



Dear friends,

Whenever I discuss the differences in meaning between the ancient languages of the Bible and the various English translations today, I'm always surprised at how much interest there is in this discussion. For the next several months I thought I'd explore this in a little more detail in a series I'm going to call: "It's Greek to me."

I think one of the reasons that people are interested in this topic is that nearly everyone has had an experience where language has led to a terrible, often comic, misunderstanding. Sometimes, this is simply due to cultural differences. I don't know if Eskimos really do have a bunch of different words for snow, but it just makes sense that geography is going to change the way we talk about the world around us. Sometimes, translation problems are more conceptual. As a student of Chinese, one of the funny, cautionary tales that Chinese teachers like to tell is how translators bungled the Pepsi slogan from the 1980's. In English the slogan was: Pepsi- the choice of a new generation. In Chinese there really isn't an easy word to express the idea of a 'generation'. And unfortunately, the best the translators could come up with was a phrase that had the feel of: Pepsi- the drink that brings your ancestors back to life.

Well, both of these challenges exist when we try to render the ancient Hebrew and Greek language of Scripture into modern English. And while most of the time I think our translations do a pretty good job, it's worth highlighting a few places where it is easy to get the wrong impression.

The first, and possibly most important, instance where English can make it hard to understand what's going on in the ancient language is, ironically, with the term 'word' itself. In Greek there are several terms that all get translated as 'word' in English. Sometimes the Greeks just want to refer to simple words, words you might write or speak. For this they will use the term '*rhetor*' for this. (And yes, for extra credit, this is the stem of the English word 'rhetoric'. J) And sometimes the Greeks will use the term '*logos*' to refer to words in this simple way as well. But *logos* also has a MUCH more important meaning. *Logos* sounds like the English word 'logic', and this is a great way to think about it. The Greeks were always looking for a *logos*, a logic, or an ordered way of understanding life, the universe, and everything- something scientists might call a grand unified theory of everything today. Some Greek philosophers like a guy named Empedocles thought the *logos* came down to everything being made up of earth, air, fire, and water. If you understood these four elements you could understand everything. Other Greek philosophers like Parmenides, Heraclitus, and Plato thought the *logos*, the logic of the world, came down to understanding what stays the same, something they call being, and what changes, something they call becoming. The point here is that all of the Greek philosophers were trying to figure out the *logos* of the world, the logic, what holds everything together.

The writer of the Gospel of John decided to get in on this game, too. And in a nod to Genesis and to Greek philosophy he famously begins his Gospel in this way: "In the beginning was the *logos*, and the *logos* was God, and the *logos* was with God." When it's translated this way and explained in context, it's easy to see that John was doing some philosophy here. He was jumping into the conversation telling people that they were right to be trying to figure out the *logos*, the logic, of the world- they were just wrong about it being earth, air, fire, or wind, or what have you. John said there is a *logos*, a logic, to the world- and it's Jesus. Jesus is the *logos*, according to John.

Unfortunately, English isn't nearly as nimble as Greek is here. English doesn't really have a term that refers both to the regular, ordinary, every day 'words' that we use AND at the same time can point to this really big, important, meaning-of-the-universe kind of Word, too. And so you know how this verse became translated: "In the beginning was the Word. And the Word was God. And the Word was with God." And were I a better man I would wager my pants that if you walked into any ol' church you liked on a Sunday morning and asked them what it meant that in the beginning was the Word, and if you asked them what God's Word is- nearly every person there would tell you John was talking about the Bible. And of course when you think about it it makes no sense- as if John was saying in the beginning, before anything else, there was just God and this really, really big book? But it's not our fault. It's the fault of our English teacher. Ok, it's not really our English teacher's fault either...it's just that Greek has many terms for 'word', some more important than others, and English really only has one.

The upshot of all this? It's huge. The logic of the world, the one, needful thing that holds it all together according to our faith? It isn't the Bible- it is Jesus. Surely, the Bible is at the center of our worship and is a primary source for our guidance and our living together. But it is not God. And it should not be treated like a god. Scripture should not be treated like an infallible Ouija board or magic eight ball as if every verse holds the same level of authority and the measure of our faith lies in how blindly we're able to conform ourselves to a chosen selection of ancient customs and laws. No. We should have more respect for Scripture than this. And we can when we remember we don't have to pretend the Bible is the *logos*, the logic, of the world. For Christ alone is the *logos*, the Word of God. And, this is according to John Calvin believe it or not, only when the Holy Spirit reveals Christ's love to us in Scripture, that Scripture itself ceases to be an old book of dead letters and can even be referred to as the word of God. And all this from one, little word... More to come. J



Note from Nicole

Wow! What a whirlwind the past month has been! New job, new school, a new home, and a new church family. I am so blessed to be a part of Tualatin Presbyterian Church as your pastoral resident. Now, you may be asking yourself, "What does a pastoral resident actually do?" That's a good question and in the last few weeks, Pastor Ken, the session, and I have been figuring out what I will be doing this year. The purpose of my position is to find the areas where some extra pastoral attention could be helpful, to assist Ken in liturgical duties, and to develop my own pastoral skills. As of now, I will be working in the areas of youth and family, weekly worship, adult education, and pastoral care, but you may see me in other areas as well. So far, we have kicked off a Sunday night group for teens (on non-logos weeks) and have planned a few family events- keep an eye open for them in the coming months.

I am so happy to be at TPC. Everyone has been incredibly welcoming and warm. I have enjoyed getting to know many of you through church potlucks, coffee hour, and visiting in the office. Initially when I moved to Portland, I did not intend to work in a church, but when I came to TPC I was so impressed by the worship service and the friendliness of the community that I thought TPC was a place I could belong. When I started to talk to Ken, elders, and deacons about the pastoral residency program, I could feel God calling me back into ministry at TPC.

I am so pleased to be at TPC and look forward to the year ahead.

CHIP AND CACKIE KYLE

Although no introduction is probably needed for these active members of TPC, this interview will perhaps bring members some new insights into their daily lives.

Linda Watkins
Deacon, Parish 11



Chip and Cackie Kyle have been members of TPC for only one year, but they have become involved in the life of the church so fully that it seems like they have "always" been around.

You may see Chip at the Men's Fellowship Group which he currently leads or in his activities with the Mission Committee. Cackie participates in ringing handbells, doing needlework with Caring Hands and both of them volunteer at the Tualatin Food Pantry once a week.

Married 39 years in January, Chip likes to joke he was traveling so extensively in his job in computer systems, it is really only 15 years. They have lived in Florida, California, Colorado and Illinois. Now retired, Chip enjoys woodworking and sports - particularly biking. Cackie is a retired educator - the last 14 years spent as a school librarian. She enjoys sewing, needlework and cooking. Chip attests to her great pies - although you may want to ask him about his own Champion Cherry Pie!

In addition to spending time remodeling their home for a project room, Chip and Cackie enjoy traveling and reading. High on the list of retirement activities is taking care of their two year old granddaughter who lives in Beaverton with the Kyle's daughter and son-in-law who are both teachers. Their son, daughter-in-law and another granddaughter live in Denver, Co.

When asked what they liked most about Tualatin Presbyterian Church, Cackie said that "it seems like the original Christian house churches. Everyone is united in their attitude of service to other people."

We are thankful they bring their service and warm personalities to TPC.

WHAT'S HAPPENING



OCTOBER IS HEIFER MONTH

“Heifer International is an organization whose mission is to work with communities to end hunger and

poverty and care for the earth.

Since 1944, Heifer has helped 8.5 million families in more than 125 countries move toward greater self-reliance through the gift of livestock and training in environmentally sound agriculture. The impact of each initial gift is multiplied as recipients agree to “pass on the gift” by giving one or more of their animal’s offspring, or the equivalent, to another in need.”

Throughout the month of October we have been collecting donations for Heifer. (Yes, this is the same organization that receives our birthday pennies.) There’s still time to contribute to the goal of raising \$5,000 to buy an Ark from Heifer. When we do, Pastor Ken promises to kiss a pig!!!

