

## Section 7 – FANtastic Discoveries

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## FANtastic Discoveries Events Description

***FANtastic Discoveries are opportunities during the 2006 NOW District Convention that involves attendees in actively BEING messages of Christian love to those in the surrounding Portland area.***

*Unless otherwise noted, FANtastic Discoveries will be held from 3:00-6:00 PM, Friday, June 23, 2006*

**As an attendee, you are asked to prayerfully review the following FANtastic Discovery opportunities and then to choose at least one to participate in on your convention registration form.**

### **What's the point?**

Sharing the Gospel message is what we are all about ...let's look back for a minute to celebrate how the Holy Spirit has been our guide to this point in the history of the Northwest District – LCMS. (NOW District)

**Several years ago, just before the turn of the century, the leadership of the Northwest District LCMS envisioned a foreseeable future in the following statements:**

1. We see in the church of tomorrow all the congregations and ministries of this District working together as one church bringing in God's miraculous catch.
  2. We see in the church of tomorrow disciples enthusiastically waking to the urgent call of Jesus to reach lost people in loving, caring and relevant ways.
  3. We see in the church of tomorrow an ever-growing number of disciples gladly listening to the teaching of God's word and joyfully living them out in their daily lives.
  4. We see in the church of tomorrow all disciples acknowledging themselves as miracles of God because of their baptism and expecting miracles from God as they partner with him in his harvest fields.
  5. We see in the church of tomorrow a church that is multicultural, as multiracial, and as multiethnic as the makeup of the Pacific Northwest.
  6. We see in the church of tomorrow disciples casting out their nets into societies and communities with optimism and enthusiasm.
  7. We see in the church of tomorrow disciples joyfully risking in the name and call of Christ for the sake of the harvest.
  8. We see in the church of tomorrow all God's people in all of the congregations, missions, and ministries in the NOW District functioning as missionaries.
- FANtastic Discoveries are an outcome of this Spirit driven vision.
  - FANtastic Discoveries are a laboratory of learning.
  - FANtastic Discoveries are practical application of these NOW District visions into the preferable future.

**The preferable future is NOW...Praise God!  
Thank you for your FANtastic part in sharing the Good News together!**

## A message from President Warren Schumacher:



Over 250 congregations will be sending lay and pastoral voting delegates, and many others will come as official “advisory delegates.” On Friday evening we are extending a special invitation to the community, along with the Portland area Lutheran congregations, to join us at the convention center for a celebration of outreach as we “fan into flame the Gift of God.” The next three years will feature the outreach efforts of our leadership congregations and schools, passing the faith-filled flame from person to person. Led by the spark of the Holy Spirit, who calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the Christian church on earth our delegates will have some hands-on experience of sharing the good news of faith.

We will be inter-acting with our surrounds. All meals will be spent out in the “public square.” We will be a convention open to the public arena, where people will be invited to watch us in action. We want Portland, Oregon to know that the Lutherans have been in town and we want our public witness and testimony to be reported in our love for God’s redeemed.

Fan into flame the gift of God...That’s our passion; that is our priority...that is our ministry.

Joining in these Friday afternoon FANtastic Discoveries places you in laboratories of practical application of your faith in Jesus Christ. You are encouraged to participate in at least one “lab” and more if time allows. It is our prayer that the Holy Spirit bubbles over in you through smiles, hugs, encouraging words, prayers and more as you allow the great Creator to work through you.

The celebration of faith will continue on Friday night in a two hour Igniter Event featuring a concert and speaker. This is not for “just us” but an opportunity to invite those you have met throughout the convention, or those you may already know in the area who are unchurched or lost, to join you for an evening of fun and entertainment. Those of you in the Portland-Metro area can encourage members of your congregations to invite the un-churched folks in their lives to join them for this non-threatening evening of relationship building. Seating will be limited but we are praying that God will fill every available place with someone who will be ignited by the Holy Spirit to bring them into an eternal relationship with Christ.

