

WOODLAND PRESBYTERIAN NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2026

Happenings



Save the Date

..... *For These Upcoming Events!*

- Presbytery, January 29-30, Gig Harbor
- Mission Connexion, January 16-17
- Annual Meeting and Potluck, 12 p.m., January 25

WOODLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (EPC)

PO BOX 297 / 756 Park Street

Woodland, WA 98674

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

Thomas Dorsey, a jazz musician from Atlanta, made a bold decision in 1926 to leave behind secular music and devote his talent to writing songs for the Lord. But following that call wasn't easy. During the Great Depression, many church leaders criticized his soulful gospel style, calling it "the devil's music." Dorsey later joked, "I got kicked out of some of the best churches in the land." Then, in 1932, tragedy struck. While in St. Louis for a revival, he received a telegram that his wife had died suddenly during childbirth. His faith was shaken to the core, and grief nearly silenced him. Yet in his deepest sorrow, Dorsey turned back to what he knew best — music. Out of that heartbreak came one of the most beloved hymns of all time:

*"Precious Lord, take my hand,
Lead me on, let me stand.
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn..."*

Dorsey's song reminds us that even in our valleys, God is near — guiding us, strengthening us, and using our pain to comfort others who walk the same road.

From Church Art Pro

Memorial Service for Toni LaPore

The Memorial Service for Toni LaPore is Tuesday, January 6, at 4 p.m. at The Gathering Place, in Vancouver, WA, 2500 NE 78th Street.

There will be a reception following.

Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 25

It's Back! A Gift Basket Auction is again going to be held at the Annual Meeting this year. Various groups and individuals in the church are welcome to make up themed gift baskets that will be auctioned off. Additionally, individual auction items may be donated to our silent auction table! Want to make up a basket or be a part of the silent auction? Be sure to sign up at the Welcome Center in January with your name and the theme of your gift basket or gift item. Plan on attending the Annual Meeting and join in the fun after church on January 26! Bid on a basket for yourself or as a gift for someone else. It's going to be GREAT!

Your Fellowship Committee and Outreach Team

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-\$9 Donation for postage

December-Prayer



Financial Report: Summary

FINANCIAL POSITION	NOVEMBER 2025	DECEMBER 2024
Total Assets	\$92,794.38	\$231,013.89
Total Liabilities	-\$460.00	-\$555.00
Total Net Assets	\$93,254.38	\$231,568.89
Liabilities & Net Assets	\$92,794.38	\$231,013.89

January Prayer Families

Week of...

January 4 Jean Eddy
Margaret Sukkari
January 11 Charlotte Ellis
Jan Stenberg
January 18 Doug Ferguson
Jason Snider
January 25 Jim Ferguson
Carolyn Smith



Long ago, wise travelers followed a star in search of the promised Savior — and their journey led them to joy. May you find God's presence and guidance shining brightly in your life.

From ChurchProArt

January Sermons

- 4 – *Displaying God's Glory*, 2 Cor. 4:1-6
- 11 – *The Glorious Entrance*, Mark 11:1-11
- 18 – *Cursing and Cleansing*, Mark 11:12-19
- 25 – *Faith, Forgiveness, Faithlessness*, Mark 11:20-33

January Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1 Dirk & Darlene Muyskens
- 2 Jim Ferguson
- 3 Cliff Campbell
- 5 Dirk Muyskens
- 7 Jeri Pool
- 10 Rachel Marugg
- 12 Barbara Curry
- 13 Shirley Reed
- 17 Connie Watson
- 29 Jean Cowden
- 29 Steve & Cindy Wallace

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

Another Year for God

"Another year is dawning; dear Father, let it be, in working or in waiting, another year with thee....

Another year of progress, another year of praise, another year of proving thy presence all the days.

Another year of service, of witness for thy love; another year of training for holier work above.

Another year is dawning! Dear Father, let it be, on earth, or else in heaven, another year for thee. —Frances Ridley Havergal



JANUARY 2026



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 New Year's Day	2 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class	3
4 9:00 a.m. S.S 10:00 a.m. Worship Service <i>Communion</i>	5 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class	6 Epiphany 10:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 4 p.m. Memorial Service for Toni LaPore Vancouver	7 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class 10:00 a.m. Stewardship Comm. Mtg	8 10:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Bells 7:00 p.m. Choir	9 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class	10 10:00 a.m. Hearts & Crafts
11 9:00 a.m. S.S 10:00 a.m. Worship Service	12 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class 7:00 p.m. Session Mtg 7:00 p.m. Deacons Mtg	13 10:00 a.m. Chair Yoga	14 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class 1:30 p.m. Game Day	15 10:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 10 a.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Bells 7:00 p.m. Choir	16 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class 10 a.m. FC Committee	17 <i>2026 NW Mission Connexion Conference Sunset Church, Portland</i>
18 9:00 a.m. S.S 10:00 a.m. Worship Service	19 OFFICE CLOSED 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class 	20 10:00 a.m. Chair Yoga	21 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class	22 10:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 10 a.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Bells 7:00 p.m. Choir	23 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class	24 10:00 a.m. Hearts & Crafts
25 9:00 a.m. S.S 10:00 a.m. Worship Service <i>Gratitude Bag Sunday</i> 11:30 a.m. Annual Mtg/Auction	26 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class	27 10:00 a.m. Chair Yoga	28 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class	29 10:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 10 a.m. Bible Study Presbytery – Gig Harbor, WA 5:30 p.m. Bells 7:00 p.m. Choir	30 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class Presbytery – Gig Harbor, WA	31

Sunday Morning Live

(Adult Sunday School)

After a brief hiatus, beginning on Sunday, January 11, 9 a.m., we will restart Sunday Morning Live (Adult Sunday School), in the Glass Chapel. We will be studying a two-DVD series titled "The 7 Churches of Revelation - Times of Fire" and "The 7 Churches of Revelation - Part II - Times Of Deception."

