

FRIENDS of the CARPENTER

The Carpenter's Tool Box

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February, 2008



The Carpenter's Tool Box is a monthly publication of
FRIENDS of the CARPENTER
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**Seeking New Board
 Members!
 Interested?
 Give Us A Call!**

Inside this issue:

Honors for Tom	2
Auction—Party Ideas!	2
Calendar of Events	3
9th Annual Rummage Sale	4

“Take Up Your Cross”

By Rev. Duane L. Sich

Jesus said, “If anyone declares publicly that they belong to me, I will do the same for them before my Father in heaven.” Matthew 10:32

Friends of the Carpenter produces what we call “A Testimony Cross.” The cross is made from the salvage lumber we receive, which otherwise was headed for the fireplace or the dump. Ironically, the cross often features a knothole or flaw in the wood, which was the very reason the wood was rejected and discarded. It’s predictable: after the cross is completed and the character of the knot hole is presented in its finished form, people more often choose a knothole cross over one that only has the clear grain. Funny, isn’t it? What once made the wood undesirable and headed for the dump, now after the woodworkers’ craftsmanship, has made it the people’s choice. It was destined to be firewood but though the “Carpenter’s touch,” it is transformed into a testimony of God’s power to SAVE!

The truth is, people are exactly the same. Like the salvaged wood,

people are flawed by sin. Sin, that without Jesus’ touch (the Carpenter from Nazareth,) would literally result in our becoming “firewood” also. Similarly, when you and I receive forgiveness and give thanks for God’s grace, we become living testimony crosses. Testimonies that are beautiful within the Body of Christ and bring blessings to all who behold them.

During this Lenten season Friends of the Carpenter invites anyone to come to the Friendship Center to “Take Up A Testimony Cross.” Come pick out a cross to carry during one week of the Lenten season. The object is, “Don’t put it on the wall; take it on your way.” We suggest you visibly carry the cross along your way – to work, to school, with your friends, to the grocery store, the mall, the movies, a restaurant or wherever your way takes you. As you “carry your cross” watch and wait for reactions and opportunities to share your faith. This may be a stretch for some

Continued on page 2

Take Up Your Cross continued from page 1

and move you out of your comfort zone. But think of it as a simple and sincere way to declare and share your faith. Jesus carried His cross for us. Let's try carrying "a testimony cross" for Him.

If you choose to do this, remember to be gracious and allow God to lead the way. On the one hand, don't use the cross as a crowbar into a conversation; on the other hand, don't cover it up. Mostly, just pray! Pray as you carry the cross; believe in what Jesus did on it for you and for everyone else. Be ready to show your thanks and to tell someone else what it means to you. Don't worry ... just be a witness and see what happens.

Each evening of the week (or longer) that you carry the cross, you are asked to reflect upon the following questions:

- 1) How did you feel carrying "the cross" in plain view?
- 2) What reactions did you notice from those who saw you carrying "the cross?"
- 3) What conversations came as a result of your carrying "the cross?"
- 4) How do you think Jesus felt carrying "the cross?"

And finally, this thought questions: If you were arrested for being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict you?

I hope you come by the center to "Take Up Your Cross!" Oh yes, we'll accept a donation, but mostly ... Just Do It! May God bless us all with the confidence, courage and commitment to be a "living testimony."

Love & Peace,
Duane



Honor Received

Congratulations to (our own)

**T o m
Iberle** who on March 27th (at Holy Rosary Parish



in Edmonds, WA) will be recognized at the annual Mission Day of Catholic Community Services of Western Washington and Archdiocesan Housing Authority. Tom was recommended for the 2007 *Archbishop Raymond G. Hunthausen Humanitarian Award*, for his work with the Society of St. Vincent DePaul, Catholic Community Services, Share House (Board of Directors), Winter Hospitality Overflow (W.H.O. - St. Paul's Volunteer Coordinator) and most recently the Volunteer Coordinator for Friends of the Carpenter! Way to go, Tom!

