



A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR KEN

Dear friends,

Have a good idea for the church? Want to make it happen? There are all sorts of ways things happen in congregations. Some churches look to the pastor to climb every mountain and lead every effort. (Heck, you're just happy if your pastor makes it back alive from the mountains.) Some churches look to large committees to make things happen. And while this is probably more effective than when the pastor alone leads the way, committees can often become bogged down in detail and personality conflicts, and a good idea may languish. Some congregations, especially amongst those who refer to themselves as 'missional,' seek to honor how God can raise up good ideas from every person in a congregation and not just amongst the leadership. These congregations strive for a balance between being overly planned, where ideas can only come from a small number of 'approved' people, and from being overly scattered, where ideas come and go creating a sense of chaos.

Here at TPC we say in our bulletin that Ken is the pastor but that all of us are the ministers. We believe this. We believe that every individual is called by God and may have a good idea now and then. And we also have larger goals and know that sometimes we need to focus our energy in one direction rather than another. So, if *YOU* have a good idea, here's a simple pathway to follow to see whether this is the right time to make it happen.

Write down your good idea. Pray about it. Maybe talk it over with some friends to see what they think.

Bring the idea to Pastor Ken **OR** bring it to an elder and discuss it with them.

Then, three possibilities might occur:

a) the idea might be a 'no brainer,' and, if it doesn't involve money, all the approval that might be required is just an elder agreeing to it, a Calendar Reservation Form filled out, and away you go;

b) the idea might be a good one but involves the use of money or the raising of money, and if this is the case the elder may be able to approve it themselves, or they may bring the request before Session for approval;

c) the idea might be a good one, but after prayerful discussion and Session consideration, the Session may articulate why the idea might be good but is in conflict

with events or programs already planned and to come back at a later time.

Then, if you've brought an idea to an elder, received permission from them or from the full Session to run with it, your work will involve reserving a room in the church, if needed, and making a check request. Here's how to do that.

Susan Springer is the best person to work with regarding building usage. Start by filling out a blue "Calendar Reservation Form" found on the bulletin board above the copy machine in the office.

Rhoda Friesen deals with financial matters. If your event or project will involve paying a third party with a check or involves personal reimbursement, please follow these steps very carefully:

First, in order for any payment to be made, a green check request form must be filled out and signed by the responsible elder. **YOU MUST HAVE THE ELDER'S PERMISSION TO SPEND MONEY BEFORE SPENDING IT.**

After filling out the form and having the elder sign it, then place it in the signed check requests in-box. The church office is already hard at work on other matters, so please anticipate that it will take at least one week from the time you submit a signed check request before you actually receive the check. (N.B. Ken will not consider a failure to plan ahead on the part of someone wanting a check to become a problem the office must solve.)

An example of how this process can work: the idea for a recently started (and AWESOME!) men's group did not come from Ken or from anyone on Session. In fact the idea didn't even originate with a person who was a member at the time. When Ken met with Chip and Cackie Kyle who were visiting the church, Chip raised the question of a men's group. Ken said it was a good idea, provided some names for Chip to follow up with, and then watched as an idea blossomed into a ministry.

So if you have a good idea- start talking about it and see if this is the right time to make it happen!



PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

REMEMBERING PAT DEVORE

11/13/1937—8/14/2009

Pat joined her husband, Larry DeVore, who preceded her in death, when she passed away on August 14, 2009, with her family at her bedside. Their 50th wedding anniversary would have been August 15.



Pat was born in Portland to Carl and Esther Anderson. She graduated from Umatilla High School and from what is now Oregon State University. She worked over 30 years as a life insurance office manager.

She will be remembered for her loving and caring personality. Pat had a wonderful sense of humor and loved music, visiting the Oregon coast, gardening and decorating for the holidays. She always had a hug and kiss to share. Pat felt her greatest accomplishment was raising her three daughters.



Pat's love and laughter will be greatly missed by her family: daughters Barbara Chang, Susan Poti, Debra Cohen, sisters, Karla Magedanz and Karen Ryan; six grandchildren; and dog, Beau.

Remembrances in Pat's name may be made to the Alzheimer's Association or American Red Cross.



One of the joys of being a Deacon is getting to know people in our church better than just on Sunday mornings. Priscilla and Eric Hagen have attended TPC for 2 years and I am honored to be their deacon.

Edda Brown, Parish #9



Priscilla and Erin Hagen have lived in the same Lake Oswego home for 27 years. They enjoy working together in their naturalistic wooded garden. They also both like to frequently talk to Erin's three sisters on the phone in the Bronx, Austin and Seattle. Grandchildren Ahna and Simon are able to visit from New York City about every nine months to both Grandma's and Uncle Erin's delight. Both Erin and Priscilla love C.S. Lewis's books and eagerly await the next big screen production in the theaters.

Erin has worked at REI for over 15 years and has earned a one month sabbatical which he will take this fall. He has planned an extensive train trip with his oldest sister, Kelly Ann, which will focus on civil rights sites in the South. Biking and recycling are two ways Erin protects God's creation. During last years election, he enjoyed even strangers noticing his strong physical resemblance to Barack Obama. Erin plays basketball one night a week at Lake Grove Presbyterian Church. He welcomes anyone who will talk sports with him during TPC's coffee hour.

Priscilla has been a disability rights advocate and counselor. She has worked for Goodwill Industries and the State of Oregon as a vocational counselor. For the last twelve years she has had a private counseling practice working with individual adults on issues of grief, employment and life transitions. Priscilla loves to cook and enjoys small dinner gatherings with friends whose Christian faith informs their lives. She is looking forward to the publication of the TPC cookbook. Last fall Priscilla joined the Spiritual Formation Group at TPC and has been enriched by that involvement.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS



Meet one of our newest families at TPC: **Jeff and Katrina Weener**, along with children Megan, age nine, Robert (Bobby as he is called), age seven, and three cats named: Jr. Man, Jackson (a.k.a. Bug) and Snowy (a.k.a. Flake). Several weeks ago we had the pleasure of hearing Megan read scripture. She did a fantastic job.

Katrina graduated from South Burlington High School in South Burlington, VT. Jeff graduated from George Marshall High School in Fairfax, VA. They held various jobs on the East Coast before venturing out West. They met in French class at Bellevue Community College so they could each meet the foreign language requirement to attend the University of Washington. Katrina and Jeff were married September 9, 1997.

Both have a passion for science. Katrina majored in zoology with a minor in speech communication. "Each body and organ system has a preferred animal to study it in," Katrina stated. She studied primarily crickets and manuca sextuworms. Guess which preferred body or organ systems were being studied. Ask her.

Jeff majored in computer science and is currently a computer engineer at Intel. (One will not find a pocket protector on him.) Recently, Jeff wrote a paper about "Computer Design Automation." It was accepted. He presented it to Intel-at-large in California which prevented them from going to Family Camp, as it was scheduled the same week.

Intel won this year but hopefully next year they can join our "TPC Family" at Family Camp.

Jeff loves to sing, is in the TPC choir and takes voice lessons. He sang at TPC this summer (with his father-in-law) and has a beautiful, rich voice. Jeff also loves "most things engineering or science related." Katrina loves working with children, teaching science and is an avid reader. Most recently she was a kindergarten aide at St. Paul's Lutheran School in Sherwood until budget cuts arrived.

Give them a big TPC hug and a warm welcome!
Barbara Harriman, Deacon Parish #10



NICOLE REIBE **Next step—Boston College**

Sunday, August 23 was Nicole Reibe's last Sunday as our Pastoral Resident. Following worship she and her mother climbed in her car and started the drive back east. But before she left she had a few words to share.

