

FRIENDS OF THE CARPENTER

# The Carpenter's Tool Box

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 7 JULY, 2009

## “Hospitality to Angels”

by Duane L. Sich

*“Keep on loving one another. Remember to welcome strangers in your homes. There were some who did that and welcomed angels without knowing it. Remember those in prison, as though you were in prison with them. Remember those who are suffering, as though you were suffering as they are.”* Hebrews 12:1-3

Hum.m.m.m... Scripture says we are to welcome strangers into our homes ??? That's just not likely these days. We lock up our homes; many pay premium prices for security systems to watch while we're away; frequently police receive 911 calls complaining of unfamiliar or suspicious looking

strangers in the neighborhood. Generally, we don't want anyone in our home whom we don't know personally or if we don't know much about their character. So how can one comply with scripture without compromising safety or current day common sense?

If it's no longer prudent to trust those whom we don't know – and there's justification for this feeling as the nightly news regularly notifies us of dangerous and devastating things that occur and are done to innocent and unrelated persons – then we need to find another way, a better way to do God's work of bidding the stranger to come in. We would like to think

that God's home is always open and a good option for strangers to come in. But again, that has changed. Long gone are the days when church doors are left unlocked day and night, or through the week. Most churches now have main door entry only, and all other doors locked. Some have security systems, scanning for strangers or unauthorized persons on premises. Not so long ago I actually saw a sign posted on church property saying, “Trespassers will be prosecuted.” What? Has it really come to that? But again, the reality of women, children and virtually anyone being at risk of people who haven't completed a background

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

★ Julee Piper, Dorsey Schalk and Dorothy Shepard are this year's Friendship Center gardening angels. They put together everything in the planter boxes that so gracefully and beautifully welcome all who come to the Center.



Center so inviting.

★ Floyd & Betty Ruth Frakes for hosting the

Thanks to all three for sharing their time and talent to help make the

Woodworker BBQ on June 20th.

★ The FOC Safety Committee, led by Gary Ervin, Brent Stahl, Jim Heriford and Dan Nicholas.

★ Lynnette Trotter for joining 1st UMC on Sunday, June 21st.

FRIENDS  
of the  
CARPENTER

A Ministry Of  
Relationships

The Carpenter's Tool Box  
is a monthly publication of  
FRIENDS of the CARPENTER  
P.O. Box 65358  
Vancouver, WA 98665  
(360) 750-4752

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**HOSPITALITY TO ANGELS**

check, or predators who prey (as opposed to pray) upon poor policy and neglected safe guards, its important not only to make safety a priority but to set up policy and systems that try to guarantee it. Sadly, even God's house sometimes seems unwelcoming or membership needed to get in.

Let me go in a different direction. This Scripture also predicts a probability. It says, "*Some welcomed strangers and in doing so actually welcomed angels without knowing it.*" Wow, how neat is that! We at Friends of the Carpenter can confirm this probability. The Friendship Center is like a "people mixing bowl." Our policy and practice is to welcome everyone. Everyone is personally greeted and invited to come in. If it's a first time visitor, we get acquainted, learn why they have come and explain what we do. Returning people pretty much know the routines and become a part of the welcoming process and "plug in" to the activities.

While here, personal conduct, cooperation, good manners and participation in the activities is expected of everyone on the premises. (Anyone under the influence of substance abuse or otherwise inappropriate behavior is asked to depart.) In the activities, just as the woodwork pieces are put together and the rough edges sanded smooth, so relationships are formed and strangers become friends. (We do much more than woodwork at the Center – there's always other jobs and tasks that need tending, but woodwork is always going on.) Whatever is happening and whoever is doing it, soon friendships reveal God – at least God at work if not God in person! Here's where the "angel-part" of the Scripture probability begins to happen. I'll give you an example.

I remember giving one of our friends a ride after an activity. He actually lives in a storage shed on the property of a family who gives him permission. He does favors for them; they

reciprocate with a place for him to camp and call his home. He's pretty private about his living situation, but once the friendship is formed, sharing stories and personal information changes. Without knowing him personally, you'd never guess his home life. He's always clean, I've never heard him complain; he's always polite and appreciative even for tiny gifts of grace. He's quite well educated. On this occasion when I dropped him off, I said – "Sometimes I wonder if you are an angel." I'll never forget his reply – he just smiled at me and asked why I wondered this. My response was, "You just seem better, stronger and more gracious than a human would be." To this day, I still wonder? Whether he's an angel or not, I see God in him. He's no longer a stranger and because of our friendship, I am fearless, blessed and honored to welcome him into my car, into my home and into my life.

