



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

JULY 2022
Happenings



† From the Pastor's Desk †

LEARNING TO LOVE A GOOD MYSTERY

You know the question. You hear it asked constantly from a child who has just learned to talk. The question is "why?" Why, why, why? "Why do I have to eat my broccoli," the inquisitive child asked his father. "Because if you eat your broccoli," said his daddy, "You will grow up big and strong so you can refuse to eat it, like me!"

We are born with an inquisitive nature-wanting to learn and grow and understand. I thank God for that attribute. But our inquisitive nature can be a frustrating attribute, especially when answers to our questions in life are difficult to come by, or worse yet, impossible to find.

Summer is a great time to pick up and read that mystery that you have been putting off for a while. Am I speaking of a novel by Christie, Doyle, Sayers or Hammett? While all great mystery authors, I was thinking of another mystery. Have you ever read the book of Job? It has always been my favorite book in the Old Testament. Job, a righteous and upright man, had

everything going for him - a beautiful family; a successful business. In fact, he was described as "the greatest man among all the people of the East." And on top of all his success, he was a humble servant of God. One day that all came to a crashing (and crushing) halt: Satan was given the freedom to take away all that was around him, including his children, as a test to see if Job would remain faithful to the Lord. And then in the remaining chapters we see a person, in the midst of suffering, asking and being asked that question, "Why?" Why has this happened? Job's friends were so sure Job did something terrible to deserve what seemed to be sure punishment from God.

I'm sure you know the rest of the story. After the search for answers, Job finally asks for a hearing with God, a time when Job can probe the mind of God and find out why he has had to suffer so. And the answer from the Lord is: "It is not for you to know." There are some things too lofty and great for our finite minds to

comprehend. Job finally humbles himself and calls out to God, saying, "*I know that you can do all things; no plan of yours can be thwarted.*"³ *You asked, 'Who is this that obscures my counsel without knowledge?' Surely, I spoke of things I did not understand, things too wonderful for me to know.*"⁴ *"You said, 'Listen now, and I will speak; I will question you, and you shall answer me.'*"⁵ *My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you.*"⁶ *Therefore I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes.*" (Job 42:2-6, NIV).

There are so many things in life that we do not understand. I think the only fault of Job in this book is that he demanded to know why he was suffering. He darkens the counsel of the Lord by trying to justify himself by condemning God and God's sense of justice.

Oh, it is not bad to ask the question "why?" It is a good thing to seek the answers to questions in life - as long as we do it humbly, revering the One who has all knowledge. But we need to realize that there are some questions in life - indeed,

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July 2022 Sermons

- 3 – *The Wedding Planner* John 14:1-6
- 10 – *There Goes the Bride* Hosea 1:1-2:1
- 17 – *The Forgiven and Not Forgotten Bride*
Isaiah 54:1-10
- 24 – *Here Comes the Bride* Ephesians 5:25-32
- 31 – *The Wedding Vows* Ruth 1:6-18

...continued from the 'Pastor's Desk' on page 1

many questions in life - that will never be answered. God is incomprehensible - meaning that we cannot know all there is to know about our Heavenly Maker. We know only what the Lord chooses to reveal to us. That means that there are events in our lives that may leave us scratching our heads. And when we find ourselves asking for understanding and not finding the answers - that is where our faith kicks in. We simply must say, "God, teach me what you want me to know and I'll trust You with all that remains a mystery."

Why do things happen the way they do? I don't know - but I do know the one who holds all the answers, even the ones that will always remain a mystery to us in this life. And I choose to trust God even when life doesn't make sense. I hope you too have decided to trust the Lord in all things. In his devotion on the Psalms entitled *In the Lord I Take Refuge*, Dane Ortlund writes, "Puritan John Bunyan wrote, 'I have often seen, that the afflicted are always the best sort of Christians.' He goes on to explain that what we see as good providences (health, success, ease) frequently have minimal spiritual value, while what we see as bad providences (pain, trial, darkness) are often our deepest sources of spiritual nourishment and growth" (devotion on Psalm 84). The book of Job bears out this very point.

I will leave you with an inspirational poem by William Coltman:

*Until I learned to trust, I never learned to pray;
And I did not learn to fully trust, till sorrow came my way.
Until I felt my weakness, His strength I never knew;
Nor dreamed 'til I was stricken, that He could see me through.* (...continues in textbox to the right ...)