In the opening paragraph of her last sermon she reflected back to how she "first got involved with "you ragtag bunch of wonderful misfits." It can be traced back to Nicole's going to church with her grandmother. Nicole remembered being incredibly impressed by how welcoming and friendly everyone was. To quote Nicole, "Hospitality is one of TPC's strong suits."

During the Thanking and Blessing Our Pastoral Resident portion of the worship service, Ken gave Nicole a red stoll and a flask appropriately engraved "Nicole's Holy Water." He thanked her for being a friend and a colleague.

We wish her well; she will be missed.



SUNDAY SCHOOL FALL KICK-OFF

Mark your calendars for the first day of our 2009/10 Sunday School on September 13.

Please bring your children and join us for refreshments downstairs in the community room from 9:15 to 9:30 a.m. to help celebrate the beginning of our year. We encourage you to come and meet your children's teacher(s) and to fill out a registration form, if you haven't had a chance.

Sunday School runs from approximately 9:30 a.m. to 10:20 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION



Sunday School will start September 13. To help us plan for curriculum and teachers, we would like all those planning on sending child(ren) to Sunday School this school year to complete a registration form. Registration forms will be available in the Narthex.

Please take a moment to complete a form and leave it in the basket in the Narthex.

If you have questions, please contact me at 503-692-0120. Thank you so much.

Marsha Steffen
Children's Education and Ministries Elder

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Spiritual Formation meets on the first Monday of the month off site from 7-8:30 p.m. This small group gathers to pray, read the Bible together, listen in silence and share what we hear in the scripture reading for the next Sunday. We are starting up again on **Monday, September 7** (yes, Labor Day.) If you think you might enjoy this contemplative way of looking at scripture, talk to Laura Spurrell about joining us on a regular basis...503-692-7034.

TPC MEN'S FELLOWSHIP



The Men's Fellowship Group exists for three reasons: to broaden and deepen the fellowship among the men of Tualatin Presbyterian Church; to develop the spiritual component of our lives;

and to express our fellowship and spirituality through service projects. We meet for breakfast on the third Saturday of each month at 7:30 a.m. and, occasionally, at other times for special projects. The Saturday breakfasts feature rotating cooks (or is that chefs?), so the food is as good as the conversation. Some of the projects we've been involved with include the Tualatin Food Pantry, Spring Clean-up at the church, and preparing dinner for the medical volunteer staff at the Essential Health Clinic.

Treasurer's Report

	Income				# Sun- days	Expense			
	Actuals	Budget	Pct Diff	\$ Diff		Actuals	Budget	Pct Diff	\$ Diff
Janu- ary	32,778	30,200	8.54%	2,578	4	17,012	19,900	-	2,888
Febru- ary	15,892	18,500	14.10%	(2,608)	4	23,641	19,902	18.78%	(3,739)
March	19,984	18,800	6.30%	1,184	5	19,972	20,121	-0.74%	149
April	14,550	18,100	19.62%	(3,550)	4	18,751	19,924	-5.88%	1,173
May	17,430	20,000	12.85%	(2,570)	5	20,698	19,921	3.90%	(777)
June	14,875	15,700	-5.26%	(825)	4	18,029	20,323	11.29%	2,294
July	18,175	15,200	19.57%	2,975	4	22,076	22,420	-1.53%	344

If you are interested in finding out more about us, or have suggestions for programs or service projects, please contact Chip Kyle (chair), Marshall Watkins (vice chair/program development) or Rod Kerr (secretary/treasurer). We hope to see you at the next meeting.

DINNER GROUPS—SAVE THIS DATE

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.

**ERIK SPURRELL GETS CAMP
“POSTAL PAL AWARD”**

Erik received an award at camp for “Postal Pal.” The citation reads, “for being a great friend to campers, counselors, family and friends from home evidenced in his large amounts of mail and friends at camp.” Thank you to all of his friends who wrote the week he was away. He is indeed blessed by many friends at TPC, may you be blessed in return.

