

The Northwest News Quarterly

...a publication of Northwest Baptist Church

March 2008

Northwest Baptist Church

3545 Northwest Avenue—Bellingham, WA 98225
Office Hours: Monday—Thursday, 9:00 am—2:00 pm
360.733.3620 Fax: 360.733.3651 Web: www.nwbcw.org
Worship Leader Nate Cornelsen, ncornelsen@comcast.net
Bookkeeper Diane Bergquist, ultimatpoke.com@hotmail.com
Office Coordinator Sue Berglund (ext. 100), sbnwbc@telebyte.net

Two Styles of Sunday Worship

9:30 am—Contemporary —worship band, contemporary songs.
11 am—Classic—vocalists, orchestra, piano, pipe organ, traditional hymns/choruses



Senior Pastor

Ryan Jensema (ext. 102)
ryan.jensema@gmail.com

Hope

What a great stretch of weather we have had! Didn't it come at the perfect time? For me it was the promise of summer that made it so wonderful; the hope that the rain will not last. What a great reminder that God has put into creation; hope. As we come into the Easter season we have that same hope. Just as Jesus rose from the dead, so we also have hope of our own resurrection. This life of struggle will not last. The dark cloud of sin will be lifted. We cling to that hope to carry us through our time now. "This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a hope both sure and steadfast..." Hebrews 6:19a

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...senior pastor page continued



Building on the Cornerstone

What a great combined Sunday we had on February 10th! It was so wonderful to see our church family sitting together, laughing together, and worshipping together. It was amazing to hear how loud and enthusiastically we sang praises to Jesus together. Thank you for coming that day and making it so great. It is exciting to dream of our future together as we build on this corner for Jesus Christ. Thank you for your willingness to invite, belong, serve, and give to the future mission of our church.



Man Food:

Coffee, food, and MAN FOOD. Every Wednesday morning a group of men meet at the Grace Café at 6:00 am to feed on MAN FOOD, God's word. We have just wrapped up our study in 1 John and will be choosing our next study. Every man is invited to come, please drop in and feast with us.

Associate Pastor Search

The first step has been completed. We added an associate pastor position to our church at the annual meeting held on January 28th. Now the elders have the task of finding that person to present to the congregation for approval. The position has been posted with the Columbia Baptist Conference, Trinity Western University, and on the Inter Cristo Website. The position will remain open for applicants until March 31st. Currently we are receiving resumes and checking candidates' references. Once the top candidates have been selected the elders will begin interviewing and searching for the one that God has for our church. The final step will be a congregational vote following a candidating weekend. My request to you all is to be praying. Will you pray daily that God would bring us the right man, and that we would be open and accepting of who God brings? Pray for God's wisdom and guidance for me, the elders, and our church. I am very much looking forward to this person joining our pastoral staff and sharing the load with me.

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High School

High School Lead Greg Clifford (ext 104)
greg_clifford@yahoo.com

Every Sunday

Come to the Youth Room at 11:00 am each week for a time of study, fellowship, and fun with other teens.

Every Wednesday

“Hang Time” meets at 7:00 pm for great lessons and lots of games in the Youth Room. Bring your pals!

Winter Camp Report

We had “Full Circle” January 11-13. It was a great time, but also a sad time. Caleb Visser was wonderful in his teachings again. The last night was very emotional as we said goodbye to George III. He gave a wonderful lesson, then we had a great prayer time for him on Saturday night. Remember to keep him in your prayers as he starts in his new calling.



Summer Camp Info

Summer is almost here and that means, “No Name Summer Camp”. This year it will be at Ocean Shores, WA, July 19—24. We are excited to go back to the beach. Also, this year we have dorms so if it does rain we will have a dry area to go to.

Just a heads-up to parents: the cost of camp is going to be a little higher this year. We are planning some fundraisers to try to bring the cost down. So please encourage your student to participate in this great adventure.

New Leadership

We have made a smooth transition into the new leadership and I am excited for God to lead me and the group into and through the summer. God bless you all and please keep us in your prayers.