Many Christians believe we are living in the "Last Days." In the book of Revelation, the hostile times preceding the return of Christ are vividly described. We wonder, could it be soon? This study examines the letters from the resurrected Christ given to the last living Apostle John, for the seven Churches in Asia Minor (Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea).

Investigative filmmaker Christophe Hanauer travels to present-day Turkey, where the seven Churches are located, to uncover the secrets of these prophetic letters. He uncovers many clues to the daily hardships of these 1st Century churches. His discoveries from the archaeological sites reveal, among other things, that Christianity had spread like wildfire across the Roman Empire, challenging ancient pagan worship and the order established by Imperial Rome. The Roman Emperor was intent on stopping it, persecuting anyone who rejected his claim to deity.

In this study, a group of scholars and theologians provide historic and cultural insights with which we can begin to see connections to our modern world. Within these mysterious letters, we find keys to the heart of God for His Bride. Are our hearts prepared for His return? Is today's Church ready for these times of fire?

Some believe the book of Revelation was only for the time of early Christians. But, others believe Christ's message to the seven Churches is timeless. Do you have questions about the book of Revelation? If so, you are not alone. Come and join us Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. for this amazing journey.

Women's Wellness Clinic

The Women's Wellness Clinic of Woodland is a non-profit, life-affirming pregnancy resource center dedicated to providing care for women and their babies, born or unborn, during times of crisis or transition. Women will find Christ-centered, compassionate, and non-judgmental care and support.

WWC is planning to purchase a mobile unit that will allow care to be given where it is most needed around our community. The mobile unit is so close to becoming a reality! During the month of January, coinciding with Sanctity of Life Sunday (1/18/26), please pick up a baby bottle (located in the narthex) and fill it with **change and/or bills**. Please return the baby bottle by the end of January.

WWC is also in great need of baby items such as **diapers, wipes, baby creams, nursing pads, etc.**

If you would like to **donate with a check**, please make it payable to **Women's Wellness Clinic of Woodland, Inc.** and mail it to: **P.O. Box 223, Woodland, WA 98674.**

You can explore WWC's website at:
womenswellnessclinic.org

Northwest

MissionConnexion 2026

MissionConnexion is the premier Missions Conference in the Pacific Northwest. It features world class speakers, dozens of workshops that cover a wide variety of topics, exhibits from mission organizations from around the world (and you get to interact with as many as you want), and great worship as well. Words really cannot express how educational and uplifting this is. This year MissionConnexion will be held at Sunset Church in Portland on January 16-17. Registration is free. Register at Northwest MissionConnexion. If you are interested or have questions, contact Mike Ferguson or Karen Wilson.



EXALT

EQUIP

ENGAGE

Sunday Worship
Worship: 10 a.m. (in person or
www.woodlandpresbyterian.org)

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JANUARY 2026 ***Happenings***



✠ From the Pastor's Desk ✠

LIFE AND DOCTRINE

¹⁶ *Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers.* 1 Timothy 4:16 (ESV)

Years ago, when I was serving a church in New York State, I met a man who was a very accomplished musician. Technically, he was flawless. He could play any piece that you placed before him with amazing exactness. And though one would be in awe of his talent, there seemed to be something missing whenever he performed. Call it what you will – heart, soul, feeling – he just did not project any kind of passion or emotion in his performance. He was as steady and a rock and could be counted on to reproduce the musical piece as written, but he just was not capable of communicating anything besides what was written on the page. He played with *precision*, but lacked *passion*.

Presbyterians, for better or for worse, are often known for their expertise in doctrine and polity. Many of my colleagues in the EPC are very impressive when it comes to their mastery of biblical theology – which is a very good thing. The danger with knowledge, however, is that it can lead one to become puffed up with pride. On the other side, there are denominations that might be more known for their enthusiasm in worship and evangelism rather than biblical knowledge and doctrinal purity. If we find ourselves on either

extreme, we may be in need of serious correction. The church in Ephesus is a prime example. We read about them in Revelation 2: ² *“I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear with those who are evil, but have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and found them to be false.”* ³ *I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name’s sake, and you have not grown weary.* ⁴ *But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first.* ⁵ *Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent.* Rev. 2:2-5 (ESV)

Jesus commends the church for their biblical doctrine and refusal to compromise when it comes to God’s Word. However, they failed to live out those important truths in their day to day lives.

This is my concern when it comes to the Church and our church (and my life). I desire to see our church family grow in the knowledge of God and of His word (this is desperately lacking in our society today as recent studies have shown). However, I fear that we can place so much emphasis in knowing the

right things (orthodoxy – right beliefs) that we neglect living right things out (orthopraxy – right practice/living). That was Paul’s concern for Timothy as he encourages him to watch himself (his life) and the teaching (doctrine). Personally, this has been the primary reason that I have been exploring and developing a more consistent prayer/devotional life.

I don’t want to become a “one-trick pony” pastor, but I will, without apology, continue to encourage you (my church family) to develop a system for daily devotions that works for you (and you can continue to encourage me as well). A devotional life that emphasizes the Holy Scriptures and sound teaching, and at the same time, also incorporates issues of the heart – the joyous living out of sound biblical knowledge and doctrine – that is the goal. My desire for our church family is that we continue to develop into followers of Jesus who serve our Lord with precision and passion – to His glory and for our enjoyment!

In God’s Grace,
Pastor Kevin

