



**TPC  
2018**



**ANNUAL  
REPORT**



Front cover photos from top

- Children's sermon
- Summer picnic in the park
- Our steeple in April
- Produce sale for youth funds
- Deacons Super Bowl Food Pantry Collection
- Ash Wednesday Simple Supper
- Family Promise Day Center restoration event.



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**If you visited this document on-line, I would love to hear from you  
about your thoughts on the value of this experiment of  
putting the annual report on our website. Contact  
clerk at [tpcspirit.org](http://tpcspirit.org)**

Contributions to the TPC Annual Report by the following members of the TPC family are gratefully acknowledged:

**Coordinator and Editor**, Rick Crall.

**Printing**, Susan Springer.

**All the contributors of the individual reports.**

**Photo contributions** of Dan Barker, Sarah Beck, Russ Carlin, Judy Nix, Gina Olson Chris Robertson, Dick Wiggers, and all the contributors of individual reports who included photos.

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2018 ANNUAL REPORT  
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## **PASTOR'S REPORT**

*Connections are made slowly, sometimes they grow underground.  
You cannot tell always by looking what is happening.  
More than half the tree is spread out in the soil under your feet.  
Penetrate quietly as the earthworm that blows no trumpet.  
Fight persistently as the creeper that brings down the tree.  
Spread like the squash plant that overruns the garden.  
Gnaw in the dark and use the sun to make sugar.*

*Weave real connections, create real nodes, build real houses.  
Live a life you can endure: Make love that is loving.  
Keep tangling and interweaving and taking more in,  
a thicket and bramble wilderness to the outside but to us  
interconnected with rabbit runs and burrows and lairs.*

*Live as if you liked yourself, and it may happen:  
reach out, keep reaching out, keep bringing in.  
This is how we are going to live for a long time: not always,  
for every gardener knows that after the digging, after  
the planting, after the long season of tending and growth, the harvest comes.  
-An excerpt from Marge Piercy's "The Seven of Pentacles"*

I'm grateful for another wonderful year with you at TPC. This poem from Marge Piercy is one of my favorites, and every time I read it I think of this place. It's a poem about the organic nature of lives and organizations. As in the garden so many connections are happening underground that it can be hard to tell what all is happening simply by looking at the surface of things. Or, in our case, if one just showed up on a Sunday morning, some activity would be apparent, but much would go unseen.

One of the most exciting things that happened in 2018 are the connections Judy Nix and Gina Olson woke between our congregation, other local congregations, and our community in laying the foundation for Family Promise to begin. I didn't have any doubt that they would be successful, but I was impressed with how quickly they were able to make this happen. Having worked with churches across denominations and all over the nation I can say with some authority that ecclesial institutions work...slowly. But meeting by meeting, phone call by phone call, these relationships were created, strengthened, and I'm hopeful they will last for a long time to come.

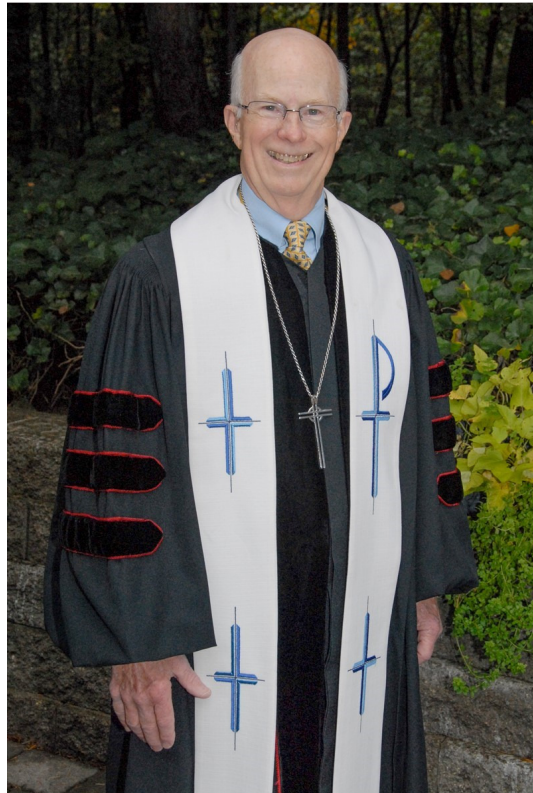
I'm also thankful for the grant we received through the Log College project through Princeton Theological Seminary. For decades the larger church believed in the siloed youth ministry approach. We sought out energetic "pied pipers" to shepherd their youth intentionally apart from the larger ministry we assumed young people perceived as "boring" and irrelevant. The result? Massive youth groups in the 70's and 80's that largely resulted in young people abandoning an adult church culture to which they were never really connected. Princeton's hope is to partner with churches willing to experiment and innovate with more integrated models of family ministry that care for our young people in connection with multiple generations and the larger worshipping community. It's been a fair amount of work and will continue to be, but the learning has been engaging and fruitful.

This past fall the session has also engaged with a consultant, Dr. Corey Schlosser-Hall, to work on our ability to coordinate and communicate. Unlike many churches we're good at being flexible and willing to try new things. Sometimes, though, this comes at the cost of being able to clearly articulate where we see our community headed in the future. Our hope is to be able to maintain our open culture AND better communicate all of the nodes, connections, and rabbit runs happening underground. I'm excited to see where all of this good work will take us in 2019!

Submitted by The Rev. Dr. Ken Evers-Hood

## ***PASTOR DICK WIGGERS – PARISH ASSOCIATE FOR PASTORAL CARE AND VISITATION***

For the past three years, I have had the opportunity to partner with Pastor Ken Evers-Hood, the deacons, elders, Stephen Ministers, and members of the prayer chain, as TPC's part-time (5 hrs/week), Parish Associate for pastoral care and visitation. Over the course of the past year, I have once again had the privilege of getting to know on a more personal basis those of you who have been dealing with health concerns, others confronting difficult life changes, as well as those who are no longer able to participate in weekly worship or other activities of our vital congregation. This often occurs because one of you has made me aware of someone for whom a call or visit might make a difference.



Throughout my thirty-five years of ordained ministry, I have tried to take to heart these words of Eugene Peterson found in his daily devotional, *Living the Message*:

"In every visit, meeting I attend, every appointment I keep, I have been anticipated. The risen Christ got there ahead of me. The risen Christ is in that room already. What is he doing? What is he saying? What is going on? . . . When I arrive and enter the room I am not so much wondering what I am going to do or say that will be pastoral as I am alert and observant for what the risen Christ has been doing or saying that is making a gospel story out this life." p. 256, *Living the Message*. Copyright Eugene H. Peterson

I continue to be grateful for the trust you have placed in me, and thankful for the chance to be a part of the larger network of staff and members of TPC who seek to provide care for those who make up the Body of Christ.

Submitted by Dick Wiggers

## **FAMILY MINISTRIES**

We practice an open door, holistic approach to family ministry which means we learn as we go in conversation with God and each other, building community in sustained relationship over time, embodying hospitality, kindness and compassion as we all develop our moral compasses rooted in a Christ-like life.

### **Nursery**

Every Sunday morning, our professional nursery attendants, Cindy Ellis and Kimberly Logan, care for the preschool children by providing a safe space for creative play while parents enjoy worship hour. The last Sunday of every month, 5-year olds have the option to participate in a community service project with the older kid's Sunday school class.

### Sunday school

Most Sunday mornings, primary school aged children enter worship with their parents and stay through the children's message, after which, they head downstairs to the main children's area. (On communion Sundays, usually the first Sunday of the month, children start downstairs and come up to the sanctuary for Communion with the kids.)

