



First Presbyterian Church

950 N. Boones Ferry Road

PO Box 333

Woodburn, OR 97071

February 2015 Newsletter

First Presbyterian Church of Woodburn
Sunday Morning Worship is at 10:30 a.m.

Followed by fellowship time at 11:30 a.m.

Organist and Music Director: Debra A. Huddleston

Secretary: Laura Harryman

Office phone (503) 981-9121

Office Hours are Tues, Thurs, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

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Website: www.firstpreswoodburn.org

Pastor News

The Session has completed the interviewing process for hiring a new minister. We are currently negotiating with an individual to become a ¾ time pastor. We hope to finish the process shortly and bring him on board in February.

Stay tuned for more information coming soon....

Jan 20th Session Meeting Highlights

- Session discussed and agreed on the following committee assignments:
 - Mission – Marcy Sterling
 - Property – Walt Mangerich, Mark Sterling & Bill Anderson
 - Congregational Life – Nancy Hankins & Johanna Samson
 - Outreach – Joanne Hanson
 - Worship – Sally Klein
 - Membership Caring – Johanna Samson
- Mark Sterling is appointed Session president. Julie Moore is appointed Clerk, and Fran Welch is appointed Treasurer
- 2014 Annual reports will be prepared by each committee chair. The deadline is January 31.
- Doug Seeley offered us the pump organ that was in our church building when it was on Garfield Street. Joanne said she would look into it.
- We received a notice of 2015 Per Capita Apportionment from the Presbytery of the Cascades. Per Capita is \$27.96 per member. Session moved to pay in installments.
- Traudel Krausche sent us a Thank You card with a note inside thanking her church family for all that was done by the church for her family.
- A prospective new pastor gave a sermon at a Keizer church on January 25th. Several Session members were able to attend.
- Kim met with a school representative to discuss a GAP ministry of school supplies.
- Bill from Right Roof is doing work on the roof; pulling the panels and checking the flashing.
- It was suggested to have Puerto del Cielo Church attend session meeting on a quarterly basis to discuss issues. The lease will be reviewed before the next meeting.
- Marcy & Julie installed the new shelving system in supply closet in the Fellowship Hall. Kim Johnston generously gave us the shelving system.
- The church website is running smoothly, thanks to Laura. One suggestion is to add directions to the church. Also, we will add more information about how much talent we have and what a joy it is to hear beautiful music in a church.
- The church now has a Facebook page. All are encouraged to 'like' the page and/or share it with folks in your contact list.
- Music Ministry - Several people will attend the

Canby Community Concert on Jan. 23. The van may be used if there are too many people for a car. Susan Egan is performing this month.

- Membership Caring: Johanna continues to minister to a few of our congregants.
- Sarah Williams purchased a nice bookcase that was put up by the choir loft for music.
- Stewardship Committee: As of 1/15/15, there are 21 completed pledge cards.
- Landscaping Committee: Nancy stopped at Al's and talked to someone about trimming the hedges. We should wait until at least mid-February. We are hoping to get the irrigation line squared away along the South side of the building.
- Next Meeting Date: February 17, 2015

Our GAP Ministry

For several years Woodburn First Presbyterian Church has been affiliated with Love INC (Love In The Name of Christ). Love INC is a partnership of local churches, and links volunteers and ministries to people in need. Our Session recently determined a particular ministry suitable to our congregation; providing school supplies to children in need. As students enter the Woodburn School system, a school liaison will determine their supply needs and refer them to Love INC, who will provide them with a voucher the student will use to acquire the needed supplies from our church.

Below you will find a list of essential items needed by both grade school and middle school-aged children. A collection site will be provided where your donations can be deposited. Samples of these items will be on display to provide visual clarity. According to Esther Rubio, Lincoln elementary liaison, backpacks are a particular need. Monetary contributions will also be accepted and should be notated with "School Supplies".

