

Dear friends,

A couple of Saturdays ago I found myself awake at a very early hour and these words came to me:



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 you must remember 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.*

In our morning prayer one of the books we read from this month was Pema Chodron's *When Things Fall Apart*. Pema, born Deirdre Blomfield-Brown, transitioned from being a somewhat lost and frustrated school teacher into being one of the most prominent Buddhist leaders in the world.

One of the most interesting things about Chodron's writing is she doesn't see her faith and meditation practice as something that primarily brings peace and tranquility to her life. Rather, she sees it as something that drives her to face in real time everything that she is feeling and experiencing. And more often than not, and I think this is especially true of life in a pandemic, these feelings are not always pleasant. But rather than numb, avoid, and distract ourselves away from these feelings, Pema invites us to acknowledge them knowing that no feeling is final and that the worst anxiety, pain, and discomfort will pass.

She writes: "Things falling apart is a kind of testing and also a kind of healing. We think that the point is to pass the test or to overcome the prob-

lem, but the truth is that things don't really get solved. They come together and they fall apart. Then they come together and fall apart again. It's just like that. The healing comes from letting there be room for all of this to happen: room for grief, for relief, for misery, for joy."

Jesus says something similar to this in Matthew: "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?" For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God* and his* righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. 'So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.'"

I don't hear Jesus or Chodron telling us not to care about what is happening around us. Quite the opposite. I do hear them counseling us to hold the world and ourselves very gently and to focus as much as possible on this present moment, on noticing the simplest of things, and finally leaning into the wisdom that we were never really in control. Not really.

So, as the pandemic stretches on, I invite you to use this season as a time to notice what's happening inside of you. Even if it's painful—trust that the feeling of loss, frustration, or disappointment won't hang around forever. Then also consider what it is you do want to devote your energy to after you've acknowledged these uninvited guests. What joy, beauty, small kindness, or love do you want to set your table for going forward?



BURIAN FAMILY

Meet the Burian family – Wes & Brittany and their children, Penelope (15) and William (12). The Burians are new to Oregon and new to TPC, and they are trying to find a sense of community in a new town, amidst a global pandemic and nationwide shutdown. I had the pleasure to be welcomed into their backyard and had some time to laugh with them, discuss the hard choices in parenting, enjoy a cocktail, and get to know them in a safe, socially distant, space. So sit back and get to know them a little through their story. I think you will find that what permeates throughout it, is a determination to follow their dreams, the beautiful

presence of mentors and other wise leaders, a calling to find how God can work in them and through them, and the importance of family.

Brittany grew up as a pastor's daughter in Orange County, California. Wes grew up in Vancouver, Canada, where he did curling, hockey, and attended a Baptist Church. When he was 5, he saw the movie Star Wars and decided his dream was to do special effects in movies. After high school, Wes didn't know how to pursue the film industry from Canada, so he went to 2 years of seminary. He met his mentor at seminary who helped him realize that he should figure out a way to pursue his childhood dream. He created his own company and started doing graphic design and photography, while also being a part-time youth pastor. He eventually got a contract to work on a video game for a company down in Irvine, California. He gave two weeks' notice to the church and moved down to Huntington Beach to follow his dream.

Brittany met Wes, while attending a recurring young singles event at a church near UC Irvine, while she was in college. She was singing at this regular church event and she noticed Wes, who would hang out by the door. Although she had sworn off dating for a while, the mysterious guy that drove the motorcycle and hung out at the door, grabbed her interest. They were starting to become friends, when Wes called and said he got a job in San Francisco and was going to take it. Brittany decided to help him pack up and they started a quick romance that lasted the two weeks before he needed to leave. Wes gave Brittany a ticket to visit him at Thanksgiving and then left to head off to Northern California with an intention to make the long-distance relationship work.

After a few years of long-distance dating, they decided to get married and Brittany moved to San Francisco. Brittany worked at the First Pres-Berkeley church doing children's ministry. Brittany applied to Fuller Seminary in Pasadena, California to study Marriage and Family Therapy and Wes then got a job at DreamWorks in Glendale, California at the same time, so they felt they were destined to head back down to Southern California and pursue these next dreams.

