

## World Communion Sunday -- October 7

*"Salt is good, but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt yourselves, and be at peace with one another."*

*Mark 9:50, NRSV*

"I would leave my house full, and on my way to school I would see beggars scavenging for food. I wondered: "Why are they hungry while I am full?"

This question weighed on Israel Alvaran as he grew to adulthood in the Philippines. He saw poverty as a reality that stalked his country every day. Through this lens—and through the living atmosphere of his Christian upbringing—Israel decided to become a minister and a teacher.

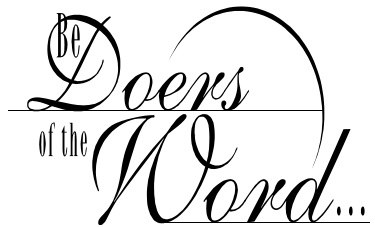
For Israel Alvaran, education is fundamental to empowering people. His plan, after completing his Ph. D. in ethics and social theory at the Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, Calif., is to return home and to teach in the seminary. In this way, Israel says, he can nurture church leaders who will "bear witness to the love of God and the need for justice and peace in every part of the world."

Jesus told his followers: "Salt is good, but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

These words inspire Israel and others for whom the journey is made easier by generous United Methodists. The World Communion Sunday offering provides scholarships for U.S. (racial- and ethnic-minority) and international students, on both undergraduate and graduate levels.

Israel's love for God calls him to question and to work with others to help change a society in which some have plenty while others hungrily search dumpsters for food. "Our lives should be our offering," he asserts. Please give generously on World Communion Sunday, the first Sunday of October. Your gift makes a world of difference! Thank you!

The World Communion Offering in 2006 received \$1,100,000. This is the offering which has empowered indigenous leadership in the UMC around the world. [www.umcgiving.org](http://www.umcgiving.org)



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**All Church Retreat Update:** Unfortunately, the Indianola Fall Retreat has to be cancelled, since only 7 were registered, and we had confirmations of "Can't do it" from many others. The retreat has been rescheduled for April 18-20, 2008. So, clear those calendars now!

### August Finance Report

Total Giving & Income:	\$101,426	Unpaid UM apportionments:	\$12,000
Expenses:	<u>106,719</u>	Our denominational giving as of August:	6,776
Shortfall:	-5,293	Due as of August:	18,066



## Update on Tent City

At its September meeting, the Clergy Association discussed welcoming Tent City. In June, area newspapers reported this as a decision that was made, but it is not. The Mercer Island church councils (including our own) are just beginning to discuss the project and decide whether they are willing and able to host, or to support Tent City in other ways.

Here is some basic information: Tent City hosts about 90 residents, men or couples. They must be near a bus stop so they can get to work. Every resident has been screened for police records, and no one with an outstanding warrant, or a conviction for a sexual offense is allowed. Drugs and alcohol are not allowed. Porta-potties are provided, along with shower facilities. The host facilities are not used. No cooking is allowed, so congregations need to provide evening meals.

The time being considered is spring. The understanding is that all our congregations will support the host church with providing the meals, and reimbursement for the electricity and water hookups. Between now and January or so, Mercer Island congregations will be learning more and discussing whether they feel willing and able to take this on.

Grace and Peace,

*Leslie Ann*

Pastor Leslie Ann Knight

This article has been edited to correct errors the original published newsletter contained. 6/5/2008 LAK

### ***Emergency Feeding Program***

*Non-perishable foods carried to the altar during our worship offering are distributed by the Emergency Feeding Program of Seattle and King County. The theme this month is Trick or Tuna!*

October's food of the month is Tuna Fish (6-oz. cans, in spring water). Or, a \$15 check to Emergency Feeding Program will buy a whole case of tuna which helps provide a valuable source of protein for homeless children. Thank you for donating kid-friendly food!

