



First Presbyterian Church

950 N. Boones Ferry Road

PO Box 333

Woodburn, OR 97071

March 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.

Pastor: Rev. Peter Blank

Organist and Music Director: Debra A. Huddleston

Secretary: Laura Harryman

Office phone (503) 981-9121

Email: contact@firstpreswoodburn.org

Website: www.firstpreswoodburn.org

Save the Date

Organ Recital

3:00 p.m. - Saturday, April 11

Performing will be Christopher Wicks, a Fellow of the American Guild of Organists who holds a MM in Organ from the University of Oregon. He is the organist at Emmanuel Presbyterian Church in West Linn. The event is free and open to the public. Wicks will play a cycle of twelve preludes of his own composition, written at the request of Carson Cooman, composer in residence at the chapel of a college near Boston.

Come one, come all!



March 2015

S Mon T W Th F S

1 Lay reader: Lucien Klein Greeters: Fran Welch and Irene Scott SOUP LUNCH	2	3	4 Men's Lunch 12:30 –1:30 Country Cottage Choir Practice 6:00 p.m.	5	6	7
8 Lay reader: Walt Mangerich Greeters: Bill Anderson and Ruby Weidemann ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING	9	10	11 Men's Lunch 12:30 –1:30 Country Cottage Choir Practice 6:00 p.m.	12	13	14
15 Lay reader: Sally Klein Greeters: Sally and Lucien Klein FOOD BANK SUNDAY	16	17 SESSION MEETING 5:30 p.m.	18 Men's Lunch 12:30 –1:30 Country Cottage Choir Practice 6:00 p.m.	19	20 	21 Hispanic Church using kitchen/ fellowship 1:00—7:00 p.m.
22 Lay reader: Marcy Sterling Greeters: Harley and Marian Piper	23	24	25 Men's Lunch 12:30 –1:30 Country Cottage Choir Practice 6:00 p.m.	26	27	28
29 Lay reader: Lois Koval Greeters: Roberta Campbell and Christine Smith PALM SUNDAY	30	31				

Feb. 17th Session Meeting Highlights

- Session prepared and sent a thank you card to Paul Belz-Templeman for all he did for us during the interim time between pastors.
- Session set dates for the installation of Mark Sterling as Elder and the annual congregational meeting.
- Lucien Klein presented a draft of the annual statistical report. A motion was passed to approve the report.
- Tuesday, February 17th was Pastor Peter Blank's first day. He is looking forward to Sunday and would like to get introduced to shut-ins first and others and hopes within a month to be acquainted with everyone. He plans on being in Woodburn on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.
- Marcy reported that she met with Nora Crauthers and Rosie Brado from Love INC to discuss our Gap Ministry. Marcy has three boxes of school supplies so far. Families will bring a voucher from Love INC when they need school supplies. Their recommendation is to set a date before school starts for families to come in for supplies.
- One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be collected on Palm Sunday.
- Walt and Mark are looking for a roofing contractor. Walt will look at someone to come in and put in the basics of an irrigation system to the south side of the church. Locks on a few of the red doors need fixing. The sound system needs to be fine tuned. The Hispanic congregation cleaned up the leaves around the building. Session discussed rekeying the doors.
- Session discussed a few building use requests.
- A Canby Community Concert took place on January 23, 2015. Mark Sterling was the driver for 10 passengers, six from Senior Estates and four from our church. More members of our church have shown interest in the coming concerts so we may need a car along with the bus for the next concert.
- Our website has continued to grow, thanks to Laura. Joanne is going to wait until she has more direction before adding information to Facebook or Yelp.
- The antique organ from Woodburn's first Presbyterian Church was offered to us from the family of Lois Wengenroth. We have chosen to accept the organ as a gift from the family.
- Johanna reported on the health and home situations of several members.
- Communion was served to 28 people on February 1, 2015. Gluten free bread is served to the congregation for Communion.
- The microphones are a problem and we can't hear prayer requests and other speakers. We could possibly have Gene pass around the hand microphone.
- Kim Johnston has painted the lines on the labyrinth.
- The community garden was discussed with several ideas for people that may be interested in working on the project. A request for volunteers is on the website.
- A motion was approved to accept the Supply Pastor Covenant for a $\frac{3}{4}$ time pastor. The time allocated is 33 – 37 hours per week.
- Next Meeting Date: March 17, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.



School Supply GAP Ministry

Below is the list of essential items needed by both grade school and middle school-aged children. Monetary contribu-

tions 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.)	Colored pencils
Backpacks	Pens (black, blue and red)
Glue sticks	
Zipper vinyl pouch (used in binders)	
Highlighters (different colors)	
Colored pee-chees with pockets and brads	

Greetings to you!

A photograph of the exterior of the Church of the Holy Spirit. The building features a modern design with a large, light-colored, gabled roof section. A tall, white cross is mounted on the roof. The main body of the church has a brick base and large windows. A covered entrance with a dark roof is visible on the left. The church is surrounded by greenery, including trees and shrubs, under a clear blue sky.

Let me begin by telling you a bit about us. We grew up in Ukiah, just south of the northern California redwoods. I was part of a large Catholic family, number seven of eight children (six boys, two girls). My father was a doctor and mother was a nurse. I am the only minister among my siblings, though many are quite active in the churches they attend. Diana's father taught high school classes and her mother worked at the local drug store. She and her sister were the only children in her family. Diana is an RN, and recently completed her BSN degree. Diana and I met in fifth grade, it was nine years ago that we married. We've blended our families: Matt, Hannah and Sarah from my side; Brittany and Stephanie from Diana's side. They range in age from 23 to 28. We are very proud of the young adults into which they have matured. Our home is in Sherwood.

My last call was to the Newberg First congregation for twenty years. Strangely enough, I preached in your pulpit while I was candidating for them. It is good to be back. We have worshipped one Sunday together as I write this. I love the pipe organ and the music Debra makes with it. I mentioned after the lively Postlude was played that "we will need to add some seat belts to the organ bench" to keep her on the bench. I meant it!

My days in Woodburn will be Sunday, and Tuesday through Thursday. When you want to see me, please call or email me for an appointment.

In the upcoming newsletter articles, I will be challenging us to re-think church. The days of "if you build it, they will come" are over. These are the days where the Presbyterian Church is the most elderly denomination in the nation. All denominations are shrinking in membership - people just aren't attending church. Churches are shrinking down to their core. And the churches that will survive are rediscovering why God has placed them where they are. That will be our mission as well - to rediscover why we are the First Presbyterian Church in Woodburn, Oregon.

We are here. We are going to have some fun!

God bless you!

Pastor Peter

Pastor Peter J. Blank



Joke for the day:

Three boys are in the school yard bragging about their fathers. The first boy says, 'My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a poem, they give him \$50.' The second boy says, 'That's nothing. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a song, they give him \$100.' The third boy says, 'I got you both beat. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a sermon, and it takes eight people to collect all the money!'