

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR KEN



What does a socially distanced Christmas look like? Well...the Bible offers us a pretty solid glimpse.

You know the story. (Well, you know the stories.) In Luke's version Jesus' family starts out in Nazareth when they are called to report to Joseph's hometown in Bethlehem to pay his taxes. Of course everyone had been summoned as well, and so when they turned up they couldn't even find a Motel 6 who would leave the light on for them. So, they wound up in a barn and Mary gave birth to Jesus using a food trough for a crib. (Hey, don't judge. I knew former members in Austin who couldn't afford baby furniture when their first arrived, and so they used a dresser drawer- my guess is that cut down on the noise he made significantly.) Some shepherds show up, but that's about it. It was just Joseph, Mary, and their new little one.

In Matthew the family starts out in Bethlehem. But (cue dark music) they're living under the rule of Herod who has been warned that a new king is going to be born in Bethlehem who would put an end to his tyranny. So, what does he do? Like any reasonable leader, Herod calls for the execution of all the male children in the vicinity. Being warned in a dream Joseph takes his family and flees across the border to Egypt where they live as asylum seeking refugees. Then, after another dream Joseph and the family head back to Israel but make their home in Nazareth rather than Bethlehem just in case Herod decides to pull another executive order. Again, while yes, some magi come and leave their (disinfected, I'm sure) gifts of Frankincense, gold, and myrrh, the holy family celebrates the birth of Jesus in isolation.

For as different as these two stories are, both Luke and Matthew agree there is no big family gathering, there's no massive feast, and nor are there heaps of presents to go through deciding whether to keep or regift to your "favorite" cousin who gets on your last nerve. (For the record I have no cousins...I'm speaking theoretically.) There are no carolers with hot chocolate. There is no Rudolph guiding Santa's sleigh. There is a cold night sky spread out against a deserted landscape, and there is the warmth of family huddling together backing in the glow of the only thing they really do need- one another.

I know this Christmas isn't going to be what any of us are exactly wanting. But it might be the first Christmas we have the opportunity to celebrate like the Holy family did. It may not be the Christmas we want...but if it was good enough for them, maybe you'll find something to treasure in this peculiar holiday as well.

In Christ, Ken

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ken', written in a cursive style.



**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6TH, AFTER ONLINE WORSHIP,
DURING FELLOWSHIP TIME**

Wear your holiday headgear for our Virtual Christmas Cookie Party, Sunday December 6th.

In a normal year, we would be asking you to bake and share cookies for the famous TPC Cookie Exchange supporting our Compassion International students. We are so thankful this year that, through an incredible donation, we are able to continue this support.

But what about eating cookies? Here's your chance! On Sunday, Dec. 6th our Fellowship time will be transformed into the first (and hopefully last!) Virtual Christmas Cookie Party. Join the party by clicking the "Fellowship" link on the TPC website after worship. We will play games, share holiday memories, and eat a cookie or two. Wear your Santa hats and blinking reindeer antlers, and BYO hot chocolate and cookies. Hope to 'see' you there!

Cathy Lambeth for the Mission Committee



MISSION - GIVING TREE

In partnership with the Tigard-Tualatin School District, TPC helps make Christmas brighter for families of children who might otherwise not have the resources for a celebration. This year, in this time when we cannot meet, TPC has created an electronic site where you can select a gift request that you would like to purchase for a child. You can access that site at www.tpcspirit.org/givingtree. Then shop for the gift, wrap it and bring it to a socially-distanced gathering in the parking lot of the church on Sunday, 12/20/2020 in the afternoon; event time to be announced.

If you cannot attend this gathering, please email the mission committee at givingtree@tpcspirit.org and they will arrange for someone to pick up the gift. You can also go to tpcspirit.org/givingtree to sign up to make a financial donation to purchase Winco gift cards for our supported families; to pick up gifts from those who cannot bring them to the church; and to volunteer to deliver gifts to supported families. Your gift is especially appreciated this year. Lightening the burden of a struggling family brings us all closer and reduces the distance COVID requires of our community.

Russ Carlin, Mission Committee Elder



CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS

A tradition our church has long enjoyed is dedicating memorials to loved ones who have played impactful roles in our lives. In the past, monies collected have gone to various organizations, depending on need. This year donations received will go to Tualatin Valley Family Promise, whose objective is to provide safe housing and access to resources to help families recover from homelessness. Please consider a memorial for a loved one that supports Family Promise.

To designate a memorial, go to the TPC website, tpcspirit.org. Click on Give, and then Give Now. This takes you to the Online Contribution page. Under TPC Mission Support, Christmas Memorials, enter the name and amount of your memorial. Or make a memorial by mailing a check made out to TPC with the name of the person to be remembered on the memo line of the check. Please consider supporting this traditional Christmas Memorial during this non-traditional time.

