

TUALATIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 2022 ANNUAL REPORT



Love like God



Help one another



Believe in one another





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Contributors to the 2022 TPC Annual Report are noted at the beginning of each report.
We are grateful to all of you, and to the TPC family for making all of this possible.

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Pastor's Report

The Reverend Dr. Ken Hood

Tree, by Jane Hirshfield

*It is foolish
to let a young redwood
grow next to a house.*

*Even in this
one lifetime,
you will have to choose.*

*That great calm being,
this clutter of soup pots and books—*

*Already the first branch-tips brush at the window.
Softly, calmly, immensity taps at your life.*

Dear friends, Jane Hirshfield is one of my favorite poets. Part contemplative, part deep thinker, and part whimsical observer of life, Hirshfield here takes a stab at summing up the spiritual life. On the one hand there is the young redwood symbolizing the soft, unspoken, mysterious vastness of the holy - always tapping at our lives. On the other hand there is the clutter of normal, everyday life, the soup pots and books and what not. By all practical standards it is foolish, very foolish indeed, to allow a redwood sapling to grow up next to a home. But this poem isn't about being practical. It isn't about worldly success and the 18 things you have to buy or achieve to reach it. This poem is about the constant tension we live with - the summons of the holy calling us to deepen and focus on the deeper meaning of life; and the constant call from the things that really do need to be done. And while the poet exhorts us to choose between the two, in many ways this poem is more declaring that this tension is simply how life is. All of us, from God's perspective, are like homes with redwoods growing close and every day we're called to make choices between where we focus.

From my vantage point TPC, along with the rest of the world, was experiencing a shift away from the soft, calm, immensity of COVID isolation back towards the busy clutter of soup pots and getting back into the hectic swing of the day to day.

Since January 1, 2022 we've been back to physically worshipping together, while continuing our outreach to the world via streaming on your favorite social media platform. We started out with fewer chairs in the sanctuary and with the rows more set apart, and over time, as more folks have returned, we've gradually adjusted the sanctuary back to a more pre-COVID look. I don't know how many folks showed up to our Christmas Eve service, but it sure felt great to have a full house again, didn't it?

Of course not everything has returned to "normal." Folks have mentioned missing the passing of the peace. The two most risky activities for folks with compromised immune systems include the choir and the passing of the peace. We were able to bring back choir this year thanks to the amazing Jennifer Schloming, and you will all decide together in the coming year whether to reintroduce the passing of the peace along with many, many other questions.

One thing that I hope for you all is that as you make those decisions that you be thoughtful about this balance between the quiet immensity of the sacred even as you feel the call to return to the hustle and bustle of “real life” as the global pandemic continues, knock on wood, to subside. It’s good for a church to be busy, and I was so grateful to see beautiful events like the women’s retreat occur. What a gift that was! At the same time I really appreciated how much more time people were making for less practical but no less important practices - like prayer, meditation, contemplative practices, and pursuing meaning in your life. I was genuinely surprised at how vital our morning prayer gathering remained up until my departure. I hope you keep making time for these redwoods in your midst even as you get back to the work of “normal” life.

But whatever you decide as individuals and as a community, I just absolutely wish you all the best and will hold you in my heart as I move into the new chapter to which I sense God calling me. It’s rare for a church to have only two called pastors in the 40 years or so TPC has been around. So much of this stems from being a healthy community who knows how to love (not uncritically, which is healthy!) their pastors. While I will have no official opinion, I will be eagerly awaiting news of who will come to serve TPC in the days ahead in the short and the long term. While I do sense a protective part of me, I’m mostly excited to see what the Holy Spirit will do in your midst next!

For my part I am beginning to really feel the excitement of developing my coaching business, Thalassa Consulting LLC. While I work mostly with clergy, I have worked with people from all kinds of backgrounds seeking to make a change in their life or their work. I’ll continue to teach doctoral students at Duke, and between that work and individual and group coaching, my personal goal is to become the best clergy coach in the nation. Audacious? Sure. But it’s time for me to spread my wings a bit and take a worthy risk.

So, is it the wisest thing that God created us to be something like houses with little redwoods growing too close? Probably not. But it seems to be the way God fashioned us. I will hold you in prayer as you find the right balance between the holy and the mundane, and I will do so with profound gratitude and love for you all.

In Christ,
Ken Hood



Parish Associate for Pastoral Care and Visitation

The Reverend Dr. Dick Wiggers

Grateful! That's what I'm feeling as I look back over the past year we've shared together at TPC. This has been a year in which Jeni and I have received as much or more love and care as I have had the privilege of offering to you. While the three heart surgeries I underwent at the end of April temporarily curtailed my ability to reach out, you surrounded me and our entire family with your prayers, love, and support. And now, eight months later, I'm thankful that my overall health has greatly improved and that for the past several months I've been able to reconnect and respond to those who are experiencing pastoral needs.

I am also grateful that many of us have been able to return to TPC and worship together in person. While we were hopeful that by now Covid would have faded into oblivion, like the flu, it appears that it is with us for the foreseeable future. The good news is that with the advent of vaccines, booster shots, and other basic precautions, it is safer for many of us to resume regular activities. It has been encouraging to see those of you who have found your way back on Sunday mornings, and we hope that more of you will feel comfortable returning in 2023.

As we begin a new year, like many of you, I greet 2023 with mixed emotions. It won't be the same around here without Pastor Ken. What an incredible gift he has been to our congregation for the past 18 years! I'm deeply grateful for his friendship, leadership, and our partnership in ministry. I look forward to seeing what exciting things open up for Ken in the next chapter of his life and ministry.

In the meantime, thank you for allowing me to continue to be part of the larger network of staff and members of TPC who seek to provide care for those who make up our church family.

Family Ministries

Sarah Beck, Director of Family Ministries, & Sandy Gurney, Family Ministries Elder

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 well as, developing our moral compass rooted in a Christ-like life.

Family Ministry team offered the following activities:

- We hosted coffee hour once a month after worship.
- We went on youth group outings like roller skating, ski trip to Mt Hood and the Pirates of Pinehurst in Sherwood.
- Middle and high school aged kids met at Starbucks once a month for Starbucks Sundays.
- Our kids, K-12, served as youth liturgists for Sunday worship.
- Sandy Gurney, Chris Robertson, and Sarah Beck offered weekly Sunday school for kids, 5-12 years old, downstairs after the Children's Message.
- We offered kids, ages 5-18, communion the first week of every month.

- Connection Time, via Zoom, Tuesdays at 7:00 pm, Wednesdays 4:30 pm, and Fridays at 4:00 pm for primary middle and high school kids.
- High school kids tutored and babysat for families with young kids in the church.
- We facilitated four art stations for Annica Gage’s pastoral ordination.
- We offered kids five week-long camps and several “parent drop-in” days.
- We publish a monthly Family Ministries newsletter for the church.
- We drive the church van at least twice a month to keep it running well.
- Sandy, Sarah, Reed and Athena made 1-2 monthly dinners with kids ages 5-18, for families staying at the Good Neighbor Center when there was enough to share.
- We offered families the opportunity to volunteer at the Harvest Share once a month.
- Middle and high school kids appointed the church for Advent.
- Jackson Allee was baptized on Reformation Sunday.
- We delivered Easter baskets to kids staying at the Good Neighbor Center for Easter.
- We produced a Christmas program for the church that featured a reading of a Nativity story, saxophone by Brynne Evers-Hood, Jackson Allee as the Christmas Sloth, a solo by Monica Gibson and piano postlude by Riley Redding.
- Sarah served as pulpit supply.
- We completed two Duke Divinity Grants for Innovation and Strengthening Ministries.
- We collaborated with Women’s Ministries on a three-day retreat with keynote speaker Rev. Marianne Borg.
- Several kids learned to cut patterns, pin and make dresses for church, as well as, blankets, pillows, purses, aprons, etc.
- Sarah worked with Princeton on curriculum for Cultivating God’s Brainforest.
- We are working on a \$15,000 Calvin Institute Worship grant, funded by the Lilly Endowment, Inc., for an outdoor worship area.
- Surveyed the kids one at a time to get feedback on their church experience.

Nursery

The nursery is under the care of Director of Family Ministries Elder, Sandy Gurney and Sarah Beck. Athena Erickson, former nursery staff at TPC, helps out during Advent and Lent. Athena also helps out with art camps and summer programs. Sandy, Sarah and Athena provide a safe, caring environment for our children ages 5 and under every Sunday at 9:00 am.

Worship Participation

The first Sunday of every month all kids are invited to take communion, no matter their beliefs or doubts, as part of the church congregation. TPC Family Ministries encourages all ages of children and young people – from preschool thru college – to participate in worship by serving as youth liturgists. The middle and high school kids have taken it upon themselves to sit with the preschool and primary kids during the children’s message to support them while they are up in front of the church congregation on Sunday mornings.



Sunday School

This year we experimented with a new curriculum model based on the online platform called “BibleProject.” We also used video curriculum from Sparkhouse and storytelling around an artificial campfire. Kids collaborated on a group art project each month based on a Bible story, such as a seven-foot Ark made of cardboard and duct tape, full of handmade animals, Noah, and his family; a Garden of Eden, complete with a waterfall and several snakes, and the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. High school kids can choose to listen to the sermon upstairs with the congregation or go downstairs and help the younger kids with their projects.



Summer Program

TPC ran its first Youth Summer Program since the COVID-19 pandemic began, as a means to provide children, kindergarten through sixth grade, with a community comprised of church peers and caring adult leaders, who nurture through experiential education and create a place for inclusion, friendship, community and a foundation for building a faith in God. This program provided our children the opportunity to also learn the importance of giving, caring, hospitality, inclusion, and responsibility, as these qualities help build a cooperative community, a stronger church, and a healthier society at large.



Summer camps ran Monday through Friday, from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm for one week each in June, July and August. We took 8-16 kids on field trips, worked on art projects and taught the kids to sew on the sewing machine. We went swimming at the local pool, played at city parks, visited a farm, saw the animals at the zoo, braided hair, rode the carousel, and dug a giant hole in the sand and sun-bathed on a parachute at the beach. We also ate ice cream and made life-long friendships.

Art Programs

Art Camp ran Monday through Friday, from 8:00 am – 3:00 pm for one week each during winter and spring breaks. Family Ministries Elder, Sandy Gurney and Director of Family Ministries, Sarah Beck taught the kids how to use resin, make gnomes and construct messy gingerbread houses, as well as basic oil painting techniques to paint impressionistic and realist paintings. The goal of art camp was to offer a shared, safe space where our younger kids can connect with our older kids, create art together as an expression of community and worship.



Youth Groups for Primary, Middle School, High School and Adults

We continued the TPC tradition, serving our young people from kindergarten through high school. We met on a regular basis. As a holistic approach to family ministries, we include the primary and middle school kids in our mission and youth activities to serve TPC's families and college and beyond families, mentor our younger kids and offer our older kids opportunities to show compassion, patience and care for young ones.



The Primary and Middle School Youth enjoyed roller skating with the pastor. The kids met at Sandy and Reed Gurney's house for an evening of fun, as they walked over to the Pirates of Pinehurst in Sherwood. They participated in drop-in days throughout the year. High school kids met once a month for Starbuck Sundays to discuss the church, God, prayer, current events, and what's happening in their lives.



Family Ministries planned the first TPC ski trip to Mt. Hood in three years. Eleven kids and parents skied, and we hope to do another ski trip next year. In years past, Family Ministries hosted an annual all-night church lock-in beginning at 8pm on Saturday night and ending at 8am Sunday morning.



Last January, Family Ministries and Mission worked together to prepare a meal for families staying at the Good Neighbor Center (GNC) homeless shelter. Middle school kids mentored the preschool and primary kids while preparing the meal. After we finished, we ate dinner with families staying at the shelter.



2022-2023 Duke Divinity & Princeton Theological Seminary Grants

Director of Family Ministries, Sarah Beck, received two \$5,000 grants, funded by the Lilly Endowment Foundation, from Foundations of Christian Leadership at Duke Divinity for innovation and strengthening ministries. Sarah Beck also worked with Princeton Theological Seminary on a grant to create curriculum for a Youth Ministry program designed for neurodivergent youth.

We were approved for a Duke Divinity innovation grant, and commissioned 5 pieces of original art on the theme of the miracles of Jesus, images that fit over clear sanctuary windows. The five miracles were as follows: Water into Wine, Healing the Lame Man, Calming the Storm, Feeding the 5,000, and Raising Lazarus from the Dead. Pastor Ken Hood preached on each of the windows, discussed the miracles of Jesus during Morning Prayer, and made it the topic of our children’s messages during worship for five weeks.



We asked members of the congregation to loan us art they produced during the pandemic isolation as part our Post-Pandemic Art Exhibit from January 16th – February 13, and created a wall of remembrance in the back of the sanctuary, displaying deceased persons' photos (and dog), and the date they passed away during the time the church was closed during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Sarah Beck, Director of Family Ministries, collaborated with Women's Ministry on a grant for a Women's Ministry retreat at Menucha in September 2022. The Women's Ministry arranged for Marianne Borg to lead the retreat in exchange for a donation to the Marcus J. Borg Foundation. She is a retired Episcopal priest who served 18 years at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Portland.



Extracurricular Developments

There were numerous extracurricular activities TPC youth and families took part in this past year. The primary, middle and high school kids met on Zoom, up to three times for connection time. It was a carry-over activity from COVID-19 that allowed kids who lived far away or families who no longer attended church an opportunity to stay in touch and be a support to one another during a very difficult year for many of them.

We also took on new mission projects in the church; for example, Family Ministries ran the Janus Tree in the Narthex, where we collect mittens, gloves, scarves, hats, and socks for homeless youth in Portland. We also coordinated the Giving Tree for families in need within the Tigard-Tualatin School District during Christmas time, and put together Easter baskets for homeless children staying at the Good Neighbor Center where we provide a meal for families at least once a month.

