



March 2009 Newsletter

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Does God Exist?
Special Simulcast
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[Get in the Game
Classes Sunday 4/5](#)

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Easter 4/11 & 4/12](#)

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DOING AS JESUS DID . . . EVERY SATURDAY AT 6:30 AM

Northshore Members 'Serve It Up' at *The Lord's Little Cooker*

Bill and Sally (not their real names) start another day wondering if their son, Sam, is OK, if he was able to sleep inside, if he's had something to eat, or if he is even alive. Sam grew up as a happy-go-lucky kid, had lots of friends, graduated from high school, got a good job and started a family. Bill and Sally were so proud of their son. But somehow, Sam became restless and started to get involved in alcohol and drugs.



It didn't take long for his addictions to destroy his life; he lost his family, his health and his home. Sam was living day to day on the streets and wondering where his next meal would come from.

Fortunately for people in Everett there is a meal on which they can count. Northshore member, Ian Moore, is the leader of *The Lord's Little Cooker*.

Week-in, week-out *The Lord's Little Cooker* is a ministry that provides meals to people in need.

A THIN LIFELINE

Ian met Bill while he was shopping for construction materials. Bill asked Ian what he was using the materials for and Ian shared about *The Lord's Little Cooker* and his desire to build a second one. To Ian's surprise, Bill's normally tough demeanor softened and he said, "Sir, I want to shake your hand!" Bill explained to Ian that *The Lord's Little Cooker* had been one of the threads in a thin lifeline that had kept his son alive until he could get help. Sam survived. He was able to get the help he

needed and has started a new life, free from his former addictions.

Ian explains that this is exactly why he first got involved with *The Lord's Little Cooker*. Ian became a Christian at Northshore and as he read the Bible he realized that Jesus was a person who cared about people in need. He also realized that he couldn't become a Christian and just sit there; he had to do something. He had to "put feet to his faith." On Ian's first Saturday helping at *The Lord's Little Cooker* he was energized when he saw people coming to be fed. Ian knew these were the people God had sent him to help.



NEVER TOO COLD TO COOK A HOT MEAL

Saturday morning arrived and a freezing March breeze was blowing, bringing on a biting chill. Hail began to fall and you could hear it hitting the roof with a sound like popping corn. *The Lord's Little Cooker* volunteers awoke early and knew the sound was a call from the Lord to get out and serve the homeless.



Their thoughts weren't on how cold it was or how tired they were. The volunteers knew that there were people who had braved the cold all night, were hungry and counting on the hot meal about to be served in a desolate Everett parking lot. They were focused on God's calling, not personal discomfort.

The team arrives at 6:30 am in their usual parking lot off Wetmore. There are hearty hellos, hugs and smiles all around. A flurry of activity ensues and each volunteer knows their task. Burners are lit, coffee is started, food is unpacked, bagels are buttered, tents go up and tables are unfolded. Welcoming smells of breakfast fill the air. In short order the parking lot café is ready for service.

Bud, a volunteer with *The Lord's Little Cooker*, said that he serves because the Holy Spirit moved him to get involved. He's been doing it for two years now and has been able to personally get to know some of the people he



serves. He and his wife now carry extra clothing, blankets, socks and hats in their vehicle. They have a new perspective on the homeless. As they drive around Everett they notice homeless people and stop to share the love of Christ. Bud and his wife offer what they can to make needy lives just a bit more bearable.

Around 7:00 am people begin to arrive, one or two at a time, sometimes more. They gather around a propane heater, and warm their hands as their stomach stirs to the smell of cooking bacon, hash browns and eggs. They sip at fresh cups of coffee and engage in friendly conversation. Volunteers begin to bring platefuls of food. Grateful hands accept it with hearty thanks.

TAKING FAITH OUTSIDE CHURCH WALLS

Don, one of the men being served said, "I really want the people from your church to know how much *The Lord's Little Cooker* is appreciated." He said, "There is an attitude at this location that really shows the love of the Lord. It's often assumed that we are not Christians." Don points out, "Some of us are (Christians), we may be a little down on our luck or fighting some of life's challenges, but we are still trusting the Lord." He said, "You can really feel the Spirit of God here each Saturday, and that it is no little thing the volunteers are doing."

The Lord's Little Cooker is a collaborative effort by members of Northshore, The Point, Overlake Christian Church and other local churches. Your tithing to Northshore helps fund the *Cooker* as part of our local Missions resourcing.

NEXT STEP:

Come on down and serve a meal with us! Here's what you can do:

- Volunteer to serve a meal at the Cooker. Ian and his team serve breakfast every Saturday morning. You are welcome any week.
- Volunteer to just hang out with those being served. They love conversation and value relationship.
- Participate in the fellowship meals at Northshore. Ian and Ute Moore cook once a month following weekend services. Proceeds help fund the *Cooker*.

If you would like to get cookin', contact Ian Moore at (425) 258-4895 or send an e-mail to ian@northshore.org.

On Saturday mornings *The Lord's Little Cooker* is located in downtown Everett at 32nd and Wetmore, 1/2 block south of Pacific.

"DOES GOD EXIST?"

[*Debate - Live Simulcast*](#)

Saturday Evening, April 4 at 7:30pm

Northshore is proud to be the Puget Sound area simulcast site for a major debate between noted Christian philosopher Dr. William Lane Craig and prominent atheist Christopher Hitchens. The debate is being held at Biola University (the event has already sold out their 4,000 seat auditorium) and webcast live to participating churches around the country. Invite your small group, friends, family or co-workers to the live Northshore simulcast. This is also a great opportunity to bring your skeptical friends to witness this discussion of the issues at hand in the debate about God's existence. Admission is free of charge.

SPECIAL HOUSEHOLD FINANCE SEMINAR COMING IN APRIL

Save Saturdays Mornings 4/18 & 4/25

Given the challenging economic times, the folks in Northshore's *Good \$ense* ministry are putting together a special Budget Course next month. It's designed to help you manage a household budget in a way that eliminates stress and gives you financial peace and freedom. These biblical principles will help in any financial circumstance . . . whether you're in crisis, living paycheck-to-paycheck or are doing just fine. These are valuable, life changing financial concepts similar to those taught by Dave Ramsey.

The seminar will be held 9:00am-12:30pm on two Saturdays in April (4/18 & 4/25). There is a \$15 materials fee and childcare will be provided if signed up for in advance. The seminar is free to those who have previously attended *Good \$ense*. Sign up through the bulletin. For more information contact *Helene West* at (425) 438-1326.

Story and photos by Northshore member *Marcus Pederson*. Northshore News is edited by *Executive Pastor Rob Cizek* and published regularly (approximately once a month) to highlight how God is working in the lives of Northshore members.