#2 pencils	Composition notebooks
Colored markers (thin)	Crayons
Notebook paper (both wide and college rule)	Rules
Binders (2 ½ and 3 in.)	Pens (black, blue and red)
Backpacks	Colored pencils
Glue sticks	Spiral notebooks
Zipper vinyl pouch (used in binders)	
Highlighters (different colors)	
Colored pee-chees with pockets and brads	

A Mission Trip Story

Laura's note - This is a part of a sermon given last July by Katy Nicole, the Pastor at the Presbyterian Church in Baker City, OR. She had just returned from chaperoning a youth group mission trip to Los Angeles. Cory is my 15-year-old son.

During the recent youth group mission trip, our small group was given dollars, depending on the color of our hair. I did not get one because I was brown. Luckily there were four blondes and they each got one dollar. And the five of us, Lynn, Courtney, Cory, Sam and I were told to go out into the streets of LA and find our dinner, to simulate for a couple of hours the feeling of homelessness and hunger. Lynn & I watched the youth struggle as they went to ask if there was any leftover produce from a grocery store manager. They responded kindly, but firmly said no. We talked about how hard asking was, because we have been taught to provide for ourselves and had always been provided for. We walked around to dumpsters and noticed that they were even locked and guarded. We noticed the signs that said no public restrooms next to the signs that said worker needed and they would not barter washing dishes for a meal. We noticed the hopelessness as it set in and we walked around empty blocks. And the privilege of desiring to go hungry rather than ask for a meal set in. We noticed ourselves get ornery and then even more hopeless. For a couple of hours we were famished. We had been asked to sell our birth rights, the birth-right of privilege in order to attempt to eat.

Inheritance began with the assumption that something belongs to us and that one person is greater than the other. This is what happens in this story (Genesis 25:19–34), one is greater than the other, each shall give away his birth right and Jacob essentially wins. They switch places like we switched places but the story is still the same, nothing changes.

There were 11 minutes left in our walk. The kids were walking ahead, heads down, arms crossed, and the adult leaders were told that no group had ever come back hungry. My competitive spirit thought we are not going to be that group. We had walked by three restaurants, little hole in the wall, family owned kinds of places. And I said to the youth, go into those three. If you come back with nothing you can go home. So they went in a little Thai Restaurant, while Lynn and I stood outside. We were told as adult leaders to let the kids figure it out, which I was honestly thankful for not having to do it myself. And we soon

realized we had been waiting for quite some time. And we looked at each other and I said I think that this might be good. When we walked up to the door Cory gives us this huge thumbs up. Lynn and I walk in and the women says, "there are two more of you?" And the kids nod yes. And she tells us all to sit down in her restaurant. The kids had given her their four dollars in exchange for three eight dollar meals, for she had reached into her tip jar to make up the rest. We left with a plastic bag with three enormous boxes of food and cried because we had found grace that was not an inheritance of this world but grace that was inheritance of God. God doesn't believe in human inheritance.

This story may seem messy and confusing but if you look in all these Genesis stories, though historically the first born is supposed to receive an inheritance, in not one of the old testament stories does the first born receive the inheritance. It always switches. I think God is about the switch. God is about the woman who reached into the tip jar.

And so we left and we walked back to the church guilty, feeling like we had cheated this woman, feeling like we had something we did not deserve. And Courtney was very upset and rightfully so because I think pedagogically, it is not fair, it isn't really a good assignment. But this is what I know. I know that she was changed, that I was changed, that Lynn was changed, that Sam was changed, that Cory was changed. That none of us will ever forget that moment, nor will we walk by a homeless person with the same assumptions.

Food Bank Sunday

Food bank Sunday is always the third Sunday of the month. Put a little extra in the offering plate or bring non-perishable food. Christine Smith makes sure it gets to the food bank sometime during the week.

THANK YOU to the Puerto del Cielo Church for doing a great job cleaning up the church grounds on January 27th.

Deaths

Lawrence Beckner died December 26, 2014

"Blessed are they who die in the Lord, they will rest from their labors and their works do follow them" Rev. 14:13