

## A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR KEN



Dear friends,

The season of Lent is almost upon us again. We all have a different relationship to the various seasons of the church. Some of us are Easter people- we love the light, joy, and pageantry of Easter and the celebration that death does not have the last word. Some of us resonate more easily with Christmas. While the world around us whirls in commerce, we love the soft, quiet glow of the Christ child in the midst of the Holy Family who was feeling overwhelmed and out of sorts. I remember one pastor preaching a sermon about how much she liked Ordinary time- the longest liturgical season marked by the color green. She said after the high holy days of Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Holy Week, she loved the long season of Ordinary time where she didn't have to be "on" all the time and could relax, plan, and grow.

I've always been drawn to the spareness of Lent.

Lent is the 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter in which we remember Jesus spending 40 days in the desert and Israel who wandered in the desert for 40 years. I know some folks grew up in traditions in which Lent is synonymous with guilt, shame, and deprivation. Lent, for some, has felt like that scene in Game of Thrones where a humiliated Cersei Lannister is marched naked through streets of jeering crowds all yelling, "Shame! Shame!" I honor this and lament that this has been the experience for some of us. Blech. No thank you!

But for me Lent is about pairing down, simplifying, silence, and slowing down enough to listen for that small, still voice of God we will not hear when we are moving so quickly through the world.

Lent is also, interestingly, a season of hospitality. When we allow for more silence in our days, when we leave behind rich foods or observe a period of fasting, and when we give up luxuries we have come to take for granted, we open before us a silence and a space where we become attuned to voices that are always chattering away inside of us but that we normally drown out. Evagrius in the 4<sup>th</sup> century called these voices "demons." We call them inner tapes or voices. Lent is the season in which we are invited to not only open ourselves to their presence, but to face them, interact with them, and then choose which voices we want to devote our energies to. It's fearful and courageous work this: to go inside and actually attend to the voices we find there.

Of course you don't have to observe Lent. You don't have to do anything. God always gives us a choice. For those who are curious to try creating more space for God's voice along with all the other voices hissing away at us, I'll leave you with these words I wrote a couple of years ago:

### Guests Passing Through

*Anger. Fear. Shriveling self-doubt.  
Although I cannot close  
my door to you,  
I do not have to give you  
the food from my table*

*Shame. Regret. Clinging attachment.  
I will welcome you as guests  
with painful gifts to offer me,  
but I do not have to turn down the bed  
and invite you to stay.*

*Jealousy. Bitterness. Burning self-loathing.  
You will arrive at the strangest of times,  
but though you show up naked and cold  
I do not have to give you  
the shirt off my back.*

*You will pass through now and again.  
But know this- there will be others.  
And I will be keeping a table set for joy,  
a guest bed warmed for forgiveness,  
and two coats laid out for love.*



As we all know, in late 2019 the SARS CoV-2 virus started in China. While confined to China, it was considered an epidemic. In early 2020 it spread across the globe and became a pandemic. Now the talk is about the next phase which will be Covid-19 becoming endemic. In an endemic, a disease is no longer occurring on the level of a pandemic but is regularly occurring within certain areas or communities—think malaria or to a degree influenza. It appears we are entering a point where Covid-19 will be present in our communities in a manner more like influenza, and we will have to learn to live with it.

Consistent with moving in that direction, we will no longer have a mask mandate in Oregon by March 31—perhaps sooner. That does not mean you cannot wear a mask. I hope that we can all be kind to each other and respect the choices others make. Please don't judge people who make a choice different from your own. But also respect that when a person chooses to continue to wear a mask, they likely have a good reason for making that decision. They may be immunocompromised and at greater risk from illness, or they may live with someone who is. Whether or not you are wearing a mask, please be considerate of a person with a mask and give them the distance that may help them be safer.

Most of us have been traumatized in one way or another by the past couple years. Please be kind to each other and be kind to yourselves. If you are sick, stay home and take the time you need to heal and prevent spreading your germs to others. And as a sign I recently saw at Tigard High School says, "Spread positivity, not Covid"

Susan Fee, Parish Nurse



### **TPC SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2022**

Thank you so much to our TPC community for your generous support!  
We brought in 725 pounds of soup for the Tualatin Food Pantry!  
This is a record for us!

We had 5 raffle winners: Karen Ramos, Diane & Bob Paetsch, Susan Springer, Cackie & Chip Kyle, and Julian Awdry! Congratulations!

Susan Cameron and the Deacons

Pictured from left to right: Rosemary Willis, Karen Ramos, Susan Cameron



## BLOOD DRIVE HELD AT TPC - Tuesday, February 15, 1 to 6:30 pm

Here are the results:

- 26 donors registered
- 4 deferrals
- 2 first time donors
- Collected 19 whole blood and 3 power reds for a total of 25 units of blood.

