



TPC Spirit

November 2005

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR KEN

Well, November is upon us again. The leaves off of our pin oak in the back cover the patio about as quickly as we can blow them away. Three pumpkins stand guard outside of our house- a large one for dad, a slightly smaller one for Melis, and a teeny little one Will calls "my punkin." Fall is definitely here, and Thanksgiving is coming up fast.

Thanksgiving is obviously a holiday rich in significance for us as Americans, but what is less well known is what a significant day this is for Presbyterians.

Imagine this. The year is 1620 and the Pilgrims have arrived in Plymouth, Massachusetts. After surviving the winter, they plant crops in the spring. Among the crops they plant is maize, or corn, given to them by the Wapanoag Indian tribe. In October of 1621, with the harvest well and truly gathered, the pilgrims follow a long standing English custom and celebrate their cornucopia with a day set aside for feasting. In an act of multiculturalism that even my brother-in-law at UC Berkeley would be proud of, the Pilgrims celebrated the day with the Wapanoag, including their leader, King Massasoit. Edward Winslow writes one of only two original records of that day: "Many Indians came amongst us, and amongst the rest their greatest king Massasoit, with some ninety men, whom for three days we entertained and feasted, and they went out and killed five Deer, which they brought to the Plantation and bestowed on our Governor, and upon the Captain and others. And although it be not always so plentiful, as it was at this time with us, yet by the goodness of God, we are so far from want, that we often with you partakers of our plenty."

But how did all this come to be in the first place? Who were the Pilgrims and what were they doing freezing their tails off in New England? Well, about a hundred years before the Pilgrims found themselves sailing across the Atlantic, England found itself finally caught up in the European revolution known as the Reformation. Specifically, King Henry VIII (1509-1547), desiring a male heir to secure his kingdom, wanted to divorce Catherine of Aragon, it being not likely she would have any more children, and marry Anne Bolyne, a fetching young lady in his court. Unfortunately for Henry, Rome did not grant his annulment. Kings being kings, however, Henry suddenly finds the Protestants extremely attractive and eventually drafts what is known as The Ten Articles in 1536, establishing a very conservative Protestant church in England differing with the Roman Catholic Church only in not acknowledging the sovereignty of the Pope in Rome.

While this compromise secured Henry's desires- it certainly caused quite a bit of trouble, angering both conservatives who didn't want to break with Rome, and liberals who desired a far more sweeping reform. This political and theological turmoil churned throughout the reigns of Edward VI (1547-1553), became especially sharp during the short reign of Mary of Tudor (1553-1558) who re-established Roman Catholicism, and becomes mature under the long rule of Elizabeth I (1558-1603). During Elizabeth's reign, radical Protestants influenced by John Calvin in Geneva grew more and more strong in England, advocating adherence to scripture alone, the removal of art and adornment within the sanctuary, the acknowledgment of only two sacraments and Sabbath as the only holiday (rejecting Christmas and Easter as "unbiblical"), and the proscription against special clerical dress for ministers. Thus, attempting to purify worship and the life of the church, these more radical reformers became dubbed "The Puritans". Though Presbyterians in Scotland differed with Puritans over how to organize the church, these two groups shared wide agreement on much else- hence in England, these English Puritans are basically like the Presbyterians of the South. Though extremely frustrated with these pesky Calvinists, Elizabeth tolerated them. It wasn't until Elizabeth's death in 1603 and the arrival of James I (1603-1625) that these Puritans suffered brutal oppression and fled for their lives, first to the Netherlands, and finally to New England in 1620.

Obviously, much has changed since those first Reformed Calvinists broke bread with the Indians. We celebrate Christmas and Easter now. I get to wear what I like to call my "black dress" on Sunday, and we certainly welcome liturgical art into our sanctuary and like to think that God is well pleased with these faithful efforts. Still, it is well worth remembering our Calvinist connection with those Puritans of old- well worth remembering the sacrifices they made to establish a new nation founded upon democratic equality, religious tolerance, and the separation of church and state. The Puritans knew they could be people of faith, good citizens, and at the same time enjoy the freedom to think for themselves and to criticize both church and state when necessary. In an age in which the lines between church and state are increasingly blurred, I find myself extra thankful this year for these Pilgrims and for the courage of their convictions. As I snarf down my turkey and pumpkin pie, I shall do so in their honor. How about you?

Youth News

Session has granted Crystal Shearer, our Youth and Christian Ministry Director, a three-week leave of absence without pay starting on Monday, October 17. She wanted time for reflection and time to reconnect with God. During her absence, the Elders and their Committee Members will lead the Christian ministry and youth activities. She will be returning on November 7.

