

FRIENDS of the CARPENTER

The Carpenter's Tool Box

Volume 7, Issue # 11

November, 2005



The Carpenter's Tool Box is
a monthly publication of

FRIENDS of the
CARPENTER

1600 W. 20th St.

P.O. Box 65358

Vancouver, WA 98665

(360) 750-4752

Board of Directors:

Rev. Duane Sich,

Tom Such,

Marilyn Andrews,

Wayne Pueschel,

Rev. Chris Nolte,

Rev. Mickie Drummond,

Julie Sich, Dean Flory,

Jay Kitchin, Wilf Zilke,

Michele Silvey, Bill

Parsons and Bob Ruby

Inside this issue:

<i>Christmas Concert</i>	3
<i>Tool Show Thanks</i>	4
<i>HUGS Needed</i>	5
<i>Christmas Choir</i>	5
<i>Christmas Giving</i>	5
<i>Activity Calendar</i>	6
<i>Auction Thanks</i>	7
<i>Holiday Shop</i>	7
<i>Open House</i>	8
<i>Mayor Lunch</i>	8

“Blest Be The Tie That Binds”

by Rev. Duane L. Sich (but mostly by Rodger Stevens)

For the past several Fridays, Rodger Stevens has been leading a “Companions in Christ” Bible study at the Friendship Center. Its been a delightful discipline bringing together 8 of us to discuss and pray about personal spiritual formation, community and relationships of accountability. This class adds yet one more level of drawing volunteers and participants together in caring and Christian relationships.

There is a sequence to our relationship building. Generally, we first meet new friends at our “Point of Entry” woodworking events at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church and Share House. These events occur 3 times a month and are open to everyone. We normally have between 30 to 50 participants (homeless persons) and 12 to 20 volunteers from a variety of local faith communities. After the fellowship around the woodwork tables, these events conclude with a simple, but sincere worship service and invitation to become more involved in FOC and our supporting churches.

Each Tuesday at 9:30 am, Rev. Shirley Knight and I alternate leading a scripture devotional focus at

the Friendship Center. (This really doesn’t need to be led only by clergy, so if you’re interested or feel called you too can be a leader.) The friendship connections and faith conversations continue to deepen. Twice a month following the devotional, structured woodwork activities keep us communicating with each other and we take turns in the prayer room having someone talk to God (intercessory prayer) for everyone in the building as well as personal prayer time.

Each Wednesday at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, we invite and encourage our friends to a more structured “Noon Prayers” worship led by the pastor, Chris Nolte. It’s a wonderful witness and welcomes everyone to a closer walk with God and each other. Chris’s music is spectacular and his words are poignantly inspirational and challenging. Twice a month this worship is followed with woodworking, once a month we come back to the Center to assemble and prepare the Newsletter for mailing (like

Continued on page 2

“Blest Be The Tie That Binds” - continued from page 1

the one you're now reading), and once a month we do some sort of a local outing. It's a fun and meaningful time for friendships and faith formation to occur.

And Fridays is the “Companions in Christ” class. Rodger has been leading this class and much of what follows in this article is from his notes. Last week's class began with I Corinthians 12. *“Just as the body is one and has many members, all the members though many, are one body, and so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body – Jews or Greeks, slaves or free – we were all made to drink of one Spirit.”*

God gives us an incredibly valuable gift in one another; we are by nature incomplete without this gift of “the body.” We are “means of grace” to one another – a means by which God comes to us, touches us, and encourages us. I Corinthians 12 tells us that we are and that we have always been intended to be the united members of the one body of Christ. The image of the Body of Christ – our being members of one another – shows that only in relation to one another can we be complete and be who God intends us to be. The African word *ubuntu* means “I

am because we are.” This word acknowledges our dependence and interdependence upon one another. We only exist as individuals because we sustain one another within our tribes, our families, our faith communities, our work units and wherever we gather. The deepest wisdom of our faith is that the very nature of God is community: the Holy Trinity, one God in three Persons.

God did not intend that we travel life's path alone, particularly not the path of Christian discipleship. The Bible affirms the importance of companionship. In the book of Genesis God says, “It is not good for Adam to be alone.” Humans need helpers, companions on our way in order to live faithfully and fully as God's sons and daughters and stewards of creation. Moses had Aaron, David had Jonathan, Ruth and Naomi had each other. In Luke's Gospel (10:1) Jesus sent the apostles out in pairs – not alone. The bottom line: we are integrally connected to one another. Our wholeness and effectiveness depend on connection, relationship, community. This indeed is the central focus of Friends of the Carpenter.

Authentic community is a safe place to share questions, strug-

gles, hopes, joys, fun and faith. Sadly, social life and even life in many churches often only offers superficial community. Many people search from place to place, even church to church, looking for communities of acceptance, truth and grace. For folks (often our new friends) who have lost contact with a constructive, caring community, many wander in a wilderness-like relational desert. What each “member” needs, not only for fulfillment but actually for survival, are freely chosen and effective relationships of accountability. Every one of us needs to cultivate relationships of accountability to make progress on our life journey. John of the Cross once said, “We grow in faith only through the frail instrumentality of one another.” There are many things we cannot do for ourselves.

We learn to respect others and celebrate common ground. Community is often where we meet the person or persons with whom we might have the most difficulty. Community challenges us to learn, to forgive, to make space for personalities and perspectives different from our own. When Jesus comes into our lives, he

Continued on page 4



Announcing A Concert to Benefit
Friends of the Carpenter

CHRISTMAS WITH JIM FISCHER & FRIENDS

Featuring special guest artists
and the Touch of Class Chorus

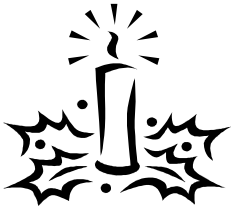
Saturday, December 3



3:00 pm Afternoon & 7:00 pm Evening Performances

**at the Royal Durst Theater - 3101 Main Street
Vancouver, WA 98663**

Please join us for this Musical Christmas Celebration
for the entire family!



**\$12 Adults and
\$10 Sr. Citizen/Student**

H.U.G.S. Accepted too! - (That's Hats, Undies, Gloves & Socks)



Tickets Now Available at:

The Holiday Shop - 904 Main St., Vancouver, WA 98660

Beacock's Music - 1420 SE 163rd Ave. Vancouver, WA 98683

Friends of the Carpenter - 1600 W. 20th St., Vancouver, WA 98660

(360) 750-4752

www.friendsofthecarpenter.org

**SPECIAL SALES INCENTIVE.... Help us sell "20" tickets, and
receive a free Jim Fischer C.D.! Call the office for details!**

A Ministry of Relationships and Hope for the Homeless

Dear Friends, Let us love one another because love comes from God. 1 John 4:7

Thanksgiving for the Blessings of ...

Portland Woodworker and Tool Show Helpers

The Portland Woodworker and Tool Show in October was a BIG success... Dan and Duane are excited about the new Powermatic Planer and Jointer they purchased! **Come by** the Friends of the Carpenter Shop **and see** how the shop is set-up!!! Many people stopped by the booth to talk and get information about the ministry, hopefully we'll get some new woodworkers to add to our list.

We are thankful to the woodworker volunteers who represented Friends of the Carpenter at our booth: Bob Ruby, Otto Bombach, Ray Stephins, Rodger Stevens, Noll Shaver, Bill Parsons, Jack Eaton, Bill Jennings, Warren

Young, Frank Stowe, Larry Williams, Dean Flory, Ron Thorsen, Larry Grueschow, Ron Leffner, Bob Anderson, Doug VanNess, Duane Sich, and Dan Nicholas.



“Blest Be The Tie That Binds” - continued from page 2

always brings his friends with Him – and they are rarely the ones we would have chosen for ourselves. Simon the Zealot had to learn to get along with Matthew the tax collector. When Saul (Paul) experienced Jesus on the road to Damascus, it was Ananias (a most unlikely one) who helped Paul interpret and ultimately do God's Will.

God speaks to all of us most clearly through the person of Jesus; but in the words of a

popular praise song, “You may be the only Jesus some will ever see.” God so often speaks to us and through us in our relationships. It may be something simple or perhaps at times profound. Often, those who speak on behalf of God do their best witness and evangelism when they don't even realize they are doing it.

Thank you Rodger for leading our class; and thanks also to the many others who are building

relationships through the ministry of Friends of the Carpenter. I pray God will be leading our readers to deeper levels of connecting and forming caring communities of faith in your home, your church, with FOC and wherever you have contact with others. There's always a place for you to “fit in” at FOC – someone needs your witness and we all need oneness. Come find your place in this ministry. God Bless You!

Be a Blessing this Christmas by ...

GIVING HUGS !

(That is **H**ats, **U**nderwear, **G**loves and **S**ocks!)