Already on its way to saving up to 75 lives. Thank you to everyone who donated blood, and/or cookies and to those who volunteered their time during the drive.

Scott Cameron, Blood Drive Coordinator



Thank you all for the generous donations of clothes for our Family Promise programs. We delivered carloads of garments to the Clothing Closet at Rise Church. It is being sorted by size for easy access when we need it.

We will be buying, sorting and delivering food for meals twice in March thanks to your generosity. Our first week is March 14th and the next is March 28th. Thank you to our volunteers for helping with the shopping and sorting!

Pam Bowen, [pamelaabowen@gmail.com](mailto:pamelaabowen@gmail.com) and Derrilyn Bayha, [dabayha@mac.com](mailto:dabayha@mac.com)



### REBECCA'S REFLECTIONS

When the newsletter arrives in your inbox this month we will be ending the first several weeks of Ordinary Time on the church calendar. From what I understand there will be thirty-some weeks this year that fall into this category. While far, far, far from an expert on most everything Biblical, my basic understanding of Ordinary Time is that it encompasses the times on the liturgical calendar that are not designated under the Lent, Christmas, Advent and Easter seasons. (I had to google this to check the exact seasons, but I still don't claim to have any of it correct).

The significance of the Liturgical seasons which are not Ordinary are certainly not lost on me. Yet, there is a pressure added to those times which may be due to societal expectations or self induced.

The House Finch is a year-round resident here. If you feed them you will see they eagerly devour sunflower chips and nyjer seed. They are easily confused with Purple and Cassin's Finches, which are not generally seen on an everyday basis. Which is to say, the House Finch is more ordinary.

I've grown to love Ordinary days even more than so-called special occasions. The days that I look out the window expecting to see an ordinary Finch, and do, but then I witness something more - a male patiently feeding his hungry fledglings. It is something to behold. I adore the times when I walk the yard and spot the shoots of a perennial I've loved for twenty plus years poking its head from the soil. I feel its energy and its happiness to be back after the long winter underground. I always welcome it back with unabashed joy. I cherish the spontaneous hugs and, "I love you, Ma," moments with our oldest grandson, Sterling, gifts me with when I least expect them. Usually they come when I am sitting beside him playing whatever make believe game he wants to play and suddenly his precious arms are reaching out to me. He kisses me, says those four sweet words and I am flooded with a puddle of emotions.

We are heading into Lent, a time of reflection and renewal. It is a beautiful time in the church year. From June through November we will return to Ordinary time, with no major church holidays, but during those times I'm quite certain God will still be present. He will be doing what God does best...surprising us with gifts of unexpected bird sightings, flowers popping up where we didn't know they were planted, friends from decades back reaching out and saying they've missed us.

Ordinary times, extraordinary gifts, we just have to be open to receiving them.

Rebecca Backen



**CHILDREN WE SPONSOR THROUGH COMPASSION INTERNATIONAL**

Letter from Sarah dated December 16, 2021

Booming greetings to you in Christ our Lord. I am very glad to say how is your Christmas? Right now it's sunny season. We are now preparing gardens, weeding cassava and preparing for Christmas season.

Thank you for the very good letter that I received. May God bless you. Here now in Uganda, our president suggested that all schools are opened on 10th January. I will resume with studies then in January.  
Sarah



Dear Friends,

I greet you in the name of Lord Jesus Christ. I ask God the richest blessings for you, your family and your work. I want to tell you that I am studying and attending 10th grade. This is a little difficult because I receive classes through Teams platform to avoid infecting with the pandemic which is very strong in the community where I live. I want to thank you for the gift you sent me. I bought a raincoat and a pair of pants to keep me warm because where I live, the weather is cold. We are in front of Imbabura Volcano. It is a nice landscape but the temperature is very low. The raincoat and pants help me to avoid this cold weather. I ask God to protect you from this virus which is affecting all the planet. I just want to tell you that may the Lord reward you for your generosity with me. Thank you a lot for your help.

Please pray for my family, my studies and for sick people who are in the hospitals.

I would like to ask you, how are you doing at your job? Are you in good health?

Estalin, in Ecuador, letter dated January 14, 2022

**AN OPPORTUNITY TO CONNECT AND CONNECT THEY DID!!!**

Thirty-five individuals gathered on Sunday, February 6 at the Charbonneau Pavilion from 2 to 5 pm to share food and talk! After two years of social distancing, it was a chatty group.



**WOMEN'S MINISTRY COFFEE CONNECTIONS**

The next Coffee Connection is scheduled to take place at LaProvence, Monday, March 7 at 10 am. Come if you can for a chance to catch up and get to know each other better.

Judy Nix

TPC 2022 FINANCIALS	Actuals	Budget	Dollar Difference
Operating Income Year to Date 1/31/22	\$29,437	\$26,760	\$2,677
Operating Expenses Year to Date 1/31/22	\$41,220	\$45,020	\$3,800

**DEACON SHERI SCHIPPOREIT IS ON THE MOVE**

A small outdoor gathering was held at the Charbonneau Pavilion on Sunday, January 23, to thank Sheri for her contributions to TPC as a member, and in her roll as a deacon. Sheri is moving to Bremerton, Washington to be closer to her Seattle son and daughter-in-law and future grandchildren.



Pictured left to right: Bob Nix, Rene'e James, Carolyn Hale, Jason James, Jeni Wiggers, Sheri Schipporeit, Linda Fukasawa, Susan Cameron, Judy Nix, Stacy Mauer, Rick Mauer.



Left: after Worship - Cookies, coffee and fellowship.



Right: No Contact-Dinner Feb. 23 at Good Neighbor Center. Lasagne by Marilyn Wood.



Sunday School Art



Ski trip - Saturday, February 26

**DISH AND CONTAINER COLLECTION ON TABLE NEAR KITCHEN**

Are you missing any dishes? Please check the items on the table outside the kitchen and take home any that belong to you. Thank you.

## FOUNDATIONS OF CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP INNOVATION GRANT



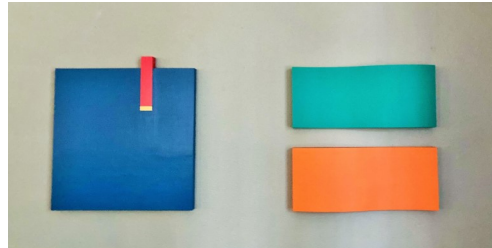
Last spring, the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship Grant Committee produced four sets of windows for Advent, Lent, Easter and Ordinary time. An idea for a fifth set of windows – The Miracles of Jesus - was considered as well, but the team was not able to find a suitable artist to design the windows at that time.

Sarah Beck, Director of Family Ministries, applied for a \$3,500 grant offered by Duke Divinity, Foundation of Christian Leadership Program to design and implement a creative project in the church. She wrote the grant for “Post-Pandemic Art Expression through the Miracles of Jesus.” Jeff Cameron agreed to work with Elie (George)

Inglesby to design and create images of the five miracles of Jesus: Turning Water Into Wine, Healing the Paralyzed Man, Calming the Sea, Feeding the 5,000, and Raising Lazarus from the Dead. Jeff Cameron took care of formatting and printing the five windows. Elie is currently a sophomore majoring in illustration at George Fox University.

We are hosting an art exhibit in the sanctuary and narthex of works created during the pandemic, and we created a wall of remembrance to honor those we’ve lost during the pandemic.

Sarah Beck, Director of Family Ministries



### WALL OF REMEMBRANCE - Honoring those we’ve lost during the pandemic.

Karen Jones - My mom, Joyce Rorman, died on May 26, 2020. She didn’t die from COVID, but it affected us all due to lockdowns and travel restrictions. I was fortunate to be able to move in with her the last few months of her life, but other family members couldn’t be there.

Sue Tompos - My mother (Joyce) passed away in a nursing home in November 2020 (during COVID.) My mother’s ashes were scattered at Depoe Bay because she always loved the Oregon Coast. Our family had a small remembrance service at the coast since COVID prevented us from comfortably having a more formal service. Our prayer has always been that her soul is at peace dancing with the wind, the waves and the sea.



# MARCH TUALATIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CALENDAR

For the latest calendar updates, go to [www.tpcspirit.org](http://www.tpcspirit.org) and click on EVENTS.

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> 9 am prayer on Zoom	<b>2 6 pm Ash Wed. Service</b> 9 am prayer on Zoom 10 am Loving Stitches 7 pm Vocal Choir Rehearsal	<b>3</b> 9 am prayer on Zoom	<b>4</b> 9 am prayer on Zoom	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> 10 am in-person, and on-line worship at <a href="http://www.tpcspirit.org">www.tpcspirit.org</a> Also on Facebook and YouTube	<b>7</b> 9 am prayer on Zoom 10 am Coffee Connection at LaProvence	<b>8</b> 9 am prayer on Zoom 7 pm Stephen Ministry/Zoom	<b>9</b> 9 am prayer on Zoom 7 pm Vocal Choir Rehearsal	<b>10</b> 9 am prayer on Zoom 10 am TPC Readers/Zoom 7 pm bell choir	<b>11</b> 9 am prayer on Zoom	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> 10 am in-person, and on-line worship at <a href="http://www.tpcspirit.org">www.tpcspirit.org</a> Also on Facebook and YouTube	<b>14</b> 9 am prayer on Zoom 7 pm Deacon Meeting	<b>15</b> 9 am prayer on Zoom 7 pm Session Meeting	<b>16</b> 9 am prayer on Zoom 10 am Loving Stitches 7 pm Vocal Choir Rehearsal	<b>17</b> 9 am prayer on Zoom 10 am TPC Readers/Zoom 7 pm bell choir	<b>18</b> 9 am prayer on Zoom	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> 10 am in-person, and on-line worship at <a href="http://www.tpcspirit.org">www.tpcspirit.org</a> Also on Facebook and YouTube	<b>21</b> 9 am prayer on Zoom	<b>22</b> 9 am prayer on Zoom April newsletter deadline 7 pm Stephen Ministry/Zoom	<b>23</b> 9 am prayer on Zoom 7 pm Vocal Choir Rehearsal	<b>24</b> 9 am prayer on Zoom 7 pm bell choir	<b>25</b> 9 am prayer on Zoom	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 10 am in-person, and on-line worship at <a href="http://www.tpcspirit.org">www.tpcspirit.org</a> Also on Facebook and YouTube	<b>28</b> 9 am prayer on Zoom	<b>29</b> 9 am prayer on Zoom	<b>30</b> 9 am prayer on Zoom 7 pm Vocal Choir Rehearsal	<b>31</b> 9 am prayer on Zoom 7 pm bell choir		

## MARCH

01-Andrew Beck  
01-James Beck  
01-Paula Miller  
01-Erik Spurrell  
02-Charlotte Bavaro  
07-Nimmi Senthirajah  
08-Terry Holland  
08-Rod Kerr  
08-Bob Nix  
09-Sue Awdry



09-Andrew MacHaffie  
09-Owen MacHaffie  
11-Halah Grobey  
13-Jonathan Ayers  
13-Patrick Ramos  
13-Jeni Wiggers  
14-Bill Bennett  
14-Scott Gibbons  
14-Dick Wiggers  
15-Scott Long  
15-Maureen Wolf

19-Sandy Gurney  
20-Russ Carlin  
21-Larry Nord  
23-Neal Riling  
24-Harry Chase  
25-Paul Whitaker  
29-Mike Shiffer  
31-Caitlin Byers  
31-Jason Gibson

Worship with us on line, Sundays at 10 am.  
Go to the church website, [www.tpcspirit.org](http://www.tpcspirit.org), or Facebook, or YouTube.  
To leave a message, call 503-692-4160.



9230 SW Siletz Drive  
Tualatin, OR 97062



2022

**TUALATIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

9230 SW Siletz Drive, Tualatin, OR 97062

Phone: 503-692-4160 Email: [office@tpcspirit.org](mailto:office@tpcspirit.org)

Web Address: [www.tpcspirit.org](http://www.tpcspirit.org) We're also on Facebook.

**Worship Service – Sundays at 10 a.m. in person, and on line at [www.tpcspirit.org](http://www.tpcspirit.org)**

**Pastor:** The Rev. Dr. Ken Hood

**Parish Associate:** The Rev. Dr. Richard Wiggers

**Elders:** Dave Backen, Sandy Gurney, Lynne Neilson, Judy Nix, Greg Owen, Carolyn Pursinger, Patrick Ramos, Ian Swanson

**Deacons:** Derrilyn Bayha, Susan Cameron, Linda Fukasawa, Carolyn Hale, Jason James, Dianne Lemmon, Karen Ramos, Herb Richardson, Kerry Weaver, Rob Wiesenthal and Rosemary Willis.

Director of Family Ministries: Sarah Beck

Financial Assistant: Mike Shiffer

Administrative Assistant, Newsletter Editor: Susan Springer

Director of Music Ministries: Emily Bavaro

Accompanist: Open

Bell Choir Director: Debbie Ivanov

Building and Grounds Caretaker: Open

Art Director: Chris Robertson

Bereavement Committee Chair: Barbara Crall

Blood Drive Coordinator: Scott Cameron

Clerk of Session: Craig Bowen

Cookie Coordinator: Sue Hayhurst

Fellowship Director: Barbara Crall

Hospitality Coordinator: Bonnie Nord

Membership Coordinator: Diane Paetsch

Men's Fellowship Group Coordinator: Mike Weaver

Parish Nurse: Susan Fee

Prayer Chain: Greg Imus

Technology Chair: Open

Treasurer: Chip Kyle

Tuesdays Treasures Coor: M&M Shiffer, Denise Collins

Video Editor: Rob Thompson

Wedding Coordinator: Stacy Mauer

**The office is open limited hours. Can leave voice message at 503 692-4160. We will get back to you.**