

PCS NEWS
NEWS AND COMING EVENTS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE SIUSLAW

VOLUME SIXTEEN

NUMBER ONE

JANUARY 2016

From the Pastor:

What do you believe? What does the church believe or stand for? Do these two things have to match up perfectly? Take a moment and discuss....

I'm back. There are a number of good answers (any answer you give on the first question is good as long as you are seeking God's guidance). The third question has a good answer too. It is: "God alone is Lord of the conscience and hath left it free from the doctrines and commandments of men which are in anything contrary to his Word, or beside it, in matters of faith or worship." Which loosely translated means that when we honestly struggle with God's Word, and fairly listen for God to speak to through our conscience then we are welcome in the fellowship of the church. Your understanding of what God is asking of you cannot be mandated by the church, the pastor, a decree from the denomination, the Pope, or any other authority. It means that when we seek the Truth, the church can affirm you in that path, even when it seems that you come to a different place. We don't have to perfectly agree, but we do have to love and respect each other.

For some that has meant that they can live in dissonance with their denomination, for others their conscience says that they must find another place to serve and worship.

I'm telling you this because we're going to try a Sunday Morning Class called, "Presbyterian 101: Basics of Presbyterian Theology, Worship, and Work." This class can function as a refresher course for Members or as an introduction and new members' class. We will only scratch the surface of who we are as Presbyterians, it's a start. It may offer a point to ask deeper questions and foster other discussions. I pray that we will find common ground and areas of disagreement.

Come and join us.



Presbyterian 101

Basics of Presbyterian Theology,
Worship, and Work

January 10, 17, 24, 2016 11:15am

Jan. 10 What DO We Believe

Jan. 17 Why We Worship Like We Do

Jan. 24 Nuts and Bolt about the PC
(USA)

Join us for 3 weeks of "Basic
Presbyterian Beliefs." Bring your
questions, answers and ideas.



"Jennifer Weier has been selected as our new organist/pianist. Since beginning her piano studies at age 4, Jennifer has shared her love of music with audiences internationally and around the U.S. Weier graduated with a piano performance major from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She has studied in multiple masterclasses and played with a wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band and Chamberfest concert series. In 2013 Weier performed in the International Chamber Music Festival in Kyustendil, Bulgaria. Most recently, Jennifer was substitute organist at Mount Tabor Presbyterian Church in Portland. She also enjoys freelancing as an accompanist, piano teacher and organist/pianist at weddings and funerals. Welcome to Jennifer; we're so glad you're here!"

THE NEEDLERS

Starting January 26th, the Needlers will once again be meeting on the last Tuesday of each month from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We'll be working on a variety of projects, so if you like to quilt, sew, knit, crochet, or other type of needlework, please join us. In fact, if you just want to visit, drink a cup of tea or color in your coloring book, you are welcome and we would enjoy your company.

BOOK GROUP NEWS:

Good Wishes for Happy Reading in 2016!

We are reading *Across Many Mountains* by Yangzom Brauen. It is a memoir of a Tibetan family's journey from oppression to freedom over the last eight decades. Discussion of the book will take place the second Friday of January. We will meet at Mon Ami at 10:00.

Our choice for February is *The Dressmaker of Khair Khana* by Gayle Tzemach Lemmon. "This book gives voice to many of our world's unsung heroines. Against all odds, these young women created hope and community, and they never gave up. This book is guaranteed to move you and to show you a side of Afghanistan few ever see." Angelina Jolie

Come join us January 8, 2016 at Mon Ami, 10:00 a.m.



THE SHARING SHELF FOR JANUARY 2016

January, a new month, a new year, new resolutions, new beginnings. Thus, the dedication of this month's Sharing Shelf to *new beginnings*. A series of now 43 books entitled *Dear America* is historical fiction by various authors. They are inspired by diaries and letters from girls who lived in different periods in American history, and are presented as those diaries. Well done and interesting. Four of them are present here:

A Journey to the New World - The Diary of Remember (her 1st name) Patience Whipple, 1620.
Aboard the Mayflower and after landing.

Across the Wide and Lonesome Prairie - The Oregon Trail Diary of Hattie Campbell, 1847.

The Winter of Red Snow - The Revolutionary War Diary of Abigail Jane Stewart. Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, 1777.

Voyage on the Great Titanic - The Diary of Margaret Ann Brady, RMS Titanic, 1912.

Other accounts of *new beginnings* may be found in the following books:

Lila by Marilynne Robinson, a Pulitzer Prize winner. "As a neglected child Lila is rescued by Doll, a canny young drifter, & brought up by her in a hardscrabble childhood of itinerant work." As an adult, "homeless & alone she steps inside a small town Iowa church (the only shelter from the rain)". . . , meets the minister/widower, becomes his wife & begins a new existence. Gifted by Karil Israel.

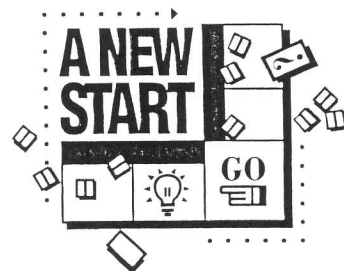
Encore Performance - How One Woman's Passion Helped a Town Tap Into Happiness, by Vicki G. Riordan & Brian S. Riordan. Growing up in the 50's and idolizing dancing stars, Vicki Riordan soon found her calling as a dance instructor, quit for marriage & family, left alone with 2 young sons as the marriage failed. At age 62 she opened what became America's largest adult tap dancing studio; now, her town, Harrisburg PA, has become the tap capital of the world.

Walt Whitman, Selected Poems by Gramercy Books. Dropping out of school at age 13, Walt Whitman became a newspaper copy boy/reporter/book reviewer/editor with writing neither original nor inspiring. "Then. . . at age 36 he had a small volume of verse privately published. The book, *Leaves of Grass*, one of the most original and unconventional works in literature, marked the debut of the greatest poet America has yet produced." His verse was "revolutionary & rhapsodic free."

One Chance, a memoir by Paul Potts. Bullied as a youth Paul sought relief in church and school choirs. As an adult his work was not challenging. He was quiet and shy; his goal was to be a professional opera singer. He won the Britain's Got Talent show and was launched into a magnificent career with his opera voice admired around the world, selling records in the millions.

A Summer in Europe by Marilyn Brant. Gwendolyn Reese gets a present: a grand tour of Europe from her Aunt Bea - along with Aunt Bea's Sudoku and Mahjongg Club. She tours objectively, checking off her *must see* list. Suddenly taken with the beauty of it all, she begins to live in the moment - subjectively - a new beginning as she revels in each new experience. Romance happens.

G. Trueblood, Librarian



Why not invite a friend to church?

OUR SUNDAY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

December 6 - 93
December 13 - 70



LECTIONARY FOR JANUARY

January 3 (2nd Sunday after Christmas Day): Jeremiah 31:7-14;

Psalms 147:12-20; Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1: (1-9) 10-18

January 10 (Baptism of the Lord): Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalms 29; Acts 8:14-17;

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

January 17 (2nd Sunday after Epiphany): Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalms 36:5-10;

1 Corinthians 12:1-11; John 2:1-11

January 24 (3rd Sunday after Epiphany): Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10;

Psalms 19; 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a; Luke 4: 14-21

January 31 (4th Sunday after Epiphany): Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalms 71:1-6;

1 Corinthians 13:1-13; Luke 4:21-30

FELLOWSHIP

Another year has sped by and I hope everyone has a happy healthy new year. I want to thank my wonderful team for all their work in keeping the fellowship team rolling: Alice Collier, Beverly Hopps (our kitchen angel), Doris Russell, Sharon McKee and Glenda Ryall. The new year's schedule for fellowship hour has been posted and a few weeks have been signed up for already. Please take time to pick a Sunday (or more) to share in this vital after service activity. Thank you to all of you who volunteered their time and goodies this year. Some of you were on the list several times. We appreciate your help.

