

Weekly Message from
Parkrose Community United Church of Christ
Feb 4, 2009

Good morning. This is Rev. Chuck Currie from Parkrose Community United Church of Christ with an update for February 4, 2009.

This past week you received a letter from the Implementation Team (the group charged with implementing our Strategic Plan). The letter contained recommendations on how we might move the church forward. You'll note that the recommendations have been endorsed by all the members of the Church Council. There will be several opportunities to discuss the plan and to ask questions.

In fact, a group of about ten members stayed after church this past Sunday and met with an IT member and a Council representative to ask questions and exchange ideas. Another opportunity for a small group discussion will take place this Sunday, February 8th, following worship.

A Community Gathering will follow the scheduled Annual Meeting on Feb. 15th. At the community gathering the plan will be discussed in detail and you'll be given the opportunity to ask questions. A final vote on the plan will take place on Sunday, Feb. 22nd. The meeting on Feb. 22nd will be a special All-Church meeting. Only active church members can vote.

In the meantime, if you have questions please don't hesitate to call a member of the IT or the Council.

The Board of Administration and Finance will be meeting this Sunday, Feb. 8th, at 5 pm in the Garden Room. Later, at 6pm, the Church Council will meet. As always, all members are welcome.

However you might vote on the recommendations made by the Implementation Team and the Church Council you should feel proud of the members who have served on these bodies. They have attended countless meetings, held retreats, met with consultants, and prayed together about the future of this congregation. It would be difficult to calculate how often they've met or for how many hours.

The proposals they have put forward provide hope for the long term viability of the congregation. Input from discussions during the Strategic Planning process itself, from the climate survey done last year, and from recommendations made by congregants during Community Gatherings have all factored into these proposals. A diverse group of members were brought together to form the Implementation Team so that a wide range of voices might be heard. Some have noted, correctly, that the plan doesn't answer every question but we can't read the future. All we can do is try to best anticipate what it will take to allow us to continue our important ministry. In all things, our hope rests with God.

A couple of other notes:

This Saturday, Feb. 7th, is the Snow-Cap Auction. Information is available in current issue of The Crier.

Tuesday, Feb. 10th will be the final class in our series on Paul and the early church. Please arrive at 6 pm with a potluck dish.

"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome at Parkrose Community United Church of Christ." Our worship service begins at 10 am. More information can be found by calling 503-253-5457 or visiting www.parkroseucc.org.