2008 Auction—start thinking of those ideas for Auction Items

Our next Friends of the Carpenter Auction will be here sooner than we think. We are looking for creative ideas for items or events to auction.



On Saturday, February 9th, 12 women gathered at a donor's home for a Bunco Party. Ten of those women purchased a place at the party last fall at our Auction. We all had a great time, great fun and great food, all thanks to the two donors who organized the party, and hosted the evening.

Are you a good cook or great host? Why not host an Italian Dinner, A Mexican Fiesta, maybe a Pinochle night? Plan it with a friend and share the fun and expense. Get your thinking caps on.... And give us a call with your ideas! Let's Party!



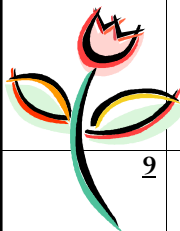
SUNDAY

February 17



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9

16



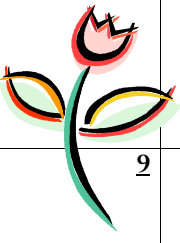





Palm Sunday

Happy Easter! 23



FEBRUARY & MARCH 2008

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
February 17 	18 President's Day Friendship Center Closed	19 Serve SHARE Breakfast Center Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am	20 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am Noon Worship & Church Visits	21 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am	22 Serve SHARE Breakfast Share Outreach Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am Lent Study 12-1	23 1st Presbyterian Youth 30 Hr. Famine @ FOC
24	25 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 1—3:30 pm Cook SHARE Dinner	26 Serve SHARE Breakfast Center Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am	27 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am Noon Worship & Wood Event	28 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am	29 Serve SHARE Breakfast Share Outreach Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am Lent Study 12-1	March 1 Woodworker Show & Tell 
2 	3 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 1—3:30 pm	4 Serve SHARE Breakfast Center Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am	5 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am Noon Worship & Wood Event	6 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am	7 Serve SHARE Breakfast Share Outreach Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am Lent Study 12-1	8
9	10 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 1—3:30 pm	11 Serve SHARE Breakfast Center Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am FOC Board Mtg.	12 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am Noon Worship & Newsletter	13 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am	14 Serve SHARE Breakfast Share Outreach Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am Lent Study 12-1	15 Share Brunch & Event 
16 Palm Sunday 	17 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 1—3:30 pm St. Patrick's Day	18 Serve SHARE Breakfast Center Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am	19 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am Noon Worship & Special Event	20 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am	21 Serve SHARE Breakfast Share Outreach Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am Lent Study 12-1	22
Happy Easter! 23 	24 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 1—3:30 pm Cook SHARE Dinner	25 Serve SHARE Breakfast Center Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am	26 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am Noon Worship & Wood Event	27 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am	28 Serve SHARE Breakfast Share Outreach Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am	29 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Begin Receiving Rummage Sale Items March 31 </div>

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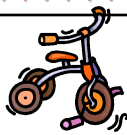
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Inviting the Homeless to
C -ommunity
H -ope
R -enewal
I -nspiration
S -elf Esteem
T -ruth
Through Friendship

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



9th Annual Rummage Sale — June 26, 27, 28

At The Friendship Center 1600 W. 20th St.

Thursday & Friday 9 am - 6 pm, Saturday 9 am - 12 noon



It's not too early to start saving your **Gently Used Treasures**;
Collectibles, Electronics, Appliances, Tools, Furniture, Seasonal items, Household goods,
Books, Clothing, Sporting goods, Artwork and Music.



**We will begin to receive your donations - in useable condition
Beginning Monday, March 31 at the Friendship Center**



**During regular business hours: Monday - Friday, 10 am to 3 pm
Selected Saturdays: April 5, May 3, June 7, 9 am to 12 noon**

Please Give Us a Call! (360) 750-4752 Donations of items are tax-deductible!

A Benefit for Friends of the Carpenter