



A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR KEN

Dear friends,

I'm never quite sure how to feel about the Christmas season. On the one hand I love the crisp, cold mornings. I love the lights already beginning to illuminate our nights. I love going to Lee Farms and cutting our own tree. I love singing Silent Night by candle light. Most of all I love the story of this young, frightened couple who welcome in complete strangers to see their little one even when Bethlehem had been so unwelcoming to them. I love all that. I do.

But, on the other hand, there's also "Momma Got Run Over By a Reindeer". (That song may not have been big in Oregon, but in Texas they played it every three to four minutes on the radio when I was growing up. To this day the very image of Santa's four legged conveyances brings the song to life again in my mind.) There are the endless appeals for us to celebrate God's love primarily through consumption. And, as a pastor, there is a painful irony of knowing that while this season is so full of joy for so many, it is so full of pain for others.

So, I'm always a little ambivalent this time of year. I love this season. And I don't.

And this ambivalence got me to thinking about Paul Tillich, one of the greatest theologians of the 20th century. Tillich was famous for his ambivalence. On the one hand he was a theologian, yet by the end of his life he refused to attend church. On the one hand he wrote that in Christ we saw a model for new humanity, and yet he also wrote that there was more truth in a Cezanne still life than in any picture of Jesus hanging in a museum.

And maybe the greatest tension in Tillich of all? While he did everything he possibly could to rid himself of religious superstition and what he considered empty church practices, no matter where he was in the world or how difficult, he always celebrated a traditional Christmas.

Near the end of his life, when he was more interested in Buddhism than Christianity, his family noted that not a Christmas went by when he didn't put up a tree and light a hundred candles around his home.

And although I'm not entirely sure why he did this, I think it had to do with when he was a young man, a young chaplain, in World War I. Tillich started out as a chaplain with a very conventional, very conservative Christian faith. But what he was taught to believe made little sense on the battlefields of Champagne and Verdun. He was awarded the Iron Cross for risking his life

pulling the wounded from danger, but he lost his faith in the process.

Yet even when he questioned every belief he had once held dear, Tillich was remembered by his comrades for always, no matter how difficult the situation, for always finding a way to help them celebrate Christmas. Whether it was by his scrounging for extra food or finding a way to make little candles, Tillich made sure the soldiers in his charge never missed a Christmas. All this, even when Christmas itself didn't make a whole lot of sense to him at the time.

Maybe what happened is that Tillich sensed that regardless of his ambivalence, Christmas is, in the words of Barbara Brown Taylor, "maybe our last chance to be struck dumb by the simple gift of being human." And maybe Tillich sensed that God cares less about our thoughts than our actions, and while Tillich may not have always believed in Christmas, he kept it nonetheless.

So ambivalent or not, the Christmas season is upon us. And I'm looking forward to keeping it with you. And if you are looking for ways to keep it that have more to do with Bethlehem than Madison Avenue, I commend this Christmas to do list from The Rev. Victoria Safford:

Mend a quarrel.

Seek out a forgotten friend.

Keep a promise.

Write a love letter.

Give a soft answer.

Encourage youth.

Find the time.

Listen.

Examine your demands on others.

Laugh a little.

Then laugh a little more.

Deserve confidence.

Welcome a stranger.

Gladden the heart of a child.

Take pleasure in the beauty and wonder of the world.

Speak your love. Speak it again.

Speak it still once again.

Merry Christmas,



PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Linda and Paul Fukasawa

Linda was born in Colorado and came to Oregon in her high school years. Paul was raised in the Santa Barbara area of California. Both have most of their family in California, scattered from north to south. In fact, Linda and Paul are the only members of their family living in Oregon.

Linda and Paul have two grown children. Daughter, Carol (34), is a business consultant in Laguna Beach, CA. She and husband, Aaron, are parents of 18 month old Sophie, first grandchild for Linda and Paul. Son, John (32), is an attorney in Oxnard CA. John is still single if anyone is into matchmaking.

Linda is the Media Specialist for Canby School District and she is responsible for libraries at 8 elementary schools, 2 junior highs, and the high school. She has worked for the district about 15 years.

Paul has been in the plant nursery and greenhouse business for over 40 years. Most recently Paul worked at Al's Nursery in Woodburn, but last year he left the stress and long hours of retail nursery to start his own landscape and gardening consulting business, Paul's Garden Friends. For a nominal fee, Paul will help you assess and identify the plants and shrubs in your yard and recommend ways for you to nurture and enhance your own landscaping. Paul has helped with the trimming of trees and shrubs during Men's Fellowship work parties here at TPC. Thank you, Paul.

Paul now has time to do what he truly enjoys with gardening and landscaping and is turning his acre of property across from Charbonneau into a showcase garden spot where people can come get ideas to enhance the appearance of their own yards and gardens.

