

Washington Park United Methodist Church
 1955 E. Arizona Avenue
 Denver, CO 80210

Address Service Requested



February 2010
 1955 East Arizona Avenue
 Denver, CO 80210
 303-777-3043

www.washparkumc.org

WPUMC Vision & Strategic Planning Outcomes

“Where there is no vision, the people perish.” Proverbs 29:18

Two caterpillars were crawling along the grass when a butterfly flew over them. They looked up, and one nudged the other and said, “You couldn’t get me up in one of those things for a million dollars.” Life is change.

During last summer and fall, our church was involved in a visioning and strategic planning process, led by Liz Edgar. Through surveys, town hall meetings and interviews, we assessed our strengths and weaknesses, as well as who God is calling us to be at this time at this place. We wanted to take seriously how do we do/be church.

The process forced us to return to the quarry to identify the keystones or core values of our foundation. We asked, “How do we build on those values? Where do we want to go? Why there? And how do we get there?”

At our Church Conference on November 22, we adopted new Mission and Vision statements. We’d like to introduce them to you if you haven’t seen them yet:

WPUMC Mission Statement

Washington Park United Methodist Church is an inclusive community of faith, accepting people as they are, growing toward fullness of life with God’s creation through living the teachings of Jesus Christ: Love, Justice, Mission and Hope.

WPUMC Vision Statement

In five years, Washington Park United Methodist Church will be fully engaged with life, offering vital ministries and intentional outreach to enhance the spiritual growth of our congregation, community, and the world.

To realize our vision by 2015 most effectively and efficiently, we developed a new structure which better reflects our church priorities and integrates some of the areas to deliver better service and more coordinated programming. This results in some modification to the committees associated with Administrative Council and the addition of some new functions.

We welcome you to participate in some of these committees during upcoming Administrative Council sessions, to see what is “cooking in the kitchen”.

Continued

**2010
 FEBRUARY CALENDAR**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
	1	2	3 Choir Rehearsal - 7 PM	4	5	6 FREE DAY - Denver Art Museum Parents Day Out 10 AM- 2 PM	
FREE DAY - Denver Zoo 9:30 am Worship Service 11:00 - 12:30 Youth Group 11:00 Adult Education Series	7	8	9	10 Knitters Club - 7 PM; South Parlor	11 Leah Circle Meeting	12	13
14 FOOD BANK SUNDAY 9:30 am Worship Service 11:00 - 12:30 Youth Group 11:00 Adult Education Series	15 FREE DAY - Denver Botanic Gardens	16 FREE DAY - Denver Zoo	17 ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE - 7 PM Choir Rehearsal - 7 PM	18	19	20	
21 FREE DAY - Denver Museum of Nature & Science 9:30 am Worship Service 11:00 - 12:30 Youth Group 11:00 Adult Education Series	22	23	24 Confirmation - 6 PM Lenten Bible Study - 6- 7 PM Knitters Club - 7 PM; South Parlor	25	26	27	
28 9:30 am Worship Service 11:00 - 12:30 Youth Group 11:00 Adult Education Series & South Africa Mission Report							

A letter from our pastor

From our lead article, you'll notice some of the hard work that has gone into contemplating our strategic direction at WPUMC. I am grateful to Liz Edgar for her leadership, and to the Vision Team (Tyler Amundson; Char Elliott; Kevin Eronymous; Michael Jack; Paul Kinney; Julie Rhody; A.J. Steger; Marni Warren; Katie Wieder) for their commitment to our church's future.

Next month, more on the new structure, goals and opportunities for changing lives.

Shalom,

Dick

January & February Birthdays

January 1	Acuna, Tony
January 1	Jack, Sue Ann
January 1	Marutle, Daniel
January 2	Haemer, Matthew
January 3	Hamrick, CB
January 4	Curry, Ray
January 11	Buddington, Jenny
January 13	Tobler, Douglas
January 16	Schmidt, Jon
January 17	Abman, Lauren
January 17	Hoskins, Michelle
January 18	Longwell, Izzie
January 19	Smith, Annette
January 20	Reardon, Katy
January 20	Scafe, Harriet
January 21	Munroe, Colin
January 21	Shermer, Mason
January 22	Banbury, Alexis
January 24	Kimbrel, Logan
January 24	Kimbrel, Natalie
January 25	Dickson, Carla
January 26	Munroe, Angela
January 29	Eronymous, Lori
January 29	Robertson, Laura
January 29	Schumacher, Michael
January 31	Haemer, Luke
February 1	Hines, Hollan
February 2	Rodriguez, Dennis
February 4	Blair, Gladys
February 4	Evans, Richard
February 4	Jack, Elly
February 5	Gilbert, Virginia
February 7	Edgar, Jack
February 7	LaBrash, Liz
February 14	Shada, Mike
February 17	Dale, Kristi
February 17	Gibson, Thomas
February 17	Wieder, Bill
February 18	Eronymous, Maggie
February 18	Musslewhite, Aidan
February 20	Rodriguez, Kaitlin

Upcoming Events

February 6 - Lunch Bunch will be held from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. We will make Valentine cards, decorate cookies, and see a wonderful movie. Children 3 years of age through 5th grade invited. Children should bring a lunch and a drink. Friends welcome! Reserve a spot by emailing Char at mschar0516@aol.com.

