

FRIENDS of the CARPENTER  
 Changing lives with love  
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Dear Friends, Let us love one another because love comes from God. Whoever loves is a child of God and knows God. 1 John

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Buy yours on-line today:  
[friendsofthecarpenter.org](http://friendsofthecarpenter.org)  
 Or visit our store at: 1600 W. 20th Street  
 Handmade in Vancouver, Wash.

Fish Plaques \$5.00 (Shown in Faith, Hope, Love)  
 Order a custom fish for your loved one (8-9 letters)!



**Product of the Month**  
 "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."  
 (Matthew 4:18-19). Summer is the perfect time to go fishing with family & friends and to reflect on the bounty of God.



Changing Lives with Love

# The Carpenter's Tool Box

VOLUME 17, ISSUE 7

JULY 2015

## Do You Know Who You Are? By Tom Iberle

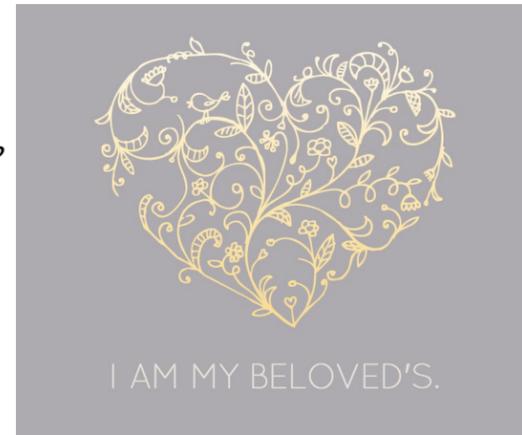
One night in Los Angeles, a hitchhiker was trying to get a ride. A fancy sports car pulls over to pick him up. When the hitchhiker gets into the car and sees the face of the driver, he recognizes him. The driver was film star Michael Douglas! The hitchhiker was astounded. All he could think to say to Michael Douglas was, "Do you know who you are?"

volunteer positions, and was a regular monthly Devotion leader, where she shared many inspirational messages over the years.

Early on, Shirley brought to us one of her favorite theological affirmations. It quickly became a regular part of our prayer life at the Friendship Center:

ine finding safety and a sense of purpose anywhere, let alone at the Friendship Center, unless you understand on a deep level how much God loves and values you for just who you are. That can be difficult for many of us to accept – how can God find me beautiful to behold, when I know how much I can make a complete mess of things here on Earth?

But that unconditional and all-encompassing concept of divine love is fundamental to our understanding of who God is and what He does for us. It reminds me of the powerful image of God the Father from Paul Young's



***I am a beloved and precious child of the Most High God, beautiful to behold with something to share!***

Isn't that a great answer to the question 'Do you know who you are?' It is also fits our Mission in a wonderful way. It would be hard to imag-

book *The Shack*. MacKenzie, the main character, spends an entire weekend in conversation with Papa (the term of endearment that Paul uses throughout the book for God the Father). After hearing Papa describe one person after another in loving terms and refer

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Do You Know Who You Are? 1
- Donations Needed 2
- Activity Corner 2
- July Agency Spotlight 2
- Church Beyond Walls 3
- Calendar 5
- Beach Trip 3
- Contact Info 6
- 2nd Chance Thrift Store 5
- Product of the Month 6
- Annual Auction & Dinner Sponsorships 4

That's a fascinating question, *Do you know who you are?* One we all should ponder and consider how to answer.

We bid a reluctant farewell this past month to Rev. Shirley Knight, who is moving back to Idaho to be closer to her family in Twin Falls. Shirley is a retired Methodist minister who has filled a number of roles for Friends of the Carpenter over the years. She served on our Board of Directors from October 2011 until May 2015. Shirley also faithfully covered several other

continued

to each one as 'one of my favorites', Mackenzie comes to the transcendent realization that we're all God's favorites. God's "especially fond" of every single human being on the planet.

So many of those who come to the Friendship Center have had their faith in God shaken and their self-image and sense of worth beaten into the ground. It's hard to avoid those kinds of feelings when it seems as if your

whole world is crumbling around you. Everyone – Volunteers, Participants, Agency representatives and our Staff – work hard at providing an atmosphere of hospitality and welcome for everyone that comes into our building. That happens in so many different ways, from simple acts of kindness to the daily Name Game to the various woodworking and other activities that provide such a solid sense of purpose. If you haven't yet experienced that,

or haven't experienced it in a while, you really need to visit us at 1600 W. 20<sup>th</sup> St and find out for yourself.