CPYA for High School Youth

The Presbytery of the Cascades presents CPYA 2005 (Cascades Presbytery Youth Assembly) November 18-20 at Canby Grove Conference Center. "This assembly is an annual fall event that attracts over 350 high school students from all over Oregon and southern Washington. For one incredible weekend, we have the opportunity to explore areas of our faith through elective seminars, small group sharing, singing, large group meetings, focusing on worship and bringing our hearts before God. It is our hope that you will come away with some new ideas to help you grow in your relationship with Jesus Christ."

This year Danny Ray is the featured guest. "Danny Ray is a Christian Illusionist who travels the country sharing God's transforming message through his captivating illusions. A graduate from Fuller Theological Seminary, he is a member of the exclusive "Magic Castle" in Hollywood, California. Audiences love what he does and are challenged by the message he brings."

The registration fee is \$85.00 plus \$15 for transportation and dessert at Shari's Restaurant on the last night for a total cost of \$100; make checks payable to TPC. Registration forms are on the counter in the main office. Please give your form and check to Susan Springer no later than Sunday, October 30.

UPCOMING FELLOWSHIP EVENTS!

11/27/05 - Hanging of the Greens

This event is a family-orientated evening church service where we decorate the tree with hats and mittens for homeless youth, sing Christmas carols and prepare the church for Advent, followed by a soup potluck.

12/10/05 - Progressive Dinner

We will meet at the Lambeths for appetizers and then break into small groups for dinner and

dessert. Keep an eye out for the sign up which will be on the Tower in November.

1/14/06 - Hockey Night

The Winterhawks are playing Seattle at the Rose Garden. It's Mascot Night!

MISSION NEWS!

Congratulations to Tualatin School House Pantry on the first anniversary of service to hungry families in Tualatin! The food pantry is currently very low on soup. Your soup donations can be placed in the food barrels in the narthex.

The TPC session has accepted the mission committee recommendation that the church donate the Christmas Eve offering for 2005 to Habitat for Humanity

There will be a special offering in November to collect funds to purchase food baskets for the seven families that TPC will be supporting this Christmas. The children in the church will be making decorations for our giving tree. Each of the decorations will include a Christmas wish for a child in the families that we will be sponsoring.

What's happening at Faith Village Sunday school?

In October, we are studying Prayer through Art & Games, Computers, Video & Storytelling and Creative Cooking.

In November, we will start a unit on The 10 Lepers. We will be learning through Storytelling, Science, Video and Games.



The Sacrament of Holy Baptism was presented to William and Wyatt Hammer, sons of Amelia and Archie Hammer and grandsons of Cliff and Donna Hoff on October 23.

Singing?? Let's Talk About It!

At a recent Wednesday night choir rehearsal, I shared with the choir some thoughts about what it is the choir is about every Sunday morning. I had recently read John Bells' book entitled, "The Singing Thing" and was moved by some of his words. He states that it is commonly believed that God gave Moses Ten Commandments. The possibility is that God gave eleven, but that Moses didn't have enough room on the stone tablets to engrave the final one, so God had to wait until David came along and let the forgotten decree be heard: "Sing A New Song!" That this is a divine command and not a human option can be gleaned from the fact that the words "Sing A New Song" do not appear just once in the Bible, but are explicitly stated in Psalms 33, 40, 96,98,144 and 149!

OK...sing a new song.... what does that have to do with you? Well...I'm glad you asked! I am now in my seventh year as the music director at TPC and I can't tell you how many people have told me that "they can't sing!" I usually smile and listen to their stories, but in my heart I really want to challenge them with that statement. Chances are that someone along the way told them they couldn't sing. Usually that person will inevitably have been a person who was in a position of authority over them or who was in close friendship or kinship with them. The fact must be stated straight away that there is actually a very small percentage of people who cannot replicate a melody in the right key. Did you know that less than 1% of the population really has amusia? (tone-deafness) For the others, the memory of being told they could not sing has had such a cataclysmic effect on them that it prevents them from believing that their voices could ever get it right. Memories do have that kind of effect on us.

Well.... the good news is that you CAN put an end to that way of thinking and learn how to Sing A New Song!! That's what we offer by being a member of choir. The door is always open to anyone who would love to Sing a New Song to the Lord and be a part of this family within the larger family of TPC. No prior choir experience is necessary and reading music is optional.

I am thinking about hosting a two hour Saturday morning seminar that will address this issue and would like to know the level of interest. Much information will be shared and vocal tips and

techniques will be taught. You CAN come back to the voice inside of you!!

Call or email Kris if you would like to be a part of the seminar. Thanks!

(503)313-6411

music.director@tpcspirit.com

A Christmas Handbell Concert Mark Your Calendars today!

What could be more perfect than handbells at Christmas? An entire concert of Christmas music on handbells! The concert will feature our own TPC choir as well as ensembles and soloists. Your choir is working very hard preparing a challenging collection of Christmas music to entertain you and help you to celebrate the season! Please mark your calendars now, and begin inviting friends and neighbors to this festive event. The date is December 11, at 5pm in our sanctuary. This is an event for the entire family. You will NOT want to miss this!!

Barbershop Show

The 3-time state championship chorus, Bridge Town Sound, presents a barbershop show "Return of the Music Man" featuring the 2004 International champs, Gotcha. We will also be featuring Company the Premier Show Choir from Lakeridge HS. Steve Kyes from TPC is an assistant director of the chorus. The show is at the Lakeridge High School Auditorium 1235 Overlook Dr., Lake Oswego on November 5. There will be a 2 pm matinee and a 7:30 pm evening performance Contact Steve for more details.

How Can I Help?

We have a leader for our Classroom Design Team! Thank you to Norm Dannemiller for agreeing to lead our efforts to transform our downstairs class areas into a more exciting environment!

If you are interested in helping with **planning and design ideas** and/or **painting and creating** the rooms, please contact Norm at 885-2405, Shari Olsen @635-4019 or Crystal Shearer at the church. To everyone that has donated items to our Faith Village - **Thank You! Thank You!**

GREETING AND MEETING

The friendliness of the congregation is one of the nicest things about TPC. It is obvious as you greet each other every Sunday morning to see how you all enjoy one another's company. Pastor Ken even had to call members and guests in to worship because they were having so much fun greeting each other. Everyone forgot to leave the narthex and gather in the sanctuary.



There are several "formal" ways we greet at TPC.

One is to have members stand by the glass doors and distribute bulletins with a cheerful smile. Sometimes you even have your children help you and this is such good practice for our youngsters. We will now call this position SERVER.

Another important way we meet each other is by gathering after worship for refreshments and an embrace or handshake to go along with our morning coffee. We have volunteers who sign up



to provide sweets and we hope you will put your name on the list and bring your favorite goody either homemade or store bought.

The Deacons are each assigned one month of the year to provide the SERVERS who also put on the coffee. This gives each Parish group the opportunity to serve in this capacity. When your Deacon calls you and asks, please say yes. You might even call your deacon and volunteer which would make it so much easier. Acting as an official "SERVER" is much simpler than you might think. See the simple instructions below.

We have a third and brand new way to be friendly to each other and that is Ronn Rhodes new group of "GREETERS" who actually stand at the outside door and give you a handshake as you enter the Narthex. The name of this group is Xenia. Standing right behind the GREETERS are the HOSTS who are always on the lookout for visitors so they can show them the ropes and make sure folks feel included. Give Ronn a call and volunteer to take your turn at the outside door "GREETING" or "HOSTING".



The SERVERS and the GREETERS will now be gathering the collection.

Let's continue to make this old place the friendliest on the block.

What to do if you're a TPC SERVER:

Prior to Church Service:

- Preheat dishwasher by turning master switch "ON" and heater "ON". It must heat up at least 30 minutes prior to use. (Follow instructions on dishwasher)
- **Set out:**
 - Sugar, creamer, tea, napkins and spoons for stirring.
 - Coffee mugs are stored in the carts below the counter.
 - Medium size cold cups for the juice. The juice will either be in the refrigerator or in a cupboard across from the refrigerator.
- **Start the coffee and hot water:**
 - The smaller silver coffee maker is used for hot water.
 - The large coffee maker is used for coffee. The coffee is kept in the freezer in a Tupperware container with the scoop.



Coffee:

90 Cups---4 1/2 scoops

60 Cups---3 scoops

30 Cups---1 1/2 scoops

- **Pass out bulletins:**

- Pass out bulletins at the double glass doors. There are special bulletins for both younger and older children.

- **Gather the Collection:**

- Together with the Greeters, the Servers will gather the collection.

- **During the last song of the service:**

- Fill the coffee cups.
- Fill the juice glasses.
- Set out snacks, if available

- **Clean up the kitchen:**

- Wash the mugs, following the instructions posted on the dishwasher.
- Put the mugs away and clean up the kitchen.

- **Turn off dishwasher**

Nothing to it! It's a lot easier than it looks and a great way to "serve" your church now and again.



Youth Group romps at Corn Maize

Saturday night, October 22, seventeen patient adventurers waited over an hour in a long, long line for entry into the Corn Maize on Sauvy Island. Divided into three groups, each finally headed into the forest of tall corn stalks. Conditions were great. No rain. Not too cold. And the mud was moderate when compared to last year's slop.

I entered the maize with fun-lovers, better yet, fun-lovers with a sense of direction. The first group conquered the maize in 45 minutes. My group took an hour and ten minutes. Not bad when you consider what else they were doing. They had things to do well beyond finding the way out. It took time to compliment and thank the wonderful, spooky-costumed characters that jumped out at us from amid the corn. It took time to befriend and guide a lost man and woman who had been caught in a continuous loop. It took time to act as "guides" by standing still and pointing fellow maize walkers in random directions. Some people figured out these guys were bogus; others didn't. What fun.

I had a great time. Thanks.

Susan Springer – Youth Elder

Bible Study at TPC



Bibles were presented by Shari Oisen to the following fourth graders on Sunday, October 23: Cailyn Bowen, Stephen Gardner, Anika Girardi, Robbie Price, Hannah Price, Colston Warne and Gaby Correa

Continue to pray for: Les Bone (Erik Spurrell's grandfather), Nadine Manke (Jenovich); Don Peterson; traveling mercies for Julie Van Buren's son who is traveling in Europe; Lynda Massey, Shirley Dean, Sally Benson and her family; victims of the earthquake in Pakistan; Elizabeth Shafer, TJ Grand; Maureen Goodrich; Tina Smith; Thelma Holmes and her family; Ronnie Lee King (Cameron family); Craig Wiggers on assignment for the Marines in Baghdad.

*TPC'S Fall Festival -
sponsored by the
CE Department*



November Birthdays

11/01	Matthew Hines	11/13	Linda Buck
11/03	Donna Benner	11/16	Mark Schleicher
11/04	Greg Lewis	11/17	John Olsen
11/06	Stephen Gardner	11/20	Becky Backen
11/07	Bruce Benner	11/21	Candice Kadel
11/08	Kyle Leland	11/22	Cailyn Bowen
11/09	Kathy Sweetland	11/23	Bob Bolton
11/10	Jodi Breshears	11/23	Dave McGregor
11/10	Philip Schmitt	11/26	Martha Wilson
11/10	Nicholas Sweetland	11/29	Denise Collins
11/11	Marion Beyer	11/29	Maggie Patterson
11/11	Heather Bartlett	11/30	Jay Wilcox
11/13	Pat DeVore	11/30	Jackson Schleicher



The new **Quilting & Knitting Group** will meet Saturday, Nov. 12 at 9:30 AM at the church to make quilts, knitted or crocheted blankets or hats to comfort children in need of a hug!

The three organizations are:

1. **ABC** – children affected by HIV, abandoned children living in hospitals or foster homes, or affected by substance abuse.
2. **Domestic Violence Resources Center and Monikas' House** – who are working to help women and children break free of domestic violence.
3. **Project Linus** – children in hospitals, shelters, and schools for homeless children.

Please join us – bring a sack lunch if you like.
*Gifts of acrylic yarn will be appreciated.

Confused? Lost? Wondering?

We have the answers to ask your question. The 2005-2006 new members group is forming. We meet the second Sunday of each month from 11:45 – 1:00. Food is provided. Contact Ted or Cathy Lambeth (503-692-6630) lambheel@comcast.net.



Lauren Elizabeth Ayers was born to Rob and Jennifer Ayers on October 18th. Lauren weighed 6 lbs 7oz and was 19" long. We rejoice along with

Rob and Jennifer and their families.

General Fund Status January – September 2005



	BUDGET	ACTUAL
Income	\$ 165,967	\$ 164,504
Expense	<u>\$ 164,966</u>	<u>\$ 153,145</u>
Net	\$ 1,001	\$ 11,359

	September 2005	
	BUDGET	ACTUAL
Income	\$ 17,850	\$ 19,704
Expense	<u>\$ 18,663</u>	<u>\$ 17,658</u>
Net	\$ -813	\$ 2,046

The church treasurer and administration committee would like to thank you for your gifts to TPC. Your gifts of time as well as financial contributions ensure that we can continue to do God's work through our church. Please note that we currently have a shortage of \$1,453 in our per capita account. All churches in the Presbyterian Church USA are asked to contribute \$21.00 per member to support the work of the church outside of our local congregations. Thank you to the many families at TPC who have helped reduce our per capita assessment by their contribution of \$21 per TPC member in their family. For those who have not contributed but are able, your payment can be included in the weekly offering or by sending it to the church. Please indicate the portion of the check that is being contributed as a per capita payment.

Mike Shiffer, Treasurer

Wedding - Seth Nelson and Laura Mackin

Seth and Laura were joined in marriage by Rev. Thom Nelson on Saturday, October 1 in Chicago, Illinois. The couple



moved to Chicago three years ago after graduating from the Maryland College of Art. Seth will continue his work at a major law library while beginning his Masters of Library Science from the University of Chicago this fall.