

Greetings again,  
 Welcome to fall! This month with so much going on, I've decided to write a kind of 'pastor's potpourri' newsletter piece touching on a couple of important issues, namely **worship** and **childcare**.

One of the great touchstones of the Reformation is the belief in the priesthood of all believers. Luther and Calvin absolutely got it right when they articulated a view of the church in which all were welcome to participate and lead in worship and not just a privileged few. Indeed, the word liturgy actually comes from the Greek roots meaning "work of the people". However, when it comes to living this out as Presbyterians, we often talk the talk far better than we walk the walk. We are all busy, and it is easy to allow worship and liturgy to become less the work of the people and more just the work of pastors. Your worship committee believes it doesn't have to be like this, and envisions worship with an expanded role for the liturgist including reading, praying, and possibly other ways of leading us all in the worship of God. Your worship committee also knows, though, that a greater role for liturgists will require greater training and support for them as well. And so, this fall as we plan to expand our worship possibilities, we begin by offering a training session on Saturday, November 12 from 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM here at the church led by yours truly. We will work on forming a basic understanding of Reformed worship as well as focus on practical skills such as how to find or write vital and appropriate prayers and how to read and speak for meaning. Open to all, this training will be required for everyone who desires to be a liturgist- if you cannot make this date more will be offered. Please call the office to RSVP or if you have any questions.

And Jesus said: "Let the children come to me, do not try to stop them; for the kingdom of Heaven belongs to such as these." (Matthew 19:14 REB) It is both spiritually and organizationally true to say that churches live or die by how well they care for children. I remember once being somewhat surprised to read that church consultants believe they can determine the overall health of a church by visiting just one room and that that room is *not* the sanctuary. Guess which room they're concerned about --the nursery. That's right- the nursery. While I think it's probably a stretch to say that the whole program at TPC can be summed up by our nursery, it is without a doubt true that no one with young children (people vital to sustaining a congregation) will continue being a part of a congregation that doesn't provide good and safe care for their children.

We at TPC now find ourselves at something of a challenge and an opportunity. Margaret Girardi, who has worked downstairs in our nursery for 7 years, has accepted a new position with Tualatin Elementary School and will no longer be able to continue with TPC. We are so thankful to Margaret for her faithful service with us, and we now turn our thoughts to what lies before us. Our desire is to search for three people who feel called to a ministry of caring for our little ones. We need one person with some organizational ability who will be willing to organize the various child care needs of the congregation. And we are looking for people (at least one must be over 18) within the congregation or without who would jump at the best way to spend time with little ones, have all the fun and then hand them back to their parents. ☺ Please call the office if you are interested or know someone who is interested either in coordinating our child care program or in working for us in the nursery.



"Let us also remember Isaiah's thin place isn't marked just by acceptance of all that it is we are--but it is also marked by hope, hope for new possibilities in the future. And I also dare to dream that

we may be like Isaiah in this second way as well."

We embarked with excited possibility  
To find new leadership for TPC.

Our pastor search had narrowed down  
To the few top applicants we had found.

It had been months since we had begun  
How would we know when we found 'the one'?

Of course in the process we would pray  
To seek God's guidance along our way.

Many resumes we looked through  
With hope to find our pastor new.

#97 had a certain spark  
Of caring intention to light the dark.

Ken and family flew out to see  
If this was the place for them to be.

Over a weekend we grilled him well.  
He's quite a preacher, we could tell.

(As we listened in the pew  
Will preferred to bulletin chew.)

His wife was great, his son was cute,  
His Christian spirit we could not refute.

Yet we faced a most significant task:  
Was Ken the person we should ask?

Would it be clear in guitar or voice?

My mind was filled with thoughts a-spinning  
.....And there it was:

A piece of rainbow—not a sky-ful  
But still a bold and brilliant eyeful.  
No flashing neon '97'  
Yet in this rainbow sent from heaven

I felt both hope and joy together.  
Was this 'sign' a result of weather?

Or had I encountered a 'thin place'  
Where I could feel God's present grace

With proof that our God will provide  
And with us always will abide.

My doubts were gone, it all was clear:  
In my car,  
in that thin place,  
God was most certainly near.

As a consequence of our decision  
We've had exposure to new vision.

The energy and insight Ken has brought  
In this past year has meant a lot.

And so my tale has told of when  
I knew our pastor would be Ken.

Thanks be to God!  
Composed by Carolyn Locke

This worship art was created by Mary Shiffer. Mary was inspired to create this Thin Places banner after reflecting on Pastor Ken's sermon delivered on August 8, 2004





Ken's One Year Anniversary  
celebrated  
September 25.