**The Heifer Auction is
Sat., October 23 at 6:00 pm.**

What makes up an ark?

An ark consists of 15 sets of animals:

- 2 flocks of chickens (\$20 each flock)
- 2 flocks of geese (\$20 each flock)
- 2 trios guinea pigs (\$20 each trio)
- 2 trios of ducks (\$20 each trio)
- 2 bee hives (\$30 each)
- 2 trios of rabbits (\$60 each trio)
- 2 donkeys (\$75 each)
- 2 sheep (\$120 each)
- 2 goats (\$120 each)
- 2 pigs (\$120 each)
- 2 llamas (\$150 each)

- 2 oxen (\$320 each)
- 2 water buffalo (\$250 each)
- 2 camels (\$425 each)
- 2 cows (\$500 each)

As with Noah, the ark is about hope and about a new beginning. Please help us provide that hope and a new start for those in need. There’s still time to contribute and help us reach our goal.

Your Mission Committee



**SUNDAY, NOV. 9TH
NOON TO 2 P.M.**

The Family Fall Festival will be an event for all families. Lunch will be provided. Games like donuts on a string, cupcake walk, handicrafts, and such will be offered. It will be a fun time for kids of all ages to socialize with each other. There is no cost to attend. This festival replaces the Halloween Party we had held in previous years. CE is running the event.

Sign up on the Narthex Communication Tower. Needed donations include, but are not limited to, bags of candy, donuts, hot dogs (1 package from Costco?) and 2 packages of buns (from Costco?), chips, cookies, cupcakes for cupcake walk, etc.

Please sign up so we can get an idea of what is available for this fun family event for all ages. Also, we need a few people to help with lunch. Contact Jackie Dannemiller, ndannemi@spiritone.com or 503-885-2405.

**BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
PLAY AND DINNER**

Play it Again Spam!

Featuring Erik Spurrell as Sammy, the bellhop

Friday, November 7th at 7 pm.

Tickets are \$18 each. The play is a fund raiser for Bethel's summer kids drop-in daycare program.

Come join the fun! At last glance, there were just 3 tickets left.

JUST IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS!

By popular demand, we are offering another evening of jewelry making led by our own talented bead instructor, Nancy Wilcox. Nancy will be sharing new projects and techniques, as well as helping beginners with the basics! This popular class is sure to fill up quickly. Look for the sign up sheet on the tower to reserve your spot.

Friday November 14th 6 pm-9pm

(Soup and Salad Dinner provided)

**SWING INTO THE HOLIDAYS DANCE
at TPC**

Saturday, November 15th, 7-10 pm

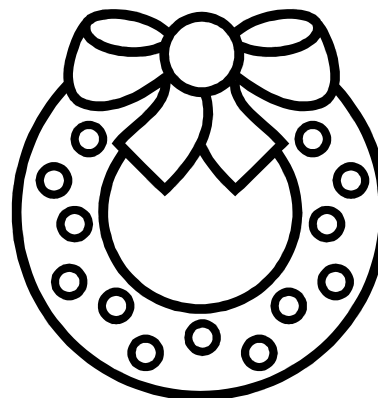
Featuring

The Lake Oswego Millennium Dance Band
Professional dance instruction available at 6:00 pm

This dance is a community benefit for the Tualatin School House Food Pantry and the TPC Music Program; there is a suggested \$5 donation at the door. Refreshments will be available.

It's the time of year when our Tualatin Food Pantry is stressed. Invite your friends, neighbors, and co-workers to this fun evening...what better way to start the Season?

Please join us for a delightful evening — you will love the music and have the opportunity to dance to the sounds of the big bands! The music will span the 1940's to the 1960's, with tunes such "In the Mood" (Glenn Miller) and "By the Time I Get to Phoenix."



**HANGING OF THE GREENS
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 5 PM**

What is Hanging of the Greens?

It's a family friendly service that starts the season of advent. During the service we decorate the sanctuary for the Christmas season. The supplies are organized and spread out in the narthex. As you enter the church you may be given a slip of paper that asks you to do something, such as:

Bring in the hay.