Paul was also kind to share his view of TPC. Paul enjoys the chance to come to church after many years of having to work weekends and Linda coming by herself. They feel TPC is a very friendly and

welcoming congregation. Paul said he is particularly impressed with how everyone just seems to chip in to get things done and help the church function.

Everyone sharing their time and talents, whatever they may be, make the whole TPC worship experience a joy for the Fukasawa family.

Bob Nix, Parish 12

Dear Tualatin Presbyterian Church

I wanted to express our sincere thanks to all of you for all that you did for Grandma throughout the years and also for your help in making Grandma's memorial service so very special and exactly as she wanted it to be. I truly feel Grandma was smiling down on all of us that day. Everyone made us all feel welcome and also showed us how much Grandma had made impacts on your lives as well as what amazing friends Grandma had in all of you and how much she was loved. Thank you all so much for filling in throughout the years when her family was so far away and could not be here with her. As much as I regret not being able to be with Grandma during these last years I did feel comfort in seeing how much she was loved by all of you and what a wonderful family you are at the church. My daughter, Kacey and granddaughter, Alana and my grandson, Andrew had made arrangements to come visit Grandma and let her meet two of her great-great grandchildren on the same weekend that we ended up laying Grandma to rest. We had told Grandma we were coming and I know that she was so excited. I spoke to her the day before she passed and she was so full of life still that day and was so happy and anxiously waiting to see us, when we received the news the next day that she had passed suddenly we were devastated. One small amount of comfort is that I know she passed knowing we were coming...I will hold onto that and to the fact that she was truly a remarkable woman and we all feel fortunate to have been in her life.

Thank you all again and God Bless You!

Wendi Pollock Rupp, Kacey Pollock Monreal
Andrew Pollock, Alana Monreal

WHAT'S GOING ON

Last Paris Note
November 22, 2010

Hello dear friends,

Happy Thanksgiving. It's been a while since you've heard from us, and it's hard to believe that we are winding this adventure down in 40 some days. But, we are still celebrating Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas, our 35th Wedding Anniversary, and New Years. As most of you know, it's been a very busy time here for us, or I should say for Charlie. But one of our joys was to have a number of you visit this summer. Our last two, Carolyn Hale, and Charlie's sister, just left a couple of days ago. Perhaps the main reason I'm writing you is to let you know that our personal laptop, that is fairly new, got infected by a major virus and worm. We had to shut it down, so consequently we have no computer in our apartment. I'm using Charlie's in his downstairs office, which is shared by several other people. I tried to set up Skype down here, but there is no microphone or speakers, so for those of you who have Skype accounts with paid minutes, you can call us on our land line in the apartment. Remember, if we don't answer after the 4th ring, we are out. The direct number for the US: 011 33 140 620 508. We will just have to wait to see your lovely faces til we get home.

Of course there is no Thanksgiving in Europe, but we are having a church wide celebration on Saturday, with all the "major players" like turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes...you get the picture. We are all looking forward to that.

Some of you may not know that one of my cousins in Germany died a few weeks ago. He was performing on stage in a play, in the village where he lived, collapsed, was in a coma for 4 days and died. He was only 57 years old. We were not able to go to his service because Charlie had too many weddings, and I managed to have a back spasm!!! But on December 9th after a wedding, we will take the TGV to Karlsruhe and spend 4 days with my remaining cousin and his family. As it turned out, it was a bit of a blessing that we couldn't go, because 250 people

came to the service. Now we will be able to spend time just with family. Keep us in your prayers.

We hope all is well with you, and perhaps we'll hear from some of you by phone. We send you love and hugs,

Edda and Charlie Brown

Remember, if you don't hear from us during the holidays, you are always in our ♥ and we look forward to some major huggings when we get home.

FELLOWSHIP DINNER GROUPS

A new round of dinners will start in January, 2011 and run through April. Fellowship dinners groups are made up of 7 to 9 people who meet once a month for dinner and fellowship. The groups usually meet in homes, but they have also met in restaurants and at the church. The dinners are simple; the host of the dinner supplies the main course and the others in the group supply side dishes, dessert and drinks. Each group will decide which night works best for all to gather. After four months a computer software program generates new groups. This gives everyone the chance to meet and connect with more people in the church.

If you participated in the fall fellowship groups, you are already signed up for this new phase, and you do not need to do anything. If you are not presently participating, but would like to, this is an excellent time to begin. You may sign up on the tower in the Narthex or by sending an email to office@tpcspirit.org.

We would like to form a fellowship group for families with young children, so if you're interested, sign-up and let us know.

The sign-up deadline is Sunday, December 19 so there's time to create new groups for posting on Sunday, December 26. Questions? Talk to Rick Crall (503) 692-1677.

**BELL CONCERT
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4
CANCELLED
DUE TO SCHEDULE
CONFLICTS**

**TPC COOKIE SALE-
Sat., December 11th,**
from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00
p.m.. There's a sign-up
sheet on the tower in the
Narthex for everyone who would like to bake
cookies and donate them to the sale.



The day of the sale, cookies are set out on platters on tables in the Narthex. Buyers put on a pair of gloves and walk from table to table selecting cookies. It's a U-Pick Cookie Sale! Cookies are sold by the pound. Proceeds will be donated to Quiet Waters Outreach, the parent organization of Tuesday's Treasures.

CHRISTMAS PROGRESSIVE DINNER

The annual TPC Christmas Progressive Dinner will be Sunday, **December 12 at 5 p.m.** We will meet at Jack and Dianne Lemmon's home for appetizers, then break into smaller groups and go to another home for the main course and dessert. You are asked to bring an appetizer, side dish, or dessert to share. There is a \$5 charge to cover the cost of the entrée and the beverages. When signing up on the tower, please indicate if you would like to host the main course and dessert in your home and how many people you can accommodate. Sign-up deadline is Sunday, Dec. 5. Questions? Talk to Barb Crall 503-692-1677.

**VIEW CHRISTMAS LIGHTS—
MONDAY, DECEMBER 13**

The deacons invite you to join them to see Christmas Lights in the Tigard Tualatin area. We will meet at the church (call if you need a ride) between **5:30 and 6 p.m. on Monday, December 13.** We will load the cars and vans and drive around looking at Christmas lights. Then back to the church for cookies and a hot beverage. After some fellowship, home we go. There is a sign up sheet on the tower in the Narthex. Or call Sherry Nelson at 503-692-3156 to put your name on the list. We hope you can join us. Sherry Nelson, Deacon

EVERS-HOOD OPEN HOUSE



The 3rd Annual Evers-Hood Christmas Open House will be **Tuesday, December 21 from 5:00-8:30 p.m.** Please join the fun and merry-making at 22216 SW 106th Ave., Tualatin. If you would like to bring something to share, bring a beverage, appetizer or dessert. Please RSVP to the church office at office@tpcspirit.org.

**ALL ARE INVITED FOR LUNCH
AND A SOUP EXCHANGE**

Sat., January 15, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

WHAT'S A SOUP EXCHANGE? Here's how it works: Each participant brings 8 individually packaged pints of soup. (It's fine to bring the soup frozen if that works best in your busy life.) Cooks talk about their recipe. Is it an old family favorite? Did you find it on line or in a magazine? After sharing stories, everyone draws a number to

Treasurer's Report

Operating Income and Expense at September 30, 2010

	Received Year to Date	Year to Date Budget
*Income	\$219,416.57	\$214,817.00
Expense	\$210,676.65	\$217,724.00
Difference	\$ 8,739.92	\$ (2,907.00)

* Includes prepaid pledges of \$14,200

determine the order of selection. The selection process continues until all soup is taken. Each participant goes home with variety of soups for the weeks ahead.

After the swap, a soup, bread and dessert lunch will be served. The idea for a Soup Exchange came from an article in the Food Day section of the Oregonian on Tuesday, October 19, 2010. There's even a website: SoupSwap.com. Hope you'll join us. Questions? Talk to Barb Crall or Susan Springer.

CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL OFFERING

If you wish to remember or honor someone special during this Christmas season, please complete the form inside your Sunday worship bulletin and put it in the offering plate, or turn in to the office by December 12. Names will be listed in the Sunday bulletin on December 19 and 26. All donations will go to the Domestic Violence Resource Center in Washington County. In addition to temporary housing, they provide a broad range of assistance including, but not limited to, counseling, job coaching, and monetary management skills..

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

For over 70 years, Presbyterians have given generously at Christmas to support the unmet need of families who have devoted their lives to the mission of the PC(USA). This offering is shared equally by the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions, which provides critical assistance to Presbyterian church workers and their families, and Presbyterian-affiliated racial ethnic schools and colleges, which enable students to develop their gifts and find their calling. The offering dates back to the 1930's when the former Presbyterian Church in the United States began an offering to supplement inadequate retirement income and provide supplemental medical insurance for former ministers, missionaries, church workers, and their families.

Take The Stress Out of The Holidays

Be realistic about what you can do and expect from the busy holiday season. Remember the greatest joys are often found in the simplest things. Enjoy companionship, family, and spiritual reflection. **Try the following:**

1. Check traditions. Discard those that are no longer fun, and create new ones.
2. Simplify your routine. Bake only one or two types of cookies instead of ten or twelve.
3. Take time outs. Grab 15 to 30 minutes for yourself to revitalize and recharge when you find yourself getting weary.
4. Prevent money problems -- don't create them. Give gifts of time and yourself, or pull names for gift exchanges. Enjoy activities that are free, such as driving around to look at holiday decorations, going window shopping without buying.
5. Exercise. Get outdoors, get fresh air, and work out the built-up stress. Dress warmly, wear non-slip shoes and go for a walk.
6. Don't go overboard. Enjoy the special holiday foods that you only get at this time of year, but don't overdo it.

Dianne Lemmon, Parish Nurse

Cooking with Soul Cookbook Correction

To everyone who bought the TPC cookbook, please find a pen and make the following correction. On page 138, the Curried Shrimp and Rice dish submitted by Priscilla Hagan, should list 4 cups of water rather than 2.

COOK'S CORNER

Here's a delicious recipe to start the holidays.

COUSIN SUSIE'S CURRY DIP—Lynn Scroggin
Mix 12 oz cream cheese with 2 tsp curry (I used 16 oz.)

Stir into cream cheese mixture:

- 1/2 C. chopped green onions
- 1/2 C. chopped peanuts
- 1/2 C. raisins

Shape into a ball (or 2) and wrap in Saran Wrap. Before serving, cover ball with Earl Grey Chutney and sprinkle with toasted coconut. Serve with Wheat Thins or other crackers.



UPDATE DISTRIBUTION OF TPC SPIRIT NEWS- LETTER

In an effort to cut our overhead expenses, starting in 2011, we're going to try something different.

Since mailing the November newsletter another way to distribute the newsletter has come to mind: send it as a PDF file attached to an email.

The newsletter will also be posted to the church website, but due to busy schedules, the posting date cannot be promised.

COME JANUARY, 2011...CHOICES

Read the newsletter in a PDF file attached to an email. If you are interested in receiving the newsletter this way, we will need your preferred email address. The newsletter should be emailed by the end of the day on the fourth Thursday of the month.

Read a paper copy of the newsletter that you pick up at church. If you prefer reading a paper copy of the newsletter, one can be picked up at church on a Sunday morning or during the week.

Read a paper copy of the newsletter that is mailed to you. If you much prefer to receive a paper copy of the newsletter in the mail, we need to hear from you.

During December there will be Sunday morning bulletin inserts for you to let us know how you wish to receive the newsletter. Or you may send an email to office@tpcspirit.org.

If you have questions, please call or email Susan Springer in the office at (503) 692-4160 or Susan@tpcspirit.org. Thanks.

CHURCH NUTS AND BOLTS

Please close all downstairs doors when not in use. We are required to do so in accordance with fire codes.

Norm Dannemiller, Building & Grounds Elder



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

01	Debby Owen	15	Blair Ewing
01	Rachel Norse	16	Stacy Bartlett
04	Emma Steffen	17	Clare Hahn
06	Greg Owen	17	Greg Imus
07	Rick Crall	18	Barbara Kerr
07	Nancy Catanese	19	Dorothy Butts
09	Leah Olson	20	Dorothy Farrell
10	Tanuja Senthirajah	22	Rick Norse
10	Philip Martin	23	McKinley Ewing
10	John DeHoney	26	Jacki Mazzuca
13	Barbara Kozak	27	Myrna Friese
13	William Evers-Hood	28	Anna Schmitt
14	Barbara Thomason	28	Norm Dannemiller
15	Jackie Dannemiller		

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

03	Cathy Lambeth	24	Greg Sundt
04	Mary Shiffer	27	John Mears
09	Steve Olsen	28	Erin Hagan
12	Susan Springer	28	Mark Hansen
15	Karen Jones	28	Ted Miller
15	Samuel Corona	28	Nick Dannemiller
16	Herb Richardson	29	Randy Beyer
18	Mary Maleta	29	Casey Sparks
19	Scott MacHaffie	29	Janet Winterrowd
21	Bill Thomason	30	Pam Cameron
21	Pam Bowen	31	Neil Olson

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

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December

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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 We're also on Facebook.

Worship Service – Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

Elders: Randy Beyer, Craig Bowen, Barb Crall, Norm Dannemiller, Chip Kyle, Joan Nardi, Adele Pelletier, Craig Walker and Katrina Weener.

Deacons: Carolyn Hale, Barbara Harriman, Ted Lambeth, Jack Lemmon, Carolyn Locke, Robyn MacKay, Sherry Nelson, Bob Nix, Mary Ortez, Ronn Rhodes, Bill Smiley, and Jeni Wiggers

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

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

Clerk of Session: Dee Johnson
Email: plumeria5227@yahoo.com

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

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

Music Accompanist: Dr. Ron Fabbro

Art Director: Ellen VanSchoiack

Bereavement Committee: Pam Cameron

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

Wedding Coordinator: Stacy Mauer

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

Church Office Hours

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