Primary students engage in an innovative mix of Bible stories and art projects. The last Sunday of every month, the kids participate in a community service projects, such as birthday bags for the local food pantry or Easter baskets for the homeless shelter. On community service Sundays, the kids also serve the congregation after-church coffee and cookies in the Narthex.

Middle school students also enter worship, first, and then go downstairs to the library after the children's message. Guided by adult leaders, middle schooler enjoy a creative mix of video and discussion – geared



to making the Bible relevant to their changing lives. Middle School students also participate in the weekly art activities in the main area and the last Sunday of the month is a group community service/mission project.

High school and college students participate fully in worship through the end of the sermon and then head downstairs for discussion of the sermon and scriptural texts, facilitated by adult church members.

## Confirmation Class

This year we had six middle school students participate in Confirmation classes lead by Pastor Ken, Paul Belz-Templeman and Sarah Beck. They learned about the history of the church and our Presbyterian tradition. At the end of Confirmation classes, each student wrote an authentic statement of faith and presented it to the Session.



## Worship Participation

Our youth, kindergarten through college participated in worship by serving as youth liturgists the third Sunday of the month. In the spring, our youth lead a Family Ministries Sunday where the middle school confirmation class read their statements of faith to the congregation. They participated in an Easter Egg Hunt Palm Sunday and put on a Christmas play entitled "Traveling Mercies."



## Summer Program

TPC ran its annual Youth Summer Program which provides children, kindergarten through sixth grade, with a community comprised of church peers and caring adult leader, who nurture through experiential education. Summer Program creates a place for inclusion, friendship, community and a foundation for building a faith in God. This program provided our children the opportunity to learn the importance of caring, hospitality and responsibility which are qualities that help build cooperative community, a stronger church, and an place to practice living a Christ-like life.

This year we combined our Youth Summer Program with art camp. We offered primary and middle school students two week-long camps, Monday - Friday from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM throughout the summer. We played in city parks, visited farms, went swimming at community centers, toured the zoo, and went roller skating at Oaks Park. We played games, made homemade candles and soaps, ate a lot of ice cream and made life-long friendships. We ended the summer with our annual “End of Summer Party” where kids invite their friends to play on a giant inflatable waterslide at the church.



## Youth Group Activities

Throughout the school year, primary and middle school students engage in special monthly youth group activities such as ice skating, going to the movies and staying up all night for church lock-ins. High school and college students got together for outings as schedules permit. They participated in Starbucks Sundays, Family Promise Drive-In Sleep-Out and Awakenings reunions during winter, spring and summer breaks.

The youth also participated in community service projects. The kids volunteered the third Saturday of the month at Harvest Share and went blueberry picking with the Mission team for the Tualatin



School House Party. The youth worked with the deacons and handed out ice cream at the annual church ice cream social, and enjoyed our first Storyteller's "Winter Frolic."



### **Extracurricular Developments**

This year, we had eleven preschool children who enjoyed "preschool playdates" at Sarah Beck's house and the church. The children played dress-up, toys and made art projects together.

Summer Saturday Night Socials at Sarah Beck's house evolved from TPC families socials to TPC and families from the community with special needs children socials. Many of the community families who participated in "Saturday night socials" expressed a deep appreciation for the church's hospitality as many of their special needs children are not invited to social events. The kids jumped on the trampoline, played on the swing set, hopped in the bouncy house, dressed-up in costumes, ate snacks, and danced to music in the front yard.

### **Princeton Theological Seminary Log College Grant**

This year, TPC was chosen as one of twelve churches selected for the Princeton Theological Seminary Log College Grant. The grant is designed to help churches create new innovative youth mini-series. Over the next two years, design fellow, Sarah Beck, and a twelve-church-member design team will participate in completing eight quarterly "charrette boxes" that include a series of tasks designed to get our design team thinking about new innovative youth mini-series fitting for us.

In October, Sarah Beck, Director of Family Ministries completed an 18 month certificate program at Princeton Theological Seminary focused in Youth and Theology. My sincere appreciation, gratitude and thanks to TPC for the amazing opportunity and support to go to Princeton and continue my education in youth ministry. Words cannot express the gratitude I feel when I think about what TPC has done for me. Thank you so much for this gift.

Submitted by Sarah Beck and Jeff Engh

## **MUSIC MINISTRIES**

I would like to thank TPC for the opportunity to serve you this year. It has been an honor and privilege to work with such a great group of people!

Performing music in a variety of styles to appeal to our multi-generational congregation, encouraging soloist participation, and recruiting have been the main goals of the music department in 2018. We have had great success in meeting these goals:

- Musical styles varied from contemporary praise and worship, an Easter cantata based on African-American spirituals, traditional church anthems, to a Christmas performance of the contemporary classical composer John Rutter's "Magnificat".
- Many thanks to the following instrumental and vocal soloists who shared their talents in 2018: Shari Olsen, Stacy Mauer, Kathy Wilson-Fey, Russ Carlin, Jeff Weener, Megan Weener, Bobby Weener, Denise Collins, Eileen Eakins, Jill Gambill, Rebecca Crall, Megan Swanson, John Martin, Bill James.
- The chancel choir added four members in 2018.



Many thanks to all of our volunteer musicians who have made 2018 a success!

A vital, dynamic music department would not be a success without a great supporting staff:

- Many thanks to our outstanding pianist/accompanist, Dr. Renatto Fabbro. His solo offerings and choir and soloist support have greatly enhanced our music program.
- Thank you, Debbie Ivanov, for blessing our worship experience with your dedicated group of ringers every month. Kudos to you for persevering and rebuilding the group after losing key members last Spring.

Thank you, Ken Evers-Hood, for stepping up and playing drums and percussion as needed. You are always willing to play despite your many other responsibilities at TPC.

I look forward to an exciting, musical 2019!

Submitted by Gary Young, Director of Music Ministries

## **BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR**

In 2018, the Tualatin Presbyterian Church Bell Choir had a split year! For the Spring, we continued our tradition of playing 3-5 octave music. We played our regular schedule of participating in Worship on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sundays of each month, adding an extra on Easter. However, in June we said goodbye to Carolyn, who moved to Washington with her husband, Caitlyn and Trish. In early September, we said goodbye to Melinda and Emily. We welcomed Lynn, an experienced bell ringer who fits right in with us!

Since we were short so many folks, we changed our focus on what music to prepare for Worship and started to learn more individual techniques. The first few rehearsals were spent learning solo techniques, which we continue to work on and perfect. This way we all can play more than our traditional 2 bells. It's a challenge, but also gives us better bell ringing experience. The other change is that we are playing each piece at a different position. This requires us to learn where different bells sit on the staff and on the tables, and remember to look in different places, instead of just the same place with each piece.

I am very grateful that our smaller bell choir is graciously learning these new techniques. It will make everyone stronger bell ringers! We are playing more simple music to get used to these changes, but are accepting the challenge and getting better each week!

We're still requesting and accepting new members! We continue the 'family' tradition and love each other and support each other always. If you're interested in learning with more simple music, please contact any of us or just show up for rehearsal on a Thursday at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. You will be gratefully welcomed!

We thank everyone for your continued support, prayers and love of the sometimes-changing Bell Choir! We will continue to work hard at bringing you music to enhance your Worship and love of our Lord Jesus!

