

FRIENDS of the CARPENTER

The Carpenter's Tool Box

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November, 2006



The Carpenter's Tool Box is a monthly publication of FRIENDS of the CARPENTER
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“Clobbered Into Character”

by Rev. Duane L. Sich

“Now that we have been put right with God through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord, Jesus Christ. He has brought us by faith into this experience of God’s grace, in which we now live. And so we boast of the hope we have of sharing God’s glory! We also boast of our troubles, because we know that trouble produces endurance, endurance produces character, and character produces hope. This hope does not disappoint us, for God has poured out Christ’s love into our hearts by means of the Holy Spirit, who is God’s gift to us.”

Romans 5: 1-5

Bless her heart (and the memory of her), my mother always used to say, “When God closes one door, He opens a new one.” It’s a theological cliché that’s been around for awhile and is often hurled at a hard situation or derailed direction. I know what she meant was to never give up or to always look for a deeper meaning, a hidden purpose or a new plan when something went wrong. I am so grateful for all my mother’s (and father’s) teachings, encouragement and love that largely

shaped my values, character and faith as I grew up. I was and am blessed! But in spite of my mother’s good intentions and teachings, I really don’t concur with that theology now that I’m an adult. Oh yes, I believe God opens doors, but more and more, I am seeing that God doesn’t so much close doors but rather lets us go through most any door we choose ... good doors or bad. And when things don’t work out or worse yet, go wrong, I think God mostly watches and waits to see which way we will turn and if we’ll turn towards God to figure out a new direction. If and when we do, then God stands ready to bless and brightly shine Christ’s light on our new path.

Think about it: if God was in the business of closing doors, why in the world wouldn’t God close the door on illegal drugs or people who choose to use them or sell them to others. If God closed doors, surely cancer and other life threatening diseases would be cured. Kids (and parents)

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“Clobbered Into Character” ... continued from page 1

wouldn't have to worry about pedophiles or pornographic materials or being kidnapped. Dysfunctional or destructive behavior would definitely dissolve? Wouldn't God close the door of drunken drivers, natural disasters or numerous other dumb and devastating decisions that people make or fall victim too. No, sadly those doors seem to be fully open and frequently used. However, there is something true about the cliché.

More often than not, good things do follow after bad things. New ideas are often the result of old ones not working. Strong character is often called out (even quickly) when faced with a crisis. Great losses generally clarify true value and set new priorities. In the midst of and in spite of calamity and chaos, the human spirit is resurrected and recharged by rays of hope, helping hands and friends who care. New doors do open, not because God closed one, but because God cares and God's family cares, stands ready and comes to help carry the load and heal the hurt.

Did you get that – God and God's family cares, stands ready and comes to help! That's US! Many of the wounded wanderers who come

to the Friendship Center and get involved with Friends of the Carpenter are looking for “new doors.” Along with God, we stand ready to meet and welcome anyone to a closer walk with God and to join with others in a fellowship of faith. It's truly amazing to see how God uses tiny gifts of grace, friends in faith and simple hospitality in a warehouse to welcome everyone into a sanctuary of sacred space. Broken lives are being touched and transformed as character and a community in Christ's love continues to grow.

Thank you for your prayers, encouragement and financial support of Friends of the Carpenter. This ministry could not happen without all of us working together. But it would work even better if more of you would find the time and your place to fit in within the fellowship and outreach of our program.

The Friendship Center is open daily, Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 4:30 pm.

Volunteers are requested to serve in two hour segments, but longer or shorter is OK also. We suggest that volunteers serve at least monthly, but more often and even weekly would be wonderful. Jobs are as simple as sitting at a desk or project table or as technical as computer work, special projects or working in the wood shop. We also work of site at Share House and St. Paul's Lutheran Church on a regular schedule.

Within your two hours, you will undoubtedly interact or have a conversation with at least five of our friends. Friends who are wanting and watching for one of those “new doors” to open. Please pray and consider filling one of our volunteer positions. Clear job descriptions and volunteer orientation will be given to guide you in giving gifts of grace in a safe and supervised setting. Perhaps God is opening a new door for you! Call 750-4752 or check out our informative webpage at www.friendsofthecarpenter.org and Come!



A Benefit
the
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Dece

3:00 pm
At the R
Theater,
Pl



Tickets also



Christmas
With
Jim Fischer
and Friends

A Benefit for Friends of
the Carpenter

Saturday,
December 2nd,
2006



3:00 pm and 7:00 pm
At the Royal Durst

Theater, 3101 Main Street - Vancouver, WA 98663

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

Tickets NOW Available!