Russ Carlin, Mission Elder

HOLIDAY SEASON

The season is upon us and as you probably know, our Covid-19 numbers are increasing in Oregon. It has reached the point where our medical system is on the verge of being overwhelmed. It may take you a week to schedule a Covid-19 test or 6 hours of waiting in a drive-thru line, and hospital beds are filling up.

Travel and social gatherings are the biggest transmission points recently. THANK YOU to all of you who had a small, quiet Thanksgiving. We can be safe and find a new way to celebrate the holidays this year. We can still have fun, and maybe start some new traditions. Before making your plans, please take a look at the following website: [COVID-19: Holiday Celebrations | CDC](#).

HOLIDAY IDEAS: check out the different concerts and programs you can stream from the comfort of your living room. Curl up next to a fire or your Christmas tree, by yourself or with a loved one, to watch a Christmas show, read a Christmas book, or listen to Christmas music. Facetime with your grandchildren and read them a Christmas story. Make a comforting pot of homemade soup, Christmas treats, hot chocolate or hot cider. Make some popcorn--eat some and string the rest with cranberries for the tree. Decorate your house inside and out. Bundle up and take a walk to see the holiday displays in your neighborhood. Check [Holiday Light Displays in Portland | The Official Guide to Portland \(travelportland.com\)](#) for holiday events--many are stay-in-your-car, by reservation, or altered in other ways to be safer this year. Share your photos and favorite holiday finds and traditions in Christmas cards or on social media. Call and check in on someone who is alone.

A reminder: Everyone, please get your Flu shot and Shingles vaccination if your doctor recommends it.

I wish you all a Very Merry and Safe Christmas.
Susan Fee, Parish Nurse

TPC FINANCE REMINDERS

Welcome to the final month of 2020! We thank you for your continued support during this very unique time in our lives and we are grateful to be part of such a generous community!

Here are some reminders from the TPC Finance Committee

1. December financial donations need to be received or postmarked no later than December 31. Online donations must be made no later than December 31. If you want to drop off a check at TPC, you can put it in an envelope and place it in our secure mailbox (write date put in the mailbox on the envelope).
2. The end of the 2020 pledge period is 12/31/2020. Please contact Mike Shiffer, finance@tpcspirit.org if you want an up-to-date statement of your 2020 TPC pledge and donations.
3. Your general fund pledges help TPC plan and ensure support of our programs. If you have not turned in a pledge commitment and would like to do so, please contact Mike Shiffer, finance@tpcspirit.org. Mike can accept your pledge via mail, email or a direct verbal commitment.
4. Celebrate the end of this crazy year!



THANKS FOR ALL YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS
TO THE JANUS PROJECT!!!

CALVIN GRANT

In November 2019, the Tualatin Presbyterian Church Art Team consisting of Chris Robertson, Jeff Cameron, Patrick Ramos, Ian Swanson, Nancy Wilcox, Priscilla Hagan, Jeff Engh, Bob Paetsch, and Nancy Wilcox began work on a proposal for grant money to fund pieces of amazing liturgical art. The Calvin Institute of Christian Worship (CICW), funded by Lily Endowment Inc., awarded us \$15,000 to produce four sets of five faux stained-glass windows similar to our saint windows.



Our plan has been to hire three artists from George Fox University to design window sets for Advent, Easter and Ordinary Time. The advent windows were to be reminiscent of a blockbuster movie poster to depict the Nativity story. Easter would be an image of a garden in art deco style containing the old liturgical symbols of Easter. The Ordinary Time windows will be abstract depictions of the miracles of Jesus.

Brooke Lords, designer and illustrator, created our Advent windows. Brooke designed the Saints windows that we exhibited between Reformation Sunday and Advent in 2019. She did a lot of research in order to make the windows as historically accurate as possible, as well as unique. King Herod does not appear in most nativity images, and Mary does not look European. The landscape flows across all five windows from desert to pasture.

The TPC art team was so impressed with Brooke's creation that we asked her to create a single Nativity design from the window images that we could send to our church family. Due to COVID-19 risk we are not meeting in the sanctuary to celebrate Advent and Christmas. We are, however, together in spirit. The TPC Art Team, Ken, Session, and the staff wish you all a blessed Christmas season. May the New Year bring you joy when you least expect it.

Chris Robertson

This program is made possible through a Vital Worship Grant from the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, Grand Rapids, Michigan, with funds provided by Lily Endowment Inc.



Last month's virtual 'Eat, Drink, & Be Giving' fund raiser was a huge success. Many thanks to the TPC volunteers who assembled the pretty food boxes, helped load cars, delivered virtual attendee meals, and donated generously. Tremendous gratitude goes to Ian and Megan Swanson for their technical expertise to make this virtual event come together.

The Family Promises CARES Emergency Shelter program and funding will end next month, and with the moratorium on evictions ending at the same time, FPTV is anticipating even more folks without shelter. Since starting this government funded program in June, FPTV has provided 4,265 bed nights, and church volunteers have provided 603 grocery orders. In addition, the TPC Move In Program has been such a blessing to families entering into housing. Last month, the Move In Team coordinated four family moves alone, with furniture coming in regularly and going out just as quickly.

Our TPC family continues to provide wonderful support to this ministry. We coordinated a move for Paola, Jose, and their unborn child. When they received news that their application for an apartment had been approved, they shared their gratefulness for the FPTV program and volunteers, stating "our lives have been forever changed -- we now have opportunities we never would have been able to create on our own."

And for those of us who feel like our scales are registering extra pounds due to COVID, Derrilyn and Pam, who do all the food shopping during TPC’s Host week, received the best “thank you” when this story was passed along to them by the Case Manager Gaby Logan. “I was explaining to a new family how our church volunteers shop each week and deliver groceries to them, and the father audibly began to sob in disbelief. This family has struggled over the past couple of years while living in their vehicle and often going hungry. It is truly moving to be reminded how much food support truly does impact the lives of the Family Promise guests.”

In the spirit of gratitude for your continued support of Family Promise,
 Derrilyn Bayha and Pam Bowen, TPC Family Promise Coordinators,
 Judy Nix, Family Promise Move-in Team and Board Member



REFLECTIONS

When the pandemic forced our first shut down in Oregon, “butterbutts” (Yellow-rumped warblers) were just readying themselves for their spring migration. They had been cheery and welcome visitors to our feeders all throughout the fall and winter, but it was time for them to spread their wings and go. As they took their leave, other species appeared filling the void they left.

Late spring and summer brought new visitors that I had been anticipating and dreaming of seeing since the previous year. What a glorious time we had, the grosbeaks, rufous hummingbirds, Orange-crowned warblers, tanagers and so many others alongside me with my camera and curiosity. Some stayed for a few months and others for a few days or just hours. With the arrival of fall

I have been awaiting the return of our cold weather friends.

Just a couple weeks back I heard the sweet “chip” of my old friend and exclaimed with unadulterated joy at his return. Gosh, had it really been eight months since this strange season of life began and the birds with the erratic flight patterns left? Yellow-rumped warblers are a reserved bird, not keen on small talk at the feeders and seemingly uncomfortable with my presence in the yard. Don’t let their lack of outgoing behavior trick you into thinking they are pushovers. They are strong willed and will let others know when they are hungry and want time at the suet buffet.

I love that they are nicknamed “butterbutts.” It is a fitting name for a bird which appears during the time of year when butter is being used exponentially more in all the holiday cooking. We use copious amounts in cookies and baking and over indulgent quantities in mashed potatoes and sauces. I know of no one that would choose to be nicknamed butterbutt. There is however a reason this bird gets that name. It is only revealed when he/she flies off, hidden beneath its wings, right on its backside~ a buttery yellow spot of color and feathers. Now you know.

Rebecca Backen

TPC 2020 FINANCIALS	Actuals	Budget	Dollar Difference
Operating Income Year to Date 10/31/20	\$336,813	\$326,572	\$10,241
Operating Expenses Year to Date 10/31/20	\$318,597	\$332,240	\$13,643

CONNECT TO TPC

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP at 10:10 am
Go to church website, tpcspirit.org. Or Facebook.

ZOOM enables you to interactively participate in a virtual meeting with other TPC folks. To find the links for regular zoom meetings (the “Virtual Coffee Hour” after Sunday morning worship, and the weekday 9 am Prayer meetings)” go to tpcspirit.org/Links/. That page is updated weekly or as needed.

To join a ZOOM meeting, click the link from a message or web page. If it is outside the times for that meeting you’ll get a message, “Please wait for the host to start this meeting” which indicates that your computer is set up properly.

Problems? Look at [Zoom Step-by-step](#) or send an email message to support@tpcspirit.org. [Zoom Step-by-step](#) also contains useful additional information about navigating some of the features, and alternatives available with Zoom.

CONNECTING CONTINUES VIA ZOOM



TUALATIN SCHOOL HOUSE PANTRY

“Thank you TPC for your continued generous support of Tualatin Food Pantry. Tualatin Food Pantry continues to support local families via drive-up food distribution. For the latest hours and information please visit tualatinfoodpantry.org .



Maureen and Herb Richardson,
November 28

Mike and Sherry Nelson,
December 16



Norma Spencer passed away on
November 25, 2020

DECEMBER TUALATIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CALENDAR

For the latest calendar updates, go to www.tpcspirit.org and click on EVENTS.

