



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

MARCH 2023
Happenings



From the Pastor's Desk



VITALITY WEEKEND 2.0

On March 17-18, the Director of Church Health for our presbytery, Larry Jung, will be taking our leaders through the next stage of the Revitalization process, which will involve prayerful short-term and long-term planning. Larry will also be preaching on Sunday, March 19, and then he will join us for a potluck luncheon and answer any questions you might have. Larry served as the pastor for the Jacksonville Presbyterian Church for over 30 years. While he was there, the church experienced a great renewal. I believe God will use him to encourage our leaders and our church family.

We have been through some significant changes with our renovation process, and I know it has not been easy for everyone. I want to share with you a message I wrote back in 2018 when we started the revitalization process: *Some of the concern about revitalization stems from the feeling that someone is trying to take away your church. That is, someone (like*

the pastor) is trying to change everything that is familiar in the church. Frankly, that is exactly the opposite of what revitalization is all about. Church renewal is a rediscovery of what the Lord has called and created us to be in this particular community at this particular time. We get into trouble when we try to become like the other churches around us. You see, WPC has a unique and important history and ministry. Ron Edmondson, who has led churches through the revitalization process, comments,

“I’m often asked what I’ve learned in the revitalization process. There are so many things, but the one that sticks out to me most is this: Don’t reinvent. Rediscover...I’ve found people are less resistant to change when it doesn’t take away their identity. Every church has a history and a heritage in which it is proud.”

Our challenge is to rediscover the mission of Woodland Presbyterian Church – a mission that was given to us by the Lord one hundred and thirty years ago. We have the same Gospel call that is given to every church; and yet, ours is a mission that is unique to

us in our context. I can’t say that rediscovering our mission is easy (as Ed Stetzer says, “if it were easy, every church would be doing it”). But revitalization is essential for us if we want to continue to be used of the Lord to reach people with the message of redemption through Christ.

How did we get to this place where we need renewal? Hard to say - there are so many factors. Many churches in the U.S. are experiencing the type of decline we have seen. Please don’t be discouraged. The Lord is leading us. I believe we are in an exciting period in the life of WPC. We just need to seek the Lord and see how He will bring us back to our mission.

Will you join your church leaders in praying for this weekend? After our first several months of revitalization work, we experienced what I would describe as the ‘COVID stall.’

Continue next page...



March 2023 Sermons

- 5 – *Jesus, Our Be All and End All*
Romans 3:19-31
- 12 – *Promised by Faith* Romans 4:1-12
- 19 – *Guest Preacher, Larry Jung (EPC PNW
Director of Church Health/Revitalization)*
- 26 – *Secured through Faith* Romans 4:13-25

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

The elders, along with the members of the Vision and Outreach teams, are ready and eager - along with all of you - to get back on track with the work with which the Lord has entrusted us.

In God's Grace,
Pastor Kevin



March Birthdays & Anniversaries



Happy Anniversary!

- 6 Richard Long
- 8 Brian Sukkari
- 14 Jim & Marilyn Miller
- 15 Richard Benney
- 18 Joyce Sixberry
- 19 Marilyn Miller
- 21 Joe Bozorth
- 22 John & Cynthia Svensson
- 31 Dale Boon

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

Where do I/We Draw the Line?

There are many issues that are controversial in our culture and in the church. What does the Bible teach about these topics? Getting down to the specifics, where do we as individuals and as a church draw the line? **Following is the March schedule for the topics we will be covering in Adult Sunday School and some of the questions we will be addressing:**

Continue above, Right Column...

Where do I/We Draw the Line?...

March 5

Is God happy with Women in Leadership in His church? What does the Bible teach about Women in Leadership? What does our denomination, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, say about women in leadership? Are there different responsibilities for Men and Women in the church? Can women do anything a man can do and vice versa? Why does this matter in our day and age? How do we communicate our position in a loving way about women in leadership when the de facto position is of course women should be allowed to do anything a man can?

March 12

Part 1: What does the Bible teach about Homosexuality, Same Sex Marriage and Transgenderism?

March 19:

Part 2: Discussing questions on Homosexuality, Same Sex Marriage and Transgenderism.

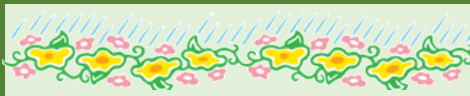
Some of the questions we will be addressing are as follows:

Is God okay with same sex marriage as long the people are in love and in a committed relationship? Is it appropriate for a Christian to go to a same sex or transgender wedding? Should we accept a person's preferred pronoun if it is contrary to their birth sex? Is it okay for a Christian to undergo sex change surgery and/or sex hormones to alter their biological sex? Where do we draw the line on supporting corporations or on watching TV shows/movies that feature characters and actions that go against the clear biblical teaching on sexuality.

March 26

Part 1, Abortion: What is abortion? What does the Bible teach about abortion? Part 2 will be on April 2 and will focus on questions that will help us to know "Where do I/we draw the line."

Please note that this is a fluid schedule. Some of the topics may require additional discussion, so we may need to revise this schedule. Please join in the Adult Sunday School Room (now called the Upper Room) for these extremely important topics.



MARCH 2023



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 9:00 a.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Bells 7:00 p.m. Choir	3 4:00 p.m. Stewardship Mtg	4 9:30 a.m. Worshp Mtg 11:00 a.m. Prayer Walk 11:30 a.m. C.E. Mtg
5 2nd SUNDAY IN LENT 9:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Live (Adult S.S.) 10:00 a.m. Worship Service	6	7 7:00 p.m. Vision Team	8	9 9:00 a.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Bells 7:00 p.m. Choir	10	11 10:00 a.m. Hearts & Crafts
12 DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS 9:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Live (Adult S.S.) 10:00 a.m. Worship Service 11:30 a.m. Mission Mtg	13	14 7:00 p.m. Session & Deacons Mtgs	15	16 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Bells 7:00 p.m. Choir	17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Committee 6:00 p.m. Leaders Vitality Mtg	18 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Leaders Vitality Mtg
19 4th SUNDAY IN LENT 9:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Live 10:00 a.m. Worship Service <i>Guest Speaker: Larry Jung</i> 11:30 a.m. Potluck	20 	21 7:00 p.m. OT Mtg (Outreach Team)	22	23 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Bells 7:00 p.m. Choir	24	25 10:00 a.m. Hearts & Crafts
26 5th SUNDAY IN LENT 9:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Live (Adult S.S.) 10:00 a.m. Worship Service Blue Bag Sunday	27	28	29	30 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Bells 7:00 p.m. Choir	31	

WPC Outreach Team

Financial Report: Operating Budget

<u>JANUARY</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Beginning Balance	0.00	0.00
Receipts	21,135.70	19,129.72
Disbursements	18,406.93	17,681.93
Ending Balance	2,728.77	1,447.79
Year to Date		
Beginning Balance	-	-
Receipts	21,135.70	19,129.72
Disbursements	18,406.93	17,681.93
Ending Balance	2,728.77	1,447.79

Financial Report: Invested Funds

<u>JANUARY</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Beginning Balance	287,260.68	237,352.89
Receipts	3,430.05	1,150.21
Disbursements	69.17	31,043.35
Ending Balance	290,621.56	207,459.75
Year to Date		
Beginning Balance	287,260.68	237,352.89
Receipts	3,430.05	1,150.21
Disbursements	69.17	31,043.35
Ending Balance	290,621.56	207,459.75
NET FUNDS	293,350.33	208,907.54

Sanctuary Dedication

Join us for the Dedication of our New Sanctuary, on
Sunday, April 2, at 3 p.m.

We will be praying for our new space and giving thanks with hymns and praise songs.

It will be a wonderful time of rejoicing and praising God for the many blessings He has given.

Hope to see you there!

Prayer Walking @ WPC

What is a Prayer Walk?

While walking, the group prays over the City of Woodland, its businesses, churches, schools, and families. So far we have walked all over downtown Woodland, to the Lilac Gardens + past schools, + churches. The last Prayer Walk took us to the new Women's Clinic.

When are the Prayer Walks?

The Prayer Walks are held the first Saturday of each month. We meet at the front of the church at 11 a.m. and go from there. On March 4 we will be prayer-walking to the Woodland Action Center.

Who can participate?

Everyone! Join us!

OT Team Members:

Sally Hager (chair), Jessica Ferguson, Mike Ferguson, Liz Hover, Mark Hover, Sarah Lail, Cindy Leach, Pastor Kevin Leach, Janet Syring, Jim/Karen Wilson

What is the OT Focusing on for 2023?

Small Church Essentials

Our team is currently reading and studying the book Small Church Essentials by Karl Vaters.

GO 2.0

Our Elders, Vision Team, and Outreach Team will meet together with our leaders as we continue our church revitalization process and begin our work on a strategic plan for the next 3-5 years as we seek to fulfill God's Great Commission.

What's Next?

March 4- Prayer Walk, 11 a.m.

March 17-19 Go 2.0 Church Revitalization Weekend Training for Elders, Vision Team, and Outreach Team

April 21-Movie Night at WPC

6:00 p.m.-Hot Dogs

6:45 p.m.-Movie-
"American Underdog"



March Prayer Families

Week of...

March 5	Kirsten Marie Dean Rick & Janet Syring
March 12	Jean & Roy Eddy Martha Swanstrun
March 19	Charlotte Ellis Bonnie Swanson
March 26	Doug Ferguson John & Cynthia Svensson



Fellowship of Christian Athletes

From Kane Ulrich, Area Director (Cowlitz County)

KANE'S PRAISE REPORT

I pray you enjoy this praise report! I appreciate you and your willingness to be used as a vessel to advance the kingdom of God through Cowlitz County FCA.

Psalm 100:4-5: "Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise. Give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good. His unfailing love continues forever, and his faithfulness continues to each generation."

Paige Kessler, a senior at Castle Rock High School, first got engaged with FCA as a 7th grader. She came to **Huddle** (an athletically focused Bible Study) due to an invitation from a trusted friend. Throughout her middle school and high school career, Paige has been faithful to attend Huddle and serve as an FCA student leader, equipping her teammates and peers to grow in relationship with Jesus. Last summer she served as a Huddle leader at the FCA Middle School Leadership Camp and testified it was the first time she prayed out loud, shared her testimony, and engaged someone with the gospel. Paige is on mission to make disciples who make disciples and is actively growing in relationship with Jesus; utilizing her gifts and talents to glorify his name.

On January 18, Paige expressed interest in being baptized. She was eager to make a public declaration through baptism that Jesus is her Lord and Savior. On February 12, Paige was baptized at her local church in front of family, friends, and the support of her FCA Huddle!

Thank you for helping FCA pursue the mission to lead every coach and athlete into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and his church. You're invited to the Night of Champions on Sunday, March 26. I pray you will join us to discover more about FCA, the people we serve, the impact Jesus is having through this ministry, and how you can get in the game! Here is a link with details and the spot to register: <https://pdxca.org/night-of-champions>

Fellowship Committee News

Great news! We have several opportunities for fellowship in the coming months! Dayspring trips are coming back! We appreciate the wonderful ideas provided from the questionnaire that was passed out at the annual meeting. Be watching for information and dates of upcoming trips. Let the fun begin!

Also upcoming are some new classes we hope to offer. Our breadmaking class held in January was very well received, and many participants asked for more of the same. Look for new offerings being planned throughout the year!

Have a heart for fellowship? We welcome any input you may have.

Like to join our committee? We meet the third Friday of each month. Give us a try!

Fellowship Committee members: Goni Laseke, Betsy Lessard, Cindy Leach, Deana MacPherson, Janet Oyer, Margaret Sukkari, Janet Syring (chair)

Mark Your Calendar:

May 20 -Faith, Fellowship, and Flip Flops Ladies Tea, 11 a.m.- 1 p.m.

Elizabeth Bricknell will be our speaker.

Shining Star Bazaar- Saturday, November 18

MARCH 2023

Happenings

CPR Class Opportunity

If you are interested in taking an upcoming CPR class here at the church, scheduled for Saturday, April 1, 1-5 p.m., please put your name on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex. This class covers adult, child, and infant CPR, AED, and FA.

The cost for the class is \$65. Scholarships are available if you are interested, but can't afford it right now.

Blue Bag Sunday

The Deacons will be working with the Woodland Action Center to help stock the food pantry. They collect over 70,000 pounds of food monthly that serves over 1100 families. Please

pick up a blue bag, and fill it with non-perishable items, and return on the last Sunday of each month. Our donations will be dropped off the first Saturday of each month.



WOODLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (EPC)

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED