

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR KEN

Dear friends, so how's your Lent going? Or have you given up Lent for Lent this year? I know we're doing a "lighter" Lent this season, but for class we've been reading and writing quite a bit about sin lately. (Cue the Church Chat Lady saying: "Well isn't that special?") But, it's probably not what you think.

One of the more interesting things I've been learning is that sin has a history. Brad Pitt fans may remember the seven deadly sins from his movie *Seven*: Pride, Envy, Lust, Gluttony, Anger, Greed, and Sloth. The seven deadlies date all the way back to Pope Gregory the Great in the late 6th century. I'm not sure exactly what the connection is between the modern calendar, Gregorian chant, and the seven deadly sins, but they all happened on his watch. What the seven all share in common is scarcity, the belief that who God has made us to be and what we have been given aren't enough.

But Gregory the Great didn't just create this list himself. It wasn't like he was sitting in his room trying to figure out why February should only have 28 days most of the time when August gets to have 31 while humming a plainchant version of *Who Let the Dogs Out* when all of a sudden the idea of the seven deadly sins just pops into his head. No, Gregory gets the idea from the desert fathers and mothers living in the Egyptian desert. In particular Gregory lifts this idea from a guy named Evagrius Ponticus.

Evagrius Ponticus was a fascinating guy who came by his understanding of sin quite naturally. While living as a justifiably famous preacher in the cultural center of Constantinople, Evagrius fell into an affair with a social prominent and very married young woman. Upon discovery, Evagrius fled in disgrace to join the monks in the deserts of Egypt. There, after decades of guidance, prayer and spiritual discipline Evagrius rose from the ashes to write one of the most influential books you've never heard of: *The Praktikos*. One of the most important

sections in *The Praktikos*: the eight dangerous thoughts, the precursor to the seven deadly sins.

What's fascinating about the eight deadly thoughts is not just that Evagrius' list is longer than Gregory's, but that Evagrius focuses his attention on thoughts rather than action. Spiritual writer Kathleen Norris thinks the seven deadly sins actually get us off the hook too easily. "This in turn led to a superficial form of self-justification, for instance: If I don't overeat, then I'm not guilty of gluttony; if I don't commit adultery, I am free of lust." (Kathleen Norris, *Acedia and Me*, p. 30) Evagrius knew first hand that our brokenness is more profound than a check list. Evagrius knew that if we want to get to the root of our problems, we don't focus on our actions. We should focus on our thoughts.

But here's where Evagrius is surprising. Rather than sound like Big Brother who not only wants to regulate our actions but our thinking as well, Evagrius acknowledges that we really don't have a great deal of control over what thoughts come to us. We aren't to blame, in other words, for being troubled by the eight bad thoughts. The most holy monks in the world are troubled by the eight bad thoughts. Where we have control and responsibility, teaches Evagrius, is how we respond to these thoughts. Do we welcome them? Do we allow them to take up residence in us? Do we hold on to them? How good it can feel to be angry and refuse to forgive. How tempting it can be to think that we alone are responsible for what we have accomplished in life. So, it is not the thoughts that come to us that are the problem, according to Evagrius, so much as our response to them.

Of course this requires that we know our thoughts. This requires what Evagrius termed *cardiognosis*: heart knowledge. And *cardiognosis* doesn't come easily. *Cardiognosis* isn't found in books. Even Google can't help us.

Cardiognosis comes from being quiet enough,

Continued on page 2

MEET YVONNE WAGNER

still enough to be honest with ourselves. And *cardiognosis* comes from listening to friends who know us well enough to tell us the whole truth and nothing but the truth.

So, the next time you have a stray thought... notice it. And take a good, hard look at it before you welcome it inside. Unless it's bearing girl scout cookies...then all bets are off. ☺



Yvonne Wagner is one of TPC's newest members, joining us just last fall. She had previously attended Southminster Presbyterian in Beaverton but felt she needed to find a church a little bit closer to home. Always a

choir member, Yvonne immediately joined TPC's choir, and after only three weeks' attendance was asked to fill in on the piano during a service when both Ron and David were gone. Talk about being pressed into service!

With the exception of a few years spent in San Francisco during the Depression, Yvonne has spent her entire life in the Portland area. She graduated from Jefferson High School. During her senior year, she met her future husband Otto, who was the neighbor of a friend. Yvonne was awarded a full scholarship to study music at Lewis and Clark College. She really wanted to settle down with Otto, however, and turned the scholarship down so that someone who "wanted to make a living from music could study instead."

Otto gave Yvonne an engagement ring on Valentine's Day 1950, and they were married the following June. Otto was an optician and a talented handyman around the house. Yvonne said that he could do anything, and if he didn't at first know how, he could figure it out. They built four houses, doing much of the work themselves.

Together Yvonne and Otto raised five children. Diane, Denise, and Debra came first. When

the girls were in elementary school, Otto and Yvonne adopted two brothers, Ed and Ken, and the family was complete. In addition to dolls and all sorts of "girl things," Otto now had hockey sticks and baseballs filling the house.

For many years, Yvonne stayed home with her young family. When the boys finally reached upper elementary, she took a job in a medical office. She has worked part-time since then either at the front desk or in medical transcription. She will finally "retire" in the next few weeks.

Music has been a constant throughout Yvonne's life. As a child she took piano lessons. When her elementary music teacher suggested she learn to play the cello "since you can already read music," Yvonne added that instrument. This led to playing in the Junior Symphony and the Portland State Community Orchestra. At one point, friends asked if she would teach piano to their children, and so began Yvonne's career as a piano teacher. While she is retiring from the medical field, Yvonne doesn't believe she will ever stop teaching piano. And always she and Otto shared their musical talents as church choir members.

Otto passed away in 2005. Their five children all live in the Northwest, four of them in the Portland Metro area. Yvonne has 13 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren. She loves to read and garden and gets her exercise by mowing her own yard. She does some sewing and belongs to a group in King City that knits and crochets items for charity. And yes, that lifelong love of music continues.

Marilyn Staples-Sundt
Deacon of Parish #3

YOUTH HAPPENINGS

Middle and High School Youth will meet after worship on **Sunday, March 3** to do some outreach with the guests at Martha's Place. I would imagine we will be back to TPC by no later than 3 p.m. I can take 4 additional passengers with me. In addition, I am able to take some of the youth home afterwards, if needed. We will also be talking about mission and Triennium fundraising and plans while we are together on Sunday. It's gonna be great! Kathy Sweetland, Youth Elder

STARLIGHT SYMPHONY LIVE IN CONCERT

Guest Conductors Mark Perlman, Chris Fotinakis,
including Glenn Widener, French Horn,

for a world premiere piece

Sunday, March 3 at 7 p.m.

Tualatin Presbyterian Church

9230 SW Siletz Drive, Tualatin

\$8 at the door—cash/check accepted

Children 12 and under free

Felix Mendelssohn: Hebrides Overture

Gary Friedman: Romance and Dance for French
Horn and Orchestra (World Premiere!)

Edward Elgar: Serenade for Strings

Josef Myslivecek: Wind Octet No. 5

Ludwig von Beethoven: Symphony No. 2

MARCH WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Women's Ministry will meet at noon on
Saturday, March 9th for a potluck salad and dessert
meal at the church. The program will focus on Lent
and the symbolism of the cross. Wear jewelry with
a cross icon or bring any item featuring a cross to
share.

In March we will continue assembling bas-
kets for the Hope Spring project. Last month your
generosity prepared four laundry baskets of house-
hold products to assist mothers and children as they
transition into housing. Please bring your donated
items to the March meeting from the following list:
laundry baskets, hot pads, dish towels, sink
sponges, sink cleaner, garbage bags, spray clean-
ers, dishwashing liquid (no scented items), alu-
minum foil, toilet paper, toilet brush, bars of
soap, Kleenex, laundry detergent, paper towels,
dinner napkins, sandwich bags, plastic wrap.
Our other community backpack project is well un-
derway. The program provides children with food
insecurity an opportunity to receive nutrition during
the weekend. Volunteers are needed to commit
once a week to fill backpacks with food that has
been provided. Since October, filled backpacks have
provided 888 weekend meals for 26 children.
Contact Joan Nardi if you can help.

Carolyn Barker



Dinner for Volunteers at
Essential Health Clinic

ESSENTIAL HEALTH CLINIC DINNER

TPC will provide dinner for the
volunteer medical staff at the
free, Essential Health Clinic, on **Wednesday,
March 13**. The clinic, located at 15296 SW Royal-
ty Parkway, serves both the uninsured and the un-
derinsured. We invite you to volunteer and continue
the TPC tradition of great meals for the medical
staff. Sign up in the Narthex to help provide dinner.
Please plan your contribution to serve 16 adults.
Dishes can be brought to TPC by 2:00 p.m. on
March 13, for delivery to the clinic. If you have
questions, please talk to Joan Nardi 503 684-6529.

PALM SUNDAY BRUNCH, MARCH 24

There will be a brunch after worship on Palm Sun-
day. Look on the tower for a sign-up sheet. After
the meal, there will be an Easter Egg Hunt for the
children.

EASTER VIGIL

Saturday, March 30th at 7 p.m.

Lent is often described as a solemn season. Easter
by contrast is bright, light and full of life. Moving
from one to the other is the function of Three Holy
Days, the Triduum, in the liturgical year. Liturgical-
ly we sink to the bottom as we move from Maundy
Thursday through Good Friday. In these two days
we read and sing of Christ's passion and death. We
leave the church on Good Friday with it stripped and
dark, symbolic of his death. We return on Saturday
night to a liturgy that is the climax of the church
year. It will move us from the darkness to the light,
and from death to life.

On Saturday night we gather in the darkness that we
left. It is as if we revisit the tomb where his lifeless
body lies. At TPC we gather on this night of Easter
Vigil initially in the memorial garden to call out the
names of the saints/people in our lives who have
gone before us in death and now stand with us as a
cloud of witnesses to the fact that death is not the
last word. We confess our belief in the resurrection
of the dead, and that God is more powerful than
death. And so begins our vigil of Easter.

Continued on page 4.

We return to the church where we hear some of the ancient stories of our faith read in the darkness of the tomb. We recall our baptism, and if we are fortunate, baptize a new one into our family. This, too, is a service that speaks of the new life to come. In the ancient church Lent was a time for those seeking to join the church through baptism were given instruction in the faith and then they were baptized at the Easter Vigil. In ancient times the readings and baptism would go all night long. (Here we only do 4 of the 12 appointed readings, so we are not here all night.)

The last part of the Vigil is the First Service of Easter. It historically came at Sunrise. The current sunrise services at my churches on Easter are a remnant of this longer vigil. It is here that the church is dressed for Easter by bringing in flowers and turning up the lights. It is as my then 5 year old daughter said to me one year, "The church is coming alive." Easter songs are sung, the Easter gospel proclaimed, and Holy Communion celebrated. This last piece concludes the transition that we have been making all night. It is to move from dark to light, and death to life.

You are invited to join in this ancient and powerful service that is full of symbols that will feed your soul. Our service usually runs about an hour and a half. It is very appropriate for children and adults alike. If you would like to be a reader or have other worship roles, let Laura Spurrell know.



“It is better to light one candle than to curse the darkness”

Many of us wonder where the Light went. We are overwhelmed by the darkness of violence in our society. We become paralyzed by sadness, feelings of inadequacy. We believe that we are powerless to make a difference and expel darkness from our own lives let alone from the world.

This Lent the art committee is challenging us all to act in small ways to put light into our lives, family and community. What more beautiful and meaning-

ful way to prepare ourselves for Easter and Our Savior’s glorious victory over darkness of sin and death than to work to illuminate the darkness with little flickers of light from positive action? We do not need to give up things for Lent but rather practice kindness and goodness, learn about the need for peace and social justice, and do the little things to promote these values.

Great ideas, but how do we do that? We offer some suggestions that are attainable and we can never know how much light a simple act can produce.

How does this transfer to liturgical art? Bare branches were placed on either side of the cross. These winter trees represent our journey out of darkness into light as they break into bloom with white dogwood blossoms. The blossoms represent each simple flame of light generated by us as we act positively to illuminate the darkness rather than cursing it. Please join us in making our world a brighter place ready to accept God’s greatest gift of love on Easter Sunday.

This is not an exhaustive list of possible actions. There is no right or wrong way to proceed. Each action will be represented by a dogwood blossom on the sanctuary trees. There will be a container in front of the Communion table for placing slips of paper with our actions. We will all be anonymous. No names. On Easter Sunday, the table will be covered with a paper banner with every action offered by us. Let us cease ‘cursing the darkness’ and act with light generated from living our Christian Faith.

Simple Positive Actions

- Smile at a stranger, say hello.
- Give a complement to a stranger.
- Phone someone you haven’t talked to recently.
- Offer to run an errand for an elderly person.
- Return pop cans and use the money to buy a can of fruit for the food pantry.
- Set aside 5 minutes to pray for persons listed in the bulletin.
- Prepare a simple supper and donate the money saved to charity.
- Write a note to an out-of-town friend or relative you didn’t hear from at Christmas. (snail mail)
- Pray for someone who has hurt your feelings.

Mary Shiffer, Art Committee Chair

Mission Committee Report

Moment for Mission

The theme for last month was "The Other Six Days." We heard from four individuals in our congregation relate how they have heard a personal call to mission and the interesting and rewarding efforts they are involved with. From Carolyn Hale we heard about removal of gang tattoos. From Bruce Benner we heard about service at the VA hospital. From Rod Kerr we heard about building pallets of medical supplies for Medical Teams International. And from Bill James we heard about music therapy for stroke victims and Big Brother/Big Sister programs.

We now want to change the theme to "The Other Eleven Months". Many, many members of our congregation have heard a personal call to outreach and offer their time and talents serving others. We want to hear your stories. Once a month, for the rest of the year, we propose a "Moment for Mission." Our objective is not to highlight an individual, but to highlight the myriad ways and opportunities there are to live your faith by serving others. Contact a member of the mission committee if you would like to share your story. We are anxious to hear what you do.

Adult Mission Trip

The Presbytery of the Cascades will again send a team to New Orleans this coming October to continue the enormous rebuilding effort following Hurricane Katrina eight years ago. The dates for the trip are October 19-26. Members who are interested in participating are encouraged to contact members of the mission committee for details and for answers to any questions you might have. Additionally, the committee is researching mission opportunities that are closer – within a 4-6 hour drive from Portland. The format would be similar to the New Orleans trip: approximately five days working on site building/re-building homes, modest accommodations, and communal meals. If you are interested, please contact a member of the mission committee.

Chip Kyle, Elder
Mission Committee



Be a Kitchen Angel

Help is needed for the TPC kitchen as we try to replace some old, worn and broken items, and add missing items, or items in short supply--as well as add a few things that would lend to a lovely atmosphere for our very special occasions--receptions, in particular.

On March 3, and again on March 10, you will find a donation envelope tucked in your morning bulletin. We are seeking donations--a free will offering from the congregation. Write your name on the envelope if you are making a donation that you wish to claim as a charitable contribution on your income tax return. Rhoda Friesen will make the appropriate notation in your church record and the donation will appear on your end-of-year statement from the church. We ask that the envelopes be dropped in the offering plates on either Sunday. Cash will be great! Checks should be made out to Tualatin Presbyterian Church and "Kitchen Wish List" written on the memo line.

Pam Cameron, whose idea this was, has graciously offered to chair this project. Please give your requests and suggestions to Pam who is putting together a Wish List. Pam will then form a group that will prioritize the list and then--her team will "go shopping." Please be as generous as you can. Thank you. Maureen Richardson, Worship Elder

Seek-
ing
New
Ringers



RINGERS WANTED

If you can count and know your right hand from your left...you can ring bells!! Seriously, it sounds simple but I came to the bell choir with the above 'skills' and a desire to try and this is my second year playing with plans for a third. The Bell Choir is a wonderful, welcoming, supportive group with a depth of experience and talent that can take a beginner like myself and make music. If you are inclined at all, please come out and give us a try. Do not let a lack of bell or musical experience prevent you from a great opportunity!! We would love to have you...

Emily Ricker

February Session Meeting Highlights
Carolyn Barker, Clerk of Session

Action Items:

- Approval was given to adjust active membership rolls based on recommendations from the annual roll review.
- A special offering was authorized for March 3 and 10 to enable the refurbishment of small kitchen supplies and equipment.
- The annual statistics report to the General Assembly was reviewed and approved.
- Session elected Carolyn Barker to serve as Session Clerk for the next year.
- Special offerings, standard journal entries and payments were approved.
- The 2013 approved budget from the January Session meeting was adjusted for additional information received.
- Elder Barbara Crall was approved as TPC Commissioner to the March Presbytery meeting in Salem.
- The request by Linda and Marshall Watkins to announce and provide information regarding weapons regulation at a table in the narthex following worship was approved.

Committee Reports and General Information:

- Scott Mitchell has accepted employment in the Seattle area. He will continue to serve as TPC treasurer until he moves.
- A new vacuum was donated to the church.
- The youth are planning to do fundraising to attend the Youth Triennium in July.
- Member Gwen Hale passed away on January 14, 2013. Her memorial service was held at the church on February 15th.
- Pastor Ken reported on plans to facilitate small group Bible studies in homes led by trained lay persons.

The above information has been compiled from Session minutes. Complete copies of minutes are available in the church office.

LARGE PROJECTION SCREEN

A huge thank you to the men's group for their purchase and installation of a large pull-down screen in the sanctuary.

2013 PER CAPITA

The individual per capita fee for 2013 is \$25.02. TPC's total per capita payment was \$6,480.13. If you would like to pay your per capita expense, write a check to TPC and write per capita on the comment line. Thank you.

PICTURE DIRECTORY IS AVAILABLE

If you did not receive and would like to have a TPC picture directory, copies are available in the office on the table to the right as you walk in.

ANNUAL REPORT IS ALSO AVAILABLE

If you would like a copy of the annual report, they too, are on the table in the office to the right as you walk in.



March 3-Paula Miller, Erik Spurrell, 4-Terra Shiffer, 6-Karen Schmitt, 7-Nimmi Senthirajah, 8-Rod Kerr, Bob Nix, Carolyn Meece, Terri Holland, 9-Sue Awdry, Bob Fitzhenry, Andrew MacHaffie, Owen MacHaffie, 10-McKenna Martson, 11-Marieke DeBruyn, 13-Jonathan Ayers, Jeni Wiggers, 14-Deborah Lewis, Dick Wiggers, 15-Scott Long, 17-Carolyn Locke, 20- Blain Grover, 22-David Norse, 23-Neal Reiling, 24 Harry Chase, Daniel MacKay, 25-Mitchell Peterson, 26-Drew Pairamore, 27-Lisa Ewing, Hilde Frey, 29-Mike Shiffer, 30-Russ Carlin, John Lewis, 31-Caitlin Beyers, JP Gibson, Piper Hammer, Maxine Jenovich, Todd Winslow

2013 FINANCIALS

Income Year to Date (as of 1-31-2013)	Actuals	Budget	Dollar Difference
	\$22,847	\$24,100	(\$1,253)
Expenses Year to Date (as of 1-31-2013)			
	\$35,924	\$35,862	(\$62)

TUALATIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CALENDAR MARCH, 2013

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 8:45 Adult Ed. 10:00 Worship/ Children's Sunday School 7 p.m. Starlight Symphony Concert	4 7 pm Spir- itual Formation off site. For info, talk to Laura Spurrell 503-692-7034	5	6 7 pm Choir practice	7 7 pm Bell choir practice	8 10 to noon Loving Stitches	9 Noon— Women's Ministry Luncheon
10 DAY LIGHT SAVINGS TIME STARTS THIS DAY 8:45 Adult Ed. 10:00 Worship Children's Sunday School Congregational Mtg	11 7 pm Deacon Meeting	12 7 pm Mission Committee Meeting	13 7 pm Choir practice Dinner for Essential Health Clinic	14 7 pm Bell choir practice	15	16 7 am Men's Fellowship Breakfast
17 8:45 Adult Ed. 10:00 Worship Children's Sunday School	18	19 7 pm Tuesdays Treasures 7 pm Session meeting	20 7 pm Choir practice	21 7 pm Bell choir practice	22 10 to noon Loving Stitches	23
24 Palm Sunday 8:45 Adult Ed. 10:00 Worship Children's Sun. Schl All Church Brunch and Easter Egg Hunt	25	26 9 am April newsletter deadline	27 7 pm Choir practice	28 7 pm Bell choir practice	29	30
31 Easter 10 a.m Worship						

For the latest updates, check the calendar posted on the church website, www.tpcspirit.org

Regular TPC office hours are:
Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Friday, 9 a.m. to noon.

Please call (503) 692-4160 or email Rhoda@tpcspirit.org
if you've moved or changed your email address.

Church website: www.tpcspirit.org We're also on Facebook.



9230 SW Siletz Drive
Tualatin, OR 97062



TUALATIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9230 SW Siletz Drive, Tualatin, OR 97062

The Rev. Ken Evers-Hood

Phone: 503-692-4160

Web Address: www.tpcspirit.org We're also on Facebook.

Worship Service – Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Parish Associates: The Rev. Charlie Brown, The Rev. Philip Martin

Elders: Randy Beyer, Barb Crall, Norm Dannemiller, Chip Kyle, Maureen Richardson, Karen Schmitt, Kathy Sweetland, Craig Walker and Katrina Weener.

Deacons: Julian Awdry, Dan Barker, Bud Bender, Barb Kerr, Carolyn Locke, Robyn MacKay, Bob Nix, Marilyn Staples-Sundt, Karen Stevenson, Jeff Taylor, Jeni Wiggers, and Nancy Wilcox.

Treasurer: Scott Mitchell
e-mail: treasurer@tpcspirit.org

Director of Music Ministries: Dr. David Kelly
Bell Choir Director: Debbie Ivanov

Clerk of Session: Carolyn Barker
Email: carolynjbarker@mac.com

Music Accompanist: Dr. Ron Fabbro
Art Director: Mary Shiffer

Webmaster: Ted Pelletier
e-mail: webmaster@tpcspirit.org

Bereavement Committee: Vacant
Parish Nurse: Dianne Lemmon

Newsletter Editor: Susan Springer
e-mail: newsletter@tpcspirit.org

Wedding Coordinator: Stacy Mauer

Administrative Assistants: Rhoda Friesen and Susan Springer
e-mail: rhoda@tpcspirit.org susan@tpcspirit.org

Church Office Hours

Monday – Thursday: 9:00 a.m.– 3:00 p.m., Friday – 9:00 a.m. to noon