

The Carpenter's Tool Box

Christ calls us to minister with all in need of safe haven by being a caring fellowship
and providing a sense of purpose through interaction with people of faith

VOLUME 12, ISSUE 10 OCTOBER, 2010

What Shows Is What People See ... by Rev. Duane L. Sich

"You are like a light for the whole world to see. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one lights a lamp and puts it under a bowl; instead on a lamp stand, where it give light for everyone to see. In the same way your light must shine before people, so that they will see the good things you do and praise your God in heaven." Matt. 5:14-16

At morning devotions the other day during the discussion one of our friends commented, "I've heard there are two main reasons why people don't become Christians: 1st, they

haven't known one; the 2nd reason is they have!" YIKES! That stings either way: What a shame when people who know and love the Lord don't make Christ known to others; and worse yet, when someone's witness turns others off towards God. Our witness really matters and it does make a difference. Something all of us can count on is that we are being watched. Family members, our friends and virtually everyone who sees us gets an impression and probably forms an opinion. What they see is what forms the image in

their mind. Like a light on a hill, our life "shines-off." We just need to make every effort that it "shows-off" a light that leads people in the way to God, not away from God!

It thrills me when I hear a guest at the Friendship Center say, "I've never seen a place like this," and they mean it in a good way. People who come once or come often frequently say, "It feels great to be here;" they want to come back. For many of our friends, they often do not have good options of places to go.

Continued on page 2

THIS MONTH'S STARS! THANK YOU'S TO...

Our Auction Woodwork Stars:

- ★ Doug Hepburn – English Walnut Hope Chest & Crouchback Drop-leaf Table;
- ★ Gary Ervin – Accent Table & 2 Jewelry Boxes;
- ★ Jim DeShirley – Butcher Block Cart, Jewelry box
- ★ Otto Bombach – Wishing

Well

- ★ Henry Croch – Wooden Jar
- ★ Tom Benner – Maple Table
- ★ Ron Pulliam – Patio Table & Lounge Chair
- ★ Lloyd DeWerff— Several Turned bowls
- ★ Other Nice Woodwork Items: Andy Huck,

Allen Schwindt, Dale

- Vaughn, Robert Newell, Rodger Stevens, Dick Emmel, John Daller
- ★ Planter Boxes made by FOC staff

- ★ And "The Apprentice to the Master Carpenter" – 4 Side Tables



FRIENDS
of the
CARPENTER

A Ministry Of Relationships

The Carpenter's Tool Box
is a monthly publication of
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What Shows Is What People See - continued from page 1

In public parks, or restaurants, the library, and sadly even in churches, they often get “body language” or sometimes actual language asking them to move along. As the weather will soon be getting worse, their choices will become even more limited. At the Friendship Center, everyone is welcome. As modest and dusty as the Center is, it’s dry; it’s warmer than outside and like a well known motel slogan, “The welcome light is always on.”

When I worked at a church, persons who wanted assistance would sometimes ask if there was something they could do instead of just getting charity. Like most churches, we really didn’t have good options. Jobs were not set aside, we didn’t have supervision on hand and having a stranger wan-

dering around the building, even with a vacuum cleaner, wasn’t smart or safe. With children and their teachers (often women) in the building, it was uncomfortable and policy prevented anyone being near their classroom areas. If anything, we’d give them a broom to sweep the sidewalk or a rake to work in the yard. But everyone knew it was a “junk-job” with little value and virtually no trust.

It’s fun at the Friendship Center to see folks working on projects, but at the same time building pride. It’s a bit of a beehive with piles of wood parts all being put together. The camaraderie, and often the comedy builds a community where laughter, fellowship and having fun works like glue putting relationships together. People help each other and

learn from each other. We do have supervisors and folks who “pretty much know” what the finished project is supposed to look like, but it’s amazing how creativity and cleverness enters into the mix. At the end of a session, nobody can really say they made any one piece, yet everyone feels a sense of accomplishment and pride about what we did together. Diversity and creativity also enters into the conversation as people talk about their lives, their journey and their faith. Like a light, people start seeing and sharing stories that gives hope and guides people along their way.

We often sing a praise song entitled, “Surely The Presence”. The lyrics go like this: “Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place, I can feel His mighty power and His grace. I

can hear the brush of angels’ wings; I see glory on each face. Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.” What shows “shines a welcome” and people see a place – their place – in the family of God.

There’s a place at the Friendship Center for anyone reading this newsletter; not only a place, but a need to have you here. In order for the diversity and interactions to occur, it’s crucial that we have volunteers present to greet others and get involved in the activities. You need to be seen so your faith “shines-off!” two hour volunteers shifts are available every weekend: 9:30 to 11:30 am; 11:30 am to 1:30 pm; 1:30 to 3:30 pm Call to come let your light shine for all to see!

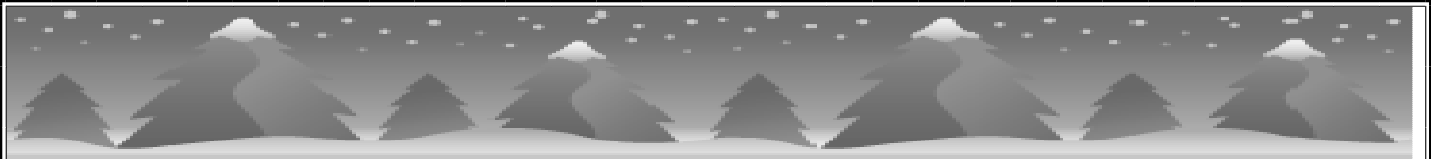


Our New Certified Kitchen is ready!

A Dedication of the New Kitchen space was held on Saturday, September 25th, to recognize the businesses and individuals who helped make it happen. Special cinnamon rolls were provided by Chef Frank Zereta of Kamlu. Thank you to Mike, Ryan, Brandon, Ryan, Gary, Ellen, Ron, Barbara, Gary, Jerry and Dan (pictured right) who were able to attend the dedication.

ALSO: If you have any extra kitchen utensils or gadgets or baking tools, please send them our way. We need place settings, hand towels, dish cloths, cake pans, cookie sheets, measuring spoons and cups, spatulas, pots, pans, and we will probably discover many other needs as we get cooking and baking.





Friends of the Carpenter Presents....

8th Annual Christmas Concert With Jim Fischer and Friends

Featuring

Local Choirs and Special Guest Artists

Saturday, Dec. 4, 2010

3:00 pm and 7:00 pm

at the THE FIRST CHURCH OF GOD

3300 NE 78th St., Vancouver, WA 98665

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



NEW LOCATION!



Tickets NOW Available!

\$15 In Advance for All Ages & \$20 At the Door

Contact Friends of the Carpenter at

(360) 750-4752 for tickets!

1600 W. 20th St., Vancouver, WA 98660

www.friendsofthecarpenter.org



“Please Share This Flyer With A Friend!”

COME JOIN OUR RECOVERY BIBLE CLASS

God has been nudging me for several months about becoming a drug and alcohol counselor. One day in 1983, I said "okay" and I signed up for my first class about chemical dependency. Three years later I became a certified chemical dependency counselor and have loved every minute of my years helping people recover from the disease of addiction.

Then one day, Grant Johnson gave me the NIV Recovery Bible just because he wanted to. The Bible has inserts

from several well known authors in the field of recovery as well as the 12 Steps of AA. I read a few pages and had another nudge from God. This one didn't take so long. I almost immediately said "Grant, let's have a recovery bible study during Sunday School." So, after discussing it with our pastor, we began on March 18, 2007. Then pastor Duane came to our church to talk about Friends of the Carpenter, and there was that nudge from God again. So....

This class is open to

anyone who deals with addiction to alcohol, drugs, tobacco, food—or any addiction trying to control people who suffer from addiction. We meet at the Friendship Center right after praise time on Thursday morning. Our goal is to make changes in our lives to allow us to live according to God's will for us. We do this with the help of God, the Recovery Bible and each other. We have an open door and stress the concept of confidentiality. Join us at any time—there are no obligations.

REMEMBER: God loves us and declares us "Good Enough" and His love is not based on perfect obedience.

I don't really understand God; I don't understand electricity either... but I don't think I'll sit around in the dark until I do..."

Class led by: Joyce Woodward, retired Chemical Dependency Counselor and Grant Johnson, committed recovery advocate.

News From Carrie... Product & Activity Coordinator

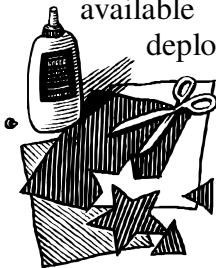
CHECK OUT OUR PRODUCT CATALOG ON OUR WEBSITE!

OR stop on by to view the many NEW items we are producing!

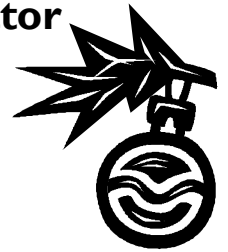
BRING this coupon to the Friendship Center
Buy 1 item at regular price and receive 2nd item of equal or lesser value for 1/2 price!
This is a great way to get a jump on your holiday shopping!
Coupon expires Nov. 30th

Stop by for Monday afternoon arts and crafts or join us for a movie or games on Fun Friday afternoons from 1 -2:30.

Monday, Nov. 15th, 12:30pm—Activity... Make greeting cards to be sent to deployed service persons in our Nation's Armed Forces so they can use the cards to write home. Letters of encouragement will also be available for our deployed service personnel.