10/02	Katy Olsen	10/20	Molly Winterrowd
10/03	Bill Wood	10/22	John Crawford
10/03	Chris Robertson	10/22	Ryan Schleicher
10/04	David Collins	10/25	Barb Crall
10/06	Myrna Friese	10/29	Mike Hines
10/06	Karen Dix	10/29	Matthew Dannemiller
10/08	Gina Olson	10/30	Elizabeth Shafer
10/09	Alex Backen	10/30	Jerry Shiffer
10/18	Will Lambeth	10/31	Sherry Nelson
10/20	Kathy Kinyon		

**Please remember  
in prayer:**



Don Peterson, who has begun chemotherapy, traveling mercies for Julie Van Buren's son who is traveling and studying in Europe this term; Traveling mercies for the MacHaffie's as they travel for a month and the MacHaffies' requests for prayer for little Dillon who is suffering a life threatening illness; and Lynda Massey who is receiving treatment for stomach and liver cancer, Shirley Dean who is recovering from a broken leg ; The people who live in the Gulf area and who have suffered such loss and grief and are now facing Hurricane Rita; Elizabeth Schaefer, TJ Grand; Pat DeVore

**General Fund Status  
January – August 2005**



	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>ACTUAL</b>
<b>Income</b>	\$ 148,117	\$ 144,794
<b>Expense</b>	<u>\$ 146,303</u>	<u>\$ 135,487</u>
<b>Net</b>	\$ 1,814	\$ 9,307

**February 2005**

	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>ACTUAL</b>
<b>Income</b>	\$ 17,850	\$ 13,924
<b>Expense</b>	<u>\$ 18,163</u>	<u>\$ 17,693</u>
<b>Net</b>	\$ -313	\$ -3,769

**CUB SCOUT PACK 414 NEWS**



The summer is typically a down time for cub scouts. This was not the case this summer, however, for the boys of Cub Scout pack 414!

This extra-ordinary experience and how opening our doors has made a positive contribution to our community. At the close of the last school year the pack was down to about nine public schooled boys (out of River Grove Elementary). In May, I approached their committee about adding a home schooling den. The committee agreed to add the new den, but couldn't offer a location to meet (the school is closed for the summer). I approached our Session and asked to use the classrooms downstairs. They agreed, and before you knew it, we added over 25 home schooling boys to our pack! Yahoo! In four short months we've seen an incredible number of achievements, segments and other awards given.

We've learned about bicycle safety, citizenship, home security, art, respect, resourcefulness and many other important values. The pack is now nearly 35 boys strong and we've not begun our fall recruiting campaign! None of our achievements would have been possible if the home schooling families hadn't had a place to meet. It's a bit amazing to me that twice a month over 40 scouts and families nestle into the space downstairs to commune, communicate and connect - isn't that what TPC is all about?



Mitchell, Evan, John and I hold a sense of pride in being able to share our church community with our scout community. "Thank you!" from the parents and scouts of pack 414 (especially the five dens that meet at the church). "Thank you!" from our family!

Virginia, John, Mitchell, Evan, Bob (Grandpa and Scout District Executive, 140, Cascade Pacific

Tualatin School House Pantry is currently conducting two fund raising efforts. Money will be used to pay the monthly share price of food ordered from the Oregon Food Bank.

**Opportunity #1** - Buy some Tupperware - the food pantry keeps 40% of the sales! You can place your order with Mike Shiffer. Mike has a special fund raising catalog showing the items that can be ordered.

**Opportunity #2** - Go shopping at Meier & Frank, Washington Square. Just purchase a certificate from Mike Shiffer for \$5.00. All money collected goes to the pantry (and is deductible as a charitable contribution). The certificate includes four 25% off coupons that can be used for almost anything (regular or sale items) at Meier and Frank, Washington Square on Tuesday, October 25 from 9:00 am to 11:00 pm. Plus you have a chance to win a \$1,000 shopping spree.

### **Mission Advent Activities**

The mission committee meets at 7:00 pm on the first Tuesday of each month. We would like to get more people involved in the planning of mission activities. You can contact mission committee members Mike Shiffer, Carolyn Locke, Joan Nardi or Barbara Harriman if you have any questions.

The mission committee is working on planning the following activities for the Advent season:

- Decorate the TPC Christmas tree with mittens, gloves, scarves, hats and socks for homeless Portland teens
- Support of 7 local needy Tualatin families
  - purchase food for holiday food baskets
  - Christmas gifts for the children by church members using a “giving” tree
- Gifts for the 5 men living at the 89<sup>th</sup> Court group home (will be included on the “giving” tree)
- Help Living Savior Lutheran Church with a Christmas party for the Good Shepherd group homes in Tualatin
- Collect Christmas Memorial contributions to be used for hurricane relief or support of the local food pantry. Names of those listed on the memorial form will be published in the

More information on these events will be published in the next newsletter.

### **Thank you for helping the hurricane victims**

The special offering for Hurricane Katrina relief raised \$1,740. This amount has been sent to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for their relief efforts.

## **UPCOMING FELLOWSHIP EVENTS**

**10/9/05** - Annual TPC golf tournament to be held at Charbonneau. No experience is necessary as it's a Best Ball Foursome. Come join us for fellowship and fun. See Ted Lambeth or Emerson Wood for further information. There's a sign-up on the Tower.

**10/29/05** - Desperate Churchwomen - A play being put on by Bethel Lutheran Church. We have two tables reserved for dinner and the play. See the sign-up on the Tower for price details. Mike and Mary Shiffer say the plays are always a hoot and not to be missed.

**11/5/05** - Wine Tasting Tour - sign up on the Tower to be either a taster or a designated driver. We plan to leave TPC around 10:30 a.m. and return after dinner. See either Karen Stevenson or Deborah Lewis if you have questions.

**11/27/05** - Hanging of the Greens

**11/30/05** - Singing Christmas Tree - Come kick off the Christmas season with this wonderful Portland tradition. Tickets are \$13.75 and we only have 20 of them. Sign up is on the Tower.

**12/10/05** - Progressive Dinner

passion for caring for God's creation? Are you involved in a vocation that touches on stewardship of creation? Would you like to hear, and be inspired by, what others are doing to care for creation in their congregations, vocations and communities? On October 15 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., you are invited to a day of learning, fellowship, worship and good food. This Creation Care Fellowship Gathering at Westminster Presbyterian Salem will keynote on connecting social and economic well being with ecological sustainability with speakers, display tables, workshops, and time for conversation. There is even an optional morning birding field trip to Minto Island on the Willamette River (meet at the church at 7:45 a.m. for 8:00 a.m. departure).

This gathering for laity and clergy is sponsored by the Eco-Justice Team of the Congregational Support Committee of the Presbytery of the Cascades and co-sponsored by Presbyterians for Restoring Creation. Our goal is to create a welcoming place for people to integrate their faith with their concern for creation. You will come away with new ideas for your congregation, new friends and a deeper sense of the connection between God's creation and your relationship with Jesus Christ. Participants are encouraged to bring displays and materials illustrating their congregation's creation care efforts. You are encouraged to invite friends who are interested in learning more about Presbyterians and eco-justice. For more information call Jenny at 503-281-8175 or e-mail [jehrestore@aol.com](mailto:jehrestore@aol.com). Cost for lunch is \$10.00 or \$5.00 for Students and seniors. To register send your check made payable to Presbytery of the Cascades-Eco-Justice to Attn: Kate Whitehead, Central Region Office, Presbytery of the Cascades, 1475 Ferry Street, Suite 121E, Eugene, OR 97401 or call 1-800-926-3223. Pre-registration deadline October 13th.

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The Adult Education Committee is presenting two Sunday morning classes that start at 8:30 am:

1. The Life and Thought of Dietrich Bonhoeffer :  
Teacher Pastor Ken Evers-Hood
2. An introduction to the Bible in 26 lessons:  
Teacher Scott Mitchell

In addition TPC offers:

1. A Spiritual Formation group that meets on Monday nights 7-8:30 pm: Leader Ken Evers-Hood and members of the group
2. Women's Bible Study meets the 2nd Thursday of the month starting Oct 13th
3. Science and Faith: Conflict or Creative

Y'all are invited to the **Fall Festival** on  
October 16<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 – 7:00pm  
Admission: a can of food for World Hunger Day

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Fun and Games and Good Grub

Penny Panning for coins  
Hat toss  
Steer Roping  
Fishin'  
Bingo  
Dogs and Bean Cookout  
& Much more!

Sign up in the narthex so we know  
you're a-comin'!

### **New TPC Deacon – Marcia Bell Parish #10**



Marcia enjoys camping, hiking and volunteering at the TPC bake sales. Marcia and her husband, Gary, joined TPC in 2003 and have three grown children.

**The annual Peacemaking Offering** was taken on Sunday, October 2. This offering supports the peacemaking ministries of congregations, presbyteries, synods and the General Assembly. TPC will retain 25% of the offering for use in funding an annual Peacemaker award to be presented to an individual or group in our community. More information will be available on

