

All Different Parts: Utilizing the Body of Christ in Your Group

by Matt Graybill

Usually I know my way around home improvement stores, but I couldn't find the one switch, two-outlet plate covering that I was looking for. After wondering around for 15 minutes I decided to press the little "need help" button. After waiting for a while, an employee came to stop the repeated announcement. I explained what I was looking for and he replied, "I don't work in this department, sorry." Then he just left.

Wow, what customer service! Isn't it nice to be in a group where you don't all work in the same department? Where you're able to meet a variety of needs?

I often receive requests like the one above: "I need a group that's for people who are five foot tall, left handed, with three fingers that grew up in Dellview, North Carolina." Maybe not exactly, but many times people want to be in a group that looks just like them. The problem with this is what if there is something on the top shelf that they can't reach, or think of the frustration for the left handed group that needs to cut something and doesn't have left handed scissors.

Perhaps a group of people with all ten fingers would appreciate all of their fingers if they had someone that only had three in their group. Or what if they need to travel outside of Dellview, the smallest town in America, would they be open to people that didn't look like them?

The beauty of the body of Christ is that we're all different and our strengths and gifts can serve others. A single mom can be served by a couple that can watch her

kids so she can go Christmas shopping, a person who has the gift of hospitality can host the group at their house, an encouraging person can send the "I'm thinking of you" card after hearing about the loss of a loved one, the parents who have older children can say to the young parents, "Oh no need to worry about that, it's just a phase." Being in a group with people who don't look exactly like you allows you to serve the needs of others. It also allows the group to serve your needs.

This month find a service project that you can do as a group, and you'll begin to see how different your group is as you work together. Rejoice in this! Leaders you don't have to do it all.....delegate to a person's strength.

Be open to others joining your group that look different than you. Many churches and organizations have groups that are for a specific type of person and that is a great thing, but don't limit your groups to just that. Think about the group Jesus was in, it wasn't all made up of guys who were fishermen. Allow your group to function as a community with each person's strengths serving the others.

"The human body has many parts, but the many parts make up one whole body. So it is with the body of Christ. Some of us are Jews, some are Gentiles, some are slaves, and some are free. But we have all been baptized into one body by one Spirit, and we all share the same Spirit." (1 Corinthians 12:12-13)

Life group prayer and praises

- **Bret** would like prayer for his mom she needs healing.
- Please continue to pray for **Gerry Allen**, he is now home but still ill.
- **Alene Olsen** is still in need of our prayers as she copes with the day to day stress of losing **Lorren**.
- Please continue to pray for **my son, Ray** who is in prison and **my daughter, Judi**, she is into drugs; meth and cocaine. ~**Carole Peterson**
- **Darlene** has cancer in her brain and the tumor is growing. Chemo is not doing anything, She is now has tunnel vision. ~**Darlene Udman**
- Pray for **Lysle Pickard's son-in-law**, he had a stroke—he needs prayer for full healing.
- Pray for **Larry Stover**, he has cancer. ~ **Kathy Helm**
- Pray for my daughter, **Christa** who is into witchery. ~ **Barb Lillard**
- Please pray for **Sandy Abood**, as she begins radiation treatments. ~**Jenn Decker**
- My friend, **Mark Wexelberg**, made it through all the surgeries and is in rehab and improving and the doctors are very optimistic. ~**Christen W.**
- Pray for my friend's father **Jim Bender** who has stage 3 prostate cancer. Prayer that his treatment will be successful and that throughout all this that he will find the Lord. ~**Judy Warren**
- **Tracey Ayers-Tate** needs prayer that she can find another job quickly.
- Please pray for the **Roullier** family the Lord's provision for them in their current house situation.
- Our **students** will be taking a mission trip to Mexico this summer from July 10-20. We will be working with **Pastor Gama** at a Children's camp in Merida, Mexico. Please continue to keep our team in your prayers.
- Please continue to pray for **Leanne Durham**, she has had no ill effects from her chemo and no new symptoms—Praise God all is going well.

Amore

Love

98208-Silver Lake: Pray for a future launch of a Life Group for men and women in the south Everett 98208 zip code that it would be God's timing and way. Pray specifically that God would identify a host home, and a leadership/facilitation team for this new group. Interested in more information contact Allan Love at allan@fbc-everett.net or Brian Harpell at bharpell@fbc-everett.net.

Pray for our military

- *Jonathan Michaels Estrella—son of Sharon Boswell.*
- *Jason Bjazevich—Megan Owenby's husband—Army Special Forces—Stationed at Fort Lewis.*
- *Joel Ellis—son of John & Midge—Serving in Iraq.*
- *Scott Harpell—son of Brian & Lynne—Stationed at Fort Bragg.*
- *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.*
- *Elijah Austin —Ashley Naylor's husband—a Marine—Stationed at 29 Palms in California.*
- *David Coyle—son of Karen Mark—residing in Seattle, member of the National Guard.*
- *Adam Flynn—a young Marine going back for his second tour in Iraq.*
- *Brett Love—grandson of Wilma—Army National Guard-Serving second tour in Iraq.*
- *Robin Swartz - Serving in the military - currently home in Everett.*
- *Christian Chmielewski—nephew of JoAnn Couturie' - in the Marines.*
- *Jeffrey Lillard—son of Barbara Lillard — Srg. In Army, Stationed at Fort Lewis.*
- *ENS Andrew E. Timpner (fiancé to Christin Suthard) on deployment with USS Momsen.*
- *Devin Abbitt—nephew of Paul Abbitt - Marine, stateside.*
- *Doug Baer—a teacher at Kamiak HS heading to Iraq in the Army Reserves—thru Sept. 09.*
- *Duane Neyens—brother to Kathy Chapman—Nat. Grd. Afghanistan*

Life Group Happenings

all in the family

by *florence miller*

Oneita Owenby was in church Sunday in her wheelchair which was being maneuvered by her really good-looking caregiver—**Mark**. She broke her femur the first of March and has been in rehab and also out-patient physical therapy but has not been healing properly. Her doctor's appointment this last Thursday gave her the unfortunate news that there has been no healing bone growth so they have ordered a bone stimulator for her. Pray that this works!

