



A MESSAGE from Pastor Ken

Dear friends,

Stewardship...the "S" word. To tell you the truth, I grew up thinking "stewardship" was a Presbyterian word for fund raising. Of course stewardship means vastly more than filling out a pledge card.

Stewardship literally refers to the idea that we have been charged with the task of caring for something that is not ours. Biblically, a steward is a highly regarded manager given the difficult assignment of running an estate on behalf of the owner. We are stewards when we realize that the things that matter most, our world, our families, our friends, our health, and our church, just to name a few, do not belong to us. So, fundamentally stewardship means a change of perspective for most of us. Stewardship means seeing the world differently. Stewardship means knowing we are accountable not merely for how well we have looked after ourselves, but how well we have looked after the institutions and others around us on our watch.

Since 2008, every single one of us has been touched by the irresponsible actions on the part of those wanting to make as much money as possible in the short term without regard for the effect on others-whether individuals living beyond their means or wall street banks selling financial instruments they themselves bet against. Recently, some have taken to city parks and college campuses to protest this kind of short-sighted, and selfish greed. I chose not to participate by joining the occupation. I prefer a different kind of protest: I prefer the quiet but alternative lifestyle of living like a steward. I choose the spiritual discipline of constantly challenging the values of the "ownership" society into which I have been raised. I do this by spending my time in ways that make little sense from the perspective of financial gain: I spend time in prayer every day; I spend time with those unlikely to benefit me such as children, seniors, and those with various disabilities; I listen to those in painful situations with often little hope for a solution; and I give away my resources. I give to our congregation, to our campaign to retire our debt, to three children through World Vision, and I give to other institutions and individuals as well. And I will admit- sometimes this does seem a little foolish. But then I remember it only seems foolish if I believe at the end of my days I'm going to regret not having amassed more stuff. And I just don't. I just don't believe that. No one on their death bed laments not having worked more or having piled away more money. We will only regret not loving the people around us better or caring for others more with the resources given us. And since tomorrow really is uncertain- why not live this way today? Why not live like a steward?

Please join me and prayerfully consider making a pledge to TPC today. "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give away". *Winston Churchill*

In Christ,

The Rev. Ken Evers-Hood



PEOPLE IN THE NEWS



Hilde and Gary Frey

Hilde and Gary have been coming to Tualatin Presbyterian Church for many years. Hilde first started coming here in 1989. Many of the TPC old timers will know the Frey family better than we “newcomers.” They are not regular attendees in recent years due to spending as much of their time as possible at their home on the coast at Bay City, a bit north of Tillamook. Gary says they hope to retire there full time in another 1-2 years, depending on the cooperation of the economy, a concern shared by many of us who are also contemplating retirement in the near future.

Gary was the youngest of 3 children and Hilde was the 5th eldest of 15 children. Hilde was born and raised in Holland, but came to the USA at age 12 with 22 of her extended family.

Gary made a career at Anderson Transmission and Differential for the past 15 years where he is now the Store Manager. Gary said that Anderson’s rebuilds the big semi-trucks we see on the roads hauling just about everything that affects our lives.

Since 1975 Hilde has owned the Underwater Works in Tigard where she sells and services nearly anything related to scuba diving. Both Hilde and Gary are certified scuba divers. Hilde can arrange to certify anyone with an interest in scuba diving, from basic open water diver to assistant instructor status.

Hilde and Gary first met many years ago when her father, who had a truck transmission shop, had some work done by the shop where Gary worked. After that they both lived separate lives, but Hilde said she and Gary have been best of friends for 36+ years. Gary was one of the first persons to sign up for scuba lessons when Hilde opened her shop in Tigard.

As life and events would have it, Hilde and Gary eventually started dating, since they had many common interests, and were married in 1997 by Pastor Tom Nelson, right here at TPC. Gary and Hilde like TPC because it is like a big family that is very friendly and so helpful and supportive when life isn’t so great. They love Pastor Ken’s sermons and how he always relates the lessons to application in our everyday lives (and without using notes).

Hilde and Gary have two grown sons: Jason (28) who now lives in Chicago and Jason (26) who was just married this past August and lives in Seattle. Hilde says there are no grandchildren yet, but she says there is plenty of time for that.

