

SANDPOINTER

February 20, 2008

Sand Point Community United Methodist Church
4710 NE 70th St., Seattle, WA 98115-6148
206-523-3040 www.sandpointumc.org
Patricia Simpson, Pastor



Movie Night
Saturday, February 23
7:00 p.m., Perry Hall



For Black History Month, we have chosen the film "Places in the Heart" starring Sally Field. It is set in the South during the depression, and tells the story of a widow who befriends a black man. Together they grow cotton and prosper, which doesn't set well with community leaders. Even if you have seen this movie, come for the discussion afterwards to talk about prejudice.

If you wish to bring a film for your children, let the church office know, and we will arrange for someone to watch it with them downstairs. If you have questions call Berta Cohen at 206-523-9342 or Lora Lee Brown at 253-941-5180.



Church Conference
Monday, March 10th
7:00 p.m.
In the Sanctuary

This special meeting will be to decide whether to host Tent city in July and August and to discuss other mission outreach options. All members present may vote.
Please call the church office if you would like a ride.
523-3040

Calendar

Regular Weekly Events

Sunday	10:00 a.m. - Morning Worship Service - Children's Choir and Sunday School 11:15 a.m. - Fellowship Hour, Perry Hall 5:00-7:00 p.m. - Youth Group, Wallingford UMC
Tuesday	10:00 a.m. - Women's Bible Study, Fireside Room 7:30 p.m. - AA, Lehmann Hall 7:30 p.m. - Alanon, Choir Room
Wednesday	7:00 p.m. - Bell Choir, Choir Room 7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir, Sanctuary
Friday	6:00 p.m. - AA, Fireside Room 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. - Youth Friday Night Hangout
Saturday	7:30 p.m. - Alanon, Fireside Room

Upcoming Events

Thursday, February 21st	9:00 a.m. - Men's Bible Study, Fireside Room
Saturday, February 23rd	Junior High Retreat 7:00 p.m. - Movie Night, Perry Hall
Sunday, February 24th	Junior High Retreat 11:15 a.m. - Enrichment Hour, Fireside Room
Tuesday, March 4th	7:00 p.m., Trustees, Fireside Room
Wednesday, March 5th	8:30 a.m. - Probus, Perry Hall
Thursday, March 6th	9:00 a.m. - Men's Bible Study, Fireside Room
Monday, March 10th	7:00 p.m. - Church Conference, Sanctuary
Tuesday, March 11th	7:00 p.m. - Missions, Fireside Room
Wednesday, March 12th	3:00 p.m. - Harmony Circle Set-up, Fireside Room 6:00 p.m. - Soup Night
Thursday, March 13th	12:00 noon - Harmony Circle, Fireside Room

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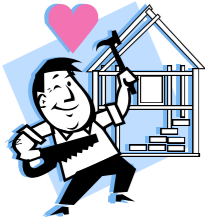
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Thanks to Sand Point's Dedicated Volunteers

Many thanks to Andy Anderson, Roland Pray and Vern Smith who installed the new heater in the Fireside room. The 45 year old heater finally gave out. Now we can be toasty warm for the next 45 years.

Also, Roland Pray installed new fluorescent lights in the center offices. Please come by and check them out.

Sand Point Church is fortunate to have many dedicated and talented people in the congregation.

Thanks for your Generosity

With the help of the United Methodist Women who gave \$230 and others who contributed on their own, we were able to buy \$400 worth of chicken, veggies, fruit, Valentine cakes and flowers to feed the souls and bodies of 65 homeless women at the Church of Mary Magdalene. Sheri and Joanna Vahey, Joyce Hoffer, and Carol Blainey helped prepare the food. Jerrie Fliflet, Pam Gates, Karen Smith, Jeanne Smith, and Pat Simpson carried and served the food on Saturday. Thanks to everyone!!! Berta Cohen

"Looking for Jesus Again?"

"One Contemporary Look at the Person and Image That is the Heart of the Christian Faith"

Tony Russo will lead our last in a three part Enrichment Hour on Sunday, February 24 from 11:15 to 12:30 in the Fireside Room. The course is based on the book "Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time" by Bible scholar, Marcus Borg. Make sure you have completed your reading assignment for the greater enjoyment and participation in the discussion.

If you have any questions you may contact Berta Cohen, Committee for Learning and Spiritual Growth, at 523-9342.

Please keep our Junior High youth along with their leaders in your prayers this weekend as they will be off enjoying themselves on their winter retreat.



SO LET'S TALK . . .

People have been asking about the rules and reasons for the Church Conference we will hold to decide about hosting Tent City. I had to think hard when someone asked why we don't have absentee ballots. (Absent members can send their ideas to the meeting via letter or e-mail, but they don't get to vote.)

Then I realized that the answer is found in the word "conference." Our long tradition as Methodists is to come together and confer – to talk with each other as we seek the will of God. Conferencing expects that something will happen in the conversation that moves us to a new place, beyond the individual opinions we entered with. When the Holy Spirit is at work, a vote taken after such conversation can be very different than the entrance poll. You really have to be there.

Decision making bodies at every level of our church are called Conferences: Annual Conference (our regional meeting); Jurisdictional Conference (a larger regional meeting that elects bishops); and General Conference (the whole international church, every four years). Methodist founder John Wesley believed that "holy conferencing" – Christians coming together for the sake of peace and truth-seeking – was a *means of grace*, like Bible reading, prayer, and the sacraments. That's far more than a business meeting!

With General Conference coming up this year April 23rd through May 2nd, our Council of Bishops has prepared "Guidelines for Holy Conferencing." They conclude with these words: "We believe the Holy Spirit leads in all things, especially as we make decisions. . . We can change the world through honest conversation on matters about which we are passionate." I pray this will be true in our little corner of the world.