

EXALT EQUIP ENGAGE Sunday Worship

Adult Sunday School: 9 a.m. Worship: 10 a.m. (in person or www.woodlandpresbyterian. org/worship)

> 756 Park Street Woodland, WA 98674 360-225-8941



WOODLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

<u>JANUARY 2022</u> Happenings

From the Pastor's Desk 🛧



I recently came across an article which began this way: Every January, millions of Americans, brimming with optimism and a little extra belly from the holidays, commemorate the New Year by making an unfamiliar urban trek. They go to the gym. One in eight new members join their fitness club in January, and many gyms see a traffic surge of 30 to 50 percent in the first few weeks of the year...But next thing you know, it will be April, our gym cards will be mocking us from our wallets, and our tummies will have sprouted, on cue with the tree buds.

Though COVID has given us a good excuse not to join a gym in this new year, I think this description of increased gym membership in January can similarly be applied to our Christian faith. We ought to enter into a new year at church with high hopes of what the Lord will do in 2022. It is easy to begin a new year with great enthusiasm and yet find that within a few months, our zeal begins to diminish. There are many reasons why we may find ourselves waning in our walk with the Lord-- disappointments, the worries of life and other distractions, or maybe just a general 'busyness' in life that causes us to draw back from our commitments to the Lord, to His Church, and to seeing growth in our spiritual lives.

Scripture is replete with instruction concerning consistent spiritual growth. Let me mention a few passages that may help us as we begin a new year:

Colossians 1:9-12: For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you and asking God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding. And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light (Seeking God's wisdom, understanding, and power. Asking God to produce His good fruit in .

us so that we bring Him glory). Hebrews 10:25: Let us hold unservingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching (Living a life consistent with the faith in Christ that we profess. Meeting regularly with God's people to encourage and exhort one another in love and good deeds).

2 Peter 1:5-8: For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ (Seeking to increase in our Christian maturity, becoming effective and productive servants of the Lord).

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- 2 Christlike Growth in the New Year Luke 2:52
- 9 Themes of 2 Peter 2 Peter 1-3
- 16 Never Skip the Formalities 2 Peter 1:1-2
- 23 Are We Plugged In?
 2 Peter 1:3-4
 30 A Spiritual Chain Reaction
 2 Peter 1:5-7

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For many people, religion feels like running on a treadmill: They're working hard, but getting nowhere. That's a good image for one way to approach the Christian life, especially if you consider the history behind the treadmill. Elyse Fitzpatrick writes: In Victorian England, treadmills weren't found in air-conditioned health clubs-they were found in prisons. Treadmills, or treadwheels, as they were called, were used in penal servitude as a form of punishment Prisoners were punished by spending the bulk of their day walking up an inclined plane, knowing that all their hard labor was for nothing....He couldn't even look on his labor at the end of the day and know that, if nothing else, he'd been productive (Elyse Fitzpatrick, Because He Loves Me (Crossway, 2010), pp. 87-91). Our faith in the Living Lord should not resemble a 'treadmill' faith. As the old saying goes, God did not create us as 'human doings' but 'human beings.' Jesus has freed us from the daily grind, and He is "able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us" (Eph. 3:20). God wants us to grow in our understanding and experience of BEING in Christ – being alive in Him and being formed by Him.

Pray that 2022 will be a year of ongoing growth in Christ for you and our church family.

In God's Grace, Pastor Kevin -

Mission Outreach Update on FRONTIER FELLOWSHIP

Frontier Fellowship traces its beginnings back to a kitchen table in Portland, Oregon in 1981. It was there missiologist Ralph Winter, pioneer of the unreached people groups movement, shared his vision to revive a frontier missions focus within the Presbyterian Church under Harold Kurtz, longtime missionary in Southwest Ethiopia. Under Harold's leadership, it became known as United Presbyterian Frontier Fellowship.

This movement, forty years old this year, has expanded to include new denominations and mission-minded communities of faith who also have a frontier mission vision. It is now known simply as Frontier Fellowship.

Richard Haney, current Executive Director, explained the mission in this way, "We partner with people on the ground who know the language and culture. We come alongside them in humility and boldness—humble about ourselves but bold about the Good News. We pray that these near neighbors of frontier peoples will bear witness with Holy Spirit power and that new believers will be changed by grace through faith." He further states, "We have learned that it makes a difference when you travel to someone else's country and home. When you become friends with a Buddhist, a Muslim, a Hindu, you care in a new way—87% of Muslims, Hindus and Buddhists have never met a Christian."