Safe living and hospitality

to strangers has gotten complicated in our time. We must be careful, but if we over-restrict our caring, we may unknowingly close the door to angels – even to God. I invite you – I urge you to come to the Friendship Center. You will be in a safe place to welcome strangers, who are merely friends you haven't met; to invite them to come in, to share in God's love, to give and receive gifts of friendship and to reveal God to one another. If you cannot come in person, send your prayers. We appreciate your gifts of support – financial or otherwise – and your words of encouragement. If you meet a stranger but cannot welcome him or her into your home (or maybe even into your church) invite and encourage them to come to the Friendship Center. Assure them they will meet and bring more of God into our presence.

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1****EBay/Craigslist Volunteer Coordinator**

Friends of the Carpenter is seeking a volunteer marketing coordinator to post and complete EBay and/or Craigslist sales. Any given week, FOC has an array of items, products and possibilities of sales gener-

ating revenue for the ministry. The coordinator would photograph, post and monitor items through the completion of the sale. Call the FOC office to apply; ask for Jan or Duane. 750-4752

**Rummage Sale: \$9,000 Raised– Impressive!**Volunteer report

Sorting- 69 shifts filled

199 hours

Sale days June 4, 5, 6

86 shifts filled

277 hours

**TOTALS**

**155 shifts**

**476 hours**

Acknowledgements: Clarice Garrison, Committee Chair,

Hertz for generous donation – building and sale items, Total Merchant Concepts/Jonathan Sauerwein, Concession stand/In-kind donors: First Presbyterian Church – grill, Smokey's Pizza – ice, Coca Cola, Frito-Lay, Butcher Boys, and Franz Bakery.



FRIENDS of the CARPENTER  
"There's No Place Like Home"  
ANNUAL AUCTION & BANQUET  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2009



PO Box 65358  
Vancouver, WA 98665

(360) 750-4752 www.friendsofthecarpenter.org

1600 w. 20<sup>TH</sup> St.  
Vancouver, WA 98660

*Proceeds to Benefit Friends of the Carpenter - A Ministry of Relationships; and Hope for the Homeless*

GIFT DONATION – PROCUREMENT DEADLINE – September 30, 2009

\* Donor Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
(As should be listed in auction catalog)  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

GIFT INFORMATION

\* Gift Item Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \* Donor Estimated Value: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\* Gift Item Description – (please specify color, size, all restrictions, time available, special conditions, expiration dates, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Donor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If this is a gift certificate: ( ) certificate attached ( ) certificate will need to be made

Item needs to be: ( ) picked up ( ) will be delivered by donor ( ) item attached

Will this item be available for display? ( ) yes ( ) no

I am interested in attending the Annual Auction & Banquet (\$50/ticket): ( ) yes ( ) no

I would like to purchase a table for 10 at the Banquet (\$500): ( ) yes ( ) no

I wish to make a financial contribution to assist with the Auction: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make a "Matching Gift" for the Auction Sweep: ( ) yes ( ) no

**\* = Important information we need to process your donation!**

*A copy of this Gift Donation Form will be returned to you for your records*

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION! DONATIONS MAY BE TAX DEDUCTIBLE!**

**Tax ID # 91-1932953**

FOR OFFICE USE:	Section:	Number:	Receipt & Thank You:
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***A WISH LIST of NEEDS***  
*For the Annual Auction & Banquet*

FRIENDS  
of the  
CARPENTER

***"There's No Place Like Home!" Saturday, October 10, 2009***



**RED LION HOTEL**  
VANCOUVER AT THE QUAY

***Great plans are underway for the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Auction & Banquet!***

***Join our Special Donor & Sponsor Club!***

***The Emerald City = \$500 to \$5,000 Level***

***Ruby Slipper = \$150 to \$499 Level***

***Yellow Brick Road = \$10 to \$149 Level***



**Here are some unique ways you can help make this year the most successful one ever!**

- Donate \$300 to match a 'wine' sponsor that will provide wine for our diners!
- Contribute small gifts to be placed into the Table Centerpiece raffle... for example: i-Pod Shuffle, Restaurant Gift Certificates, Candles, Bath & Body Items, Jewelry, Candy, etc.
- Contribute \$20 to cover the costs of 1 table's "House" Centerpiece

**Thank you for your consideration of Sponsorship for the Annual Auction and Banquet!**

We would be happy to answer any additional questions and talk with you further on the benefits of sponsorship. If you wish, please respond to the following comments.

