



A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR KEN

Dear friends,

When I was a kid the pastor of our church would, in an attempt to keep our attention, ask us to engage the text being preached by circling and underlining various words. He didn't do this all the time, but often enough that you'd better be prepared with a writing utensil of some kind or another. And, as pastors from time immemorial have always concluded that a congregation's failure to laugh at their joke must be due to lack of repetition rather than something lacking in the joke itself, he would repeat the same tired line: "Baptists bring Bibles to church; Presbyterians bring pencils."

Baptists bring Bibles and Presbyterians bring pencils. He was implying that Baptists just read the words of Scripture, but Presbyterians actually thought about them. Now, this is stereotype to be sure- one that in Texas not everyone found to be all that funny. But now a pastor myself, I've come to believe there really may be something to this line- only not the way he meant. I think I'm stating the obvious when I say that in general Presbyterians know what they DON'T believe about the Bible, better than what they do believe. And I'm also bettin' that most of us could probably do a better job listing twelve commercial slogans than if we had to list the twelve tribes of Israel. If Presbyterians bring pencils rather than Bibles to church- I'm not sure if it's because we are just more thoughtful about the text...I think it's that we just aren't that comfortable with it.

I think there are a lot of reasons for this. We definitely don't want to be seen as Bible thumping nut jobs quoting chapter and verse at every little peccadillo. Nor do we want to appear foolish and talk too easily about something we know has a complicated and long history.

But. But, when we cede the Bible only to the crazy sandwich-board wearing guys downtown, when we cede the Bible only to the "experts" who have taken a few classes that should, at the most, give them just enough background to know how much they *don't* know about the riches of Holy Scripture, we give away the most powerful guide to faith and life we have.

Yes, to abuse Scripture, to use it as a weapon is a terrible thing. But to never crack it open at all, to give the Bible away- I wonder if this isn't worse. For to do this is to turn our back on the only family weird enough who could ever possibly know us at our most beautiful and our most broken. For this is what Scripture is- a collection of family stories about our grandfathers and grandmothers who wrestled with the same questions we do, made the same mistakes we continue to make, and encountered God at every step along the way.

So where do we start? Do I recommend that you all just crack open your Bible somewhere and start plowing through genealogies when, let's face it, most of us are more familiar with John, Paul, and Ringo than Matthew, Mark, and Luke? Of course not. For most of us that's just a recipe for failure. Am I just recommending you figure out a way to cram more into your schedules and come to some study on Sunday morning or week night? Hey, for some of you that will work- but for many of us "one more thing" is just the last thing we need.

So here's what I propose. Starting this fall we're going to walk through the Bible as a whole community in a project called Access. (Nicole came up with the name- go Nicole!)

Here's the plan:

- 1) Nicole and I have been working like crazy this summer (and I'm not just talking about the amount of work when I use the word 'crazy' here) to create 20 minute videos introducing every single book of the Bible. I've posted these videos on You Tube at <http://www.youtube.com/user/evershoodtpc> and you will be able to find a link at our website as well. These videos introduce these books and focus in on THREE stories or texts we think are important to know. So, if you don't have time to read the whole book, please try and at least read the three texts we've picked out.
- 2) I've created outlines with basic notes for every book, and collections of these outlines will be available for anyone and everyone in the Narthex and online. These outlines will also include the three stories on them, and with the outline, it will help you get a sense for their context.
- 3) Every week (with the exception of Advent and Holy Week) I will be preaching through the Bible in order, working from, as much as possible, the three selected stories.
- 4) For more depth I will be leading the adult education hour on Sunday mornings before worship from 9:15 to 10 AM. Every question will be welcome. Every level of Biblical or theological knowledge is welcome.

Personally, I'm so excited about this project. Some of you know I've been working on this for over a year now, and I believe that if you participate, it will deliver on the promise the name implies: you will have greater access into the vast world of Holy Scripture, you will have greater access to a sense of God's presence in your everyday life, and by doing this together, we all will have greater access into how each of us bears God in our own way.

You know, I think my pastor was on to something when he said that Baptists bring Bibles and Presbyterians bring pencils. He was on to something, but he only got it half right. Would it be better to say Baptists AND Presbyterians (and everyone in between) are welcome to bring Bibles AND pencils?



SENATE PRAYER

It's all about who you know. That's what they say, anyway, and I think there must be some truth to it. Because our own Casey Sparks worked for the Oregon State Senate before leaving for Virginia to start his career, I was invited by the Senate to offer an invocation as they started their final session on the morning of Wednesday, June 24th. Given the terrible budget crunch, and the drama of the Senate overriding a gubernatorial veto, it was an interesting time to say the least. I will say I was incredibly impressed with how the Senate conducted itself- I'm not sure what I expected, but I certainly didn't anticipate the kind and incredibly warm reception they gave me. Taking a page from the prophet Joel and from the words of Desmond Tutu, here is the prayer.

A Prayer for the State Senate of Oregon

What are we doing here
And who are these people, O God?
Who are these men and women to face such a painful time
Such a challenging moment?

Each one here made the decision to serve
Long before these lean days, these hard days
Each one here entered into this service
To make a difference, to make life better for the people of this great state

And now they face the season of the locust
The devouring locust, the cutting locust
Eating away at our businesses and our support networks
Eating away at the programs developed by this body over decades
Eating away at the good will forged between branches and parties
Eating away at their hope of finding solutions that will benefit all

Who are these people, O God?
Who are these men and women, these legislators, mere flesh and blood
Who are they to face such a time as this?
Who could be up to such a task?

And yet, isn't the better question, who are they not to be the ones to step up
To rise up to this challenge?
Who are they not to be our leaders at this precarious time?
For the people have spoken. The people have called them to this place.
And the people have entrusted these ones,
These ones with the awesome power of this office

My prayer this day, Holy One, as they face seemingly insurmountable difficulty
May they know they are up to this challenge
And may they know they face this hard day not on their own
But with the hopes and prayers of every Oregonian
(Even the ones who send them nasty notes- for we know these are
really just frustrated prayers in disguise.)
And they do this work under your watchful gaze
You who are the one who brings to life impossible possibilities
And wrings hope out of hopeless situations

Lord, set them down now in a good place
A broad place this morning as they begin their work
That in their discussions and deliberations
That in the messiness of their negotiations
They might find surprising pools of clear, still water
And grass so verdant it feeds not only their souls
But their hope- the hope that led them to this service
In the first place

Prayer continued on page 7.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

To Our TPC Family,

We walked into TPC in February of 1998, just two months before Cameron was born. We were welcomed so wholeheartedly—we immediately knew we had found our church home! With all of our family in California, you at once became our family here in Oregon. When we had our babies and our CA family could not be here to help—our TPC family was there at our doorstep with food and happy greetings. Scott and Pam Cameron came to our door almost nine years ago, when Anna was born, and they left as our dearest friends. Through sickness, joy, loss and uncertainty, you have all been right there with us...with prayers and open arms. We cannot imagine the past eleven years without you. We have special memories of holiday skits, so many amazing VBS adventures, fellowship, Tuesday's Treasures, deacon barbecues, family camp, Sunday school, Nicholas in the manger with our family by his side, so much laughter in our funny little church and friendships made that will last a lifetime.

There are so many reasons why we don't want to leave you behind. Would you please move TPC to Massachusetts with us?! We know that we are going to be far away in miles, but you have all touched our lives in some way and you will forever be in our hearts. Of course, we would love it if you were to visit us in our new home! We are moving into a rental home on August 1st—in the same neighborhood where we hope to build a new home.

Our new address is: The Sweetlands, 58 Saddleworth Way, Middleboro, MA 02346

God has plans for us on this grand adventure that we are about to begin—we hope that we will be able to share it with you along the way. Who knows, maybe we will just walk in the doors of TPC one day when you least expect it, and say "We're Home!"

Peace, grace and love,
Todd, Kathy, Cameron, Anna,
and Nicholas Sweetland

P.S. There don't seem to be many Presbyterians in Massachusetts—"Look out, here we come!"



Our featured family for August is Scott and Nancy MacHaffie and their twin boys, Andrew and Owen. You likely have seen the boys having a great time with their

grandparents, Dale and Toni, who are long-time members of TPC. Scott joined the church 20+ years ago when he attended with his parents.

Scott was born and raised in the Portland area. Nancy was born in Billings, Montana and her family subsequently moved to Lake Oswego. Scott and Nancy met 14 years ago while enjoying their love for Irish dancing.

Scott works as a computer programmer at a company called Schrödinger. As part of his job he programs graphical user interfaces for scientific chemistry software used mainly by pharmaceutical companies and labs working towards computational drug design. (He says to pass along that their company is always looking for a talented chemist with a PhD!) Working in the software industry has the advantage of allowing Scott to work from home on Monday and Friday. Nancy is currently performing the important full time job of Super Mom. Before the twins arrived she enjoyed working in payroll and accounting.

When not working or trying to keep up with twin boys, Scott enjoys practicing and teaching both Aikido and Kiatsu. He enjoys teaching individuals of all ages including children as young as 3 years old. Both Andrew and Owen currently enjoy these classes. Last year Scott and Nancy traveled to Japan for training in Aikido and Kiatsu, followed by a fun week exploring Japan.

In her free time Nancy enjoys spinning raw wool into thread and also is skilled using a drop spindle. After creating one work of art for thread she then produces beautiful weavings.

Recently Scott and Nancy have enjoyed taking cooking classes offered by Whole Foods. They learned to cook fancy gourmet dishes that they sampled at the end of each class. This course proved especially useful in learning new gluten free recipes for Owen who is allergic to wheat.

CAN YOU HELP THE TUALATIN SCHOOL HOUSE PANTRY MOVE?

The Tualatin School House Pantry will move to its new location at Rolling Hills Community Church on **Saturday, August 15th**. We could use some help. We will meet at the old location on Boones Ferry Road at **9:00 a.m.** and then start moving to the new location. Volunteers will be needed for packing up and unpacking at both locations. Thanks for your tremendous support.

Blessings, Linda Moholt 503-869-0901

ERIK SPURRELL OFF TO CAMP

Erik leaves for camp on Monday, **August 17** for the short week. He loves getting mail, so if you want to write a short note to him, he will be at Upward Bound Camp, 36155 North Fork Road, Lyons, OR 97358, August 17-20.

Thanks for all your love and support,
Laura Spurrell

ART CLASSES AT TPC

Concrete Leaf Casting Class
Saturday, August 29 at 2:00 p.m.

Artist Roberta Palmer will lead this summer class that captures the beauty of the garden in cast concrete. Each student will make 2-3 leaf castings ranging from bird feeder size hosta leaves to bird baths cast from rhubarb! Roberta will provide all the supplies; all you will need is a positive attitude and grubby clothes! We will meet in her shady backyard, select leaves from her lush garden and learn to work the concrete into beautiful garden art. After our artwork has had time to cure, another class will be arranged for those who wish to learn

her techniques for painting concrete. Samples of her work will be on display in the Narthex. Class time is 2—2 1/2 hours. Class maximum is 12. Cost is \$30, prepaid. Interested? Sign up at the display in the Narthex. Call Ellen VanSchoiack at 503-692-7989 with any questions.

DINNER GROUPS—SAVE THIS DATE

Here is a date we would like everyone to put on their calendars.

Saturday, October 17 TPC will have its 2nd Annual Kick-Off for our Dinner Groups.

We will gather at TPC at 5:30 p.m. for a potluck dinner. Below you will find suggestions for what to bring depending on the first letter of your last name.

A-L: Bring a main dish

M-R: Bring a side dish or salad and bread

S-Z: Bring a dessert

If you have been thinking about joining this program, be sure to be at this year's Kick-Off Potluck.

For those who have not participated in our Dinner Groups, a group of 8 adults (couples or singles) meet for dinner once a month for four months and then we form new groups twice during the year. Our primary purpose is to get to know more members and attendees of TPC. We have found it difficult to become acquainted if we only meet for coffee after church on Sunday.

One reason we're having this Potluck is to discuss how the past year has gone and to encourage others to join us. If you have questions, call Sherry Nelson 503-692-3156 or Ronn Rhodes 503-885-8066.

Treasurer's Report

	Income			# Sundays	Expense		
	Actuals	Budget	Pct Diff		Actuals	Budget	Pct Diff
January	32,778	30,200	8.54%	4	17,012	19,396	-12.29%
February	15,892	18,500	-14.10%	4	23,641	19,396	21.88%
March	19,984	18,800	6.30%	5	19,972	19,396	2.97%
April	14,550	18,100	-19.62%	4	18,751	19,396	-3.32%
May	17,430	20,000	-12.85%	5	20,698	19,396	6.71%
June	14,875	15,700	-5.26%	4	18,029	19,396	-7.05%

LEARN CPR—You Can Do It!

Here are some facts and figures from the American Heart Association:

About 80 percent of all out-of-hospital cardiac arrests occur in private residential settings, so being trained to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) can mean the difference between life and death for a loved one.

Effective bystander CPR, provided immediately after cardiac arrest, can double a victim's chance of survival.

CPR helps maintain vital blood flow to the heart and brain and increases the amount of time that an electric shock from a defibrillator can be effective.

Approximately 95 percent of sudden cardiac arrest victims die before reaching the hospital.

Death from sudden cardiac arrest is not inevitable. If more people knew CPR, more lives could be saved.

Brain death starts to occur four to six minutes after someone experiences cardiac arrest if no CPR or defibrillation occurs during that time.

If bystander CPR is *not provided*, a sudden cardiac arrest victim's chances of survival fall 7 percent to 10 percent for every minute of delay until defibrillation. Few attempts at resuscitation are successful if CPR and defibrillation are *not provided* within minutes of collapse.

On July 11, nine TPC participants earned CPR and Automated External Defibrillator (AED) certification and 11 more joined the "friends and family" group to learn about CPR and how to operate an AED. They all were able to learn basic principles and practice CPR as well as learn how to apply and operate an AED. Jennifer Stafford, RN, taught the American Heart Association CPR class. She helped everyone understand the importance of providing this potentially life saving technique in a timely manner to someone in need.

TPC is preparing to become a recognized AED site within the Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue area. We are looking at purchasing an AED in the near future. This class was offered to help train people in advance for this new emergency equipment. We hope to offer the class again in the fall. Many thanks go to Karen Jones for organizing and arranging this event.

MISSION COMMITTEE BACKPACKING

The Mission Committee is going be "backpacking" and you are invited to join us on this adventure!

Each year TPC provides school supplies to local school districts for distribution to children and youth in need. This year we have learned that in addition to the usual pencils, paper, scissors, etcetera, there is need for back-packs for youngsters whose parents cannot supply them. This is particularly critical with the increase in the number of homeless children who are attending school.

So, here's where your help will be greatly appreciated. Watch the school ads and pick up a backpack or two for a needy child. These are available in various sizes for children in elementary through high school, and are designed specifically for school use.

Additionally, we will continue gathering school supplies to fill the backpacks and then send any left-over supplies to the schools for distribution as needed. Lists of items needed by students are available in the Narthex in the area designated for the Food Pantry. Please pick up a copy today and help us ensure that no child goes without adequate school supplies. Boxes for the backpacks and supplies are in the same location. Thanks for your generosity and support!

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

8/2	Stacy Mauer	8/17	Stan Heath
8/2	Art Barry	8/17	Marian Smith
8/6	Maureen Richardson	8/20	Roger Smith
8/6	Marilyn Heath	8/20	Charlie Peterson
8/6	Quentin Shiffer	8/21	Morgan Maleta
8/7	Barb Larson	8/21	Kerry Lambeth
8/9	Vermadel Gibson	8/22	Bob Schumann
8/9	Donna Hoff	8/24	Amelia Hammer
8/12	Mark Maleta	8/25	Cliff Hoff
8/13	DJ Harriman	8/25	Mimi Crawford
8/13	Christian Shiffer	8/26	Andy VanSchoiack
8/13	Carson Grover	8/29	Diane Barry
8/15	Jacob Holland		

Vacation Bible School 2009 “Discovery Canyon”

