

Have You Heard Him Whisper?

Attention

I remember my parents listening to Bing Crosby sing "White Christmas" when I was a kid. I thought no one in the world had such a rich, baritone voice. Some of the greatest voices of all time belong to Frank Sinatra, Aretha Franklin and Otis Redding. Some may even try to put Elvis on that list.

Ben Franklin wrote often about the great preacher, George Whitefield. Whitefield was a bit of a rebel in his day, choosing to preach in the open air rather than from an indoor pulpit. He would often position himself downwind so his voice would carry further. Up to 20,000 people would come to hear him preach and Ben Franklin observed that his voice could be heard up to a mile away. What a great voice!

If men can possess such voices, how great must be the voice of God? Have you ever heard him speak? The Psalmist describes his voice beautifully: *"The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord thunders over the mighty waters. The voice of the Lord is powerful. The voice of the Lord is majestic. The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars; the Lord breaks in pieces the cedars of Lebanon."* (Psalm 29:3-4)

Have you heard the voice of the Lord lately? God doesn't often use a loud voice. God doesn't choose to compete with the noisy ambiance that surrounds us. The Lofty Almighty One would never stoop to compete for our attention. He does not fret when we ignore his voice. He is polite, he is patient and he generally speaks to us in whispers rather than shouts. If you seldom or never hear his voice it may be because you can't hear his soft whispers above the blare of the television, i-pods and the cell phones that continuously demand your attention.

Failure to hear the whispers of God in your life can leave a devastating affect. His whispers change lives. His whispers could change your destiny. If you are not attuned to the whispers of God you could miss his will. You could marry the wrong one. You could miss the right job. You could spend a good portion of your life on a rabbit trail God never intended you to be on.

After that wonderful revelation of God at Mount Carmel, Ahab came home and told Jezebel what happened. The wicked shrew was enraged. She sent a messenger to Elijah to inform him that he was as good as dead. Elijah fled to the mountains in fright. He

came to Mount Sinai where he had an encounter with God.

This was the same mountain where God spoke to Moses and the people trembled at the voice and presence of God. Elijah began whining to God, "The people have rejected you. They have rebelled and put prophets to death and now I am the only man of God left and they are determined to kill me too." God told Elijah to climb the mountain and wait.

When trouble comes into our lives, when we are desperately in need of direction, when confusion seems to overcome us it is wise to climb the mountain and wait. *"Search for the LORD and for his strength; continually seek him."* (Psalm 105:4)

Have you ever been frustrated trying to call someone and they just won't answer their phone. Caller id allows the receiver to identify the caller and a refusal to answer is sometimes taken as a personal affront. "I know they know it's me, why won't they talk to me?"

God had caller id before AT&T. He knows when we call upon him and he never ignores the voices of his own children.

Elijah climbed Mt. Sinai and waited for God to speak. *"Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came the fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave."* (1 Kings 19:11-12)

God's voice whispered to Elijah, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

"Lord, I'm the last prophet standing."

God assured Elijah that there were 7,000 people in the northern kingdom who were still faithful to him.

One moment, perhaps when you least expect it, the voice of God will whisper to your heart. It may happen today, it may be while you are driving to work or while you are doing house work or mowing the lawn. But it's most likely to happen when you are quiet.

By Kevin Probst

From www.christianarticles.net

firstBaptistchurch May 4th, 2011

Lifegroup prayer and praise

We still have several unspoken health prayer needs, please continue to pray for these.

Please pray for **Brian Stewart's** safe return from Cuba.

Shawn Lane asks that we pray for health for his family.

John Lindsey is facing surgery to remove a tumor on his brain, please pray for God's peace and healing.

Please pray for **Ilene Johnson** who is in Prov. Hospital and had surgery scheduled for last Thursday. ~**Dick Johnson**

Pray for relief from anxiety attacks. ~ **Sharon Young**

My **mom, Ruth Clark** needs relief from pain in her hip and back, she is facing surgery in May. Please pray for her. ~ **Julie Jodock**

Carol Kelly asks for prayer for wisdom. Please pray for my mom to know Christ and that she would be healed. ~**Darcy Stanyo**

Please pray for my new grandson, **Kenan McFeeley**, he has low blood sugar, he is out of NICU but this is still a problem for him. ~**Elna Olson**

Please pray for **Eva LaStrange**, who just had knee surgery on May 3rd.

Rose Toscano needs prayer for a new job and that her food stamp allotment will be continued.

Can you please keep praying for my husband's friend **Les Smith and Kelly**, they are still going through their cancer treatments.

Please pray for **Brooklyn McCormick**.

Marc Owenby asked for prayer for a friend and family, who is undergoing cancer treatment.

Please continue to pray for **Jeanne Gilman** as she continues to heal from pneumonia.

As our students are off to college and working hard to better their future—please remember them in your prayers: **Matt Love, Renee Elder and Alec Bird**

Please remember to pray for our son-in-law **Al Carter** who had a stroke on 3/29/09 and is totally paralyzed. ~ **Lysle & Lois Pickard**

NURSERY WISH LIST

Batteries: AAA, AA, C & D

2 Contoured changing pads

Diaper Genie II & refills

Wipes

Plastic Baby Gate

Extra clothes for Toddlers—Preschool

Bedding for bassinet

Thank you, Pastor Alex & Christen

Happy May Birthday's to...

Lysle Pickard, 5th;

Omar Rodriguez, 7th;

...and Emma Benner on the 9th.

Pray for our Military

- **John Schwartz**—in Afghanistan—**Robin Schwartz** stateside in Everett.
- **Jason Peery**—Oregon National Guard—heading to Iraq for a year, brother of Jennifer.
- **Jonathan Michaels Estrella**—son of Sharon Boswell.
- **Jason Bjazevich**—Megan Owenby's husband—Army Special Forces— Stationed in N. Carolina.
- **Scott Harpell**—son of Brian & Lynne—Stationed at Fort Carson, CO.
- **Aaron Weston**—nephew of Ken and Kathy—Stationed in San Diego.
- **Eric Schmidt** — son of Gene and Pat Schmidt — Camp Fallujah, Iraq.
- **Benjamin Lagonia**—dear friend of the Naylor family—stationed in Manitoba.
- **Brett Love**—grandson of Wilma—Army National Guard—Serving at home.
- **Christian Chmielewski**—nephew of JoAnn Couturie' - in the Marines.
- **ENS Andrew E. Timpner** (fiancé to Christin Suthard) on deployment with USS Momsen.
- **Devin Abbitt**—nephew of Paul Abbitt - Marine, stateside.
- **Duane Neyens** brother to Kathy Chapman—Army National Guard —is back at his home base in So.CA.
- **Philip Ankney**-LCPL Afghanistan Cousin of MaryAnn Peterson.
- **Jeffrey Lillard**—son of Barbara Lillard — Srg. In Army, Stationed at Fort Lewis.
- **Aaron Chmielewski**—joined the Marines. Nephew of JoAnn Couturie
- **Shawn Berland**—deploying for 6 months
- **Andrew Sustaita**—serving on board the USS Abraham Lincoln



Lifegroup Happenings

all in the family

by *florence miller*

Operation Christmas Child! We're gathering a team to get this year's program going, and we'd like to invite YOU to help! If you're interested in knowing how you can be involved, contact Pat Alvarez at palvarez99@comcast.net.

Prayer is urgently needed for **Ron Newman** who informed the church office on Tuesday morning after returning from the doctors regarding his foot, that he may have to have it amputated. He won't know until later this week if the doctor can do anything else although the last time he was with the doctor he was told everything else had been tried. Of course Ron is praying for a miracle. So can we!

Karl Wiederspohn's Mom, Virginia, was taken to the hospital on this just- past Tuesday after two weeks of intestinal stress and recent vomiting. As a result she is very weak and, undoubtedly, dehydrated. For over 20 years she has had this distress in some form or other. The doctors have been testing to ascertain the cause. She will be 85 this month and is praying that the doctors will finally put a name to her condition so they can find a course of treatment, Karl is our Sheri's husband.

Robin Baird, Deanna's husband, had his aortic valve replaced plus several bypasses done in open heart surgery this past Wednesday, the 28th of April. Deanna reports they both are grateful that the surgery went well and that Robin is recovering nicely. He is in the Everett Transitional Care facility and hopes to be going home this weekend. Prayer is asked for healing. Two members of Deanna's life group were with her during the entire surgery. As Pastor Brian states: "Life group care at its best!"

Emma Benner's son, John, who fell recently, breaking both his tibia and fibula in his leg had to report that he is not able to travel for their planned Mother's Day get-together, as hoped. Mothers are used to disappointment. The visit will happen later I'm sure.

Two pastoral notes: April 20. "Talked with **Lois Caldwell** today. She is amazing after her mouth cancer operation on Friday down in Seattle. Not a word of complaint, but praising God that the cancer did not go up to her sinuses. She asked me to thank all of you prayer warriors. She came in the office with this note; "*Thank you for the cards, concern and prayers with yet another surgery. I have so much to be thankful for and once again cancer free. God is so good!*"

It was good to have **Gene Dobson** back in his usual place, teaching the Klahaya Class!