Make sure that you are prepared to be church leaders on display to a world that desperately needs to know our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

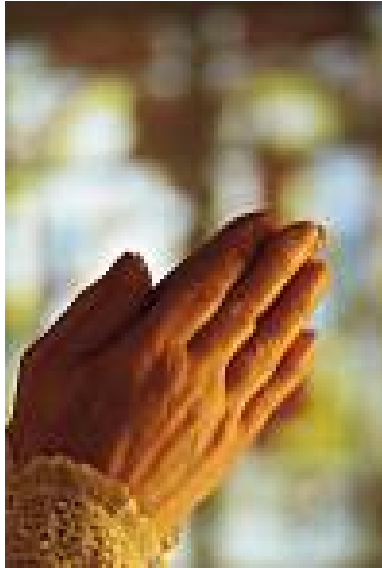


***I'm reminded of how sincere your faith is.  
That faith first lived in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice.  
I'm convinced that it also lives in you. You received a gift from God when  
I placed my hands on you. Now I'm reminding you to fan that gift into flames.***

2 Timothy 1: 5-6

# ❖ FANtastic Discovery A:

Location: Convention Center Prayer Chapel



## Prayer Warriors

For the length of time the Spirit leads you to pray from 3:15-6:15 PM Friday, June 23

### What's the Point?

Prayer Groups and individuals will be in continual prayer before, during and after each activity of FANtastic Discoveries.

### What will I do when I get there?

A chapel will be available for you, along with information about the activities on Friday afternoon and evening. You will have the opportunity to lift up in prayer the convention attendees and others participating in outreach events in the Portland area, as well as the people whose lives the Lord will touch through the intentional activities.

**Pray for whatever length of time the Holy Spirit leads you to in this foundational aspect of all the FANtastic Discoveries – then join in another FANtastic Discovery opportunity.**

## Other Prayer Chapel details during Convention:

The prayer warriors of the Center for Prayer Renewal and many of our Northwest District LCMS Prayer Partners will be available in the Prayer Chapel throughout the convention.

Each and every prayer requested at Convention will be lifted up by one or more people in the Prayer Chapel.

You may also stop by to request personal prayer; to pray with others; or join in praying for requests received from the Convention floor and other locations.

You may also be interested to know that members of CPR will be conducting a prayer retreat for our youth one evening during the Convention.



***At the same time also pray for us.  
Pray that God will give us an opportunity to speak  
the word so that we may tell the mystery about Christ.***

Colossians 4:3

# ❖ FANtastic Discovery B:

Location: Lloyd Center Shopping Mall and Holladay Park



## Amazing Grace – Mall / Park Outreach

Participate for 1 to 3 hours:

3:30-4:30 or 4:30-5:30 or 5:30-6:30 PM Friday, June 23

### What's the Point?

Join our youth with the opportunity to interact with others and share the love of Christ.

### What will I do when I get there?

You will walk throughout the Lloyd Center Mall engaging in conversations that lead to sharing about Christ's love.

“Coaches” will be on hand to give you suggestions of how to begin conversations; debrief with you after conversations; and encourage you as needed. You will have a good supply of outreach tools to leave as reminders of your “visits.”

Youth attending the convention, along with other Lutheran youth, will join in an “Amazing Grace” event, moving through the Lloyd Center Mall with Peppermint outreach cards and other materials as they strike up conversations; share their faith; and compete in a scavenger hunt style outreach event.



Lloyd Center Mall is the largest mall and business center in Oregon, offering over 125 stores in a recently remodeled and expanded facility. The mall is part of a larger complex including office buildings and is very close to downtown Portland.



# ❖ FANtastic Discovery C:

Location: Lloyd Center Theater Lot



## Sort, and fill Backpacks for needy children

Participate for 1 to 3 hours:

3:30-4:30 or 4:30-5:30 or 5:30-6:30 PM Friday, June 23

### What's the Point?

By providing much needed supplies, children in need throughout the District will be touched by the care of unknown Christian friends.

### What will I do when I get there?

Participants in this activity will have the chance to help sort and pack school items in the convention bags and add a handwritten message that shares God's love with the child who will receive the backpack. This will happen in an open space with the prayer that others passing by may want to help – invite them to do so – make them feel included. You may want to share with them about Jesus who lifts your burdens and supplies your needs.

**NOTE:** you may wish to plan ahead to donate your backpack.

- 1) Bring your own alternative carrying device to use during convention – leaving your backpack as a donation at the time of registration, OR
- 2) Donate your backpack by leaving it with us after convention to be filled in July by volunteers.

## **You may donate items that will be included (even if not participating):**

Even though you may not choose to participate in this FANtastic Discovery you may help with these outreach activities by contributing items from the list below.

