

POCOC NEWSLETTER

A weekly update of plans, schedules, news and events of the Port Orchard Church of Christ
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Tuesday, January 10, 2012

PUGET SOUND AREA FELLOWSHIP

WITH DR. JERRY RUSHFORD

**WILL BE THIS FRIDAY EVENING, JANUARY 13, 2012
AT THE LAKEVIEW CHURCH OF CHRIST IN TACOMA
1709 112TH ST. S**

Fellowship begins at 6:00 p.m

Dessert will be served at 6:30

Congregational singing at 7:00

Dr. Rushford will speak at 7:20

“ONCE UPON A TIME...” (the church as storyteller)

Jerry's Farewell Tour... Dr. Rushford will be retiring from his position as Director of Church Relations at Pepperdine University following this year's lecture program.

Join us for an evening of congregational fellowship and encouragement.

Some of us will be leaving our church parking lot at 5:15 p.m.

LIVING BETWEEN THE TIMES

Lifted Up By HOPE in Romans 5-8

THE 69TH ANNUAL PEPPERDINE BIBLE LECTURES AT MALIBU are scheduled for Tuesday through Friday, May 1-4, 2012. Lectureship Booklets with schedules, registration forms and lots of information will be available on the table in our foyer this Sunday morning.

If you plan to attend Pepperdine Bible Lectures this year, it is very important to get your registration in as early as possible to be assured of getting housing.

A REPORT ON CELEBRATE JESUS, 2011 — Another amazing success! If success is defined in terms of the number of people who get to hear the story of Jesus... Celebrate Jesus was another great success!

By the numbers it looked like this... Friday 191 cars and 717 people. Saturday 191 cars and 911 people, Sunday 213 cars and 1031 people, for a total of 595 cars and 2659 people. And of that 2659 people some of them already knew Jesus and had a personal relationship with him, but some of them have never known him. So the story was worth telling again and again and again. Thank you to everyone who gave so much and worked so hard and did so much to make Celebrate Jesus happen again!

Rachel's Story

On May 2nd of this year I was placed on the Lung Transplant list. My cystic fibrosis had caused my lungs to fail and I was limping along in my everyday life tethered to oxygen. My only hope was to get a call saying they had a lung match for me. After waiting nearly three months, the events of July 31st changed my life. This was the day that I received a double lung transplant.

That call came on Saturday, July 30th at 4:30 in the afternoon. My family and I had just spent a week with my grandparents from Seattle, Washington and they had left that morning to continue their trip to Texas. I spent the day being lazy on my computer recuperating from the week of activities. I had just gotten dressed for the day at about 3 o'clock and went outside to relax in the lounge chair. Mom was working in the yard; Dad was running errands, and my brother Todd was at work. It was a typical summer Saturday.

Dr. Zamora had called our home phone, my mom's cell phone, and my cell phone trying to reach us and tell us about the news. We finally got the message when Mom brought my phone out to me and I listened to the voice mail. I was practically speechless when I heard Dr. Z say, "I have a potential lung match for you." I could barely tell my mom what I had just heard. We quickly scrambled to get a phone number and call him back. Just as we were dialing the phone number he called our home phone again. After the phone call, I sat on the stairs not knowing what to think. I had mixed feelings of excitement, anxiety, relief, joy, and fear all at the same time. This was the time period where we had to just wait it out for another phone call to tell us when to go to University Hospital.

I was contemplating about a million thoughts at once: "No more oxygen! I will be able to take a deep breath again! How terrible is ICU going to be? Are these lungs going to match? Am I ready for this? Where is Dad, where is Todd, are they going to make it home in time?"

Dr. Zamora called again and said we needed to be at University Hospital at 6:30. About twenty minutes before we had to leave, Todd got home, and only ten minutes before we needed to leave, Dad got home. I ran outside with my oxygen tubing tethering behind me to exclaim to Dad, "We got the call for lungs!" He didn't believe me at first and he was shocked at the news. Todd began texting his immediate friends to ask for prayers that everything would work out. He spread the news quickly and little did I know that this would start the chain reaction of thousands of people across the country praying for my successful outcome.

We arrived at the hospital and went to the 3rd floor. I got gowned up, an IV was started, and we went over paperwork with the transplant technician. They told us what to expect and the anticipation set in. We waited around for an hour or so before I went to a pre-op room. Here they started another IV in my hand. First, they told us surgery time would be at 10:30 but 10:30 came and went and they told us that the new time was 12 o'clock midnight. In the wee hours of Sunday, July 31st I was wheeled into surgery and they started to transplant my new lungs. I found out later that the Elders from our church came and sat in the waiting room with my parents

Ladies join us for a Tea and Shower for the Delay twin girls.

Where: The Gerard home
4001 Coronet Pl SE
When: Sunday, January 29, 2012
2:00—4:00 pm.