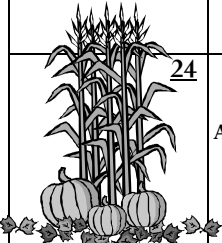

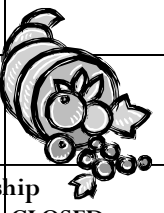


Christmas Boutique - The Center Will be Open Again



Once again, Friends of the Carpenter invites you to come to the Friendship Center (1600 W. 20th St.) at your convenience. Enjoy a cup of coffee or hot cider and a sweet treat, and check out what God is doing through our Ministry. While you're there, shop for Christmas presents for that special someone, family members and friends. The Friends of the Carpenter Christmas Boutique will be set up for your shopping pleasure, **Tuesday, December 8th through Friday, December 18th**. **The Boutique will be open 10:00 am to 2:00 pm** for purchasing FOC products, special Christmas gifts and wooden ornaments. We hope to see you all there!

OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<u>October 17</u>	<u>18</u> Afternoon Activity 1-2:30 pm	<u>19</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Pointman 2 pm	<u>20</u> Noon Worship & EVENT	<u>21</u> Recovery Bible Class 9:30-10:30 am	<u>22</u> Fun Friday Activity 1-2:30 pm	<u>23</u>
 <u>24</u>	<u>25</u> Afternoon Activity 1-2:30 pm	<u>26</u> Devotion & Activity-Pumpkin Carving! 9:30—11:30 am Pointman 2 pm	<u>27</u> Noon Worship & EVENT HALLOWEEN HUGS! 1—2:20 pm	<u>28</u> Recovery Bible Class 9:30-10:30 am	<u>29</u> Fun Friday Activity 1-2:30 pm	<u>30</u> - Show & Tell - Columbia Presbyterian Men's Gathering - SCUMC Mission Group
<u>31</u> Happy Halloween!	<u>November 1</u> Afternoon Activity 1-2:30 pm	<u>2</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Pointman 2 pm	<u>3</u> Noon Worship & EVENT	<u>4</u> Recovery Bible Class 9:30-10:30 am	<u>5</u> Fun Friday Activity 1-2:30 pm	<u>6</u>
<u>7</u>	<u>8</u> Afternoon Activity 1-2:30 pm Board of Director's Meeting	<u>9</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Pointman 2 pm	<u>10</u> Noon Worship & NEWSLETTER	<u>11</u> Recovery Bible Class 9:30-10:30 am Veteran's Day	<u>12</u> Fun Friday Activity 1-2:30 pm <u>Portland Tool Show</u>	<u>13</u> 
<u>14</u> <u>Portland Tool Show</u>	<u>15</u> Afternoon Activity 1-2:30 pm	<u>16</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Pointman 2 pm	<u>17</u> Noon Worship & EVENT	<u>18</u> Recovery Bible Class 9:30-10:30 am	<u>19</u> Fun Friday Activity 1-2:30 pm	<u>20</u>
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H.U.G.S. Needed for Wed. Oct. 27th

(That's Hats, Underwear, Gloves and Socks!)

On Wed. afternoon, Oct. 27th at our woodworking/fellowship event, we are holding a HUGS distribution. Your donations of NEW Hats, Underwear, Gloves, and Socks for Men Women, and Children including Infants and Toddlers would be greatly appreciated. Travel Size hand sanitizer, Kleenex, hand cream, deodorants and chapstick are also very much needed. Please drop your donations off at the **Friendship Center, 1600 W. 20th St., Vancouver** before October 27th. Thank you!!!!





October,
2010

Refused

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please check the box and return it to your mail carrier. We pay the postage.

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Carrie Slayter, Activity Coord.
Jerry Swan, Financial Secretary

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

Awesome Auction Accolades And a Huge Thank You for Our Auction Supporters!



Thank You to all who helped make this years' Oktoberfest Banquet and Auction such a huge success! Special thanks to Renee Darr, Board Member and this year's Event Coordinator. Over 280 persons purchased dinner tickets! More than 75 volunteers worked various shifts beginning at 9:00 am for set up, to clean up ending just after midnight. There were more than 200 auction items donated for bidders to do their best to raise funds for Friends of the Carpenter. Every Board Member was present, well except one who was married on 10-10-10 in New York. (That's a valid absence) The Vancouver Community Concert Band "Oompah Tunebahs" provided festive Oktoberfest music. Gene (and Sherry) Johnson, our auctioneer, came all the way from Plains, MT; and former FOC Volunteer Manager, Tom Iberle (and Kathy) came back from Boise, ID. Tim Gordon returned as our fabulous Master of Ceremonies. Only God knows the numbers of hours of preparation given to make ready all the decorations, floral arrangements, vacation packages, auction baskets, snacks and food for the volunteers, plus the heirloom caliber woodwork items crafted by our volunteer woodworkers!



Volunteers Gayle and Julie prepare baskets for the Auction

Thank You All. The balance sheet is not yet complete but the revenue will be above \$50,000 when all bills are paid. That's Amazing! We give thanks to God and to all who helped make this an Awesome Auction!

