



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

JUNE 2021

Happenings



✠ From the Pastor's Desk ✠

CELEBRATION

⁹ And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. ¹⁰ Then he said to them, "Go your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

Nehemiah 8:9-10 (ESV)

In the passage above, the people were so overwhelmed with their rebellious lives that led to their exile, that they failed to recognize the work that God did in bringing them back to their land from exile and His ongoing promise to provide and protect them. They wanted to weep but God commanded them to rejoice in the Lord's restoration.

There are definitely times when we should grieve, mourn, and repent over our sins and the sins of our nation. Yet, as this passage reminds us, there are also times when we ought to celebrate. The lifting of restrictions that were instituted over a year ago is such a time. Our community (along with all the world) has had a difficult year. Yet, we have seen how the Lord has provided for our church and for His people.

We need to celebrate the goodness and faithfulness of God who helped us during the difficult days of the pandemic.

He stripped us of things what we thought so important but were not. At the same time, God reminded us to value the things that He deems important - a deepening relationship with Him, the relationships he has given us on earth, the high calling and mission we have in Christ (as opposed to the low calling and selfish mission we often find ourselves serving when the days are easy). During this past year, we have learned to value the gathering together of God's people and the necessity to live in Christian community.

We want to bless the Woodland community with the blessings that we have received from the Lord.

Which leads me to the purpose for this article: Woodland Presbyterian Church and the Go Iglesia Woodland (the church plant that is meeting in our facility), is planning a special celebration for the community of Woodland. On July 17 from noon -4 p.m., we are going to throw a party in our parking lot and Fellowship Hall. It will be a festival, and at the same time, an opportunity to bless our community. It will involve an afternoon of food, games, and music. It will also be a time to introduce Go Iglesia Woodland to the Latino community in Woodland as they will be launching their worship service in July. This is also an opportunity for our church family to work side by side with the Go Iglesia family as we invite our neighbors to celebrate the goodness of God with us.

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June 2021 Sermons

- 6 – *The Gates of Hell Will Not Prevail* Rev. 9:1-12
- 13 – *Mike Ferguson to preach*
- 20 – *A Deadly Warning Ignored* Rev. 9:13-21
- 27 – *The Bittersweet Message* Rev. 10:1-11



CAROLYN FORD

*I will praise you, O Lord, among the nations;
I will sing of you among the peoples.
For great is your love, reaching to the heavens;
your faithfulness reaches to the skies.
Be exalted, O God, above the heavens;
let your glory be over all the earth.
Psalm 57:9-11 (NIV)*

God has brought the release of the Kafa Bibles and enabled the planning of their Dedication for May 22. Amazingly, He has also arranged for me to attend the Dedication. Assuming I get a negative COVID test result on May 10, I fly from Orlando on May 11, arriving in Addis Ababa May 13. I will need to quarantine for seven days. On May 21 Tom Fifield, representing SIM Ethiopia Administration, will drive Matt, myself, and maybe two others to Jimma, where we will stay in a hotel. The next morning, we will go on to the Dedication in the Kafa area, then return to Jimma that evening. After another night in a hotel, we will drive back to Addis Ababa, arriving the evening of May 23. On May 24 I will get a COVID test and, Lord willing, fly from Addis on May 25, arriving back in Orlando on May 26. Please praise God with me for all of this, and pray that He will truly be exalted in the Dedication and all that follows.

Matt has been working day and night and has finished editing the audio recording of the Kafa Bible, so we are still hoping to have that on micro-SD cards, ready for distribution at the Dedication. I talked with him on Skype May 6, and it was raining in Addis Ababa. Praise God!

Please continue to pray for needed rain in Ethiopia, healing from COVID, peace between ethnic groups, and much spiritual fruit as the Bible becomes available to the Kafa people in their heart language. This is written hurriedly with apologies for not letting you know sooner. Just getting my tickets, visa, COVID test, and completing other forms has taken most of my time for the past two weeks.

Thank you for your part in bringing God's Word to the Kafa people in their heart language!

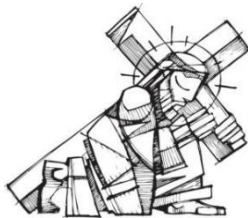
With a heart full of praise,
Carolyn Ford

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

Here's what we need you to do: First, put this date on your calendar and plan to help with the festivities. Second, we also need you to spread the word to others about our event (flyers will be available soon). Third, we will be asking for our members to sign up to help with - and fund - this event.

In the next several weeks, we will be notifying you of different ways you can contribute in order to make this festival a great outreach event. Finally, PRAY! With a united voice, let us declare, "The joy of the Lord is our strength."

In God's Grace,
Pastor Kevin



Holy Land Trip 2022

The Best of the Holy Land and Oberammergau Passion Play is a year away, but reserve your spot now. Registration is still just \$600. See Karen Wilson or call (503) 720-3906 today for information. Check out the brochure on our website: https://woodlandpresbyterian.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/OH22_062722E_28117_Wilson_003_FINAL.pdf.



JUNE 2021



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

Financial Report: Operating Budget

<u>APRIL</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
Beginning Balance	-7,178.79	-20,884.70
Receipts	18,280.00	21,638.00
Disbursements	<u>16,433.37</u>	<u>20,656.97</u>
Ending Balance	(5,332.16)	(19,903.67)
Year to Date		
Beginning Balance		
Receipts	73,799.10	71,020.00
Disbursements	<u>79,131.26</u>	<u>90,923.67</u>
Ending Balance	(5,332.16)	(19,903.67)

Financial Report: Invested Funds

<u>APRIL-</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
Receipts	14,121.50	3,401.30
Disbursements	<u>5,213.81</u>	<u>7,148.07</u>
Year to Date		
Beginning Balance	234,891.03	301,828.02
Receipts	37,219.58	63,211.83
Disbursements	<u>73,455.48</u>	<u>72,303.54</u>
Ending Balance	198,655.13	292,736.31
NET FUNDS	<u>193,322.97</u>	<u>272,832.64</u>

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



ShoeBox Help Needed

If you'd like to learn how to direct the organization of WPC's Christmas Child Shoebox donations, please contact Juanita MacMahon.



WPC College Scholarships

Woodland Presbyterian Church College Scholarship information for the 2021-2022 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.



June Birthdays & Anniversaries



June
 3..... Yvonne Barker
 11..... Bob & Ann Norton
 15 Roy & Jean Eddy
 18..... Juanita MacMahon
 19..... Ruth Wendt

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

Port Orchard Chapel Hill Church Plant

“Hello, Woodland! Thank you for your financial support and for your prayers for God’s abundant life to come to Port Orchard (John 10:10). We are seeing a true spring in the church plant, new growth is arriving, and we are counting our blessings!

Our Kids Ministry is Growing!

We gather on Tuesday nights for worship and Sunday mornings for the Alpha Course. I get to be part of the team leading Kids’ Alpha on Sundays. We jumped from four elementary students to ten! They’re engaging great questions like “Can God be trusted? Is he true? Is he real?” We opened a toddler classroom because our couple of toddlers were being run over by our dozen preschoolers.

We are Meeting New People!

We have been averaging 40 people on a Tuesday night in the sanctuary. But the last two weeks, we’ve had close to 50 and less than a dozen of our own team have been there! So while things like baseball and soccer keep our young families on the Launch Team busy, new people are coming— and becoming regular attenders! I’m excited to have coffee dates filling my week as I get to know these new people and see how God is moving in their lives.

We are Spending More Time in Port Orchard! [picture below of the Gig Harbor youth group painting at a center for teens experiencing homelessness, Coffee Oasis]

We’re actively seeking ways to love our town more intentionally in ways that come right alongside the things of God’s Kingdom — service, love of the widow and the orphan, the thriving of the industry of the city, matters of justice and love. I’m glad to have several people who are seeking God respond to an invitation to a workshop I’ll lead on seeking joy this summer. We’ll be closing with a reading from John 21:1-14. Have you ever read that with the idea that Jesus was really, really joyful to be eating fish again with his friends? Go read it again with that in mind! We’re excited to have the chance to share Jesus with our neighbors.

I hope to write to you in the near future about thriving gatherings on Sunday mornings, baptisms, and a downtown space for ministry.

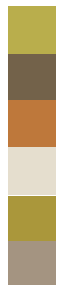
Thank you for your partnership in the Gospel!

Megan”



TO MASK OR NOT TO MASK

No doubt you are aware of some welcomed changes in the state guidelines for COVID. It seems as though our state is on track for a full opening and lifting of restrictions by June 30, 2021. For followers of Christ, we have a higher set of guidelines to follow. It is called “the law of love” (Romans 13:10). As we begin to reopen and loosen the restrictions for mask wearing and social distancing, I would ask all our congregation to be very sensitive to those around us when attending the worship service. We have members who feel differently about the vaccine. Some have decided not to be vaccinated. Others, though vaccinated, are still finding it difficult to take off their mask because they may have serious health issues that require extra caution. Still others in our church family are very much against wearing masks at all. If we were just a social organization, we might counsel people by saying, “Just live and let live!” However, followers of Jesus have a much higher standard, and it is expressed in Romans 14:13 (ESV): *Therefore let us not pass judgment on one another any longer, but rather decide never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother* (also refer to 1 Corinthians 8:1-13; 9:19-23; Romans 13:8-14; 14:1-23; 15:1-7). Let us always seek to be a true servant Christ by serving one another.



WOODLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (EPC)

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