



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

OCTOBER 2021

Happenings



† From the Pastor's Desk †

Ever feel like giving up? Maybe you've had it with COVID-19 and variants and masks and debates and vaccines and boosters. You are tired of "following the science" when it seems that the science is changing on a daily basis. In Christian ministry, it is difficult to move forward and make plans when you don't know what things will look like in a week from now. It is easy and understandable to want to give it all up and say, "I quit!" Don't give up. God's servants must resist this urge. If our time in Revelation has taught us nothing else, hopefully we have learned the importance of patient endurance when living for Christ. The Apostle Paul knew that his days on earth were drawing to a close. He recorded his thoughts on the matter in a letter to his companion, Timothy: ⁶ "For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸ Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on

that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing." (2 Timothy 4:6-8, ESV).

These familiar words of the Apostle Paul read very much like a final epitaph. In light of his present circumstances that seem to indicate that Paul will soon die, he begins to recall his thirty years of ministry. What were those years like? He sums up his ministry in 2 Corinthians 11:23-29 (ESV): ²³ *Are they servants of Christ? I am a better one—I am talking like a madman—with far greater labors, far more imprisonments, with countless beatings, and often near death. ²⁴ Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. ²⁵ Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea; ²⁶ on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers; in toil and hardship through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. ²⁸ And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure*

on me of my anxiety for all the churches. ²⁹ Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to fall, and I am not indignant? This description of Paul's ministry is not very appealing. Thirty years of hardship and seeming failure. I wonder if Paul ever questioned his calling, especially when being attacked, ridiculed or maligned by others? Did he struggle the way we do at times, feeling that our lives, our actions, our service is making no difference in this world?

I'm sure Paul had those moments when he struggled with doubt; and yet now, as he is coming to the end of his ministry, he can look back and say, "I have fought the good fight." He uses the athletic terms of victory to describe his ministry. His focus was like that of a winning boxer (fought the good fight). His determination was like that of a victorious Olympic marathon runner (finished the race). He lived by godly rules (kept the faith) and he prevailed. Paul didn't try to manipulate the system; he wasn't caught using steroids, doping or slipping illegal weights into his

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October 2021 Sermons

- 3 – *Our Undisputed Champion* Rev. 19:11-20
- 10 – *Mike Ferguson*
- 17 – *The Sweeping View* Rev. 20:1-15
- 24 – *What’s New?* Rev. 21:1-8
- 31 – *The City Scape* Rev. 21:9-27

...continued from the ‘Pastor’s Desk’ on page 1

boxing gloves. He remained true to the “competition;” he remained true to the Gospel and to Jesus his Lord. Remaining true to our Lord is our calling in life. There is no shortcut.

In John Bunyan’s “The Pilgrim’s Progress,” there is a character named Ignorant, who takes shortcuts in his Christian life. On his way to the Celestial City (Heaven), Ignorant takes the easy road. When he gets to the river that flows around the Celestial City (the river represents earthly death), he takes Vain-Hope’s ferry across the currents instead of going through the river like others did. When he approaches the gate, he finds that he does not have the proper credentials to enter Heaven. Ignorant represents those who are quite the opposite of Paul. They try to rig the competition to come out on top. Cheaters sometimes appear to win in this life, but not in the truest and most important race that we run – the race of faith.

When we grow weary in the race of faith, we need the determination to just keep plodding. Staying true to the course and to Christ. A marathon runner is well aware of “the wall.” The wall is the moment in the race when your body has used much of its resources and begins to say “enough!” It is a time in the race when your body is saying, “It is time to quit. Pull over here and rest.” The seasoned “hooper” knows that you must run through the wall and just keep going, despite the calls to quit. Your mind overrides the message sent out by the body.

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In his book, **A Burden Shared**, David Roper says, “It is necessary then that we keep showing up, willing to do what our Lord is asking us to do, however difficult it may be. Slowly, staunchly, steadfastly – that’s how every hard task is finally done. Woody Allen was right: ‘Eighty percent of life is just showing up.’” Friedrich Nietzsche observed, “The essential thing is that there should be a long obedience in the same direction; there thereby results, and has always resulted in the long run, something which has made life worth living.” **A long obedience in the same direction.**

That describes Paul’s life. May it be the description of our Christian lives as well – even in these days of COVID.

In God’s Grace, Pastor Kevin



Blessing Bag Outreach Returns!

We have been collecting items for the Blessing Bags that we pass out to people who are experiencing difficult circumstances or are homeless find useful.

We will be begin assembling the Blessing Bags in October for fall and winter giving. The Membership Care Committee will be using some funds (you can donate for this, too!) to purchase additional items needed along with devotional booklets and notes of encouragement.

Necessary Items: Tissues, Wet Wipes, Bandaides & First Aid kits, Hand Sanitizer, Feminine Products

Clothing Items: Gloves, Scarves, Hats, Warm white socks (not tube socks)

Personal Care Items (hotel, travel, trial size):

Shampoo/Conditioner, Soap, Body Wash, Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Dental Floss/Dental Picks, Mouthwash, Face/Body Lotion, Sunscreen, Lip Balm, Deodorant, Cotton Swabs

Non-Perishable Food Items (long shelf life; non-melting): Granola Bars/Energy Bars, Small Bottled Beverages, Beef Jerky, Nuts/Trail Mix, Fruit Leather/Raisins, Chicken/Tuna in Pouches, Plastic knife, fork, spoon, Instant Oatmeal, Gum/Hard Candy, Hot Cocoa, Cider Mix Packets

Thank you for your participation in helping with this outreach.

~ Membership Care Committee



OCTOBER 2021



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 4:00 p.m. Stewardship Mtg	2
3 10:00 a.m. Worship Service 12 p.m. C.E. Mtg 3:00 p.m. Worship Mtg	4 6:45 p.m. Vision Team Mtg	5	6 12:00 p.m. Prayer in Sanctuary	7 5:30 p.m. Bells Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	8	9
10 10:00 a.m. Worship Service 12:00 p.m. Missions Mtg	11 COLUMBUS DAY 	12 7:00 p.m. Deacons & Session Mtgs	13 12:00 p.m. Prayer in Sanctuary	14 5:30 p.m. Bells Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	15 10:00 a.m. Membership Care Mtg	16
17 9:00 a.m. Adult S.S 10:00 a.m. Worship Service	18 6:45 p.m. OIT Mtg	19	20 12:00 p.m. Prayer in Sanctuary	21 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Bells Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	22	23 9:00 a.m. Christmas Child Shoebox Wrapping Party
24 9:00 a.m. Adult S.S 10:00 a.m. Worship Service	25	26	27 12:00 p.m. Prayer in Sanctuary	28 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Bells Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	29	30
31 Reformation Sunday 9:00 a.m. Adult S.S 10:00 a.m. Worship Service						

Financial Report: Operating Budget

<u>AUGUST</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
Beginning Balance	-36,008.32	-43,694.45
Receipts	14,704.00	15,052.53
Disbursements	18,585.26	18,362.35
Ending Balance	(39,889.58)	(47,004.27)
Year to Date		
Beginning Balance		
Receipts	131,978.10	133,330.65
Disbursements	171,867.68	180,334.92
Ending Balance	(39,889.58)	(47,004.27)

Financial Report: Invested Funds

<u>AUGUST-</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
Receipts	9,006.17	3,910.25
Disbursements	356.98	384.34
Year to Date		
Beginning Balance	234,891.03	301,828.02
Receipts	81,840.24	92,925.75
Disbursements	75,040.00	75,854.81
Ending Balance	241,691.27	318,898.96
NET FUNDS		
	201,801.69	271,894.69

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



A NOTE ABOUT THE LORD'S SUPPER: Because of the new covid restrictions, those who are unable to attend worship Sundays and can watch online are invited to participate in communion.

~ Pastor Kevin



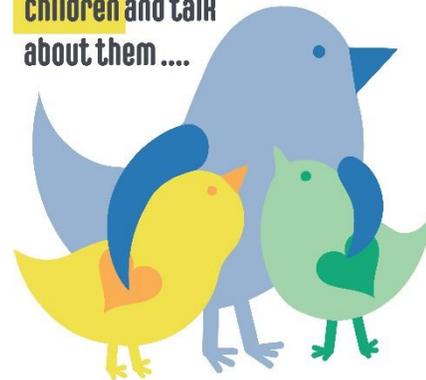
October Birthdays & Anniversaries



- October
- 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
- November
- 1..... Gary & Janet Oyer
 - 3..... Elaine Blair

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

Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them



DEUTERONOMY 6:6-7, NRSV

Voice of the Martyrs (VOM)

The Voice of the Martyrs (VOM) is a nonprofit, interdenominational missions organization that serves persecuted Christians around the world. Founded in 1967 by Richard and Sabina Wurmbrand, VOM is dedicated to inspiring believers to deepen their commitment to Christ and to fulfill His Great Commission — no matter the cost.

THE VOICE OF THE MARTYRS CONTINUES THIS MISSION AROUND THE WORLD
TODAY THROUGH THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

1. To encourage and empower Christians to fulfill the Great Commission in areas of the world where they are persecuted for sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ.
2. To provide practical relief and spiritual support to the families of Christian martyrs.
3. To equip persecuted Christians to love and win to Christ those who are opposed to the gospel in their part of the world.
4. To undertake projects of encouragement, helping believers rebuild their lives and Christian witness in countries where they have formerly suffered oppression.
5. To promote the fellowship of all believers by informing the world of the faith and courage of persecuted Christians, thereby inspiring believers to a deeper level of commitment to Christ and involvement in His Great Commission.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

1. We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative Word of God.
2. We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
3. We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father where He intercedes for us, in His present rule as Head of the Church, and in His personal return in power and glory.
4. We believe that all men and women are lost and face the judgment of God, that Jesus Christ is the only way of salvation, and that repentance of sin and faith in Jesus Christ is necessary for regeneration by the Holy Spirit.
5. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit, whose indwelling enables the Christian to live a godly life.
6. We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; the saved unto the resurrection of eternal life in the presence of our Lord, and the lost unto the resurrection of damnation and eternal punishment.
7. We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ and that all true believers are members of His body, the church.
8. We believe that we must dedicate ourselves to prayer, to the service of our Lord, to His authority over our lives, and to the ministry of evangelism.

Wednesday Prayer - Noon

We are open again in the sanctuary on Wednesdays at noon for a time of prayer.

Bible Study

Our Tuesday morning Bible Study has been changed to Thursday mornings, 10 a.m., resuming on October 21.



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