See Laura Gerard to contribute to the diaper fund or you may Purchase clothing 12 mo. And up.

Coffee Oasis — Each month we have the opportunity to take a meal to Coffee Oasis. Monthly teams prepare meals, and Donations of cookies and brownies are given. This month the Team will be taking a meal Saturday, January 14. If you can provide cookies or brownies for the meal, please contact Connie Greer (jandcgreer@waveable.com or 360-874-7589) or Laura Fry (DWFY@aol.com or 360-871-5230).

praying every hour on the hour throughout the night.

The surgery went off without a hitch and my mom and dad finally saw me at 8:30 that morning in the ICU. Here I had about a dozen tubes and wires coming out of me. I had a breathing tube, central line, a catheter, a number of IV's in my arms, and four chest tubes. The first time I woke from surgery, I still had the breathing tube down my throat and tried to speak. I muffled the question, "New lungs, new lungs?" to my mom. She said with tears in her eyes, "Yes!" I had new lungs and told me to stop trying to talk and go back to sleep. The next time I woke up was Monday evening.

The details of the ICU are fuzzy because I was on so many drugs but I do vividly remember my first walk down the hallway. I had to wear a mask and gown, and I used a walker to help me balance. It was incredible to be able to walk for the first time with my new lungs and not use any oxygen.

I left the ICU on Thursday and went up to the 9th floor to continue my recovery. As I gained more of my senses, I wondered to myself why no one told me how tough the first days out of surgery would be. Those were the toughest and longest days I have ever endured. Now, three months out, I realize that the pain of the first few days gets blurred in my mind as time gets further out. "The good outweighs the bad." This is what I kept telling myself everyday I continued to heal.

The goals I achieved included: walking the halls multiple times a day, walking outside for the first time, going to the bathroom by myself, feeding myself, and finally going home after only 12 days in the hospital.

My life is forever changed because of this lung transplant. I can walk my dog anytime I want and instead of my parents forcing me to walk, I jump at the opportunity. I work out twice a week in the Pulmonary Rehab gym, and do Zumba twice a week too. I have so much more energy, I am able to really taste foods now, and my appetite is incredible, my hair is healthy and my mind is clear. These are all things I didn't have before. I feel so normal and thank God every day for His amazing gift to me. I am also incredibly grateful to the family who donated their loved ones organs. I look forward to my future and many new experiences.

Rachel is the granddaughter of David and LaDonna Latham.

Why do we read the Bible?

We read the Bible to give our attention to the author, God's Spirit.

We read the bible to become a more suitable home for His Spirit.

We read the Bible to be transformed; to become more spiritual.

There is a spiritual way to read the Bible.

Spiritual reading is a way of reading that:

Guards against depersonalizing the text, reducing it into an affair of questions and answers, definitions and doctrines.

Prevents us from using Scripture to

justify ourselves like the religion scholar tried to do with Jesus when he asked, "Who is my neighbor?"

Abandons the attempt to take control of the text as if it were helpless without our help.

Joins us with the women at the tomb as they abandon their spices and ointments intended for the Word made flesh and embrace the resurrection of that same Word.

Intends to joining of the entire biblical story and my story

Refuses to be reduced to *just* reading, but intends the living of the text – listening and responding to the voices of that "so great a cloud of witnesses" telling their stories. *

SUNDAY

January 8, 2012

Bible Classes 91
Worship 171
Offering \$4,739.88
Goal \$6,192.29

ELDERS

Melvin Byrd
Les Lewis
Dale Sanders
Ray Switzer

DEACONS

Gary Chasteen
Gene Gerard
Darren Hanson
Trent Herbert
Troy Hill
Brad Orser

MEETING TIMES

Sunday Morning

Fellowship 9:00 a.m.
Bible Class 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:45 a.m.

Sunday Evening

Small Groups at Various Times. Call the Church office for info.

Wednesday Evening

Meal 5:30 p.m.
Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

NOTES

*Please meet in the church library at 10:35 A.M.
If you are unable to serve as scheduled please contact the church office by phone or email at church@pococ.org

SERVING SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 2012

Prayer Leader	Rubin Carter
Scripture Reader	Tom Miller
Offering Thoughts	Les Lewis
Communion Meditation	Ken Avery
Servers	Jim Furstenwerth / Shawn O'Dell
Ushers	Aaron Hanson / Kenny Benjamin
Greeters	TBD
Nursery Attendants	Erika Wheeler / Sarah Blair
Sound	Rick Bell
Slides & Lighting	Seth Cartwright
Communion Preparation & Cleanup	Jim & Marydeane Furstenwerth Lori Sanders
Praise Team	Lead—Tim Blair S—Connie Greer A—Laura Gerard T—Jon Powless/Tom Miller B—Mike Chavez/Brad Orser
Fellowship Team	Donuts—Roy & Jo Vaughn Coffee—Ray Switzer Cleanup—Barbara Byrd