Lois Caldwell was back in

church this Sunday, looking good and able to talk well and let us know that she is doing fine.

Good news! **Gerry Allen** came home from the hospital yesterday (Tuesday). He doesn't need oxygen anymore, according to the hospital says **Phyllis**, but he is very weak and it will be a long recovery. Please continue to pray for them, but visits at this time would not be advised.

Jack Frazier has recovered well from his laser surgery on April 9th for an enlarged prostate which

proved to be non-cancerous. Praise the Lord.

There is also some encouraging news about **Lysle and Lois Pickard's son-in-law, Allen Carter**, who is daughter **Marilee's** husband. Tests show that his vocal cords were not damaged by the stroke and he has been saying a few words. He has been up in a wheelchair and can breathe on his own but there is concern for his pneumonia and some other infections. Their faith is strong in the Lord and our prayers must echo that.

"Concert of Prayer"

Wednesday night

May 6th, 7-8:00 pm, Pacific Room –

followed by 24-hour Prayer Watch

Starts 8 pm May 6th - ends 8 pm May 7th

Contact Terri Day

On Thursday, May 7th at noon we will all meet at the **Snohomish County Court House Flag Pole** with other Everett area churches to pray as a public witness to our community.

Happy Birthday

April 28th,

April 29th,

May 1st,

May 2nd,

May 3rd,

May 5th,

Kriston Whitney

Jordon Jansen

Lynne Harpell

Debbie Cooper,

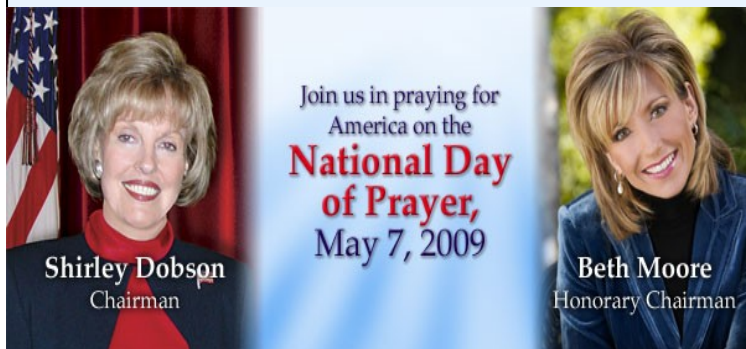
Cliff Hudspeth

Amy St. Clair

Jean Edquist,

Teresa McKee,

Lysle Pickard



Update

April 26th , 2009

Adult attendance: 340

Children: 9 am||25 (11)

10:30 am|| 58 (18)

Youth Small Group:|| 26

Leaders:|| 9

SPRING BOOK SALE

June 5th and 7th

Just drop off your donations at the S.A.M. desk. Proceeds go to fund our mission projects.

Please
support
SAM

Life group contributing opportunities

We're on the web! CareNecton, Hub & Bulletin—check it out!

See how we look in color—www.fbc-everett.org

The HUB was mailed for the last time. If you would like to have it mailed to you, please contact the church office—425.259.9166

and we will put you on the list.

We will still have them in house for you to pick up.



PreSchool Update

Have you connected to the body of Christ here at FBC? Are you now looking for a way to contribute? There are many ways available in preschool ministry! Some of the practical ways to contribute are through providing necessary supplies to minister to the needs of the children. We can always accept baby wipes, rubber gloves, waxed paper, sanitary wipes, Desitin cream & snacks.

Perhaps you feel God prompting you to join the front line and you would like to serve as a leader on Sunday mornings. We would welcome new team members for both the 9 am hour and the 10:30 am hour.

With Summer quickly approaching we have some team members who want to take vacation or just take a time of rest. We are currently looking for a few leaders to fill positions for the summer. This would be a great time to get your feet wet in preschool ministry. All the curriculum is provided and lots of coaching and encouragement is readily available! Experience is not necessary and the reward is making an eternal difference in the life of a child. If you are interested or have any questions connect with Christen Weller, preschool coordinator.

USHER CAPTAIN 2009:

April—Lucky Elkins
Pete Sontra

May—Ron and Kay Olson
Craig Reisen

COFFEE HOUR 2009

May 3rd
Bill Erickson
Clipper Class

May 10th
Tom Warren
Men of Integrity

May 17th
Bill Erickson
Men's Life Group

July 4th FUN in the Sun: Again this year FBC will offer a street fair following the Everett July 4th downtown parade at noon until 3:00 pm. This year's July 4th falls on a Saturday and so we want you to be sure you put it on your calendar. A couple of thousand people show up each year from our community and we get the opportunity to *show them* the love of Christ. Would your Life Groups be willing adopt one of the stations or venues? These include:

- Espresso
- Face painting
- Float in the parade
- Children's inflatable #1
- Children's inflatable #2
- Children's inflatable #3
- Miniature golf
- Set-up crew
- Clean-up crew
- Welcome & Registration Desk
- Cotton Candy machine
- Popcorn Machine
- Street Hockey
- Clown Ministry

Our student ministry has already adopted hotdog sales and root beer floats, and our worship ministry has adopted the stage and band. For more information and to volunteer contact bharpell@fbc-everett.net