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 9 am prayer on Zoom	2 9 am prayer on Zoom	3 9 am morning prayer on Zoom	4 9 am morning prayer on Zoom	5
6 10:10 am on-line worship at www.tpcspirit.org Also on Facebook.	7 9 am prayer on Zoom	8 9 am prayer on Zoom 7 pm Stephen Ministry/Zoom	9 9 am prayer on Zoom	10 9 am prayer on Zoom Book Group Meeting on Zoom	11 9 am prayer on Zoom	12
13 10:10 am on-line worship at www.tpcspirit.org Also on Facebook.	14 9 am prayer on Zoom 7 pm Deacon meeting on Zoom	15 9 am prayer on Zoom 7 pm Session meeting on Zoom	16 9 am prayer on Zoom	17 9 am prayer on Zoom Book Group Meeting on Zoom	18 9 am prayer on Zoom	19
20 10:10 am on-line worship at www.tpcspirit.org Also on Facebook. Giving Tree Drop Off in church parking lot. Time TBD.	21 9 am prayer on Zoom	22 9 am prayer on Zoom	23 9 am prayer on Zoom	24 9 am prayer on Zoom	25 Christmas Day	26
27 10:10 am on-line worship at www.tpcspirit.org Also on Facebook.	28 9 am prayer on Zoom	29 9 am prayer on Zoom 9 am Jan. news-letter deadline.	30 9 am prayer on Zoom	31 9 am prayer on Zoom	2020	

Happy Birthday!



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

01-Karen Carlin
01-Debbie Owen
03-Anya Ramos
04-Tomette Schuhmann
04-Emma Steffen
05-Rebecca Olsen

05-Megan Swanson
06-Lisa Canterbury
06-Greg Owen
06-Wayne Willis
07-Nancy Catanese
07-Rick Crall
08-Liz Redding
09-Leah Olson
10-Tanuja Carlson
10-John DeHoney
13-Ches Evers-Hood
13-Barb Kozak
14-Barb Thomason

15-Jackie Dannemiller
15-Jan Murphy
17-Greg Imus
19-Dorothy Butts
19-Bonnie Nord
22-Rick Norse
23-Ian Swanson
26-Jackie Mazzuca
27-Myrna Friese
28-Norm Dannemiller
29-Dan Peters

The church office is closed due to Covid-19; staff members are working from home.
The building is not available for meetings.

You are invited to worship with us on line on Sundays starting at 10:10 am.
Go to the church website, www.tpcspirit.org Or Facebook.

If you wish to leave a voicemail message, call the church office
at 503-692-4160. Messages are checked regularly.



9230 SW Siletz Drive
Tualatin, OR 97062



2020

TUALATIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9230 SW Siletz Drive, Tualatin, OR 97062

Phone: 503-692-4160 Email: office@tpcspirit.org

Web Address: www.tpcspirit.org We're also on Facebook.

Worship Service – Sundays at 10:10 a.m. on line at www.tpcspirit.org

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Ken Evers-Hood

Parish Associates: The Rev. Charlie Brown, The Rev. Dr. Dick Wiggers

Elders: Craig Bowen, Russ Carlin, Jeff Engh, Joan Nardi (acting), Greg Owen, Carolyn Pursinger, Patrick Ramos
Ian Swanson, and Maureen Wolf

Deacons: Derrilyn Bayha, Susan Cameron, Carolyn Hale, Jason James, Dianne Lemmon, Karen Ramos, Herb Richardson,
Sheri Schipporeit, Beth Schulke, Kerry Weaver, and Rob Wiesenthal.

Director of Family Ministries: Sarah Beck

Administrative Assistant, Newsletter Editor: Susan Springer

Financial Assistant: Mike Shiffer

Director of Music Ministries: vacant

Accompanist: Dr. Ron Fabbro

Bell Choir Director: Debbie Ivanov

Building and Grounds Caretaker: Bob Paetsch

Art Director: Chris Robertson

Bereavement Committee Chair: Barbara Crall

Blood Drive Coordinator: Scott Cameron

Clerk of Session: Liz Belz-Templeman

Cookie Coordinator: Sue Hayhurst

Fellowship Director: Barbara Crall

Hospitality Coordinator: Bonnie Nord

Membership Coordinator: Diane Paetsch

Men's Fellowship Group Coordinator: Mike Weaver

Parish Nurse: Susan Fee

Prayer Chain: Greg Imus

Treasurer: Chip Kyle

Tuesdays Treasures Coor: M&M Shiffer, Denise Collins

Webmaster: John Martin

Wedding Coordinator: Stacy Mauer

The office is closed. Can leave voice message at 503 692-4160. We will get back to you.