

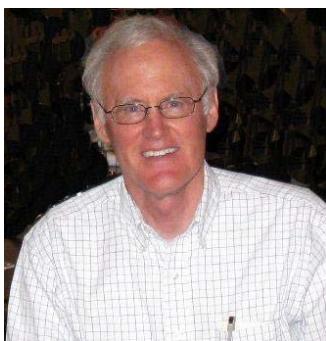


# THE LINK

A monthly publication of the  
Washington Park United Methodist Church



**JULY 2011**



Reverend Richard Evans

Six years ago July 1, I began as your minister, the new kid on the block. Since then there have been a lot of "new kids," of various ages. It has been an honor to be with you-work, worship, service and play. In the United Methodist structure, both Char and I are appointed on an annual basis to the church we will serve. As I begin year seven, for the record, I'm not "itching" to go anywhere else! I look forward to our growing not simply larger, but deeper, as we say in our Mission Statement: "toward fullness of life through living the teachings of Jesus Christ: Love, Justice, Mission and Hope."

Shalom,

*Dick*

## REFLECTIONS FROM ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Dear Friends:

As WPUMC's Administrative Council (Ad Council) chair I had the privilege of attending the 2011 Annual Conference of the Rocky Mountain Conference of the United Methodist Church, held June 15<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup>. However, I must admit not growing up in the Methodist Church, I wasn't sure what the conference was about or why my attendance representing our church was important. As WPUMC's laity delegate I learned two

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### July Birthdays

July 1 = Kirschman, Ruth Ann  
July 3 = Shaffalo, Heidi  
July 4 = Gerard, Jeff  
July 4 = Mitchell, Linda  
July 4 = Nelson, Carol  
July 6 = Ahnstedt, Eleanor  
July 7 = Eronymous, Kevin  
July 7 = Hoskins, Ron  
July 8 = Buyers, Carol  
July 8 = Dickson, Bryce  
July 11 = Gerard, Kathryn  
July 12 = Haemer, Anna  
July 12 = Hamrick, Gunter  
July 12 = Steger, Kathryn  
July 13 = Haemer, Clara  
July 15 = Jump, Tom  
July 16 = Berger, Jake  
July 16 = Lydigsen, Calvin  
July 19 = Ryan, Katrina  
July 20 = Kinney, Paul  
July 22 = Weisberg, Emma  
July 23 = Hays, Grace  
July 30 = Hines, Barbara  
July 24 = Hammond, Carol  
July 28 = Johnson, Dawn  
July 28 = Rogers, Kristin  
July 29 = Jump, Tyler  
July 30 = Hines, Barbara

### July Anniversaries

July 21 = Craig and Carol

Nelson

valuable lessons from the conference. First, that the United Methodist Church (UMC) is intentionally decentralized and democratic, structured with oversight delegations or conferences to help determine the ministry and workings of the UMC. Second, and most important, that the collective United Methodist Church - not just Washington Park UMC - strives to live the teachings of Jesus Christ as reflected in our church's mission statement (love, justice, mission and hope).

First, the UMC is organizationally structured in a hierarchical tier of conferences or governance bodies that shape the mission and direction of our denomination - they are Charge, Annual and General Conferences. Charge conference is akin to an annual "shareholder's meeting" of WPUMC. Usually held in December we reflect on successes of our mission for the year just ending and confirm our plans for the upcoming year. Annual conference is both a noun and a verb. The Rocky Mountain Conference - the noun, is an association of 260 United Methodist Churches from Colorado, Utah and part of Wyoming. It is one of 63 conferences representing geographic regions in the United States. Annual Conference - the verb, is the act of worshipping, fellowshiping, and affirming the Conference's administrative and mission activities. Various petitions and resolutions are presented, discussed and voted on. Also, laity and clergy delegates are elected to represent our region at Jurisdictional and General Conferences.

Enough already on "Methodist Organization 101". The most important lesson learned from Annual Conference was clearly the abundant "connectionalism" of the UMC. Our church along with other local UMCs and various Methodist-based organizations are bound together by a common mission to reach beyond our communities and out into the world. We had the opportunity to worship together in large plenary sessions, fellowship together in small covenant discipleship groups, hear the message and direction from our Conference Bishop, Elaine Stanovsky, and receive new visions from guest disciples. Great things are happening at and through WPUMC to help spread the hope we know in Jesus Christ. For example, one of the key focus areas of the Conference is to grow and renew existing congregations. WPUMC is one of very few churches organized prior to 1980 which is growing in all areas of worship. Additionally, we were recognized as one of less than half the Conference churches to tithe at least 12.5% of our budget as an apportionment. Why is this important? Because most of our tithe supports missions, Christian education, and other community services throughout the world.

