

FRIENDS of the CARPENTER

The Carpenter's Tool Box

Volume 7, Issue # 8

August, 2005

FRIENDS
of the
CARPENTER

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, Jack

Eaton and Bob Ruby

Inside this issue:

Vote C-Tran!	2
Share Outreach Volunteers	3
What FOC Means to Me	3
Calendar of Events	4
3rd Annual Auction	5
Christmas Concert	5
Uptown Festival	6

“Going Topless”

by Rev. Duane L. Sich

Then the disciples came to Jesus and asked him, “Why do you use parables when you talk to the people?” Jesus answered, “The knowledge about the secrets of the Kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them. For the person who has something will be given more so that he will have more than enough; but the person who has nothing will have taken away from him even the little he has. The reason I use parables in talking to them is that they look, but do not see; they listen, but do not hear or understand. As for you, how fortunate you are! Your eyes see and your ears hear. I assure you that many prophets and many of God’s people wanted very much to see what you see, but they could not, and to hear what you hear, but they did not. Matthew 13: 10-13; 16-17

Since my title has probably caused you curiosity, let me tell you about Julie’s and my recent vacation which will explain the title. We drove from Vancouver to Glacier National Park in Montana. We traveled over the magnificent “Going to the Sun” highway. We spent two days at Many Glacier Lodge in the

park and the sights were spectacular. From there we drove north into Canada and stayed in Banff for a couple of days. We drove to the Columbia Ice Fields on the way to Jasper and walked on the Athabasca Glacier. We stopped at nearly every pull-out to just stare and soak in the scenery. We continued our trip driving west through the Canadian Rockies (drove through three Canadian National Parks) to Kamloops. Then we followed the Thompson River to where it joined the Fraser River and drove through the beautiful Fraser River Canyon. Finally we headed south across the U.S./Canada border, through Seattle, around Mt. Rainier and after 2,700 miles – BACK HOME! It was beautiful! The mountains were enormous, mind-boggling, and bigger than you would believe unless you’ve been there! Since it was “vacation season,” we drove it with tens of thousands of other tourists, probably more. We shared the road and all had the same views, but Julie and I drove it “topless”, that is we rented a convertible for our

Continued on page 2

“Going Topless” ... continued from page 1

trip. Even though the same sights were right there for everyone to see, I'm positive Julie and I saw more of them. I'm sure we did, except for, obviously, the few other convertible drivers on the road. Our eyes were full to overflowing.

Now I'm not pushing for convertible driving, though it really was a neat way to see the sights; but in relation to the scripture passage above, I think there's a parallel – or is it a parable? Just like vacationers often miss some of the sights because they travel in a conventional car, I believe many travelers through life miss seeing the secrets of the kingdom of heaven that Jesus spoke of because their view is restricted or dulled by conventional or casual travel; in many cases “life travelers” don't even realize the kingdom of God is in their very midst, right along their journey.

A joy of joining in the Friends of the Carpenter ministry is seeing the “secrets” that Jesus was talking about come into sight right before our eyes! When you read the Bible, it seems clear that Jesus often favored and reinforced the faith of the poor and oppressed. Generally, their desperate situation put them in a perfect position to finally, totally, rely

only upon God ... nothing else was in the way, there was no other option and they believed that nobody but God could help them. And guess what, God Did! What else happened was that they “saw” Jesus as He really was, generally a view and a view-point better than anyone else around them had.

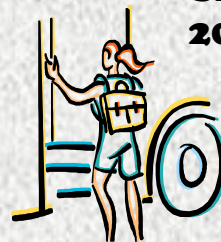
To anyone but a believer, it seems senseless and scary to have this kind of faith, but Jesus wants us to put our security in Him alone. He wants us to “travel topless” and totally trust Him. And when we do, we not only see Him more clearly, but He blesses us even more abundantly and counts on us to share the blessings with others ... blessings that were all around us already but we probably didn't see them.

Again and again, I thank the many who are praying for, supporting and involved in FOC. Obviously, there are many roads that reveal the secrets and glory of God, so always be watching. But I invite more and more of you to draw nearer to this ministry. God's love is being revealed in spectacular, surprising and exciting ways; and God is reviving the lives of the poor and oppressed as well as all who are involved and volunteering in the process! It's a

great journey and the same sights of God's love are there for all to see. So come join us. Our calendar of events and activities is listed on the following pages of this newsletter and the Friendship Center is open 9:00 am to 4:00 pm every weekday! Like seeing mighty mountains and the majesty of creation itself, so the secrets of the kingdom of heaven are on display. God is building up the Body of Christ through love and accomplishing miracles in our midst. Just come by The Center or call to see how you can get involved ... and you don't need a convertible to travel topless with FOC. May you also hear Jesus' words, “As for you, how fortunate you are! Your eyes see and your ears hear.” May God Bless Your Journey!

*** SAVE C-TRAN ***

**VOTE ON
SEPT.
20th—**



**OUR
FRIENDS
DEPEND ON IT!**

Share Outreach Volunteers ... Can You Help?

Share Outreach is a Homeless Outreach Program providing a variety of direct services - showers, clothing and laundry needs, haircut vouchers, transportation assistance, lockers, mailing address, voicemail boxes, phone calls, and case management. The program is located at Share House, the Men's Shelter on 13th & Lincoln. The walk-in hours of operation are Monday - Friday 8:30-11:00 am.