February 7 and onward - An Adult Education Series will begin on this Sunday - February 7, 2010 immediately following worship service. Classes will be offered on nutrition, teaching prayer to our children, and family spirituality. Activities will be available for children three years of age (potty trained) through 5th grade, and nursery will be offered for infants and toddlers. Sign up on the Family Ministries bulletin board! Email Char at mschar0516@aol.com.

February 24 - Char will lead a four-week Lenten Bible Study beginning Wednesday, February 24 2010 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and running three consecutive Wednesdays (March 3, 10, and 17). A light soup supper will be served. Sign up on the Family Ministries bulletin board in the hallway or email Char at mschar0516@aol.com. Everyone welcome!

February 24 - Our Confirmation program will begin at 6pm in the Youth Room. This is for youth in middle school who would like to explore joining the church. Classes will run weekly, including one Saturday retreat until Youth Sunday, April 25th. Youth who chose to join the church will be confirmed on April 25th. A letter will go out to prospective youth by early February. If you or your youth do not get a letter, but are interested please email Tyler at youngpeople@washparkumc.org.

February 28 - Daniel Marutle's report about the HIV/AIDS mission in South Africa. After the report in the Church service, we will go to the Fellowship Hall for a "Taste of South Africa". Everyone is invited to attend.

The Census is Hiring!

Looking for work, either full-time or part-time? Consider applying for a job with the U.S. Census Bureau!! The Census will be ramping up to count the U.S. population this year and needs staff with a variety of different skill sets.

To apply, you must pass a 30 minute basic skills test (practice test found at: <http://2010.census.gov/2010censusjobs/>), and fill out an application and I-9 form. This form requires two forms of identification: either state ID; birth certificate; social security card; alien registration card or a valid passport.

Tests will be administered at the following sites and dates:

2/1; 2/8; 2/15; 2/22 - Washington Park Chapel - 1001 S. Pearl St., Denver, CO 80209 at 6:00 p.m.
2/2; 2/9; 2/16; 2/23 - Harvard Gulch Rec Center - 550 E. Iliff Ave., Denver, CO 80210 at 10:30 a.m.
2/2; 2/9; 2/16; 2/23 - Wash Park Rec Center - 701 S. Franklin St., Denver, CO 80209 at 2:00 p.m.
2/3; 2/10; 2/17; 2/24 - La Familia Rec Center - 65 S. Elati St., Denver, CO 80223 at 5:00 p.m.
2/4; 2/11; 2/18; 2/25 - Harvard Gulch Rec Ctr - 550 E. Iliff Ave., Denver, CO 80210 at 10:30 a.m.
2/4; 2/11; 2/18; 2/25 - Wash Park Rec Center - 701 S. Franklin St., Denver, CO 80209 at 2:00 p.m.

To schedule for a test, please call 303.226.8620

Missions Committee Corner

WPUMC is a very generous family, both in financial contributions and in the gift of their time! The Christmas Collection gathered over \$2700 which was sent to 3 area food banks. \$1700 was given as gifts to the Alternative Gift Giving Program and 92 pieces of mittens and hats were collected from the Mitten Tree and delivered to Mount St Vincent's Home. Thanks to all of you for your continued support for our Missions activities. Every drop in the bucket helps in these times.

On Jan 24, 9 people from WPUMC went to Redemption Fellowship @ Trinity UMC to attend their adaptive church service and to serve them a warm meal after the service. It was wonderful to be a part of that close knit family. Many thanks to those who both cooked the food and those who served the food. Your efforts were greatly appreciated! We will be doing this again in April so watch for the sign up sheet!

Upcoming for February: On February 28 Daniel and Noreen Marutle will be sharing some aspects of the culture of South Africa. Daniel will speak in church on his recent mission trip and we will continue the experience after church downstairs with tasty South African food, music, dancing, pictures and much more. Help is needed in the form of set up, desserts, cleanup, and more. Check the Missions Bulletin board for the sign up sheet.