We at WPUMC and our friends throughout the Rocky Mountain Conference draw on the words of John Wesley to "*Do all the good you can, in all the ways you can, to all the souls you can, in every place you can, at all the times you can, with all the zeal you can, as long as ever you can*"

Peace,

Paul Kinney

## HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

### Sign Up Now to Help Build Habitat Home No. 13

Construction teams will begin work Thursday, July 14. Volunteers can work every Thursday, Friday and Saturday throughout the summer. Each church is part of a team, and each team is assigned to specific work days; most days provide openings for only 10 volunteers. You can sign up to help on one or more specific days when our church's team is scheduled to work. Our church is scheduled to supply volunteers on the following days, but other days are available as well:

Fri., July 15

Thurs., July 21

Sat., July 30

Fri., Aug. 5

Thurs., Aug. 11

Sat., Aug. 20

Fri., Aug. 26

Thurs., Sept. 1

Sat., Sept. 10

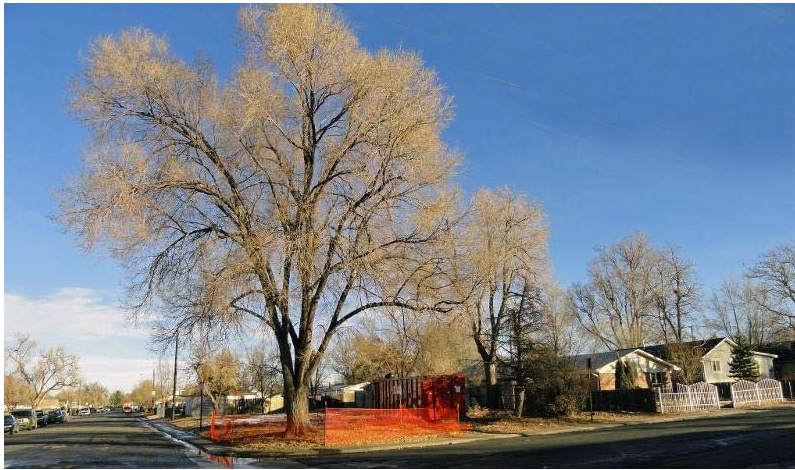
Fri., Sept. 16

Thurs., Sept. 22

Sat., Oct. 1

Habitat for Humanity will break ground in mid-July on the 13<sup>th</sup> home sponsored by the Loaves and Fishes coalition of churches. Since our church is active in the coalition, members of our congregation can volunteer to help build the house. When work is completed in October, a refugee family of six will have a home of their own.

Volunteering is simple: **At our church, interested volunteers contact Carol Nelson at 303.766.1978 or at [customtrainingllc@q.com](mailto:customtrainingllc@q.com). Or you may add your name, email, and phone number to the Volunteer Sign Up on the bulletin board in the church's South Parlor.** (Please do not go on line to volunteer for this particular build.) Carol contacts the team leader, who signs you up. This way the team leader knows what's going on. Later you will receive an email confirming your registration and then a reminder email right before the day you volunteer.



Loaves and Fishes' 13th Habitat for Humanity home will rise on this site at 800 Patton Court in west Denver during the summer. You can help build it!

You can also help by contributing to help raise the \$85,000 cost of sponsorship. Contributions may be made directly or through automatic bank or credit card deductions. If money is sent directly to the Habitat Office in Denver, it must be clearly marked that it is for Loaves and Fishes. More details and commitment forms are available from Carol Nelson. Please contact her for additional information.

This house will become "home" for Ali Kased and Kamila Ruhaif and their four children. The parents were born in Kuwait, but political conflict drove them and their growing family to Iraq and then to Jordan. When the US opened its doors for Iraqi refugees in 2008, the family came to Colorado. They have been preparing to become Habitat homeowners, beginning with the rigorous process of family selection and continuing with classes to explain aspects of home ownership.

Habitat homes are not free. Each homeowner pays back a long-term, no-interest mortgage. That money becomes available to build additional Habitat homes. In addition, prospective homeowners must show a need for affordable housing and agree to partner with Habitat through "sweat equity" hours.

## MISSIONS CORNER

**Operation Christmas Child :** Collection of shoe boxes filled with goodies will be collected in July and wrapped to be sent off around the world in November. See Missions bulletin board in the Narthex.

**Loaves and Fishes:** Signups for working on the 2011 build are starting. See the Loaves and Fishes board in the South Parlor.

**Bread for the World Letter Day:** Claudia Svarstad personally delivered our letters to Senator Udall and Bennet. Thanks to her for her extra effort and those of you who took the time to send your thoughts to Washington.

## SENIOR NEWS

### Senior Luncheon

Those who attended the WPUMC Senior Luncheon on June 26, 2011, had a "day to remember"! The guest speaker was church member Mildred Jordan, who celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on May 18<sup>th</sup> of this year.

Mildred delighted luncheon guests with stories of her days living in the Washington Park neighborhood. She and her husband, Julian, owned the Washington Park Press and the West Side Hustler newspapers for many years. Mildred's job was to sell display ads for the papers. She still talks about the day that she sold a two-page ad to one of the businesses in the area!

She began attending Washington Park United Methodist Church 40 years ago when her children



Mildred Jordan

were in elementary school. She was the first to serve as president of the Washington Park UMC United Methodist Women's organization. She fondly remembers Washington Park UMC as crowded and active. Years ago, in order to accommodate the large congregation, there were two worship services every Sunday. Mildred remembers the Sunday School as being the largest in the city of Denver!

Mildred now resides in a senior apartment in Lakewood, CO, at Eaton Terrace. She spends her days reading the newspaper (cover to cover), watching the news on television, and visiting with friends at her apartment complex. In the evening, she will occasionally watch, in her words, a "quality" musical program on television.

Mildred and her husband were blessed with two children, ten grandchildren, fifteen great-grandchildren, and two great-great grandchildren! We appreciate that one of Mildred's granddaughters, Barbara Mershon, and her husband, Ted, were kind enough to bring Mildred to church for the Senior Luncheon. Most of all, we thank Mildred for sharing her stories and giving us her insight to the history of Washington Park United Methodist Church.

### Dotty Greenfield Passed Away June 9, 2011

Dotty Greenfield was born in Scottsbluff, Nebraska, and grew up in Gibbon, Nebraska where she attended a country school and graduated from High School with a class of 19. Then she went to Kearney State Teachers College and then off to Nursing School in Denver, at Presbyterian St. Luke's Nursing School. She met Tom Greenfield on a blind date close to the end of her Nursing School. They dated only 3 months when Tom, a student at DU, was called into Military Service. They had a quick wedding and off he went.

She moved back home where their first child, Thomas Jay, was born. Tom came back almost a year after their son had been born. When he got home, he had to work three jobs to make ends meet while completing his schooling at DU. Marcia, their daughter was born in 1950. They all lived in a tiny Quonset hut near DU. In spite of the sacrifices at various times in their lives, she and Tom made a commitment for her to be a Stay-at-Home-Mother, which was something she put her whole heart and soul into every day of her life. In this process, she found innumerable ways to be involved in her children's lives and activities.

Tom and his parents had been members of Wash Park UMC since 1933, so Tom brought Dotty and the children to WPUMC. Dotty took her turn on the Education Committee in the 60s. When Marcia went off to College, Dotty decided to get her hands back into her Nursing career. She went back to work for a number of years at three different Doctors' offices. After many years of nursing Tom came to cross-roads in his Trailer business where he decided to open up his own company. True to Dotty's supportive nature, she gave up her nursing ambitions and put all of her energy into helping Tom's company become a success.

She was also involved in several church and community activities. She was involved with a service group for Tom's business, SerCuSo, and Young Life Youth Organization to name a few.

Some of her favorite hobbies were: sewing, knitting, crochet, cross-stitching, cooking and crafts. She also loved swimming and water aerobics. Probably her dearest hobby was to research both sides of the family Genealogies. She was successful in tracking down lots of valuable information as well as keeping up with all of the current and relevant information. Along with this hobby, she maintained a number of family photo albums. They loved to play cards with Tom. They would often be seen playing an evening game of "hand and foot" "gin rummy" or find Dotty playing "Bingo".

When Tom and Dotty moved to Heather Gardens, they continued to attend WPUMC. They joined "Two by Twos", and when Tom took his turn as President, Dotty was right by his side helping him. Her other attribute was looking for ways to cheer people up. And if help was needed on a committee or with a project, you could count on Dotty to be there, ready to be of assistance. She may not have wanted to be in charge, but she was definitely ready to be there to do whatever was needed to get the job done. She was never afraid of hard work. Also, she was beautiful inside as well as outside.

