

February 28, 2008

WFMCC Weekly

Seeing the Family Resemblance

"I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that the One who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." Philippians 1

Dear Friends,

We continue Lenten Journey with a look at our 3rd purpose this week. If our first purpose is to love God and our second is to love one another then the next purpose is both a means and an end to those two goals: to become more like Christ. Just imagine a world filled with people who---regardless of their religious beliefs or faith traditions-- loved the Holy and one another with such joy that they made an effort to change the world to be a safer, more loving and equitable place for all people. That would be a world filled with people who looked like Jesus. To become more Christ like, after all, means to care about the things Jesus cared about, to love God and others as Jesus did--with grace and acceptance and non-judgement, across religious, socio-economic, race and gender lines. Of course, most (okay, really, all) of us were raised to see the world through prised lenses of prejudice, bias, judgement and reserve. We have to unlearn those habits of discrimination we unwittingly picked up from society and our families in order to learn the new habit of loving all and speaking out for the marinalized and oppressed, as Jesus did. This week we will be taking a look at what things God uses to



hone our character, to bring our unique personality and spirit into alignment with Christ, and to continue on the good work already begun in us. I hope you will join us as we discover the importance of this next purpose in our lives.

Until then--

Blessings and Peace,

Nori

In This Issue:

*New addition! See February
birthdays below*

1. Let Your Change Bring About Change

2. BOT Applications Available!

3. Lenten Sermon Series

4. Break the Barrier Update

5. Thanksgivings and Prayer Requests

February Birthdays

*If your birthday is this month
and isn't listed, email
nrost@wichitafallsmcc.org
to be included*

2/1 KD Johnson

2/1 Deon Winchester

2/4 Kevin Stone

2/5 Cassie Daley

2/6 Ed Paul

2/9 Taylor Mull

1. Your Change Makes a Difference!

Thanks to your compassionate generosity and small change, WFMCC raised \$1493.69 in the 10 Gallons of Change campaign that lasted throughout the year. Let's see if we can beat that in 2008 as we start anew. Bring in your loose change and let's continue to change our world!

2. Applications Available for open Board of Trustees positions

Beginning this Sunday, there will be applications available for the two Board of Trustees positions up for election at our annual Congregational Meeting on April 6th. If you think this would be a good fit for you, please feel free to seek out a current BOT member for more information on the duties involved and pick up an application. Deadline for the application to be turned in to a BOT member is Wednesday, March 19.

3. What would you get if you put Rick Warren in Drag?

A special sermon series based on Warren's popular book, "The Purpose Driven Church" all queered up by transitional pastor, Rev. Dr. Nori Rost. We are continuing to look at the different chapters of this book, written by evangelical Christian Rick Warren. She will lead us through questions such as "What is my purpose?" "Why did God create me?" and others as together we explore the purpose God is calling WFMCC to, as well each of us as individuals. By looking at these important questions through the lens of progressive, queer Christianity, Rev. Rost is taking us through a Lenten journey of eternal significance. And because it's a theme, we're trying something new using our multi-media technology. On the weeks Rev. Rost isn't physically with us, she'll be providing the sermon via DVD. If nothing else, it should be fun just to see how it turns out. So plan on joining us every Sunday during Lent as we explore God's purpose for our lives and our

2/10 Brian Vestal church.

2/12 Kathy Isaacks

2/14 Glenda Pruett

2/20 Ron Preston

2/23 Milan Caper

2/28 Chris Boren

4. Break the Barrier Update

Many thanks to everyone who has been contributing to our Break the Barrier Fund. Our current total is now \$4,871! These funds are set aside each month to fund our dream of hiring a full-time director of music and worship. With the continued faithfulness and generosity of the WFMCC community, we can be assured that we will be able to make this dream come true.

We will taking up the next Break the Barrier offering on Sunday, March 16, 2008. Please give as you feel God directing.

5. Thanksgivings and Prayer Requests

Add your Thanksgivings and Prayers Requests to the Prayer Book in the foyer at church or email them to nrost@wichitafallsmcc.org

Thanksgivings for... for Health and Happiness; The Webb Family in Altus, OK; Mom's Healing

Prayers for... Healing for Laretta; Healing for Martha's mom and strength and endurance for the family; For Life and Love; For Roberta may she find comfort and peace; Prayers for Crystal Nix struggling with the flu; Prayers for David R. working long hours during income tax time; prayers for Rev. Margaret Scales, from Interfaith Ministries and a good friend of WFMCC. She suffered a hemorrhagic stroke this week and, while surgery won't be required, she will have to undergo treatment to regain full use of her body.

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