



Newsletter

October 2006

Dignity/Seattle Liturgy

Reminder

Liturgy is at 6:00 p.m. every 2nd Sunday: October 8, Nov. 12
Ravenna United Methodist Church 5751-33rd Ave NE Seattle

October-November Events

Wednesday, October 4th

Retirement Luncheon for Ed Shields

Saturday, October 7th

Showing of Al Gore's "An Inconvenient Truth"

Saturday-Sunday, October 7th & 8th

Matthew Shepard Memorial Sermon

Sunday, October 8th

Dignity/Seattle Liturgy

Friday, October 27th

Seminar: How shall I live, knowing I will die?

Saturday, November 4th

D/S 33rd Anniversary; Auction for DignityUSA

Saturday-Sunday, November 11th & 12th

A Roman Catholic Woman Bishop Speaks

Retirement Luncheon for Ed Shields

Wednesday, October 4th, 12:00 noon

Multifaith Works, 115-16th Ave

Ed Shields is retiring from Multifaith Works. He was also Dignity/Seattle's main presider at Ravenna until two years ago. As a gift to Ed, Multifaith Works is putting together a memory box. Please bring a note or card to place in the box. Please RSVP by Monday, October 2nd to Monica at 206/324-1520x224 or monica@multifaith.org.

Al Gore's "An Inconvenient Truth"

Saturday, October 7th, 7:00 p.m.

Ravenna United Methodist Church

5751-33rd Ave NE

RUMC has just signed up through Earth Ministries to show Al Gore's movie on global warming "An Inconvenient Truth." As RUMC's new pastor, Dan Shelly, says, "I think that it's something we all need to be familiar with especially here in the US where we live in the 'Bush-lands' of denial."

Matthew Shepard Memorial Sermon

Sunday, October 8th, 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Trinity Episcopal Church, 609-8th Ave

(Reception: Sat., October 7th, 3:00 p.m.)

Trinity Episcopal Church will be hosting Dr. Louie Crew for the sixth annual Matthew Shepard Memorial Sermon. Dr. Crew is the founder of Integrity, a nationwide organization of gay Episcopalians.

Trinity's annual Matthew Shepard sermon was endowed six years ago to address questions of prejudice and intolerance both in the church and in society; the sermon is dedicated to the memory of Matthew Shepard, a young gay student who was murdered in Laramie, Wyoming in 1998.

Dr. Crew has been a member of both the Standing Commission on Anglican and International Peace with Justice Concerns, and the Standing Committee of Human Affairs. Dr. Crew is Professor Emeritus at Rutgers, and speaks internationally.

Seattle Integrity will be sponsoring an open reception for Dr. Crew on Saturday, October 7, at 3:00 p.m. All are welcome to come hear and meet one of America's most important and outspoken gay Christian advocates.

Dr. Crew will be available after each service during Coffee Hour. Please join us. For more information: please contact Nat Brown at 425/774-206.

How Shall I Live, Knowing I Will Die?
Friday, October 27th, 8:30 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.
Swedish Medical Ctr., Glaser Auditorium,
747 Broadway, First Hill, Seattle

How Shall I Live, Knowing I Will Die? It is a powerful question and one that we will all face, and yet one few will confront. For health care professionals, community pastors, social workers, volunteers and many others who interact with patients, clients, friends or family who have life-threatening illnesses, does their awareness of their own mortality impact and influence their work and their ability to offer comfort and guidance when it is most needed?

In an effort to prepare and educate all those involved in the life of someone who is dying, Multifaith Works and the Swedish Medical Center Department of Spiritual Care are sponsoring the Seminar.

For over 25 years Wayne Muller has incorporated both Christian and Buddhist philosophy into his life and teachings. As a therapist, speaker, minister and author of several books, Muller has worked with people who have suffered abuse, alcoholism, poverty, illness and loss. He is a graduate of Harvard Divinity School, the founder and president of Bread for the Journey, and founder of The Institute for Engaged Spirituality.

This interactive seminar will offer opportunities for the participants to explore and face their own mortality so they may live their lives more fully and help others to do the same. To facilitate this, there will be small group sessions in the afternoon and a panel of individuals living with life-threatening illnesses who will speak about their experience and also help those confronted daily with death and helping.

All people are warmly invited to attend, including community volunteers, religious leaders, and health care professionals. To register, please contact Joan at 206/386-3030x44524 or joan.wahlmeier@swedish.org.

**Dignity/Seattle's 33rd Anniversary
Party & Auction for DignityUSA**

Saturday, November 4th, 4:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Ravenna United Methodist Church

Please join the Dignity/Seattle community as we celebrate 33 years of service and witness GLBT Catholics in the region. Food and beverages will be provided by Dignity/Seattle. In addition, to help amplify the voice of DignityUSA, there will be a raffle & silent auction to benefit the national organization.

