

Church in the Forest

at Erdman Chapel, Stevenson School
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Monday morning, July 8, 2013

Dear Members and Friends,

Summertime is a time for catching up on one's reading, a time when you let yourself sit down and think, meditate and dream. I hope that you get the opportunity to participate in these important delights. Here are some inspiring pages that I turned to in these early and somewhat sleepy days of July:

Conversations with Great Teachers, by Bill Smoot.

In the spirit of Studs Terkel's *Working*, Bill Smoot interviews master teachers. He goes into the study asking what it is that passes between the best teachers and their students to make real learning happen? What does it take to teach firefighters to run into burning buildings?

Smoot interviews outstanding leaders in our own time, some educators, some politicians, athletes and clergy. The question you may come away with is: "What is my role and gift to the world of teaching, in the home, the school, the church, in life itself?" It is also an important question for us to ask in The Church in the Forest.

You Gotta Keep Dancin' by Tim Hansel

Tim's sub-title is: "In the Midst of Life's Hurts, You can Choose Joy."

Tim, a Stanford grad, had a love for the wilderness, rock climbing and God, so he began a ministry called Summit Expeditions. He writes: "The wilderness is still the finest place to train servant leaders because it is a non-neutral learning

environment...it affords us an opportunity like no other to encounter God without distraction."

On one of those climbs, Tim fell into a crevasse and suffered a cracked vertebra, crushed disks, with fragments of bone lodged in his neck, and for the next thirty-five years suffered debilitating pain. But he never lost his faith or his commitment.

I discovered the book after reading it years ago and found a note to a member of my congregation at that time who herself was living with significant pain. It read, "For Pat—with gratitude, I admire your courage! Hang in there and choose JOY!!"

See you in church.



William B. Rolland

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Please send me some of your summer reading favorites and a wee note about what has inspired you, so we may pass them along to the church family in some upcoming newsletters.

Book your tickets now for the Bach Festival.

Calendar

Sunday, July 14, 2013 — Don't forget the valet parking!

8:30 AM Bible Study with the Rev. Charles Anker

Topic: The Letter to the Hebrews

9:15 AM Music Prelude

9:30 AM Morning Prayer

Passages Ephesians 4:25-5:2; Psalm 143: 5 - 11; John 21: 15-19

Lector Dick Crowell

Crucifer Vicki Spranza

Flowers Mary Kay Crockett

Cookies Gloria Wagner and Maggie Holm

Altar Care Martha Jordan

Ushers John Didone and Jack Cowles

Sermon The Rev. Dr. William B. Rolland

Title Are you still in love?