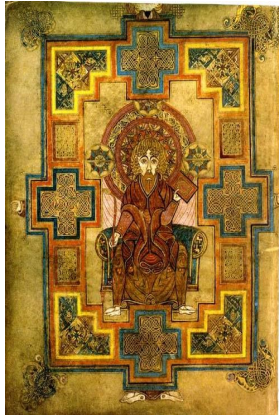


FIRST PRESS

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Celtic Spirituality: Ways to Live a Spiritual Life Everyday



Celtic Christians sought the presence of God in everyday events

Advent is here. It is a season of preparation and expectation. The following are some practical ways to practice the presence of God in the ordinariness of each day. Celtic Christians sought the presence of

God in household duties, work in the fields, and the lilt of a song... The following are examples of everyday spirituality. They come from a variety of sources, some well-known, others less known, and some even unknown.

Waking up

Darkness was upon the face of the deep, and God said, "Let there be light." Darkness laps at my sleeping face like a tide, and God says, "Let there be Bueckner." Why not? Out of the primeval chaos of sleep he calls me to be a life again...He calls me to be this rather than that; he calls me to be now rather than then...Waking to a new day, we are all

of us Adam on the morning of creation, and the world is ours to name. Out of many fragments we are called to put back together a self again. – Fredrick Buechner in *The Alphabet of Grace*.

Washing your hands

If you look deeply into the palm of your hand, you will see your parents and all the generations of your ancestors. All of them are alive in this moment. Each one is present in your body. You are the continuation of each of these people. – Thich Nhat Hanh in *Present Moment Wonderful Moment: Mindfulness Verses for Daily Living*.

Bulletin Bloopers:

- **The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.**
- **Don't let worry kill you off – let the church help.**
- **Ladies don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.**

(Thank you, Sally Klein for this submission)

From the Pastor

You'll notice a new look for the Newsletter. It takes on a more attractive, more informative look this month. I hope you like the changes as we try a new look, new

colors I hope you like "First Press". For next months edition, be sure to get your submissions to the office by Sunday, December 27.

Merry Christmas to you! And a very healthy and happy New Year!

Inside this issue:

Celtic Spirituality	1
From the Pastor	1
Session Highlights	2
Did you know...	2
December Calendar	3
Who's serving	4
Ways to Live ...	4

Highlights of Session meeting

“Every day is a day for Thanks Giving!”
- Lois Koval

PLEDGING TOTALS

2016 Pledging Results:
\$58,456 total pledged
by 33 pledgers!

Thank you for your interest in and commitment to all that God is doing at Woodburn First Presbyterian Church!

- +Inquiries/New Members Class – is it time for a new class? Some names were talked about.
- +Review present membership roster will save per capita costs.
- +Pastor Peter will not be using Continuing education time or funds in 2015 budget.
- +Report on Pledging for 2016 budget – not able to count number or tally \$ yet.
- +Grounds & Facility – Van repairs – It is time to check the van into to be repaired by a diesel garage.
- +Ground & Facilities – Classroom repairs – ceiling repairs underway in end classroom and should be done in December. Considered preparing the end room as an office for Head Start. But is it possible to take down the wall and creating a larger space. Need to finish a few projects – like painting the classroom and work in the bathroom. Keep maintaining to freshen up our look.
- +Office copier – we have a loaner Canon copier to test.

- Cost would be \$98.50 per month for lease plus service with 0.0107 cents per black & white or 0.065 cents per color copies. Motion was made to sign a 60-month contract for Canon copier. Motion was seconded and passed.
- +Office reorganization – permanent church records have been moved from the bottom drawer of fire safe to top drawer for easier access.
- +Office closure – Church office will be closed this Thursday since Pastor Peter was at Presbytery on Friday and Saturday. The office will also be closed next Thursday, which is Thanksgiving.
- +Church Secretary- Job description is being finalized with a daily task list for a new Church Secretary. Job will be advertised in December and hope to fill position by January.
- +Patty Burlingham – hospice has been called in. Patty’s son-in-law Tim asked about using church for memorial service when that time comes.
- +Financial Report: - No October data.
- +Thanksgiving dinner served Sunday November 15th, which was fan-

- tastic.
- +Soup was served on the first Sunday. Mentioned to have a baked potato Sunday.
- +Called to those who didn’t come to church. Called Roberta and asked to come to Thanksgiving dinner.
- +Utensils in the kitchen – want to replenish some of them that are old or missing.
- +Christmas eve service – make Christmas Eve kits with cookies, tea, cocoa, etc. Have the kids assemble on the 20th. Christmas Eve service at 4:00 pm – the candles are in the usher’s room.
- +On November 1st served communion to 35. Home Communion was served to Lloyd and Betty Soule on 11/3 at French Prairie Care Center.
- +27 poinsettias have been ordered for Advent. Nancy and Sally will pick up at Fessler’s. Decorating for Christmas on November 29th. Nancy will be getting the tree. Mark will take care of the banners.
- +Joanne and Johanna prepare December communion. Marcy and Julie will help serve.