Wes was an art director at DreamWorks and worked on all three Kung Fu Panda movies. Brittany graduated from Fuller Seminary right before she delivered their first child, Penelope, in 2004. She then worked as a children's pastor at their church in Pasadena for the next 4 years, until they had their second child, Will, in 2008.

Prior to getting married, Brittany had traveled with Wes back to Canada for Christmas. There had recently been a death in Wes's family and they found out the family member had passed away from Fabry disease. Wes's mother immediately realized that the symptoms fit things that Wes had been experiencing and that he likely had it. He was officially diagnosed at age 27. Fabry disease is a genetic disorder that prevents the breakdown of a certain type of fat in the body. It is degenerative, so it gets worse over time, and involves intense pain, nerve damage, the inability to regulate body temperature, and fatigue.

After working at DreamWorks for 15 years and with his disease getting progressively worse, Wes eventually made the difficult decision to retire in 2016 and go on disability, with the consultation of his doctors. After Brittany had Will, in 2008, a former professor talked to her about re-entering the family therapy industry. She started a private practice, which was growing as Wes was choosing to wind down his career and preserve his health. Brittany's practice allowed for a flexible schedule so she could still do fun things with the kids like host science camps with them and their friends in the summer and teach local kids how to perform scenes from Hamilton.

Eventually, the weather in the southern California valley was becoming too difficult for Wes, as it is very hot and his disease does not allow for regulating body temperature, so the Burians made the decision to move to the Pacific Northwest, with its beautiful temperate climate. They moved here in August of 2019. They checked out different local churches for a while and then Wes's sister had a friend who recommended they try TPC. Brittany came on her own to check it out and loved the sermon, the art in the sanctuary, and the nature outside that was so visible through the windows. She brought Wes and the kids to the service and checked out the family ministry. They were greeted by Diane Paetsch at the door and felt very welcomed. Pretty soon after starting to attend TPC, Brittany had a really bad herniated disc and ended up in the hospital. Wes reached out to Diane for help and she enlisted the help of the deacons, who organized a meal train. They felt such a sense of community and knew this was a place they could call home. The kids also loved TPC, which is a central part of what matters to Wes and Brittany, in a church community.

Their daughter, Penelope, is 15 and a sophomore at Wilsonville High School. She loves working with kids, loves to perform and sing, and used to lead worship at her old church. Their son, William, is 12, is going into seventh grade and loves tech, art, making music and video games. Both kids were in Spanish language immersion programs and are bilingual.

Our kids have had the pleasure of getting to know their kids. Patrick and I have zoomed with them on the parents' happy hour, and now I feel like I have a little better glimpse into the beautiful people they are. They are looking forward to building roots in Tualatin and getting to know everyone at TPC better, once we can all safely share space again.

Karen Ramos, Deacon, Parish 8

WORDS FROM OUR PARISH NURSE, SUSAN FEE, REGARDING COVID 19

Susan Fee continues to recommend the list below which was printed in the July newsletter. As of July 28, she adds the following:

*****Large groups and travel are two high-risk activities that are not recommended at this time.

1. If we want to get through this more quickly and with less loss, we must all wear masks when out in public indoors or in close proximity outdoors.
2. It is very important to maintain 6 feet or more social distance.
3. If someone near you is not wearing a mask, turn around and walk away.
4. Very few people have a true medical reason to prevent wearing a mask, and those who do are so high risk, they should stay home.
5. Masks need to be worn over the mouth and nose.
6. If you are at higher risk for more serious illness if you contract Covid-19 (age over 60, heart or lung disease, diabetes, compromised immune system), consider staying home. Avoid places where you are not in control of your environment.

Be safe. Be well. If you are feeling alone, depressed or overwhelmed, please reach out to someone.

Susan Fee, TPC Parish Nurse



PAUL'S VEGETABLES 2020

Paul's tomatoes will available in August. His plan is to set up tables at the church during specified hours once a week. Date and time TBD. To the left are photos of tomatoes that are coming on.



Our small stable of TPC video editors could use some company. Can you help? Most weeks, our video editors collect the various parts (video clips) that make up our Sunday worship. We use video editing tools to put them together and set the final video up to stream at 10:10 AM every Sunday.

If you welcome technology into your life, then this might be what you have been looking for! You would be responsible for the video production once every 4—6 weeks, guided by our experienced volunteers. The work can be completed on a Mac or PC. Some previous video experience is helpful, but we are glad to train you. Basic video editing software is needed and we can provide that if it is not already installed. The time commitment is usually 3—6 hours between Wednesday morning and Saturday evening. If you are interested and would like to discuss this opportunity, please contact John Martin or Mike Shiffer, or email editors@tpcspirit.org

Submitted by Mike Shiffer

MASKS FOR BRIDGING CULTURES

My name is Marilyn Wood and I am a member of the non-profit group Bridging Cultures, and also the Canby Kiwanis Club in Canby. We are looking for masks to include in the food boxes that are going to the mostly Latino community in Canby.

Most of these people don't own a sewing machine nor do they know someone who makes masks and they might not have the money to buy a mask. So it is important that we help with this project.

Our goal is to provide 900 to 1,000 masks for adults and children. This is such a wonderful way to show our support for the immigrant community that is working hard to be part of our community and country. Sometimes the problems we face today seem insurmountable so this seems like a small but important way to contribute. I hope you can join me. Please let me know if you can. I can help provide fabric and elastic.

These masks should be washable and 2 or 3 layers. Elastic ties seem best but cloth ties are fine, also. We can arrange for pick-up. Contact me at: marilyncorinne.wood@gmail.com. Thank you.

STEPHEN MINISTRY AT TPC

Social Distance Caregiving Stephen Ricker

The other week I was able to spend a few hours with Bob Nix moving some furniture for Family Promise. We were cautious and careful to protect the tables and chairs, but also to not strain our backs or hurt ourselves. As a result, we worked at a pace that allowed conversation and we talked about nearly everything. At one point he asked me “What’s going on with Stephen Ministry? Is it still going on with the Coronavirus and Social Distancing?”

Such a great question and the answer is YES! Even though we stopped physically meeting at the Church back in March, the Stephen Leaders at TPC maintained contact with each other and the Stephen Ministers beginning with e-mails. We quickly adopted Zoom and have continued our meetings on the second and fourth Tuesday every month. We are there for each other just as strongly as we always have been.

More importantly our Stephen Ministers have maintained their relationships with their Care Receivers. Each week they are reaching out over the phone, perhaps Facetime and on occasion, a properly Social Distanced meeting in a backyard or park. It is a bit different, but our Stephen Ministers are still “there” listening. As a Stephen Minister myself I can attest that as these months have passed with a new “normal” surrounding us, my relationship with my Care Receiver is still strong.

I appreciate the time I had with Bob Nix and am especially thankful he asked about TPC’s Stephen Ministry program. He gave me a chance to take a moment and review just how well we continue to serve our Care Receivers and our Congregation. Our Stephen Ministers are Fan-Tas-Tic.

TPC’s Stephen Ministers are Joan Nardi, Pam Cameron, Kerry Hormann, Sandy Gurney, Nancy Wilcox, Bud Bender, Carol Rhodes, Eileen Eakins (L), Jean Martin (L) and Stephen Ricker (L). Eileen, Jean and Stephen are also Leaders along with Susan Springer and Nikki Martin. Please do not hesitate to reach out to any one of us, if you would like to learn more about TPC’s Stephen Ministry program or know all about it and want to invite a Stephen Minister into your life.



FAMILY PROMISE UPDATE

Host Week, sponsored by TPC, recently provided food for nine families. Thanks to Pam Bowen, John Casebeer, and Karen Emerson (Tigard United Methodist Church) for shopping and delivering groceries. When COVID changed the rotational shelter program, your generous March cash donations enabled us to purchase food and help offset some of the family move-in basket expenses. In July, The National Charity League of Lake Oswego held a food drive at the Day Center and collected a lot of staples. The Young Men's Service League is running a move-in basket donation drive in August to provide needed items. Even with these assists, due to the number of people being served by FPTV, we are planning another monetary donation drive before our next host week. Derrilyn will let you know how you can help.

Two program family moves occurred this past week and were completely furnished using items stored in TPC's basement. The first move was orchestrated by Southwest Church of Christ, whose youth group recently got involved in volunteering. Wish you could have been there for the emotion expressed by Denise and her 5-year-old son when they arrived at their apartment that had been set up by the crew! Denise cannot get over how FPTV has positively impacted her life and empowered her to reach her housing goal.