On Saturday, December 17, Friends of the Carpenter would like to add hats, undies, gloves and socks to what is typically shared on the breakfast meal line at SHARE House Shelter. We are asking for donations of socks, hats, gloves and underwear for men, women and children, in a variety of sizes.

Donations will be accepted at the Jim Fischer Concert on Dec. 3rd, The Friendship Center Open House on Dec. 11th or bring your donations to our offices at the Friendship Center, 1600 W. 20th St. in Vancouver, Washington.

Call 750-4752 if you would like to contribute.



Have You Joined the Choir Yet?

A choir is being formed to carol to shut-ins at Christmas time. The rehearsal schedule at St. Paul's Lutheran is on Wednesdays, Nov. 30 (12:45 pm), Dec. 7 (3 pm), Dec. 14 (12:45 pm) and Dec. 21 (12:45 pm). Rehearsals are also held at The Friendship Center on Tuesdays, 11:00 am—Noon. For more information, please call DeVon Chapman at 695-3645.

A Christmas Gift That Keeps Giving

Friends of the Carpenter will send a Holiday Gift Greeting and Certificate in honor of a friend or family member, for a donation of any amount to this ministry. Donations will be used for the benefit of our participant friends who find themselves in special need this Christmas season. The certificate will read as follows:

“Because you are not hungry or thirsty, because you are not naked or sick, because you are not in prison and have many friends with whom to visit, a gift has been given in your honor to the ministry of Friends of the Carpenter.” (Matt. 25:31-46)

Please complete the form below and mail it with your donation to Friends of the Carpenter, PO Box 65358, Vancouver, WA 98665.

DONOR NAME _____

DONOR ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

DONATION AMOUNT LISTED ON CERTIFICATE _____

RECIPIENT NAME _____

RECIPIENT ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

Please send certificate to recipient

Please send certificate to donor

For additional donations/recipients, please duplicate the form!

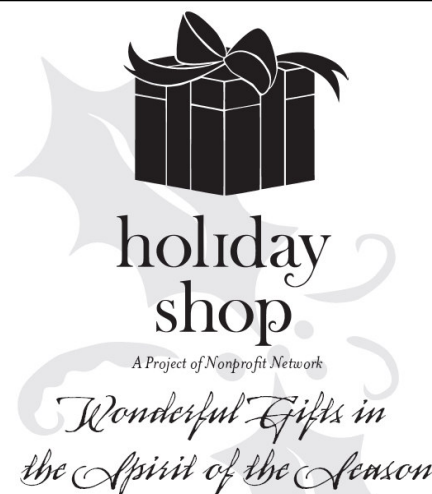
NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2005

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
20 	21 Open Shop 1:30-3:30 pm	22 Serve SHARE Breakfast Friendship Center Bible Study	23 Serve SHARE Breakfast Noon Worship @ St. Paul Lutheran	24 Happy Thanksgiving 	25 Thanksgiving Holiday	26 Only 1 week 'til Christmas Concert!
27	28 Open Shop 1:30-3:30 pm Cook SHARE Dinner and Worship	29 Serve SHARE Breakfast Lunch with Vancouver, USA Mayor	30 Serve SHARE Breakfast Noon Worship & Event @ St. Paul Lutheran	December 1 Serve SHARE Breakfast	2 Share Outreach 8:30—11:00 am Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am	3 Jim Fischer & Friends Concert! 3 & 7 pm shows 
4 	5 Open Shop 1:30-3:30 pm	6 Serve SHARE Breakfast Friendship Center Bible Study	7 Serve SHARE Breakfast Noon Worship & Event @ St. Paul Lutheran	8 Serve SHARE Breakfast	9 Share Outreach 8:30—11:00 am Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am	10
11 Christmas Open House at the Friendship Center 1—4 pm	12 Open Shop 1:30-3:30 pm	13 Serve SHARE Breakfast Friendship Center Activity 9:30—11:30 am	14 Serve SHARE Breakfast Noon Worship @ St. Paul Lutheran	15 Serve SHARE Breakfast	16 Share Outreach 8:30—11:00 am Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am	17 Cook SHARE Brunch & HUGS Party 
18	19 Open Shop 1:30-3:30 pm	20 Serve SHARE Breakfast Friendship Center Activity 9:30—11:30 am	21 Serve SHARE Breakfast Noon Worship @ St. Paul Lutheran	22 Serve SHARE Breakfast	23 Share Outreach 8:30—11:00 am Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am	24 Christmas Blessings to All!
25 	26	27	28	29	30	31 And Have A Happy New Year!
The Friendship Center closed for Christmas Vacation						



3rd Annual Auction a TIMELY Success

THANK YOU to the many attendees and donors who contributed to the success of the 3rd Annual Auction and Dinner, held at the Red Lion Inn at the Quay on October 29th! It's close to \$30,000 that was raised for Friends of the Carpenter... an "all time" high! Both the Silent and Live auction items brought in over \$20,000, and the Love Gift Sweep was an incredible testimony to our donors' generosity and caring for those in need. It was an evening of wonderful fun and fellowship, and a GREAT TIME was had by all! It's not too early to think about next year's event... Stay tuned for an early fall date.... And plan on "Being at the Quay"!



