

# Connection before Correction

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While doing right leads to healthy relationships, the Bible also promotes the opposite: healthy relationships leads to doing right. Healthy relationships start between human and the divine, and then between humans. Here's an example of the importance of relationships: "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift" (Matthew 5:23-24).

What are some ways to maintain healthy relationships? These approaches can work when addressing difficult subjects. A positive start, humility, listening and understanding teamed with honesty is summed up by "speaking the truth in love" (Ephesians 4:15).

Whatever is a good place to start? "Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things" (Philippians 4:8). Starting on a negative note can automatically trigger resistance and defensiveness - a product of the "fight or flight response". Avoiding such negativity will mean overlooking some offenses. "Sensible people control their temper; they earn respect by overlooking wrongs" (Proverbs 19:11). "Reckless words pierce like a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing" (Proverbs 12:18). Other times a negative cycle must be stopped. "Do everything without complaining or arguing" (Philippians 2:14).

Next, comes the humble part. People are more receptive to hearing about their "human side" if they see a willingness to admit weaknesses. "Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. 'Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye" (Matthew 7:1-5). One who thinks he has done nothing wrong may have trouble accepting the human side. "If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us" (1 John 1:8). "For in his own eyes he flatters himself too much to detect or hate his sin" (Psalms 36:2).

Listening to others conveys that one understands and cares, regardless of agreement. On that basis of respect, a foundation allows a connection to be built. "Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry" (James 1:19). "A man of knowledge uses words with restraint, and a man of understanding is even-tempered. A fool finds no pleasure in understanding but delights in airing his own opinions" (Proverbs 17:27, 18:2). Once the other feels understood, one has an ability to connect.

Speaking the truth about one's own interests balanced by another's forges the relationship. A one-sided relationship is lop-sided. "In humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others" (Philippians 2:3-4). Creatively looking for options breathes life into a relationship as opposed to one side flourishing at the expense of another.

God finds a way to confront us with truth but not without grace. Holding in the truth can result in passivity and resentment. But expressing the truth aggressively can leave you with the same feelings. "Picking your battles," an understanding approach, quick admittance to your own faults, and leaving the other feeling understood, connecting before correcting can bolster any relationship. "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you" (Ephesians 5:29-32). By Dan Blair From christianarticles.net

firstBaptistchurch November 3rd

# Life group prayer and praise

**Cathy Johnson**, Pastor of Queen Ann Baptist in Seattle asks for prayer for their 4 yr. old grandson, **Caleb Ritchie**, who had open heart surgery on Tuesday.  
Please pray with me to believe God for finances to attend an upcoming conference in January 2011. ~ **Christen Weller**  
Please pray for my job as DSHS has made lots of cuts and it doesn't seem to matter if you have been there a long time or not. Having my hours cut will effect not only me, but my clients. ~ **Sharon Young**  
There is a great need right now to support the **VOA**. They are at a time when they need food and donations are running low. Church, we need to reach deep and support this very worthwhile cause, let's see the food basket in the Narthex fill up with donations of food. ~ **Tom Warren**  
**Janet Duvardo** is leaving for CA, Nov. 10-13 to do an on-camera interview with an FBI profiler who contributed to a homicide investigation. Pray for safety and for God to be glorified.  
**Gary Cox** thanks God that his prayer was answered.  
Please pray for **Hayley Healy-Manes** who needs a double lung transplant.

