



The Eagle Eye

A quarterly publication of Eagle Wings disAbility Ministries

Fall Quarter ~ 2007

The Peace that is NOT of this World

At a recent staff meeting our Founder and Chaplain, Henk Wapstra shared the following reading which comes from a book entitled "Adam's Peace" by Henri J. K. Nouwen.

He writes: "Let me tell you the story of Adam, one of the ten people in our home, and let him become the silent spokesman for the peace that is not of this world. Never having worked with handicapped people, I was not only apprehensive but even afraid to enter this unfamiliar world. This fear did not lessen when I was invited to work directly with Adam. Adam is the weakest person of our family. He is a twenty-five year old man who cannot speak, cannot dress or undress himself, cannot walk alone or eat without much help. He does not cry, or laugh, and only occasionally makes eye contact. His back is distorted and his arm and leg movements are very twisted. He suffers from sever epilepsy and, notwithstanding heavy medication, there are few days without grand-mal seizures. Sometimes, as he grows suddenly rigid, he utters a howling groan, and on a few occasions I have seen a big tear coming down his cheek. It takes me about an hour and a half to wake Adam up, give him his medication, undress him, carry him into his bath, wash him, shave him, clean his teeth, dress him, walk him to the kitchen, give him his breakfast, put him in his wheelchair, and bring him to the place where he spends most of the day with different therapeutic exercises. I tell you all of this not to give you a nursing report but to share with you something quite intimate. After a month of working this way with Adam, something started to happen to me that never had happened to me before. This deeply handicapped young man...started to become my dearest companion. Out of this broken body and broken mind emerged a most beautiful human being offering me a greater gift than I would ever be able to offer him.

It is hard for me to find adequate words for this experience, but somehow Adam revealed to me who I was and how we could love each other. I knew that two friends were communicating far beyond the realm of thought or emotion. Deep speaks to deep, spirit speaks to spirit, heart speaks to heart. I started to realize that there was a mutuality of love not based on shared knowledge or shared feelings, but on shared humanity. The longer I stayed with Adam, the more clearly I started to see him as my gentle teacher, teaching me what no book, school, or professor ever could have taught me."

This is just a glimpse into the heart of Eagle Wings disAbility Ministries. Consider joining us this month in reading "Adam's Peace" by Author Henri J. Nouwen.

May you enjoy this season full of Peace NOT of this World.

Successful Dessert Benefit... Thank You!!

Special Upcoming Events:

- Sunday, December 2, 3:30pm
on Lake Union. It's our
Annual Seafair Christmas Cruise!
- Friday, December 7, 5-7pm
Lights of Christmas at Warm Beach
- Sunday, December 16, 4-6pm
Our Annual Christmas Celebration
with Santa Claus at
Mt. View Presbyterian Church

Reservations for observers are being accepted for these events by calling our office at 360-658-6093 or by emailing sarah.eaglewings@verizon.net

Please consider dropping in at any one of our Celebrations. We would love to have you get a glimpse of our heart and the fabulous people we serve.

For more information visit our NEW website:

www.eaglewingsministries.org

Are you a YOUTUBER? Visit
<http://www.youtube.com/eagleAbility>

We have posted videos on our channel for you to view and share with your friends! You may even spot someone you know! Make a few comments and give us a little feedback. We'd love to hear from you!

Thank you for your support at our recent Benefit Dessert & Silent Auction. Plans are already underway for next year! We had about 100 guests and it was a great night of fun. There were more donation items than we planned, and of course our 2007 Volunteer Of The Year, John Common procured all of the cheesecakes. John was awarded a beautiful plaque and honored at the Dessert for his wonderful support. John (who is blind, missing one leg, and uses a wheelchair) does so much work for Eagle on a weekly basis, and has solicited more than \$2,000 of in-kind donations this year. Way to go John! We are so grateful for all you do! Randy McMillan fancied our imaginations. He was fabulous!! Randy (who has been blind since birth) is a former award winning sports broadcaster (for 12 years) for KCMS and KCIS; entertained us with several pieces on the piano. We were so honored by his gifts and talents. We're looking forward to having him as our keynote speaker next year.

A huge thank you to Pastor Kelley Taylor, who effectively shared the passion and heart of Eagle Wings to all the guests. Pastor Kelley serves at Calvary Chapel in Lake Stevens. This church co-hosts the Annual Birthday Celebration each year, and each year, Pastor Kelley is hands-on. He shared how they minister to the guests, and how the ministry has impacted those who volunteer. It's clearly a two way street.

All in all, it was a wonderful night. We had many first time servers, volunteers, and raised a lot of awareness. On top of all that, we raised \$4,700! WOW! Thank you to everyone who contributed!

BUDGET UPDATE

We are so pleased with what has been accomplished this year. Thanks to our many contributors (we like to call you Champions) we have reached many new people and brought them out of isolation. To date we have received \$96,975. By this time of year we should have raised \$115,610. This leaves us with a deficit of \$18,635. Since the majority of donations are given during the holidays, we trust that we will receive a generous response to our need.