Monday-Saturday 10:00 to 5:30
Opens October 13

Located in Divine Consign, the Holiday Shop sells new, unique holiday gifts and home accessories. Proceeds are distributed to this season's 24 participating nonprofit organizations.

904 Main Street Vancouver, WA 98660 360-695-6443

3rd Annual Auction – It's TIME to thank you!

"There is a time for every purpose and every work..."
Ecc 3:17

Wow, the 3rd Annual Auction was great and we couldn't have done it without our faithful and committed volunteers... **TOGETHER WE DID IT!**

A BIG "THANK YOU" TO:
Ron & Rosan Alvey, Marilyn & Wayne Andrews, Otis Burris, Jim & Bonnie Chambers, DeVon Chapman, Jennifer Dalton, Sandy Dean,

Lloyd DeWerff, Judy Duncan, Jack & Elaine Eaton, Dean Flory & Sue Hamilton, Rose Friend, Clarice Garrison, Debbie Hall, Jan Hampton, Marc Hartquist, Judy Herrman, Bob & Bea Howell, Kathy Howell, Valerie Huggins, Margit Johnson, Karen Kalar, Gayle & Colleen Kimsey, Jay & Sue Kitchin, Sandy Leach, Ira & Lillian Lewis, Dean & Mary Lookingbill, Sharon Marcotte, Mark Matthewson, Dan McCorkle, Bob & Francia McDaniel, Olie Mettler, Don & Marie

Morrison, Sharon Morrison, Mary Mulcrone, John & Arlas Nemnich, Pam Noll, Chris Nolte, Barbi & Zane Papenfuse, Bill Parsons, Wayne Pueschel, Amy Rich, Dave Ricks, BJ Shepard, Michele, Nick & Tahlia Silvey, Todd & Cindy Smith, Ray & Susie Stephins, Rodger Stevens, Terry Swanson, Nadine Swartz, Jim & Detra Swenson, Gordy Wells, Larry Williams, Nelson Williams, Virginia Williams, Warren Young.

**FRIENDS of the
CARPENTER**
1600 W. 20th 98660
P.O. Box 65358
Vancouver, WA 98665
Phone: 360-750-4752



November, 2005
Rev. Duane Sich, Exec. Director
Cell Phone: 360-936-3461
Jan Cox, Program Manager
Cell Phone: 360-936-3421
Barbara Williams, Volunteer Coordinator
Cell Phone: 360-936-3490
Dan Nicholas, Shop Foreman
Cell Phone: 360-771-0761
Julie Sich, Product & Center Activity Coord.
Judy Enders, Financial Secretary
Email: Duane@friendsofthecarpenter.org
WEB PAGE: friendsofthecarpenter.org

Return Service Requested To:
PO Box 65358, Vancouver, WA 98665

NONPROFIT
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT 702
VANCOUVER,
WA

Inviting the Homeless to
C -ommunity
H -ope
R -enewal
I -nspiration
S -elf Esteem
T -ruth
Through Friendship

Dear Friends, Let us love one another because love comes from God.
Whoever loves is a child of God and knows God. 1 John 4:7



**YOU ARE INVITED TO
THE FRIENDSHIP
CENTER HOLIDAY
OPEN HOUSE**

Sunday, December 11, 2005
At the Friendship Center
1600 W. 20th St.
1:00—4:00 pm

- * Come and tour the Friendship Center!
- * Find that special inspirational gift
- * Enjoy an afternoon of refreshments and spirit filled fellowship.

Bring HUGS to share - that's Hats,
Underwear, Gloves and Socks!)

**Buy A Lunch Date With
Mayor Royce Pollard!**

Lunch Will Be Held at
THE FRIENDSHIP CENTER
1600 W. 20th St.,
Vancouver, WA 98660

**On Tuesday,
November 29th, 2005**

**12:00-1:30 pm
For Only \$20.00!
Call 750-4752
for tickets**