In the meantime, always remember who you are and how important you are to God's Plan for the world. Thanks so much for reminding us of that, Shirley. You remain a great Friend of the Carpenter and will always be in our hearts and our prayers.

Have a Blessed Summer, everyone.

# July 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	9:30 am Devotions	9:30 am Devotions	9:30 am Devotions	9:30 am Devotions	9:30 am Devotions	7/25 9:30 am Show & Tell
	1:00 pm Staff Mtg	1:30 pm Point Ministries (Veterans Support Group)	10 am Faith Sharing Group	10:30 am Discipleship Class	Friendship Center Closed July 3rd	
		7 pm VCCB Practice	1 pm Wednesday Afternoon Activity	7 pm Pipe Band Rehearsal		
			3 pm The Daniel Plan Class	7/16 One (1) Day of Prayer for Clark County and FOC		
			7/15 11-4 pm Hand of Favor Haircuts			
			6/24 7 pm Woodturners			
			1 pm Newsletter Activity			
			8/3-8/7			



## July Volunteer Star Spotlight



Al Walter and his wife, Sally, are transplants from Walla Walla. Now they are firmly rooted in Vancouver and are enjoying the close proximity to their children and grandchildren in Portland and Seattle. Al retired from the Department of Corrections after 30 years working as a Unit Manager and Classification Counselor. He received his

MA in Bible and Theology at Western Seminary in Portland, Oregon in 2010. Al is seen every 4th Thursday leading devotions at the Friends of the Carpenter (FOC). Al related that he "wanted to serve God full time as a volunteer." Al feels that "FOC is a great and unique ministry. People have the opportunity to serve God and at the same time contrib-

ute to the community." Al is active in the *Rehoboth Messianic Congregation* and teaches a New Testament Class there every Saturday. Al's passion is Alpine Climbing and he has climbed many of the mountains in the Northwest. Al is also very active in the Gideons International. Thank you Al, for volunteering your time at FOC!

## Activity Corner

Wednesday  
Event Activities  
1:00 — 3:00 pm

How are you all doing with humanity vs humidity? As you can tell the weather is playing a role in all our lives this summer. The Friendship Center has been coping with fans and laughter to move the air around. We have been blessed with several groups of young people sharing our space. They have done yard work in the mornings and woodworking projects in the afternoons. What a treat to watch the younger folks interact (or people watch) with the center "regulars." We are looking forward to more mission groups later this month.

Also our summer HUGS Party is coming up on the July 15<sup>th</sup> so put it on your calendar. We will be serving hot dogs, salads, chips and cold drinks. We have some surprise giveaways. Ooo ...

Ahhhhh ...Hummmm.... Hands of Favor will be here for more haircuts along with some games and good fun. We can always use extra help that day so give Bernie a call if you have a couple of extra hours that Wednesday. Stay kewl and hydrated and hope to see you soon.  
CJ, Activity

### DONATIONS NEEDED

Bottled Water, Sand Paper, 1/4" ribbon, Coffee, & fresh vegetables from your garden Tax ID# 91-1932953

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

## 2nd Chance Thrift Store

3414 NE 52nd St., Vancouver, WA 98661

360-750-3867 [www.2ndchancethriftstore.org](http://www.2ndchancethriftstore.org)

10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday

**"Only by giving are you able to receive more than you have" Jim Rohn**

Volunteers are the heart of the 2nd Chance Thrift Store. We are already halfway through 2015 and closing in on our five year anniversary. In the last 4 -1/2 years we have come a long way. Without our incredible, all volunteer staff we would not be where we are today. Monday through Saturday our volunteers show up and work hard to help those who are not as fortunate as we are.

We have all made so many new friends and met so many generous people. With your help we can continue this mission of helping others. Donations are

the fuel for our store. Our volunteers are eagerly awaiting your donations of gently used or new clothing, housewares, furniture, crafts, vintage and antique items, jewelry, books, tools, linens, and decorative items. Please help us continue our support to the Friends of the Carpenter with your donations.

Thanks again to our wonderful thrift store staff. We could not do it without you!

**"You have never really lived until you have done something for someone who can never repay you" Anonymous**

Our donations days are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.