This year TPC offered Discovery Canyon VBS to 23 children. Set in a rugged and majestic Discovery Canyon, this year’s program offered something for everyone. The week was filled with adventure with kids crafting in Cavern Crafts, running, jumping and playing Gully Games, singing new tunes that ROCKED, hearing the good news echoing off the canyon walls, and munching on some delicious snacks. A big THANK YOU to the following youth and adults who took time to come and help:



Pastor Ken Ever-Hood, Craig Walker, Barb Kozak, Marsha Steffen, Shari Olsen, Karen Schmitt, Katrina Weener, Erik Spurrell, Cathy Lambeth, Toni MacHaffie, Nancy MacHaffie, Barb Harriman, Denise Collins, Norm Dannemiller, Doug Steffen, Rebecca Crall, Paula Miller, Ted Miller, Judy Nix, Bob Nix, John Lewis, Deborah Lewis, Stacy Mauer, Rick Mauer, and the Fellowship team, the Art team, the Worship Team, Susan Springer and Rhoda Friesen, and the fantastic Jr. leaders—Elise Steffen, Erika Fischer, John Olsen, Emma Steffen, Arielle Mazzuca, Christen Warren, and Lauren Corello. It took a village to make it happen; if your name wasn’t mentioned—SORRY. Also thanks for the donations and goodies from the Bowens and the Olivers. We want to thank you for all your help!

Jackie Dannemiller, VBS Coordinator

In addition to all the people mentioned above who helped make VBS such a success, I would like to thank Jackie Dannemiller for taking on the huge task of coordinating this event. It takes a lot of time, energy and organization to put an entire week together. Many thanks to Jackie for being willing to take this on for 2009! We appreciate all your time and effort to bring this to life.

Blessings,
Marsha Steffen
Children’s Education and
Ministries Elder



TUALATIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CALENDAR

August 2009

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Youth trip to Seaside. Meet at TPC at 10 a.m.
2 9:15 a.m. Adult Ed 10:30 Worship	3	4 7:00 Mis- sion Commit- tee Mtg	5	6	7 10 AM to noon Loving Stitches (N)	8
9 9:15 a.m. Adult Ed 10:30 Worship	10 7:00 p.m. Dea- con Meeting	11 Treasures off site	12	13	14	15 7:30-9 a.m. Men's Breakfast 10-noon Jew- elry Workshop
16 9:15 a.m. Adult Ed 10:30 Worship	17	18	19 6 p.m. Youth BBQ	20 7 p.m. Session Meeting	21 10 a.m. to noon Loving Stitches (N)	22
23 9:15 a.m. Adult Ed 10:30 Worship Nicole's last Sunday.	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 9:15 a.m. Adult Ed 10:30 Worship						

Senate Prayer continued from page 2

God we pray for their families this day, so many far away from this place
 May they know our gratefulness for their sacrifice
 A sacrifice which makes this hard work possible

And we all pray, every single one of us in this place, for the people of Oregon
 Rich and poor, proud and humbled, broken and healing
 All the way from Gold Beach to Hell's Canyon
 That in this heaven on earth we will all find a way in the days ahead
 To do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with you
 In all the many ways we name you. Amen.



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're moved or changed your email address.

Church website: www.tpcspirit.org

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Tualatin Presbyterian Church
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TUALATIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9230 SW Siletz Drive, Tualatin, OR 97062

The Rev. Ken Evers-Hood

Phone: 503-692-4160 **Web Address:** www.tpcspirit.org
Worship Service – Sundays at 10:30 AM

Elders: Craig Bowen, Norm Dannemiller, Chip Kyle, Paula Miller, Joan Nardi, Adele Pelletier, Meg Price, Chris Robertson and Marsha Steffen

Deacons: Rob Ayers, Edda Brown, Carolyn Hale, Barbara Harriman, Ted Lambeth, Jack Lemmon, Sherry Nelson, Mary Ortez, Bill Smiley, Kathy Sweetland, Linda Watkins

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Art Director: Ellen VanSchoiack

Bereavement Committee: Pam Cameron
Wedding Coordinator: Stacy Mauer

Church Office Hours

Monday – Thursday: 9:00 AM– 3:00 PM, Friday – 9:00 AM to noon