



### A Message from Ken:

I have confession to make. Are you ready? When I was in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade I refused to repeat the affirmations of faith along with the rest of the church. (Hoping for something more, weren't you?) Yes, I stopped saying anything I didn't understand or agree with the kind of infuriating high mindedness only the truly young and idealistic possess. I would rise with my mom and just stand there proudly quiet and defiant as the body around me droned on using language I'm almost positive none of them really understood. I mean really, what does saying God is "light from light" and Jesus is "true God from true God" mean anyway? I mean if they would have written "light from bulb", I would have completely understood what they were talking about, but light from light? And true God from true God? Was false God really a possibility?

Well, you can imagine the kind of looks mom shot at me. She was both annoyed and embarrassed at my silence- and even more so when we would sit down and I would not so silently whisper, "Well, you told me not to say things I don't believe or understand, right?" I was insufferable. But I also had a point. Looking back, though I wish I had been slightly more respectful, I realize it was completely appropriate to question what I was saying during worship and especially in the affirmation of faith. In fact it was this kind of questioning that led me to learn more about them and to realize that while I still have my disagreements with them now and again, I have also grown to see them as my own. Let me share a few words about how I understand that perilous moment known as the affirmation of faith:

First off, speaking these words together as a body does not require or mean that we personally agree with them. Our affirmations of faith come from various Confessions, which are historical documents that are like snap shots of what the church believed in a particular time and place. Now, all together the church has ten of these Confessions collected in what we call The Book of Confessions. With ten documents written by extremely different people in different places and times and in different circumstances, you might imagine that they don't agree on every little detail and you would be right to think this. While all of the documents in our Book of Confessions affirm the greatness of God, the centrality of the grace of Christ, and the importance of the Holy Spirit in our lives, they disagree about things like whether women should be ordained, about how to read and interpret scripture, and theological matters like predestination. The confessions do not agree on important matters- and neither do we. Being a faithful Presbyterian isn't so much about believing the same things as it is wrestling with the same issues together. Documents like the Scots Confession and the Westminster Confession

help us to wrestle with issues like who God is and what the church should be like, and while we may not always agree with them or with one another about the answers to these questions at least we're sharing the same conversation.

The second thing I want to share is the confessions give me a greater sense of perspective about the problems our church faces today. Nationwide the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) wrestles with membership loss, disagreements over what kind of music is best in worship, struggles over how or whether to include gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, and transgendered folk in our congregation, and the list goes on. It's helpful to read the Barmen Declaration written back in 1933 when the church faced Nazi fascism in the person of Adolph Hitler, or to read the Second Helvetic when the Reformed church was being persecuted by both the Roman Catholic Church as well as the Lutheran church. It's helpful to read about how God has remained with those who struggled in the past no matter how divisive the fight.

And finally, the confessions provide a great first step to learning more about the history of the church- a history with great relevance for us today I might add. Sometimes I found what I first dismissed as meaningless I later learned I simply misunderstood. The Nicene Creed leads us all the way back to the fourth century when Christianity first became legal and was struggling with hundreds of different voices all offering different views of the faith. The Scots confession takes us back to the highlands 16<sup>th</sup> Scotland just after Mary of Guise died in her sleep. And the creatively named Confession of 1967 deals with issues closer to our own time such as racism, sexuality, and the paradoxical creativity and overwhelming destructiveness of our technology- still fairly relevant issues, no? As the theologian John Douglass Hall has said before, theology is like this great conversation that's been going on for quite some time before we arrived. We can choose to assume anything we don't understand should be scoffed at, or we choose to listen a little more closely to the conversation and see if by learning more, we might understand more, and by understanding more- find something relevant and helpful for our days.

We stand surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses. The Book of Confessions, which often provide the content for our affirmations of faith give us some of the most interesting cloud formations. I would encourage you to read these words like you might read old letters discovered in an attic from your great-great grandparents- you might not always understand the language or the situations they confronted, but sometimes, sometimes you will stumble across something that leaves you feeling connected and part of something much larger, and more greater than yourself.

## A Letter from Charlie & Edda Brown

Hey there Family and friends, I know, I know!. It's about time. Some things in Churches and other parts of our wonderful globe work a bit more slowly. But for now we are off and running.

Our trip over was very pleasant with not one delay or problem with baggage. While in our 2+ hour lay over in Newark Liberty Airport, we went walking to stretch a bit. To our delight and surprise, we ran into (figuratively) Terry and Barbara Swicegood; former Pastor at Westminster Pres. in Portland. They were the other Pastor couple with whom we lead the first tour to Israel et. They were on their way to Amsterdam to visit their daughter's family.

We were met at the airport and zipped our way from Charles de Gaulle Airport to the American Church in Paris in about a half an hour. The setting of the church on the left bank of the Seine is lovely. We were welcomed and because of apartment details spent the time from December 29 through late afternoon on January 1 in the Associate Pastors apartment. Bags at the ready to move into our flat. Met the outgoing Pastoral Assistant in a jet lag stupor following him around like a puppy trying to understand all the information I would need to do the work here. Staff members took us on tours of the neighborhood, which is the 7th Arrondissement, which is a pretty pricey section of the 20 in Paris. Remember when you are in Paris not many of the side streets go in a straight line. It is in fact a fairly easy city to get around in with all kinds of transportation options. We have found that feet are best for lots of reasons, most to them for health. The multiple small owned business shops, the walking street Rue Cler, with some vehicle accompaniment that may view you as a target. Yes, the basic rules of the road apply here, but with a French zest for life.

Can you say the words "STICKER SHOCK"! We now know what the Canadians have been feeling for these past years. Because of current policies with the dropping dollar, you won't get the bang for the buck you may have had in the past. When coming, thank George and Co. and come on down.

We had opportunity to drive to Germany and spend time with our "Mimi" in the Seniorheim in Bauschlott, a few kilometers from Edda's home in Pforzheim. She has been unable to walk or talk for two yeas. It was hard to see this vital, loving, delightful woman we have known in the last stages. However when we talked she moved her eyes. I believe she knew we were there and could tell her how much we loved her. Talked about her grandchildren in Oregon and California, their gifts of great-grandchildren. The drive was mostly foggy and rainy and the tolls added up to

75 Euros and 70 Euros to fill the gas tank with 70 liters, NOT gallons. My first venture in Paris traffic coming back was a time of great excitement, newfound courage, fear and a number of newfound French friends. As long as I could see the Eiffel Tower, I felt confident. We arrived safely and glad we had the time available to be with Mimi. Please keep here in your thoughts and prayers.

Our flat looks outward toward the Eiffel Tower. We are fortunate in that of the five apartments connected to the Church facility, we are the only one with a spectacular view - grand by day and sparkling by night. We have a very modern kitchen area, a living room with a pull out davenport, television with CNN, BBC, SKY and all the French and German stations you could want. We have a Queen size bed and matching dressers in the bedroom, several assorted closet spaces, a tub/shower and sink, and finally a singular "throne room." We are well cared for.

We have had dinner out with members of the Church in a nearby village on the way to Versailles. We are having a grand time with storeowners, cashiers, waiters etc. They are friendly, helpful and patient with our very limited French. People have walked with us in the Metro to show us the way to make our connection. More on transportation in a coming issue. A clue---Edda is training for the next Olympic hurdle events. She is really quite good.

I have been participating in all the usual Church opportunities including worship, classes to be taught, committees etc. I have had two weddings with lovely Japanese couples. Worship here is great. A really excellent preacher and choir. I had the chance to do the children's message on two Sundays. More about all of this in the stuff to come.

Wish you were here to experience this with us. You all are in our thoughts and prayers daily.

Love, joy and peace,  
Charlie and Edda

PS If you have an opportunity to send us a post card it would be great. I have a joke with the reception folks. Your help would make it work!

**Rev. Charlie Brown  
The American Church in Paris  
65 quai d'Orsay  
75007 Paris  
FRANCE**

# TPC's Financial Page

## General Fund Status January 2005

	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>ACTUAL</b>
<b>Income</b>	\$ 19,133	\$ 15,716
<b>Expense</b>	<u>\$ 18,163</u>	<u>\$ 16,192</u>
<b>Net</b>	\$ 970	\$ 476-

### What is Per Capita? (and why pay it?)

Our church is a member congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and, as such, has a relationship with every other church in the denomination, as well as with the governing bodies: Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly.

Each church is a member of a Presbytery and sends a minimum of two representatives — one minister and one elder — to each Presbytery meeting. The various governing bodies meet regularly: our Presbytery (5 times a year), Synod (2 times a year), and General Assembly (once every two years). Per Capita for each governing body is used to pay the expenses of representatives who attend its meetings, the cost of having moderators and stated clerks, as well as a portion of the annual budget of each body.

In our Cascades Presbytery, Per Capita supports:

- Meetings of Presbytery, Council and committees
- Regional offices in Portland, Eugene and Phoenix
- The work of our Presbytery Stated Clerk and his administrative assistant
- Basic communications through Omnibus (the Presbytery newspaper, the web site and mailings)

Note that Per Capita is separate from Presbytery program and staff compensation which we help pay for through our general fund budgeted Mission Partnership Giving.

Our church must pay a per capita amount for each member of the church. Note that this is not a “per family” amount, but rather per member. This year’s per capita amount is \$21.04. Of that, \$5.57 is allocated for the

General Assembly, \$5.17 to the Synod of the Pacific, and \$10.30 to Presbytery of the Cascades.

So that, somewhat, answers the question “What is Per Capita?”

Now, the question, why pay it? It has been said that per capita apportionment is like a utility bill. Just as we pay for heat, light, water and telephone in order to remain connected and benefit from the services provided, we also pay

per capita so that the Presbyterian system can function on behalf of all of us. Tualatin Presbyterian Church must submit this per capita amount for each of its 237 members this year. The total of \$4986.48 has now been paid.

To assist you in calculating your family’s per capita amount (remember it is based upon the number of communicant members of the church):

1 member— \$21.00, 2 members — \$42.00, 3 members—\$63.00, 4 members—\$84.00.

If you have any questions, please call me or our Treasurer, Mike Shiffer.

— *Mark Maleta, Deacon*

### OPPORTUNITY

Stewardship, for many, is an October-November event to obtain pledges for the financial needs of the church in the coming year. In reality, Stewardship should be a year around activity. In addition to the need for annual financial support of the church it may include planned giving, endowment funds, ways of making pledge fulfillment easier (perhaps automatic monthly payment of pledges), and those items that few like to think about or address (estate planning, wills and advanced directives).

To explore and implement the ideas that are suitable for TPC, we will do a very Presbyterian thing and form a committee. If you are interested and can add this commitment to your gifts of time and talents talk to Don Schmidt or Herb Zachow.

## January 28 – 30, 2005 Women's Retreat

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This year's women's retreat was a wonderful opportunity to invite the Spirit to be with us at Collins Retreat Center near Estacada. It was led by Gabrielle Chavez, Minister at United Church of Christ, Christ the Healer. We explored the meaning of baptism and rededicated our baptisms in a very moving service.

Our activities included singing, drumming, Reiki Healing, worship and eating a dinner consisting of only fresh, non cooked food. Nobody can say we aren't adventurous. Most of us are willing to try something once!

A very special thanks to Ellen Van Schoiack who inspired and guided us to visualize the Spirit on three panels. They are displayed in the foyer of the church. We were amazed at the creativity that we put on as a group but the Spirit was particularly strong in Chris Robertson. We hope to see more from her!

Thanks to Marilyn Wood, Gwen Hale, Robyn Mackay, Jaci Smith, Chris Robertson, Diane Barry, Dorothy Martin, Cathy Chase, Meg Price, Mary Maleta, Connie Myer, Laura Spurell, Joan Nardi, Virginia Lenneville, Lilly Grand, Julie Van Buren, Karen Stevenson, Stacy Mauer and Deborah Lewis for sharing their spirits. A special thanks to Martha Wilson for organizing the retreat.



# SUNDAY FUNDAY @ TPC - FEB. 13





Special thanks to Deborah Lewis and  
the Fellowship Committee

**WORSHIP COMMITTEE – Sherry Nelson, Elder**  
Lent starts early this year. We don't want you to miss a thing so mark your calendars now and join us.

**March 20** – Palm Sunday

**March 24** – Maundy Thursday service

**March 25** – Good Friday service

**March 27** – Sunrise service with and at Hilltop Methodist Church ( 6:30 am )

TPC will have two Easter services this year  
(8:30 am and 10:00 am) AND...

We have planned evening worship services on Wednesday during Lent (February 16, 23, March 2, 9 and 16) at 7 pm. These will be held downstairs in the Adult Education room. We invite you to come join us.

### A Note from the Scholarship Committee

In keeping with our baptismal promise to our youth, the Tualatin Presbyterian Church has established a tradition of awarding scholarships to our graduating seniors. As graduation time approaches, the Scholarship Committee has begun this process. With the deadline of April 15th around the corner, the committee would like to remind the members of Tualatin Presbyterian Church that the Scholarship Fund accepts tax-deductible contributions. The committee asks that as you complete your tax planning for 2005 and your overall estate planning that you consider donations and/or bequests to the Tualatin Presbyterian Scholarship Fund on behalf of our youth. Thank you for your consideration.

### Nametags

Do you know who is sitting beside you during services? Do you think they know who you are? Why not make it easy on both of you by wearing your nametags. The church is growing and there are a lot of new faces who would like to know us.

The deacons will be sorting out the nametags once a month. We need your help to contact your deacon if you need a nametag. Did you loose it? That's okay; let us get another one made for you.

Just so you know, the colored dot on your nametag is the color for your parish. Look for other tags with the same color and get to know your parish. The name on your tag is the name of

the deacon in charge of your parish. If you haven't met your deacon, stop them and introduce yourself.

If you see someone you don't recognize, stop and talk to them. Make it a point to meet one new person each Sunday. If the person you meet is new, ask if you can introduce them.

Hope to see more name tags being worn. Let's empty those boxes each Sunday and make Tualatin Presbyterian Church the friendliest church in town.

Paula Miller, Deacon

### I Arise Today

St. Patrick's prayer is often called "Saint Patrick's Breastplate" because it was thought to protect him from hostile powers. Here are some portions of the prayer:

I arise today

Through the strength of Christ's birth with his baptism,

Through the strength of his crucifixion with his burial,  
Through the strength of his resurrection with his ascension,

Through the strength of his descent for the judgment of  
Doom. ...

I arise today

Through the strength of heaven:

Light of sun,

Radiance of moon,

Splendor of fire,

Speed of lightning,

Swiftness of wind,

Depth of sea,

Stability of earth,

Firmness of rock.

I arise today

Through God's strength to pilot me:

God's might to uphold me,

God's wisdom to guide me,

God's eye to look before me,

God's ear to hear me,

God's word to speak for me,

God's hand to guard me,

God's way to lie before me,

God's shield to protect me,

God's host to save me ...

### Food Pantry Needs

Tualatin School House Pantry has a continued need of canned fruit and paper products. There is also a regular need for financial contributions to support supplementary food purchases that allow us to buy fresh milk and eggs. All non-perishable food contributions can be put in the barrels near the front door. Monetary donations should be made out to TPC with a notation of "Food Pantry" on the memo line. The pantry would like to extend a special thank you to Tualatin Presbyterian Church for support of this community mission. We were recently able to replace a broken freezer thanks to generous contributions. If you would like to learn more about the pantry why not stop in for a visit? The pantry is open on Monday from 3:00 PM until 6:30 PM and on Wednesday and Friday from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. To volunteer to help, contact the pantry volunteer coordinator, Linda Moholt, at 503-692-9621 after February 26.



### One Great Hour of Sharing

TPC will collect the annual church One Great Hour of Sharing offering on Easter Sunday, March 27. Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with people experiencing need. Our gifts support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development that help people find safe refuge, start new lives, and work together to strengthen their families and communities. Recognizing that the hope we have in Christ is lived out in our hope for one another, we respond with gifts that help our sisters and brothers around the world find the hope for a brighter future. Watch for inserts in the Sunday bulletin for more information on OGHS.

### Crop Walk

The Portland metro area Crop Walk will be held on Palm Sunday afternoon (March 20). Once again a TPC team will participate in this walk to raise money to help find hunger worldwide and locally. Tualatin School House Pantry is one of the local recipients for the local share of the

monies collected. For more information or to join the TPC team talk to Crystal Shearer or Mike Shiffer. We hope that you will support our team through your prayers and pledges.

### 89th Court Mission Projects

We are planning two projects to support our friends in the 89<sup>th</sup> Court Group Home. This is the home for five developmentally disabled adults and is run by Good Shepherd Communities.

One of our projects will occur on April 30 when we join with a **Rebuilding Together team (formerly Christmas in April)** to paint the exterior of the home. Rebuilding Together will provide the paint, materials, snacks, lunch and supervision. All we need are 20 – 25 volunteers (14 and over) who don't mind a little paint on their clothes. (Minors must have a parent or guardian with them). Our team leader for this project will be Barbara Harriman.

Our other project will be to **replace the fence around the backyard of the home**. The materials will be purchased using funds collected on Christmas Eve. The yard is a major source of enjoyment for the residents in the Spring and Summer months. We are looking for someone to head up the fence building crew so if you are interested, please contact Mike Shiffer as soon as possible so we can start planning and recruiting.



### TPC's Annual Easter Egg Hunt

The Christian Education Committee will hold our annual Easter Egg Hunt on Palm Sunday, March 20. Please remain after Church for the pancake brunch and then join us for the Big Hunt. We will be accepting donations of already stuffed eggs, small wrapped candy and other small toys or trinkets in the big basket in the narthex. We will fill the eggs with the treats, (if they are not already stuffed), so that each child can go home with a basketful of goodies. The kids are welcome to bring their own baskets from home or they can decorate bags at the Church on that day. We look forward to see you there!



# TPC Announcements



## March Birthdays

3/01	Paula Miller	3/22	David Norse
3/04	Terra Shiffer	3/23	Neil Reiling
3/06	Karen Schmitt	3/23	Lane Kadel
3/07	Nimmi Senthirajah	3/24	Harry Chase
3/08	Bob Nix	3/24	Daniel MacKay
3/08	Carolyn Sanco	3/25	Mitchell Peterson
3/09	Muriel Powers	3/26	Tiana Carter
3/11	Dean Wells	3/26	Josie Reid
3/11	Sheane Breshears	3/27	Shirley Dean
3/13	Brad Killinger	3/27	Hilde Frey
3/14	Dave Leland	3/29	Evelyn Hart
3/14	Deborah Lewis	3/29	Mike Shiffer
3/17	Carolyn Locke	3/30	John Lewis
3/20	Coleman Killinger	3/31	Maxine Jenovich
3/21	Crystal Shearer	3/31	Terra Garcia

## Recent Baptisms



Nicholas Aron Espy Sweetland, son of Kathy & Todd Sweetland was recently baptized at TPC.

## Please remember in prayer:



The Greg Imus family, Dale MacHaffie, Robert & Faye Hood (Grandparents of Ken Evers-Hood), Jim Tinnemeyer (friend and colleague of Ken Evers-Hood), Aunt Julie (Hahn and Ortez family), the family of Claudia Byrd, the family of Dorothy Payne (friends of Shirl Garcia), Chris Niebergall and Lisa Hibbert (colleagues of Chris Robertson), Maureen Goodrich, Alison Schmidt (friend of Alex Backen), Ronnie Lee King (Cameron family).

*The Prayer Request Box is located in the narthex. Prayer requests can be made confidentially, if desired. You may indicate whether you would like prayers to be shared in the service, or added to the prayer chain.*

## Featured TPC Family of the Month

**Debbie & Greg Imus** have lived in Tualatin since 1987 and joined TPC around 1988. "We saw the TPC sign when we moved into Tualatin, but we couldn't figure out where the church was. As soon as we spotted the building on the hill, we started attending worship services at TPC," says Debbie and Greg.



Originally from Eugene, the couple met at Farrell's Ice Cream Parlor, where they both had college jobs. Married in 1976, the Imus's have two grown children. Karly, age 24, lives in Tualatin and is marrying Jose Corona this coming July. Brian, age 22, also lives in Tualatin and got married to his wife, Audra, this past July.

Greg & Debbie are both active at TPC, serving as Deacons. Greg recently completed a stint on the Pastor Nominating Committee and is pondering whether to accept an invitation to join the choir. "Kris is always recruiting me, but I think she has me mistaken for someone who can actually carry a tune," says Greg. "I'm lucky if I'm even on the right page in the hymnal."

Debbie works in the nursing department at Portland Community College, where Greg calls regularly pretending to be prickly-heat sufferer. When he's not antagonizing Debbie, Greg works for Shindaiwa Inc as their European Sales Manager.

The couple loves to walk their two dogs, Frisco & Chance. They spend as much time as they can camping and canoeing – and sharing good times with their kids, parents and other family members in the area.

"What we really like about TPC is the chance to worship with such a wonderful family of faith," affirms Greg & Debbie. "You can really feel God's presence in the way everyone surrounds one another with so much love and care. We feel so blessed to be part of this church family."

# Make a SPRING TREE

Celebrate the season by creating a one of a kind spring tree.

## What you need:

- ✿ Container (such as an empty coffee can)
- ✿ Construction paper or wallpaper scraps
- ✿ Glue
- ✿ Small fallen tree branch
- ✿ Sand
- ✿ Easter grass
- ✿ Poster board
- ✿ Scissors
- ✿ Marker
- ✿ Hole punch
- ✿ Ribbon



## How to make it:

1. Use the container as a base. Decorate it by gluing construction paper or wallpaper scraps to it.
2. Place the fallen tree branch in the container and pour sand around it.
3. Place Easter grass on top of the sand.
4. Cut out of the poster board shapes that remind you of spring (eggs, rabbits, birds, butterflies, flowers, etc.). Use the marker to add details.
5. Punch a hole in each shape. Use ribbon to tie the shapes to the branches.

# Just for KIDS

## God's Plan

Jesus was resurrected from the dead. He appeared to his disciples, and he told them about the plan of God.

On the blanks in the first section, write the words that fit the definitions. Transfer those letters to the numbered lines in the second section. Read the Scripture verse. Unscramble the circled letters to finish the sentence at the bottom of the page.

1. Water that falls from the sky      1   2   3   4
2. Birds lay them in nests            5   6   7   8
3. A newly hatched hen                9   10   11   12   13
4. Bloom in the spring                14   15   16   17   18   19   20
5. A caterpillar transformed        21   22   23   24   25   26   27   28   29
6. Dirt mixed with water              30   31   32

“J \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ , ‘I \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ ,  
 5   8   31   20      8   2   3   32      2   30”

\_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_  
 19   5   23   31   26   4   11   4   6

\_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_      F \_\_\_\_\_  
 24   16      30   29      2   23   10   18   26

\_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_      F \_\_\_\_\_  
 2   4   32      29   18   22   1      2   24   10   25   19”

\_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_      G \_\_\_\_\_  
 23   16      30   29      16   32      2   4   32

\_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_      G \_\_\_\_\_      ”  
 29   16   31   1      18   32      (taken from John 20:17, NIV)

**Jesus has \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ !**

Answer  
 “Jesus said, ‘I am returning to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’”  
 Jesus has risen!



Easter



**Tualatin Presbyterian  
Church Calendar  
March 2005**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> Art Project Work Group 7:00 pm	<b>2</b> Bible Study 10:00 am  <b>Evening Worship 7:00 pm</b>  Bells – 6:15 pm Choir 7:30 pm	<b>3</b> Women's Bible Study 7:00 pm @ Evers- Hood home	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Winterhawks Game – 7:00 pm
<b>6</b> <i>4th Sunday in Lent</i> Adult Ed – 8:30 am <b>Worship – 10:30 am</b> <b>Communion</b>	<b>7</b> CE Meeting 7:00 pm  Spiritual Formation Group - 7:00 pm (off site)	<b>8</b> Art Project Work Group 7:00 pm  Fellowship 7:30 pm	<b>9</b> Bible Study 10:00 am <b>Evening Worship 7:00 pm</b> Bells – 6:15 pm Youth Choir- 6:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> <i>5th Sunday in Lent</i> Adult Ed – 8:30 am <b>Worship – 10:00 am</b> Congregational Meeting after Worship to elect Deacons and Elders	<b>14</b> Spiritual Formation Group - 7:00 pm (off site)	<b>15</b> Tues. Treasures 7:00 pm	<b>16</b> Bible Study 10:00 am <b>Worship 7:00 pm</b> Bells – 6:15 pm Youth Choir- 6:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm	<b>17</b> Session 7:00 pm	<b>18</b> Newsletter deadline	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> <i>Palm Sunday</i> Adult Ed – 8:30 am <b>Worship – 10:00 am</b> <b>Brunch following Worship</b>  Crop Walk	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> April Newsletter mailed	<b>23</b> Bible Study 10:00 am Bells – 6:15 pm Youth Choir – 6:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm	<b>24</b> <b>Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 pm</b>	<b>25</b> <b>Good Friday Service 7:00 pm</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> <i>Easter</i> Sunrise service at UMC - 6:30 am <b>Worship at TPC</b> – 8:30 am –10:00 am	<b>28</b> Spiritual Formation Group - 7:00 pm (off site) <b>7:00 pm</b> <b>Worship comm.</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Bible Study 10:00 am Bells – 6:15 pm Choir 7:30 pm	<b>31</b>		

**Upcoming Events:**

April 4 – four-week beginners adult swing dance class begins

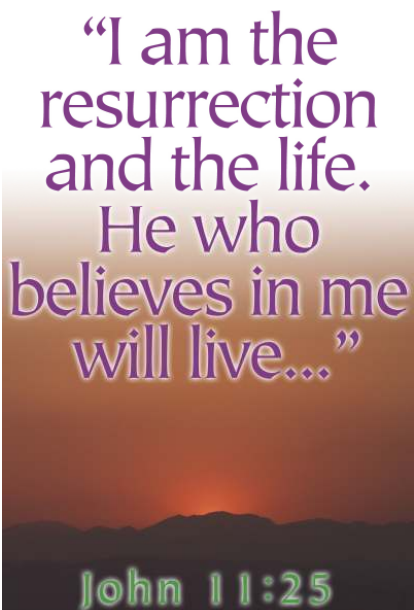
April 23 – Seder Dinner

TUALATIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
9230 SW SILETZ DRIVE  
TUALATIN OR 97062-9182



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**TUALATIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

9230 SW Siletz Drive, Tualatin, OR 97062  
Rev. Ken Evers-Hood

**Phone:** 503-692-4160

**Web Address:** [www.tpcspirit.com](http://www.tpcspirit.com)

**Elders:** Sherry Nelson, Janet Winterrowd, Carolyn Hale, Don Schmidt, Susan Springer, Mike Shiffer, Deborah Lewis, Art Barry and Greg Owen

**Deacons:** Lynn Scroggin, Dee Dee Hansen, Debbie Imus, Paula Miller, Roger Reid, Mark Maleta, Marc Olson, Greg Imus, Karen Jones, Rachel Norse, Toni MacHaffie and Jay Wilcox

**Treasurer:** Mike Shiffer  
e-mail: [treasurer@tpcspirit.com](mailto:treasurer@tpcspirit.com)

**Music Director:** Kris Sparks  
e-mail: [music.director@tpcspirit.com](mailto:music.director@tpcspirit.com)

**Clerk of Session:** Mary Shiffer  
**Bell Choir Director:** Martha Wilson

**Newsletter Editor:** Debby Owen  
e-mail: [newsletter@tpcspirit.com](mailto:newsletter@tpcspirit.com)

**Administrative Asst:** Rhoda Friesen  
e-mail: [office@tpcspirit.com](mailto:office@tpcspirit.com)

**Youth Director:** Crystal Shearer  
e-mail: [youth@tpcspirit.com](mailto:youth@tpcspirit.com)

**Church Office Hours:**

Tuesday – Thursday: 9:30am – 12:30pm and 1:00pm – 3:30 pm  
Friday – 9:30 am to 12:30 pm.

# FELLOWSHIP ACTIVITIES 2005

## **Saturday, March 5 - Winterhawk Game – Dash-For-Cash Day**

All members of the family are invited to attend this hockey game. The game starts at 7 p.m. at the Rose Garden. There is a sign-up sheet on the tower in the narthex. Cost is \$13.50. Deadline to sign up and pay is Sunday, February 27. Please make checks payable to TPC.

## **Hiking – Monthly Walks Starting Mid-April**

People have expressed interest in a monthly walk. Exact locations, dates and time are yet to be determined, but if you're interested, talk to Deborah Lewis (503) 692-5504.

## **Sunday March 20 – Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast**

There will be a pancake breakfast immediately following the worship service. Pancake flippers needed. Volunteer to Deborah Lewis (503) 692-5504.

## **Dance Lessons – Starting April 4 for Four Weeks**

Karen and Kip Stevenson have been taking dance lessons and have been enjoying it so much they'd like to share the fun with members of the congregation. So you're invited to join an adult Swing & Social Dance class that begins on Monday, April 4 at 7 p.m. at TPC. The class will last an hour. Dances taught will include the swing, foxtrot and rumba. Cost is \$35 per person. Sign up in the narthex. A minimum of six couples is needed for the class to run. Sign-up deadline is Sunday, March 27. Questions? Call Karen Stevenson at 503-620-7189.

## **Saturday, April 23 – Seder**

A Seder is a family dinner that reflects the Passover story. It is one of the great tools used and developed by the Hebrews to teach the faith. The Seder gives us a process that helps us understand Passover night and may deepen the meaning of the sacrament of communion. Save this date. More information to follow.

## **Sunday, May 15 – All-Church Mexican Food Potluck Following Worship**

Ok, so we'll be late for Cinco de Mayo...how about Quince de Mayo!!!

## **July 9<sup>th</sup> Weekend – Women's Outing to Sisters, OR for the Annual Quilt Show**

You don't have to be a quilter to go. Depending on the number of women who are interested, we may rent a house in Sun River. Interested? Talk to Deborah Lewis.

## **July – Church Picnic at Tualatin City Park Following Worship**

It's too soon to reserve Tualatin City Park for July. We hope the picnic will be either Sunday, July 17 or 24. We'll let you know.

## **Presbytery of the Cascades Family Camp – July 31 to August 5**

Honeyman State Park on the coast at Florence, OR

Brochures for family camp are available in the narthex. If you would like to know what goes on at Family Camp, talk to the members of the following families who have attended: Cameron, Garcia, Harriman, Jones, Lambeth, Lewis, Maleta, MacKay, Robertson, Sparks, Wilson, Springer, Sweetland, and Van Schoick.

# HIGH SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

Regular youth group meetings on **March 6<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>**. Both nights include dinner. **March 20<sup>th</sup>** is Palm Sunday. We will enjoy brunch with the congregation after worship and then participate in the Crop Walk. Additional information for the Crop Walk will be given to students as it is received. No youth group on **March 27<sup>th</sup>**/Easter.

## ATF

### Acquire the Fire

*Keep It Real* - This year's Acquire the Fire is a powerful two-day youth event packed with high impact speakers, bands, and the *Keep It Real* live interactive drama. Join Ryan and his five friends in the last days of their senior year as they face incredible challenges and make crucial decisions that will determine the direction of their lives forever. Students will hear life changing messages from Ron Luce and other inspiring speakers and artists throughout the weekend, covering topics such as:

- The reality of the greatness of God
- Living in the Word of God daily
- Relationships with parents and family

**When:** April 8 & 9

**Time:** 8<sup>th</sup>/ 5:30-9:30pm

9<sup>th</sup>/ 8:00 am – 9:30pm

**Where:** Memorial Coliseum

**Cost:** \$40.00

**Money must be in by  
March 10<sup>th</sup>!**

## Creation '05

We're going to the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Creation Festival at the Gorge Amphitheater! We will join with thousands of people for three exciting days of great Christian Music, inspired teaching, camping, friends and much more. We will camp for 4 days! The speakers and bands are **amazing** this year! Too many to mention all of them, so take a look at the flyer in the youth room! Some things you will see at the event: Candlelight Service, Prayer Tent, Skateboard Team, X-Games, Radio Row, Exhibit Area, Fun Contests, Special Seminars, Late Night Clubs and an opportunity to meet the Artists.

**When:** July 27<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** July 27<sup>th</sup> @ 8:00am – 5:00pm on July 30<sup>th</sup>

**Where:** The Gorge Amphitheater,  
George WA

**Cost:** \$80.00

**Money must be in by March 13<sup>th</sup>!**

*Cost does not include meals.*

*We will shop for our "camping food".*

(Parents, I realize Family Camp starts on the 31<sup>st</sup>. I plan on going, so I can bring your kids w/me)

We begin "Talking the Walk" sessions in March. This "curriculum" will lead our group to talking honestly, listening carefully, and understanding themselves and each other. Sessions include: how to face life's tensions, self-esteem, diversity, conflict, moods, priorities, clarifying future goals, friends and family.

## A Note from Heather Chase

While I do miss being with you, I do not miss those rainy days of Oregon, but it sure made studying easier. This month I have been studying for my last ordination exam, Worship and Sacraments. It covers the reformed understanding of worship from both our Book of Order and the Book of Confessions. As Presbyterians, our Book of Confessions helps us understand how the church over time developed its views on such concepts as baptism and the Holy Spirit. Starting with the Nicene Creed from 325 A.D. to our most current document from 1983, the Brief Statement of Faith, you can see how the church has changed. With this in mind, I felt it was appropriate this month to talk about the confession that came out of General Council's meeting in Ghana and a little about what I observed as the work of World Alliance of Reformed Churches (WARC) this summer.

Over the years the church wrote confessions for different reasons; however, they usually come at times of turmoil in the church. For example, the Barmen Declaration "was written by a group of church leaders in Germany to help Christians withstand the challenges of the Nazi Party and of the so-called 'German Christians,' a popular movement that saw no conflict between Christianity and the ideals of Hitler's National Socialism." (Book of Confessions, 246) At the meeting of WARC this summer participants felt that, again, the church is in a time of turmoil. Many issues were discussed at the meeting, ranging from AIDS, poverty and environmental injustice along the reality of violence in the world in places such as Sudan, Iraq, the U.S. and many others while looking at domestic violence, oppression and war.

The participants, ordained and non-ordained, at WARC knew that something had to be done by the church. Knowing that the church is called to be radical, as it states in our Book of Order that,

*"The church is called to undertake its mission even at the risk of losing its life, trusting in God alone as the author and giver of life, sharing the gospel, and doing those deeds in the world that point beyond themselves to the new reality in Christ."*

(Book of Order, G-3.0400)

They came up with a confessional statement called "Covenanting for Justice in the Economy and the World." The following are just a few statements from the confession to give you an example of what the churches in WARC are called to do:

### **Confess before God and one another...**

17. **We believe** in God, Creator and Sustainer of all life, who calls us as partners in the creation and redemption of the world. We live under the promise that Jesus Christ came so that all might have life in fullness (Jn 10.10). Guided and upheld by the Holy Spirit we open ourselves to the reality of our world.

19. **Therefore, we reject** the current world economic order imposed by global neoliberal capitalism and any other economic system, including absolute planned economies, which defy God's covenant by excluding the poor, the vulnerable and the whole of creation from the fullness of life. We reject any claim of economic, political, and military empire, which subverts God's sovereignty over life and acts contrary to God's just rule.

22. **We believe** that any economy of the household of life, given to us by God's covenant to sustain life, is accountable to God. We believe the economy exists to serve the dignity and well

being of people in community, within the bounds of the sustainability of creation. We believe that human beings are called to choose God over Mammon and that confessing our faith is an act of obedience.

23. **Therefore we reject** the unregulated accumulation of wealth and limitless growth that has already cost the lives of millions and destroyed much of God's creation.

24. **We believe** that God is a God of justice. In a world of corruption, exploitation, and greed, God is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor, the exploited, the wronged, and the abused (Psalm 146.7-9). God calls for just relationships with all creation.

25. **Therefore we reject** any ideology or economic regime that puts profits before people, does not care for all creation, and privatizes those gifts of God meant for all. We reject any teaching which justifies those who support, or fail to resist, such an ideology in the name of the gospel.

27. **Therefore we** reject any theology that claims that God is only with the rich and that poverty is the fault of the poor. We reject any form of injustice, which destroys right relations – gender, race, class, disability, or caste. We reject any theology, which affirms that human interests dominate nature.

33. **We commit ourselves** to seek a global covenant for justice in the economy and the earth in the household of God.

34. **We humbly confess** this hope, knowing that we, too, stand under the judgment of God's justice.

We acknowledge the complicity and guilt of those who consciously or unconsciously benefit from the current neoliberal economic global system; we recognize that this includes both churches and members of our own Reformed family and therefore we call for confession of sin.

We acknowledge that we have become captivated by the culture of consumerism, and the competitive greed and selfishness of the current economic system. This has all too often permeated our very spirituality.

We confess our sin in misusing creation and failing to play our role as stewards and companions of nature.

We confess our sin that our disunity within the Reformed family has impaired our ability to serve God's mission in fullness.

The actual document is over four pages, however my point is that people in the church can make a difference in the world. Whether or not you agree with this document people all over the world believe that this is good news and gives them hope that we, as the church, are working for justice in world. We do have a voice as people of faith and are called to speak up for what we believe, in the church and beyond. Being Christian can be pretty radical. Look at some of our examples, Martin Luther King, Jr. (civil rights movement), Dorothy Day (Catholic Worker Movement) and the current moderator of our General Assembly, Rick Ufford-Chase (check out his website - <http://www.rickuffordchase.com/>). Maybe your stories of living out your faith aren't as grand and yet these people just live their lives as they are called. We all have our own call. If you are feeling called to greater involvement in the church's policy, let me know. There are several ways to get involved – locally and globally.

Happy Easter,  
Heather ><>