

# CROSSROADS

Back by popular demand!!!!

## Super Summer Sunday Series

It is summer — and time to get together with your church family for food, fellowship and fun.

Our first one is next **SUNDAY, JUNE 29, 2008 at 6PM** in the Fellowship Hall. Our first gathering will be a GAME NIGHT — we will have some games on hand and you can bring your favorite game ... Yahtzee, Mexican Train, ??? ... and join in for a great evening of fun.

Other dates for the summer are: **JULY 13 and 27, and August 17**. We will have a police dog demonstration on July 27 and other grand ideas and meals are being planned for the other dates.

There will be a sign-up in the Narthex on Sunday mornings or you can email Lisa Morgan at Morlisa@aol.com with reservations so that we can plan for plenty of food.

Cost will be \$5.00 per person or \$15.00 for a family of 4 or more.

Hope to see **YOU** there — and bring a friend!!!!

### WEEK OF COMPASSION RESPONDS TO DISCIPLES FAMILIES IMPACTED BY RECENT TORNADOES AND FLOODS



Week of Compassion (WOC) continues to respond to numerous requests from Disciples congregations around the country whose members have been affected by the rash of deadly and damaging tornadoes and floods striking parts of the country. WOC most recently responded to First Christian Church, Windsor, Colo., where a family suffered major damage to their home and farm, and to Lake Harriet Christian Church, Minneapolis, Minn., where members lost their young grandson in the tornado that struck near the Twin Cities in late May.

As an expression of the whole church's concern, WOC has provided solidarity grants to assist these congregations as they respond to families who must deal with the loss of loved ones, homes and livelihoods following the tornadoes. To read more about ways WOC is responding to concerns around the country and around the world, visit:

[www.weekofcompassion.org](http://www.weekofcompassion.org)

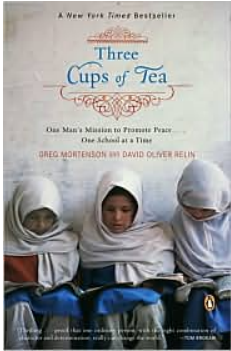


Compass

## Suggested Summer Reading

By the Rev. Dr. Russell Peterman, Senior Minister

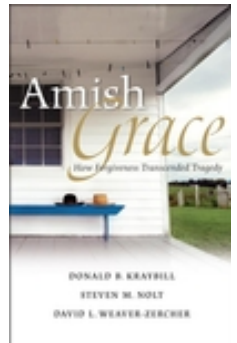
One doesn't have to look at the thermometer outside to know that summer is here! For many of us that means its time to take some time to slow down and relax, maybe even read a good book at the beach or in the mountains. With that in mind, I want to recommend a few books for your summer. This year I'm doing something I don't typically do – I'm suggesting books I haven't yet read. These are some of the books that I *will* be reading this summer because they come highly recommended by people whose opinions I value and trust.



**Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace... One School at a Time** by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin. I'm aware that several of you have already read this, because more than one has suggested that I pick it up! It's the incredible story of a mountaineer who drifted into an impoverished village in Pakistan after a failed attempt at climbing the incredible mountain known as K2. Moved by the inhabitants' kindness, he promised to return and build a school. Over the next decade Mortenson built not just one but fifty-five schools – especially for girls. Its an incredible story that is equal parts a riveting adventure and a testament to the power of the humanitarian spirit.

**Amish Grace: How Forgiveness Transcended Tragedy** by Kraybill, Nolt & Weaver-Zercher. Several friends have referred to this as a "must read." It poignantly tells the story of the remarkable response of the

Amish community to the horrific shooting of ten schoolgirls at Nickel Mines, Pennsylvania, in October 2006. The book tells the incredible story of this community's reaction to this senseless shooting and explores its profoundly countercultural practice of forgiveness. Tony Campolo says its "a story of the love of God lived out in the face of tragedy."