- Solar-powered Calculator
- #2 pencils 24 – 48 count
- Crayons 16 or 24
- Pink Erasers 2 each
- Watercolor Paint Sets
- School Scissors
- 5-6 Glue sticks
- Elmer's Glue
- Yellow highlighters 2 each
- Washable Markers, wide point
- Washable Markers, thin point
- Ball-point Pens, black (fine)
- Ball-point Pens, red
- Colored Pencils 12ct.
- 2 Pencil Sharpeners
- 5-6 Folders w/ horizontal pockets
- Binders: 3-ring, 1½ or 2 in
- 4packs Notebook Paper, college rule
- 4packs Notebook Paper, wide rule
- 4 Spiral Notebooks, 5-subject college rule
- 4 Spiral Notebooks, 5 subject wide rule
- Dividers, 3-ring - 6 pack
- Rulers, with inches and centimeters
- 2 Cloth Pencil Pouches for 3-ring binders

**OR bring a monetary donation that will be used to purchase the items. Write these checks to:**

**Northwest District LCMS** and put backpack project in the memo line

Bring them with you to registration OR Northwest District LCMS  
1700 NE Knott  
Portland, OR 97212      Attn: Backpacks

# ❖ FANtastic Discovery D:

Location: Lloyd Center Theater Lot

## Cross Country Mission Society and Acts of Kindness

Participate for 1 to 3 hours:

3:30-4:30 or 4:30-5:30 or 5:30-6:30 PM Friday, June 23

### What's the Point?

This will be an opportunity to interact with people who come by to enjoy the music, clowns and other entertainment that will surround the Cross Country Mission Society Semi-truck.

### What will I do when I get there?

Be your friendly self! Distribute peppermint outreach cards. Give them a bottle of water. Be ready and looking for chances to visit and share when the Holy Spirit opens the door.



### Location:

Theater on Multnomah Street by Lloyd Center  
One block from the Lloyd Center Double Tree

- ❖ Climbing wall and other CCM activities
- ❖ Music / skits / puppets / Ethnic Ministries
- ❖ Clowns with bubbles / balloons for kids
- ❖ Distribute peppermint cards, water bottles
- ❖ Atmosphere: energetic, carnival, fun, engaging



# FANTastic Discovery E:

Location: Lloyd Center Theater Lot

## Build Planter Boxes for Habitat for Humanity

Participate for 1 to 3 hours:

3:30-4:30 or 4:30-5:30 or 5:30-6:30 PM Friday, June 23

### What's the Point?

As sixteen Habitat for Humanity Homes are completed this summer, the owners of these new homes will receive planters made during the FANTastic Discoveries afternoon. Any additional boxes will go to other habitat homes and/or to adult care and retirement homes.

### What will I do when I get there?

Working along side Lutheran Laymen's League volunteers, you will help assemble one of the 32, or more, cedar boxes that will later be planted with flowers before being delivered to the new Habitat Homes. As individuals come by and ask questions you will be able to invite them to lend a helping hand, and perhaps tell about the Carpenter who changed your life.



**Habitat for Humanity is a Christian Ministry** dedicated to eliminating substandard housing and homelessness worldwide, and to making adequate, affordable shelter a matter of conscience and action. Habitat for Humanity has an open-door policy: all who desire to be a part of this work are welcome, regardless of religious preference or background. Habitat for Humanity has always had a policy of building with people in need regardless of race or religion, and we welcome volunteers and supporters from all backgrounds. The work of Habitat for Humanity is driven by the desire to give tangible expression to the love of God through the work of eliminating poverty housing.

The local Habitat for Humanity will also have displays located at this FANTastic Discovery area. Habitat comes together with people like you to help give families a fresh start in a home of their own built with the hard work and sweat of volunteers and homeowners. Hear and see stories and successes that will reveal the innovative way in which Habitat for Humanity helps families in need of a hand up – not a handout. Plan enough time to see this display – about 10-12 minutes.

\* Photos below are of Habitat Homes being built in Portland – completion date July 2006.



# ❖ FANtastic Discovery F:

Location: Lloyd Center Theater Lot



## Local Congregations Information Booth

Participate for 1 to 3 hours:

3:30-4:30 or 4:30-5:30 or 5:30-6:30 PM Friday, June 23

### What's the Point?

To inform people about the LCMS Lutheran Congregations in the Portland-Metro area.

### What will I do when I get there?

You will share brochures and flyers from local Lutheran congregations with people who stop by the booth. As you visit with them you may be able to help them connect with an area Lutheran church close to where they work or live, if they are searching or do not have a church home. Share a story or two about how your church family is there for you. Listen to their needs. Many people want to be part of a group that truly cares about their challenges and joys. Be ready to share the love of Christ in your smiles and conversations.