Many of the kids learned to sew on a sewing machine provided by people in the congregation. Our primary through high school aged kids made pajama pants, sun dresses, pillows, blankets and purses, as well as gnomes and stuffed animals. They also learned to cross-stitch, finger-knit, crochet and tie-dye t-shirts. It provided our young people new ways to create art, encourage self-expression and build community within the church.



The TPC primary and middle school youth took part in a Christmas play where they chose their parts, put together their own costumes and performed their parts in front the congregation. The play replaced the sermon on the second Sunday of December. Fourteen kids, one adult, one fluffy dog, and a Christmas sloth had parts in the play, high school junior Monica Gibson sang a solo a capella, Brynne Evers-Hood played "O Little Town of Bethlehem" on her saxophone, and Riley Redding played the postlude for the service on the piano. The play was a success!



Director of Music Ministries

Jennifer Schloming

I accepted the position of Music Director for TPC at the end of summer. Choir members and folks who might want to sing were just beginning to return from summer activities. As kids returned to in-person learning at their schools, we were assessing the risks of singing again in person, given the current presence of COVID in the broader community. In short, it's taken a length or two to feel seated and pulling the oars with confidence as coxswain and choir.

I am beyond grateful for Mike Shiffer's generosity in making sure that I knew there was a choir email list and that I was on it, that I had a box in the office, and that he could make the copier do what I could not. His kindnesses have been many. Bill, the banjo man, has been at the ready since I first arrived - we just await the right musical moment for him to join us.

The choir has offered willingness and tremendous good-humor. A new director couldn't ask for more. Evan is sainted among accompanists. I have worked with extremely skilled accompanists over three decades of directing and he is, hands down, the best.

Thank you for the chance to make music among you.

Bell Choir Director

Debbie Ivanov

The TPC bell choir is thrilled to have services back in-person in 2022! We love playing and seeing each other (remember the videos we each did at home individually? MUCH THANKS to our engineer, Rick Crall, who made that possible!!).

We have continued to play on the 2nd Sunday of each month during the school year. We have 8 faithful members who are greatly loved, and Debbie usually plays multiple bells in addition to conducting! We would LOVE to have new ringers and invite anyone interested to join us on Thursday evenings at 7 in the Sanctuary.

In a time when church bell choirs seem to be dwindling, TPCs bell choir is enthusiastic and we look forward to sharing music to glorify God with you!

Church Pianist

Evan C. Paul

Greetings! I joined the Tualatin Presbyterian community in April of this year, and I'd like to offer a statement on my approach to church music and my goals for this position.

I have been a church pianist since I was about fifteen years old, when I played for a small United Methodist church in Canaan, Vermont. I grew up Catholic so the liturgical experiences were very different to me: I was not used to congregational hymns in the Protestant tradition, and I learned a great deal of music that was new to me in a short period of time. As our TPC choir has now reassembled and is performing anthems this fall with a strong number of voices, I notice that our services blend these two approaches to music well - both providing music that a congregant can learn and participate in easily, as well as more challenging music prepared and performed by specialists. I am grateful that I get to do both!

My philosophy on musical performance has long emphasized edification over entertainment: while music can comfort and please us, these are not its only functions. Music can also challenge, remind, and exhort us; I believe that, just as a pastor or reader does these things through words, my position here at the church is to do them through music. I very much enjoy introducing audiences and congregations to music that is new to them, not only to broaden horizons and experiences, but also to move people to look inward at their own aesthetic positions:

Do I like this music? Which of its elements please me? Which displease me? What emotions do I experience while listening, and what can I learn about my own tastes from these responses?

I choose literature from across the classical spectrum, from keyboard works by Johann Jakob Froberger in the 1600s, to more familiar composers like Haydn, Mozart, and Beethoven, and well into the twentieth and even twenty-first centuries. I am also a composer (my doctoral degree is in music composition), and I find myself drawn to more recently composed music. I am always pleased to share these beautiful, challenging, and often unknown works with new people. I will often focus on a single composer for a few weeks so that the congregation can attune themselves to new aesthetics and sonic structures and learn more about the composers, especially their lesser-known works.

When it comes to hymn-playing, I discovered years ago that many congregants are so familiar with these tunes and their words that we often recite them without considering the passionate spiritual messages that undergird them and inspired their creation. To help refresh these familiar hymns, I expand the arrangements beyond what is given in our hymnbooks, altering textures between verses, and often significantly re-harmonizing some of the more familiar tunes. These alterations can keep a congregation “on their toes,” so to speak, as our attention is piqued when we hear something new or unexpected. Let us continue to sing these time-honored hymns with fresh eyes and ears!

My first performance at TPC was to participate in a continuo part (keyboard plus a bass instrument) for a performance of Pergolesi’s duo oratorio *Stabat Mater* during Lent, at which I also performed Bach’s B-flat minor prelude and fugue from the first book of *The Well-Tempered Clavier*. I think that the TPC sanctuary is a very nice place to perform music in, and in the coming year I hope that we will have more chances for extra-liturgical performances in the space - having a relationship with the local musical community can be useful and fruitful, especially when we may look to enlist additional musicians for certain performances.

I look forward to the upcoming year with TPC and the many opportunities I will have to share music with the congregation. I hope that I can continue to both please and challenge you all!



Financial Assistant

Julie Flint

I started with TPC as the Financial Assistant in June 2022, replacing Mike Shiffer, who has retired. While I work primarily remotely, I can always be reached via email at finance@tpcspirit.org.

Thank you for your continued financial support of TPC. For donations, TPC has an online giving option, to set up regular contributions via credit card or ACH. Email me if you would like more information.

On Sundays, two offering counters are needed to process the donations and deposit. We always need additional volunteers, so please let me know if you would be interested in serving in this role.

Giving statements are sent out at the beginning of the year for the previous year, and mid-year. If you need a statement any time throughout the year, please contact me.

I look forward to getting to know more TPC members this year.

Administrative Assistant

Susan Springer

The pandemic brought changes: working more hours at home than in the church office; learning to appreciate the larger screen computer in the office; fewer face-to-face communications with other staff members and with church members.

When COVID first started and everyone was told to go home, Sunday morning worship went online, and Pastor Ken had to learn to preach to an almost empty sanctuary.

Many thanks to our technical people who had to come up with a system that allowed us to stream our Sunday services: new hardware, new software. And then they had to make it all play together nicely and reliably.

Time passed. Session decided to return to in-person worship on October 31, 2021. The service was different, but over time it became the new "normal." Bulletins returned.

Meetings had moved online. Everyone needed to learn a program called Zoom. The Session and Deacons held their monthly meetings on Zoom. Communication continued: few face-to-face meetings; more emails, text messages and Zoom meetings.

Newsletters, including the Family Ministries newsletter, were written and distributed every month. We currently email the newsletters to about 240 different email addresses and mail (with a stamp) about 22 copies.

After Mike Shiffer retired, Julie Flint was hired as our financial assistant. Welcome, Julie.

Mike, though no longer on the payroll, provides support to keep all things computer related up to date and functional. Thank you, Mike.

Since the arrival of COVID many things have changed. 2023 will bring even more changes. One day at a time...

Building and Grounds 2022 Projects and Activities

Greg Owen, Technology and Building and Grounds Elder; Larry Nord, Building and Grounds Caretaker

1. Replaced exterior burnt-out lights. Thanks, Rick Mauer!
2. Carpets professionally cleaned.
3. Congregational workday (weeding, trimming, sweeping, and general clean-up of the grounds).
4. Cleaned, weeded, and applied mulch to Memorial Garden. Thanks, Mike Nelson!
5. As a community service project, the dilapidated play structure was removed, church gutters were cleaned and the area behind the church was cleared of fallen branches and trees. Wood was cut for use as firewood.
6. Replaced wiper blades on the church van.
7. Installed streaming lighting for font.
8. Adjusted parking lot light timer, as needed.
9. Hired contractor to clean church roof, gutters, and downspouts of debris.
10. Painted sanctuary door jambs.
11. Applied a temporary patch to sanctuary roof to stop a water leak.
12. Disposed of items resulting from cleaning of lower level.
13. Hired Larry Nord as the church Caretaker, replacing Bob Paetsch, who retired after many years of excellent service.

Worship Elder

Dave Backen

It would be an understatement that the worship experience at TPC will be forever changed by the leaving of The Reverend Dr. Ken Hood. Even though the church is not the Pastor, but the people, Ken's leaving will change the worship experience for many. We have had it so very good for 18 years and while we are very sad to see him go, we are delighted he is following his calling and moving on to his next stage in life. We will miss you Ken, and we wish you the best!

Worship in 2022 was wide and varied. We started the year with in-person worship while simultaneously live-streaming and recording it. While we may not quite be back to a pre-COVID in-person experience, we are very close.

TPC enhanced the live-stream component by purchasing and/or incorporating the right type of equipment to make the online-worship experience a much better one. Live-stream numbers were higher in the beginning of the year, and have subsided to around 20 each Sunday. Thank you to Greg Owen, Mike Shiffer and others who have made this the better experience that it is.

The music ministry of TPC changed much in 2022. Our beloved Dr. Ron Fabbro also moved on, but we were able to hire another exquisite pianist in Evan Paul. Additionally, TPC was able to hire a new Director of Music, Jennifer Schloming. Under Jennifer's leadership, the chancel choir has grown from only a few to as many as 16-18 members. Both have been welcome additions to our music in worship! The Bell Choir also continued to provide music for TPC.

Thanks to all who make worship at TPC the truly unique and wonderful experience that it is. May the new year of 2023 be as bright!

Clerk of Session Craig Bowen, Elder

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

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 or upon request from clerk@tpcspirit.org.

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

Current Elders:

Building & Grounds - Greg Owen
Family Ministries - Sandy Gurney
Mission - Chip Kyle (effective 1/1/23)

Finance/Admin. - Lynne Neilson
Connections - Judy Nix
Worship - Dave Backen

Active Membership Report:

Active Membership as of 12/31/2022: 249

Deaths: Chuck Spencer

Transfer/request removal from rolls: Jill Gambill, Patrick Ramos

New Members in 2022: Jackson Allee, Candy Richard, Bunny Lewis, Michele DeClue, Barbara DeClue, Jim Beeger, Jeannette Beeger, Macy Walchenbach and Jim Walchenbach

Baptisms: Camden Sloan Carlson, Jackson Allee

Annual Cookie Sale Carolyn Hale

The mission committee sponsors a yearly Christmas cookie sale, with the proceeds going to a chosen non-profit.

This year we have given the proceeds to *Compassion International* for the two children that we have been sponsoring since 2014. Our cookie, candy and bread makers filled 5 tables of delicious food that were then bought by our very generous TPC members and friends. On Saturday, December 10th - and some on the 11th - we raised \$1,388.00, which far exceeded our goal of \$900.00. Everyone is delighted!



Connections, Human Resources, and Women's Ministries

Judy Nix, Connections Elder

The Connections Elder was a new position for 2022, created to oversee TPC's efforts in reaching out to new people who might be interested in joining TPC, and helping seasoned members to deepen their sense of connection to the church and the community. (Note: TPC had been closed from March of 2020 until October 31, 2021.)

Highlights of efforts to bring together the women of TPC, as well as the entire congregation, were:

Coffee Connections – These were started in February and became a monthly opportunity for TPC women of faith to gather as friends for camaraderie and coffee. These proved to be successful, and were established formally to occur the second Tuesday of each month at 10 am, generally meeting at The Marquis Community Café.

All Church Fellowship – Five were held in 2022: two wine-and-appetizer afternoon events at Charbonneau's outdoor patio area in January and February; the annual picnic, coordinated by Barb Crall and team, was welcomed back and enjoyed by all in July; October brought the bus out and a tour of the Aurora Colony Museum, with lunch at Filbert's Farm House Kitchen; and lastly, Pastor Ken's December departure celebration took our entire TPC village to orchestrate, but was a fellowship connection celebration enjoyed by a hundred plus congregants of all ages.

A **Women's Ministry** brunch was held at the home of Gina Olson in June with a nice group attending. In August we had a delightful brunch and afternoon on the property of Paul and Linda Fukasawa, with the tour of Paul's garden being a favorite highlight.

Lenten Bible Study – Two seven-week Lenten Bible Studies (an evening Zoom and an-in person class) were coordinated by Judy Nix. Jill Duffield's book, *Lent in Plain Sight*, was the book studied, and 24 women took advantage of this opportunity for learning, connection, and faith enrichment.

Bible Study – To continue the momentum generated by the Women's Retreat, Jeannette Beger spearheaded a bible study of Marcus J. Borg's book, *Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time*. Over 30 women attended the in-person study, and many interesting conversations and insights were shared.

Human Resources

Three new employees joined TPC, filling vacancies brought about by turnover and retirement: Accompanist, Financial Assistant, and Director of Music Ministries.

A Human Resources Committee was formed at the end of the year, consisting of Lynne Neilson, Joan Nardi and Judy Nix, who will collaborate on HR matters in the coming year.

Women's Retreat – Thirty-four women attended the September 16-18 weekend Women's Retreat at the Menucha Conference Center in Corbett. Marianne Borg shared that we experience the Kingdom of God on earth through the affirmation of life, relationships with one another, compassion, hope and seeing the possibility for a better future. This was a positive experience for all who attended.

Everything is interconnected...recognize the beauty in relationships and the importance of connecting with one another.



Administration, Finance and Stewardship Committee

Lynne Neilson, Elder

Committee Members:

Chip Kyle, Treasurer; Julie Flint, Finance Assistant; Mike Shiffer and Carolyn Barker, members; and Lynne Neilson, Elder.

Tasks:

The Committee meets monthly on the second Wednesday of the month at 2:00 pm via Zoom. We review the previous month's financials prepared by Chip, compare actual income and expenses with the Session-approved Budget, and decide on any actions needed to keep the Church on solid financial ground. These actions, if any, along with the Financial Statements, are presented at the monthly Session meetings. In September the Committee begins planning a Stewardship campaign by issuing pledge cards and speaking to the Congregation about giving for the next year. After gathering pledges, estimated expenses, and with a lot of faith and prayer, the Committee develops a draft budget for the next year to be approved by Session and reported to the Congregation in January. The budgeting process hinges on the estimated income for the coming year. There are three principal sources: pledged income, non-pledged income, and rental of the building. Pledged income represents 70% of our total and is the most important part of the budget. Non-pledged income varies widely and is always a challenge to estimate comprising about 17%. Building rental, while consistent, provides \$1,000 monthly. Church expenses are primarily staff (72%), plus utilities, maintenance, worship, and programs. While annual pledges are made on a good faith basis, they are nevertheless vital to funding the church, its operations, and its mission.

2022 in review:

Our hope for 2022, now that many of us were starting to worship in person, was that our Church financial lives would go back to more "normal." We realize that there is a new normal now, and change is a constant. Mike turned in his resignation effective July after many years as Finance Assistant. Fortunately, we were able to find Julie Flint, who with Mike's training and support, has made a smooth transition to that position.

Although we had to use some of our reserve money to balance the budget again this year, expenses were kept low thanks to conscientious spending, and several positions not filled for part of the year. The TPC family has been faithfully giving, so as of our December meeting, we are confident that the year will end with a surplus.

Deacons

Susan Cameron

We call ourselves the Super 7 this year! We are a group of 6 Deacons (Dianne Lemmon, Rosemary Willis, Linda Fukasawa, Kerry Weaver, Derrilyn Bayha, Jason James) plus me, Susan Cameron. It is our heartfelt duty to attend to the needs of the congregation, to be a friend to others, to love one another as Jesus would, and to meet monthly in fellowship.

We kicked off 2021 with Super Bowl Sunday! We collected so much soup to donate to the Tualatin Food Pantry that day. It's all in the spirit of TPC and the big game.



We enjoy connecting with you on Sundays and bringing a little joy with that. We had ice cream treats on the patio in July, Deacon Donuts in October, and Candy Canes in December.

We had great fun this year leaving Halloween gift bags on your doorstep and sending out our first annual Christmas card.

Many of our TPC college students graduated in May 2021. We currently have 3 students in college that we continue to spoil with care packages, candy, and cards.

In September we started up Outbound Communion. On the first Sunday of the month, after church, we head out to visit those in our parishes that are unable to attend in person. We come with a full communion kit and cookies from coffee hour that day.

As Deacons we continue to grow and find ways to stay connected with you all. We email you each month, we pray for you, we provide meals and resources when needed, and hope to catch up on Sundays.

Art Team **Chris Robertson, Art Director**

During 2020 the TPC Art Team was able to display our collection of faux stained-glass windows for our congregation to enjoy and inspire our corporate worship. Additionally, Sarah Beck applied for and received a grant from Lilly Endowment through Duke Divinity School to create a new set of windows, "The Miracles of Jesus," which we displayed during Lent. During the summer months of Ordinary Time, the team agreed to allow the congregation to be inspired by nature alone.

In January 2023, the Art Team will apply for another Calvin Institute of Worship grant funded through Lilly Endowment. Session has approved our commissioning an outdoor sacred space for contemplative worship anchored by a seven-to-eight-foot sculpture. Check future newsletters for more information.

Sunday Morning Adult Edge **Jean Martin**

Tualatin Presbyterian Church's Sunday morning adult education class has been inactive since Covid disrupted in-person gatherings in March 2020. For many years, Adult Edge was TPC's version of Sunday morning adult education with an innovative vibe. The class format was discussion-focused and question-friendly—a safe and thoughtful space to explore contemporary theology, spiritual formation, and social issues. Facilitated by class volunteers, Adult Edge used a variety of learning methods: books, DVDs, and guest speakers; but the real richness of the class emerged through shared conversation. Adult Edge met on Sunday mornings at 8:30 AM.

Some of the more memorable Adult Edge classes include three book studies: *The Muslim Next Door* by Sumbul Ali-Karamali, *Neighbor* by Ben Daniel (about undocumented immigration), and *Waking Up White* by Debby Irving. Adult Edge explored creation care with a DVD study of Michael Dowd's *ProFuture Faith* and looked at loving behavior from the perspectives of Mr. Rogers and Bob Goff (*Everybody Always*). In past years, the class also delved into world religious traditions and differences among mainline Protestant denominations.

If you are interested in joining a team to restart Sunday morning Adult Edge or create a different adult education offering, please contact the church office.

TPC Fiction Readers Jean Martin

Thanks to a great idea conceived by Priscilla Hagan, Tualatin Presbyterian Church launched two adult small groups for fiction lovers and insight seekers in September 2017. In 2022, we celebrated five full years of reading together!

There are two morning reading groups: one meets on second Thursdays, the other meets third Thursdays. Both groups read the same book and meet monthly on Zoom from 10 to 11:30 AM. Priscilla skillfully facilitates discussion of each month's fiction selection.

We danced into 2022 with Terry Kay's *To Dance with the White Dog* and Ivan Doig's *Dancing at the Rascal Fair*. In March, John Grisham broke our hearts in the final pages of *Sooley*, and April found us escaping the Dustbowl only to be exploited by California growers in *Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah. Next, we enjoyed the quirky contemporary comedy of *Standard Deviation* by Katherine Heiney and solved a mystery set in the 1920s featuring one of the first female lawyers in India as the detective. Summer found us contemplating what makes life worth living in *Still Alice* by Lisa Genova and what creates happiness in Niall William's beautiful Irish tale, *This Is Happiness*. In the fall, we explored two different examples of historical racism in the United States: slavery in the American south in *Water Dancer* by Ta-Nehisi Coates, followed by prejudice against the Kentucky blue people in Kim Michele Richardson's *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek*. We finished up our year of books with Cork O'Connor's coming of age in *Lightning Strike* by William Kent Krueger. Krueger is one of our favorite authors; *Lightning Strike* makes the third book of his we have read (along with *Ordinary Grace* and *This Tender Land*)!

In December, both groups donned their festive attire and gathered for virtual table fellowship and a chance to suggest book ideas for 2023. TPC Readers will continue in January 2023 with Peter Rock's *My Abandonment*, a local Portland story about a girl and her father living in Forest Park. We will announce the full schedule of 2023 book choices at the January meetings and in the February TPC newsletter.

Small groups are a great way for newer folk to enter congregational life and for longer-term members to reconnect. We have openings in both the Second and Third Thursday reading groups. Please contact Priscilla Hagan, Carolyn Hale, or Jean Martin for more information.



Stephen Ministry Susan Springer

Stephen Ministry is a quiet ministry. It doesn't draw attention to itself. While our numbers have dropped during the pandemic, our commitment and loyalty to the program have held strong.

Stephen Ministry is a ministry of caring. It's about people caring for people. Life can be challenging. When challenges arise, it's helpful to have someone to talk to. Having someone to talk to is what Stephen Ministry is all about.

When someone believes that it would be helpful for them to have a dedicated listener, our Stephen Leaders pair them with a Stephen Minister. This relationship is one-on-one—we pair women with women, men with men. The person seeking support is referred to as the “care receiver.” The Stephen Minister is referred to as the “caregiver.” The care receiver/caregiver relationship continues until it comes to a natural conclusion. At that time the care receiver/caregiver relationship is formally “closed.” Some pairs meet for weeks or months, others for years.

Stephen Ministers are not mental health counselors or therapists. They are listeners. They provide support for their care receivers for whatever is going on in the care receiver's life—illness, grief, divorce, loss of a job, a move, a new baby, retirement, or whatever turns someone's life upside down! Stephen Ministers can't fix things for their care receivers, but they do walk alongside them and provide compassion, encouragement, and acceptance.

Ideally, Stephen Ministers and their care receivers meet once a week to talk, but with the pandemic that rhythm has not always been possible. They meet when they can. And they keep in touch by phone, email, or text. All forms of communication are good!

Care receivers can talk about anything with their Stephen Ministers without worrying that what they talk about will be shared with anyone else. All conversations are confidential.

If you think you might benefit from having a Stephen Minister or just want to learn more about this ministry, talk to one of the Stephen Ministers listed below:

Larry Church
Sandy Gurney
Jean Martin
Joan Nardi
Susan Springer
Nancy Wilcox

Presbytery Commissioners Report

Jean Martin

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). Each church sends representatives (called commissioners) to presbytery meetings; TPC is entitled to send two voting commissioners to each presbytery meeting. Our pastor is a member of presbytery (rather than the local church) so they are also a voting member.

The Presbytery of the Cascades meets three times a year, in March, June, and November. Historically, meetings moved around the presbytery and met in local churches. However, since Covid prevented in-person meetings starting in March 2020, The Presbytery of the Cascades has been gathering online via Zoom.

Presbytery meetings intersperse worship with the conduct of presbytery business. Commissioners hear reports from presbytery commissions such as the Commission on Ministry and the Presbytery Leadership Commission (functions like a local church session), plus a variety of other committees. The presbytery votes on important General Assembly overtures, which can change the PC(USA) constitution.

The Presbytery Commission on Ministry shepherds candidates through the process of ordination. One highlight of 2022 in The Presbytery of the Cascades was the ordination of our own Annica Gage on August 7. Annica and her husband Jordan became part of TPC in 2014. Many of us recognized Annica's gifts for ministry and encouraged her to pursue a career in ministry. Annica received her Master of Divinity from Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary and has taken an ordained position as Staff Chaplain at Frazier Rehabilitation Institute in Louisville, Kentucky. It was our distinct honor to host Annica's ordination service here at TPC and see her call to become a Teaching Elder come to fruition.

If you are interested in connecting with the larger Presbyterian church and seeing how our presbytery governs, there is an opportunity for you to serve as a commissioner in 2023. Please contact the church office if you are interested!



TPC Archivist

Rick Crall

An archivist assesses, collects, organizes, preserves, maintains control over, and provides access to records and archives determined to have long-term value.

The position of “TPC Archivist” was created by Session at its April 2021 meeting in recognition of the importance of properly archiving TPC records.

Early in its history, TPC began keeping the minutes of Session in a fire-proof vault that is located in the Pastor’s office. That’s fine for preservation of these important records but does little to provide access to them. During the past four years, all those records have been converted to WORD documents and are now available over the internet.

Another source of records of TPC is the monthly newsletters. The last 20 years of our newsletters are readily available on the TPC website.

We are currently developing quite a collection of audio-video records that could also be regarded as part of the TPC archive.

If you find yourself cleaning out old files and have old documents that might be of importance to our archive, please let me know.

TPC Fellowship Dinners

Rick Crall

The purpose of this program is to have fun and to encourage and expand fellowship among members of our church family. Randomly formed 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.

The Fellowship Dinners program started its 12th year in the fall of 2019. There were 43 participants from 24 households. Almost a third of the participants had been in the program since its beginning, and someone who had participated continuously could have had 4 dinners with each of 112 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.

The Covid pandemic interrupted this program. For nearly three years, this program has been dormant. Only now, as 2023 begins, people may begin to feel comfortable meeting with a group of people in a restaurant or inviting guests into their homes for a meal.

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 meets about once a year to review and revise the program as needed. This break may be a good time to reassess and make overall changes. Thanks to Mary Ortez, Rick & Barb Crall, Julie Nader, Pam & Scott Cameron, and Kerry Weaver for serving on this committee. If you have any ideas or suggestions about how this program should operate, or change, talk to someone on the Steering Committee!

Fellowship Director

Barb Crall

Covid closed down all our church fellowship activities in March 2020, which meant no Sunday potlucks after church, no progressive dinner during the Christmas season, as well as no monthly fellowship dinners or family game nights. When we had held the progressive dinner, all attendees met in either a home or the church for appetizers. After appetizers, attendees broke into groups of 8 to 12 for dinner and dessert in someone's home. People who signed up for fellowship dinners were assigned to a group of 6 to 10. This group then gathered for dinner 3 or 4 times over a 4-month span, meeting either in the homes of the participants or a restaurant. At the end of the 4 months, those wishing to continue were assigned to a new group and the cycle resumed.

The activity that we felt we could come back to this summer was our annual picnic at Tualatin Community Park. We had about 70 people show up for grilled sausages and a shared potluck of side dishes and desserts. As always, we enjoyed the chance to reconnect with our TPC family and spend time being outdoors. Some people played bocce ball this year. Other years we have put up a croquet course or badminton net. When children are expected, we plan activities for them; however, the playground next to the picnic area is always a big draw for the kids!

As we start to open up more, I would love to form a committee to help organize the above activities and come up with new ideas. If you are interested, please call Barb Crall at 503-692-1677 or email me at barbjcrall@gmail.com.



Bereavement Committee

Barb Crall

The Bereavement Committee is another group that has not been active since Covid hit. As we are able to meet in person again, TPC will be gathering for more memorial services. The Bereavement Committee's main responsibility is to coordinate the reception following the memorial service. Services provided by the committee include organizing, supplying, and serving food for the reception, as well as setting up tables and chairs and cleaning up after the reception. We might also supply flowers for the serving table, set up a table for displays, and do anything else we can to be helpful to the family that day.

Anyone who would like to help reorganize the Bereavement Committee and assist TPC families during this difficult time, please call Barb Crall at 503-692-1677 or email me at barbjcrall@gmail.com

TPC Blood Drive

Scott Cameron

For the last thirty-three years, TPC has hosted an annual Red Cross Blood drive around the holiday season, and for the last few years in the summer as well. 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 I wear with pride!

Usually, every year we host two blood drives: one in January and the other in August. This year we had our first drive February 15, 2022; we did well - collecting 25 units! We did even better on our second drive August 24, 2022 - collecting 35 units! The next drive will be held Jan 25, 2023. We are already announcing that drive, so please help if you can. We have been blessed with the help of many eager volunteers to work as greeters/registrars, guides, and canteen servers. Many of these volunteers have become regulars who work the drives every year. Some who helped in 2022 are Pam Cameron, Candy Richard, Carolyn Hale, Diane Barry, Kerry Weaver, Barb Harriman, Jay Wilcox, Neil and Sandy Reiling, Tom Hahn, and Donna Benner - 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 donors can schedule their appointments on-line, which makes it easier for me to juggle donors' 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 donate again. Donors can also complete their health history questions on “Rapid Pass,” making 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! However, since I am now on blood thinners and can no longer donate, that number will remain forever. I encourage each and every one of you who 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 can always use 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 host 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. I hope our Blood Drive mission will continue for many more years to come.

Hospitality Coordinator

Bonnie Nord

TPC has a tradition of hospitality and services. What better way to show our hospitality than to provide a fellowship time with coffee and cookies after each service. There are usually 2 servers each Sunday. Responsibilities for the volunteers are posted in the kitchen plus there is plenty of help for new recruits. The volunteer sign-up site is <https://goo.gl9imGAU>. The Youth Ministry has also been a big part of this service. What a blessing! Thanks to all who have served and supplied cookies. It is a fun opportunity to serve.

Cookie Coordinator

Sue Hayhurst

The congregation of Tualatin Presbyterian Church enjoys Fellowship Hour after the church service on Sundays. The chance to visit is accompanied by cookies and coffee. My job as Cookie Coordinator is to be sure there is a good supply of cookies available every Sunday. I try to keep track of the cookie supply by checking during the week or after church each Sunday.

I work from a list of volunteers who have agreed to provide baked goods. When the supply gets low, I email the next ten people on the list and request 3-5 dozen cookies or other baked goods. Store-bought items are always welcome, too. Instead of assigning specific dates, my request is for delivery during a range of a month or two. This schedule seems to work well. Items should be placed in freezer bags and put in the freezer.

Since Covid, my list of volunteer bakers has dwindled for various reasons. If you would be willing to contribute to the cookie supply, I would be very grateful to hear from you. Please call or text me at 503-970-3214 or send an email to sue.hayhurst@comcast.net. Baking or purchasing cookies or other baked goods is such an easy way to contribute to our church family.

Paul's Veggie Sales

Paul Fukasawa

Paul's gardening mission is based on his love of growing organic vegetables and sharing them with our church family, in order to benefit our family ministries and the students going to the Triennium. In 2022, our TPC congregation contributed \$2, 171.20. Paul thanks everyone for their donations.

Loving Stitches

Mary Ortiz

"Whoever helps a child stands tall"

We are all about giving children and adults in need a blanket to comfort them, working with Family Promise, Tigard Tualatin Resource Center and Avamere, King City. This year we also made numerous newborn, child and adult hats and scarves for local agencies and hospitals. Our church has donated 43 knit and crocheted blankets, quilts, and fleece blankets. Many thanks to our generous donors including: Diane Barry, Yvonne Wagner, Mary Ortez, Cackie Kyle, Susan Springer, Barbara Harriman and many other members of our congregation.

We meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon in the Narthex of the church. Contact Mary Ortez (503) 612-1993 for more information or to make a donation.



Compassion International Andrew Perkins

Since 2014, Tualatin Presbyterian Church has been associated with Compassion International. Compassion International is a Christ-centered, child-focused, and Church-based organization which lifts children around the world out of poverty.

For just \$38.00 a month, Compassion International provides food supplements, educational support, medical care, vocational training, and Christian care and guidance. TPC sponsors two children: Estalin from Ecuador and Sarah from Uganda.



Estalin is now 15 and a junior in high school. He enjoys volleyball and motocross, and in many of his letters he also includes very creative drawings.

Sarah is now 21 and has just completed the Uganda National Examination. She enjoys reading the Bible and helping her family plant and harvest crops such as sorghum, ground nuts, and millet. She is also interested in our education system here.

Both children have expressed their gratitude for our church's support. We are really making a difference in their lives! The sole source of support for this program is TPC's annual cookie drive.

Should you have questions about this organization, please see Andrew Perkins or call Compassion International at 1-800-336-7676.

If you would like to sponsor a child individually, please go to the website: <https://www.compassion.com/church-engagement/kristin-seidensticker.htm?referer=651488>

Much thanks to Carolyn Locke, who started and nurtured this program for many years, and much thanks to all of you for making Compassion Sunday 2022 and our affiliation with this program a resounding success!

Membership Coordinator Diane Paetsch

It has certainly been a challenging time for our church, especially with the pandemic closing our church doors for an extended period of time. A little over a year ago, TPC re-opened its doors to in-person worship. So, what a blessing it was to have 9 new members join our congregation this year, which included Jackson Allee, who was also baptized. We are looking forward to an even greater year in 2023.



Family Promise

Derrilyn Bayha and Pam Bowen

TPC continued to be a strong supporter of Family Promise. Family Promise equips vulnerable families and individuals to end the cycle of homelessness through a community-based response, providing short-term emergency shelter, food, case management, and housing navigation services.

Families are housed at the Extended Stay America in Tigard. While guests are in the program, each household receives food support delivered directly to their rooms each week by a volunteer, and individualized case management and housing navigation services aimed at addressing barriers and achieving long-term, stable housing. The motel shelter program has allowed an increase of the shelter capacity at a time when needs in our community are high. Sheltering in motel rooms also provides unique benefits which our rotational shelter could not. Guests can settle into their own space, feeling the independence and stabilization that accompanies this comfort. TPC and other churches have served over 168 people this year, providing over 45,000 meals during 2022. Many THANKS to TPC members for donating money to purchase groceries and volunteering to shop and deliver food and other items.

In November 2022, Family Promise opened additional rooms, expanding from 15 to 40 rooms year-round! TPC and other churches will now be shopping for an on-site food pantry and volunteering at Extended Stay to package and deliver the food to families.

THANKS to TPC for the continued thoughtful and generous members who continue to support Family Promise.

Men's Group Gatherings

Dale MacHaffie

Welcome, all TPC men. There are two opportunities to interact with the men of TPC.

The first is a social breakfast meeting every Wednesday at 10:00 am, at Miller's Homestead Restaurant, located at 17933 SW McEwan Rd, Tigard OR. This meeting usually lasts about an hour.

The other meeting is held the 2nd Saturday of every month in the narthex at TPC at 10:00 am. It will last for an hour, or an hour and a half. There will be an educational part to the meetings, such as a guest speaker, or a presentation by church members concerning projects that need help from the men's group.

The men's group has funds available, \$565 at this time, and we are willing to raise more for qualifying projects which request the group's help. The goals of this group are both education and service.

You can contact Dale MacHaffie, 503-784-2476, for further information about either group. There will be announcements in the bulletin and newsletter about the Saturday group. The next meeting will be on Saturday, Feb. 11, 2023 at TPC. The Wednesday group is on-going.

Parish Nurse

Susan Fee

Another year of Covid-19 continued in 2022, and as the Parish Nurse my main focus was on informational articles in the TPC newsletter. Since live services are being held in person at TPC again, I have made sure our AED is functioning properly. Lastly, I am working on putting together a CPR class for anyone interested. I remain open to any other health related needs identified by the TPC congregation.

