

# AC3 Investigator

Volume 7, Issue 1

September/October 2006

ALLEN CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH

## Highlights from Willow Creek Leadership Conference

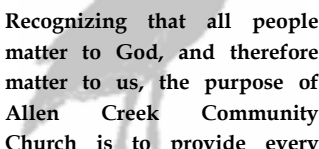
A number of AC3's attended the 2006 Willow Creek Leadership Conference which was telecast from Willow Creek to thousands of churches - including Cornwall Community Church in Bellingham Wa.

Out of 11 sessions, the one that "stuck" with me most was the interview Bill Hybels did with U2 singer Bono. I've always known that Bono was "Christian" but to be honest, I was surprised and impressed by his understanding and passion for the gospel and for the work it calls us to in the world.

Bill Hybels, the lead pastor of Willow, retells the story of how he received a phone message from some guy named Bono – a rock star famous to millions around the world, but Hybels knew little about him, being a country music fan. When Hybel's kids convinced him he *had* to return the call, he soon discovered that God had orchestrated the crossing of paths with one that would open his eyes and heart in new ways. Bono, it turns out, has been trying to vision-cast to churches and wake them up to the plight of third world and their struggle with poverty and AIDS.

"Christ won't let you walk away because it's difficult, expensive and a moral hazard," Bono said. "I never liked the church," Bono said in the interview. I guess you can't blame him for the impression of the church formed in him growing up in Ireland in the 70's but ever since he took a trip to Ethiopia 20 years ago (remember Live Aid) and witnessed first-hand real poverty and disease, he's been on a mission to get the world and, yes, even the church, to join him in fixing what is "fixable," as Bono said. While there will always be poverty in the world, there is too much "Stupid poverty" he commented, too much suffering which can be easily fixed.

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Recognizing that all people matter to God, and therefore matter to us, the purpose of Allen Creek Community Church is to provide every seeker in Snohomish County a safe place where they can become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

### Inside this issue:

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### Upcoming Series

Connection ~ "Lost"  
Community ~ Roman's Challenge Part 2

### Get Involved

9/10 ~ Parent/Student Get Together after Connection  
9/17 ~ 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Graders Meet at 6:07  
Every Sunday  
9/25 ~ YoungLife Begins. Time/Place TBA

## Top Five Things about Jenn!

5.) What is your favorite kind of shoes?

Flip Flops (I wear them all year round)

4.) If you could go anywhere in the world where would it be?

I would love to go back to Nicaragua, I went there on a missions trip and fell in love with the people and the culture.

3.) How long can you go without saying "ummm" or "like" in a sentence?

ummm, like, 15 seconds

2.) What is your favorite Jamba Juice?

Orange Dream Machine ( if you do not know what Jamba Juice is, Please come up to me & I will tell you all about it, Pretty much the best Smoothie Place in the World!)

1.) What do you do during your "Free Time"?

Well, I love to take my dog down to the river or some body of water and play fetch with him for a long long time and then go home and read! OR Going to see Movies with Friends!

I am really excited to be able to work with the youth here at AC3 and in Marysville. I moved here from Everett 3 years ago, and started going to AC3 around the same time. I have worked at Servpro of Everett/ Smokey Point for the last 2 years. This is where I use my sweet sign making skills to create staff meeting signs that have random bands from the eighties and nineties (for example last month's was New Kids on the Block).

Away from Work and Church, I go to school @ Puget Sound Christian College where I am working on a Degree in Social Services. I have a Golden Retriever, Parker (see question 1) that I love to play with. I love to watch movies and read (sometimes there isn't a lot of time for that but I fit it in).

I am really excited to be the intern this year and get to know your kids and watch them grow in their relationship with Christ.



*"If you have any questions or ideas for great junior high events, please let me know."*

**Jenn Bartlett**

**[jenn@ac3.org](mailto:jenn@ac3.org)**

## Titanium Teacher Wants YOU!

Our goal is to provide full nursery and kids programs at all four services this fall. But in order to achieve this goal, we need your help:

- Who do you know, that with a little training, could be great with kids and may be under utilizing their gifts and talents at AC3? Grandparents and students are great additions to our team! No experience necessary, training provided.
- Would you consider attending Saturday evening services and serving in Kreek Kids on Sunday mornings or vice versa? We have flexible and rotating schedules that make serving families fun and rewarding. Check out different ways to serve @ [http://www.ac3.org/kkyministry\\_teams.htm](http://www.ac3.org/kkyministry_teams.htm).
- We believe parents are the most influential person in their children's lives. Why not become a Parent Partner? Your participation will help grow and maintain great children's programs at AC3. It can also be a great way to get to know other families and grow new friendships with them.