Jenna and three-year-old Brayden are also in housing. Judy and the move-team volunteers from Westside Jesus Church, put together a really nice furniture package for this little family. Jenna has worked hard to overcome many challenges in order to secure housing. She is proud to provide Brayden with housing stability as he grows up, which is something she did not experience.

FPTV Emergency Shelter Program is almost full with 5 family households and 4 adult households. In an agreement with Washington County that FPTV entered into last month. FPTV is reimbursed for all expenses involved in motel stays and staff time for case management. This is a wonderful way to help more people find permanent housing.

One of the wonderful things about TPC's involvement in Family Promise is the interaction with people from other churches and organizations. Many hands make the work light.

Derrilyn Bayha and Pam Bowen,
 TPC Family Promise Coordinators
 Judy Nix,
 Family Promise Move-in Team and Board Mbr.

TPC CAR PARADES



Since Sunday, April 26th, there have been five different car parades that have visited about 67 TPC homes (and two of friends of TPC). About 30 people have been involved in these fun parades although usually about 12 on any given Sunday. We have had our cars decorated and made lots of noise going by people's houses and have seen lots of smiles. Of course neighbors have had the fun of seeing us too, as well as those we have passed by on our way as we weaved in and out of the streets of Tualatin, Lake Oswego, Wilsonville and Sherwood. Our most memorable visit was to Maureen and Herb Richardson's home. Maureen was wearing a fascinator and heels and one of our members gave her a plate with Tom Selleck on it!

All of us involved have absolutely loved spending time on Sundays adding love to our members. We are going to take a short break but hope to be **BACK ON THE ROAD AGAIN** soon.

Carolyn Hale

BIRD SIGHTING
Lazuli Bunting-male

If there was an award for best leading actor in a bird rom com, this guy would surely win. The morning I observed him in his award winning performance, he put on a show like never had I ever seen before. He commanded the stage, a dry berry bramble, wearing a costume of such vivid turquoise, it would have seemed garish on anybird else. He would belt out a loud raucous song, then soft shoe stage right or left. Striking a pose, then restriking it to an extreme, I wavered between thinking him genius to absolutely absurd. I was enthralled.



I didn't get to see the ending of his production but several weeks later I spotted a female Bunting and her fledglings. Something tells me, he got his girl.
Rebecca Backen

CONNECT TO TPC

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP at 10:10 am
Go to church website, tpcspirit.org. Or Facebook.

ZOOM

Zoom enables you to interactively participate in a virtual meeting with other TPC folks. To find the links for regular zoom meetings (the "Virtual Coffee Hour" after Sunday morning worship, and the weekday 9 am Prayer meetings)" go to tpcspirit.org/Links/. That page is updated weekly or as needed.

To join a ZOOM meeting, simply click the link from a message or web page. If it is outside the times for that meeting you'll get a message, "Please wait for the host to start this meeting" which indicates that your computer is set up properly.

Problems? Look at [Zoom Step-by-step](#) or send an email message to support@tpcspirit.org. [Zoom Step-by-step](#) also contains useful additional information about navigating some of the features, and alternatives available with Zoom.



MAUREEN AND HERB RICHARDSON

We all "starred" Maureen & Herb on July 4th! Peggy met me at their house and we taped the stars all up before calling them to come out to take a look! They loved it! Thank you all for your great thoughts, prayers, quotes and Tom (Selleck) stickers!

As you can see Maureen is a rock "star"! 2 weeks past surgery and she's doing great! Keep the prayers coming for them both!

Deacons, True Stars, all of you!
Susan Cameron

TPC 2020 FINANCIALS	Actuals	Budget	Dollar Difference
Operating Income Year to Date 6/30/20	\$233,096	\$210,893	\$12,198
Operating Expenses Year to Date 6/30/20	\$199,307	\$206,633	\$7,326

LATE BREAKING NEWS from Sunday, August 2 morning Zoom fellowship

Pastor Ken said that during this strange time, he misses the Birthday Chicken!!!

Susan Springer, Newsletter Editor

AUGUST TUALATIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CALENDAR

For the latest calendar updates, go to www.tpcspirit.org and click on EVENTS.

