



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

FEBRUARY 2021

Happenings



† From the Pastor's Desk †

³² "But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³ Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴ It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to stay awake. ³⁵ Therefore stay awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or in the morning— ³⁶ lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. ³⁷ And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake." Mark 13:32-37 (ESV)

In the past six months, there has been increased chatter on whether or not we are living in the end times. I have found myself talking to friends, church members, neighbors, and even strangers about this topic. This is the main reason why I am going to be preaching through the book of Revelation through 2021.

The Book of Revelation is a great gift to the Church from our Lord. Yes, it can be hard to understand, and there are many different interpretations that Christians hold. Even in our church family, there are a variety of interpretations we hold that vary greatly. I am pretty confident that most of you probably do not hold the same view of Revelation as that of your pastor!

The problem many of us have with the Book of Revelation is that we tend to major on the minors – making much of our predictions while often missing the most

important points of this very encouraging word that Jesus has for His bride – “Be ready, I am coming soon!”

A recent article by Brent Niedergall addresses this issue of Jesus’ second coming by recalling his military training in the Army: *One of the “joys” of training to become a soldier in the United States Army is pulling what’s called **fireguard duty**. The Army used to house soldiers in wooden barracks with wood-burning stoves. So, soldiers would rotate shifts through the night to make sure the place didn’t burn down. Even though there’s not so much of a need to keep watch for fires, the Army has kept the tradition. Fireguard duty has simply become guard duty to build discipline and a way to work in some extra cleaning time. New fireguards quickly learn their first general order: “I will guard everything within the limits of my post and quit my post only when properly relieved.” As a fireguard, you are on guard. Your job is to watch. To stay alert. And you’d better not let a drill*

sergeant catch you sleeping on the job or you’re going to be doing some serious pushups. Vigilance is required. The military isn’t alone in requiring vigilance. The Lord Jesus called for this same discipline from His followers... (Are These the Last Days? | Brent Niedergall, 1/21/2021)

The Lord’s message to us in Revelation is not a puzzle for us to figure out as to when exactly He will descend from heaven (be certain that He will one day descend - 1 Thessalonians 4:16). Revelation (among many other books of the Bible) exhorts us to be ready when He does come. When it comes to our various positions on the second coming of Jesus, may I suggest that we shouldn’t find ourselves dabbling in the two extremes. One extreme view is that since Jesus hasn’t returned in 2,000 years, then chances are that He won’t come back in my lifetime, and therefore, I will not worry about His return (like the ...

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February 2021 Sermons

- 7 - "From Start to Finish" Rev. 1:1-8
- 14 - "Take a Look!" Rev. 1:9-20
- 21 - "Ephesus: 'Remember'" Rev. 2:1-7
- 28 - "Smyrna: 'Be Faithful'" Rev. 2:8-11

Continued from front page "From the Pastor..."

foolish virgins in Matthew 25:1-13). The other extreme can be just as devastating: to be so consumed with figuring out the details of Jesus' second coming to the point that you fail to follow the instructions of Jesus in preparing for His return. The parable of the Talents comes to mind in that the one servant thought he knew everything about the master, which caused Him to hide the talent he was given to invest. When the master returned, the servant had not served the master well and was thrown out of his presence (Matthew 25:14-30).

When people ask, "Are we living in the last days?" it usually means that they want to know the answer so that they can be prepared for something that is going to take place soon (if I know He is returning soon, I can live a better life, perhaps build a bunker and store some provisions for the tribulation period). For the Christian believer, we take what is a question on the minds of many and we change the order to two words to say with confidence, "We ARE living in the last days," which then introduces the proper and important question we ought to be asking: "What should I be doing in preparation for His return?"

In God's Grace, 
Pastor Kevin

The Encouraging Word

If you would like to receive this weekly email of the prayers from the Sunday service, or if you do not want to receive it, please call or email Claralee Williams.

