

# 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 13, ISSUE 8      AUGUST, 2011

## “What Would You Ask For If You Were King”      By Rev. Duane L. Sich

*At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart towards you; and you have kept for him the great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an under-*

*standing mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this great people?” It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.”*  
1 Kings 3:5-12

Goodness, does our country need leaders who would desire to do and govern as King Solomon did? But that’s not the topic of this article.

Rather, that each of us, like King Solomon would desire an understanding mind to better discern between good and evil; that’s where “the rubber hits the road” for each of us. It would seem as king, King Solomon could have wished and probably politically worked out whatever he wanted. And when (in a dream) God essentially gave him a blank check. Rather than ask anything for himself, he asked for wisdom and discernment in order to do a better job of helping people. Though none of us are kings of a country, still you and I are always in a position to be pulled by the same temptations – to use whatever powers or connections we have to

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



★ The 30 youth & adults from Bozeman, Montana Methodist Church who spent several days painting and helping around the Friendship Center.

- ★ Mike & Gayle Mattson for hosting a BBQ for FOC Board of Directors & Staff
- ★ Rodger Stevens and Gary Ervin for their long hours in helping to restore The Kiggins Theater in preparation of our Bluegrass Concert.

- ★ Bernie Boneski for her crafty teaching of making ‘hats on a stick’.
- ★ Dorothy Morse for teaching bow making and her ribbon donation.
- ★ Our Summer Front Desk Hostesses; Betty, Jen, Diana, Cathy, Janey, Marilyn, Doris, Judy, Carol, Meredith, Kathy, Nikki, & Marlene !



*A Ministry Of Relationships*

The Carpenter's Tool Box is a monthly publication of FRIENDS of the CARPENTER  
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## “WHAT WOULD YOU ASK FOR IF YOU WERE KING” ... CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

push ourselves a little farther ahead, to pursue and politic for what's best for us and to selfishly or arrogantly believe and behave like we deserve it.

But you might say, “Well, King Solomon was already a king. He probably already had it pretty good. He didn't need to ask for anything elaborate.” But listen to this. Several of us were humbled during our devotions last Wednesday when after the meditation about “Perspective Of What Heaven Will Be Like,” one of our friends (who is homeless) shared his perspective. The meditation conveyed that scripture seldom gives us a clear picture of heaven but more often speaks of how heaven will work or what it's worth; like a tiny mustard seed that grows and provides shelter, like a pearl of great prize worth

everything, like yeast that leavens the whole loaf. Scripture doesn't so much “paint a picture” of lavish, luxury but rather welcome, acceptance, love, unity, peace, no tears, no fears, no pain and no separation. The streets of gold we often imagine could just as easily mean that what is treasured on earth is merely used as pavement in heaven. Our friend shared that he feels persons who are homeless are often perceived as unfortunate, living at a lower level or maybe desirous of greater comforts. However he said he personally feels freedom from many of the responsibilities and burdens that come with comforts. He said he appreciates being free to essentially and instantly be able to help people whenever the opportunity or need arose. He shared

how three or four times the previous week, he helped out friends without having to check his calendar, to get time off from work or to feel like he had something more important to do. Wow, isn't that what Jesus said we should do! Isn't that what Jesus would want us to desire and discern about our decisions?

Oh, I'm not ready to “go homeless,” nor do I suggest that's the better way. But there is no doubt our commitment to keep a roof over our head, to keep a job to pay bills and afford a few comforts really conflicts with our freedom. But the example of King Solomon is the better way ... to desire to know and do the right thing; the best way to live and the best thing to desire is discernment and to do our best to serve people. Jesus

said, “Love others as we love our self;” not better, not less. The truth is we are each the king of our own life; we each control all the decisions we will ever make. Sometimes we have limited or difficult choices, but we are king over of all of them. When we let temptation and turning a blind eye to helping others, we sour our soul and shrink the blessings God intends to build up the whole body. Selfishness separates us from people and ultimately separates us from God.

So, what would you ask for if you were a king? It's yours for the asking, but be careful. Really, be care-full. It's the best way, and like for King Solomon, God will bless you for the right choice!

### 2ND CHANCE THRIFT STORE NEWS

Friends of the Carpenter 2<sup>nd</sup> Chance Thrift Store is continuing to grow and have great success. Each month brings new customers, new donors, and new volunteers.

It is surprising just how many volunteers it takes to efficiently run our store. We have 24 cashier shifts each week. Morning shift is from 9:30 to 1:30 and the afternoon is from 1:00 to 5:00. We have an overlap so each new shift can have time to look over the store and see what new merchandise we have and what tasks might need to be

done. There are 11 back room workers. They sort, clean, price and display the merchandise.

If volunteering at our Thrift Store appeals to you, stop in and complete an application; we will contact you when openings occur. This is a fun and rewarding place to volunteer.

This month we have had some special donations. A large donation came from First United Methodist Church. These were items remaining from a special sale. The donation included

a large amount of vintage and antique items. There were many boxes of beautiful glassware.

We are blessed to have so many in the Friends of the Carpenter family support our store. Please join us in our mission with the gift of your time or donation.


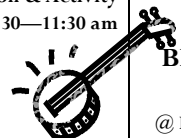


Friends of the Carpenter 2<sup>nd</sup> Chance Thrift Store is located at 3414-A N.E. 52<sup>nd</sup> Street, Vancouver. Our phone number is 360-750-3867. Our hours are 10:00 to 5:00, Monday through Saturday.

### Auction News:

We are starting to plan for Silent Auction Baskets for the October 8th Cabaret! We are looking for items that would fit in theme baskets of Men's Tools, Kitchen, Christmas, Baby, Wine & Chocolate, Candles, etc. or monetary donations to purchase items. If you are interested in helping with the baskets, we would love to hear from you!

Contact people are Ellie-835-2810; Lillian- 571-0966; Julie- 936-3463.

# AUGUST & SEPTEMBER 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<u>August 14</u> 	<u>15</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am	<u>16</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Pointman 2-3:30pm Community Band @ FOC	<u>17</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Afternoon Event 1-3	<u>18</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Recovery Bible 10am Movie 1-3 pm FV Bag Pipe Band rehearses @ FOC	<u>19</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am	<u>20</u>
<u>21</u> Rev. Sich preaching at Cascade Presbyterian	<u>22</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am	<u>23</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Pointman 2-3:30pm Community Band @ FOC	<u>24</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Afternoon Event 1-3 Woodturners meet at FOC	<u>25</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Recovery Bible 10am Movie 1-3 pm FV Bag Pipe Band rehearses @ FOC	<u>26</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am 	<u>27</u> Woodworker Show & Tell <b>BLUE GRASS CONCERT</b> @ Kiggins Theater
<u>28</u>	<u>29</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am	<u>30</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Pointman 2-3:30pm Community Band @ FOC	<u>31</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Afternoon Event 1-3	<b>September 1</b> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Recovery Bible 10am Movie 1-3 pm FV Bag Pipe Band rehearses @ FOC	<u>2</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am	<u>3</u>
<u>4</u> 	<u>5</u> <b>Labor Day Holiday</b> The Friendship Center is Closed	<u>6</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Pointman 2-3:30pm Community Band @ FOC	<u>7</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Afternoon Event 1-3	<u>8</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Recovery Bible 10am Movie 1-3 pm FV Bag Pipe Band rehearses @ FOC	<u>9</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am	<u>10</u> Ridgefield Compassion Connect Peace & Justice Fair 
<u>11</u>	<u>12</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am	<u>13</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Pointman 2-3:30pm Community Band @ FOC	<u>14</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am NEWSLETTER Event 1-3	<u>15</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Recovery Bible 10am Movie 1-3 pm FV Bag Pipe Band rehearses @ FOC	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>
<u>18</u>	<u>19</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am	<u>20</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Pointman 2-3:30pm Community Band @ FOC	<u>21</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Afternoon Event 1-3	<u>22</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Recovery Bible 10am Movie 1-3 pm	<u>23</u> Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am	<u>24</u> Woodworker Show & Tell
Silent Auction Procurements & Dinner Reservations Due						

A Summer Benefit Concert for Friends of the Carpenter

**BUILDING VOICES ... A Night of Bluegrass at the Newly Remodeled Kiggins Theater in Downtown Vancouver (10th & Main)**

Featuring: **Misty Mamas & Fadin' by 9**

**6:30—8:30 pm \$10** Tickets available at the door

OR purchase pre-sale at the Friendship Center, Thrift Store, Beacock's Music or Divine Consign





August, 2011

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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



**9th Annual Dinner & Cabaret Show**

**Sat. October 8th**  
5:30 - Silent Auctions

**Red Lion Inn at the Quay**  
7:00 - Banquet & Cabaret Show

Call the office at 750-4752 to have a special invitation mailed to you, or return the card below to Friends of the Carpenter, PO Box 65358, Vancouver, WA 98665 to make YOUR reservation!

**WE ARE CURRENTLY ACCEPTING ITEMS FOR THE SILENT AUCTIONS**

**If you have an item you would be willing to donate... please get in contact with us, and a procurement form will be sent to you! WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

*HERE'S AN IDEA...  
The Dinner & Cabaret  
Show would make a  
Great Birthday,  
Anniversary, Christmas,  
or Employee  
Thank You Gift!*

**2011 Dinner - "Come To The Cabaret!"**

Yes, I / we would like to attend: Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places @ \$60 per person

**Meal Selection:** # \_\_\_\_\_ Cheddar Cheese Chicken # \_\_\_\_\_ Flat Iron Steak # \_\_\_\_\_ Eggplant Cannelloni

I / we would like to be seated at a table with \_\_\_\_\_.

Sorry, I cannot attend this event, however, I still wish to make a tax-deductible contribution to Friends of the Carpenter in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Check enclosed: Please Make Checks Payable to **Friends of the Carpenter**

Master Card VISA Expiration Date (mm/yy): \_\_\_\_\_ Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail\* \_\_\_\_\_

\*List your e-mail & receive pre-event auction item updates!

PLEASE return this card to Friends of the Carpenter by Oct. 1, 2011.