



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)

756 Park Street
Woodland, WA 98674
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WOODLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2020

Happenings



† From the Pastor's Desk †



⁴ Now the rabble that was among them had a strong craving. And the people of Israel also wept again and said, "Oh that we had meat to eat!" ⁵ We remember the fish we ate in Egypt that cost nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic. ⁶ But now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at."

Numbers 11:4-6 (ESV)

COVID COMPLAINTS

"You may have to bite the bullet and sacrifice that social gathering (Thanksgiving), unless you're pretty certain that the people that you're dealing with are not infected." When I heard a leading epidemiologist say this recently, my emotions went from frustration to anger to depression. Just one more important social gathering being denied, being sacrificed on the altar of COVID-19.

Once I calmed down about the external problems that surround us, I began to take a deeper look inward...again (I've been doing a lot of that lately, thanks to the pandemic fatigue that we all are experiencing and also because of my straying heart).

Far too often, I am like a whiny child who didn't get the turkey drumstick he so coveted as the platter finally came around to him. Here is this pile of carved, succulent white and dark meat piled high right before him and all the child can do is gripe and moan that the drumsticks are gone!

Too many times in the last seven months, I have been that child. Like the Israelites complaining in the wilderness about their daily rations of manna, I too have often found myself pitching my tent in their desert camp, so to speak. Surrounded by other fellow desert dwellers, I begin to reminisce about life before Covid-19: "I remember the good ol' days in Egypt when we ate fish, cucumbers, melons, leeks and onions!" I find it is quite easy to get others to agree with me and join in on the building chorus of complaints. Before the pandemic, we could freely meet for worship, enjoy meals together, shake hands, and even hug. Before COVID-19 came along, we could breathe and sing freely without masks, pass the offering plates, and distribute the bread and the cup of the Lord to the person sitting beside us. But now that has all changed; and frankly, I don't like it, Lord! I don't like the "experts" telling me that Thanksgiving may be on the chopping block along with the neck of the turkey! I don't like not being able to gather freely after

the service for coffee and conversation. I don't like life in the desert, because it reminds me that I'm not in control - and that especially I DO NOT LIKE! (Pause here for a minute to let those words of complaint echo in your noggin for a little bit - does it sound a bit like a little petulant child whining?)

I can just hear the Lord - rather sternly and yet, lovingly - respond, "Are you through, Kevin?" Then He motions to the platter before me (or the manna in front of me - you'll have to make a choice between the two illustrations that I mixed together in this article). God says, "Look at everything I have placed before you - all the provisions and blessings I've piled up high right before your very eyes. You cannot see them because you are too busy looking back and much too satisfied with coddling your criticisms." His admonishment has caught my attention.

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November 2020 Sermons

- 1 – “Christ Alone: Christ Over Us” Rev. 1:4-8
- 8 – “Christ Alone: Christ in Us” John 17:20-26
- 15 – “Christ Alone: Christ through Us”
1 Thess. 1:2-10
- 22 – “The Secret to a Stress-Free Thanksgiving”
Matt. 6:25-33
- 29 – “Hope in Uncertain Times” Lam. 3:21-24

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

I now turn my gaze frontward, and I see the heap of white and dark meat that God has set before me (or, if you prefer, the daily provision of manna that He supplies). Just like that, all my grumbling and grievances are transformed into three words:

“Thank you, Lord.”

In God’s Grace,
Pastor Kevin



**Remember to Set Your Clocks Back
one hour for Sunday, November 1.
(to Standard Time)**

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.”

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.

ADULT SUNDAY S.S. CLASS

The Adult Sunday School is currently in a 5-week class based on the DVD series *Faith Under Fire: Exploring Christianity’s 10 Toughest Questions*. Beginning November 15 we will begin a new series based on Gregory Koukl’s bestselling book, *Tactics, A Game Plan for Discussing Your Christian Convictions*.

In a world increasingly indifferent to Christian truth, as followers of Christ, we need to be equipped to communicate with those who do not speak our language or accept our source of authority. In *Tactics, A Game Plan for Discussing Your Christian Convictions*, Gregory Koukl demonstrates how to artfully get in the driver’s seat in discussions about faith, keeping any conversation moving with thoughtful, artful tact. We will learn how to maneuver comfortably and graciously through the minefields, stop challengers in their tracks, turn the tables and—most importantly—get unbelievers thinking about Jesus. *Tactics* provides the game plan for communicating the compelling truth about Christianity with confidence and grace.

Drawing on extensive experience defending Christianity in the public square, Koukl will show us how to:

- Initiate conversations effortlessly
- Present the truth clearly, cleverly, and persuasively
- Graciously and effectively expose faulty thinking
- Skillfully manage the details of dialogue
- Maintain an engaging, disarming style even under attack

As always, 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., or read the book along with a friend. We will supply books to anyone who is interested, but please let us know before the 1st of November so we will know how many books are needed.

Dear Members and Friends of WPC,

Cindy and I are so grateful for the generous Pastor Appreciation gifts you presented to us on Sunday – the gift to the Gideons, the beautiful Orchid, and the money. What I was trying to say on Sunday was that the greatest gift we have received in these last four years is allowing Cindy and I to grow in our ministry together, something we had not experienced prior to coming here. You have allowed me to watch my wife use her gifts for God’s glory, and I cannot tell you what that means to me. Thank you for your constant outpouring of love for us.

