



## OUR PURPOSE

Woodland Presbyterian Church exists to GLORIFY God, BRING people to membership in His family, GUIDE them toward Christ-like maturity, and PREPARE them for a ministry of outreach and service.

## Sunday Worship

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

756 Park Street  
Woodland, WA 98674  
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# WOODLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

## OCTOBER 2020

# Happenings

## † From the Pastor's Desk †



*57 As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." 58 And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." 59 To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." 60 And Jesus said to him, "Leave the dead to bury their own dead. But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." 61 Yet another said, "I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home." 62 Jesus said to him, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."*

Luke 9:57-62 (ESV)

## PRAY FOR THE PERSECUTED!!

Jesus gives us clear instruction about what following Him entails – completely entrusting our lives to Him without conditions. In a recent article posted by The Voice of the Martyrs (VOM), this theme of counting the cost when following Jesus is expanded further: *Jesus said to his disciples that those who chose to follow him would face rejection and persecution. That has been true from the beginning of Christianity. Most of the apostles were martyred, and Christians were severely persecuted under Nero and other Roman emperors.*

Every year around this time, we highlight the ministry of Voice of the Martyrs. The following is a VOM report about continued persecution, imprisonment, and martyrdom that continues today in many parts of the world:

In **Sudan**, Christians are scattered and murdered as their houses and

Churches are destroyed. They must find shelter and food wherever they can.

In **Sri Lanka**, Christians on their way to church are beaten by Buddhist villagers, with some Christians requiring hospitalization.

In **China**, churches are being destroyed and Christians are being imprisoned.

And the persecuted include VOM team members as in the case of Petr Jasek, VOM coordinator in Africa. On December 10, 2015, Petr Jasek arrived at the airport in Khartoum, Sudan, for his return flight home to the Czech Republic. But before he could board his flight, he was summoned by Sudanese security for questioning about his activities in the country—activities that, if disclosed, would endanger the persecuted Christians with whom he had met. As the questions continued

and he was taken into custody, Petr realized he would not be returning to his family anytime soon. Instead, Petr was charged with multiple offenses and imprisoned for 445 days—all for trying to help Christians who had been persecuted by Sudan's government.

This is similar to what happened to our EPC Pastor Andrew Brunson who is featured in the September 2020 issue of the VOM newsletter (posted on our Missions bulletin board).

Our church partners with the ministry of VOM because of the connections it maintains with persecuted Christians in the countries where persecution takes place. VOM provides assistance in many different ways.

*Continued on second page....*



## **October 2020 Sermons**



- 4 – “Contagious Praise” Psalm 67
- 11 – “Thunderous Praise” Psalm 29
- 18 – “Christ Alone: Christ to Us” Hosea 6:1-3
- 25 – “Christ Alone: Christ for Us” Rom. 8:31-39

*Continued from front page “From the Pastor...”*

They provide Family Med Packs with health and hygiene items provided for those fleeing from their homes.

Sheets, blankets, and clean towels are provided to comfort for people in refugee camps. Short-term specific needs are met such as clothing, food, and shelter. And Bibles are always included. We are commanded in God’s Word to “Remember the prisoners as if chained with them since you, yourselves, are in the body also.” (Hebrews 13:3). Let us not neglect to pray for and support our Christian brothers and sisters around the globe who daily face persecution.

In His Grace,  
Pastor Kevin

## **COVID-19 UPDATE**

I wish I had better news, but we are still in Phase 2, which means that we are only allowed to have 50 people in attendance for worship. We do continue to follow the recommended precautions of wearing masks, using sanitizer, and maintaining social distancing. We do have the Fellowship Hall set up for overflow if needed. I know many of you want to join us but are not able to because you must take the necessary health precautions. Please know that I and elders are available for visits if you feel comfortable with an in-person visit (you set the rules, and we will follow them – masks, distancing, etc.). Please call me or the office to request a visit, or feel free to drop in to see me at the church. Continue to be a blessing to others in this time as you shine the light of Christ. ~Pastor Kevin

## **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS**

The Adult Sunday School is coming to the end of the Journaling class. On October 4 we will begin a 5-week class based on the DVD series, *Faith Under Fire: Exploring Christianity’s 10 Toughest Questions*. Bestselling author Lee Strobel hosts spirited discussions between well-respected Christians, people of other faiths, and people with no faith at all, on some of the most important spiritual and social issues of our time. Each session features interviews and debates between knowledgeable and passionate experts discussing what they believe and why they believe it. This study answers tough questions about the existence of God, Christianity, and Islam, the reliability of the Bible, faith and science, and many other issues. Teaching is shared and rotated between Sally Hager, Mike Ferguson, and Richard Benney. Please join us in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m.



## **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**

### **WPC PACKING PARTY**

Each shoebox that you pack helps a local church around the world tell a child about Jesus, God’s Greatest Gift. Many of them will grow in their faith and learn how to tell friends and family about him through our discipleship program called, “The Greatest Journey.”

People sometimes ask, “Why do you spend so much time and money sending shoeboxes filled with things that don’t last like toys, trinkets, and pencils.”

God uses these humble shoeboxes to open doors for his message. Samaritan’s Purse estimates that every shoebox impacts an average of 7-10 people, spreading the wonderful news of Jesus!

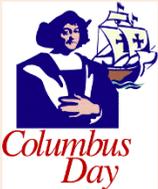
**We will be having a Shoebox ‘packing party’ on Friday, November 6 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will be delivering the Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes following Worship on November 22.**

**You are welcome to join in on both events.**



# OCTOBER 2020



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2  4:00 p.m. Stewardship Mtg	3
4  9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship Service 11:30 a.m. C.E. Mtg 3:00 p.m. Worship Mtg	5  6:45 p.m. Vision Team Mtg	6  10:00 a.m. Bible Study 11:30 a.m. Missions Mtg 7:00 p.m. Session & Deacons Mtgs	7  12:00 p.m. Prayer in Sanctuary	8	9	10
11  9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship Service	12   <i>Columbus Day</i>	13  10:00 a.m. Bible Study	14  12:00 p.m. Prayer in Sanctuary	15	16	17
18  9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship Service	19  6:45 p.m. OIT/Vision Team Mtg	20  10:00 a.m. Bible Study	21  12:00 p.m. Prayer in Sanctuary	22	23	24
25  9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School  10:00 a.m. Worship Service	26	27  10:00 a.m. Bible Study  6:30 p.m. Membership Care Mtg	28  12:00 p.m. Prayer in Sanctuary	29	30	31

## Financial Report: Operating Budget

<u>AUGUST</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
Beginning Balance	-57,291.68	(36,008.32)
Receipts	25,290.83	14,704.00
Disbursements	<u>28,230.22</u>	<u>18,585.26</u>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>(60,231.07)</b>	<b>(39,889.58)</b>
<b>Year to Date</b>		
Beginning Balance	(20,370.68)	
Receipts	143,890.13	131,978.10
Disbursements	<u>183,750.52</u>	<u>171,867.68</u>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>(60,231.07)</b>	<b>(39,889.58)</b>

## Financial Report: Invested Funds

<u>AUGUST</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
Receipts	17,155.82	9,006.17
Disbursements	<u>10,406.85</u>	<u>356.98</u>
<b>Year to Date</b>		
Beginning Balance	234,891.03	266,344.40
Receipts	74,500.20	81,840.24
Disbursements	<u>34,473.09</u>	<u>75,040.30</u>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>274,918.14</b>	<b>273,144.34</b>
<b>NET FUNDS</b>		
	<b><u>214,687.07</u></b>	<b><u>233,254.76</u></b>

## October Birthdays & Anniversaries



<u>October</u>	2.... Rick Syring
	2.... Jim Miller
	3.... Janet Benney
	10 ... Kevin Leach
	16 ... Sam & Toni LaPore
	18 ... Richard & Janet Benney
	20... Jean Eddy
	29... Cynthia Svensson
<u>November</u>	1 ... Gary & Janet Oyer
	3... Elaine Blair



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

## Collecting Shoebox Items

If you would like to collect items for the *Operation Christmas Child Shoebox for kids*, you could either purchase items all at once, or collect a few per month leading up to the end of October. If you need boxes, please see Juanita MacMahon.

**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



## SERVING ON OUTREACH COMMITTEES

The Nominating Committee would like to personally **invite you to consider serving** on one of our outreach committees. You do not need to be a member to serve on these committees. For fresh vision, we need fresh voices and fresh ideas. We need you! If you are interested, please talk with any elder or committee chairperson, because they would love to talk with you.

**Christian Ed** - 1<sup>st</sup> Sun./mo., 11:30 a.m. Directs the education ministry—Sunday School, summer programs, nursery, youth, Jr. Church, Bible Studies, Small groups.

**Membership Care** - 4<sup>th</sup> Tues./mo., 6:30 p.m. Oversight of congregational care ministries, visitor calling, new member seminars, member rolls, coffee chapel, WINGS.

**Mission** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues./mo., 11:30 a.m. Directs mission interpretation & outreach of our church—community, evangelism, special offerings, recommends designation of Giving monies, in touch with mission causes.

**Stewardship** - 1<sup>st</sup> Fri./mo, 4 p.m. Directs financial program and stewardship campaign, wills & memorials, church use by outside groups, approves establishment of all Trust & Endowment funds, oversight of vans, property, buildings, rentals, & grounds.

**Worship** - 1<sup>st</sup> Sun./mo, 3 p.m. General oversight of worship ministry, includes choirs, bell choir, Praise Teams, worship, audio visual system, weddings, sanctuary decoration, ushering, hospitality, special services, communion, & baptisms.

\*Dates & times of mtgs may change in 2021

## Blessing Bags Update

First, thank you for all the wonderful donated items to help fill the Blessing Bags for those who are homeless or are experiencing hard times. It is heartwarming to see such generosity. With your gifts, we were able to prepare 108 bags total; 70 bags for our congregation pass out and to have available in the church office, and 38 bags to local organizations who often encounter those in need. We were able to include many items that are deeply needed by the homeless including food, clothing, personal care items, and the Book of John for spiritual comfort and growth.

**Now it is time for action!** Please pick up a bag or two to have with you or carry in your car. When you see a person who could benefit for the contents of the bag, offer a Blessing Bag to them with a smile. So many people are hurting now. This is a wonderful way to share God's love and blessings with them.

*With many thanks, Your Membership Care Committee*



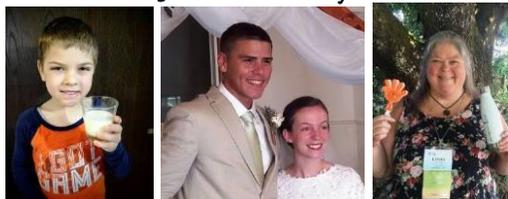
### Carolyn Ford, Missionary

From her August 2020 Letter...

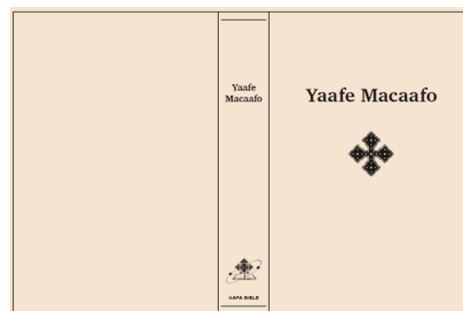
Just a brief update to tell you the Kafa Bible is now at the printer. Praise God! This is His doing. I'll give more details in my next letter, but wanted you to be praising the LORD with me. Please also pray for His hand of protection over the printing, binding, shipping, dedication, and distribution of the Bible. Many, many years of prayer, hard work, and tears have been invested in this Bible. May God use it greatly, accomplishing far more than we could ask or imagine. And please do be praying for the recording of the Scriptures now so they can be distributed on micro-SD cards for those who can't or don't want to read. Almost everyone has a mobile phone.

In response to COVID-19, my nephew Matthew set up a weekly family Zoom conference. I praise God that my grandnephew Titus, who has struggled with allergies and asthma for most of his life, is now able to drink milk (Previously even a little milk could be life-threatening for him). My grandnephew, Joshua, was married in June and plans to become a minister. My niece Linda, who has major health issues, continues to live her life to the full, with enthusiasm and joy. I am grateful for God's blessing on my family and their faithfulness to follow Jesus.

Titus      Joshua & MaKayla      Linda



*General Aspect  
of the Kafa Bible:*



Please pray for:

- The victory that Jesus has already won for us to be evident in the published Kafa Bible.
- God's empowering to record the completed Kafa Bible for audio use.
- The Kafa people to be prepared by God for receiving His Word in their heart language.
- God's will to be done in the USA and Ethiopia as His will is done in heaven, even through social unrest, COVID-19, and elections. The church needs revival in both countries.

*Grateful for you*

*Carolyn Ford*

To support the Kafa Linguistics Project, give on line: <https://www.simusa.org/give?id=092402-091&dsg=Project> OR send a check made payable to SIM USA with designation "for Kafa Linguistics Project #092402 (Ethiopia)" to:  
SIM USA; P.O. Box 7900; Charlotte, NC 28241-7900.

**RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS**

Each Sunday in September we passed out 'Random Acts of Kindness' bookmarks (total of four different ones) that had ideas of acts of kindness. Please help yourself to the extras that are placed on the table right outside the sanctuary if you missed getting them in September. Feel free to take a couple so you can have one in your car as a reminder. And remember to pray for each person you bless.

**New Giving Option Available**

An online option is now available to give to the mission of Woodland Presbyterian Church.

The **GIVING** page on [woodlandpresbyterian.org/giving](http://woodlandpresbyterian.org/giving) takes you to a secure Paypal site where you can give using a Paypal account, or a credit or debit card. Recurring or one-time donations are accepted as well as an anonymous giving option. Thank you for your continued support.

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