\$15 Adults and \$12 Sr. Citizen/Student

Contact Friends of the Carpenter at
(360) 750-4752 for tickets!

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

Tickets also available at:

Divine Consign, 904 Main St., Vancouver, WA 98660

Beacock's Music, 1420 SE 163rd Ave., Vancouver, WA 98683





YOU ARE INVITED TO THE FRIENDSHIP CENTER HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, December 10, 2006

At the Friendship Center

1600 W. 20th St.

1:00—4:00 pm



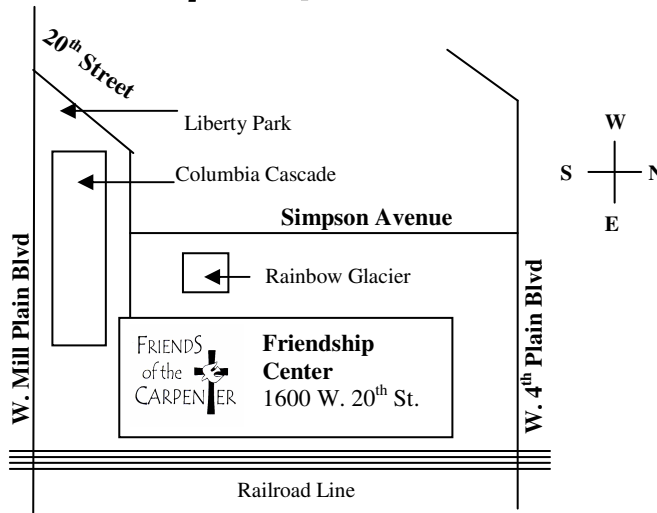
*** Come and tour the Friendship Center!**

*** Find that special inspirational gift**

*** Enjoy an afternoon of refreshments and spirit filled fellowship.**



Bring H.U.G.S. to share - (that's Hats, Underwear, Gloves and Socks!) Our many friends appreciate these gifts throughout the year!



Warren demonstrating lathe at the Nov...

Mission Vo for Spring



A from Uni Chu at Center on Satur as part of the Mission Satur Their project planter boxes daffodils. Petun which were done Gardenland, we the planters. V Salmon Creek Church, and ma who support Carpenter with 'in kind' donati

Woodworkers Welcome & Wanted!



Warren demonstrates making wood pens on a lathe at the November Woodworker Show & Tell

We're ready and waiting for 2 to 5 woodworkers in the FOC shop each weekday: 1:30 to 3:30 pm, Monday & Tuesday afternoons, and 9:30 to 11:30 am Wednesday, Thursday & Friday mornings. Dan, our shop foreman, has projects and wood-jigs ready to go. Along with all the volunteers, friends and staff, we begin each day with a Morning Prayer Circle in the front office at 9:30 am. Then we divide into groups for different activities throughout the warehouse: woodwork assembly in the product room, tool operation in the shop and office work. It's fun, friendships grow and God's love binds us together and blesses everyone. Volunteers and friends repeatedly say, "The Friendship Center is a great place to be."

Notice to Woodworkers: No Woodworker "Show & Tell" on Saturday, December 2nd due to the Jim Fischer & Friends Christmas Concert ... Come to the concert!

Mission Volunteers from Salmon Creek Methodist Plant Boxes for Spring Flowers



A group of youth from Salmon Creek United Methodist Church volunteered at The Friendship Center on Saturday, October 28th as part of their church wide Mission Saturday experience. Their project was to plant 7 planter boxes with tulips and daffodils. Petunias and grasses, which were donated from Yard & Gardenland, were also included in the planters. We are grateful to Salmon Creek United Methodist Church, and many other churches, who support Friends of the Carpenter with both financial and 'in kind' donations!



NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2006

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
November 19 	20 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 1:30—3:30 pm	21 Serve SHARE Breakfast Center Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Open Shop 1:30—3:30 pm	22 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am Noon Worship @ St. Paul Lutheran	23 Happy Thanksgiving 	24 Thanksgiving Holiday	25 Christmas Concert in 1 Week! 
26	27 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 1:30—3:30 pm SHARE Dinner and Worship	28 Serve SHARE Breakfast Center Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Open Shop 1:30—3:30 pm	29 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am Noon Worship and EVENT @ St. Paul	30 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am	December 1 Serve SHARE Breakfast Share Outreach 8:30—11:00 am Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am	2 CHRISTMAS WITH JIM FISCHER & FRIENDS CONCERT 
3 	4 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 1:30—3:30 pm	5 Serve SHARE Breakfast Center Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Open Shop 1:30—3:30 pm	6 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am Noon Worship and EVENT @ St. Paul	7 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am	8 Serve SHARE Breakfast Share Outreach 8:30—11:00 am Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am	9 
10 FRIENDSHIP CENTER HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE 1:00 - 4:00 PM	11 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 1:30—3:30 pm	12 Serve SHARE Breakfast Center Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Open Shop 1:30—3:30 pm	13 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am Noon Worship @ St. Paul & Newsletter	14 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am	15 Serve SHARE Breakfast Share Outreach 8:30—11:00 am Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am	16 SHARE Brunch & HUGS CHRISTMAS PARTY EVENT
17 	18 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 1:30—3:30 pm	19 Serve SHARE Breakfast Center Devotion & Activity 9:30—11:30 am Open Shop 1:30—3:30 pm	20 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am Noon Worship @ St. Paul Lutheran	21 Serve SHARE Breakfast Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am	22 Serve SHARE Breakfast Share Outreach 8:30—11:00 am Open Shop 9:30—11:30 am	23 
24 	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS! FRIENDSHIP CENTER CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS VACATION and will re-open on Tuesday, January 2, 2007!	26	27	28	29	30 Many Blessings for a wonderful 2007!

GIVING

On Saturday, Friends of the like to add hats and socks to v shared on the line at SHARE We are asking socks, hats, gloves wear for men children, in a v Donations will the Jim Fisch



because you in yo

DONOR NAME

DONOR ADDRESS

CITY _____

DONATION AMOUNT

RECIPIENT NAME

RECIPIENT ADDRESS

CITY _____

Please send

GIVING HUGS ! (That is Hats, Underwear, Gloves and Socks!)

On Saturday, December 16, Friends of the Carpenter would like to add hats, undies, gloves and socks to what is typically shared on the breakfast meal line at SHARE House Shelter. We are asking for donations of socks, hats, gloves and underwear for men, women and children, in a variety of sizes.

Donations will be accepted at the Jim Fischer Concert on

Dec. 2nd , The Friendship Center Open House on Dec. 10th or bring your donations to our offices at the Friendship Center, 1600 W. 20th St. in Vancouver, Washington.

Call 750-4752 if you would like to contribute. Thank you!!!!



A Christmas Gift That Keeps Giving!

Friends of the Carpenter will send a Holiday Gift Greeting and Certificate in honor of a friend or family member, for a donation of any amount to this ministry. Donations will be used for the benefit of our participant friends who find themselves in special need this Christmas season. The certificate will read as follows:

“Because you are not hungry or thirsty, because you are not naked or sick, because you are not in prison and have many friends with whom to visit, a gift has been given in your honor to the ministry of Friends of the Carpenter.” (Matt. 25:31-46)

Please complete the form below and mail it with your donation to:
Friends of the Carpenter, PO Box 65358, Vancouver, WA 98665.

DONOR NAME _____

DONOR ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

DONATION AMOUNT LISTED ON CERTIFICATE \$ _____

RECIPIENT NAME _____

RECIPIENT ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

- Please send certificate to recipient Please send certificate to donor

For additional donations/recipients, please duplicate this form!

**FRIENDS of the
CARPENTER**
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Vancouver, WA 98665 November, 2006
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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

FRIENDS
of the
CARPENTER



P.O. Box 65358
Vancouver, WA 98665

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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*

Special Thanks for Special Gifts

At this time of Thanksgiving, we are especially appreciative for those businesses and individuals who give so much of themselves in so many ways to the ministry and mission of Friends of the Carpenter.

Yard & Garden Land—Soil and plants for planter boxes

Royal Dutch Gardens—Tulip bulbs

Shurway Building Supply—Lumber for special projects

The Red Lion Inn at the Quay, Quality Inn Hotel, and Phoenix Inn—For help with emergency shelter, as well as donations of furniture and bedding replaced during hotel remodeling

Freeman Cochran, Greg Wabs and America Tire, Bob Paintland, Shurway, Paul & Bruce—For renovation of a tandem wheel equipment hauler... NOW FOR SALE!

Marc Hartquist—An Angel who keeps our technology (computers & phones) up and running!

Jay Kitchin—For his help in heating and lighting issues

Todd Kapral—For constructing 8 planter boxes for Garden Partners at the St. Francis Mediation Garden

Bob Ruby—Table for St. John Evangelist Roman Catholic Church.



In All things, Give Thanks!