~ Pastor Kevin and Cindy



NOVEMBER 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Standard Time Begins ('fall back') STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY 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	2 6:45 p.m. Vision Team Mtg	3 10:00 a.m. Bible Study <i>Pray for our country</i>	4 12:00 p.m. Prayer in Sanctuary	5	6 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Shoebox Packing Party 4:00 p.m. Stewardship Mtg	7
8 9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship Service	9 <i>Office Closed</i>	10 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 11:30 a.m. Missions Mtg 7:00 p.m. Session & Deacons Mtgs	11 <i>Veterans Day</i> 12:00 p.m. Prayer in Sanctuary	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 a.m. Griefshare Seminar Fellowship Hall
15 9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship Service	16 6:45 p.m. OIT/Vision Team Mtg	17 10:00 a.m. Bible Study	18 12:00 p.m. Prayer in Sanctuary	19	20	21
22 9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship Service <i>Delivering 'Shoeboxes' after Worship</i>	23	24 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Membership Care Mtg	25 12:00 p.m. Prayer in Sanctuary	26 <i>Thanksgiving Day</i> 	27 <i>Office Closed</i>	28
29 <i>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT</i> 9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship Service	30 <i>Office Closed</i>					
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; display: inline-block;"> <p>Remember to Set Your Clocks Back one hour for Sunday, November 1 (to Standard Time)</p> </div>						

Financial Report: Operating Budget

SEPTEMBER	2019	2020
Beginning Balance	-60,231.07	(39,889.58)
Receipts	18,911.00	14,586.31
Disbursements	19,472.08	19,992.00
Ending Balance	(60,792.15)	(45,295.27)
Year to Date		
Beginning Balance	(20,370.68)	
Receipts	162,801.13	146,564.41
Disbursements	203,222.60	191,859.68
Ending Balance	(60,792.15)	(45,295.27)

Financial Report: Invested Funds

SEPTEMBER	2019	2020
Receipts	10,903.74	12,018.56
Disbursements	3,570.71	6,214.95
Year to Date		
Beginning Balance	234,891.03	266,344.40
Receipts	85,403.94	93,858.80
Disbursements	38,043.80	81,255.25
Ending Balance	282,251.17	278,947.95
NET FUNDS	221,459.02	233,652.68

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

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

Mission - 2nd 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 - 1st 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 - 1st 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

November Birthdays & Anniversaries



- November**
- 1 ... Gary & Janet Oyer
 - 3 ... Elaine Blair
 - 14 ... Sam LaPore
 - 17 ... Pat Clock
 - 23 ... Jim & Elaine Blair
 - 27 ... Goni Laseke
 - 29 ... Judy Peterson
 - 30 ... Cal & Barbara Schurman
- December**
- 3 ... Doug Ferguson
 - 4 ... Janet Boon
 - 4 ... Dick Pedersen
 - 6 ... Bob Norton



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

Thanksgiving & Christmas Offerings

Each year, the EPC sponsors two special offerings during the year- end holiday season; one for Thanksgiving and one for Christmas. Each offering is designated for a special purpose.

The Thanksgiving Offering supports a project approved by the General Assembly each June, alternating between World Outreach and Church Planting and Revitalization. Gifts to the 2020 Thanksgiving Offering will assist EPC church plants that were adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting nationwide shutdowns.

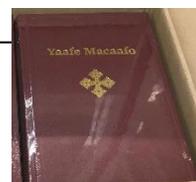
The Christmas Offering supports the Gratitude Gift Fund, which helps retired EPC ministers and missionaries in need. When grief or pain impact the lives of these faithful shepherds, the blessing of financial assistance is a tangible way to show that others care.

Your support for both or either of these two special offerings is greatly needed and greatly appreciated. Just mark your check/envelope with 'Thanksgiving' and/or 'Christmas Offering.' You can also designate in the note section online.



Carolyn Ford, Missionary

From her October 2020 Letter...



Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross... Consider him...so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. Hebrews 12:2-3

The Kafa Bibles should come off the press on October 14 – Praise God! Please continue to pray for God's hand on the whole process. We still need information required by the printer for shipping (VAT and Import Declaration Form and a contact person in the Port of Djibouti). Please ask our God to move those responsible for providing this information to do so without delay.

I did begin working on my memoirs again, but the progress is minimal due to frequent requests from various stake holders for information that I need to obtain from other stake holders. Matt has been discussing plans for the Kafa Bible dedication and distribution with church leaders even during his annual leave.

Please continue to 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 carolyn.ford@sim.org

“One of the best ways to love others is to pray for them, because through our prayers, we open the door to the help only God can provide. When we pray for others, we love them in His strength. There's none greater or more loving than He.” (personal communication from Daniel Salamu, SIM Director of West Africa Missions office)

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.

PRAYER REMINDER

Please pray for the unspoken prayers in the box at the back of the sanctuary. These prayers remain confidential. Feel free to put your ongoing prayer requests inside.

“Heavenly Father, I pray for all the names and requests in our church’s Confidential Prayer Box. You know the hearts of the people making the request. You know their love and concerns. And you know those names on the prayer slips. You know their hearts and their situation. Please place your hand upon all. Give help and healing as needed. Bring all into relationship with you. Thank you for your grace and mercy. Amen.”

Griefshare Seminar

Saturday, November 14
9:30-11:30 a.m.
Fellowship Hall

Our church is hosting a one-time seminar for people struggling with grief this holiday season.. If Thanksgiving and Christmas are tough for you, attend our Surviving the Holidays event here at WPC.

Social distancing and mask required.

WOODLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED