



## ***A Message from Pastor Ken***

How many Presbyterians does it take to run a church? Sounds like the beginning of a horrible joke, doesn't it? In the past year or so I've gotten many questions from folks wondering who makes decisions in a Presbyterian church, how these decisions get made, and who is it that actually makes these decisions around here at TPC. These are great questions about our polity (a word meaning the way we are governed) and for once, I actually have a few answers. ☺

*So, who makes decisions in a Presbyterian church?* While many churches systems envision a pastor who is a cross between Moses and Jack Welch and has the final say in every decision, the Presbyterian system emphatically does not. We value spiritual leadership from our pastors, and we absolutely want to hear their vision for how God is leading them and their congregation. However, in the Presbyterian Church, pastors are not the last word most of the time. It is actually the session, a governing body made up of women and men from the congregation, who is ordained and charged with the responsibility of making final decisions for the life of a particular congregation. The Book of Order (our constitution) tells us the session is responsible for everything from receiving new members, providing for worship, maintaining the building and grounds, running the education program, to establishing ecumenical relationships with other local churches. While I certainly add my two cents into these conversations, I feel absolutely blessed to be part of a church that recognizes that we make better decisions as a community than we do alone, and that in the end, the session almost always has the last word.

*So, if it's the session that actually has the last word around here, how do these decisions get made?* Many factors guide the way a session rules. The main question every session has to answer is not 'What do I think?' or 'What would I like?', but 'Where is Christ leading us?' Since, Presbyterians affirm that Christ is truly the head of the church, the session operates unlike any other board, They are not simply aiming for efficiency, or shooting for a profit, but they are attempting to do nothing less than to discern not their own will

for the church, but Christ's will. And how do they do this?

While some issues brought before the session are easy, most are complicated and ambiguous. When unsure about how to proceed, the session has four main guides: Scripture, the Book of Order, the Book of Confessions, and prayer. Every decision the session makes must be Biblical, meaning every decision must affirm the deep story of Scripture in which we hear about a loving God pursuing humanity again and again and again. Every decision must be consistent with this kind of grace and love, but also must adhere with the Book of Order, the living Constitution of the Presbyterian Church. The Book of Order often provides guidance and sometimes even definitive answers, when a session wrestles with how to move forward. Third, the Book of Confessions provides us voices from different Reformed churches in the past who give us perspective and insight. Many times the present church can find something comforting, challenging, and formational from these voices from the past. And finally, every decision an elder makes must be made thoughtfully and prayerfully. This is why I explain to everyone who comes before the session to present a request that the session will probably not make a decision that night. They usually need at least a month to reflect, think, and pray before becoming ready to move.

*Then, who is it that actually makes these decisions at TPC?* TPC boasts 9 fantastic elders, each of whom focuses on a particular aspect of congregational life. When you have a question or would like to volunteer in one of these areas, speaking with your elder is a great first step.

For all communication with session, please contact our fabulous clerk, Mary Shiffer!

- Don Schmidt- Administration
- Mike Shiffer- Mission (Mike is also our treasurer)
- Susan Springer- Youth
- Art Barry- Outreach
- Deborah Lewis- Fellowship
- Greg Owen- Buildings and grounds
- Dave Backen- Worship
- Randy Beyer- Adult education
- Shari Olsen- Christian education

3/06	Karen Schmitt	3/22	David Noise
3/06	Josie Reid	3/23	Neal Reiling
3/07	Nimmi Senthirajah	3/23	Lane Kadel
3/08	Bob Nix	3/24	Harry Chase
3/08	Carolyn Sanco	3/24	Daniel MacKay
3/09	Andrew MacHaffie	3/25	Mitchell Peterson
3/09	Owen MacHaffie	3/26	Tiana Carter
3/09	Muriel Powers	3/27	Shirley Dean
3/11	Dean Wells	3/27	Hilde Frey
3/11	Shane Breshears	3/29	Mike Shiffer
3/13	Brad Killinger	3/30	John Lewis
3/14	Dave Leland	3/31	Maxine Jenovich
3/14	Deborah Lewis		

**If we missed your birthday, please contact the Church Office.**

**Please remember in prayer:**



Jeni Wiggers who is having knee surgery Tuesday, 2/21; The Bob Bolton family; Bob's dad died; Stan and Marilyn Heath following Marilyn's surgery; Donna Lee Dorman, Dorothy Butts' niece, who is traveling to Mongolia ; Stace Warner who has had one surgery and awaits the second one this week on his fractured ankles; Erik Spurrell's Grandfather, Les, who is facing health issues; Muriel Powers ; Hailee Turner; Andy Koning (Kris Sparks' nephew); Don Peterson; Don Shafer; TJ Grand; Maureen Goodrich; Ronnie Lee King (Cameron family); Dorothy Martin's daughter-in-law, Cindy, who has been moved into a rehabilitation center for the next stage of recovery from her auto accident.

**Little Ones "Play Date"**

Moms and Dads of little ones: Would you be interested in a play date at the church one morning a week? This would be an opportunity for you and your little one to meet with other moms or dads in the church nursery. You each would supervise your own child, but it would give you a chance to get acquainted with the other parents. Your child would get to interact with other little ones while playing with all the fun toys in the nursery. Ages 3 years and under are welcome! If you are interested, please call Teri

Perhaps one of the most confusing aspects of how the Presbyterian Church functions is "per-capita". Each year our church encourages its members to pay their per-capita apportionment. Why do we do this? Where does this money go?

One of the great strengths of our denomination is its connectionism. We who worship in Tualatin are tied to the larger church in ministry. One concrete form of that connection is through our per-capita. Every Presbyterian U.S.A. church in the country is asked to pay a certain amount for each active member on its rolls. This money goes to support the work and ministry of our church throughout the country. Each governing body above the Session has staff members and expenses that support the work of the church. Unlike pastors, these individuals have no congregation to support their ministry. The ministry of these bodies is essential to the life of the Presbyterian Church. These are the people who prepare the curriculum that our children use, the offering materials that we receive, and countless other resources.

For the year 2006, our per-capita apportionment is \$21.00, which is split for the work of the Presbytery of the Cascades, the Synod of the Pacific and our General Assembly.

Many people view per-capita as their "membership dues" to the church. This is not true. The church is not like a fraternal or service organization that will dismiss their members for unpaid dues. Yes, the church is required to pay its per-capita to the large church. Many congregations encourage their members to help by inviting them to pay their own per-capita along with their regular giving. If members of the church are unwilling or unable to pay, then the church will use other funds to complete its per-capita commitments.

Consider per-capita not as your dues to be paid to the church, but rather as a form of mission giving to the larger work of the Presbyterian Church.

**General Fund Status  
January 2006**



	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>ACTUAL</b>
<b>Income</b>	\$ 22,197	\$ 20,181
<b>Expense</b>	\$ 19,870	\$ 10,413

## TPC HAPPENINGS

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### Ingeborg S. MacHaffie Her Life Remembered 1911-2006



Ing was born in Omaha, Nebraska on January 31st, 1911. Her parents Christine and Carl Nielsen had immigrated to the USA as children from Denmark. Ing was the youngest of two brothers and a sister. Ing's first language was Danish, which she wrote and spoke fluently. Ing was very musical and played the piano and organ well.

She went to high school in Omaha, skipping a grade and graduating when she was 16 years old. Ing continued her education by attending the University of Nebraska, following in the footsteps of her siblings, where she graduated in 1931. She taught for several years in the elementary school systems in Iowa and Nebraska. In 1940 she went off to the big city of New York, where she was attending Columbia University working on a Masters Degree in Early Childhood Education which she received in 1941. Many of her professors wanted Ing to go on for her PHD in Education, but instead she met Reginald (Mac) MacHaffie, fell in love, and got her MRS. when she married Mac in 1942.

Mac had been working on a PhD in Science Education when Ing and he were married and World War II interrupted his schooling. Ing and Mac moved to Denver/Boulder Colorado where Mac went to the University of Colorado Medical School, and Ing went back to teaching.

Shortly before Mac's graduation Bruce was born, and a little over two years later along came Dale. The family moved to Wahoo, Nebraska where Ing taught at the local small college and Mac tried private practice. After two years Mac decided to do a residency and the family moved to Lincoln, Nebraska where Ing taught at the University of Nebraska. After Mac finished his residency, the family moved to Omaha where Ing's parents and sister Margaret lived.

They stayed in Omaha for six years, leaving in 1959 for Roseburg, Oregon. It wasn't exactly like going on the Oregon Trail, but it was a huge adventure for the MacHaffie's. Ing and Mac bought 65 acres up in the hills of Roseburg as Mac was a frustrated farmer and Ing loved to invest in Real Estate. Their getaway was a source of pleasure for both of them and for Bruce and Dale. Many funny stories came from the farm but the best one was Twenty Three Goats and Poison Oak! Ing loved to write and she wrote it and many others. She also entered a contest called Why I Am Wild About Oregon! which she won. As part of the grand prize, she was able to invite her brother and his wife to Oregon for a week-long tour. After that the whole extended family was wild about Oregon.

In 1961 the family moved to Corvallis, where both boys graduated from high school and college. Ing taught at OSU and Mac worked at the Student Health Service on campus. In 1973 when Mac retired, he and Ing moved to Tigard to be closer to the grandchildren. Here Mac began a 10-year partnership with Dr. Charles Mansfield. During this time Ing taught at Warner Pacific College, and she began to write books. Ing also managed to have all three of her siblings, Margaret, Herluf and Ralph, relocate to King City near her. All of them lived into their 90's.

Ing had many notable accomplishments, but the ones that were closest to her heart were being a good wife and mother and being a writer. She had 5 books published, among them Danish in Portland and a children's book, Henry the Heron. She made many friends over the years, and we thank you for being here today to remember and honor her.

*The MacHaffies would like to thank our TPC family for surrounding us with your kind words and prayers before and following Ing's death. It's heartwarming to know that she will be remembered with fondness by so many of you.*

## High School Worship Emersion Retreat

April 28-30

Beutler Lodge, Camp Magruder

All High School teens are invited to participate in this special event. There is no cost to participate, reservations are required. Please RSVP with Susan Springer [susan.springer@comcast.net](mailto:susan.springer@comcast.net)

This program is made possible through a Worship Renewal Grant from the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, Grand Rapids, Michigan, with funds provided by Lilly Endowment Inc.



**The TPC Choir** will present the Cantata "One Sacrifice" on Palm Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>. Drawing from the concept of God's ONE voice and his ONE great sacrifice, this is a 25 minute choral experience of beautiful anthems which

cover a variety of musical styles. There are also narration parts for anyone who would enjoy narrating. Instrumental parts are available for flute, oboe, French horn, cello and acoustic guitar. Any adult who would enjoy being part of this musical experience and enriching their Lenten season is welcome to participate. Rehearsals for "One Sacrifice" will be every Wednesday night from 7:30 until 8:30 pm (with the exception of spring vacation week. Contact Kris Sparks at 503-691-6728 with any questions. Come join us!!!

### Loving Stitches

Three groups serving children in need have been given approximately ten quilts and nine knitted or crocheted blankets made by members of our church! Thank you to each of you for sharing your time and talent to give these children a sign of how much we care for them.

### Senior Ladies Tea Party

Gwen Hale, Marian Smith and Dorothea Miller joined Paula Miller, Deborah Lewis and Carolyn Hale for afternoon tea at the Lavender Tea House on February 11th. The sandwiches, fruit, scones and chocolate-covered strawberries were delicious as well as the varied teas offered by the tea house.

## YOUTH TO RETURN TO MEXICO

On the heels of last year's successful mission trip to Mexico, the youth are looking forward to returning this June to build more houses.

Bruce Silver, youth pastor at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Medford, organizes and leads this annual trip to Mexico. As part of his ministry he invites the youth of smaller churches, such as TPC, to participate. He's been going to Mexico every year since 1982, so obviously he's very experienced...and dedicated.

