information fast.

Our thanks for all her hard work! Our address will stay the same. Once we're up and running, we'd love to hear your comments.

St. Peter's Children & Youth

NEWS & EVENTS:



Youth Move a Ton of Stuff!

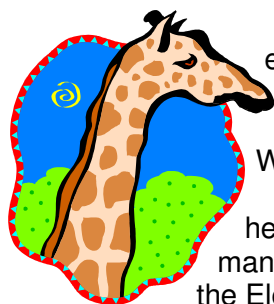


Our youth group gave up a Saturday recently to help a long-time Newport Hills resident who was in desperate need. She had a 30 year accumulated of items gathered and stored in her home. **Adora, Brandi, Emily, Mandy and William** came to her rescue and remove over 2,600 lbs. of stuff from her home to the dump. A shed was made usable again and all her garden tools were found.

Family members were overwhelmed and grateful for the time and effort put into helping out. When the crew left her home, the resident was smiling and happy. We had found many memories for her and helped rid her of what could not be saved.

The youth were rewarded with pizza and cocoa for their hard work. Be proud of how much they accomplished in one afternoon!

We're Going to the Zoo!



We thought it would be fun to go experience the zoo in wintertime, so on Sunday, Feb. 26th, from noon to 4 p.m. we'll be hanging out at Woodland Park Zoo in Seattle.

We'll pack a picnic lunch and head out after church. There are many things to experience, ranging from the Elephant Forest to the Northern Trail.

We'll go on a self-guided tour and so some scavenger hunts.

Dress weather appropriate, bring a water bottle and plan on sharing sack lunches together. Prices are \$11.75 for adults 13-64, \$8.50 for children 3-12, free for infants and toddlers to age 2. Seniors, 65+ get \$2.00 off the adult price.

If anyone needs a sack lunch or help with scholarship money, please let **Scott** or **Jennifer** know. St. Peter's will help those in need, so bring your friends and let's fill up the van and go exploring!

Youth Matters Tuesday Night

The youth spent Tuesday, January 31st, with **Anne Beishline**, making Valentine's for our shut-in's. This was a fun project for the youth to spend a winter afternoon doing.



Keep an eye out for upcoming events, as the youth will be working on a community garden together.

If you're interested in joining us, please feel free to bring a friend and stop in. Or, if you have an idea for a project we can work on, be sure to let us know.

Youth Matters meets every Tuesday night from 4-6:30P (dinner included).

For more information on youth activities, please email Jennifer or Scott at: scottcalli15@comcast.net, jw9049@att.com or call 425-440-8079 (home)

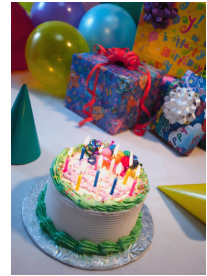
Around St. Peter's and the Community —Bits and Pieces of This and That

- **Thanks to Fellowship Family “E”** from **Carol and Don Jones**. “Many thanks to the people of fellowship group “E.” They volunteer, and every Sunday that is our group’s responsibility, it seems as though a miracle happens and things get done well. So, *thank you* to all. Thanks also to **John Fountain** for his help at the beginning and end of each day, particularly for reaching into the high cabinets when the short ladies can’t reach them.”
- **Sign up now for Sunday flower dedications.** The calendar is in the office on the bulletin board. Choose a date, sign your name and someone will call you beforehand for your dedication and arrangement request. Cost is \$20 and you are able to take the flowers home with you after worship service, returning the container at your convenience.
- **Please remember to let the office** know if you have recently changed your address, phone number or email address. Thank you.
- **African Team Ministries** crafts and jewelry will be on sale Sunday mornings, Jan. 29th and Feb. 5th in the church library. These handcrafted art pieces and jewelry are made in Africa and sold throughout the world. Proceeds benefit orphan and refugee relief, missions and evangelism in East Africa.
- **Rev. Tony, Starla and Miriam Brown** will be visiting with us on Sunday, Jan. 29th during 10:30 a.m. service. In order to have time to chat with them (and pass around their adorable baby girl!) we will be having an extended Fellowship Time. You are invited to bring your favorite appetizer to share. Tony served as our youth director before graduating from seminary and moving to Tennessee, where he is pastor at Peck’s UMC in Maryville.



Happy Birthday!

- 1 Jackie Taubel
Erin Kenney
- 2 Jan Lillywhite
- 4 Becky Woodworth
- 16 Bruce Bridwell
- 20 Jane Enns
- 23 Lou Schwind
- 25 Donna Kenney
Rachel Hall
- 26 Debbie Miller
- 27 Sonja Rush



Happy Anniversary!

- 3 Rich & Joe Ann Rucker (29 yrs)
- 5 Matt & Trista Wynne (10 yrs)
- 7 Danny & Beth Eng (31 yrs)

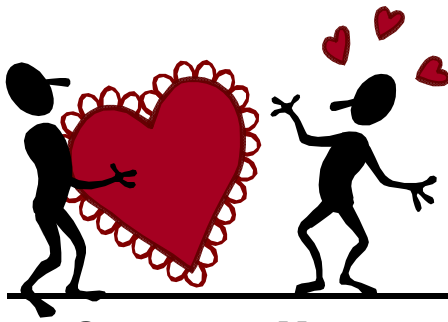
If we've forgotten your birthday or wedding anniversary, please call the office so we may correct our records. We celebrate birthdays the 3rd Sunday of each month. We hope you'll join us during Fellowship Hour....we promise not to tell your age!

Please Keep in Your Prayers.....

- ♥ **Florence Arms** (diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's Disease)
- ♥ **Colleen Bailey**
- ♥ **Eileen & Janet Kouba**
- ♥ **Margaret Pratt**
- ♥ Our military personnel, both here & overseas. Our missionary leaders and volunteers.

*Please call or email your prayer requests, changes and updates for the Prayer Letter to **Anne Beishline** : beish@mindspring.com.*

*We have just learned that our former organist, **Bob Bailey**, who served St. Peter's for 44 years before retiring in Dec. 2010, has passed away. At this time, memorial service arrangements are being discussed. Cards may be sent to Bob's widow, **Colleen**, at 16604 SE 26th St, Bellevue, WA 98008.*



February 2012

St. Peter's UMC, 17222 NE 8th St, Bellevue, WA 98008

(425) 747-3210 Office Hours: M-F, 9A-12P

Sunday Schedule: 8:30-9A Communion Service

10:30A Worship Service

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>True Love Grows by Peggy Ferrell Through sunshine, rain, Through smiles and tears, Through sickness, health, And passing years, True love still grows More firm and sure, More deep and strong, More sweet and pure.</p>			1	2 11:30A M&M's 6P Bells 7:30P Choir	3 7:30P PNWCF	4
5 African Team Ministries Sale 11:45A Wor- ship & Arts Mtg.	6 9-11A TOPS 12P Bible Study 7P Rte. 66	7 4P Youth 6:30P BSA	8	9 6P Bells 7:30P Choir	10 7:30P PNWCF	11 9A-12P Agape Breakfast
12 4P Service at Sunrise Asst'd—Diana Wilson	13 9-11A TOPS 12 Bible Study UMM Meal 7P UMW Board 7P Rte. 66	14 4P Youth 6:30P BSA 7P Trustees 7P Investment Club 	15	16 6P Bells 7:30P Choir	17 7:30P PNWCF	18
19 10:45A Service at Crossroads Retirement— Diana Wilson	20 President's Day Office Closed	21 4P Youth 6:30P BSA 7P Finance	22 6P Ash Wed. Soup Supper & Service	23 6P Bells 7:30P Choir	24 7:30P PNWCF	25
26 1st Sunday in Lent 12-4P Youth at Woodland Park Zoo	27 9-11A TOPS 12P Bible Study 7P SPR 7P Rte. 66	28 4P Youth 6:30P BSA	29	Ongoing events during the week: Tues, Wed, Thurs: Child Care Center 9A-12:30P Tues.—Friday: BC Parent/Toddler Class: 9A-12P All week: Eastside Men's Shelter: 8:30P-7:30A		
<p style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Spiritual Formation Retreat—Federal Way— through March 2nd</p>						

Staff Information & Volunteers

Fellowship Families for February:

Group A Leader: Jane Sessions
Families include:

Roger & Reva Allington, Carol Benedict, Patty Bowen, Darlene Bowerman, the Chan family, Terry Patrick, Jason Robarts, the Ruble/Relyea family, and Jackie Taubel.

Fellowship Family group lists and current calendars for Sunday planning are on the bulletin board on the inside kitchen door.

Special Sundays in February:
Birthday Sunday, Feb. 19th

We Love Our Volunteers!!

LITURGISTS:

Feb. 5
Feb. 12
Feb. 19
Feb. 26

Posted on narthex
bulletin board



USHERS:

Feb. 5
Feb. 12
Feb. 19
Feb. 26

Joe Ann Rucker coordinates our Liturgists and Ushers. If you are unable to be at church on the day you've volunteered, please call Joe Ann at 425-373-4546.

Worship Schedule:

Communion Service: 8:30-9 a.m. Worship: 10:30 a.m.

OUR STAFF & VOLUNTEERS

Ministers: Congregation

Pastor: Thomas G. Steffen (tgsteffen@gmail.com)

Church Admin. Asst.: Sue Wiseman (stpeters1@msn.com)

Interim Choir Director: Scott Barker

Organist: Nichole Basile

Substitute Pianist/Organist & Piano Accompanist: Rich Rucker

Carillons Directors: Scott Barker

Director of Child Care Center: Jane Sessions (email: jane-sessions@hotmail.com)

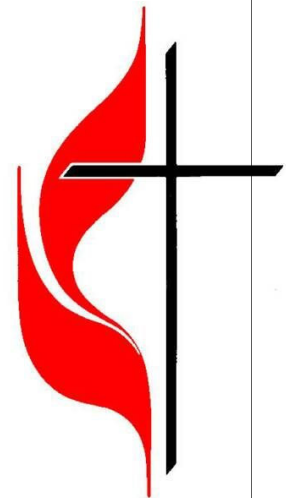
Child Care Reservations Line: 425-443-5897

Volunteer Youth Leaders: Jennifer Wood & Scott Callihan

Sunday Nursery Care provided by: Jennifer Swanson

Janitorial Team: Teresa and Oscar Avalos

Groundskeeper: Craig Miller



All KEYS articles must be submitted by **Monday, February 20th** for the **March** newsletter. The Keys is posted to the website each month. If you would prefer the Keys mailed to your home, please call the church office to arrange for postage.

St. Peter's United Methodist Church
17222 NE 8th Street, Bellevue, WA 98008
Church: 425-747-3210 Fax: 425-747-3789

Website: www.stpetersumc.net—the website calendar is updated each Friday.