Share Your Talent

Did you hear? WPC is hosting the **Shining Star Bazaar on November 19**. This event is inviting multiple vendors from the community to participate. We are also going to have a table to sell handmade items made by...YOU! This is a great way to make items that unleash your creativity and bring joy to others! Whether it be building, sewing, painting, printing, jewelry making, handcrafting, you name it, we would love to have it at the bazaar. All proceeds from the donated items sold will be going toward our Renovation Project. And summer is the perfect time to get started! Questions? See Janet Syring. Also, do you know any local crafters who might like to rent a table to share their wares? Let us know! There is information and registration forms available on our website and on Facebook. Very Exciting!

Collecting Shoebox Items

January-Hats, Gloves, Scarves

February-Accessories (sunglasses, watches, hair items, jewelry)

March-Quality Crafts (pillow cases, tote bags...)

April-*Stuffed animals*

May-Hygiene items (washcloths, soap, toothbrushes, comb, hairbrush, deodorant)

June-Toys

July-Clothing items (socks, shoes, t-shirts, dresses...)

August-School supplies

September-Games

October-Letter & photo

November-\$10 Donation for postage

December-Prayer



Cash Donation are acceptable for Shoebox items.

See Juanita for questions and donations.

...Who deepest drinks of sorrow, drinks deepest, too, of grace;

He sends the storm so He Himself can be our hiding place.

His heart that seeks our highest good knows well when things annoy;

We would not long for heaven, if earth held only joy.

In His Grace,
Pastor Kevin





JULY 2022



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 4:00 p.m. Stewardship Mtg	2 10 a.m. Worship Mtg
3 9:00 a.m. Adult S.S. Class 10:00 a.m. Worship Service 12:00 p.m. C.E. Mtg	4 	5	6	7 10:00 a.m. Bible Study	8 9 a.m.-4 p.m. WPC Rummage Sale	9 9 a.m.-4 p.m. WPC Rummage Sale 10:00 a.m. Hearts & Crafts
10 9:00 a.m. Adult S.S. Class 10:00 a.m. Worship Service	11 OFFICE CLOSED 10:45 a.m. S.A.I.L. ExerciseClass	12 7:00 p.m. Session Mtg 7:00 p.m. Deacons Mtg	13	14 10:00 a.m. Bible Study	15 10:45 a.m. S.A.I.L. ExerciseClass	16
17 9:00 a.m. Adult S.S. Class 10:00 a.m. Worship Service	18 10:45 a.m. S.A.I.L. ExerciseClass	19	20	21 10:00 a.m. Bible Study	22 10 a.m. Membership Care Mtg 10:45 a.m. S.A.I.L. ExerciseClass	23 10:00 a.m. Hearts & Crafts
24 9:00 a.m. Adult S.S. Class 10:00 a.m. Worship Service	25 10:45 a.m. S.A.I.L. ExerciseClass	26	27	28 10:00 a.m. Bible Study	29 10:45 a.m. S.A.I.L. ExerciseClass	30
31 9:00 a.m. Adult S.S. Class 10:00 a.m. Worship Service						

Financial Report: Operating Budget

<u>MAY</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>
Beginning Balance	-19,903.67	-18,339.90
Receipts	16,639.00	13,359.00
Disbursements	19,138.40	18,692.17
Ending Balance	(22,403.07)	(23,673.07)
<u>Year to Date</u>		
Beginning Balance	-	-
Receipts	87,659.00	96,890.70
Disbursements	110,062.07	120,563.77
Ending Balance	(22,403.07)	(23,673.07)

Financial Report: Invested Funds

<u>MAY</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>
Receipts	5,877.70	13,786.00
Disbursements	220.62	46,166.30
<u>Year to Date</u>		
Beginning Balance	247,279.95	234,798.28
Receipts	69,089.53	59,633.44
Disbursements	17,976.09	67,758.17
Ending Balance	298,393.39	226,673.55
<u>NET FUNDS</u>		
	275,990.32	203,000.48

July Prayer Families



Week of...

