



A Message from Pastor Ken

Greetings all,

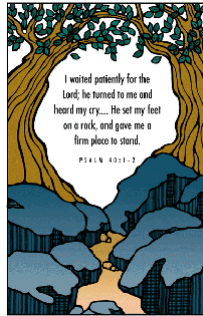
You know, sometimes there's more going on than we realize at first. I had a funny moment recently. When I was in high school, I remember loving the band U2- especially the album *War*. My favorite song on *War* is simply called '40'. Its soaring melody wonders "How long? How long must we sing this song?" I really had no idea what the song was about, I just knew I liked the way it sounded. Lately, I've been listening to music as I run, and as I listened to '40' again, I nearly laughed out loud. With a few more years under my belt and time served in seminary, I finally realized why this song is called '40'. The lyrics are mainly from Psalm 40. Stunned by this revelation, I did a little research and discovered some of the best theological insights of the 20th century come not from Barth (gasp!), but from Bono, the charismatic front man for the group. In a fantastic introduction to the Psalms, Bono writes about growing up and discovering his love for scripture, if not always for the church:

"I began to see God everywhere else. In girls, fun, music, justice and still -- despite the lofty King James translation -- the Scriptures.

I loved these stories for the basest reasons. These were action movies, with some hardcore men and women, the car chases, the casualties, the blood and guts. There was very little kissing.

David was a star, the Elvis of the Bible, if we can believe the chiseling of Michelangelo. And unusually for such a "rock star," with his lust for power, lust for women, lust for life, he had the humility of one who knew his gift worked harder than he ever would. He even danced naked in front of his troops -- the biblical equivalent of the royal walkabout. David was definitely more performance artist than politician.

Years ago, lost for words and with 40 minutes of recording time left before the end of our studio time, we were still looking for a song to close our third album, *War*. We wanted to put something explicitly spiritual on the record to balance the



politics and romance of it; like Bob Marley or Marvin Gaye would.

We thought about the psalms -- Psalm 40. There was some squirming. We were a very "white" rock group, and such plundering of the scriptures was taboo for a white rock group unless it was in the "service of Satan." Psalm 40 is interesting in that it suggests a time in which grace will replace karma, and love will replace the very strict laws of Moses (in other words, fulfill them). I love that thought. David, who committed some of the most selfish as well as selfless acts, was depending on it. That the scriptures are brim full of hustlers, murderers, cowards, adulterers and mercenaries used to shock me. Now it is a source of great comfort.

"40" became the closing song at U2 shows, and on hundreds of occasions, literally hundreds of thousands of people of every size and shape of T-shirt have shouted back the refrain, pinched from Psalm 6: "How long (to sing this song)." I had thought of it as a nagging question, pulling at the hem of an invisible deity whose presence we glimpse only when we act in love. How long hunger? How long hatred? How long until creation grows up and the chaos of its precocious, hell-bent adolescence has been discarded? I thought it odd that the vocalizing of such questions could bring such comfort -- to me, too."

This Lent I invite you to take a page from the Gospel of Bono. If you've been meaning to take your Bible out but weren't sure where to start- crack it open right down the middle to the book of Psalms. It's been called the Bible within the Bible and it contains the full range of human experience: anger, ecstasy, painful depression, and all of it both disturbing and comforting. And, to really follow in Bono's footsteps, if you feel so moved, during the next month write your own Psalm and send them to me. If you feel comfortable sharing them, I'll print them right here in this page.

Until then, God be with you all,

Committee News

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

4/8/06 - Seder - 6:00 p.m. Come join us for the special dinner, celebrating the Passover. A sign up sheet is on the Tower and there's still time to volunteer to help with putting on the dinner. Tickets are \$10 per adult and \$5 per child. Questions: See Deborah Lewis, Fellowship Elder or call her at 503-692-5504.

4/9/06 - Palm Sunday Brunch - Please plan to stay after service for pancakes and sausages. There's a sign up sheet on the Tower for those that would like to help round out the meal with fruit and juice or milk.

5/27/06 - Wine tasting tour

7/13/06 - Broadway Rose Theatre - 42nd Street; we have 20 tickets at \$18; tickets are 1st and 2nd rows, purchased through a sponsor for a better rate and seats. Sign up sheet will go up in June.

9/10/06 - TPC Picnic

10/7/06 - Dead Sea Scrolls

Join us for a viewing of the Dead Sea Scrolls in Seattle. We have 30 tickets available at \$15.75 for a scheduled viewing at 2:30 pm. We have train and hotel info available for those folks who are interested in taking the Amtrack up and/or staying overnight. Yes, we know it's the Bells' Sunday, but there's no home Duck game and while there is a Beavers' home game that day, we are hoping you can listen on the radio. Sign up is on the Tower. See Deborah Lewis if you have questions or would like train/hotel information. Ken will give an informational talk prior to the event.



YOUTH

Mexico Mission Trip, June 16-26, 2006

Members of the high school youth group are now selling shares of stock for \$25.00 to help finance their mission trip. The youth will travel to Mexico to build houses for people who otherwise would not have a home. On Sunday, July 9, after the worship service, the youth will share their Mexico experiences with you. Your support of this mission trip is greatly appreciated.

Youth Group Still Collecting Pop Cans & Bottles

Thank you to everyone who has donated pop cans and bottles. Though each is worth only 5 cents, it adds up!

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Sunday, April 9 @ 10:00 am

Palm Sunday Service

Choir Cantata "One Sacrifice"

Brunch and Easter Egg Hunt after service

Palm Sunday Cantata



Tuesday, April 11 5:00 - 8:00 pm and

Wednesday, April 12 - 11:00 am - 1:00 pm and 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Labyrinth

Thursday, April 13 @ 7:00 pm

Maundy Thursday Worship Service

Labyrinth (during service and possible additional time)

Friday, April 14 @ 7:00 pm

Good Friday Service

Sunday, April 16 - One Service only 10:00

Easter

Service

DEACONS AND ELDERS

It is with gratitude that we celebrate the faithful work of the outgoing elders and deacons and we wish them God's continued blessings,

Deacons: Marcia Bell, Mark Maleta, Roger Reid, Marc Olson

Elders: Susan Springer (youth), Dave Backen (worship), Mike Shiffer (mission), Don Schmidt (administration)

...and it is with excitement and anticipation that we recognize the elders and deacons elect:

Deacons for the Class of 2009: Pam Cameron, Noel Johnson, Julie Van Buren, Judy Nix

Worship Elder for the Class of 2008: Karen Stevenson

Elders for the Class of 2009: Craig Bowen (youth), Scott Mitchell (administration), Joan Nardi (mission)

Watch for more information in the May issue of *The Spirit*.



Look who came to visit – Thom Nelson!



Thom was in the area for a conference and paid TPC a visit on March 19.

Forgive and Your Heart Becomes Whole – A Workshop – at TPC
Saturday, April 22 from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Facilitated by: Mari Schuman, a Master of Divinity student at Marylhurst University.

Mari can teach you the practical application of forgiveness; this can assist you in learning how to use forgiveness on a daily basis, for yourself and others.

For questions or to register, call Mari at 503-422-3404. Enrollment is accepted through April 18.

Cost is \$20 (includes all materials and is payable the day of the workshop, unless other arrangements have been made).

The Parable of the Spoons

A holy man was having a conversation with the Lord one day and said, “Lord, I would like to know what Heaven and Hell are like.”

The Lord led the holy man to two doors. He opened one of the doors and the holy man looked in. In the middle of the room was a large round table. In the middle of the table was a large pot of stew which smelled delicious and made the holy man’s mouth water.

The people sitting around the table were thin and sickly. They appeared to be famished. They were holding spoons with very long handles and each found it possible to reach into the pot of stew and take a spoonful, but because the handle was longer than their arms, they could not get the spoons back into their mouths.

The holy man shuddered at the sight of their miser and suffering. The Lord said, “You have seen Hell.”

They went to the next room and opened the door. It was exactly the same as the first one.

There was the large round table with the large pot of stew which made the holy man’s mouth water.

The people were equipped with the same long-handled spoons, but here the people were well nourished and plump, laughing and talking. The holy man said, “I don’t understand.”

“It is simple, said the Lord, “it requires but one skill. You see, they have learned to feed each other.”

General Fund Status January – February 2006



	<i>BUDGET</i>	<i>ACTUAL</i>
Income	\$ 40,520	\$ 35,166
Expense	<u>\$ 37,740</u>	<u>\$ 33,041</u>
Net	\$ 2,780	\$ 2,125

	<i>BUDGET</i>	<i>ACTUAL</i>
Income	\$ 18,324	\$ 14,985
Expense	<u>\$ 18,850</u>	<u>\$ 13,628</u>
Net	\$ -546	\$ 1,357

Roman Feast in Faith Village



Doug Steffen was the Centurion whose servant was healed by Jesus.





TPC Spirit

April 2006



Tualatin Presbyterian Church Calendar April 2006



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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2 <i>5th Sunday in Lent</i> Adult Ed – 8:30 am Worship – 10:00 am Communion No Middle School New Members Group after Worship	3 Bells – 7:00 pm Spiritual Formation Group 7:00 pm	4 Dance Class 7:15 pm Mission 7:00 pm	5 Bible Study 10:00 am Choir 7:00 pm	6 Women’s Bible Study 7:00 pm	7	8 Loving Stitches Group 9:30 am Seder Dinner 6:00 pm
9 <i>Palm Sunday</i> Adult Ed – 8:30 am Worship – 10:00 am Choir Cantata “One Sacrifice” Brunch and Egg Hunt following Worship Middle School 4:00 – 5:30 pm	10 Deacons 6:30 pm Bells – 7:00 pm Spiritual Formation Group 7:00 pm	11 Labyrinth Walk 5:00 – 8:00 pm	12 Bible Study 10:00 am Choir 7:00 pm Outreach Committee 7:00 pm Labyrinth Walk 11 – 1 pm and 5 – 8 pm	13 <i>Maundy Thursday</i> Service 7:00pm Labyrinth Walk Final Day 2 – 4pm	14 <i>Good Friday</i> Service 7:00pm	15
16 <i>Easter Sunday</i> Worship – 10:00 am	17 Worship Committee 7:00 pm Bells – 7:00 pm Spiritual Formation Group 7:00 pm	18 Dance Class 7:15 pm Tuesday’s Treasures 7:00 pm	19 Bible Study 10:00 am Choir 7:00 pm	20 Session 7:00 pm	21 News- letter deadline	22 Forgiveness Workshop 9 - 5pm
23 Adult Ed – 8:30 am Worship – 10:00 am Middle School 4:00 – 5:30 pm	24 Bells – 7:00 pm Spiritual Formation Group 7:00 pm CE Meeting – 7:00pm	25 Dance Class 7:15 pm	26 Bible Study 10:00 am Choir 7:00 pm	27	28 Vertical Habits Youth Retreat	29 Vertical Habits Youth Retreat
30 Adult Ed – 8:30 am Worship – 10:00 am Middle School 4:00 – 5:30 pm Vertical Habits Youth Retreat						

Village Leaders for 2005-2006

**Mary & Mark
Maleta**

Kim Couto

Gina Olson

Jaci Smith

Jackie Dannemiller

Lillieth Grand

Jana Hudgins

Barb Crall

Linda Fukasawa

Shirley Schultz

Jodie Breshears

Shari Olsen

Mike Shiffer

Marsha Steffen

Debbie Reid

Mary Shiffer

Pam & Scott Cameron

Kathy Sweetland

Crystal Shearer

Deborah Lewis

Robyn MacKay

Cathy Lambeth

Charlie & Edda Brown



We are coming up on the end of our first year using the Rotation Model Sunday School program. The children really are enjoying the variety of lesson presentations and the teachers have given positive feedback on the ease of preparation and the program overall. We have had good support from the congregation in teaching this year. Thank you to all of the “Village Leaders” listed above!

Your personal invitation!

I know we all respond better when asked in person, but we currently do not have the staffing to do so. Instead, won't you please step forward to fill the need? Sign-up sheets and informational materials are in the narthex. We would like to fill the May/June rotation as soon as possible so a training session can be scheduled. We are having a good time downstairs in Faith Village, come join us!

*Thank you,
Shari Olsen and the CE committee*

Faith Village Update



April Sunday School Rotation: Road to Emmaus

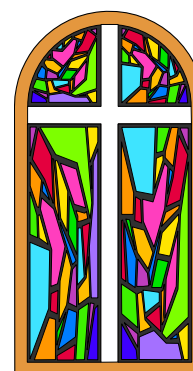
Dates: April 2 – May 7 (No regular Sunday School on Palm Sunday or Easter)

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/June Rotation: Signs of Faith

Dates: May 14 – June 11

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



us

June 18: End of Year Party

July 10-14: VBS – Treasure Seekers

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



TUALATIN PEACEMAKER AWARD

The TPC Peacemaker committee presented the first annual TUALATIN PEACEMAKER AWARD at the beginning of the Tualatin City council meeting on Monday, March 13. The TUALATIN PEACEMAKER AWARD is an annual award established by the TPC mission committee and authorized by the session. The award, which includes a recognition award and a small cash gift is funded from the portion of our annual PEACEMAKING offering which is collected on World Communion Sunday.

Linda Moholt is this year's recipient of the award which honors the individual or company in Tualatin that exemplifies Peacemaking. Linda is the Volunteer Coordinator for the Tualatin School House Food Pantry. She sees herself as mostly working behind the scenes. She works to keep the volunteers lined up for the three shifts that the pantry is open, drives to Hillsboro to pick up food, and oversees the stocking of it upon her return. She is responsible for organizing the fundraising and volunteers to make it possible for the NW Medical Team Dental Van to come and provide dental care once a month to clients of the Food Pantry. A free health clinic in this area of Washington County is another project that she is actively working to make a reality.

Linda credits Rev. Wes Taylor for getting her involved. As the Food Pantry was opening in October of 2004 she was recently out of paid employment, and Rev. Taylor approached her about being the Volunteer Coordinator for the new Food Pantry. She did not know what she was agreeing to, but it is a job she says that has changed her life. She also is involved in OFRAH (Oregon Faith Roundtable Against Hunger) which advocates legislative solutions to hunger in Oregon.

Tualatin Presbyterian Church takes part annually in the Peacemaking offering by the Presbyterian Church (USA) . 25% of the offering remains with the local congregation for peacemaking activities. By recognizing peacemakers in our community it is our hope that it will foster an environment where peace and justice will flow in Tualatin. With her many activities on behalf of people in Tualatin that are hungry and hurting we gratefully acknowledge Linda Moholt as the 2006 Tualatin Peacemaker.