**James Hannon** asks that we pray for his mother and grandmother. He also asks that we pray for **Frank's son**. Our prayers and sympathy go out to **ZoAnn McBride** at the passing of her father.  
Please pray for my sister **Mary** who had chemotherapy Nov. 2nd.  
~ **Darlene Hegeberg**  
**Barb Elder** asks that we pray for **her father** who was just diagnosed with lung cancer.  
**Lester Acosta**, has invited Pastor Brian to be the speaker at his Leadership Summit in September, 2011. Pray for God's direction and provision and Pastor Brian prays about this decision.  
**FBC** has been blessed by 30 plus African, primarily Swahili speaking, new faces attending worship. The Swahili word for "welcome" is "jambo." If you want to bring a smile to their faces, extend a handshake and say the word "jambo." Pray for those who have lost jobs or are seeking employment.  
**Dave and Pat Slater** from Arlington need prayer, he is dying from cancer and is in constant pain. ~ **Sheri**  
**Kathy Chapman's** mother-in-law **Jeanne** & **Jeanne's** husband, **Mel Marcoux** still need prayer.  
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**

## Financial Update October 31st, 2010 \$15,403.11

\*\*\*Adult attendance: 9:00am 73 & 10:30am 196 \*\*\*Children: 9am 16 + 4 — 10:30am 20 + 10  
\*\*\*Elementary: 9am 28 + 6 — 10:30 am 35 + 6 \*\*\*Youth Small Group: 21 + 4 — Middle School: 18 + 4

## Pray for our Military

- **John Schwartz**—heading to 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.
- **Robin Schwartz** - Serving in the military - currently home in Everett. **John Schwartz** leaving for Afghanistan in October.
- **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



# Life Group Happenings

## *all in the family*

by Florence Miller

A lovely card and thank you note was received from **Dan, Danielle, Bella Rose, Hannah Mae and baby Virginia** with the following: "My family and I would like to thank you for the Safeway Gift Card you donated to my family this past August. As a mother of three girls, the feeling of helplessness and not being able to fully provide for your family is devastating. I am grateful and hope this finds you all well. Our love, "

Our Sympathy to **Debra and James Estep** in the passing of her father on October 20th after a long illness. Both of them are in Memphis, Tenn. where the memorial will be held and to help Debra's mother. James will be returning to Everett on Saturday at which time Debra will be going to her daughter's in Baltimore to await the imminent arrival of her new grand baby. In all, Deb will be gone for five weeks. Our prayers include a safe and healthy arrival of the little one and travel safety for Debra and James

**Amanda Harpell** flew into Spokane on Monday and on Tuesday passed with flying colors her "oral board" at Eastern Washington University. Amanda is in line to graduate with her Masters in Social Work on Saturday December 4th. Our congratulations! We're proud of you!

**Betty Reeves** had surgery on this past Tuesday the 2nd, for the broken bones in her foot; an injury incurred after a fall from a ladder several months ago. The pain became so bad she was crawling around! Our prayers for a successful surgery.

**Marcia Reeves Hall**, (Betty and Ray's daughter) while visiting Betty, fell down the four cement porch steps, spraining her ankle. And she was supposed to drive the Reeves for Betty's surgery the next day!

**Dee Ekstrom** is having surgery on Thursday, the 4th, on her shoulder for a rotator cuff injury. We pray for healing and for patience and comfort in the long recovery process. **Howard** said that she probably would like visitors after awhile.

**Sunday, November 14 is the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church.** FBC supports missionaries in countries where Christians are persecuted but for security reasons we have been asked not to published specific reports from specific countries. Please join us in praying for all persecuted Christians in the world.

**WORK PARTY-** Decorate for Christmas - **NOVEMBER 26 & 27 @ 9:00** at the church, this is Friday and Saturday – either day or both if you can! Calling all available to help with decorating our church for Christmas! We need those who can place and arrange the decorations – no construction of them is required. This is not a craft time and we will need both ladies and gentlemen. If you have helped in the past we would really appreciate your expertise again. Lunch will be furnished for all of those who will be working that day. Check your schedules and confirm you can help by calling Ruelyn Nelson @ 425-397-9239 or e-mail [ruelyn@frontier.com](mailto:ruelyn@frontier.com), **we need this so we can plan for food**. We look forward to a great work party!