Prayer Chain Report

Greg Imus

Our prayer chain is a group of people who agree to pray for others during any time of trouble or need. Prayer is among the most ancient of human practices, and to this day billions of people believe in its power. Prayer transcends religions, denominations, sects and belief systems of all kinds.

At TPC, the Prayer Chain serves our congregation, community, friends, neighbors, and family by offering up our prayers for anyone 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. We accept prayer requests from anyone seeking the comfort of prayer for themselves or others.



"Our prayers may be awkward. 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

Our group includes approximately 78 members, as well as our church's Board of Deacons. Coordinated by Greg Imus via email at rgregoryimus@gmail.com, we added 262 new prayers to our prayer list in the past 24 months. Of these, 99 were requested to be shared with the wider congregation, while 163 of the prayers were kept confidential among the prayer chain members. During the previous 24-month period, we received 320 prayer requests, of which 118 were requested to be shared with the whole TPC community.

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 lifting prayers on our behalf.

TPC Treasure Night Program

Mike Shiffer

The TPC Treasure Night Program started over 21 years ago. This program serves adults (we refer to them as "Treasures") with developmental disabilities. Prior to March 2020, the program happened on the third Tuesday of each month. Our TPC Treasure volunteers provide a program that included Bible stories, songs, crafts, snacks and other fun stuff. The program was coordinated by Denise Collins (now living and attending church in McMinnville) and Mike Shiffer and Mary Shiffer. In March 2020, we suspended the program due to the Covid risk. The [Quiet Waters Outreach](#) organization has continued to provide support for this community of special people through their programs. We would love to restart the Treasure Night program at TPC. If you are interested in volunteering and/or helping us restart this program, please contact Mike Shiffer at michael.shiffer@gmail.com



Tualatin Food Pantry

Mike Shiffer



Tualatin Food Pantry has been an important part of our community since October 25, 2004. Newly-arrived Pastor Ken delivered a special blessing for the pantry on opening day. The pantry has continued to be blessed by TPC for over 18 years. Thank you, TPC, for all of the food donations, “souper bowl” donations, financial support and volunteer service! Tualatin Food Pantry provides food and other services to families in Tualatin, Durham, West Linn, Wilsonville and Lake Oswego. The pantry is located in the lower level of Rolling Hills Community Church. TFP serves clients Monday 11:00 am—1:00 pm, and 4:00 pm—7:00 pm; Wednesday 10:00 am—1:00 pm; Thursday 4:00 pm—6:00 pm; and Friday 10:00 am—1:00 pm. TFP also offers a “free food market” once a month (usually on the third Saturday of the month at 9:00 AM) that is open to everyone. The pantry works with Medical Teams International to provide an emergency dental clinic two to four times each month. For more information about the pantry please visit schoolhousepantry.org.

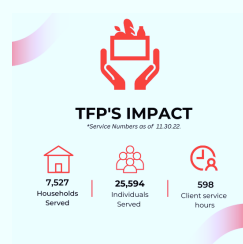
Tualatin Food Pantry saw some major changes to their service model in 2022. After two years of distributing pre-packaged food curbside, the pantry returned to in-person distribution of food. Clients coming to the pantry can now “self-shop.” It’s like going to the grocery store but without the checkout lines! Clients can now visit the pantry one or two times each month.

There were also some staffing changes in 2022. The pantry hired their first Executive Director, Danielle Schneider. Danielle is assisted by two staff members. The long-time pantry coordinator, Tracy Smith, retired in 2022.

TPC friends can support the pantry in several ways

- Donate non-perishable food items by taking them to the pantry or placing them in the donation bins located in the TPC narthex closet
- Pick up donated food and deliver it to the pantry two times a month (contact Mike Shiffer if you would like to volunteer for this)
- Make financial contributions to the pantry by indicating food pantry on your TPC donation; clicking the “Give” link on the pantry website; or mail your donation to Tualatin Food Pantry, PO Box 248, Tualatin, OR 97062-0248
- Volunteer for a two hour shift at the pantry by clicking the Volunteer Signup link on the pantry website schoolhousepantry.org.
- If you are interested in other ways to help (for example, coordinating your own food drive) you can contact the pantry by clicking the Contact link on the sign-up page.

If you would like to talk with someone at TPC about the pantry, you can contact Mike Shiffer. Mike is the TFP Board Chair.



Marge Dean Memorial Garden Mike Nelson

Marge Dean was mother in law to Tom Nelson, our first minister. She donated money to establish a memorial for members of the church. Since that initial step was done back in the 1990s the Garden has gone through several iterations while physically and mission-wise remaining basically the same. That is, to allow member families to purchase memorial stones for those members who have passed away. Please take some time when at the church to walk over and visit the Garden.

The Garden continues to require constant maintenance and upkeep. Some of this is done by the grounds crew and some is done by church members volunteering. If you have questions about the Garden please feel free to reach out to Mike Nelson. To arrange for a memorial stone, contact the church office.

Wedding Coordinator Stacy Mauer

After Covid-19 delayed their wedding two years, it is with great joy we celebrated the wedding of Todd and Fenya Owen, filling the sanctuary with happy families, friends, wedding music and flowers.

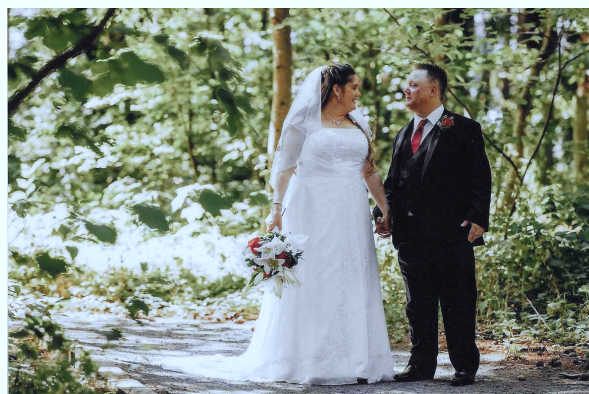
The first contact for couples wanting a TPC wedding is usually with the church office. The Administrative Assistant checks the calendar and coordinates contact to see if the Pastor, TPC facility, music director, building elder and wedding coordinator are available on the desired date. The wedding agreement form is completed, and reservation deposit remitted.

Not a “pop-culture” wedding planner or consultant, the role of the TPC wedding coordinator is as a liaison between the wedding party and the Pastor, TPC music director or accompanist, sound technician, the building elder for sanctuary set-up and any other needed TPC resources during the planning stage, rehearsal, and day of the wedding.

The wedding coordinator helps with service cues between the Pastor, pianist/musician and the wedding party during the wedding rehearsal and the wedding. They also assist the day of the wedding as needed from receiving floral deliveries to assisting with other items that may arise.

There have been several off-site weddings where the wedding coordinator has been requested and was happy to assist.

The kitchen and narthex are available for receptions, although they are usually held off-site due to time constraints and the non-Communion alcohol policy. Families would be responsible for set-up and cleanup if they do want to use the kitchen and narthex area.



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.