Please call me, I have additional questions:

I can be reached at: \_\_\_\_\_ The best time to reach me is: \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I am ready to Sponsor at the following level:

***The Emerald City = \$500 to \$5,000 Level***

***Ruby Slipper = \$150 to \$499 Level***

***Yellow Brick Road = \$10 to \$149 Level***

***Specifically, I would like to donate:*** \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_



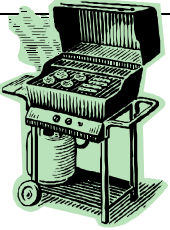
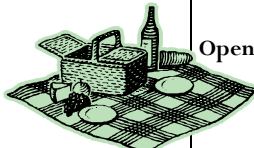
***Please Return Form to: Friends of the Carpenter - 1600 W. 20th St. Vancouver, WA 98660***

***Phone: 360-750-4752***

***www.friendsofthecarpenter.org***

***We Thank You For Your Prayers & Support!***

# JULY & AUGUST 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<u>July 12</u> 	<u>13</u> Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 1-3:30 Board of Director's Mtg.	<u>14</u> Serve SHARE Breakfast Center Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am	<u>15</u> Serve SHARE Breakfast Noon Worship & OUTING	<u>16</u> Serve SHARE Breakfast Auction Meeting	<u>17</u> Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30-11	<u>18</u>
<u>19</u>	<u>20</u> Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 1-3:30	<u>21</u> Serve SHARE Breakfast Center Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am	<u>22</u> Serve SHARE Breakfast Noon Worship & EVENT	<u>23</u> Serve SHARE Breakfast	<u>24</u> Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30-11	<u>25</u> 
<u>26</u>	<u>27</u> Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 1-3:30	<u>28</u> Serve SHARE Breakfast Center Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am	<u>29</u> Serve SHARE Breakfast Noon Worship & EVENT	<u>30</u> Serve SHARE Breakfast	<u>31</u> Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30-11	<u>August 1</u> Woodworker Show & Tell
<u>2</u>	<u>3</u> Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 1-3:30	<u>4</u> Serve SHARE Breakfast Center Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am	<u>5</u> Serve SHARE Breakfast Noon Worship & EVENT	<u>6</u> Serve SHARE Breakfast	<u>7</u> Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30-11	<u>8</u> 
<u>9</u> 	<u>10</u> Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 1-3:30	<u>11</u> Serve SHARE Breakfast Center Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am	<u>12</u> Serve SHARE Breakfast Noon Worship & NEWSLETTER	<u>13</u> Serve SHARE Breakfast	<u>14</u> Band Concert & BBQ 5:30—8 pm	<u>15</u> Woodworking Event At Friendship Center
<b>Youth Mission Service at the Friendship Center</b>						
<u>16</u>	<u>17</u> Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 1-3:30	<u>18</u> Serve SHARE Breakfast Center Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am	<u>19</u> Serve SHARE Breakfast Noon Worship & OUTING	<u>20</u> Serve SHARE Breakfast	<u>21</u> Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30-11	<u>22</u>

## Adult First Aid and CPR Class to be Offered at the Friendship Center Friday, August 28, 2009 10:00 am—3:30 pm

**Standard First Aid:** This course teaches fundamental principles, skills and knowledge of first aid, accident prevention, and Adult CPR. Students are prepared to respond to typical emergencies when medical assistance is delayed. On-the-job scenarios are emphasized. Course time: 5 1/2 hours



**Min. 8 students    Max. 14 students    Cost: \$43.00**  
Scholarship assistance for staff & friends is needed.... If you are able to help... please contact us! Register by calling 750-4752.



July, 2009

Refused

*Return Service Requested*

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WA

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[www.friendsofthecarpenter.org](http://www.friendsofthecarpenter.org)

**Contact Us!**

Rev. Duane Sich, Exec. Director  
Cell Phone: 360-936-3461  
Jan Cox, Program Manager  
Cell Phone: 360-936-3421  
Tom Iberle, Volunteer Coordinator  
Cell Phone: 360-903-3626  
Dan Nicholas, Shop Foreman  
Cell Phone: 360-771-0761  
Julie Sich, Product & Center Activities  
Cell Phone: 360-936-3463  
Bill Jennings, Yard Coordinator  
Cell Phone: 360-771-0172  
Judy Enders, Financial Secretary

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

*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  
Summer C.A.R.E.  
Concert & BBQ  
Friday, August 14, 2009  
at the Friendship Center



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

BBQ begins at 5:30 pm

Band Plays from 6:30—8:00 pm

Featuring the tunes of the Vancouver Community Concert Band

The Vancouver Community Band strives to preserve and promote the foundations and history of  
American Community Band Music from the early 1800s to present.

They are a group of mostly amateur local musicians.

The C.A.R.E. Committee of Friends of the Carpenter invites the Vancouver  
Community to an evening of great music and delicious food.

Admission: \$3 ea. or \$5 per couple

Dinner Available!

Raffle Prizes Too!