The Mission Committee has two bulletin boards, both in the Foyer area. The Loaves and Fishes board is full of pictures and updates as to what Habitat is doing and our other bulletin board is right next to the Tea Kitchen. Please check both of them out for wonderful opportunities to volunteer and make a difference.

WPUMC Youth Group

The Wash Park UMC youth group will be moving from Sunday evenings to after church. The new start time will be 11:00 am and we will run to 12:30 pm. Age groups will be combined for some events and for others they will be separate. This time will include lunch for the youth. If you have any questions please contact Tyler @ youngpeople@washparkumc.org.

Fire Safety

The Denver Firefighters Museum is offering a six week fire safety series designed for children ages 2 - 5. The playdate format teaches fire safety behaviors that make learning fun. This multi-media fire safety program will include group activities, role playing, videos, and craft projects. Fire safety concepts taught include: My Friend the Firefighter; Get Low and Go; Stop! Drop! And Roll!; Safe for Play! Keep Away!; Sparky's Hazard House; and Meet a Real-life Firefighter.

Dates are: February 3,10,17,24, and March 3,10

Please note that February 1- 7th, is National Burn Awareness Week. This is a Family Fun Week at the Museum. Come by and learn how to prevent burns and fire from occurring in your home by participating in fun activities like: games and presentations; visiting the Teddy Bear Clinic; learning to treat a burn and other special activities.

Call the Denver Firefighters Museum for reservations and questions at 303.892.1436

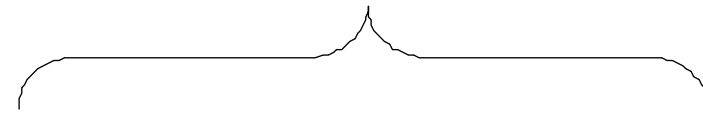
Snow Buddies Program

Volunteers of America has been working hard to connect seniors with willing volunteers to remove snow throughout the 2009 - 2010 winter season. There are still many seniors in need of help, especially in our urban communities. Seniors 60 and older, residing in Adams, Arapahoe, Denver and Jefferson counties that need help with snow shoveling for the winter season, may be paired with a volunteer from their neighborhood.

If you need this help or are willing to volunteer for this program, please call 720.264.3379 or email: snowbuddies@voacolorado.org.

WPUMC Vision & Strategic Planning Outcomes *continued*

Vision 2015 Team Structure Administrative Council



Ministries

Community Outreach
Faith Formation (Adult, Youth, Child)
Programs
Missions
WPUMC Preschool
Worship Experience
Faith Community Experience

Operations

Finance
Marketing/Communications/Technology
Trustees (Facilities)
SPRC
Strategic Plan Implementation Team

Habitat Reasons to Celebrate

The Loaves and Fishes Coalition is a group of churches who work together to build houses each year with Habitat for Humanity Metro Denver. Both organizations are celebrating because together we have:

- Completed our fundraising commitment of \$85,000 to pay for the 2009 home.
- Started planning our next build of a townhome to start in June of 2010
- Built 11 homes in Colorado with plans starting for number 12 in 2010
- Made three trips to the Gulf Coast to help restore or build homes devastated by Hurricane Katrina
- Built nine homes in Latin America

This coalition is committed to building affordable housing for those in need. If you would like to help Habitat of Metro Denver, look for volunteer opportunities on our bulletin board outside of the sanctuary. If you would rather not help with a build but want to support Habitat's efforts, there are often opportunities to help with projects in the Habitat office. Keep checking that bulletin board!

If you would like to help build a home or townhome and can't wait until our Loaves and Fishes build begins in June, please go to the website (www.habitatmetrodenver.org) to look for opportunities. There is a large complex of townhomes being built not far from I-25 and Colorado Boulevard. Week-end openings are tough to find right now but weekday opportunities are available. Please return to the website often for build opportunities throughout the city.

Thank you for your continued support of our Missions projects with Habitat for Humanity and the Loaves and Fishes Coalition!



The Loaves and Fishes Townhome - nearly completed in August 2009!

Habitat Happy to Accept Your Old Car

Do you know someone who has a car they no longer need? Are you looking for a way to get rid of a car that does not run anymore? Habitat for Humanity of Metro Denver is happy to help you and provide a tax deduction.

HM Brown will take care of the sale of your car and the money will be given to Habitat for Humanity. For further information, call Roger at the Rio Grande Habitat for Humanity outlet store at 303.722.5863. Be sure to tell Roger that you would like the Loaves and Fishes Coalition (which WPUMC is a member of) to be credited for the donation to Habitat for Humanity. In turn, your donation will be used toward the house we will begin this summer.