Eva LaStrange had complete knee replacement surgery on this past Tuesday, May 3rd. She came thru surgery great and is getting up today. She was able to enjoy dinner and had members of her life group with her before and after surgery. Before going into the hospital, Eva efficiently wrote this note: A Big Thank You to all the Easter and Memorial cookie bakers:

Connie Tessness, Betty Resseguie, Arlene Olsen, Marguerite Bacon, Gloria Gordon, Carol McKissick, Pam Dehnhoff, Lois Tysseling, Laura Oversvee, Edie Richardson, Bernice Dye, Hyesook Johnson, Dee Hastey, Oma Kiniry, Mary Hards, Ginnie Hamilton, JoAnn Couturie. If you helped and I'm not aware of it, please accept my apology. You all are very much appreciated. You don't just tell us how to live a spiritual life; you show us!

Perhaps you noticed the obituary regarding **DeLores Carr**, a former member and good worker in our women's groups. She died on April 28th at the age of 91.

Jean Gilman is doing better all the time. Her address is: Kindred Hospital, Bed 103, 10631-8th Ave., Seattle, 98125—phone is 206-364-2050. I know she would just love to hear from you.

John Van Dalen called me. Last week he went to the Dr. and got a new cast. The pain is gone and he is bored stiff. He hopes to go back to work in two more weeks. He has pictures of his ankle with a plate secured with ten screws. We hope they remain secure but if one should loosen, at least it won't be in his head.

***Adult attendance: 9:00am 64 & 10:30am 191 || ***Children: 9am 14 + 6 — 10:30am 5 + 3
***Elementary: 9am 16 + 8 — 10:30 am 23 + 7 || ***Middle School: 12 + 5 — Youth Small Group: 17 + 5

SAM Luncheon - Coming this Friday! 11:30 a.m. featured speaker: **Ken Hammond**, a writer and Wilma Love's "scribe" for her autobiography. His program is entitled "*Tell Me Your Story*".

May 7th - Trip to Snohomish to attend the Leights Fanastic at the new Glacier Peak Performing Arts Center. A few tickets are left. \$10.00

Lois and Tony Tysseling are home from Arizona. At our Board meeting, Tony reported on the dates for this year's Rest Stop coffee. This will be our 21st Rest Stop year of raising money for our missions!

Mark your calendars! Our picnic will be **July 15th at Kayak Point**

S.A.M. Update:

Lifegroup Contributing Opportunities

Newcomer's Dessert

Let's Get Acquainted!

Sunday, May 15th

6:00-7:00 pm

Pacific Room

First Baptist Church, Everett

Please RSVP | office@fbc-everett.org



VBS 2011 NEED LIST:

T-shirts - L or XL | white/new/clean

Also - solid light colored fabric

*S&M still needs
more books for
the bookstore.*

We have the plants available for purchase:

- ◆ 4 Hydrangeas, assorted colors, 6 inch pots - \$20.00 each
- ◆ 3 yellow Bromeliad plants in 6 inch pots - \$18.00 each
- ◆ 2 rose pink—small Callas in 6 in pots - \$20.00 each
- ◆ 4 Palms in 10 inch pots - \$10.00 each
- ◆ 3 Ornamental grasses [red and green] in 4" pots - \$8.00 each

Please contact Ruelyn to reserve and pay for your plants. Make checks out to First Baptist Church. Contact Ruelyn Nelson @ 425-397-9239 or ruelyn@frontier.com. Thanks so much!

USHER CAPTAIN 2011:

May—Pete Sontra
Craig Reisen

June—Darrell Olson
Marc Owenby

COFFEE HOUR Schedule

May 8th
Frank Riddell
Lake Stevens Lifegroup

May 15th
Deanna Baird
Life Issues Lifegroup

May 22nd
Christen Weller-Lanning
Single Moms Lifegroup

May 29th
Alex Tarin
Young Adults

Offering - 5-1-11 | \$19,556.25



Ladies, join us for breakfast a time to "flock together"

Price: \$4.00

Please sign-up so we may reserve a place for you!

Midge Ellis - 425-252-6233

Ruelyn Nelson - 425-397-9239

Childcare available on request.

Breakfast - Saturday, May 14th, 9-11 am

*Greeters needed Men & Women: call Carol Kelly, 425.210.8595.