ADULT SUNDAY S.S. CLASS

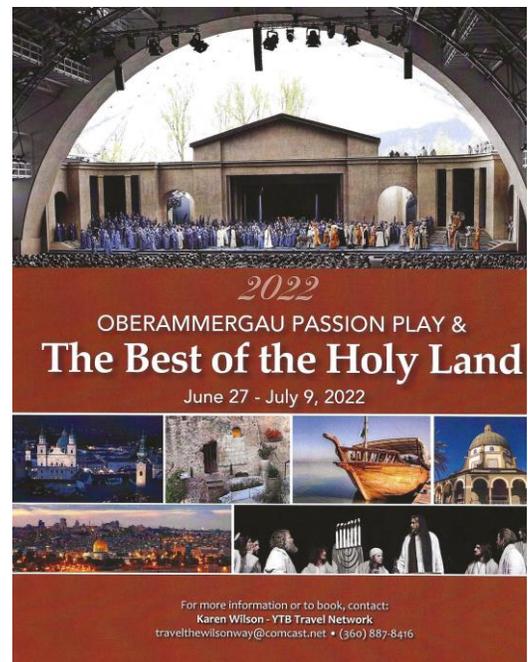
Hoping to start sometime in February, the Adult Sunday School will start a new series based on Gregory Koukl's bestselling book, *Tactics, A Game Plan for Discussing Your Christian Convictions*. As always, teaching is shared and rotated between Sally Hager, Mike Ferguson, and Richard Benney. When it starts, the class will be in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings at 9 a.m., or you can read the book along with a friend. We will supply books to anyone who is interested, please let us know.

Oberammergau Passion Play

June 27- July 9, 2022

The famous Oberammergau Passion Play, which happens only every 10 years, was postponed until 2022, due to the pandemic.

Registrations are now open for a group tour to Germany and Israel in 2022. Pastor Bill Knepper from Mountain View Baptist in Centralia will be the spiritual leader. There is an Early Bird Special if registered by December 31, 2020. See Karen Wilson for more information and brochure.



For more information or to book, contact:
Karen Wilson - YTB Travel Network
travelthewilsonway@comcast.net • (360) 887-8416

FEBRUARY 2021

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|---|---|---|-----------|---|---|
|  | | | | | |  |
| | 1 6:45 p.m. Vision Team Mtg | 2 10:00 a.m. Bible Study | 3 12:00 p.m. Prayer in Sanctuary | 4 | 5 4:00 p.m. Stewardship Mtg | 6 |
| 7 10:00 a.m. Worship Service 11:30 a.m. C.E. Mtg 3:00 p.m. Worship Mtg | 8 | 9 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 11:30 a.m. Missions Mtg 7:00 p.m. Deacons & Session Mtgs | 10 12:00 p.m. Prayer in Sanctuary | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 <i>VALENTINE'S DAY</i> 10:00 a.m. Worship Service | 15 <i>PRESIDENT'S DAY</i>  6:45 p.m. OIT/Vision Team Mtg | 16 10:00 a.m. Bible Study | 17 <i>ASH WEDNESDAY</i> 12:00 p.m. Prayer in Sanctuary | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 <i>1st SUNDAY IN LENT</i> 10:00 a.m Worship Service | 22 | 23 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Membership Care Mtg | 24 12:00 p.m. Prayer in Sanctuary | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 <i>2nd SUNDAY IN LENT</i> 10:00 a.m Worship Service | | | | | | |

Financial Report: Operating Budget

| <u>DECEMBER</u> | <u>2019</u> | <u>2020</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Beginning Balance | -69,546.33 | (56,595.93) |
| Receipts | 32,450.00 | 20,127.00 |
| Disbursements | <u>22,831.39</u> | <u>21,079.14</u> |
| Ending Balance | (59,927.72) | (57,548.07) |
| Year to Date | | |
| Beginning Balance | (20,370.68) | |
| Receipts | 230,222.62 | 207,353.57 |
| Disbursements | <u>269,779.66</u> | <u>264,901.64</u> |
| Ending Balance | (59,927.72) | (57,548.07) |

Financial Report: Invested Funds

| <u>DECEMBER</u> | <u>2019</u> | <u>2020</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Receipts | 15,837.62 | 12,020.29 |
| Disbursements | <u>558.55</u> | <u>744.13</u> |
| Year to Date | | |
| Beginning Balance | 234,891.03 | 266,344.40 |
| Receipts | 110,382.71 | 124,251.04 |
| Disbursements | <u>46,651.11</u> | <u>88,328.42</u> |
| Ending Balance | 298,622.63 | 302,267.02 |
| NET FUNDS | <u>238,694.91</u> | <u>244,718.95</u> |



February Birthdays & Anniversaries

February 4Margaret Morrison
 9Cal Schurman
 10Ann Norton
 20.....Bob & Bette Krueger
 24.....Bette Krueger
 25Sally Hager

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* year-round, you could either purchase items all at once, or collect a few per month leading up to the end of October of 2021. 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



Fellowship of Christian Athletes

From Kane Ulrich, Cowlitz County Area Director

Cowlitz County Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) is excited and thankful that your church excels in the act of generosity. My name is Kane Ulrich, and I wanted to communicate through this newsletter what FCA is and how God is using this ministry. FCA has a vision to see the world transformed by Jesus Christ through the influence of coaches and athletes. This is executed through our mission to lead every coach and athlete into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and His church. The "Win" of FCA is disciples making disciples (Matthew 28:18-20). FCA has defined a disciple as someone who is in a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and His church. How does a coach or athlete get into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and His church? Through our E3 methods: engage, equip, and empower. We engage relationally, equip spiritually, and empower others to lead and disciple. Everything we do in the ministry is run through our E3 method. The most common way coaches and athletes take the E3 journey is through huddles. What is a huddle? Huddle is an athletically focused Bible study for coaches and athletes centered on building relationships and engaging conversation about God and His Word. Huddles take place in classrooms, on courts or fields, and in local churches. What is the "Win" of a huddle? To empower key leaders to create an environment in the sports community where the gospel is made known and lived out through intentional conversations. Coaches and athletes are strategically positioned to be culture creators in our schools, our communities, and our world. The question isn't if they are leading, but in what direction they are leading others. Are they pointing others to the name on the back of their jersey, or are they using their influence to point others to God? FCA is in the business to transform leaders by altering the direction of their influence through intentional discipleship.

I pray this helps you understand the role FCA is playing within the body of Christ. Thank you for your support, and please reach out if you would like more information on how you can serve through FCA.

Kane Ulrich | Cowlitz County Area Director

| **email:** kulrich@fca.org

| **site:** www.pdx-fca.org



Celebrating Love

(from NewsletterNewsletter)



For 80 years, a couple in Ecuador was an exceptional example of marital love. Julio Cesar Mora Tapia, 110, and Waldramina Maclovía Quinteros Reyes, 104, were wed on February 7, 1941. Until Julio's death last October, they were reportedly the world's oldest married couple.

Their large family includes nine great-great-grandchildren!

Good News Network recounts: "Julio Cesar fell in love with Waldramina's beauty, her conversation, and her big heart." Meanwhile, she found in him "a poet with a young spirit." The couple says the formula for a lasting marriage is "love + maturity + mutual respect," as well as patience, compassion, and hard work.

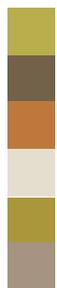
That calls to mind Paul's words, often read at weddings: "Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth" (1 Corinthians 13:4-6, ESV).

FEBRUARY 2021 *Happenings*

EXALT  **EQUIP**  **ENGAGE**

The Vision Team has spent the last several months working on a new Vision Statement that incorporates the call of Jesus in the Great Commandments and Great Commission (love God, love others, make disciples) and at the same time is easy to remember. We decided to adopt a statement that uses just three words. We exist to...**Exalt** (God), **Equip** (one another), and **Engage** (others). We hope that after a few months, everyone will have those three words memorized and ready to answer anyone who asks, "Tell me what WPC is all about?" These three "E" words will be the framework on which we will build our ministry focus. We live to **Exalt** God through life, worship, and service to Jesus. We seek to **Equip** one another through discipleship and fellowship. We seek to **Engage** our community and our culture with the life-giving, life-transforming Gospel of Jesus. What you can expect to see in the next several months is the introduction of ways we will actually carry out this vision (a vision must be more than just a catchy motto). I hope all of our members will commit/continue to commit to living out the Gospel call that Jesus has given us so that many more people might join in exalting the Lord! We will be challenged and stretched. Stay tuned, and buckle up, because I truly believe God's Spirit is moving in our midst.

Pastor Kevin



WOODLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (EPC)

PO BOX 297 / 756 Park Street
Woodland, WA 98674

360-225-8941

office@woodlandpresbyterian.org

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED