



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

950 BOONES FERRY ROAD  
PO, BOX 333  
WOODBURN, OREGON 97071  
981-9121

First Presbyterian Church of Woodburn

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30

*December 2013 Newsletter*

950 N. Boones Ferry Road

PO Box 333, Woodburn, OR 97071

Minister: Pastor David Morelli

Organist and Music Director: Debra A. Huddleston

Office phone (503) 981-9121

Email: [woodburnpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com](mailto:woodburnpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com)

Website: [www.firstpreswoodburn.org](http://www.firstpreswoodburn.org)



# December 2013

**Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat**

<b>1</b> 1st Sunday Advent	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Men's Lunch Choir 7:00 pm	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 2nd Sunday Advent	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Deacons 10:30 am	<b>11</b> Men's Lunch Choir 7:00	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 3rd Sunday Advent	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Session 5:30 pm	<b>18</b> Men's Lunch Choir 7:00 pm	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 4th Sunday Advent Christmas Pageant	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Christmas Eve Service: 4 pm.	<b>25</b> Nativity of Jesus Christ. Christmas Day	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				



7 Nancy Harper  
9 Lois Koval  
14 Roberta Campbell  
20 Mark Sterling

Newsletter of  
**First Presbyterian Church**

Woodburn, Oregon

*An Active Part of the Woodburn Community*

*Vol. 36, No 12, December 2013*

*Pastor: David Morelli*

*Editor: Joanne Hanson*

*Pastor's Page*

In recent years we have trimmed our house with Christmas lights when my son can come from Seattle. It is usually before Thanksgiving and before our "Hanging of the Greens" at the church. But this year with the late Thanksgiving he came the same weekend we were having our party and helped decorate the fellowship hall and put lights on the Christmas tree in the sanctuary as well as at our house. Tradition has kept me from turning on the lights until after the Thanksgiving, but this year I turned them as soon as they were up. And I wasn't the first in my neighborhood!

Don't ask me why I did this. Perhaps it was the fact that there are less days between Thanksgiving and Christmas. I would not know this except this was the reason retailers said they had to start selling Christmas 'stuff' right after Halloween.

But I have to admit I did not mind seeing Christmas come early. In fact, I think I could handle Christmas year round. The after Christmas let down is like going to a Blazer game, watching them win, and then leaving the Rose (Moda) Center to return home. It is like returning home after going on the beach. How often have I preached about keeping that feeling of Christmas all year long?

What does that mean anyway?



I think it means having that feeling of hope that there might someday be 'peace on earth and good will to all'. I think it means taking time for family and time for friends. It is about buying gifts for those we love, and even those we don't know: shelters and other charities.

I used to like to shop the day after Thanksgiving; watching the people, looking at the decorations and listening to the Christmas music in the store. But I must say, the crowds and the outright commercialism has taken some of that joy away. I prefer seeing the lights on houses and going to Christmas special in the area.

Christmas points towards hope and helps us reflect on what the world can be. We look forward to the day when we will turn swords into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks.

As I give into the retailer's calendar, perhaps that is ok. There is nothing wrong with making Christmas all year round, if Christmas means looking towards the hope of the world, and living "as if" it is already here, but also the feeling of anticipation knowing it is 'not yet'.

My family wishes everyone a blessed Christmas and a hope filled New Year.

*Pastor David*

## Library News

The holiday season is upon us and during the month of December the library will have the Christmas books on display. Please notice our nativity set and the realistic looking wood stable. This represents the true story of the birth of the Christ Child.



The children's book are beautifully illustrated and we have added several new ones that join the old favorites. Christmas craft books, hymns, verses, and recipes all are there for you to view and check out. Clement C. Moore, who wrote, 'The Night before Christmas' ended his famous poem with: "Happy Christmas to all and to all a good night."

Let us commit his verse to memory and all have a Merry, Merry Christmas this year!

Phila

## *Adult Study*



The adult study group on Sunday is reading the book, "The Shoes of Van Gogh", by Cliff Edwards. It is a look at Van Gogh's life and his art. Many people only think of Van Gogh as a mentally ill painter who is best known for cutting off his ear. But, in fact, Van Gogh was the son of a Dutch Reformed pastor and wanted to go into the ministry himself. The book takes you on the spiritual journey of Van Gogh and in the process might take you into your own journey. The class is always open to attend anytime.

## *Christmas at First Presbyterian Church*

It is beginning to look like Christmas at First Presbyterian thanks to many people. Nancy Hankins and crew cleaned the courtyard and decorated it for the holidays. Nancy also found two beautiful trees, one for the fellowship hall and one for the sanctuary. Pastor David and his son, Dan (visiting from Seattle) hung the lights on the tree in the sanctuary. Fran Welch and Roberta Campbell delivered the poinsettias and everyone gathered together on Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, to decorate the sanctuary and fellowship hall after a wonderful Thanksgiving dinner hosted by the deacons.

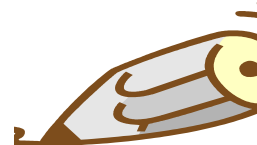


## New Newsletter Editor

Joanne Hanson has volunteered to be the editor of our newsletter. David Haugh is now settled in California. Joanne and her son, Chris have been working diligently on our website and membership list so it is only natural she take over the position as editor.

We hope to send the newsletter by email to as many people who can receive email. We will also post it on our website and as people become familiar with this we may refer them to the website rather than sending it email.

Thanks Joanne for helping us move into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.



Congregational Meeting – December 8<sup>th</sup>

The session has called a congregational meeting for Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, following the worship service for the purpose amending the by-laws and election of officers.



#### Section 1.

The session shall consist of six (6) *nine (9)* ruling elders divided into three equal classes, one class of whom shall be elected each year at the annual meeting *a congregational meeting* for a three-year term. No *ruling* elder shall be elected for a term of more than three years, nor shall a *ruling* elder serve for consecutive terms, either full or partial, aggregating more than six years. A *ruling* elder having served a total of six years shall be ineligible for re-election to the same board for a period of at least one year. Following the election of *ruling* elders, the session shall elect a *ruling* elder to serve as clerk for such a term as it may determine, and shall form such committees as necessary to carry out its work.

#### Section 4.

*Stated Meetings, Special Meetings, and a quorum for session meetings shall be as provided in the Form of Government Book of Order, G-30203.*

#### Section 5.

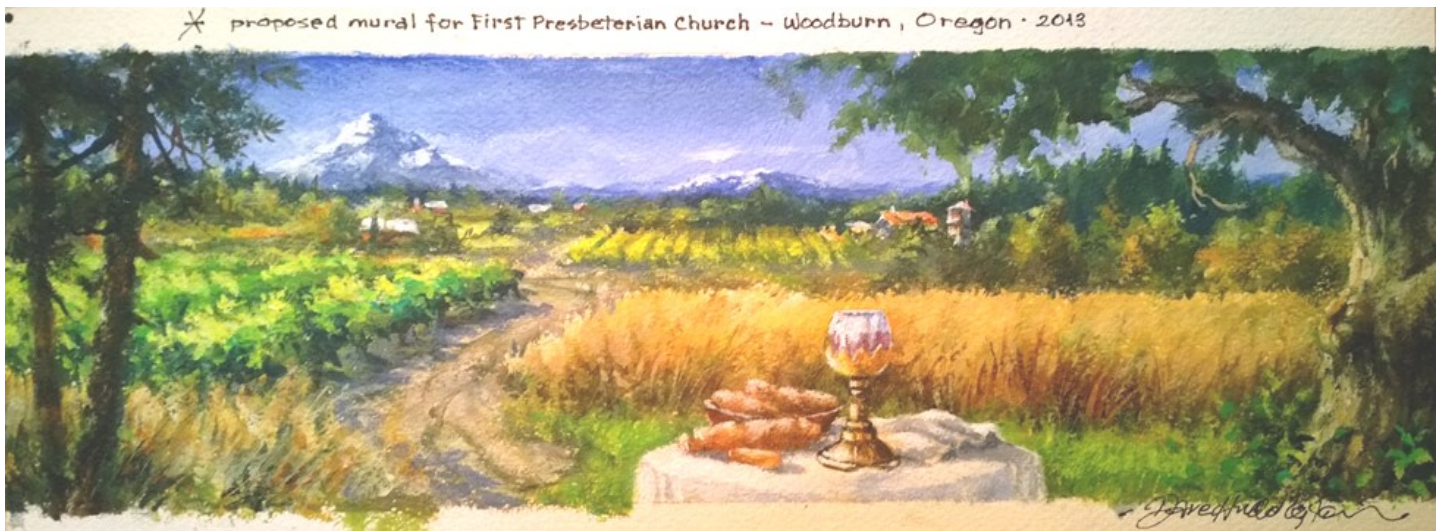
The Board of Deacons shall consist of six (6) deacons divided into equal classes, one class of whom shall be elected each year at the annual meeting for a three-year term. No person shall be eligible to be elected to a term on the board of deacons the beginning date of which would be less than one year after the end of any previous full three-year term such person served on the board of deacons.

*The session shall be responsible for the functions of the Board of Deacons as defined in the Book of Order, G-2.0201 and G-2.0202.*

#### Section 6.

There shall be a representative nominating committee chosen in accordance with the Form of Government (G-14.0201, Book of Order). *Book of Order, G-2.0401. The nominating committee shall consist of two ruling elders who are currently serving on the session, and three active members of the congregation.* The committee shall bring to the annual meeting *a congregational meeting* nominations of at least one eligible person for each office to be filled. Additional nominations of qualified persons may be made from the floor by any eligible voter.





## *Mural Project*

Debi Huddleston's brother, David, has designed a mural to be painted on the south side of the church. The session has been considering this project for two years. (One reason the trees were cut down on the south side of the church). The session has been waiting for the City Council to write a policy for murals for the city. We have been watching closely CAPACES who has just completed their mural. If you have driven on Young street east of the railroad tracks you can see their mural which is almost complete. Now that the city has a policy and one mural in place we have moved ahead with our plans.

We are still in the early stages, but what we have decided to date is that the mural will be painted on panels in the fellowship hall and then placed outside. In this way, weather will not be a factor. Mark Sterling is researching the best material for the project. We have not done a campaign to raise money for the mural because of other financial needs in the church, but our hope is that we can raise money without hurting the income of our regular operating expenses.

***Choir Practice:*** If you would like to sing in the choir speak with Debi after a worship service. They're the best seats in the house! Just wait until Debi plays a Taco and Fudge in C Sharp Minor.

## *Poinsettias*



*Hope Bakken*

*In memory of A.C. Bakken*

*Sally & Lucien Klein*

*In memory of our parents; Jacob &  
Helen Klein, Wesley & Madeline Struck*

*Jean Davis*

*In memory of Carl Davis, Lynda Cummins*

*Betty Winfree*

*In memory of James Winfree*

*Pat Love*

*In memory my parents*

*Fran Welch*

*In memory of Ray Welch,  
Seward Smith, Mary Jo Smith*

*Christine Smith*

*In memory of my husband, Don  
Smith*

*Johanna Samson*

*In memory of Evert & Elisabeth  
Frederiks, Bessie Samson*

*Lloyd and Betty Soule*

*In memory of our parents; Lloyd &  
Elizabeth Soule, Menyhert & Mary Veres*

*Hazel Moore*

*In memory of my husband, Gerald Moore  
& Dorothy Wantz*

*Judy W. Ebersberger*

*In memory of my parents, Ber-  
nard & Dorothy Wantz*

*David & Jackie Morelli*

*In memory of Dorothy Badgley,  
Victor Ortiz; In memory of Emery  
& Florence Morelli*

*Norbert & Traudel Krausche*

*In memory of Alfred & Emma  
Butz and Georg & Gertrud  
Krausche*

*Mike and Bonnie Hankins*

*In memory of Diane Guinn, Berl  
Hankins*

*Irene J. Scott*

*In memory of my husband, Miles J.  
Scott*

*Kim Johnston*

*In memory of Dolores & Patrick  
Johnston*

*Nancy Hankins*

*In memory of Berl Hankins, Lydia  
Hankins, Berl Hankins, Sr; In hon-  
or of Richard & Leola Calkins, the  
entire Calkins and Hankins Fami-  
lies*

*Phila Simmons*

*In memory of my parents and  
brother; In honor of Q.D. Peasley*

*Sarah and Mark Williams*

*In memory of Sandra Rutherford,  
Nancy Ann Williams*