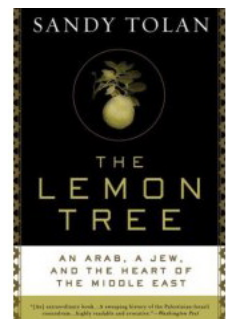


**The Year of Living Biblically: One Man's Humble Quest to Follow the Bible as Literally as Possible**, by A.J. Jacobs. Jacobs writes for Esquire magazine and is often times equally funny and poignant. He was

raised in a secular family but has become increasingly interested in the relevance of faith in our modern world. He decided to dive headfirst and attempt to obey the Bible as literally as possible for one full year. He vows to follow the Ten Commandments. To love his neighbor. But also to obey the hundreds of less publicized rules: to avoid wearing clothes made of mixed fibers; to play a ten-string harp; to stone adulterers. The resulting spiritual journey is at once funny and profound, reverent and irreverent, personal and universal and will make you see the Bible with

new eyes.

**The Lemon Tree: An Arab, A Jew, and the Heart of the Middle East**, by Sandy Tolan. He tells the story of a Palestinian family who fled their home in 1948 during the Arab-Israeli war. Their house became the home of a Jewish family who fled Europe following the Holocaust. He tells the stories of the two families and their eventual meeting, set in the larger context of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. This is especially timely in light of the 60th anniversary of the founding of Israel.



Join me in reading some of these books, and then let's get together, have a cup of coffee and talk about how they spoke to you! Heck, I'll even buy the coffee!

Happy reading!

Grace and peace,

**Note:** As you read this I am off for a week of vacation. I'll be traveling Alaska to run the Mayor's Marathon in Anchorage on Saturday, June 21. This will be my third marathon in the last 4 years and the second I've run with Team in Training to raise awareness and funds for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. I would covet your prayers and well-wishes as I undertake this exciting adventure. After the marathon I will travel to Denali National Park for several days of camping and exploring. I'll look forward to being back in worship with you on June 29.

## July Birthdays

6	Jeanne Clark
6	Matthew Landberg
7	Andie Raymond
11	Heather Raymond
12	Jean Lamb
16	Ryan Carlisle
16	John Maltester
20	JonMichael DeBella
24	Mary Watts
24	Debbie Henry
24	Cookie Orescanin
29	Lori Landberg
29	Michelle Sherman
30	Keri Bender



## July Anniversaries

1	Cookie & Don Orescanin
2	Francis & Bill Trimble
2	Bill & Claire Graham
18	Jim & Lori Sullivan



Please let the church office know if your birthday or anniversary is missing or is listed incorrectly

## Serving in Worship...

**June 22, 2008**

"Winners and Losers"

Genesis 21:8-21

(Gregory Hile, guest preacher)

**9:00 AM**

**Elder:** Janet Gay

**Deacons:** Mike Cluster

**11:00 AM**

**Greeters:** Elaine Ortiz and Elaine Sherman

**Scripture Reader:** Judi Carlisle

**Table Elder:** Ellie McDougal

**Offertory Elder:** Wendy Collins

**Time for Children:** Diana Carlisle

**Diaconate:** Collier Laird [captain] Scott Bisbee, Patti Halter, Matt Hecker, Andie Raymond, Mary Raymond

**Ushers:** Elaine Sherman [captain] Linda Smith, Ruth Langley

**June 29, 2008**

"There is Power in the Welcome"

Matthew 10: 40-42

**9:00 AM**

**Elder:** Diane Maltester

**Deacon:** Todd & Lisa Morgan

**11:00 AM**

**Greeters:** Debbe Hughes & Doris Hamblin

**Scripture Reader:** Zak Gay

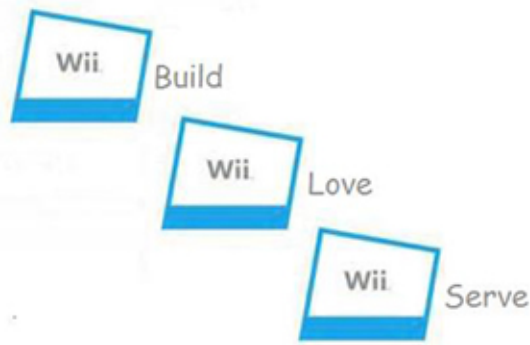
**Table Elder:** Lynne Hile

**Offertory Elder:** Kathleen DeGiobbi

**Time for Children:** Debbe Hughes

**Diaconate:** Hugh McNamar [captain] Bill Bush, Kate Landberg, Lori Landberg, Domanique Veasley

**Ushers:** Doris Hamblin [captain] Dee Laird, Gloria Mattson



*Wanna Play?*

Mexico Mission 2008

Next Saturday, we will welcome our Mexico Mission 2008 participants home. Please join us for the return and please be in prayer this week for the following representatives of FCC Concord:

Al DeBella, Jon Michael DeBella, Patti Halter, Janet Hecker, Kate Landberg, Matt Landberg, David Monachello, Jacob Monterossa, Ryan Morgan, Andie Raymond, Heather Raymond, Mary Raymond, Claire Richardson, Bobby Schneider, Denise Schneider, Meg Sumner-Moore

## Notice of Special Congregational Meeting

Sunday, June 22, 10 am  
in the Fellowship Hall.

We will be voting on a proposal to  
repaint the building

## Summertime Stewardship

As we enter into the summer months, when people often travel as well as have added expenses, it is imperative that our community of faith gives with our "first fruits" and remembers to "pay before we play!" Please be sure that your financial contributions are up to date and remain current during these upcoming months.

Just because we go on vacation, does not mean that our church's expenses cease during that time.

## Celebrations

Everything has a season and reason. The season is summer and party time.

The reason is **Jeanne Clark's 90th birthday on July 6th.**

Our church family will help her celebrate July 6th after the late service.

Please mark you calendar so you can help her celebrate a youthful 90th.

— *Cecelia Ambach*

## Greeter Schedule



June 22	Hugh & Arlene McNamar
June 29	Ruth Langley & Gloria Mattson
July 6	Janet and Matt Hecker
July 13	Bill Bush and Don DeGiobbi
July 20	Millie Parsons and Diana Sage
July 27	Bev and Bill Plambeck



This year FCC member Chris Walker will be making his 14th AIDS Walk to fund research into finding a cure for AIDS. This year's event

will in San Francisco on July 20.

You can support Chris with your donation. Please see Chris or send your donation to the church office or to his home at 830 Savanna Circle, Walnut Creek, CA 94598.

## Explore Membership at FCC Concord



*Looking for a community of faith? Have you thought about joining our church but you wanted some questions asked first? Have you been curious about what membership really means, but you don't know who to ask?*

Please join us for our next inquirers gathering:

Tuesday July 2 @ 7:00 p.m. in Russ Peterman's office

*This is your chance to:*

- Get to know the minister
- Ask questions about FCC, the Disciples of Christ, the meaning of membership, and life in community
- Get to know fellow guests and members

*Interested?*

Contact Russ Peterman at the church office (russ@concordfcc.net or 925/685-7503)

*No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.*

Moments in

*Disciples History*

## It's Only A Token

If it were a Hollywood movie, the scene would be played out in slow-motion:

**CUT TO:** CLOSE UP OF YOUNG MAN IN ANGUISH

**CUT TO:** CLOSE UP OF RIGHT HAND HOLDING LITTLE SILVER TOKEN

**CUT TO:** EXTREME CLOSE UP OF TOKEN: SHOW IT FALL TO TABLE

It was a scene right out of tinsel town. But one that is very real in the memories of Disciples.

In 1807 Thomas Campbell had immigrated to America. He left his eldest son, Alexander, in charge of the rest of the family and all their belongings. Once Thomas was settled, the family was to follow the next year.

And that is just what they attempted to do. In 1808, Alexander, all the Campbell family, and all their 'stuff' boarded a ship bound for the land of freedom. The journey lasted only ten days before the ship, caught in a storm, ran into the rocky coast off Scotland and wrecked. Alexander fished his family, his books, and himself out of the cold salty water and made his way to shore.

But, what at first seemed like a set-back was another of God's blessings in disguise. Since winter was setting in, it was now impossible for the Campbells to make the trek to America. Instead, they spent about one year in Scotland where Alexander was able to continue his education (entering the University of Glasgow) and to continue his personal pilgrimage of faith.

He had been started well on his theological journey by tutelage from his father Thomas. Now, he had the opportunity to intensely study the scriptures and to inquire of the great minds of history, and the University, on exactly how to interpret what God intended for us to hear in the sacred pages.

Interestingly, 1809 proved a banner year for both Thomas and Alexander. Separated by an ocean, the two were knitted together in thought and revelation. Thomas would pen his "Declaration and Address," showing that Christ's Church is a unified whole and realize he was reaching the end of his walk with Presbyterians. Alexander, among other things, would discover that he, too, had come to the end of his journey among Presbyterians. And it was caught in living color by that slow motion Hollywood scene.

In those days, on Sundays when Presbyterians were to celebrate communion (for it was not an every Sunday event), each communicant was examined by an elder to make sure that he or she was sinless enough to receive the meal from Christ's table. Once the elder was satisfied, a little silver token was given that could be exchanged for the elements during the Lord's Supper.

On that Sunday in 1809, in Glasgow, 21 year old Alexander Campbell was absolutely sure that God did not require that little token. So, he came to the table, dropped the silver piece down, and turned and walked away. In that moment, he abandoned one faith journey in order to start another. The journey of a Disciple. It was a journey he remained on for the rest of his life. And a journey that we are on still.

# **YOUTH GROUP NEWS!!!**

## **Inner-Change at the Crossroads**

**GOD is... BIGGER!!!**

Summer Camp Registration information is now available at  
<http://www.ccncn.org/youth.htm>

It is time once again to get ready for SUMMER CAMP 2008 at The Community of the Great Commission! This summer we are focusing on the theme GOD is... BIGGER!!! We will be discovering diverse ways to encounter God this summer. There are many different images of God in scripture. Every person even has their own idea of who God is and what God does. As members of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), we affirm the diversity of our members and how we each relate to God. We also believe that our own ideas about God cannot become absolutes for everyone else to follow. It is important to know how we understand God, because that affects how we treat other human beings.

- Junior (completed grades 3, 4, 5) is July 13 - 19, 2008. Directed by Dan Paul
- Chi Rho (completed grades 6, 7, 8) is June 29 - July 5, 2008. Directed by Ted Firch
- CYF (completed grades 9, 10, 11, 12) is July 6 - July 12, 2008. Directed by Larry Love and Cindy Ryness



CROSSROADS

AN INCLUSIVE, LOVING COMMUNITY OF FAITH AND JUSTICE,  
SEEKING, CELEBRATING AND SERVING CHRIST THROUGH OPEN  
MINDS, COMMITTED HEARTS AND WILLING HANDS.



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) IN CONCORD

*Staff:*

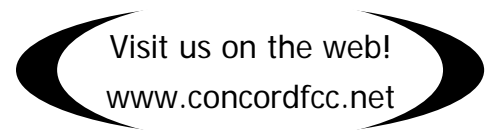
Senior Minister:	Rev. Dr. Russell Peterman:	russ@concordfcc.net
Director of Youth Ministry:	Claire Richardson	claire@concordfcc.net
Office Manager:		
Organist:	Robert Coslett	
Childcare Co-ordinator:	Antoinette Bulatao	
Custodian:	Daniel Blanton	
Website:	www.concordfcc.net	

*Contact Information:*

Office Hours: Monday to Thursday: 8 am—4 pm.  
 Phone: 925-685-7503 Fax: 925-685-0963  
 Address: 3039 Willow Pass Rd., Concord CA 94519

**CROSSROADS**

Email submissions and subscriptions to: info@concordfcc.net  
**Submission deadline for next issue: Monday, June 2, 2008  
 11:00 a.m.**



*Weekly Calendar*

**Sunday, June 22, 2008**

9:00 am — Worship / Sanctuary  
 10:00 am — Sunday School for youth  
 10:00 am — Special Congregational Meeting / Fellowship  
 Hall  
 11:00 am— Worship / Sanctuary

**Thursday, June 26**

7:00 pm — English Classes / Discovery Room

**Saturday, June 28**

4:00 pm (approx.) — Mexico Return

*Russ will be on vacation June 20-26*

**Sunday, June 29, 2008**

9:00 am — Worship / Sanctuary  
 10:00 am — Sunday School for all ages  
 11:00 am — Worship / Sanctuary  
 6:00 pm — Super Sunday Summer Series / Fellowship Hall

**Monday, June 30**

2:00 pm — Staff Meeting / Senior Minister's Office

**Wednesday, July 2**

7:00 pm — Inquirer's Gathering / Russ's Office