Bring in the window candles

Put hats, gloves and mittens on the Christmas tree.

The bulletin for the service tells you when to do your "task." We also sing Christmas hymns and read scripture. The service ends with our singing "Joy to the World."

Afterward we gather in the narthex for fellowship and a potluck supper of soup and salad.

It's a delightful way to start advent. Again, the date and time are Sunday, November 30 at 5 p.m.

Mittens, gloves and socks can be placed on the tree on any Sunday in advent. These "ornaments" are donated to kids in need.

2009 WOMEN'S RETREAT
Friday, Jan. 30 through Sunday, Feb. 1
 at Alton Collins Retreat Center.

**Being and doing –
 the Mary and Martha in all of us.**

This retreat will be an opportunity to integrate these two aspects of our lives as in the story of Martha and Mary in Luke 10: 38 – 42. We will explore ways to balance our time and energy to support “being” as well as “doing” in our practical every day busy lives. There will be time to share, time to sing, time to be creative, time for solitude, and time to be together as women, using Abraham Heschel’s quote as our inspiration: “Just to be is a blessing, just to live is holy.”



Biography of Presenter:
 Sister Mary Jo Chaves is a member of the Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia. She has her Masters of Arts in Teaching from Lewis and Clark College in Portland, OR. Previous to her work in spirituality, she taught secondary school for

26 years. She completed her Masters in Applied Theology at the Graduate Theological University in Berkeley, CA in 1999. Since 1996 she has been ministering as a spiritual director and co-coordinator of spirituality programs in the Portland Metro area. She is presently employed at the Franciscan Spiritual Center in Milwaukie, OR.

Alton Collins charges \$90 per night for a single room and \$75 per night per person for a double room. This includes 6 meals (Friday dinner through Sunday lunch). Linens and towels are provided.

Final pricing for the retreat will be determined after the fund raising cookie sale on Sat., Dec. 13. More information will follow.

**NEW HIGH SCHOOL GROUP!
 BEYOND BIBLE STORIES**

Ever wonder how Christianity spread from a small group of disciples to over 1 billion members? Wonder how letters became scripture? Or how did theology develop? On October 19th, we started a new high school group called Beyond Bible Stories to answer some of those questions. On non-Logos Sunday nights at 6:30 pm we will be at the new Martinazzi Starbucks to go beyond Bible stories. We will discuss theology, the development of the Bible, and church history. Questions? Talk to Nicole.

November Birthdays

01 Matthew Hines	16 Mark Schleicher
03 DonnaLee Benner	17 John Olsen
04 Maggie Peterson	18 Nicole Reibe
04 Greg Lewis	20 Rebecca Backen
07 Bruce Benner	22 Cailyn Bowen
09 Kathy Sweetland	23 Bob Bolten
09 Adele Pelletier	23 Paul Buckmaster
10 Jodi Breshears	26 Martha Wilson
10 Philip Schmitt	26 Kendra Sundt
10 Nicholas Sweetland	27 Cindy Hoppe
11 Heather Bartlett	29 Denise Collins
13 Pat DeVore	30 Jay Wilcox
14 Adam Winkler	30 Jackson Schleicher

General Operating Fund Summary as of 9-30-08

Income Budget Year to Date	\$170,490
Income Actual Received	\$167,596
Expenses Budget Year to Date	\$173,678
Expenses Actual Paid to Date	\$165,491

Wow!! The TPC RUMMAGE SALE on October 10 and 11 put on by the Christian Education Department was a HUGE success—

raising \$1393 for Heifer International and \$484 for CE. We couldn't have done it without all the great donations brought in by the congregation; thank you all! We also could never have done it without the help of some very dedicated people.



Many thanks to the following volunteers who contributed their time and energy: Pam Cameron, Scott Cameron, Ted Pelletier, Adele Pelletier, Joan Nardi, Barb Crall, Leah Olson, Marsha Steffen, John Olsen, Jaci Smith, Maureen Richardson, Toni MacHaffie, Mary Maleta, Susan Springer, Denise Collins, Rick Crall, & Norm Dannemiller.