Tom and Dotty were married 68 years! She passed away on June 9, 2011 and her ashes were placed in the columbarium at WPUMC on June 18, 2011 with Rev. Paul Miller (Pastor of Chapel at Heather Gardens) as the Officiating Pastor.

## YOUTH GROUP

The Youth mission trip will be held at the Wind River Reservation in Wyoming from July 3rd to July 8th.

The Youth Group will also help to open up Camp Rosalie this year and will hopefully spend some time there this summer. Be on the lookout for these dates.

## Upcoming Events and Calendar

**Dinner Groups:** Time to sign up for dinner groups again! Come, get to know fellow church members. The groups will be divided into 6 - 8 people. The idea is to rotate between everyone's house for a fun and casual dinner. The group can decide how they want to organize their dinners (host provides dinner, potluck, or some other variation). The goal is to rotate between everyone's house by next summer. Please sign up before July 7. There will be a sign up sheet in the hall by the tea kitchen or you can email me at [elhaemer@gmail.com](mailto:elhaemer@gmail.com). Let me know if you are willing to lead a group. Thanks.

Emily and Matt Haemer

**Young Adult Barbecue:** July 10 - Mark your calendars for our 2nd Annual WPUMC Young Adult Barbecue! Please come at 5:00 pm to socialize and enjoy great food in our beautiful courtyard. You may sign up outside the tea kitchen or via email at [hbs691@yahoo.com](mailto:hbs691@yahoo.com). Please indicate the number of adults attending and if you would like to participate in childcare (dinner will be provided for the kids). Looking forward to seeing you there!

**Annual Peach Sale :** Our annual peach sale season has started! Our peaches are Sweet, Fresh, Tree-ripened Palisade, Colorado Freestone peaches. They are sold in 20 pound boxes (45 - 50 to a box). They are available to you for \$30.00. All orders and complete payment must be received at the Church on or before Sunday August 7th, 2011. Make checks payable to WPUMC. Mail or bring checks to WPUMC, 1955 E. Arizona Avenue, Denver, CO 80210. Peaches must be collected from Washington Park United Methodist Church on Friday August 12th, 2011 at 2 - 6pm or Saturday August 13, 2011 at 8 - 12 am. For further information call Charlene Sullivan at 303.632.8312.

**Swinging at AIDS:** The Center for the Church and Global AIDS will host the fifth Annual Golf Tournament and Silent Auction on August 16, 2011. It is \$125.00 per golfer. Please contact Claudia Svarstad at 303.594.8027 or [cvarstad@aol.com](mailto:cvarstad@aol.com). Great services, and fun opportunities. Come and shop - support this great cause. Please contact Sarah Harrington at [treyharrington@comcast.net](mailto:treyharrington@comcast.net) or 303.877.1955 if you would like to donate an item for this year's event.

**Vacation Bible School:** VBS is scheduled for August 1 to 4, 2011 from 9am to 11:45am. Our theme will be "Shake It Up Cafe", where kids carry out God's recipe! Children 3 years of age (potty trained) through 5th Grade are invited! For more information, contact Char at [education@washparkumc.org](mailto:education@washparkumc.org) .

**Camp Rosalie:** Mark your calendar...in pencil. We are hoping to go to Camp Rosalie the 2nd weekend in August, but are anxiously still awaiting confirmation from Crossroads Church. We will keep you updated!

### Free Days In Denver

July 1 = Denver Botanic Gardens at Chatfield

July 2 = Denver Art Museum

July 10 = Denver Botanic Gardens

### Washington Park Events

July 4 = Brass Quintet with pianist Hank Troy at the Wash Park Boat House at 11am

July 4 = Concert Band at Wash Park - 7:30 pm

July 10 = Concert Band at Wash Park - 7:30 pm

July 31 = Concert Band at Wash Park celebrating Historic Denver and Molly Brown at 7:30 pm

### Timing for LINK and Weekly Info. Distribution

If you have information that has to be in the weekly updates, please make sure that the information reaches the office (at [office@washparkumc.org](mailto:office@washparkumc.org) or in person) by Tuesday on the week you need it in the emails. Information for the Link must be received by the 20th of each month. The information must clearly indicate whether it is for the Link or the weekly updates or for both. We really appreciate your help!

### Contact Information

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