### ***Dr. Tony Campolo to Speak in Seattle on Oct. 24***

The public is invited to the Church Council of Greater Seattle's Annual Dinner & Lecture, featuring Dr. Tony Campolo, noted evangelical Christian social justice advocate, on Oct. 24 at Town Hall in Seattle (1119 – Eighth Ave). Author of over 30 books, his message of faith-based Christian action has struck a chord with a national audience. Tickets are \$50 for the 6:00pm dinner, \$25 for the 7:30pm lecture, or \$65 for both. Call (206) 525-1213 or go to [www.thechurchcouncil.org](http://www.thechurchcouncil.org) for tickets. Proceeds benefit the social justice ministry of the Church Council of Greater Seattle.

## October birthday wishes to...

- 1<sup>st</sup>   ◦ Noah Blakney
- 5<sup>th</sup>   ◦ Merle Bond
- 12<sup>th</sup> ◦ Norm Baullinger
- 15<sup>th</sup> ◦ Natalie Duchaine
- 24<sup>th</sup> ◦ Ben Smolke
- 27<sup>th</sup> ◦ Bonnie Wilson
- 28<sup>th</sup> ◦ Matt Smolke
- 28<sup>th</sup> ◦ Will Bassetti



(Sincere apologies if we've missed yours! Please be sure to update the **BIRTHDAY BOOK** in the back of the sanctuary. Thank you, and many many more!)

## ◁ Parents' Night Out ▷

A community service of  
Mercer Island United Methodist Church  
 7070 SE 24<sup>th</sup> Street

**First Fridays of the month**  
**6:30pm-9:30pm**  
**(Open house style)**

Parents' Night Out begins October 5. Games, dinner, and movies for the kids, while their parents enjoy their own together time. Children ages 3-12 are welcome.

Upcoming dates: **Oct 5, Nov 2, and Dec 7**

Reservations are needed. Please call the church office at (206) 232-3044.

*Our thanks to Carla Neames and Aleta Toy for this opportunity!*

## **OCTOBER MYSTERY PERSON**

Congratulations to Christine Ungvari for being the first to identify September's mystery person: Irene Fleming!

Our mystery person for October could be conservatively called a music fanatic. He/she is an enthusiast of virtually all styles of music. In fact, he/she was quite ecstatic upon meeting Carlos Santana on the tennis court.

**Can you name this mystery person?**

## **Christian Education**

*The Christian Faith is always  
 only one generation away from extinction.  
 Disciples are made, not born.*

**Sunday Morning Adult Class** is meeting in the library at 10. Get a cup of coffee and join the discussion. Leader: Vince Picozzi

### **Children's Education**

Children ages 3-13. Live B.I.G. (Live Belief in God). The kids so far have included: Julia Wilson; Chandler and Cosmo Neames; Bailey and Colton Lake; Ben, Nick and Sam Shoemaker; Steven Duchaine; Carena and Kendal Toy; BJ and Bennett Dondoyano.

Children's leaders have been: Karen Gray, Sanny and Jim Lake, and Aleta Toy

Live B.I.G. is designed for churches with small church schools. Activities are provided to engage ages 3 though 13. Live B.I.G. has its own web site, and there are activities for kids who miss a Sunday, or for families who want some more. Go to [www.ilivebig.com](http://www.ilivebig.com). (I live big)

### **Supporting Children's Ministries**

1. Giving  
 \$189 will cover the DVD resource for Live B.I.G. all year. It's an essential component we left out.
2. Volunteers in the classroom, and outside.  
 (Talk with Leslie Ann)  
 Shopping for the church school  
 Keeping children's worship box ready  
 Offer to substitute for sick or absent leaders  
 Volunteer to lead the class during Jan-March
3. Pray  
 That our church be faithful to its promise to guide the children into faith.

### **Middle-School and Senior High**

Aleta Toy is organizing a Sunday class for teens and pre-teens to provide an opportunity for fellowship and sharing.

**Opportunities in Life** by Vicki Duchaine

Opportunities in Life is a volunteer organization that consists of outreach in our community and beyond. It is open to children as well as adults wishing to participate in helping others and making a difference. Created in 2002 by Rick Duchaine, the board consists of Rick Duchaine, Dick Dudley and Lee Hartman. The program is designed to share our talents with others as we support many different programs. The goal is to grow our volunteer base and train those members to meet the needs of volunteering in many aspects of life. The idea here is to show less fortunate children and participants to recognize an opportunity and to utilize it. The educational aspect is to give children the tools to grow and make a contribution to society and have a good life because of good choices. We support Atlantic Street Center, Emergency Feeding Program and Special Olympics to name a few. Supporters include but are not limited to: Mercer Island Country Club, Oh Boy! Oberto, Borracchinis, QFC, Safeway, Dzuy and Marie Nguyen DDS, Darolyn Quayle Photography, and Jeff and Erin Underwood-Babyrockstar T shirts.

The O.I.L. tennis clinic this year was a big success as we had 40 children from ASC and as many volunteers. A huge thank you to: MIUMC volunteers: Head Tennis Coach --Chick Hodge, Stephanie, Natalie, Brian and Steven Duchaine, Becky, Mac, and Clay Dudley, John Strasburger, Lee Hartman, Chandler Neames, Elaine, BJ, and Bennett Dondoyano, Laura Maruhashi, and wonderful speakers, Bill Blakney, Lee Hartman and Rick Duchaine. And many others helped out as well!

If you are interested, please call (206) 236-2637 or email Vicki Duchaine at [opportunitiesinlife@gmail.com](mailto:opportunitiesinlife@gmail.com) or [vduchaine@comcast.net](mailto:vduchaine@comcast.net) to get on our O.I.L. mailing list and be in touch with future events!!

**Bible Study Fellowship Women** by Richelle Bassetti

You may have wondered who "BSF Women" are who appear on your church calendar every Tuesday morning. BSF is short for Bible Study Fellowship. BSF was founded in 1952 by a young English woman named Miss A. Wetherell Johnson. Miss Johnson had just come to the US (Pasadena, California) after spending years as a missionary in China, followed by some hard years in a Japanese internment camp. She was asked to lead a small group of women in a bible study in her home. This grew in popularity and attendance by word of mouth until it became a worldwide organization. As of last year, when we did the study of Romans, we had enrolled world wide 247,118 adults (men and women), 22,030 preschool children, and 23,394 school age children covering 1st through 12th grade. We have 993 classes in 35 different nations. One of the fun things about being in a BSF class, is that all the classes all over the world are doing the exact same lesson at the same time. For you world travelers, like the Parkers, you can go to class in Africa and be able to fully participate.

I personally became involved with BSF when I heard two young moms (like me at the time) talking about a Bible study. I was going through some serious, potentially life-threatening health problems and I was hungry for more of God. I wanted my life to be more about God and to be in a study. I began attending in April of 1993 and was very impressed with its careful study methods, its structured lessons which have you in the word of God 6 days a week, the lecture after small study groups, and the Bible study notes written by Miss Johnson herself. After 5 years of being a class member, I was asked to be a Children's Leader in their preschool program. It is such a joy for me, a trial lawyer whose mother said no to her when as a child I said I wanted to be a teacher, to teach these bright, perceptive little children. I teach the oldest of the preschoolers every Thursday morning in the Bellevue Women's Day Class held in Westminster Chapel in Bellevue.

There are 50 of us leaders who train here at MIUMC every Tuesday morning while Westminster completes its extensive remodel. We are so thankful to God and to you for so beautifully accommodating us. I also want to extend to each of you, an invitation to come to a BSF introduction class. These are held once a month. In our area, there are women's day and evening classes and men's Monday night classes. All classes are free of charge. In fact, this entire organization runs through the volunteer efforts of men and women who depend on our very faithful God. Come see for yourself. Learn more and develop a deeper personal relationship with God and our Lord Jesus Christ. Please see [bsfinternational.org](http://bsfinternational.org) for locations and times. You are welcome to call me or e-mail if you need help finding a class or just have questions about it. (206-232-2688 or [abasse@comcast.net](mailto:abasse@comcast.net) )

# October 2007

Except for Worship & unless otherwise noted: Groups meet in the Fellowship Hall for 1-hour

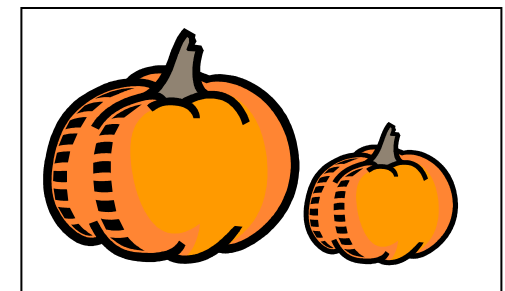
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 8a-12p BSF Women 9:30am Men's Prayer 10am Women's Prayer*	<b>3</b> 7-9pm Beit Messiah (NO Bible Study)	<b>4</b> 6:30am Men's Prayer 10a-12p Twins Group	<b>5</b> 6:30pm Parents' Night Out	<b>6</b> 9:30am-3pm Beit Messiah
<b>7 World Communion</b> 9:30am Chancel Choir 10am Sunday School 11am Worship w/ Communion 7pm Adult 12-Step	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 8a-12p BSF Women 9:30am Men's Prayer 10am Women's Prayer* 4pm Girl Scout Troop 7pm Finance Comm Mtg	<b>10</b> 7pm Bible Study 7-9pm Beit Messiah 7pm Cub Scout Troop	<b>11</b> 6:30am Men's Prayer 10a-12p Twins Group	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 9:30am-3pm Beit Messiah
<b>14</b> 9:30am Chancel Choir 10am Sunday School 11am Worship 7pm Adult 12-Step	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 8a-12p BSF Women 9:30am Men's Prayer 10am Women's Prayer* 7pm Ad Council Mtg	<b>17</b> 7pm Bible Study 7-9pm Beit Messiah	<b>18</b> 6:30am Men's Prayer 10a-12p Twins Group	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 9:30am-3pm Beit Messiah
<b>21</b> 9:30am Chancel Choir 10am Sunday School 11am Worship 7pm Adult 12-Step	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 8a-12p BSF Women 9:30am Men's Prayer 10am Women's Prayer* 4pm Girl Scout Troop 7pm Sons of Norway	<b>24</b> 7pm Bible Study 7-9pm Beit Messiah	<b>25</b> 6:30am Men's Prayer 10a-12p Twins Group	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 9:30am-3pm Beit Messiah
<b>28 Fall Back 1 Hour</b> 9:30am Chancel Choir 10am Sunday School 11am Worship 7pm Adult 12-Step	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 8a-12p BSF Women 9:30am Men's Prayer 10am Women's Prayer* 4pm Girl Scout Troop	<b>31</b> 7-9pm Beit Messiah (NO Bible Study)			

MIUMC Tel: (206) 232-3044 Fax: (206) 236-2281 [miumc@hotmail.com](mailto:miumc@hotmail.com)

**Church Office Hours:** Monday – Friday 9am-1pm

BSF Women: Fellowship Hall, *Both Levels*  
Beit Messiah: Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall  
Bible Study: Fellowship Hall, *Lower Level*

Cub Scout Troop: *Lower Level*, Room 3  
Men's Prayer: Fellowship Hall Library  
\*Women's Prayer @ *Irene Fleming's*



## **“Passing It On” Online**

Join our online newsletter list.

E-mail [miumc@hotmail.com](mailto:miumc@hotmail.com) to receive an online version of our newsletter.

### **Passing It On**

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Leslie Ann Knight

Editor: Brian Wilson, church office manager

Please deliver any submissions you might have for the upcoming newsletter to the church office (preferably via email) by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the prior month. So, that's 10/20 for publication in the November newsletter. Thank you!



7070 SE 24th Street  
Mercer Island, WA 98040

Tel: (206) 232-3044

E-mail: [miumc@hotmail.com](mailto:miumc@hotmail.com)

**Mercer Island  
United  
Methodist  
Church**

*Doers of the word*



## **Atlantic Street Center's 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Big League Dreams Luncheon**

Thursday, October 18, 2007 12-1pm (registration begins at 11:30am)

Qwest Field -- West Club Lounge (Upper level)

Guest Speaker: Karen Bryant, SVP of Communications and Community  
Development for the Seattle Sonics & Storm

MC: Sergeant Monica Hunter

For more info, please contact Chick Hodge, (206) 232-8078