Middle School

Middle School Lead Steve Wilson
swilson@bham.wednet.edu

Every Sunday

We have taken over the garage!!! Meet there at 11:00 am each week for a time of fun, fellowship, and learning.

Every Thursday

“Posse” meets at 7:00 pm for cool lessons and tons of great games in the Youth Room. Come early and get in some quality Sprout Ball time! Bring your friends with you!

February Fun Day Report

Our February Fun Day was a huge success. Breakfast at McDonald’s, Ice Skating, Big Screen Movie, Chuck E. Cheese, and Krispy Crème Doughnuts all in one day—WOW!! Rumor has it that the most fun was the loud singing in the church bus—something about Peanut Butter... Don’t miss our next activity, which is...

...An Overnighter!

March 14—15. Boys will be sleeping at the church, girls at the Guthridge house. Girls need to meet at the church at 5:00 pm and be picked up by 10:00 am Saturday morning back at the church. Boys need to meet at the church at 6:00 pm and be picked up at 9:00 am. Bring a sleeping bag, pillow, and \$5.00 (to cover dinner, breakfast, and snacks). We’re going to have a great time—don’t miss out!



Summer Camp Info

“Splash” camp will be at Daroga State Park in Eastern WA, August 24-28. Daroga State Park is a 90-acre campground with 1.5 miles of Columbia River shoreline on the elevated edge of the desert “scablands”. The park

features camping activities and water sport access in a unique and beautiful outdoor environment. Registration forms will be ready soon.



Discipleship/Education

DE Coordinator/DE Deacon Maggie Short (ext. 106)
maggieshort@hotmail.com or deoffice@gmail.com

Spring is upon us and Easter is approaching quickly. We are looking forward to the celebration of the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Joyfully we serve Him as we work to disciple and educate those who want to learn more about Him.

Just as the crocuses are popping up, the ministries of the DE Commission have been gaining momentum. The Adult Sunday School classes are doing well; our gratitude to the teachers for faithfully providing the Word each Sunday. If you are not involved in a class yet, please consider joining. It is never too late to join, never too late to serve.

9:30 AM

Faith--Marlies Lange (206)
Maranatha--John Gaskill (205)

11:00 AM

Koinonia--Allen Leaf (202)
Young Adults--Melody Clifford (204)
Families of Faith--John Zylstra (205)
A Study in Romans--Patrick Geracie (206)

Also, the High School and Middle School Sunday School classes are busy with fun, fellowship, and learning. Our two new leaders, Greg Clifford and Steve Wilson are providing an impressive variety of opportunities for our youth. Each of these two men are dedicated to bringing young people to the Lord Jesus, no matter the cost in energy and time.

The Elementary students (Grades K-5) are preparing for a presentation on Palm Sunday during both services. The team of teachers is devoted to providing weekly Bible lessons and activities, using the Children Desiring God curriculum. This year's study is called Jesus, What a Savior. We currently have 15 children who come regularly. Thank you to all the parents/grandparents who are willingly partnering with us to raise up their children in the admonition of the Lord. We love your children!

Our Pre-School students (Infant - Pre-Kindergarten) are in loving hands every Sunday morning. The teachers are currently planning and purchasing lessons and supplies to increase the effectiveness of reaching children for Jesus. We are looking forward to beginning the Children Desiring God curriculum for the pre-K's in the Fall.

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Get'n To Know You

Featuring Alice Wiggins

by Laurie Gill



Alice Wiggins is 91 years old but you would never know it! When I met with Alice at her home I noticed a lap top computer on the table. She informed me she had been taking a class to become more familiar with the computer and use of the mouse. Wow! I thought I should be in such a class with my limited computer skills. Instantly I was amazed with her active spirit and her desire to learn. But a computer class isn't all Alice

Wiggins is involved in at age 91. You had better hold on because I'm not sure WE can keep up with HER! Four times a week she heads over to the senior center for weight lifting, Mondays and Fridays she visits nursing homes, and once a month she meets with a birthday group. Alice is also involved with the Prime Timers, a church social group, and frequently gets together with friends for lunch.

