



# AWAKE CHURCH

Aurora Avenue, Seattle, WA

August 2009



Ted plants flowers in the garden.



Evie explores a fresh Aurora-grown tomato.

Greetings from Aurora Avenue!

It's been quite a summer for Awake Church: Two baby boys were born. A wedding. A group climbed Mount Rainer. Someone climbed it twice - in two weeks! There were other adventures too. While we met in the back of a local café for worship just about every other week, most of our adventures together took place on Wednesday nights in the garden we started last spring.

Each Wednesday we hosted a cookout in the garden. At first it was mostly Awake folks with a few neighbors from Aurora motels. But after a couple of weeks the word spread and 40, 50, 60 neighbors would show up to share a meal together - neighbors from motels, neighbors living in vehicles on the street, neighbors struggling with addiction or mental illness.

Our hope for these cookouts was not to save or fix our neighbors, but simply do what Jesus calls us to do, to love our neighbors. There's a quote by Henri Nouwen that we like to think about as we try to love our neighbors: "Hospitality is not to change people, but to offer them space where change can take place." This summer we provided the space; we saw God bringing the change.

#### PRAYERS

- thank God for the healthy births of Jackson and Caleb!
- thank God for the marriage of Jay & Heather!
- for guidance as we consider creating a community space on Aurora.
- that we would extend God's love and hospitality in all we do!
- for comfort for those in our church and neighborhood who are mourning.

Thanks for your support!  
Grace, Ben Katt

#### CONTACT INFO

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#### WEB

awakechurch.org  
(church)  
  
auroraseattle.com  
(neighborhood blog)

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