- July 3 Patty Graybill
 Cal Schurman
- July 10 Darin & Sally Hager
 Cynthia Sandblast
- July 17 Dale Hanley
 Al & Connie Sandblast
- July 24 Harry & Barbara Harlow
 LaVerna Ruckman
- July 31 Bob & Pam Hasbrouck
 Lucille Rothfus

MISSIONARY UPDATE: ELISHA AND CRYSTAL STOCK

Serving in East Africa, the following is a statement of commitment by Elisha and Crystal: "We have a heart to reach the unreached in East Africa. Our passion is to use aviation to take the Gospel to those who have never heard. The airplane is a tool we use in order to support missionaries and pastors serving in remote areas of Congo, South Sudan, Central African Republic, Kenya, and Uganda. Whether we fly people, medicine, Bibles, or food, our desire is to serve in order to further the Gospel."

Elisha has recently completed his training to fly the Cessna Caravan which is a larger aircraft that AIM AIR flies. Up to this point he has been flying the Cessna 206, a smaller plane that carries 5 passengers. The Caravan holds 13 passengers or about 1 ton of cargo. It is a great aircraft for East Africa with its rugged construction and large capacity.

Partnering with Samaritans Purse, Elisha was able to spend a week in South Sudan, flying cleft lip patients from remote villages into the capital, so that a team of Doctors from around the world could come and perform surgery on them. By the end of the week, the team was able to perform 89 cleft lip surgeries! It was such a blessing to be a part of this trip and to see the joy on peoples faces as they went back home looking more normal than before.

Crystal made a short 3-week trip back to the US this month. Her sister was undergoing surgery that had potential to be extensive. Crystal had a great time with her sister and was able to care for her and her 2-year old during surgery and through recovery. Please continue to pray for the Stocks as they serve God in East Africa.



July Birthdays & Anniversaries



- July 1.....Betsy Lessard
- 4Mike Ferguson
- 8Claralee Williams
- 10....Dave & Shirley Reed
- 12Margaret Sukkari
- 19....Patty Graybill
- 20....Mark & Liz Hover
- 28 ...John Svensson
- 30....Jim & Karen Wilson

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

Cannon Beach Fall Women's Conference

SEPTEMBER 30 – OCTOBER 2, 2022

Speaker: Susie Shellenberger

Susie Shellenberger is a master at blending Scripture, creativity, depth, and humor when speaking. She challenges audiences to move far beyond casual Christianity and guides them into establishing true intimacy with Christ. Susie hits a homerun with audiences because she refuses to give fluff. Fun, yes. Fluff, no.



She is an ordained minister through the Church of the Nazarene, an international speaker, and an author of more than 40 books that have sold over 1.5 million copies combined. She has traveled to every continent in the world (yes, even Antarctica). An incredible, powerful speaker, Susie delivers non-compromising messages that audiences remember for years. She's committed to making holiness come alive and challenges her listeners to live in radical obedience to the Lordship of Christ.

This year we have 3 rooms reserved, with a \$100 deposit due to the Church by July 11.

Total cost will be about \$215 with final payment due to the church in September.

Contact Martha Swanstrum with questions and to sign up: 360-546-2948, swanstrum@aol.com

Church Rummage Sale

Save the Date! For Bargain Basement Blast (A.K.A. Rummage Sale)

Friday and Saturday

July 8 & 9

9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Start saving your good, clean, useable items for our big sale! Furniture, household goods, books, decorations, tools, and more are welcome! More details coming soon! You can leave your donated items in the Fellowship Hall in the 'designated area' starting July 4. Thank you!

Like to help before, during, and/or after the sale? See Elaine Blair. 😊

All proceeds from the sale will be going toward our church renovation project.

Capital Campaign/Renovation Project Update

Praise the Lord! We have raised over \$50,000 towards our \$60,000 goal. The end of July will mark the halfway point of our campaign. The Interior Design Committee is working with an interior design consultant to come up with a proposal/plan for Phase 1 and Phase 2 of our renovation project. We will be sending out a newsletter later this month when we have more details about the Phase 1 project (renovation in the sanctuary). Please feel free to direct any questions or comments about the renovation project to the elders.

JULY 2022 Happenings

WPC College Scholarships

Woodland Presbyterian Church College Scholarship information for the 2022-2023 school year is now available in the church office for graduating high school seniors and continuing college students. **APPLICANTS MUST BE A MEMBER OF WPC TO APPLY.** For an application, call the church office at 360-225-8941, or email at "office@woodlandprsbyterian.org." The office is open Monday-Friday afternoons. Please include the address of your college on the application. ***The deadline for the application to be received is July 31.*** The scholarship is also open to Running Start college students who are still enrolled in high school and actively attending our church.



WOODLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (EPC)

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