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 10:10 am on-line worship at www.tpcspirit.org Also on Facebook.	3 9 am morning prayer on Zoom	4 9 am morning prayer on Zoom	5 9 am morning prayer on Zoom	6 9 am morning prayer on Zoom	7 9 am morning prayer on Zoom	8
9 10:10 am on-line worship at www.tpcspirit.org Also on Facebook.	10 9 am morning prayer on Zoom 7 pm Deacon meeting	11 9 am morning prayer on Zoom 7 pm Stephen Ministry/Zoom	12 9 am morning prayer on Zoom	13 9 am morning prayer on Zoom Book Group Meeting	14 9 am morning prayer on Zoom	15
16 10:10 am on-line worship at www.tpcspirit.org Also on Facebook.	17 9 am morning prayer on Zoom	18 9 am morning prayer on Zoom	19 9 am morning prayer on Zoom	20 9 am morning prayer on Zoom Book Group Meeting	21 9 am morning prayer on Zoom	22
23 10:10 am on-line worship at www.tpcspirit.org Also on Facebook.	24 9 am morning prayer on Zoom	25 9 am morning prayer on Zoom 7 pm Stephen Ministry/Zoom	26 9 am morning prayer on Zoom	27 9 am morning prayer on Zoom	28 9 am morning prayer on Zoom	29
30 10:10 am on-line worship at www.tpcspirit.org Also on Facebook.	31 9 am morning prayer on Zoom					

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

02-Art Barry
02-Stacy Mauer
04-Andrew Perkins
05-Emma Swanson
06-Stan Heath
06-Maureen Richardson
07-Barb Larson
09-Donna Hoff

10-Hayden Christopherson-Engh
12-Mark Maleta
14-Liz Belz-Templeman
14-Sheri Schipporeit
15-Jacob Holland
16-Donna Hammersly
17-Marilyn Heath
17-Marian Smith

19-Patrick Gibson
21-Morgan Maleta
24-Ginny Fitzhenry
25-Jeffrey Engh
25-Cliff Hoff
27-John Cameron
29-Diane Barry
29-Meagan Cameron
29-Jean Martin

The church office is closed due to Covid-19; employees are working from home.
The building is not available for meetings.

You are invited to worship with us on line on Sundays starting at 10:10 am.
Go to the church website, www.tpcspirit.org Or Facebook.

If you wish to leave a voicemail message, call the church office
at 503-692-4160. Messages are checked regularly.



Paul's Garden. Photo by Dick Wiggers

TUALATIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9230 SW Siletz Drive, Tualatin, OR 97062

Phone: 503-692-4160 Email: office@tpcspirit.org

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

Worship Service – Sundays at 10:10 a.m. on line at www.tpcspirit.org

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Ken Evers-Hood

Parish Associates: The Rev. Charlie Brown, The Rev. Dr. Dick Wiggers

Elders: Craig Bowen, Russ Carlin, John Casebeer, Jeff Engh, Joan Nardi (acting), Greg Owen, Carolyn Pursinger, Ian Swanson, and Maureen Wolf

Deacons: Derrilyn Bayha, Susan Cameron, Peggy Gibbons, Emily Gibson, Carolyn Hale, Donna Hammersly, Jason James, Julie Nader, Karen Ramos, Herb Richardson, Sheri Schipporeit, Kerry Weaver, and Rob Wiesenthal.

Director of Family Ministries: Sarah Beck
Administrative Assistant, Newsletter Editor: Susan Springer
Financial Assistant: Mike Shiffer
Director of Music Ministries: Gary Young
Accompanist: Dr. Ron Fabbro
Bell Choir Director: Debbie Ivanov
Building and Grounds Caretaker: Bob Paetsch
Art Director: Chris Robertson
Bereavement Committee Chair: Barbara Crall
Blood Drive Coordinator: Scott Cameron
Clerk of Session: Liz Belz-Templeman

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
Treasurer: Chip Kyle
Tuesdays Treasures Coor: M&M Shiffer, Denise Collins
Webmaster: John Martin
Wedding Coordinator: Stacy Mauer

The office is closed. Can leave voice message at 503 692-4160. We will get back to you.