In order for our youth to participate in this mission trip to Mexico, they need to raise money to help finance their trip. The base fee per youth is \$425 plus the cost of gas, food while on the bus, and equipment. Starting today and continuing at least through mid-June, they will be collecting pop cans and bottles. They would very much like to do your recycling for you...providing the containers have a return deposit. There's always a catch! Please bring your cans and bottles to church, put them in the marked containers in the narthex and the youth will take care of them. Thank you, thank you.

Also, on March 12, the youth will start selling shares of stock. Your support of them last year was tremendous. Thank you so much. They hope for your continued support this year. On July 9 after worship, the youth will tell you all about their trip to Mexico. Barring problems with cameras, there will be pictures as well. Contact Susan Springer for more information.



Those interested in participating in a weekly Family Spanish class (ages 6 and above), please

contact Virginia Lenneville for more details ([virginia@vjbooks.com](mailto:virginia@vjbooks.com) or 503.380.8313). Our instructor is Columbian born Mao Posada. She is currently teaching a group of 10 home schooled kids (and their parents) every Monday (12:30-2:00 p.m.) in the TPC church foyer. Come and watch the fun!

# TPC HAPPENINGS

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The **Mission Committee** has posted a “help wanted” notice in the narthex. Please check it out and see if you can help.

TPC will be presenting the first annual Tualatin Peacemaker Award in March to someone in the Tualatin community at a Peacemaker breakfast in March. The details are being worked out but in the meantime you can direct any questions to the Peacemaker Award chair, Laura Spurrell.

## 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 15 around the corner, the Committee would like to remind the members of TPC that the Scholarship Fund accepts tax-deductible contributions. The Committee asks that as you complete your tax planning for 2006 and your overall estate planning, you consider donations and/or bequests to the Tualatin Presbyterian Scholarship Fund on behalf of our youth. Thank you for your consideration. Contact Bob Bolton for more information.

## UPCOMING FELLOWSHIP EVENTS

**March 1-** Ash Wednesday Potluck and Service. Come join us for soup and salad at 6 pm. Ken will lead an Ash Wednesday service starting at 7 pm.  
**March 18** - Snow Campout - led by John Lewis.  
**April 8** - Seder Dinner  
**April 9** - Palm Sunday Pancake Brunch  
**September 10** - TPC Picnic

**Next fall** - Journey to Seattle to see the Dead Sea Scrolls - more info later

## READY FOR A FUN WINTER ACTIVITY?

Join John Lewis and other TPC members on March 18th for a snow camping experience. You can camp either in a tent or in a snow cave. No snow cave building experience needed--John will teach you how to make one of your own. Please call John to secure your spot in the snow and to sign up for the mandatory pre-camp meeting. John can be reached at: 503-358-3626 or 503-692-5504.

**TPC Middle School Youth Connection**  
**Open to all youth – Grades 6 – 8**  
**March Meetings – Every Sunday**  
**4:00 – 5:30 pm at TPC**

## Belonging

- Young people finding home and place in the Church that is theirs today!
- Welcoming them for who they are and what they bring to the faith community NOW!

## Leadership

- Exploring and testing the gifts given to us as God’s children
- Learning to succeed and fail and try again supported by the Spirit, walking beside others who share this life of faith!

## Identity

- Understanding who we are as we grow in Jesus Christ!
- Learning to trust the awesome Love of God that created us, calls us, and nurtures us each day, as we live faith alone and with ALL of God’s children.

## The five intentions of the Presbyterian Middle School Youth Connection:

1. To call young people to be disciples of Jesus Christ
2. To respond to the needs and the interests of young people.
3. To work together, youth and adults, in partnership.
4. To be connected to the whole church, community, and the world
5. To include all young people, reaching out, community of faith

For additional information, contact guides: Marsha Steffan 503-692-0120 or Jackie Dannemiller 503-885-2405.

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Don't miss Southminster's Art Exhibit and Sale  
March 2 is the First Look Gala from 7:00 – 9:00  
March 3 – 10:00 am – 5:00 pm  
March 4 – 10:00 – 5:00 pm  
March 4 – Concert in the Art – 7:30 – 9:00 pm  
12250 SW Denney Road in Beaverton  
[www.southmin.com](http://www.southmin.com)

Holy Week Labyrinth Walk  
Tualatin Presbyterian Church Sanctuary  
Hosted by the TPC Spiritual Formation Group

A Labyrinth Experience

Many religious traditions have labyrinths and their beginnings are not clearly known, but there is evidence of them back thousands of years. There is one inlaid in the marble floor of Chartres Cathedral. A Labyrinth is not a maze. It is a path to follow in search of spiritual enrichment. There are no dead ends or cul-de-sacs where one can get lost or be tricked. It is a continuing pilgrimage with many turnings, but leading on to the center and then back out into our world. To enter the Labyrinth is to embark on a quest with God, seeking a deepening experience of God's presence and of ourselves.

This metaphorical journey is a pilgrimage of the heart, not the head. On this sacred path opening ourselves to God's presence, we may symbolically walk with the dejected disciples on the way to Emmaus. They thought he was dead and that their high hopes were lost. Instead they were surprised with a new level of relationship to the risen Lord, who came walking with them

One cannot get lost on this path. Many have walked it before you, walk it now with you and will walk it in time to come. Bring your own deep assurances, your doubts, your questions, and your yearnings for your own holy week pilgrimage. Once in the center of the labyrinth, rest, listen with your heart, feel, and breathe a prayer of thanksgiving for the journey thus far. Consider what you want to take back with you to your daily life ahead.

The passage out of the labyrinth asks you to retrace the path you took in. This time as you walk you are returning to friends, family, co-workers and the world you left behind to make this pilgrimage. Take what you have sensed back with you, whether it be profound or subtle, and see how you may be changed.

Spiritual Formation Group at Tualatin Presbyterian Church offers you this opportunity for a faith deepening experience of the labyrinth during Holy Week. Come join with us. We hope this will be your own deepening experience. There will be guides available before and after your walk if you have questions or wish to share your experience.

The Labyrinth is open to all ages the week before Easter. Exact schedules will be available at a later time. Maundy Thursday service with the Labyrinth will be at 7pm on April 13.

This program is made possible through a Worship Renewal Grant from the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, Grand Rapids, Michigan, with funds provided by Lilly Endowment Inc.

# Faith Village Update

## March Rotation: People Who Made a Difference

People of faith made a difference. Through the stories of people of faith we learn more about God. As people of faith we can respond to God and make a difference.



March 5: Storytelling and Drama

March 12: Roman Banquet

March 19: Games and Music

March 26: Video

Due to a shortage of teachers, the March Rotation will be presented in a large, mixed age group program. We need 1 or 2 adults to help each Sunday, no teaching or preparation required. If you are able to help, please contact Shari Olsen at (503) 635-4019 or [ssjkolsen@msn.com](mailto:ssjkolsen@msn.com).

## Upcoming Rotations and Events

April 2 - May 7: The Road to Emmaus

(No regular Sunday School on Palm Sunday or Easter)

We celebrate God's resurrection of Jesus with great joy and awe, just as Jesus' followers did on that first Easter day. Jesus revealed himself to the two men who traveled to Emmaus, and Jesus continues to reveal himself to us today.

(Leaders needed)

May 14 – June 11: Signs of Faith

Symbols were created by Christians as a way to express their faith. These symbols help us understand and remember what we believe about God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. (Leaders needed)

*June 18: End of Year Party*

*July 10-14: VBS*

## **Needed: Four leaders for a 4-week commitment!**

Please stop by our tables and take a look. We also need 4 teachers for May 14-June 11.

*Mike Shiffer will provide a DVD of the sermons you miss during your teaching rotation!*

Teacher training is offered including Pastor Ken providing scripture insight.

**It's FUN! It's EASY! It's IMPORTANT!**

Learning and sharing faith through Art, Computer, Science, Storytelling, Music & Movement, Video, Creative Cooking, & Games