Please prayerfully consider how you can help!

Volunteer in 2008!

BBQ at 'The Farm' in Snohomish, Saturday, July 14th from 2-5pm

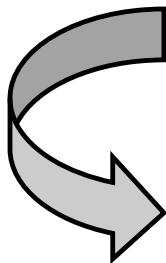
Day Camp at Cedar Springs Campground in Lake Stevens, Saturday, August 25, 9am-8pm

Volunteers work in shifts...times are very flexible.

We are also in need of volunteers to help out in the office with bulk mailings, making phone calls, sending out cards, and collating. Please call Kit Waite at 360-658-6093, stop by or have her e-mail you a volunteer application!

kit.eaglewings@verizon.net

1522 Third Street, Suite F in Marysville (right behind Curves for Women)





Here are some of the features of Sandcastles & Sunsets:

- Master Suite—King Bed
- 2nd Suite—King Bed
- Private Hot Tub on Deck
- 40" Plasma TV & DVD in Living Room
- 26" Plasma TV & DVD in Both Bedrooms
- Gourmet Kitchen with Eating Bar
- Granite Kitchen and Bathroom Counters
- Stainless Steel Appliances—Gas Range
- River Rock Gas Fireplace
- Washer & Dryer in Unit
- Binoculars
- BBQ & Deck Furniture
- Collection of DVD's, CD's and Books
- Large Private Oceanfront Deck

Planning that Summertime Vacation Yet? Consider this...

Vacation on the Oregon Coast!

Cline's Condo for Charities owns a beautiful ocean-front condo right on the water and uses it as a vehicle by which they produce income for charities. When newlywed volunteers of Eagle Wings recently took their honeymoon on the Oregon Coast, they noticed a guest book and gladly signed in. The book asks guests to write down a charity that they'd like the proceeds of their stay to be designated to. Shortly thereafter, Eagle Wings received a check for over \$700! The owners, Craig and Cherie Cline, give any net income from the rental (above and beyond basic expenses) to non-profits. The condo's name is Sandcastles and Sunsets, and is one of only 36 that are collectively known as the Pacific Winds Condominiums. It can be rented through Blue Pacific Vacation Rentals. 1-877-459-3287 / www.BluePacificVacationRentals.com Please consider a stay at this luxurious condo and designate Eagle Wings disAbility Ministries as your charity of choice! For more info contact 360-658-6093 / sarah.eaglewings@verizon.net.

FACT CORNER

Fact: Eagle Wings is looking for a committee to plan and execute our 2008 Dessert Benefit/Silent Auction. It's a once a year commitment. Contact kit.eaglewings@verizon.net for more info.

Fact: Are you part of a small group, mission team or service club? Please consider arranging Eagle Wings to come share our work with your friends!

Fact: Eagle Wings meets our budget primarily through donations from the private sector, churches and foundations.

Fact: This was our first year creating an Annual Report. Want one? E-mail sarah.eaglewings@verizon.net today!

Fact: Would you like to give a gift in memory or remember a special date of your loved one? We'd love to publish your gift in our Winter newsletter.

BOEING, MICROSOFT AND ALL EMPLOYEES

Did you know that anyone can designate charitable gifts to Eagle Wings through the United Way? Make your request today!

Our United Way designation # is **11774**.

Maybe your company matches funds? Tell your co-workers! This is a great way to make a significant difference!

DID YOU KNOW??

All donations to Eagle are tax deductible and we now accept payments through **VISA, MASTERCARD, & PAYPAL**. We can even arrange automatic withdrawals. Please consider making a pledge to help us fight loneliness and isolation! Call Kinder today!

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Chaplain's Corner –

When reading the New Testament of the Bible, I was struck again and again how much time Jesus spent with persons with disabilities and person who are often marginalized in our society. Back in 1987, after pastoring various Northwest churches, I felt a strong leading to make disability ministry my full time vocation. And I have learned over the years that I often sense God “speaking” through the persons Eagle Wings is privileged to serve; including those who are non verbal, medically very fragile and have multiple disabilities. Some of us may expect to sense God’s direction through frantic activity, very bright people and “the wind and fire” but it often seems to come in that “still small voice” and from unexpected places and people. Perhaps the mother of the poem in the book entitled “More Alike Than Different” has that same thought in mind as she writes about and to her little daughter with cerebral palsy. *“If I look upon your twisted hands- the braces on your feet, if I hear the funny sounds you make when you try to speak, If I watch you as you try to walk with wobbly, weaving gait-and see others walk away -- for you they can not wait. If I look upon your outer shell and imperfections there I find, and turn and go upon my way, **then the handicap is mine.** If I do not see beyond the shell nor look into your eyes to see the flame of living there-bright and strong, alive- if I do not see the person who in that body dwells, who thinks and dreams and feels and hopes and whose heart love swells—an inner person much like me—if this I do not find-but turn and go upon my way, **then the handicap is mine.**”*

May we ever be open to God’s voice through unexpected people and places.

May God’s peace go with you. Henk Wapstra, Chaplain