**Lutheran Choral Association presents their
71st ANNUAL CONCERT SEASON**

The Lutheran Choral Association is a group of over 160 multi-denominational singers from the greater Portland-Vancouver area. At each of the concerts listed below there will be a free will offering. Questions? Talk to Diane Adams.

Sunday, August 30, 7 p.m.
St. Stephens Lutheran Church
290 West Gloucester St., Gladstone

Sunday, September 13, 7 p.m.
Augustana Lutheran Church
2710 NE 14th Ave., Portland

Sunday, September 20, 7 p.m.
Calvin Presbyterian Church
10445 SW Canterbury Lane, Tigard

Sunday, September 27, 7 p.m.
Oak Grove United Methodist Church
14700 SE Rupert Drive, Milwaukie

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 2 Ken Evers-Hood | 20 Debbie Reid |
| 3 Erin Mauer | 20 Robbie Price |
| 6 Katie VanSchoiack | 20 Hannah Price |
| 7 Claudia Wahl | 21 Dee Johnson |
| 7 Nancy MacHaffie | 23 Debbie Imus |
| 9 Katrina Weener | 26 Luke Winkler |
| 10 Dee Dee Hansen | 26 Phil Friesen |
| 10 Corbin Bowen | 27 Ted Pelletier |
| 10 Nicholas Hines | 27 Doug Steffen |
| 11 Louise Ludwig | 28 Marsha Steffen |
| 11 Karly Corona | 29 Heather Harriman |
| 12 Anna Sweetland | 29 Owen Schmidt |
| 17 Darian Breshears | 30 Priscilla Hagan |
| 18 Vic Collins | |

POP CANS AND BOTTLES

Yes, we’re still collecting them. Nickels add up. Session approved the reallocation of pop can money to the Community Help Fund.

WORDS FROM CASEY SPARKS WHO IS LIVING AND WORKING IN VIRGINIA

Campaigns, as many of you know, have been a passion of mine for many years. With only two states holding statewide elections this year, I knew Virginia would be the center of the political campaign universe this fall, and I wanted to be a part of it. So when I interviewed and was offered the job of Field Organizer with the Virginia Democratic Coordinated Campaign two days after the primary election in early June, I took it with little hesitation. I quit my job with the state legislature, sold my old 1990 blue Mazda 323, packed up my life in Salem, said goodbye to my old friends from college, bought a new car I could use for field work back East (my parents ended up finding someone who could drive it there for me), and got on a plane to Richmond on the morning of June 18, arriving in the capital of the old Confederacy that evening and heading out to the interestingly-named city of Newport News on the Virginia Peninsula the next day.

Now, two months later, I'm working as an organizer in one of the coordinated campaign's regional offices in the southeastern corner of the state, working to make sure the Commonwealth of Virginia continues to move forward politically (so to speak), and that the tide of Democratic progress doesn't turn the opposite direction. It takes a certain type of personality to work full-time on a political campaign (some might go so far as to call it insanity), and I didn't fully realize it until I truly became a part of one. I work as part of a team of organizers for the region, each one of us is assigned to a collection of precincts and charged with executing their field plan to victory in November. Our boss, the Regional Field Director for the coordinated, is a Haitian woman who worked with the Obama campaign last year. The hours are long, the lifestyle can be unhealthy, the stress level and pressures can be high, and drama tends to develop among fellow campaign workers from time to time, among other things. In the course of a day in the office I make well over a hundred phone calls to potential supporters of the campaign and volunteers among other duties, and on weekends we help organize events in the community and do further voter outreach, including door-to-door canvassing (today it was in the 98-degree heat, with a fair amount of humidity).

We still have over two-and-a-half-months ahead of us on the campaign trail, but I'm already starting to forget what day it is.