The fellowship team is also responsible for the church's member board outside the church office. In January, we're going to be taking current pictures of church members and update the board. So, smile for the camera and let everyone know who you are. Details will follow.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

As we look forward to 2016, PW wishes everyone a blessed New Year and God's gift of peace beyond all understanding.

Our meeting on Tuesday, January 19th, we will be studying Lesson 5, "Dangerous Waters – God's Deliverance" as we continue our study, "Come to the Water". Our hostess will be Ardella Bennett (we'll meet at her home), our co-hostess will be Susan Nofrey, and our study will be led by Sharon McKee. Things to remember:

9:15 am	Car pool leaves the church
9:30 am	Social time, with beverages and goodies
10:00 am	Meeting starts

PW meetings and events are open to all women of PCOS. Our fellowship, faith, and studying is enhanced by those who attend. Please join us.


Debbie Peterson
PW Moderator

NEW ADDRESS:

Following her long hospital recovery from the car accident and a minor stroke in the interim, Nancy Grischkowsky is currently at Forest Grove Rehabilitation and Care Center (3900 Pacific Ave., Forest Grove, OR 97116). She continues to be grateful for cards and news from her church friends.

With Our Deepest Sympathy.....

Our love and sympathy to Ed Groshens and family upon the recent loss of his wife, Beverly. A memorial service was held at the church on Saturday, December 12th.

Supper for Six at 6:00pm
Every Month on the 6th 

sign up in the narthex to host or attend

We will try to be up & running by January. . .

"Supper for Six" . . . a way to better get to know one another, fellowship, share Christ's love, eat good food, keep the body moving, mind working and faith growing.

NURTURE TEAM

Prayer Chain - 9 new requests this month. Call Ardella Bennett at 541-997-1988 for concerns

Parish Nurse - Our parish nurse Connie Bradley has made 28 visits/contacts with church and community members. She also distributed 4 pieces of medical equipment.

Home Communion - Home communion was served by Greg Wood and Nancy Gardiner to Jean Gottschalk, Esther Dawson and Chuck Cassey.

Friendly Visitors - Multiple visits/calls are made each month in our community. Many thanks to those who have responded. We can all do our part by calling on friends and acquaintances. The best time to call on Spruce Point or Shorewood would be before meal times. They start serving at 11:30 and 4:30. Please call the individual first.

Marie's Mailings - Marie Mouchett sent out 70 packets this month including 9 birthday, 1 sympathy, 8 get well and 17 Thanksgiving cards.

Prayer Shawl Ministry - The group meets the first Tuesday of the month at 1:30pm at The Old Coffee Company, 125 Nopal Street- behind BJ's ice cream. Beginners are welcome! More information contact Marty Palmer 541-902-5149.

There are many opportunities to share our faith by action and we welcome any interested person to our group. We meet every other month on the first Thursday. Our next meeting will be Thursday, January 7th, 10am at our church.

Call Nancy Gardiner, Chair, 541-997-4239 for ways we can be of help.

"Others!"

*General William Booth's Christmas message to his officers all over the world.
He was a British Methodist preacher who founded The Salvation Army.*

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MERRY CHRISTMAS PARTY RECAP

Arriving at the party the 54 guests found the Presbyterian dining room tables with candles and décor by Dee Newton. They were welcomed by Jane Douglass and Wally Sauter, decorating the Christmas tree with an ornament & laying their gifts for the community baskets under the tree.

Doris Russell cashiered for these guests and Janet Childers of Bay Street Grill presented a great dinner with Bev Hopps helping around the kitchen. Though the caterers did the major dishes – after the program Ann & Paul Floto did the final clean-up.

Accompanied by Vi Harding, many carols were sung with their history.. Christmas Trivia involved each table. Linda Cassey, accompanied by Jennifer Weier sang a beautiful rendition of "O Holy Night". "The Real Meaning of Christmas" by Henry Van Dyke was extremely well read by Lon and Connie Bradley. "Silent Night" was the finale.

Sorry, if you missed the Merry Christmas Party, but there's always next year. Meanwhile we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Craig & Joanne McMicken