Our October trip to the Panama Hotel was a most interesting experience, including a serendipity extra bonus of visiting the Japanese/American memorial Wall being installed next to the Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall on S. King Street in Seattle. It lists the names of the many Japanese who died defending our country in WW11 as well as the many families whose lives were disrupted and interred in camps far away from the West Coast. The Wall so far has about 3,000 names carved in black granite and stacked to create a wall 12 feet high and nearly 100 feet long. It is hoped an additional 1,000 bricks will be sold with names of loved ones who served or were sent away. The cost is \$250 each. The Wall resembles the Vietnam War veterans Wall in Wash. D.C. We were also given a tour of the Memorial Hall by a most knowledgeable and accommodating man who was working on the Wall. Although we didn't ask, we assume he was a volunteer and very involved the project. Many Japanese American in the community use the hall for meals, to play basketball or have meetings. One room is a museum containing memorabilia of the servicemen.

Coming this Friday: **November 5**, Luncheon — If you haven't signed up by the time you read this, you are too late. Sorry! But you could come for the program at 1:00 p.m. which promises to be very interesting as Chris Frizzell tells of the many aspects of the Friday Night dinners which she heads.

- ⇒ Also - if you can, bring toiletries for Chris to distribute to those who attend the Friday Night meals.
- ⇒ Plus - we are collecting non-perishable meal items to put in the Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets which we distribute.
- ⇒ And in addition - ABW is having their "white cross" sale of goodies and other items which will be displayed on tables in the social hall. (11:30 punch; 12:noon lunch)

**December 3, Friday.** A special program after our luncheon given by us (S.A.M.) for Everett's Seniors as a Christmas gift. It is a beautiful and meaningful program with an organ prelude, a 60 voice choir led by John Sinkevitch, a bell choir, a first-person drama by Gene Dobson plus carols and solos. This will be held in the sanctuary (immediately following our luncheon.) Tell your friends and neighbors. The program is free

**December 11, Saturday,** Trip to the Taproot Theater, leaving at 11 a.m. Sign up at the SAM desk.

# S.A.M. Happenings

# LIFEGROUP CONTRIBUTING OPPORTUNITIES

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Empty boxes are still available in the  
Hospitality Room.

Return your filled boxes (with \$7 for shipping -  
checks made out to OCC & put inside the box)

by **November 14th!**

Drop them in the office or place them in the marked bins.



## Happy Birthday

November 4th	Gloria Gordon
November 6th	Jordan Weller
November 7th	Lisa Baer
November 9th	Emily Chilson

## First Annual Christmas Bazaar

Our First Annual Christmas Bazaar to fund FBC's Friday Night Outreach is scheduled for **Saturday, December 4th from 9-4:00 pm** in the Community Center. Join us to sell your arts, crafts and bazaar items or plan to purchase Christmas gifts in the Community Center gym. All rental money will go to support our Friday Night Outreach Ministry. Contact Chris Frizzell at [Frizzell.c@hotmail.com](mailto:Frizzell.c@hotmail.com) or 425-778-2432 for more information or to obtain a sellers application.

**Ladies Breakfast**  
**Saturday Nov. 13th**  
**9-11:00 am**  
**\$4.00**

### USHER CAPTAIN 2010:

November—Craig Reisen  
December—Marc Owenby  
Darrell Olson

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November 7th  
**Alex Tarin**  
20-30 Something  
November 14th  
**Ted Oare**  
Silver Firs Lifegroup  
November 21st  
**Karl Durham**  
Faith Builders  
November 28th  
**Barb Menia**  
Women of Purpose  
December 5th  
**Laura Oversvee**  
Women of Purpose

## ABMM

ABMM is hosting their annual **White Cross Sale on Nov. 5th** (during the SAM luncheon) if you have anything crafty or yummy that you would like to donate for them to sell, please contact Faith Wallingford. Come early, browse and buy.

ABMM will meet **November 18th** with lunch at noon. We have our annual quota and you'll want to have an update on the White Cross Mission Sale. Program not quite confirmed at this time but it will be interesting and no other meeting until February. Please come. Give us your reservation so Mary Beth will be prepared, Call the church office, 425-259-9166 or Faith 425-252-6867.