Something that many at TPC may not know about Gary and Hilde is that they are very much water people, as evidenced by their love of scuba diving and the coast, and that they also own a 50 foot boat that they love to take out on the “big water” at least once per year. Hilde says the trips through San Juan Islands in Puget Sound are her favorites.

When you see the Freys at TPC, say “Hi”. Both have an easy laugh and are delightful to chat with.

Submitted by: Bob Nix; Deacon – Parish 12



During worship on October 30, we commemorated the 10-year anniversary of The Rev. Ken Evers-Hood’s ordination on October 26, 2001. The Rev. Charlie Brown celebrated his 50 anniversary in July, hence the different number of stars on their helmets. Congratulations, Ken!

LOOKING AHEAD

MISSION NEWS

CANNED FOOD CIVIL WAR CONTINUES

Mike Shiffer took the contents of the food barrels to the Food Pantry and weighed them. Currently:

Ducks: 124 pounds

Beavers: 980 pounds.

Suggestions for weight...25 pound bag of beans or sugar from Costco. Winner gets bragging rights for a year...good luck and may the best side win!

COOKIES, YES WE HAVE COOKIES



Cookie Sale

The annual TPC cookie sale is set for **Saturday, December 10th, from 9:00 AM until 2:00 PM.** There is a sign-up sheet posted in the Narthex for your convenience in signing up to bake cookies for the sale.

This year, there will also be an announcement in local papers; therefore, we are anticipating a great turn-out of “cookie shoppers.” Cookies may be brought to the church on Friday, December 9th, anytime between 9:00 AM and 6:00PM, or from 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM on Saturday morning. Thanks in advance to both bakers and buyers!!

Cookies are \$5.95 per pound. Proceeds from the sale will go to Quiet Waters Outreach, the parent organization of Tuesdays Treasures.

THANKS FOR DINNER!

The volunteer staff of the Essential Health Clinic continues to be thrilled with the monthly dinner provided by TPC. They come hungry and with pleased expectation each time we serve their evening meal. Comments range from “wow; your team always does such a great job;” to “halleluiah, someone cares about those of us who are vegetarian!”

A hearty thank you to all of the TPC folks who have shared in this monthly, mission ministry! TPC’s next date for providing dinner for the clinic staff is **Wednesday, Dec. 14th.** A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex. If you have questions regarding the dinner, please contact Joan Nardi, Mission Elder.

“OH TO SLEEP, PER CHANCE TO DREAM”

In this “season of dreams”, the Giving Tree offers each of us an opportunity to make a special difference in children’s lives and their families. The Tree is adorned with tags for gifts for children from five Tualatin families, who without our support will not be able to provide gifts for their children. Each tag identifies the child, his/her age, and the gift request. Please wrap the gifts; attach the related tag, and return to the Giving Tree no later than December 18th.

Additionally, there are envelopes on the tree to make donations for Christmas food baskets for the five families. Envelopes should be returned via the Sunday morning offering, or you may choose to simply write a check and note “Food Baskets” on the explanation line. Again, we will need all Food Basket offering submitted by Sunday, December 18th. Thanks to everyone who helps to make these families “dreams come true.”

CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS

A tradition at TPC of honoring individuals who have had positive impact on our lives continues this December. Contributions made in memory of, or in honor of, individuals will be given to the Domestic Violence Resource Center in Washington County. In addition to temporary housing, the Center provides a broad range of assistance including, but not limited to, counseling, job coaching and monetary management skills.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

Our annual Christmas Joy Offering will be taken on **Sunday morning, December 18th.** One-half of the contributions are used for Presbyterian-related racial, ethnic schools and colleges. The remainder of these funds assists programs that provide support for retired and active church workers and their families. For examples of these programs in action, please see the inserts in the December bulletins. Thank you for your support.

FELLOWSHIP AND YOUTH GOINGS ON

The TPC Women's Group is going to the Grotto to enjoy the Festival of Lights on **Friday, December 9**. We are having dinner at Der Rheinlander. I will make reservations for 6 pm when I know how many women are going. We plan to get to the Grotto about 7:30. We will attend the 9 pm performance of the Tualatin High School Choir and head for home after that. Anyone interested in carpooling, meet at the church at 5:15 pm. The entry price at the Grotto is \$8.00 and they ask visitors to bring a donation of canned or packaged food for the food bank. Besides the lights and concert, there is outdoor caroling, puppet shows and a petting zoo (under tents.) There is a display of nativity sets from around the world and a book store with seasonal items for sale. Be prepared to walk around outside; we're hoping for good weather. Please sign up on the tower so I can make a reservation.

Barb Crall, Fellowship Elder

CHRISTMAS PROGRESSIVE DINNER



SATURDAY, DEC. 10, AT 6 PM

We will gather for appetizers at Jack and Dianne Lemmon's home and then break into smaller groups for main course and dessert. Sign up on the tower to bring an appetizer, side dish or dessert. If you can host the main course, please indicate how many people you can accommodate. Cost is \$4 per person. Sign-up deadline is December 4.



LOGOS Youth Group

SEE YOU IN A COUPLE WEEKS: Our theme for **Sunday, 11 December** is **HANAKKUH!** **LOGOS begins at 5:00 pm;** the first hour of our program is for youth in grades 3 through 12 and includes Recreation Time and Bible Study. ALL ages are welcome during our second hour when we share a meal tied to our theme, play a short game, then move into the sanctuary for a youth-centered worship service. Upcoming: LOGOS on 8 January, theme is Sundae Sunday! LOGOS on 22 January, theme is Groundhog Night. Questions? Talk to Dr. Craig Bowen.

FELLOWSHIP DINNER GROUPS

A new round of fellowship dinners will start in January, and go through April. Fellowship dinners are groups of 7 to 9 people who meet once a month for four months for dinner and fellowship. The groups usually meet in homes, but they can meet in restaurants and at the church. After four months the computer will come up with new groups.

If you are participating in this fall's program, you are already signed up for the winter phase, and you do not need to do anything to continue participating. However, if you do not wish to participate in the winter phase, please contact Rick Crall or send an email to office@tpcspirit.org.

If you are not presently participating, this would be an excellent time to begin. There is a signup on the tower for new participants, or you may send an e-mail to office@tpcspirit.org to signup.

We have formed a group for families with young children, and if that fits your needs, be sure to mention that in your signup.

Please sign up by **December 18th** so that the new group assignments can be made by about December 25th giving groups time to schedule their January meeting.

If you have questions, contact anyone on the Fellowship Dinners Steering committee:..Mary Ortez 503-612-1993, Rick & Rachel Norse 503-625-2372, Ron & Carol Rhodes 503-885-8066, Rick & Barb Crall 503-692-1677, Sherry & Mike Nelson 503-692-3156



EVERS-HOOD OPEN HOUSE—

The 4th Annual Evers-Hood Christmas Open House will be **Thursday, Dec. 22 from 5:00 to 8:30 pm.**

Please join the fun and merry-making at 22216 SW 106th Ave., Tualatin.

If you would like, bring a beverage, appetizer or dessert to share. **Please RSVP to the church office at office@tpcspirit.org.**

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE FRIDAY, JAN. 13

JANUARY FELLOWSHIP EVENTS

Saturday, January 14, 7 pm, Pinochle Party
Sunday, January 29—Potluck after worship.

To Clap or not to Clap....

The following article, written by Martha Wilson, first appeared in the Feb. 2011 Spirit. It is reprinted here, with some changes in the final paragraph.

I love TPC! I love how we embrace diversity and are so open to a variety of expression in our faith! We look for ways to allow unique experience and understanding. We are a tolerant and open group.

We are also an affirming group. As both a member of the vocal choir and the director of the bell choir, I can say without hesitation that you give kudos with regularity! I'm so grateful to be a part of a congregation that gives praises liberally! One of the ways you, as a group, say "thank you" is by putting your hands together and clapping. We, who are the musicians of the church, hear that and know you're thanking us and it can be very heart-warming to us. However, it can also be disappointing to us, depending on what we're trying to accomplish with any given piece of music. Here's what I mean...

Our goal, as church musicians, is not to draw the attention to ourselves, it is to put you in touch with an experience of the Holy. Sometimes our music points to God's lighter side: the playfulness and joyfulness found in our relationship to God. This would be a more "bouncy" piece of music, like a gospel number or a bluesy jazz piece. It's the kind that makes you instinctively happy and brings forth a longing to express that happiness. When that upbeat music produces an upbeat worship experience, than an "upbeat" expression, like clapping would be very appropriate. It's your way of saying "I agree, my faith experience is joyful right now."

Sometime, though, we try and take you to a more quiet, reflective place. This kind of music is usually more soft, tender, meditative and is meant to put you into a quiet experience of God. A couple of weeks ago a congregant approached me a few days after worship and told me that the music had moved her to a "thin place." That's a term for moments when the division between our tangible world and the intangible is so "thin" that we experience the Sacred directly. Unfortunately, this congregant reported being jarred out of that reverie by clapping, despite the music having been con-

templative in nature. The clapping was disruptive to her worship experience because it wasn't in keeping with what had preceded it, nor with the experience the choir would hope to invoke in your worship with that particular piece of music. There are times we know we've done a good job ONLY when you don't clap because you're moved to such a reverential space.

Please know that, when we sing, or ring in the bell choir, we're not doing it to point to ourselves, but to point to God. And, when a piece of music calls for it, keep clapping; and when the music draws you to reflection, bask in his presence. Let your response in worship reflect your experience of God through the music.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

(1) Henry Harris, Debby Owen, (4) Emma Steffen, (6) Greg Owen, (7) Rick Crall, Nancy Catanese, (9) Leah Olson, (10) Tanuja Senthirajah, Philip Martin, John DeHoney (13) Barbara Kozak, William Evers-Hood, Sawyer Mattox. (14) Barbara Thomason. (15) Jackie Dannemiller, Blair Ewing, (16) Stacy Bartlett (17) Clare Hahn, Greg Imus, (18) Barbara Kerr, (19) Dorothy Butts, Todd Sweetland, (20) Dorothy Farrell, (22) Rick Norse, (23) McKinley Ewing, (26) Jacki Mazzuca, (27) Myrna Friese, (28) Anna Schmitt, Norman Dannemiller.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

(3) Cathy Lambeth, (4) Mary Shiffer, (9) Steve Olsen, (12) Susan Springer, (15) Karen Jones, Samuel Corona, (16) Herb Richardson, (18) Mary Maleta, (19) Scott MacHaffie, (21) Bill Thomason, Pam Bowen, (24) Greg Sundt, (27) John Mears, (28) Erin Hagan, Mark Hansen, Ted Miller, Nick Dannemiller, (29) Randy Beyer, Casey Sparks, Janet Winterrowd, (30) Pam Cameron, (31) Neil Olson.

TPC PER CAPITA EXPENSE

\$22.90 for each member

If you haven't already, please pay your 2011 per capita fee. Make your check payable to TPC and write per capita on the comment line. Thanks! **As of October 31, we're short \$799.20.**

November 15, 2011 Session Meeting Highlights

Session approved Dylan Shelton's Eagle Scout proposal to improve TPC grounds. The plan includes re-stripping parking lines, improvements to the meditation garden trail and meditation garden plantings.

Building improvements included enhanced lighting on the west side of the building and repair of a faulty power supply to the smoke detection system. Some water leaks have been discovered and repaired. Water usage will continue to be studied so problems can be isolated and repaired.

A written Annual Report will be distributed at the January Congregational meeting. Committee Reports submitted from Session Elders and other groups will be compiled by the Session Clerk to showcase the activities and accomplishments of 2011.

The congregation vote on amendments to the TPC By-Laws will occur at the March meeting. Before then two opportunities will be provided to learn about proposed TPC By-Law changes as well as the new Presbyterian Book of Order.

The Retire the Debt Campaign Committee reported that \$202,000 has been pledged to date.

Work on Session Retreat goals continues. A demographic report is under study to glean helpful planning information. Questionnaires for adult and youth programs are being prepared. Attendance records for worship, nursery, children and youth programs are being consolidated. A high school retreat is planned for the first weekend in May. Ways to increase visibility of signage are under study.

The discussion of congregational response in worship was continued and the diversity of faith expression was a recurring theme. Martha Wilson's article on clapping in worship was helpful.

The above information has been compiled from Session minutes. Complete copies of Session and Committee minutes are available in the church office.

Carolyn Barker
Clerk of Session

WELLNESS MOMENT

Being a former skinny turned "fluffy," I recently read Geneen Roth's *Women Food and God* book and thought I would share a few insights:

She believes eating is a metaphor for the way we live. For example, obsessing over food and focusing on our weight keeps us from finding the joy that is available to us right here and now.

So, if we focus on behaviors that help us release stressful thoughts—valuing ourselves, tuning into our bodies and emotions, asking for what we need, for example—that will enable us to live *full* and happy lives. And, when we're full, we're not hungry for empty calories.

So, my holiday wish for you is that you not worry about the consumption of pumpkin pie. (or presents as this month turns into December) as much as you *focus* on creating more meaning and joy in the abundance around you. Judy Nix

From the Campaign Committee...

Thanks to all of you who have turned in Pledge Cards for the Campaign to Reduce our Mortgage Debt. We appreciate your help and efforts. We know not everyone is able to participate in this effort. We also know that no matter what your circumstances, you support our effort to reduce our debt. This campaign will allow TPC to look forward to hiring staff to help Ken and our church. It will allow TPC to bring more programs to you and your families.

As of November 6, TPC has received commitments in the amount of \$202,280. Fantastic. Well done! Keep up the good work. And thank you again for your commitment to our TPC family of faith. Sherry Nelson

2011 FINANCIALS

Income Year to Date (as of 10-31-2011)	Actuals	Budget	Dollar Difference
	\$239,219	\$234,670	\$4,549
Expenses Year to Date (as of 10-31-2011)			
	\$229,089	\$242,522	\$13,433

TUALATIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CALENDAR

December 2011

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 8:45 Adult Ed. 10:00 Worship Sunday School during worship	5 7 pm Spiritual Formation off site. For info, talk to Laura Spurrell 503-692-7034	6	7 7 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal	8 7 pm Bell choir rehearsal	9 10 to noon Loving Stitches 6 pm Women - dinner and Grotto	10 9 am to 2 pm Cookie Sale 6 pm Progressive Dinner
11 8:45 Adult Ed. 10:00 Worship Sunday School during worship 5 pm Youth Logos—Hanakkuh	12	13 7 pm Tuesdays Treasures	14 Dinner for Essential Health Clinic 7:00 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal	15 7 pm Bell choir rehearsal	16	17 7:30 pm Men's Fellowship Breakfast
18 8:45 Adult Ed. 10:00 Worship Sunday School during worship	19	20	21 7 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal	22 7 pm Bell choir rehearsal	23 10 am to noon Loving Stitches	24 Christmas Eve Services 5 and 10 pm
25 Christmas 10:00 Worship—Lessons and Carols No Youth Logos	26	27	28 NO Chancel Choir rehearsal; choir resumes on January 4	29	30	31 New Year's Eve

For the latest updates, check the calendar posted on the church website, www.tpcspirit.org

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've moved or changed your email address.
 Church website: www.tpcspirit.org We're also on Facebook.

NOTE: There will not be a January newsletter. The deadline for the February Newsletter is 9 am on Tuesday, January 24.
 Please email articles to newsletter@tpcspirit.org.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

The directory is updated frequently. If your directory is more than a year old, please come to the office and pick up a current one.



SANCTUARY ARTWORK

The stained glass artwork in the sanctuary was hand made by the TPC Art Team. Inspired by advent scriptures telling of people's desire for comfort, it is meant to express the warm and radiating love God offers in response. Here are some things you may wish to think about while you and your family consider this piece of art:

Why did the artists choose to leave empty spaces in the panels for the four weeks of advent?

Why did they use oil lamps instead of candles?

The glass chosen is in a diverse range of amber tones—some pieces are opaque. What might that express about the life of faith?

It is the nature of the lamps being used to light as a tiny light which grows over time. How can metaphors and symbols help us express and understand the challenges of faith?

The Art Team hopes that our sanctuary offers you a place of warmth and loving comfort this advent season. As always we thank you for allowing us a place to offer our gifts to God.

We would also like to thank the Wilcox Family for providing studio space in their home for the months that we worked on this project.

Ellen and Ron VanSchoiack, Nancy Wilcox, Stacy Mauer and Karen Stevenson
Photograph taken by The Rev. Dick Wiggers

Christmas Eve Services

December 24

5 pm Family Friendly Service

10 pm Service with Communion

Christmas Day, 10 am service

Lessons and Carols



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.

Parish Associates: The Rev. Charlie Brown, The Rev. Philip Martin

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

Deacons: Bud Bender, Susan Fee, Barbara Harriman, Ted Lambeth, Carolyn Locke, Robyn MacKay, Bob Nix, Mary Ortez, Marilyn Staples-Sundt, Karen Stevenson, Jeni Wiggers, and Nancy Wilcox.

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