Submitted by Debbie Ivanov, Bell Choir Director

## ***FINANCIAL ASSISTANT***

I am the go-to guy if you have any TPC questions regarding numbers. One of my main responsibilities is keeping track of income, expense and budgets so we can continue to fund all of the awesome things that happen at TPC. Our Finance Committee (see Maureen's report) provides guidance and oversight. I also manage the great group of people who count the offering each week while you are enjoying cookies and coffee. They work in teams of two or more, doing the count once every 4-6 weeks. You can contact me if you are interested in joining the counting team.

Thank you to all who are contributing online through the TPC website and those who are using your financial institution's bill pay option to make your contributions. I like helping members find simple ways to send their contributions to TPC.

I am available on most Monday mornings and all day on Wednesdays to help you with online giving, regular contributions, financial questions or for a friendly chat. You can reach me anytime at [finance@tpcspirit.org](mailto:finance@tpcspirit.org).

I am looking forward to another great year as the TPC Financial Assistant.

Submitted by Mike Shiffer, Financial Assistant

## ***ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT***

Mike Shiffer is the numbers person; I am the word person. I continue to create word puzzles, be they Sunday morning worship bulletins or the monthly newsletters. Below is information that may be useful.

To make an announcement during Sunday worship, email your request to [office@tpcspirit.org](mailto:office@tpcspirit.org). Include your name and the topic of your announcement. We try to limit Sunday morning announcements to three.

To include information in the Sunday morning bulletin, email it to [office@tpcspirit.org](mailto:office@tpcspirit.org) by noon on the preceding Thursday.

Large-print Sunday morning worship bulletins are available, by request. Call or email the office to let us know, so on Friday morning a large-print bulletin can be made for you.

Newsletters typically (but not always) go out on the Friday of the week after session meets. Session usually (but not always) meets on the third Tuesday of the month. The deadline to submit newsletters articles is 9 am on the Tuesday after session meets.

The church website has a new calendar associated with it. This calendar is much easier to maintain. If you're wondering what day, or what time, an activity is happening, check the website calendar by clicking "EVENTS" at [www.tpcspirit.org](http://www.tpcspirit.org)

If you move and/or if any of your contact information changes, please let me know so the on-line church data base can be updated and the new information included in the church directory.

There is a "small item" lost and found on the corner of the front office desk. Check it out. A member looked through it recently and found two rechargers he was missing! Made me smile.

Here's to another year of great people and puzzles.

Submitted by Susan Springer, Administration Assistant

## **CLERK OF SESSION**

**Duties of the Clerk:** The clerk serves at the discretion of the session and is elected annually -- The clerk must be an elder, but is not a voting member of session. Primary duties are to prepare minutes for session and congregational meetings, maintain official membership rolls, prepare statistical reports for the Presbytery, compile the annual report to the congregation, and any other duties as requested by the session.

**Call for HELP:** Over the years, the work of the clerk has grown gradually to the point where it is too big a job for one volunteer. This year, we're going to create a task force or committee of interested volunteers to spread the workload. If you might be willing to serve TPC in this sort of activity, please contact Ken, or the clerk, Rick Crall for more information.

**Duties of the Session:** The session functions like a corporate board of directors conducting regular meetings each month with occasional special meetings as needed. Meeting minutes are available in the church office and a summary is published monthly in the TPC Newsletter.

Congregational elections occur annually in March. Ruling elders serve three-year terms by classes. Each elder is associated with an area of responsibility.

**Class of 2019:**

**Building & Grounds**– Greg Owen  
**Fellowship** - Emily Ricker  
**Human Resources** - Judy Nix

**Class of 2020:**

**Story Catching**- John Casebeer  
**Family Ministry** – Jeff Engh  
**Worship** - Chris Robertson

**Class of 2021:**

**Long Range Planning** – Craig Bowen  
**Mission** – Russ Carlin  
**Stewardship & Admin**–Maureen Wolf

**Active Membership Report**

Active Membership at 12/31/2017 (corrected)	305
Transfer and Reaffirmation of Faith	12
Death	(0)
Losses	(8)
Active Membership at 12/31/2018	309

**New Members in 2017:**

Elizabeth Dixon, Reed Gurney, Sandy Gurney, Cynthia Grobey, Alan Grobey, Eleanor Evers-Hood, Grace Love, Anya Ramos, Lynne Neilson, Cndy Ferguson, Kathy Chase, Scott Worthge.

**Deaths of Members and Affiliates:** None this year.

**Baptisms of Children:** None this year

Submitted by Rick Crall, Clerk of Session

## WORSHIP

2018 has been a year of unexpected events, adjustments, and amazing worship experiences.

I continued to recruit and train liturgists and scripture readers so more interested people could participate. If anyone wishes to be a liturgist or scripture reader please contact Christina Robertson. Phones: 503-504-4742 (cell), 503-612-0963 (home). Email: [dragon.lady.chris@gmail.com](mailto:dragon.lady.chris@gmail.com).

Music is central to our worship. Our Music Director, Gary Young, has provided our wonderful choir with new music. Our instrumentalists have broadened our musical experience. One of the musical high points this year was the chancel choir's performance of "Magnificat" by John Rutter.

This year our bell choir experienced the loss of several members and has had to adjust to the demands of a smaller choir. The quality of their music, however, has not suffered. They have blessed us with their beautiful music every second Sunday of the month and on high holidays.

Dr. Ron Fabbro, our accompanist has continued to be amazing. We are so grateful for his gifts.

Another aspect of our worship is the liturgical art. Our sanctuary has a high ceiling and bare walls, a perfect canvas for setting a mood for worship and providing thought-provoking installations.



This year the sanctuary was appointed in gray tones for Lent. We simplified for Easter and brought out our Calder fish for Ordinary Time. I also created a 25 foot "river" hung in the ceiling space for a series of sermons on the image of water. Advent appointments drew from our traditions. I chose to work in purple, the centuries old traditional color for the advent season, combined with traditional art from the Renaissance and the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

For 2019, I plan to reprise past installations, drawing on our collection of photos, our various pieces of communion with some refreshing additions. Again, I will draw on two thousand years of Christian tradition.

The centerpiece of Reform worship is the preaching of the Word. Pastor Ken Evers-Hood has incorporated stories, scientific research, digital images, and original poetry into his sermons to help us feel and understand the truth of scripture.

Once again, it has been a privilege to serve as your worship elder this past year.

Submitted by Christina Robertson, Worship Elder

## ***LONG RANGE PLANNING***

Session has had a busy year spending significant time on the everyday operations of the church, we have found visioning much more challenging. Planning a future with the intention of being open to the will of God but at the same time either holding to a course or at least not being susceptible to wind blowing us all over the map is a difficult balance.

Session has been working with a man possessing amazing skills to help us discern our way forward, and additionally create systems to apply to our shared future. Corey is the Executive Presbyter of Presbytery and a ruling elder who holds a PhD in Organizational Communication. We began with the considerable amount of information we have collected: from surveys, focus groups, information gathered for the grant we received in 2018, our annual statistical analysis and the comparison to other churches, as well as our financials. We have examined the lifecycle of churches, the history of churches over the past 50-75 years, demographics of Tualatin and the surrounding area. It is a huge body of work.

We have met with Corey twice over two weekends and have several more workshops on the calendar. Session is confident that this work will be fruitful (it already has been) and is committed to the process. We look forward to sharing the results of this undertaking with our congregation in the coming months.

Submitted by Dr. Craig Bowne, Long Range Planning Elder

## ***BUILDING AND GROUNDS***

- Replaces four HVAC thermostats due to end of life failure.
- Repaired/replaced broken irrigation pipes and sprinkler heads
- Replaced failed fluorescent tubes, lens and ballasts
- Repaired / replaced toilet and urinal water supply lines flush valves and 3 toilet tank flush handles
- Installed 2 clear plastic enclosures around kitchen drains to prevent overflow and water damage downstairs
- Painted three preschool classrooms
- Installed 5 plastic corner guards to prevent damage to sheetrock
- Upgraded parking lot lighting. Received cost assistance from Energy Trust Oregon
- Maintain clean carpets and vinyl in between contractual maintenance
- Replaced the gas water heater that serves the kitchen and upstairs bathrooms due to end of life failure
- Replaced vandalized, broken window in lower level well area.
- Installed parking restriction signs in the parking lot.
- Removed dead cedar tree from parking lot and trimmed numerous trees to remove hazard limbs.

Submitted by Greg Owen, Elder for Building and Grounds

## **MISSION ELDER REPORT**

***"Mission is caring. Mission is sharing. Mission is faith in action"***

These seemingly simple statements are found on the TPC website. The reality of Mission in this congregation is more complex, more nuanced and simply wonderful to behold. It permeates our presence in the world and is not constrained to one or two specific programs or events; it is a way of thinking, sharing and giving back.

The joy of Mission at TPC is often personal and comes from identifying causes that move us to plan and provide for those in need. Whether it is donations of time to local nonprofits, participating in major events that improve housing or providing relief from hunger and homelessness, thousands of hours are donated annually in quiet and meaningful ways that enrich our congregation and the entire community.

The Mission Committee meets monthly, providing a frame work and support to the major programs the congregation supports: The Giving Tree (providing gifts to disadvantaged families at Christmas), The Janus Tree (providing winter wear items for at-risk youth), The TPC Cookie and Bake Sale (providing funding to Compassion International and supporting Estalin and Sarah), Tuesday Treasures (helping build community for those with intellectual disabilities) and the Refugee Collective.

The list of supported groups is too long to list here. They include support of schools for food and hygiene products, glasses for African Eyes and the work of Dr. Craig Bowen, Canine Companions and the Tualatin Area Food Bank. Additionally, this congregation supports PC USA with special offerings of Christmas Joy, One Great Hour of Sharing, Pentecost and the Peace and Global Witness Offering.

In 2018, Mission has had the opportunity to help support Family Promise. This exciting and comprehensive program helps to provide transitional housing to families with housing instability, providing them access to food, transportation and planning resources to help them regain financial and housing stability. What a terrific way to break the cycle of homelessness by sharing our expertise and resources with the community. Our congregation, along with other regional churches, supported a "drive-in" fundraising event at Tigard High School that invited participants to experience a night of sleeping in their car to build understanding of what so many unhoused families experience. In addition, TPC provided labor for the renovation of the Family Promise Day Center where the families will have the opportunity to learn new skills, apply for jobs and rebuild their self-confidence as they approach a fresh start.



As we continue to support PC USA and our congregation-wide missions, we encourage you to consider how you will mission in 2019.

**"Faith in action is love and love in action is service."**

St. Teresa of Calcutta

Submitted by Russ Carlin, Mission Elder



## FELLOWSHIP



Hello Friends. Our year in fellowship was filled with our basics: potlucks, picnics & progressive dinners.

As always, the warmth of this congregation is remarkable and the connections we share deeply important. Thank you to all who have brought food to share, hosted events and had a cup of coffee and a chat after church on a Sunday. I treasure this congregation and have appreciated the opportunity to serve.

With love ~ Emily Ricker



Submitted by Emily Ricker,  
Fellowship and Member  
Integration Elder

## **STORY CATCHING AND RELEASING**

A one-page summary description of TPC Story Catching was provided to the over 60 people who attended our Feb. 25th Winter Frolic. This is a quote from that document, “the Elder of Story Catching will collaborate with the TPC Story Crew to develop listening skills, events, projects, workshops, and other art forms that promote story sharing. Storytelling is how we discover commonalities, differences, learn truths about ourselves and others, while we build community and develop bonds of deeper friendships.” “We envision capturing and releasing stories in video, audio, written word, and other art forms which communicate a story. Releasing these stories will be available in varied channels of activities and locations such as, websites, social media, podcasts, festivals, celebrations, and especially live in person.”

The development and execution of these goals mentioned for the TPC Story Crew took twists and turns, stops and starts this year, but this to be expected for new ideas in an established, yet evolving setting at TPC. The process to create these story sharing opportunities needs to be simple, natural, and fun.

This is a list of Story Catching and Releasing activities involving the TPC Story Crew:

- The Feb. 25th TPC Winter Frolic was the actual coming out party and formal introduction of TPC Story Catching and Releasing. The TPC Story Crew shared personal stories and the attendees joined in with sharing food, listening, singing, as we joined each other in celebration.
- In March, Emily Ricker, Patrick Ramos, and I attended a half day workshop about storytelling, provided by The Portland Storytellers and taught by a professional storyteller and teacher of storytelling.
- A few weeks after this event we shared our insights with the TPC Story Crew and then worked on developing TPC storytelling workshops based on the workshop we attended. TPC storytelling workshops would result in the attendees sharing a personal story in the Summer.
- In May, Cathy Lambeth, Mission Elder, and Emily Ricker, Fellowship Elder, and I began discussing how to integrate our groups in developing TPC events which created deeper and wider TPC individual connections. A TPC Kite Flying Day was in the works, but was cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances.
- That same month the original TPC Story Crew was disbanded and a new TPC Story Group was created. As we worked toward a Summertime TPC storytelling event, the timing caused conflicts in scheduling in all areas, so this event was postponed.
- In August the new TPC Story Group worked on rebooting Worship Reflection.
- Worship Reflection provides individuals with a chance to share personal worship experiences and stories with the congregation the last Sunday of each month. The Story Group volunteered for the rest of the year.
- In September and October Pastor Ken and I met and discussed next steps for TPC story sharing. Because the new TPCspirit.org website went live in November, Webmaster Ian Swanson, Ken, and I met to uncover a potential alignment between story catching and releasing with the new website. New and useful opportunities to share stories tied to recipes, artwork, worship reflections, and

many more facilitating features of the continuing stories at TPC will soon come to be seen and participated in.

*“Tell me the facts and I’ll learn. Tell me the truth and I’ll believe. But tell me a story and it will live in my heart forever.” ---Native American Proverb*



Natural, Simple, and Fun, just like our Winter Frolic, so will TPC evolve in story sharing.

My hope and joy will be to continue to provide connection through our stories, for our community and the communities surrounding us.

Submitted by John Casebeer, TPC Elder for Story Catching

## ***HUMAN RESOURCES***

The HR Elder serves as a consultant to the Pastor, Elders, and staff on Human Resource related issues such as recruitment, compensation, benefits, medical leaves, employee relations, human resources compliance, payroll, job descriptions, and human resource policy development.

### **Staffing/Employment**

Staffing remained stable during 2018 with no departures or replacements. TPC has 2 full-time employees and 9 part-time employees with a combined tenure of 63 years of service.

### **Compensation/Benefits**

Salary and benefit studies were conducted for the pastor and other employee positions for the budget process and to ensure market competitiveness.

### **Budget**

The 2019 budget was prepared for salaries, benefits and payroll expenses, which are the largest of TPC expenses.

### **Job Search Assistance**

Job coaching and resume preparation continues to be provided by the HR Elder position. Twelve individuals who were parishioners or friends/relatives of our parishioners have benefited from this service in 2018.

### **Other Elder Involvement - Community Outreach Project – Family Promise of Tualatin Valley**

After reading Kevin Palau's book, *Unlikely*, Session was challenged to explore how TPC could serve our current community more actively. That has spanned an 18-month project with the newly forming Family Promise of Tualatin Valley (FPTV) to provide homeless children and families' stability and direction toward a path to sustainable independence.

TPC was the first church making the commitment to become a Host church. Members of TPC have continuously demonstrated their generosity and desire to make a difference in the local community. Pastor Ken started off the year as a Family Promise Community Meeting speaker, encouraging other churches to be a Good Samaritan and join the effort to provide safe sleeping space, food, and hospitality for one week per quarter. The year closes with 11 Host churches, 7 Support congregations, and volunteer support from the Lake Oswego and Three Rivers National Charity Leagues and the LDS wards of Lake Oswego, Stafford, Wilsonville and West Linn.

Many TPC volunteers joined other congregations providing over 1,000 hours of labor toward renovation of the Day Center where families will spend their days receiving job search and resource assistance, with long-term housing being the ultimate priority. Start-up of the FPTV affiliate is targeted for the first quarter of 2019.

Whether it has been hands, heart, or financial support, TPC members have put their faith into action, and this Elder is proud to be a part of TPC and serving as Board President for FPTV.

Submitted by Judy C. Nix, SPHR, Human Resources Elder

## ***STEWARDSHIP/ADMINISTRATION***

The responsibilities of the Stewardship/Administration Elder include the following areas and topics:

### **Finance:**

- Prepare the annual budget;
- Review and oversee the monthly financial reports prepared by the Treasurer and report to Session;
- Conduct an annual financial review to ensure controls are in place and financial transactions support the reported figures;
- Review the building loan (if applicable and the preschool lease tri-annually or as needed).

### **Office Management:**

- Review church insurance
- Review office related lease agreements and service contracts;
- Approve and sign for budgeted requests from staff (office manager, financial administrator, parish nurse as needed).

### **Stewardship:**

- Establish the goals and message of the annual campaign as well as specialized giving programs
- Present campaign goals to the congregation;
- Review campaign progress and provide results of the campaign to the budget preparation process;
- In concurrence with the Pastor, set overall giving goals and objectives.

In January 2018 after the congregation was given the opportunity to comment, an annual budget was presented to and approved by the Session. The church began 2018 with a surplus of \$18,400. \$13,442 was utilized during the 2018 operating year. Due to careful stewardship on the part of the Elders, staff, and generous giving by the congregation, TPC ended the year with a fund balance of \$9,815. We are so fortunate to have such a generous community at TPC! Financial statements for 2018 are included on the last pages of the published annual report.

A finance committee assists the Stewardship and Administration Elder. Members of the committee were Maureen Wolf, Jennifer Ayers (Treasurer), Carolyn Barker, Joan Nardi, and Mike Shiffer (Financial Assistant). The committee reviews monthly financial statements and discusses financial issues as they arise to make recommendations to Session. As federal tax reforms were implemented during 2018, the committee also provided tax planning strategies, so members could continue to benefit from their generous church contributions.

The 2017 annual financial review was completed on April 25, 2018; the testing and verification procedures were performed on the 2017 accounting records in accordance with Presbytery guidelines. The qualified review team consisted of Carolyn Barker, Jennifer Ayers (Treasurer), Chip Kyle, Joan Nardi, Adele Pelletier, and Kathy MacCluer. A few recommendations were made to improve internal controls and the budgeting process. Overall, the review committee feels appropriate controls are in place.

2018 continued to provide stable resources for our church staff and ministries. We were thrilled to receive a Family Ministries grant from Princeton University to strengthen and grow our community outreach efforts. Church members and attendees continue to take advantage of our online giving program. We are grateful to have such a committed and competent financial assistant such as Mike Shiffer; he ensures our strong financial systems are intact and church continues to thrive.

Submitted by Maureen Wolf, Stewardship & Administration Elder

## DEACONS

The Deacons are a family! We're a family that welcomes, prays, and takes care of our TPC family!



We continue to grow in faith as well as learn to connect more with our parishioners. Sharing and learning about everyone's gift and blessings is fun for all the Deacons. We celebrate your joys and pray for your concerns.



The Deacons host events to connect our TPC community with one another. Deacon Donuts to Deacon Dogs to Deacon Delights! This summer we teamed up with the Youth Group to serve ice cream treats on the patio. Come Super Bowl time we have fun collecting cans of hearty soup for the Tualatin Food Pantry. And then in March, we have everyone write notes of praise on paper shamrocks to line the windows.

We have 19 students currently enrolled in College. We continue to support these great kids and send them care packages in the Fall, a card and chocolate for Valentine's Day, and a card with words of encouragement for end of year finals.

We continue to increase our positive visibility to the congregations and connecting with TPC families. We hold you all in our prayers, help those in need, coordinate meals, and stay in contact with our parishes regularly. It is our joy to be your Deacon.

Submitted by Susan Cameron, Deacon

## **STEPHEN MINISTRY**

### **Christ Caring for People through People**

TPC currently has 11 trained Stephen Ministers: Trish Ames, Bud Bender, Larry Church, Eileen Eakins, Jean Martin, Jackie Norman, Carol Rhodes, Beth Schulke, Nancy Wilcox, Melinda Woods, and Herb Zachow.



This past year they made 1129 one-on-one contacts with 12 care receivers for a total of 396 hours and three minutes of caring ministry. We are so thankful for the difference they make in the lives of their care receivers as they walk beside them in the journeys of life.



Two of our Stephen Ministers, Eileen Eakins and Jean Martin, went to Leadership Training last summer and joined our leadership team of previously trained Stephen Leaders: Ken Ever-Hood, Nikki Martin, Stephen Ricker, and Susan Springer.

With six Stephen Leaders we are excited to begin training a new group of Stephen Ministers in January, 2019. Our new class includes Susan Cameron, Sandy Gurney, Kerry Hormann, and Joan Nardi. We are very grateful for these new Stephen-Ministers-to-be who will be joining us in ministry.

Following 50 initial hours of training they will be commissioned as Stephen Ministers on Sunday, June 2, 2019.

Stephen Ministers meet weekly one-on-one with a care receiver. They offer distinctively Christian care to care receivers by listening, encouraging, supporting, praying, and keeping everything entirely confidential. They also meet twice a month for continuing education and supervision of their caring relationships. Stephen Ministry is completely free and is open to church and community members.

If you or someone you know could benefit from a caring, listening, confidential friend to navigate life's journeys, a box is provided outside the church office with referral cards and envelopes. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact one of the Stephen Leaders or Stephen Ministers.

Submitted by Nikki Martin

## **ADULT EDUCATION**

### **Sunday Morning Adult Edge**

Adult Edge is TPC's version of Sunday morning adult education with an innovative vibe. The class is discussion-focused and question-friendly—a safe and thoughtful space to explore contemporary theology, spiritual formation, and social issues. Sometimes taught by Pastor Ken and sometimes facilitated by class volunteers, Adult Edge uses a variety of learning methods—books, DVDs, and lecture—but the real richness of the class comes through shared conversation. Adult Edge meets on Sunday mornings at 8:30 AM, downstairs in the Adult Education Room. Childcare is available. All are welcome!

Adult Edge kicked off 2018 with a well-attended, timely book study of immigration: *Neighbor: Christian Encounters with “Illegal Immigration”* by Ben Daniel. Through theological reflection, historical study, political analysis, and compelling stories, this author helped us understand immigration issues and put a human face on the subject. Marilyn Wood also connected us to Bridging Cultures, a Canby nonprofit providing services to immigrants right here in our back yard. Several members of the Bridging Cultures family visited our class and helped us see how immigration policy affects real people.

Next, Pastor Ken led us through Adam Hamilton's video study, *Christianity and World Religions*. The class engaged in a brief introduction to Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Judaism, and a fresh look at Christianity.

Adult Edge finished the spring semester with *Way of Life*, a video study of Brian McLaren's book, *The Great Spiritual Migration*. McLaren challenged us to focus less on doctrine, more on new ways of reading Scripture, and ultimately to love as manifested in the life of Jesus.

After a summer break, class resumed with two studies based on actions taken by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA). When they met in June 2018, GA proposed entering into a period of study to evaluate adding two new documents to our *Book of Confession*. Through a mix of videos and discussion, we studied “Reclaiming Jesus, A Confession of Faith in a Time of Crisis” and Martin Luther King's “Letter from Birmingham Jail.”

In January 2019, Adult Edge will start off the new year with a DVD investigation of bestselling author Bob Goff's book, *Everybody Always*. Goff leads readers on a journey into the secret of living without fear, constraint or worry: love people, even the difficult ones, without distinction and without limits!

### **Adult Small Groups—TPC Fiction Readers**

Thanks to a great idea conceived by Priscilla Hagan, the TPC Adult Education Committee launched two new adult small groups for fiction lovers and insight seekers in 2017. Every Third and Fourth Thursday during 2018 TPC men and women continued to gather in Priscilla's home to share their perspectives on the book of the month.

Our 2018 discussions have taken us from the fundamental truths of the First Nations People in the Pacific Northwest (*I Heard the Owl Call My Name*) to a fantastical journey through the universe (*A Wrinkle in Time*). We read about grief and the power of community (*A Man Called Ove*) and sobering perspectives on historical feminist and abolitionist movements (*The Invention of Wings*). We took a contemporary look at skin color in America (*God Help the Child*) and set forth on an unlikely pilgrimage with *Harold Fry*.

After a summer break, TPC Readers resumed in September with an Alaskan adventure (*Jimmy Bluefeather*) and then looked at the Israeli/Palestinian conflict from a Palestinian perspective (*Mornings in Jenin*). We finished the year in fiction with a deeply personal reflection on living and dying within family and community (*Benediction*).



In December, both groups met for potluck Christmas brunches—a time of table fellowship and a chance to suggest book ideas for 2019. TPC Readers will continue in January 2019 with Lois Lowry's powerful and provocative novel, *The Giver*. We will announce the full schedule of 2019 book choices at the January meetings.

Small groups are a great way for newer folk to enter into congregational life and for longer-term members to reconnect. We have a couple of openings in the Third Thursday reading group, and we would be happy to organize an evening group if there is interest in 2019. Please contact Priscilla Hagan, Laura Spurrell, or Jean Martin for more information.

Submitted by Jean and John Martin, Adult Education Committee

## ***TPC HEALTH MINISTRY***

**Mission Statement:** The mission of the TPC health ministry is to promote the health of the TPC congregation through an integration of faith and health in uniting mind, body, and spirit by fostering educational programs and supporting healthy activities.

### **Recap 2018:**

Although the TPC Health Ministry was on hiatus during 2018, Parish Nurse Susan Fee has continued to maintain the AED located in the Narthex by the church office. Susan is happy to show anyone at TPC where the AED is located and how to use it. A list of durable medical equipment owned by members of the congregation and available to be loaned to others in need was compiled. She has made visits to members of the congregation in need. Members of the ministry have provided healthy snack options during Sunday coffee hours after church.

### **Plans for 2019:**

Susan plans to resume meetings of the health ministry in January, 2019. There are plans to continue the healthy snacks. Other possible activities include promoting exercise possibly through a walking program; food safety; health education via articles in the bulletin, newsletter or classes; promoting health in our broader Tualatin community; emergency preparedness; and anything else of interest to the members of the health ministry and the congregation.

Submitted by Susan Fee, Parish Nurse

## ***MEN'S FELLOWSHIP GROUP***

The Men's Fellowship Group meets every third Saturday of the month, except in July and August, when no meetings are held. It has been in existence for almost 10 years.

The Men's Group consists of between 20 and 25 active members who meet once a month at 7:30 a.m. in the Church's narthex to enjoy a breakfast meal prepared by its own members and to fellowship with one another. We collect \$5.00 for each person. The money is used for expenses and charitable contributions. We welcome drop-ins and always have room for one more. Always!

Breakfasts are followed by either a guest speaker or, on some occasions, voluntary participation in a TPC or community project. The Men's Group prides itself in scheduling a variety of interesting topics from men's health to community leadership or even disaster planning. The topics are engaging and provide an opportunity for men to laugh, share and learn about topics that affect us all.



The group is always open to suggestions for future projects and if it involves men, it's welcome.



Every December our meeting is held at a local restaurant and members donate unwrapped Christmas Gifts, priced under \$25, for underprivileged children through the Toys for Tots Foundation. This year 23 members of the group met, enjoyed breakfast and then delivered piles of unwrapped gifts to the Tualatin Fire Department.

The members of the group provide the overall direction and assist in engaging speakers. If you have an interest or a passion for a topic, please let any member of the Men's Fellowship Group know and we will find room to share your vision with the group. Our goal is enriching our understanding and providing support to each other as we provide examples to our families, church and communities.

Submitted by Mike Weaver

## ***PRESBYTERY COMMISSIONERS REPORT***

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is a connectional church: Tualatin Presbyterian Church connects one level up to the Presbytery of the Cascades, which links to the larger Synod of the Pacific, which joins up with the church-wide General Assembly of the PC(USA).

The Presbytery of the Cascades meets three times a year in March, June, and November in churches around the state. Depending on the size of the congregation, churches send representatives (called commissioners) to presbytery meetings. TPC is entitled to send two voting commissioners to each presbytery meeting. Pastor Ken is a member of Presbytery (rather than the local church) so he is also a voting member. In 2018, the session elected John and Jean Martin as commissioners with Mike Shiffer as alternate.

Presbytery meetings intersperse worship with the conduct of presbytery business and opportunities for education. Commissioners hear reports from presbytery commissions and committees such as the Commission on Ministry and the Presbytery Leadership Commission (functions like a local church session).

Here are a few highlights of the 2018 presbytery meetings: installation of Clark Scalera in June as Advocate for Congregations and Clergy for The Presbytery of the Cascades (both Clark and his wife, Carmen Goetschius, have preached here at TPC); and the formal move from Inquirer to Candidate for Ministry of Annica Gage (our seminarian under care of TPC).

Serving as a Presbytery Commissioner is a good way to see our connectional church in action, to meet Presbyterians from other churches, and to check out some new places in Oregon! Any TPC member who has been ordained as an elder is eligible to participate in this important and informative ministry. Please contact Ken or Rick Crall if you are interested in representing TPC at future presbytery meetings.

Submitted by John and Jean Martin, Presbytery Commissioners

## ***NEW MEMBER COORDINATOR***

It's been a wonderful year since I've taken over Members Coordinator position. My goal was to meet as many new people who visit our church as possible. I've informally instituted a ladies Coffee, Cookies and Conversation gatherings at my home which has proven to be an excellent way to get to know new and perspective members with the added benefit of connecting with long time members. The people I've met have shared some heartwarming stories and interesting life journeys. Everyone has a story and what better way to enrich relationships than to spend a little time together hearing them.

Submitted by Diane Paetsch

## ***TPC FELLOWSHIP DINNERS***

The purpose of this program is to have fun, and to encourage, and expand fellowship among members of our church family. Groups of 7-9 adults share Fellowship Dinners once a month for 4 months, and then the groups are re-shuffled to form another set of Fellowship Dinner groups. This fall the program started its 11<sup>th</sup> year. Almost a third of the participants have been in the program since its beginning, and someone who has participated continuously since then could have had 4 dinners with each of 93 families (couples or singles). With so many prior associations, we now have to discard half of the oldest years of history when we shuffle the groups avoiding prior associations.

There are currently 7 groups with a total of 51 participants from 29 households.

Participation is based on a general sign-up once a year at the end of the summer. Prior to the start of the second and third phase of each year there is an opportunity for new participants to sign up. Continuing participants do not need to do anything, unless they wish to opt out.

A steering committee, a sub committee of Fellowship, meets about once a year to review and revise the program as needed. Thanks to Mary Ortez, Chapin Zakrzewski, Rick & Barb Crall, Larry Church, Julie Nader, Pam & Scott Cameron, Pamela White for serving on this committee.

Submitted by Rick Crall

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY GROUP

*Connecting Women Through Educational Programs,  
Spiritual Development and Community Service*

**Planning Team for 2018:** Carolyn Barker (Coordinator), Judy Nix (Publicity), Donna Lee Benner, Linda Duncan, Dianne Lemmon, Joan Nardi, Jackie Norman, Diane Paetsch, Beth Schulke, Laura Spurrell, Kerry Weaver, Nancy Wilcox.

All women are welcome to join the Women's Ministry Group. It is a fun way to meet new friends and participate in service activities. A planning team meets once a year to brainstorm and outline the next year's program.

### POTLUCK BRUNCHES...GOOD EATS!

Each meeting kicks off with a potluck brunch followed by a short program on an interesting topic. The potluck brunch gatherings are scheduled 10:30 to noon on the third Saturday of the month except for the summer months, November and December. Program information is advertised monthly in the narthex, by email, church bulletins and newsletters.



### 2018 MEETING PROGRAMS

- Immigration and deportation issues were discussed by John Marandas, attorney.
- Connie Clemens and Kerry Weaver shared their Kenya journey with Kidspire, bringing teacher educational materials and clothing for children.
- Fused glass art processes were shared and discussed by artists Nancy Wilcox and Dan Barker.
- Craig Bowen and his students shared their

medical eye care mission to Tanzania.

- Travel tales, trips, and tips were shared around the table.
- Shirley Tormey, curator for the Oregon Fire Service Museum, performed a costumed skit about Portland's dramatic fire of 1872.

### 2018 SERVICE PROJECTS

Assistance was given to the Backpack Buddy Program at Alberta Rider Elementary School, shoe donations for Kidspire, and Days for Girls International.

Submitted by Carolyn Barker and Judy Nix

## **TPC TREASURE NIGHT PROGRAM**

Our TPC Treasure Night program continues to be a vibrant mission and outreach ministry which has been serving adults with developmental disabilities (known as “Treasures”) of Washington County for over seventeen years. Each third Tuesday of the month the sanctuary and narthex are filled with energy, enthusiasm, compassion, and love as Treasures and volunteers join in an evening of worship and fun.

This outreach ministry for TPC began in April 2001 based upon the Tuesday's Treasures program model created by Steve Ristow, founder of Quiet Waters Outreach. The purpose is to share God’s love with Treasures, all of whom have mild to profound developmental disabilities. In addition, many also are affected by physical disabilities. They all love Jesus and each other, among many positive traits they bring each month.

The program is facilitated by a great group of volunteers. Most volunteers are TPC regulars, but we also have volunteers from throughout the community. The coordinators for Treasures Nights are Mike and Mary Shiffer and Denise Collins. The spark that got the program going at TPC is Carolyn Locke. Carolyn and Brian are now living in Olympia, Washington. We miss Carolyn and thank her for being the spark to ignite this wonderful program.



Highlights of 2018 included a musical Treasure night with John Martin and Bill James; a celebration of our founder which began with a decree from Session declaring May 15 “Carolyn Locke Day”; stories focused on places in the Bible including Mt Sinai, Bethlehem and Israel; and our famous Treasure Summer Carnival. . In October we started our current theme “Friends Jesus Treasures”

For more information about how you can be part of this awesome group, please contact Mike, Mary or Denise.

Submitted by Mike Shiffer

## ***Prayer Chain Report***



God promises us in His Word that he hears every word that we pray to Him. Like a good parent, he is waiting, ready and willing to listen to our worries, our concerns, and our needs. Whether we are seeking forgiveness, strength, or healing, prayer provides a channel to communicate with God and receive supernatural strength and power.

At TPC, the Prayer Chain serves our congregation, community, friends, neighbors and family by offering up our prayers for anyone and everyone who needs the comfort of having others pray for them. In our own small way, in the quiet of our homes and privacy of our personal prayers, the TPC prayer chain seeks to serve others.

Our group includes more than 70+ members, plus the current board of Deacons. Coordinated by Greg Imus via email at [rgregoryimus@gmail.com](mailto:rgregoryimus@gmail.com), we added 166 new prayers to our prayer list in the past 12 months. Of these, 66 were requested to be included in the TPC's Sunday bulletin for prayers from the wider congregation. During the previous 12-month period, we received 186 prayer requests, of which 69 were requested for inclusion in our Sunday bulletin.

We accept prayer requests from anyone seeking the comfort of prayer for themselves or others.

Prayer needs are often personal with the requestor wishing to maintain confidentiality while also feeling the loving benefit of our prayer chain members raising our prayers to God on their behalf. With the variety of issues and trials people face in their lives, it's often a comfort to know that others are thinking of us and by saying prayers on our behalf.

***"Our attempts may be feeble. But since the power of prayer is in the one who hears it and not in the one who says it, our prayers do make a difference."*** MAX LUCADO

*Submitted by Greg Imus*

## **2018 TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE**

TPC's Technology Committee operates under the Building and Grounds elder, Greg Owen. Members of the group include Rick Mauer, Kerry Hormann, Dan Barker, Russ Carlin, Mike Shiffer, Herb Richardson and Ian Swanson. John Martin chairs the committee.

The Technology Committee operates and maintains several systems that support the programs of the church. These include audio and video systems, computers and computer networks, electrical systems, and the TPC website ([www.tpcspirit.org](http://www.tpcspirit.org)).

### **Here are some of our activities in 2018:**

We purchased and installed a new microphone for the pulpit. Thanks to Rod Kerr for modifying the pulpit to accommodate the new mount. Two new hand-held wireless microphones were added the sanctuary sound system. Thanks to Herb Richardson for conducting the research and making the purchase possible. Most recently we have purchased a mobile TV cart to effectively utilize an additional flat panel video display. These portable TV displays are used almost every week to support Adult Edge classes, programs for children, and the Story Catching project.

The Technology Committee supports Pastor Ken's use of video resources in sermons as well as projection of the children's message in the worship service. We also record the sermons and post the videos on the TPC website. During the past twelve months, there have been almost three thousand internet viewings of Ken's sermons, featured church music, and special TPC events.

Keeping the TPC web site current and user friendly is an on-going task. In 2018, with the help of TPC member Ian Swanson, the Website was redesigned to make it more attractive and user friendly. In 2019 we will be incorporating new webpage elements to support TPC's Story Catching project.

The committee welcomes new members who may have skills and interests in audio, video, computers, and web design. Mike Shiffer coordinates the Sunday morning audio system operators. If you have skills in any of these areas, or would like to learn, please contact Mike at the church office.

Submitted by John Martin, Technology Committee Chairman

## **MARGE DEAN MEMORIAL GARDEN**

The Memorial Garden remodel first phase was fully completed four years ago. That step replaced the railroad ties with paving stones.

Now we are at a point where most of the individual memorial stones have been used. The original memorial stones are held in metal trays. Since I have found no company that does that now, we are in the process of engineering a new display container and a new walk way to view the memorial stones. The labor and planning are being done in conjunction with Boy Scout Troop 797. Andrew MacHaffie is assisting me and coordinating the labor.

Submitted by Mike Nelson



## LOVING STITCHES

### “Whoever helps a child stands tall”

We are all about giving children in need a blanket to comfort them working with Portland/Vancouver Project Linus project. They give blankets to dozens of organizations serving children



from a broad area of Oregon and Washington. Here are just a few: Randall Children’s Hospital , Doernbecher Children’s Hospital, Salmon Creek Legacy Hospital-NICU, SW Washington Medical Center-Birthing Center, Providence St. Vincent Medical Center, Shriners Hospital, Department of Human Services-Portland/Vancouver, Ronald McDonald House, Camp Erin, Open House Ministries, Raphael House, Providence Beginnings, Children of Fallen American Service men and women, Good Neighbor Center and Wings. This year we also supplied blankets to Shriners Hospital. We also participated in the local “Click for Babies”

program to provide purple baby hats for local birthing centers education programs to prevent Shaken Baby Syndrome. Our congregation provided 57 this year.

Our church has donated 74 knit & crocheted blankets, quilts, and fleece blankets. Many thanks to our generous donors including: Shirley Schultz, Diane Barry, Yvonne Wagner, Mary Ortez, Cackie Kyle, Susan Springer, Bud Bender, Kathy Kinyon, Sandy Reiling, Lou Conway, Barbara Harriman and many other members of our congregation. We also had contributions of 20 blankets from outside groups.

This is a picture of one month’s work of the Portland/Vancouver Linus Projects donations ready to be delivered!



Contact Mary Ortez (503) 612-1993 for more information. We meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays from 10:00AM to 12:00 noon in the Narthex of the church or give a blanket to Shirley Schultz our liaison with Project Linus.

Submitted by Mary Ortez

## **TUALATIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

### **RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE**

For the last thirty years TPC has hosted an annual Red Cross Blood drive around the Holiday season and for the last few years in the summer. I have happily adopted this program as my contribution to the mission of TPC in the community. So, when you see me at the microphone during the announcements portion of the Sunday service most of you know that I am asking for volunteers, donors or cookie bakers for a Red Cross Blood Drive. I have even been referred to as a “vampire”. An image that I wear with pride.

Every year we host two blood drives one in January and the other in August. Next year’s drive will again be in the month of January on Tuesday the 29th. The date for the Summer time drive in August is TBA. This year’s drives were held Jan, 30th & Aug. 29th. January’s drive got 41 sign-ups and had 10 deferrals but collected 33 units of blood which nearly matched our goal of 34 units. Augusts drive had 37 sign-ups, 4 deferrals and collected 34 units, two more than our goal of 32.

We have been blessed with the help of many eager volunteers to work as greeters/registers, escorts, and canteen servers. Many of these volunteers have become regulars who work the drives every year. Some of those to be named are: Pam Cameron, Karolyn Phillips, Donna Hammersly, Carol Rhodes, Jeni Wiggers, Melanie Steel, Donna Brenner, Joen Morris, Peggy Gibbons, Marilyn Wood, Jay Wilcox, Neil & Sandy Reiling, Tom Hahn and Cecil Taylor not to mention the many cookie bakers that make our canteen the best blood drive canteen West of the Mississippi.

The donors that regularly participate (most from our own congregation and some from the community at large) are too numerous to mention. One thing to note is that the donors are able to schedule their appointments on-line. This makes it easier for me to juggle donor’s donation times and for them to see what time slots are available. It also makes it easier for me to see who donated before and who will likely be willing to do it again. They can also complete their health history questions on “Rapid Pass”. “Rapid Pass” makes the wait to donate shorter by about 15 minutes. You gotta love technology.

It is well known that giving blood saves lives. (Each unit can save up to three lives). On a personal note, in case you ever wondered, I have donated 176 units of blood over the years. So that you don’t have to do the math that’s 22 gallons. I encourage each and every one of you, that are capable, to donate every 56 days if you can. That means that you could squeeze in up to 6 donations per year. Or you could donate Double Red every twelve weeks. The need for blood is constant. The Red Cross is always in the need for more blood and at times they reach a critical point where there isn’t enough blood available to fill the needs.

I am proud that TPC has committed to hosting these blood Drives for lo these many years, and that the Red Cross Blood Drives are a regular component of TPC's mission to the community that I hope will continue for many more years to come.

Submitted by Scott Cameron, Blood Drive Chairman

## ***TUALATIN SCHOOL HOUSE PANTRY***

**The mission of Tualatin Schoolhouse Pantry is to provide emergency food to qualified households in a welcoming environment.**

Tualatin School House Pantry (TSHP) has been an important part of our community for over 14 years. TPC was instrumental in getting the pantry started and continues to be a major source of support for this essential organization. TPC supports the pantry via food donations, mission contributions and lots and lots of volunteers. We really appreciate the food donations that are placed in the bins in the donation closet every week. The pantry accepts all non-perishable food. Foods that are regular in short supply are soup, canned fruit and personal care items (yes, we do accept those unopened hotel room items). Current needs are often posted on the Tualatin School House Pantry Facebook page and often noted in the worship bulletin.

TSHP is a partner agency of the Oregon Food Bank. The pantry leases space on the lower level of Rolling Hills Community Church (another major partner of the pantry). TSHP provides a 3-5 day of food supply to families in Tualatin, Durham, West Linn, Wilsonville and Lake Oswego. They serve from 550 to 700 households each month. TSHP is open Monday (3PM to 7:30 PM), Wednesday (10AM to 3PM), Thursday (4:30 PM to 7:30 PM) and Friday (10AM to 1PM). Any household in the service area can come in and get food. The pantry also partners with Northwest Children's Outreach to provide clothing for children; hosts one or two free dental clinics each month (partnering with Medical Teams International); hosts a monthly Harvest Share providing fresh produce to families in need; and promotes Monday night dinners at Rolling Hills Community Church – Hopes Table. TPC Youth have been providing monthly support of Harvest Share.

If you are a Facebook user, please *like* Tualatin School House Pantry on Facebook. Financial donations can be made through TPC or mailed to the pantry (PO Box 248, Tualatin, OR 97062). The pantry accepts online donations through their website [www.schoolhousepantry.org](http://www.schoolhousepantry.org) . If you want more information about Tualatin Schoolhouse Pantry, please talk to Mike Shiffer or send an email to [mike@schoolhousepantry.org](mailto:mike@schoolhousepantry.org).

Thank you TPC for helping to feed our hungry neighbors!

Submitted by Mike Shiffer, Board President, Tualatin School House Pantry

The financial reports have been omitted in this on-line version of the annual report. If you would like to see these financial reports, please refer to the hard copy of the report, check with the TPC office, or send a request to clerk at [tpcspirit.org](http://tpcspirit.org).