Did you know...

About Ruling Elder Joanne Hanson?

Where did you grow up? Eugene, Or. In a Danish community north of town. My Grandfather Petersen built Bethesda Lutheran Church in the Danebo District. My father had a chicken hatchery and was a social visionary: responsible for Willamette High

School and two community colleges along with his partners.

More is found on page 3



December 2015

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		1	2 12:30 Men's Lunch 6:00 Choir	3	4 Re-wax Fellowship Hall floors	5
6 2nd Sun. of Advent	7	8	9 12:30 Men's Lunch 6:00 Choir	10	11	12 4 pm Halter Christmas Party
13 3rd Sun. of Advent	14	15	16 12:30 Men's Lunch 6:00 Choir	17	18	19
20 4th Sun. of Advent	21	22	23 12:30 Men's Lunch 6:00 Choir	24 4:00 pm Candlelight Service	25 	26
27	28	29	30 12:30 Men's Lunch 6:00 Choir	31 New Year's Eve	Happy New Year!	

Did you know about Joanne Hanson (Cont.)

What do you call your best skill? Probably management. I learned from my father who was never afraid to communicate his ideas.

How did you settle in Woodburn? Actually I never settled in Woodburn. My Mother lived in a condo at Panor 360 for a long time, then moved to Country Meadows. I spent much of my time with her and it was during this time I chose to join Woodburn First Presbyterian. My son Christopher was a student at Willamette University, sang in the concert choir and took me to The Requiem concert

where I heard Debi Huddleston. At age 5 I began piano lessons and while in high school and college I sang in choirs and played in bands. A church with a good music director was of interest to me.

What is your greatest dream for yourself? My wish is to continue with good health and to travel to Petersen family roots in Denmark.

What is your dream for this congregation? Opportunities for outreach and growth would be won-

derful. Of course opportunities to share music would be great as well. Perhaps this can happen as we continue to communicate through our Facebook and web sites.

What is on your 'bucket list' (A 'bucket list' are those things you want to do before kicking the bucket.) A Rick Steve's Art Tour to Europe. Play my clarinet in the Marion County Citizen's Band. Teach my grands folk music and write some songs. Complete a thesis on Spirituality and Music for Linfield College.

Faith—Hope—Love

Corner of Boones Ferry and OR 214
950 Boones Ferry Road
P.O Box 333
Woodburn, OR 97071

Phone: 503-981-9121
E-mail: woodburnpresbyterian
church@gmail.com

FIND US ON
FACEBOOK

Ways to Live a Spiritual
Life Everyday (continued)

Playing with the dog

Everyone needs a spiritual guide: a minister, rabbi, counselor, wise friend, or therapist. My own wise friend is my dog. He has deep knowledge to impart. He makes friends easily and doesn't hold a grudge. He enjoys simple pleasures and takes each day as it comes. Like a true Zen master he eats when he's hungry and sleeps when he's tired. He's not hung up about sex. Best of all, he befriends me with an unconditional love that human beings would do well to imitate. – Gary Kowalski in *The Souls of Animals*

Doing chores

There is no more comforting sound to me than the spinning of that washing machine or dryer. It is the whole spinning in there, cleansing itself and me.

As long as the washer and dryer spin, I tell myself, I am safe and those I love may choose to keep living alongside me. For there is laundry to be done and so many chores- chores of the living. There is so much to be remembered under the dust of our old contempt for cleaning up after ourselves, picking up our own socks. There is much to be swept away and shined bright and scrubbed down to



its deepest, most illuminating level. Think of all the chores we have yet to do, quietly and on our knees- because home is holy. – Brenda Peterson in *Nature and Other Mothers Reflections on the Feminine in Everyday Life*

Who's Serving this month

	Lay Reader	Ushers & Greeters
Dec. 6th	Walt Mangerich	Harley & Marian Piper
Dec. 13th	Marcy Sterling	Mark Williams Evelyn White
Dec. 20th	Joanne Hanson	Bonnie & Nancy Hankins
Dec. 27th	Johanna Samson	Lucien & Sally Klein