And yet, to paraphrase what my friend David Norse said in a sermon he gave a few years ago, I know that God is here. Those of you who have come to know me over the years will understand when I say that I have had my share of difficulties with my faith over the course of my coming-of-age, but the truth is that I have always held onto the basic principles of the church I was raised in, and have never failed to consider myself a Presbyterian. I know that God is here, in the life I have built for myself for the next few months in Hampton Roads, just as I know God is in every other part of the world, and, I believe, in every person to a certain degree. God is in the candidates I work for, who I see as brave and honorable individuals who have put the interest of the people of the Commonwealth ahead of their own for as long as they have been proud to call themselves public servants. God is in my elderly supporter hosts, who agreed to house me for the duration of the campaign and provide me with a roof over my head at night and access to a well-stocked fridge when I come home from a long day of campaigning. God is in my coworkers, including John Michael, a field organizer from eastern Tennessee who is all heart, 3-0 in elections and not about to lose his fourth (he worked for Fred Thompson for two weeks in 2008, but doesn't count that one), and is willing to do literally everything it takes to win. God is even in the people I talk to as part of my duties with the campaign, people who have on more than one occasion cussed me out or, in one memorable case, told me that I should have stayed in Oregon because "you have enough problems there already," when I call to seek their support in the form of voting or volunteering.

None of us knows exactly what the future holds, and to be quite honest I have no clue what will happen on November 3rd, not to mention where my life's journey will take me after all the votes are cast and counted. Just as I have from the beginning, I still carry ambitions of working on Capitol Hill someday as a high-level aide to a national political figure, or writing speeches on the campaign trail, following my candidate

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TUALATIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CALENDAR

September 2009

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1. 7 pm Mission Committee Mtg	2.	3. 7 pm Dance Committee Mtg	4.	5.
6. 9:15 a.m. Adult Ed 10:30 Worship	7. Labor Day Office Closed 7 pm Spiritual Formation	8. 7 pm Fellow- ship Meeting	9. 7-8 pm Vocal Ensemble 8-9 pm Instru- mental Ensem.	10.	11. 10 to noon Loving Stitches	12.
13. 9:15 Adult Ed 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Congregational Mtg Fiesta Potluck	14. 7 pm Deacon Meeting	15. 7 to 8:30 pm Tuesday's Treasures	16. 7 pm Chancel Choir	17. 7 p.m. Session Meeting	18.	19. 7:30-9:00 am Men's Break- fast
20. 9:15 a.m. Adult Ed 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Noon-1 Reader traing 1-3 pm Liturgist trng	21.	22.	23. 7-8 pm Vocal Ensemble 8-9 pm Instru- mental Ensem	24.	25. 10 to noon Loving Stitches	26.
27. 9:15 a.m. Adult Ed 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Youth Group starts	28.	29. 7 pm CEM Meeting	30. 7 pm Chancel Choir			

CASEY SPARKS—CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

around the country on a quest to change the world for the better through the electoral process, working within the system to effect transformational change. Politics is an unpredictable field to work in, and I have a feeling that much of what will happen to me after this election cycle will depend on the results of our “bellwether” campaign, situated where America began four hundred years ago. But I also know that win or lose – regardless of failure or success at the ballot box, and in the heart and minds of voters and political commentators both here and nationwide – I will always have my roots in the Pacific Northwest and my family and friends back home, and that includes my church family at TPC.



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

This newsletter is published and mailed once a month. The deadline for the October issue is 9 a.m. on Tuesday, September 22. Please email articles to newsletter@tpcspirit.org.

Tualatin Presbyterian Church
9230 SW Siletz Drive
Tualatin, OR 97062-9182

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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 a.m.

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, Linda Watkins

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

Clerk of Session: Mary Shiffer

Webmaster: Melissa Evers-Hood
e-mail: webmaster@tpcspirit.org

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

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

Music Director: Kris Sparks
e-mail: music.director@tpcspirit.org

Bell Choir Director: Martha Wilson
e-mail: bells@tpcspirit.org

Music Accompanist: Ron Fabbro
Art Director: Ellen VanSchoiack

Bereavement Committee: Pam Cameron
Wedding Coordinator: Stacy Mauer

Church Office Hours

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