Shari Olsen and Gina Olson, Sale Coordinators

MEN'S BREAKFAST ON OCTOBER 18

On Sat., Oct. 18, fifteen men met for breakfast and a service project. After eating, the group headed for the Tualatin School House Pantry where together, in about two hours, they replaced the wooden stairs and the wooden platform in front of the doors, painted, put new plywood on the ramp and applied a non-skid surface. What a team! Way to go!!!

Left to right:

Ronn Rhodes, Randy Beyer, Jay Wilcox, Bruce Benner, Chip Kyle, Rick Norse, Scott Cameron, Rod Kerr, Karl Schultz, Mike Nelson, Bob Feiler, John DeHoney, Ted Pelletier, and Ted Miller.

Not pictured: Mike Shiffer, who took the picture.



THANK YOU ALL

We want to thank all of you who have surrounded us with your love and prayers these last few months. Thanks especially to those who helped make Noel's memorial exactly the way he had envisioned it. The service was perfect and gives us precious memories to carry with us in the months ahead.

Noel Johnson's Family
Dee, Lesley, Tracey and Patrick

CRANES, CRANES AND MORE CRANES!

Thank you to everyone who contributed cranes for our sanctuary art this October! Your time and talent were truly appreciated.

UPRIGHT PIANO SEEKS NEW HOME

We're looking for a new home for the old upright piano. Does anyone want that piano? Does anyone know anyone or any organization that would like to have it? It's free to anyone who would come pick it up or arrange to have it picked up and moved.. Please email suggestions to susan@tpcspirit.org.

Uncollected 2008 Per Capita Expense is \$1309

The per capita fee for 2008 is \$21.41. If you have not already done so, please write a check payable to TPC, write per capita on the comment line and place it in the offering plate or take it to the office.

**TUALATIN PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH CALENDAR
NOVEMBER, 2008**

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:15 am Adult Ed 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	3 7:00 Spiritual Form. off site 7:00 Bell prac- tice	4 7:00 CE meeting 7:00 Mission Mtg	5 7:15 pm Choir practice	6	7 7:00 pm Bethel Lutheran Church Play	8
9 9:15 am Adult Ed 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Noon-2pm Family Fall Festival 5:00 pm Youth Group Breakfast Club	10 7:00 Deacon meeting 7:00 pm Bell practice	11	12 7:15 pm Choir practice	13	14 6:00-9:00 pm Jewelry Class sponsored by Art Team	15 7:30 am Men's Fel- lowship Breakfast Dance 7-10 p.m.
16 9:15 am Adult Ed 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	17 7:00 pm Bell practice	18 7:00-8:30 Tues- days Treasures 7:00 pm Fellow- ship Meeting	19 7:15 pm Choir practice	20 7:00 Session Mtg	21 10 a.m. to noon Loving Stitches Session Retreat	22
23 9:15 am Adult Ed 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 5:00 pm Youth group Bubblegum Blowout	24 7:00 pm Bell practice	25	26 7:15 pm Choir practice	27 Thanksgiving	28	29
30 9:15 am Adult Ed 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 5:00 pm Hanging of the Greens						

TPC office hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 am to 3 pm and Friday, 9 am to noon.

Have you moved or changed your email address? Please let us know.

Call (503) 692-4160 or email Rhoda@tpcspirit.org

Church website: www.tpcspirit.org

TUALATIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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TUALATIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9230 SW Siletz Drive, Tualatin, OR 97062

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, Paula Miller, Scott Mitchell, Joan Nardi, Adele Pelletier, Meg Price, Chris Robertson and Marsha Steffen

Deacons: Rob Ayers, Edda Brown, Pam Cameron, Carolyn Hale, Jack Lemmon, Sherry Nelson, Judy Nix, Bill Smiley, Kathy Sweetland, Julie Van Buren, Linda Watkins

Treasurer: Mike Shiffer
e-mail: treasurer@tpcspirit.org

Clerk of Session: Mary Shiffer

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

Newsletter Editor: Susan Springer
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Administrative Assistants: Rhoda Friesen and Susan Springer
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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 pm, Friday – 9:00 a.m. to noon