As you can tell Alice is very active and has always been an active gal. She was born October 8, 1916 in Loomis, WA. She was the youngest of four children. Her dad was a cattle rancher on Palmer Lake. When she was two years old her family moved to Orville, WA. Her dad sold the ranch and went to work for the railroad. However, when Alice was about five her dad had a bad accident and fell off a railroad car and was partially paralyzed. He was no longer able to function and care for himself much less hold down a job. So the family moved to Wenatchee so Alice's mother could go to work at an apple packing house to support the family.

While living in Wenatchee Alice's parents went to a revival. During the revival her father was prayed for. From then on he was able to care for himself, cook for the family and manage the home while her mother worked. He was not able to work again but he was no longer paralyzed. That miracle must have been wonderful to experience.

Alice's grandfather owned an apartment complex at Harris and 15th in Bellingham. He asked Alice's parents to manage the apartment. They agreed to manage the complex and moved into one of the units. Alice was about 9 years old at that time and attended Larrabee Elementary School.

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Alice Wiggins continued...

Her parents didn't sit still very long and took several jobs while Alice grew up in Bellingham. They accepted cooking jobs at Shuksan Inn at Mt. Baker and cooked there until it burned down. Then they moved to a home near WWU and rented rooms to students. Alice's mother also worked for Puget Power and as a cook at Wesley Methodist College in Seattle.

Alice herself has always worked. In fact, at age 12 she had a job watching a 13-month and a 2-year old at Point Roberts (she lived with the family for the summer). In High School Alice worked after school and every summer by taking care of kids and babysitting. She did this to help with the family finances. She paid for her own clothes as well as other expenses. She remembers the family made out all right and actually ate well while living on \$25/month.

In June of 1935 Alice graduated from Whatcom High School. (Where Whatcom Middle School is today.) That same June Alice married Earl Smith. She had met him at a roller skating rink in Bellingham. They rented a new home on St. Paul Street right after getting married for \$15/month. Imagine that!

Earl was a laborer for contractors and eventually became a full-time carpenter for contractors. He also became the Superintendent of Wright Engineering & Hoard Engineering who constructed several buildings for WWU.

In 1940 Earl and Alice adopted a 14-month old boy named James (Jim) W. Smith. Alice was able to stay home to raise Jim and said he was a very easy child. When Jim went to school Alice started to work again. She began by working banquets at the Bellingham Hotel, which today is known as Bellingham Tower. She loved the work and this began a long career of waitressing.

One day Alice came home from work to find Earl dead on the bathroom floor. He had died suddenly and to this day she suspects it was a heart attack. It was March 1961. They had been married 26 years.

Alice decided she need to make a financial move to prepare for retirement since she did not have any retirement through work as a waitress. She decided to sell her home and build one on a lot on Cottonwood. Her plan was to rent the home to college students. She would use the income from the rental for retirement. So she built a home and while living there one day her neighbor called her and asked if she wanted to buy her home for \$6,000. Alice thought it would be a good financial move to buy the neighboring home so she borrowed money from her sister, bought the home and rented it.

Alice Wiggins continued...

Eventually Alice and a girlfriend tore the house down and had a contractor build a duplex on the lot. Alice moved into the duplex and sold her home next door. By this time the Bellingham Hotel had closed and she now worked at the Leopold in the morning and the Yacht Club in the evening. This was also about the time she met Wayne Wiggins.

Alice had a friend named Grace Osier who was playing Pinochle with friends. Wayne happened to be there too. Alice and Grace were going golfing and Wayne suggested if the gals needed a few pointers he could come along, so he did. Wayne was retired and wanted to live in California during the winter. Alice was not interested in retiring from work nor was she interested in wintering in California so Alice said she tried to get rid of Wayne and suggest he date others. I guess he didn't like that idea and in 1973 they were married.

Alice did retire from waitressing and spent 13 winters in Hemet, California, near Palm Springs. She and Wayne golfed a great deal while in California. Alice said she actually loved being outside. Once on the way home from golfing Wayne saw some motorcycles for sale inside a yard. Right then and there he said he was going home with them. From then on Alice and Wayne had a daily morning motorcycle rides while in California before their round of golf. When the two of them were home in Bellingham they spent a lot of time working on their home. Unfortunately Wayne passed away in 1994.

Alice said the best thing about marrying Wayne was that he had six kids from a previous marriage, five girls and one boy, and now they were part of Alice's family. You may know two of them Emily Hughes and Pat Neuroth. Since Emily and Patty are local Alice sees them often and has even taken aerobics classes at the YMCA with and walked the mall for exercise with Patty.

Alice began coming to Northwest Baptist Church when she and Wayne got married because he was a deacon at the church. So Alice has been coming to NWBC since the 1970's!

Her son Jim continues to teach Special Education at Mt. Baker High School.



Alice's favorite Bible verse is Proverbs 3:6: "In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make your paths straight".

Special Study on Isaiah 53—"The Prophetic Chapter of the Suffering Servant". Easter Sunday, 11:00 am, Room 202. All are invited.

AWANA continues to grow. We are so grateful to Julia Paxton for her fine job of commanding the AWANA program, and for her successor, Ryan Short. The amount of Scripture-memorizing and Bible-learning is obvious when one strolls through the halls during "book time." It is definitely a foundation-setting time.

And, yes, it is even time to be preparing for another round of Family Fun Nights. Kellie is again planning for this church-wide event. Be watching for more info about this outreach. There are some new ideas and a few changes which we believe will bring even more people into the Kingdom of God.

One of the most exciting events to come is the "Christian Educators Conference" on March 7-8 in Redmond, Washington. Several of us are registered to attend. Our hope is to learn how to increase our effectiveness for the mission of NWBC as we minister to learners of all ages. We know all too well that we are not capable of doing the Lord's work unless we are abiding in Him and depending on Him to direct our efforts. At the conference we will be able to glean from the experts who will pass on the knowledge they have received from Him.

Thank you all for the support and encouragement and ideas you have been providing. We love serving the Lord by serving you and those who do not know Him yet. Our challenge is to follow His leading, doing only His work in His time and His way.
Together in Christ, —Maggie Short



2008 Can Be Great!

a poem written by Kenneth Hamilton

Do you know what time it is? Well, 2007 is almost history
The days and years are hurrying by—Yes, time truly is a mystery

Each minute, hour, day or week—Each month, and yes, each year
Every unit of time is a gift from God—That should be very clear

God's love never falters for He so loved the world
He sent His Son to save us, His banner of love unfurled

So keep your candles burning brightly—God's children must light the way
For all who have accepted Him are the children of the day

Yes, Jesus is coming back and though we know not the date
But it could surely happen in the year 2008!



Haul Out That Treadmill

Not literally, but think with me for a moment. Many times our walk with Jesus is reduced to church attendance and the avoidance of bad behavior. That is not what Jesus called us to be. Jesus has called us to be disciples, his followers, basically to be little Jesus'. Certainly church attendance is part of the process of discipleship, but it is not the sum total. In order to grow and develop in Christ, we need to train. Just like we get on the treadmill to train our bodies for health, we need to train our bodies in discipleship. We need to

practice spiritual disciplines that will make our faith healthy. My challenge is for you to take that as a personal goal. To use training tools like personal bible reading, prayer, scripture memory, solitude, fasting, being generous, and frugality to further the process of transformation from the life of sin to the life of Christ. The goal is not to train simply to train; the goal is to train so that we become more like Him. Will you join with me? Will you not remain satisfied with a faith of attendance and agreement? Will you push yourself towards transformation? Will you encourage others along the way?

May God bless you all. Thank you for letting me be your pastor and thank you for being such a wonderful church family.



He is Risen!

And he said to them,
"Do not be amazed; you are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who has been crucified. He has risen; He is not here; behold, here is the place where they laid Him."

Mark 16:6