Contact Twila at 360-659-7335 or by email [twila.allencreek@verizon.net](mailto:twila.allencreek@verizon.net) and we'll schedule a time to chat over a coffee about any questions you may have. With God's help, we look forward to being the **BEST HOUR** in every family's week this fall,  
Twila & Kreek Kids Staff



## QUEST -> Foundation

Foundation class to begin

Thursday January 19th at 7:00pm

Questions?

e-mail Mark Holland [doc.holland@verizon.net](mailto:doc.holland@verizon.net)

This 12- week group picks up right where **INVESTIGATION** left off, by exploring exactly what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ, and the A-to-Z basics of the Christian faith.

Topics like prayer, the Bible, the nature of God and being part of a church are covered. Most **FOUNDATION** groups are made up of "Graduates" of a previous **INVESTIGATION** group; but people wanting a practical refresher course in the "**Christian essentials**" are welcome to join in as well.



## Bono Interview Continued...

“Jesus had clearly given a command that we should be workers, feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, visiting the imprisoned.”

--Bono



He questioned... how come churches aren't getting on board with the greatest social cause of the day? The AIDS pandemic is seen by many in the American church as simply just consequence for sexual sin - but this does excuse apathy towards the suffering?

Bono gave a brief illustration...

"Suppose you are driving down the road and you see an accident up ahead. You pull over and see the guy is hanging half-way out of his car bleeding to death. As you get closer, you smell alcohol on him quite strongly - a drunk driver has had an accident. What do you do? Do you turn and walk away and say - "well, it's what he deserves"? Or do you do what you can to help and save?"

When Bono called Hybel, it seemed ironic that a rock star would be approaching the church to help the poor and the sick – Jesus had clearly given a command that we should be workers, feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, visiting the imprisoned. However, "churches have always been behind on such issues", said Bono. And he explained that one reason being a fear of politics and a judgmental attitude about the AIDS virus.

"Music is my first love," he told Hybels, thanking God for his gift and a melody playing in his head when he awakes each morning.

Bono pointed out another reason that he gets up each day: the ONE Campaign ([www.one.org](http://www.one.org)). The campaign, hosted by celebrities with Bono leading, was launched to rally Americans to the cause "ONE by ONE – to fight the emergency of global AIDS and extreme poverty."

Rather than just living the sex drugs and rock n roll lifestyle, Bono has been using his celebrity influence to bring attention to the heart-wrenching scene in Africa.

Calling the "celebrity" thing ridiculous, Bono tells a story of some of the feedback he gets. "You're doing so much good... you're like Mother Theresa!" In response he plainly stated, "I'm no Mother Thersesa... I'm a rock star ... but I have a head for the poor."

In conclusion, Hybels gave Bono the opportunity to "speak from the pulpit", as Hybels put it, to address tens of thousands of church leaders attending the conference. Bono told them, "Let's walk together ... let's stand up for the least of these."

### AC3 Youth Ministries Fall 2006 ~ Have Questions? Got Answers!

AC3 middle and high school students will be led this next year by two passionate young leaders;

Middle School – Jenn Bartlett Phone: 425.754.4281 Email: [jenn@ac3.org](mailto:jenn@ac3.org)

High School – Heather Walejeski Phone: 619-838-2115 Email: [h2ojetski3@aol.com](mailto:h2ojetski3@aol.com)

Jenn, Heather and their leadership teams would like to meet with AC3 students and parents on Sunday, Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>, after the 10:30 service in the Education Center. This short meeting will give you the chance to ask your youth related questions and give our newest leaders the opportunity to share their vision for 2006/07.

## Coming Fall 2006...

Can you envision a mid-week style program held on Saturday evenings, during Connexus, for our kindergarten and elementary aged children and their friends?

We believe God is calling us to expand our current Saturday night childcare program to include nursery care and an Adventure Club that's **extra** fun for kids!

If you see the benefit of expanding our children's program and would like to be part of building an exciting **NEW** Adventure Club from the bottom up, please contact Trina @ 360-657-2168, 425-268-3832 or by email [mtperry02@yahoo.com](mailto:mtperry02@yahoo.com). Planning is going on right now and team builders are wanted!



## AC3's Gift to our Community: Time Out for Parents A Parenting Class and Some Time Away!

It's that time of year again! Parenting will begin Oct. 13th and run every Friday until Nov. 17th. Parenting is an awesome gift of free dinner and dessert, free childcare, direct instruction on parenting skills and lots of love and fellowship. This gift is available to all parents in Marysville from us - AC3.

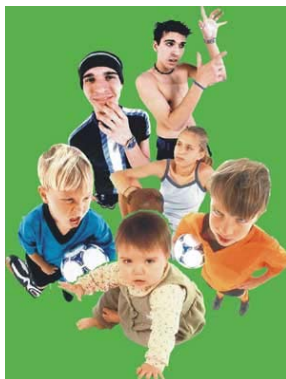
We need help delivering this gift! Here are some ways you could get involved- **15 min. Volunteer Opportunities**

- Bathroom check (fill toilet paper, paper towels, empty garbage cans)
- Check kids into childcare
- Set up lights, computer, mood music
- Set up chairs and tables (in Sat. service formation)
- Pray - that we reach families that are in need of love and a church community - ask God that we keep his will and plan in front of us

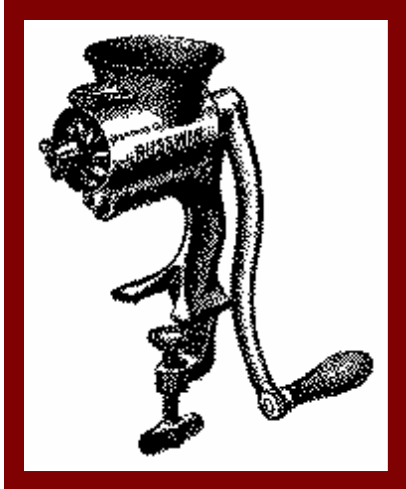
### 2 Hour Volunteer Opportunities

- Help out in childcare - leave during kid's movie time
- Help out with dinner set up and take down
- Join in the parenting classes - pray during the class for the families and teachers

Interested? Have other ideas on how you can help us "gift" our community? Call Jenny Arlt 425-397-6653 home 425-293-6706 cell Email [jennyarlt@comcast.net](mailto:jennyarlt@comcast.net)



## Current Input :/



Current Input is the place where you can find out what your fellow AC3'rs are into recently. This editions response is from Shea Caperoon.

### *WHAT AM I CURRENTLY READING?*

Embracing Grace: A Gospel for All of Us by Scot McKnight

This book has really sparked some insight for me into the "Christian Life" and church community. Scot spends a fair amount of time detailing the dangers of individualism - not just to the church but to humanity as a whole. He says that "Individualism is the biggest obstacle to the gospel... Individualism tells us we are on our own and that we might be able to make it on our own. Individualism makes God and others into commodities we choose to further our own ends".

He doesn't say that we are not, or should not be individuals, but rather that the current belief in the primary importance of the individual over community, and over God even, is making us sick and lonely. If it is true that we were created to relate to God and to others, than individualism is an attack against our very essence.

### *WHAT HAVE I BEEN WATCHING?*

Doctor Who!

Okay, there is very little spiritual value in the latest season of The Doctor - and I know it probably dramatically decreases my social position to admit it, but I thoroughly enjoy the silly wit and intentional low-budget feel. Doctor Who is a long-running British science fiction television program about a mysterious time-traveling adventurer known only as "The Doctor", who explores time and space with his various companions, and of course, fighting evil. If you have even the thinnest genetic strain of geek in you, you gotta check this out.

Are you already a fan? Email me at [shea@discipleschool.org](mailto:shea@discipleschool.org) and let me know what you think of the ninth doctor, Christopher Eccleston.

### *WHAT AM I LISTENING TO?*

Elvis Costello

During his most popular years through the 70's and 80's, I didn't really pay him much attention but recently I discovered his genius as a singer and song-writer. His voice is some how soothing and intriguing and I find it often replaying in my head.

Steve Brown - sermon series Porcupines in the Storm

The latest topic material for Disciple School Online is a sermon series from Steve Brown on CD where he looks at the "The Dark Side of the Family". We are called to love one another in the church and Steve looks at the difficulties of the task.

Being authentic, being transparent and honest, living close and loving each other are all good things but with that closeness comes the risk of being scratched by each others rough edges - the sharp quills if you will.

## Parade Participants Earn 5<sup>th</sup> Place!



AC3 family and friends marched and had fun as they promoted the new kids Adventure Club coming to AC3 this fall. Kids danced, smiled, waved banners and gave out free suckers which earned them 5th place in the Strawberry Festival's Kiddies Parade.

Before the parade, families also gathered for carnival type games and ate free hot dogs and cotton candy in the AC3 parking lot. For additional pictures, check out

[http://www.ac3.org/kk\\_inside\\_track/spotlight.htm](http://www.ac3.org/kk_inside_track/spotlight.htm)



## QUEST -> Application

Q301 Applications kickoff informational meeting Sunday, January 22nd at noon in the auditorium.

The final stage of the QUEST rocket guides Travelers through the "how to's" of Christian living. **APPLICATIONS** is practical experience in living a **fully-devoted Christian life**.

More than just knowledge and theory, it's actually **LIVING** the life with a group of friends at your side. **APPLICATIONS** groups are lead by a sort of "Tour Guide" who not only lead/teach the weekly meetings, but also guides the group through the following 4 QUEST Elective classes.

## Allen Creek Scene Investigator

A Bi-Monthly Newsletter from Allen Creek Community Church.

360-659-SEEK

[www.ac3.org](http://www.ac3.org)

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