# ❖ FANtastic Discovery G:

## ***Selah within Zion:***

SPACE for reflection in a place purposed for encounter with God

## **at Zion Lutheran Church, Downtown Portland**

Offered only twice: 3:30-4:15 or 4:45-5:30 PM on Friday, June 23

### **What's the Point?**

This FANtastic Discovery is a time of structured meditation to allow *s p a c e* for Christian reflection and re-creation. We will incorporate the ancient and the modern - Psalms, silence, prayer, symbol and image, and communal song, accented with music from Zion Lutheran's new Martin Ott pipe organ.



An emerging generation is asking soul questions – how can I encounter God more holistically in worship and life? Where is there *space* – in time, in physical space, in community – to express the joys, longing, and brokenness of this world?

An ancient generation asked similar questions. Every condition of the human soul is recorded in the Psalms. For a generation open to the ambiguities, the layers of meaning, of life lived within the Spirit, words from the Psalms like *Selah* and *Zion* evoke multiple definitions and layers of experience – *pause, reflection, to lift up, to hang in the balance. . . the City of God, the New Heaven, a place to encounter the Holy One*. Pause with us, meditate on Christ, and refresh your soul in the *sanctuary of Zion*.

### **What will I do before I get there?**

Reflect on these questions; engage in discussion with a fellow attendee:

Why do you attend church? How does one share not only a message *about* Christ, but a personal story of encounter with the Person of Jesus? How does one express genuine faith and authentic worship to a generation that is bombarded with both pop spirituality and an anti-religious culture? How do we convey (witness) ancient truths in a transient world?

How does my congregation provide - or fail to provide - *s p a c e* for visitors as well as members to encounter Jesus? - to express praise or lament in their life? - to be welcomed into community? - to witness the *cosmic* and *personal* story of the God who draws near?

What prevents me from inviting acquaintances who are not Christian to worship? On the other hand, what has happened in the life of someone I have brought to worship? Who might I lift up in prayer at Zion who is not currently attending worship or is not Christian?

**NOTE:** This FANtastic Discovery requires transportation via Mass Transit (MAX) which is easily accessible outside the Convention Center and near the other FANtastic Discoveries at the Lloyd Center. People will be available to direct you. Cost is just under \$2 – one way – and takes 10-15 minutes once you are on board.

# ❖ FANtastic Discovery H:

Location: Friday night at the Convention Center

## Good Shepherd Residents Hosts at Friday Igniter Event (concert & speaker)

7:30-9:45 PM Friday, June 23

**NOTE:** you can do this AND one or two Friday afternoon FANtastic Discoveries since this event takes place during the Igniter Event (Speaker and Concert).



### What's the Point?

Area Good Shepherd personnel will provide transportation for Good Shepherd residents to the convention center to allow them to enjoy the Igniter Event (speaker and concert) on Friday evening.



### What will I do when I get there?

Your warm greeting to one of the Good Shepherd residents as they arrive will be welcomed as you host them for the evening's excitement.

Help them find a seat, visit with them, and simply enjoy their company. You will be their "buddy" throughout the evening and chances are that your connection will be a life experience you will not forget.

After the Igniter Event you will return them to a designated place for their transportation home.



***Your life in Christ makes you strong, and his love comforts you. You have fellowship with the Spirit, and you have kindness and compassion for one another.***

Philippians 2:1

# ❖ Dinner on your own in ADDITION to at least one A-H activity!

Location: Around Town – your choice.

## What's the Point?

At some time during the hours of 3:00-6:00 PM on Friday, June 23, you will need to grab a bite to eat or have dinner, so that your stomach does not growl during the evening event.

## What will I do when I get there?

Engage your server in conversation. Ask about them – be genuinely interested in them. Tell them that you will be praying before your meal and ask if they have a request you could pray about. Leave them with a reminder of your visit via one of the outreach tools supplied at convention.



Learn your server's name

Make your servers feel comfortable through conversation. Be genuine and friendly.

Sometime before your food arrives, let them know that you will be praying and ask them if there is anything that they may want you to pray about.

Let them know before you leave that they will continue to be in your prayers.



# ❖ Friday Evening Igniter Event – Speaker and Concert begins 7:00 PM

Location: Convention Center This activity does NOT need registration

## What's the Point?

This is an opportunity for convention attendees and others from area Lutheran Congregations to invite un-churched friends to a non-threatening evening of laughter, inspiration, and faith through a nationally known inspirational speaker and recording group.

## Invite someone you care about to this exciting evening!

Even if you are not from Portland, you may have an un-churched friend or relative from the area that would enjoy joining you at 7:00 PM for this free event at the Portland Convention Center. Be praying about it now – you may even meet a new friend on Friday afternoon during a FANTastic Discovery that may want to attend.

## What will I do when I get there?

Enjoy the evening. Enjoy the people. Be open to sharing your love for Christ through laughter, personal conversation and other ways the Spirit will lead you.

## Entertainment & Speaker:

**Guy Doud** was selected 1986 National Teacher of the Year and honored at a White House ceremony.

He has since spoken to thousands of groups delivering a message of life, love, family, relationships, success, and dreaming dreams.



**RESCUE – Acappella Gospel Group** This National recording group draws listeners of all ages with their fresh and exciting sound. Their unique, contemporary Acappella style delights people with worshipful entertainment focusing on Jesus as the only Savior.

## ❖ Help feed the hungry:

Please bring food for the Portland Food Bank to the concert or plan to donate monetarily. For every \$1 donated, Oregon Food Bank collects and distributes 6 pounds of food, a \$7 value. **See next page for suggested items.**

**NOTE: Food bank barrels will be on site Thursday through Saturday– we thank you in advance for your donations – at the concert or any other time during Convention.**

*Jesus told them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never become hungry, and whoever believes in me will never become thirsty. John 6:35*



## *Most Wanted Foods*

### Foods OREGON FOOD BANK Needs:

Check your shelves at home for these needed and nutritious foods:

- canned meats (tuna, chicken, salmon, etc.)
- canned & boxed meals (soup, chili, stew, mac & cheese, etc.)
- peanut butter
- canned or dried beans & peas (black, pinto, lentils, etc.)
- pasta, rice, cereal
- canned fruits
- 100% fruit juice (canned, plastic or boxed)

### Products We Can't Use

To ensure food safety, Oregon Food Bank cannot use:

- rusty or unlabeled cans
- perishable items
- homemade items
- non-commercially canned/packaged items
- alcoholic beverages, mixes or soda
- open or used items

**PLEASE NOTE:** If you donate glass products, please box or bag them separately, and label the box or bag "GLASS" on all sides.

### Why Food and Funds Both Matter

Food drives provide some of the healthiest and highest-quality food we receive. Donating food also provides a direct connection between the donor and the hungry person who receives the food.

Cash donations make transportation of donated food to agencies possible. Cash keeps our freezers running and our trucks on the road. It also supports innovative programs that address the root causes of hunger through advocacy and public education. (Plus, money is much easier to carry than canned food.) Oregon Food Bank makes efficient use of cash donations. The six pounds of food we can move for just \$1 has a wholesale value of \$7.

**For every \$1 donated, Oregon Food Bank collects and distributes  
6 pounds of food, a \$7 value.**

## WAYS TO START A CONVERSATION THAT MAY OPEN A DOOR FOR THE GOSPEL MESSAGE

- What is your greatest joy?
- What is your greatest challenge?
- So, where are you from?
- Where did you go to school/train? Or Where are you going to school?
- Are you a football (or baseball, basketball, etc.) fan?
- What brought you here?
- What are your spiritual beliefs? Then listen and interact without judgment – being open to ways you can interject the Gospel message.
- What are you doing this weekend?
- Did you hear about (news event)?
- What do you do?
- Where did you grow up?
- Married? Kids?
- Did you see (movie or TV) program?
- Is there something that you would like me to pray about for you? May I pray with you now? Be sure to leave them a reminder of your time: prayer heart; peppermint card; even a pocket Bible if that seems appropriate (even though you may not have prayed with them).

At registration you will receive a **FANtastic Discovery Toolkit** with items that will help you plant seeds of the Gospel message and Christ's love. Below is just one example:



Back of Card printed with District information. You will also have a peppermint to give with each card.

### Give to:

- Wait staff at restaurants
- Hotel housekeepers
- People on the light rail or those you meet
- Shopkeepers; taxi drivers; be creative!

### **Please begin to pray...**

..for those God will lead into the paths of attendees at the Northwest District LCMS Convention. Pray for eyes to see, ears to listen and hearts to share His love when the Holy Spirit presents opportunities throughout our time together in Portland.

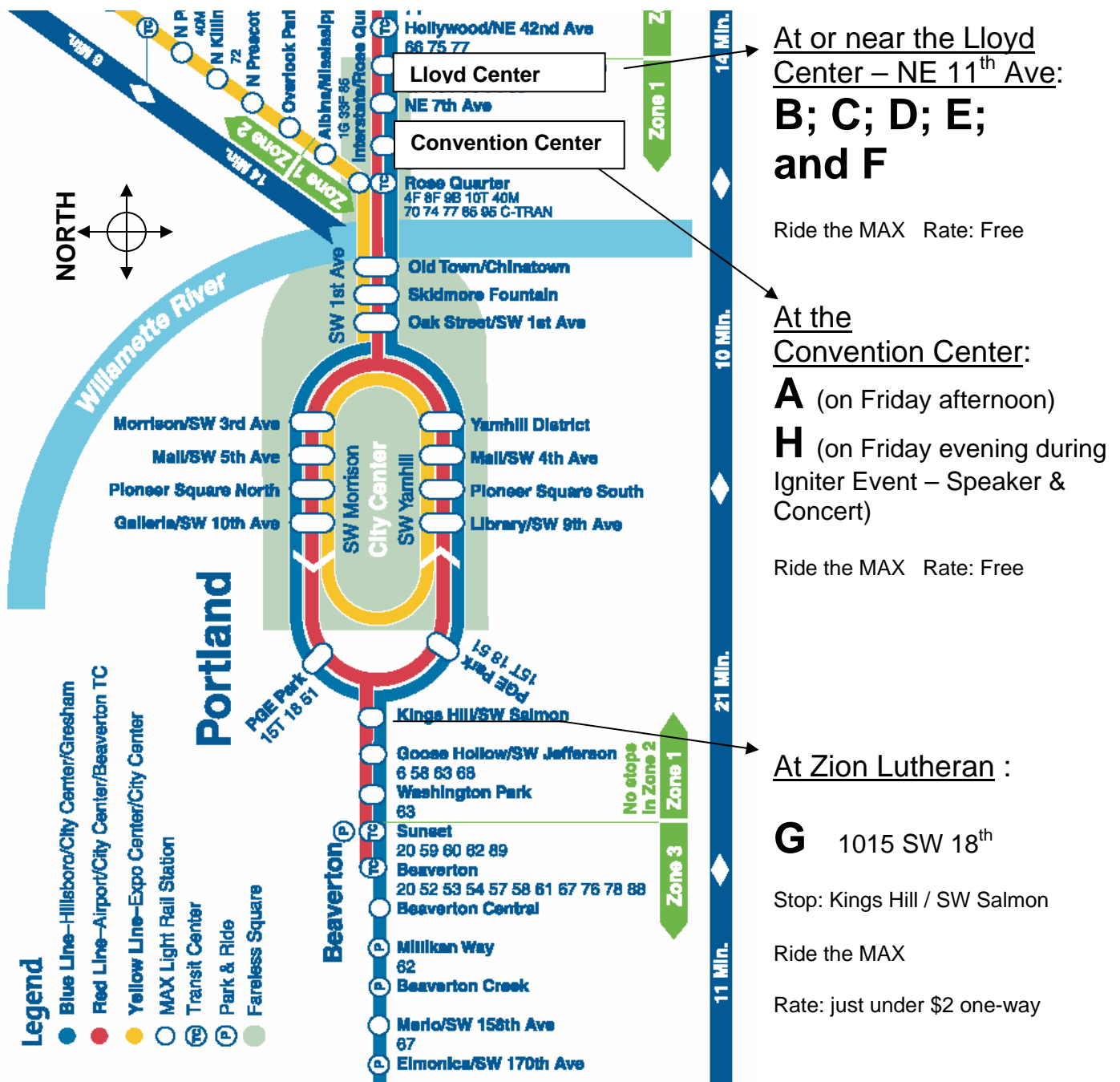


*For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.*

Acts 4:20

# FANTastic Discovery Locations:

Business session: Held Friday, June 23, 2006 beginning at 3:30PM



## NOTE:

- Lloyd Center and the theater parking lot are located within one block of the Double Tree Hotel. The MAX stop for all of them is located at NE 11<sup>th</sup> Ave.
- Plan to register for at least ONE or TWO FANTastic Discoveries and be sure to allow time for a bite to eat or meal prior to the Igniter Event beginning at 7:00PM