Frontier Fellowship continues on the journey seeking to take the gospel of Jesus to "the next people group, and the next one and the next one..."

Looking For a Few Good Men

Are there a few men in the church who would like to organize a monthly Men's Breakfast? This would involve planning the meals and deciding on a monthly topic and/or speaker. If you are a <u>man</u> who like to <u>plan</u>, let me know. This ministry would be a blessing to other men within and outside our church

> family. For God's Glory, Pastor Kevin

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Happy New Year!
2 10:00 a.m. Worship Service 12:00 p.m. C.E. Mtg 3:00 p.m. Worship Mtg	3 6:45 p.m. Vision Team Mtg	4	5 12:00 p.m. Prayer in Sanctuary	6 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Bells Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	7 4:00 p.m. Stewardship Mtg	8
9 10:00 a.m. Worship Service 12:00 p.m. Missions Mtg	10	11 7:00 p.m. Session Mtg 7:15 p.m. Deacons Mtg	12 12:00 p.m. Prayer in Sanctuary	13 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Bells Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	14	15
16 10:00 a.m. Worship Service	17 MLK DAY <i>Office Closed</i> 6:45 p.m. OIT	18	19 12:00 p.m. Prayer in Sanctuary	20 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Bells Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	21 10 a.m. Membership Care Mtg	22
23 10:00 a.m. Worship Service	24	25	26 12:00 p.m. Prayer in Sanctuary	27 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Bells Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	28	29
30 10:00 a.m. Worship Service Annual Meeting following Worship	31					

Financial Report: Operating Budget

NOVEMBER	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	
Beginning Balance	-47,309.77	-50,050.93	
Receipts	24,055.00	18,294.00	
Disbursements	<u>33,341.16</u>	<u>17,906.58</u>	
Ending Balance	(56,595.93)	(49,663.51)	
<u>Year to Date</u>			
Beginning Balance	0.00	0.00	
Receipts	187,226.57	188,470.32	
Disbursements	<u>243,822.50</u>	<u>238,133.83</u>	
Ending Balance	(56,595.93)	(49,663.51)	

Financial Report: Invested Funds

NOVEMBER-	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	
Receipts	4,346.79	15,896.78	
Disbursements	<u>1,218.67</u>	<u>2,397.12</u>	
Year to Date			
Beginning Balance	234,891.03	328,641.08	
Receipts	112,230.75	127,480.25	
Disbursements	<u>87,583.99</u>	<u>100,667.19</u>	
Ending Balance	259,537.79	355,454.14	
NET FUNDS	<u>202,941.86</u>	<u>305,790.63</u>	



January1...... Dirk & Darlene Muyskens2..... Jim Ferguson3...... Cliff Campbell5..... Dirk Muyskens7..... Jeri Stocker10..... Rachel Marugg12..... Barbara Curry13..... Shirley Reed17..... Connie Watson23..... Myrtle Adams29..... Jean CowdenFebruary4..... Margaret Morrison

The people listed in the Birthday and Anniversary list are members of WPC

Baking Buddies Coming Back in 2022

Baking Buddies return! Buddy up with a friend, and be one of the first to sign up to be a Baking Buddy team! Fellowship time is so important to our church family and is always even more enjoyable when munching on wonderful homemade treats. So, sign up on the list by the office, and let's put the Fun back in our Fellowship!

Prayer Families

OUR PRAYER FAMILIES THIS MONTH

Myrtle Adams Sandy Wyzanowski Yvonne Barker Carollynn Woodward Richard & Janet Benney Bill & Gail Woodard Jim & Elaine Blair Donnie Womelsdorf Dale & Janet Boon Jim & Karen Wilson



WINGS Annual Giving

For the last several years, WINGS (Women IN God's Service) has made an annual mission giving gift from their funds. This year we sent a \$1000 contribution to World Relief for Welcome Kits, which outfit a room or kitchen for those Afghan refugees who are resettling in the United States. EPC is cooperating with World Relief in response to this current need. We are thankful and blessed to be able to assist in this important mission.





















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