Jeri, the Program Director and Kevin & Katherine, Case Managers are available to help people with the direct services and also assistance accessing shelter and/or housing needs, mental health services, drug

and alcohol services, employment program services, medical and dental services, payee services, DSHS and SSI applications, veteran services. Volunteers assist Jeri, Kevin and Katherine by signing people up for showers and looking for clothing needs in the donation room during the walk-in hours. Friends of the Carpenter provide volunteers for Share Outreach on Friday mornings.

Share Outreach is an outreach program that provides for some of the needs of homeless people. For Friends of the Carpenter volunteers, it is an opportunity to



connect with people to develop and nurture friendships. We are thankful for our faithful, regular volunteers – **Elaine Eaton, Detra Swenson, Julie Sich** and **Barbara Williams**. **Molly Hymas**, a University of Washington college student has also been volunteering during her summer break.

We are looking for more faithful, dedicated volunteers who have a few hours on Friday mornings to give. We would love it if you would commit to one Friday morning a month.

If interested, please call Barb at 750-4752 or 936-3490.

What Friends of the Carpenter Means to Me ... By Zahid Masih

It means Friends who love me. It means people who care. It means Jesus answers prayers. About 10 months ago I was poor, homeless and an alcoholic. Friends of the Carpenter didn't hold that against me. They helped through their prayers, support and most of all—just being there. When I was living in a homeless shelter, I used to come to the Friendship center to use their prayer room. I prayed everyday for Jesus to help me get back on my feet

again, a job, a home. Jesus has answered those prayers plus more. Today I am almost 6 months clean and sober, a good job, a car, money in my pocket and a great home. And most of all I have Jesus in my heart. Without Friends of the Carpenter, I don't know where I would be right now.

Zahid and Duane in front of the Friendship Center



AUGUST & SEPTEMBER 2005

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
August 14 Woodworker BBQ and Show & Tell 	15 Open Shop 1:30-3:30 pm	16 Serve SHARE Breakfast	17 Serve SHARE Breakfast Noon Worship @ St. Paul Lutheran	18 Serve SHARE Breakfast	19 SHARE Outreach Open Shop 9:30-11:30 am	20 Cook SHARE Brunch— No event UPTOWN FESTIVAL
21 UPTOWN FESTIVAL & Car Cruise In Upper Main St.	22 NO Open Shop today	23 Serve SHARE Breakfast	24 Serve SHARE Breakfast Noon Worship @ St. Paul Lutheran	25 Serve SHARE Breakfast 3rd Annual Auction Meeting @ The Quay	26 SHARE Outreach Open Shop 9:30-11:30 am	27 
28 	29 Open Shop 1:30-3:30 pm Cook SHARE Dinner & Worship	30 Serve SHARE Breakfast	31 Serve SHARE Breakfast Noon Worship & Event @ St. Paul Lutheran	September 1 Serve SHARE Breakfast	2 FOC Offices Closed	3
4 	5 Labor Day Holiday	6 Serve SHARE Breakfast	7 Serve SHARE Breakfast Noon Worship & Event @ St. Paul Lutheran	8 Serve SHARE Breakfast	9 SHARE Outreach Open Shop 9:30-11:30 am	10 Woodworkers Show & Tell
11 	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 FOC Board of Director's Meeting	16 SHARE Outreach Open Shop 9:30-11:30 am	17 Cook SHARE Brunch & Event
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 Open Shop 9:30-11:30 am	24 

JUST A FEW INCREDIBLE AUCTION ITEMS ...

- ☞ Autographed College Footballs
- ☞ Overnight & Dinner on Sailboat
- ☞ Glider Plane Ride
- ☞ Jim Fisher 'Live' Performance
- ☞ Long Beach Condo
- ☞ Handcrafted Console Table
- ☞ Jewelry Box
- ☞ Carved Santas on a Christmas Tree
- ☞ 30 inch Scroll Saw Eagle
- ☞ Hickory Entry Table
- ☞ Grandfather Clock
- ☞ Muffins for a Year
- ☞ African Tapestry
- ☞ PSU Basketball Tickets
- ☞ Butcher Block Table
- ☞ Tea Party for Eight
- ☞ \$60 at Yard & Gardenland
- ☞ Castle Bookcase
- ☞ Hope Chest
- ☞ Hand Painted Wood Stools
- ☞ Scenic Plane Ride



**Mark Your Calendars for
the 3rd Annual
CHRISTMAS
WITH
JIM FISCHER
& FRIENDS
CONCERT**

Featuring special guest artists
A Benefit for
Friends of the Carpenter
Saturday, December 3, 2004
Afternoon and Evening Shows
At the Royal Durst Theater
3101 Main St., Vancouver

**3RD ANNUAL
DINNER & AUCTION
OCTOBER 29, 2005**



I WOULD LIKE TO
PURCHASE _____
DINNER TICKETS
(\$35.00 EACH)

I WOULD LIKE TO
PURCHASE A "TABLE FOR
10" FOR DINNER
(\$350.00)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____



"EVERYTHING ON EARTH HAS ITS OWN
TIME AND OWN SEASON." ECC.3:1

PLEASE RETURN TO:
FRIENDS OF THE CARPENTER
PO BOX 65358
VANCOUVER, WA 98665

TICKETS WILL BE MAILED UPON PAYMENT

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



August, 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*

**Friends of the Carpenter at the Uptown
Village Festival—THIS WEEKEND!
Come See Us! August 20 — 21, 2005
On Upper Main St., Vancouver
between McLoughlin and 4th Plain Boulevard
\$1.00 Raffle Tickets are available for fantastic
Uptown Merchant prizes....
Including a \$500 Shopping Spree!
Proceeds Benefit Friends of the Carpenter**