Call to Action Western Washington presents

Dr. Patricia Fresen, Catholic Bishop
The Long Walk To Freedom: A Woman
Bishop Speaks

Saturday, November 11th, 2:00 p.m.
Seattle First Baptist Church
1111 Harvard Ave (at Seneca)

Freewill donations of \$20 are suggested

Liturgy

Sunday, November 12th, 2:00 p.m.
Gethsemane Lutheran Church
911 Stewart St

Dr. Patricia Fresen is Roman Catholic theologian from South Africa and was ordained a priest in August 2003. Even more intriguing is that she was a Dominican nun there for 44 years until she was forced to recant on her ordination or resign. What is unique about her story is her perspective on the connection between discrimination based on race and based on sex, and the destructive effects of both. She currently serves as the Formation Director of the international Roman Catholic Womenpriests Program, which started in Germany and Austria, but which now has its largest membership in the United States and Canada.

Dr. Fresen is one of three such ordained women in the world and she was instrumental in the ordinations this summer in both Zurich and Pittsburgh. This is a controversial topic for some Catholics but a topic, nonetheless, that must be addressed and understood. Her presentation should be both inspiring and enlightening. For more information, please go to: www.ctaww.org.

Note: Bishop Fresen will also speak in Olympia WA:

Monday, November 13th, 7:00 p.m.
St. John's Episcopal Church
Capitol Way at 19th Ave, Olympia

Dignity/Vancouver BC/Dignité

Dignity/Vancouver BC **604/432-1230**

Thursday, October 5th. 7:30 p.m. Business Meeting at Vincent & Peter's. 604/325-1554.

Monday, October 9th. Canadian Thanksgiving Day.

Friday, October 20th. 7:30 p.m. Worship liturgy at Kevin & Don's. 604/874-3428.

Saturday, October 28th. 7:30 p.m. Halloween Potluck at Rob & Arthur's. 604/438-7471. (Costume optional)

President's Annual Report

By Jim Rankin (edited for publication)

Dignity/Seattle's membership is 36, and attendance at services is still minimal. Our membership remains at this level because we have been assigned new members by DignityUSA. (Ed. Note: New members who join through DignityUSA are assigned to Seattle if they indicate interest in affiliating with a geographic chapter.)

Our chapter has raised enough from our Sunday collections to pay \$75 rent for Ravenna United Methodist Church, the phone bill, post office box rent and the monthly SGN ad. Once again our chapter received a generous \$500 gift. So we are financially well off. We were able to donate 10% from our savings account to Dignity USA, \$208 in December 2005.

There are five board members, most of whom have served for several years. We need new people willing to serve on our board.

Our 2006 Pride Breakfast was very successful. Volunteers from our chapter and former chapter members serving as waiters and kitchen staff helped to make this breakfast a success. Alan Scott took charge of pre-numbering and printing the breakfast and raffle tickets. We were able to donate \$800 each to Verbena and Multifaith Works.

Steven Kearney organized one social event this year at the end of April. Five or six people met at Olympia Pizza and pasta.

Board action this year has been to offer electronic newsletters, thus reducing printing and postage costs. Paula agreed to take on this task. We also agreed to stop receiving support from DignityUSA, except for member-designated chapter gifts. We also voted to have a house party in October 2006, which is the 33rd Chapter Anniversary, to raise money for DignityUSA.

Dignity/Seattle liturgies are on the second Sunday of each month. The Reverend Philip Knowles of the American Catholic Church presides on a regular basis; he also presided at our Gay Pride liturgy, the first in a few years. Pastor Crystal of Ravenna UMC, presided a couple of times.

Dignity/Seattle Financial Report

By Delia Vita, Treasurer

9/24/05 to 8/30/06

Checking Account	2005-2006
Beginning Balance 9/24/05	2296.47
Deposits:	
Collection Monthly	1692.00
Donation from members/friends	635.00
Membership DignityUSA	45.00
Pride Week Breakfast	2350.00
Total Income	4722.00
	<u>Sub Total</u> 7018.47
Operating Expenses	
Admin.: PO Box rental	78.00
Admin.: Telephone	369.55
Admin.: Supplies/Gifts/misc	108.04
Advertising: SGN	180.00
Liturgy: Presider's stipend	300.00
Membership Renewal to DignityUSA	130.46
Newsletter printing	222.58
Newsletter mailing	
GLBT Community Center	150.00
Donation to Dignity/USA	208.00
PW Breakfast: Advertisement	300.00
PW Breakfast: Verbena	800.00
PW Breakfast: Multifaith Works	800.00
PW Breakfast: Food/rent/advertising	415.78
Rent: Ravenna United Methodist	900.00
Total Expenses	4962.41
Ending Balance 8/30/06	<u>2056.06</u>
Savings Account	
Beginning Balance	2083.28
Interest Income	3.99
Adjustment	
Ending Balance 8/30/06	<u>2087.27</u>

General Membership Meeting Minutes

September 10, 2006 (edited for publication)

Meeting was called to order at 4:55 p.m. at Ravenna UMC. Quorum was present. All read President's Annual Report and Treasurer's Report.

A member called into question the amount of money currently kept in checking/savings. This member was urged to make recommendations to the Board regarding potential disbursement of funds.

Questions were raised about proposed House party fundraiser for DignityUSA.

Results of Election:

Jim Rankin received 15 votes. There was one non-vote and one write-in vote for Gary Gwin.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Denise Arceneaux, Secretary