

Your Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) Update for June



The PNC has been spending a significant amount of time reading through many Personal Discernment Profiles (PDPs) from candidates. The PDP is a

standard form that tells us about the candidate, their education, their work history, and their personal faith statement. Each of the candidates was either matched to us through the Presbytery system, or were self-referred and applied for our opening. Everyone on the PNC committee carefully and prayerfully reviews these PDPs to find the best possible fit for TPC.

In addition to looking at all of the PDPs, we have also been developing questions and an interview process for candidates. We even held a mock interview by interviewing our very own interim, Pastor Ken Henry. It was a very helpful practice for us and we appreciated his time to help us - with the added bonus that we learned more about Pastor Ken!

Now we begin the process of narrowing down the list of our top selections, and scheduling time to interview those candidates. This next step of personal interviews is a critical and important part of our journey to find TPC's next pastor. Please continue to pray for our team as we move toward finding the right person to shepherd our congregation for many years to come!

Alan Grobey, PNC Chairperson

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Susan Cameron, LaVette Columbo, Alan Kelchner, Chip Kyle, Judy Nix, Liz Reding, Jim Walchenbach and Gordy Winterrowd



COFFEE CONNECTION—All are welcome and invited.

For **Tuesday, June 11th**'s Coffee Connection, we will meet at **10 am at Tualatin Island Greens**, 20400 SW Cipole Road, where we will play miniature golf. It's all fun, no need to keep score, foot wedges are okay and picking up your ball is perfectly fine, too. The fee is \$6 for 18 holes and balls and putters are included. (Bring your own putter, if you have a favorite.) Come have some morning fun. Afterwards, Bob

Nix will grill hamburgers/veggie burgers at the Nixes, 10678 SW Dogwood Street in Tualatin. We'll have salads and all the fixins', too. If you don't want to play golf, you can just come for lunch at noon. Watch for an email from Judy to RSVP, so she can plan accordingly.

Judy Nix, Connections Elder



TPC RUMMAGE SALE

Saturday, July 13, from 9am to 3pm. This will be one day only and CASH ONLY. Family Ministries is organizing this event as a fundraiser for TPC's General Fund.

We can start accepting donations **June 30 after church, until 2pm.** More dates include: **Monday, July 1, 9am to noon; Sunday, July 7, after church until 2pm; and Wednesday, July 10, 10 am to noon and 6pm to 7pm.** Please bring your donations to the downstairs side door by the patio. We will need at least four people each day to accept donations. A sign up sheet will be in the Narthex before and after each service. More sign-up sheets will be available to help with set up, day of sale, clean up, and sign distribution and take down, closer to the date of the sale. Thank you all for your help. Some exciting items are planned to be donated. So if something special catches your eye, we will surely let you buy it early!

Sandy Gurney, Family Ministry Elder

FELLOWSHIP ON TAP AT *Ancestry Brewing*

On **Thursday, July 25th from 6:30-8:00**, I will be over at Ancestry Brewing (20585 SW 115th Ave, Tualatin, OR 97062) waiting for anyone from TPC who desires an informal conversation with the interim pastor—that's me! This event will be primarily a social gathering (with beer if you desire). All topics of conversation are welcome: last week's sermon, the pastor search process, The Ducks, The Beavers, aching backs, summer plans, Italy, Presbyterianism, flyfishing, etc. No need to RSVP, just come as you are. I'm looking forward to this casual time of connection and fellowship outside of Sunday morning.

Ken Henry, Interim Pastor



MEMBER IN THE SPOTLIGHT: **Dee Dutoit**

Favorite sandwich? Bacon, lettuce, tomato and avocado

Apples or oranges? Apple

Favorite book, tv show, or movie? I like history. Bury My Head at Wounded Knee by Dee Brown.

Most beautiful place you've seen? That's a tough question because I've traveled to so many incredible places, but if I can only pick one, Hallstatt, Austria.

What do you want your grandkids to remember you for? I hope my grandkids remember how much I love them and the fun we had just being together, no matter what we were doing.

Submitted by Linda Fukasawa, Former Deacon of Parish 2

COMPASSION INTERNATIONAL

TPC received a letter this past May from Sarah who is graduating out of the program this summer.

(Note: She wrote to us in English so it is printed below exactly as she wrote it) Letter dated 23/04/2024

Dear Friends,

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. How are you and home members. I thank God for protecting you and your family. I have written this letter to thank you for the support you have given to me. God has blessed my education and I am now in tailoring school and I know God will help me in my education.

I thank you for sending me this letter. I am also happy for this letter and it has made me very happy and know that I also have a friend like you whom God has blessed me with. I pray that God will bless you and your family as well. Our family is also praying for your family members.

And we are in the season of growing crops. In this season I like helping my parents with some work like growing crops, cooking food, fetching water and other domestic roles. I will pray to God to bless you and entire family. I also work hard for my future so that I will help our community and my parents. Also make sure that I will know how to make good clothes in order to get money for high profits.

May God bless you and your family.

Sarah Tino

MISSION

Thank you to all who donated to the Pentecost Offering. This offering, which supports three specific ministries: Young Adult Volunteers, Ministries in Youth, and Child Advocacy brought in \$1036. The 40% local part has been slated for The Good Neighbor Center.

The Mission Committee is open to any member who would like to be involved with the mission work of our church. We meet on the second Tuesday of the month. Usually by Zoom. If you would like to take an active part in the decisions for mission at TPC, please call or email me: Bunny Lewis, 541-292-0775, bunny.lewis@yahoo.com

Bunny Lewis, Mission Elder



Family Promise is currently filled to capacity—70 rooms. There is always a waiting list. Thanks for all the volunteers who help with making meals, serving meals, food pantry, donations for grocery shopping, and so many more areas!! Starting in July there will be a lot of construction going on at Family Promise. The main plans are

to have a commercial kitchen, expand the dining area, add more restrooms, enlarge the laundry area, move the play area, have more offices for external services and have sprinklers in every room. It will take at least 7 months to complete the process.

Donation Drive—June is the month to receive gift card donations. THANKS

Summer Safari—starting in July on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10—11:30. Volunteers need to help with activities.

Bingo Nights are held once a month. Dessert donations and gift card for bingo prizes are needed.

Movie Nights are held once a month. Dessert donations and volunteers are needed.

Outdoor Play area during the summer—volunteers are needed to supervise.

Bowling—gift cards needed from Tigard Bowl on Hwy 99—it is within walking distance

Preschool Reading Circle—volunteers are needed

THANKS to everyone who helps support or volunteers at Family Promise! If you have any questions, please call or email me at 661-747-8447 dabayha@mac.com

Derrilyn Bayha—TPC Family Promise Coordinator

STAYING CONNECTED ON TPC MAIL LISTS

TPC maintains email distribution list for the TPC Men's Group and the TPC Women's Ministry. If you have not been receiving these messages and want to be added; or if you want to be taken off of the list(s), we want to know. You can send your requests to Mike Shiffer at mshiffer@tpcspirit.org.

COFFEE HELPERS Coffee and cookies are such a treat after service. Volunteers are needed to get it ready on Sundays. If you would like to help, sign up at <https://goo.gl/9imGAU> or on the TPC website go to members - fellowship - and click on coffee sign up. If you are new to volunteering, let me know and I will make sure someone will be there to help.

THANKS. Derrilyn Bayha -dabayha@mac.com or 661-747-8447

ADULT EDGE (Adult Education)

This class normally meets on Sunday mornings from 9 to 9:45 a.m. They are now taking a summer break and will resume the second Sunday in September.

DO YOU HAVE A FINANCIAL QUESTION? - For answers, contact, Julie Flint, our financial assistant. She can be reached at finance@tpcspirit.org. Reminder: **PER CAPITA** for 2024 is \$45.60 per member.

WORSHIP SERVICE PARTICIPATION

Are you interested in being a part of an upcoming service? Front-door greeters, liturgists, and communion servers are always needed and all are welcome to sign-up. A brief job description and the sign-up sheet can be found in the narthex after each service.

Eileen Eakins, Worship Elder

TPC SCHOLARSHIP ESSAYS READ ON SUNDAY, JUNE 2, FAMILY MINISTRY SUNDAY

WHAT IS IT LIKE BEING A CHRISTIAN IN TODAY'S TEEN WORLD—MONICA GIBSON

The prompt was “what it is like being a Christian in today’s teen world”. The truth is, it’s hard. Life is hard. Christianity has morphed throughout the centuries and what it means to people will continue to change.

I was raised in the Presbyterian church, I was raised in this church. The other day someone turned to me and said “I thought you were a Christian”. I couldn’t help but stop and think, I don’t know if I would call myself Christian. I would call myself Presbyterian in a heartbeat but what Christianity has come to represent in the modern day has hurt people. I’ve been making my way through the Bible lately and the biggest thing that I’ve taken from it, is that we should love each other, appreciate each other, and treat one another with respect above all else.



It doesn’t matter if you disagree with someone, you love them anyway. 1 John 4:20 reads, “If anyone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.”

Times are changing, things that weren’t talked about or downright condemned in the Bible have become normal. Such as eating shellfish, getting tattoos, eating pork but also cursing, getting a divorce, and being gay. Did you know that in The First Letter of Peter it says that women shouldn’t braid their hair or wear “gold ornaments”? That’s a little crazy, not gonna lie. We can love and worship God because our God loves us no matter what. Presbyterianism is built on the belief that the Bible is not a literal document, we can take lessons from it; to love our neighbor, to not murder someone, to be present in the moment, to forgive, to be curious and kind.

My relationship with religion has changed over the years. Some days I’m sure God exists and I feel His love. Other days, I’d be less surprised if my dog started talking than finding out that God was in fact real and has been looking out for me all my life. But I’ve found, in times when I’m looking for answers, God and religion have comforted me. When my friend died a year and a half ago, I was just looking for answers... I came to church.

So now, when it feels like I’m standing at the edge of a cliff holding a parachute that I’ve been building my whole life, but I don’t know if it actually works, I’ve been looking to God more often than ever before. Standing at the edge of this cliff, I know that God will guide me in the right direction. That He’s got my back if the parachute fails. Trusting anyone, let alone a higher power is scary. I don’t think anyone truly feels confident in their beliefs 100% of the time. We’re all trying.

But I know that off in New York, I’m going to be trying and that I have a community here that will support me because they always have. So “what is it like being a Presbyterian in today’s teen world?”. It’s scary but I think that’s what it’s supposed to be.

RACHEL MAXWELL

There are two and a half billion Christians in our world, and over 45,000 different Christian denominations. If you were to go around to every country, and ask each one of them to define Christianity, every person would probably give a different answer.

Something that both TPC and my growing connection with a greater being has taught me, is that there is no need to confine the breadth of my beliefs between two walls. While scriptures and sermons can guide us, it has been through the work I have put into myself in solitude, in meditation, in community with others, that has shaped my core beliefs and values. Ephesians 4:6 states, "...one God and Father of all, who rules over all, works through all, and is present in all". The Bible says that God is more than just a list of words or attributes, but a greater omnipotent force that transcends through all that exists, meaning that we can find him and grow a connection to him through everything and anything.

The word that comes to mind most often when people think of God is, "love". Love does not have a set of rules to follow, rather it is an emotion, something beyond words, that we only understand because we experience it. Christianity is the same. As humans we constantly crave control, and often feel the need to define and label things, when some things simply just are. Being Christian is not a binary, and though dictionaries give it a strict definition, the truth is that it is our responsibility to define what it means to us.

If I could personally sum up the goal of Christianity into one word I would choose "empathy". Google defines empathy as "the ability to understand and share the feelings of another", but I would take it a step further and add that empathy is the recognition of humanity in every being, regardless of their physical or material appearance.

It means that we do not have to understand someone to recognize that they too are human, and they too deserve for their voices to be heard. Which means when we see a humanitarian crisis or oppression of a group of people, even if we do not share their same language or beliefs, that we can still communicate on the basis of love and empathy, and recognize that we are all a part of something much larger than us.

For me empathy, Christianity, is to not fear what is foreign but to embrace it. It's to be able to see beyond the body or exterior, and to know that we all have the capacity to love and to empathize. It's to never remain complacent or complicit during times of need. It's to not get caught up with the human constraints and definitions of religion so much so that we are blinded from seeing the humanity in another.

Being a Christian does not have to be complicated when we practice it out of a desire to love others unconditionally. Our own connection to God cannot be defined or expressed through words, rather, like love, it is a personal feeling, that only we know. Labels can often encage things into boxes, defining them by what they can and cannot be. When asked what being a Christian means to me, I find it impossible to sum it up, or constrain it to a few paragraphs or words. Rather I see my connection to Christianity, and to empathy and love, as a larger experience that expands past human definitions. One of navigating the depths of what it means for me to be human and to care, one of questioning my own faith and beliefs, and a dance between myself and the deeper purpose I believe I serve as someone who strives to advocate and give a voice to those who are silenced.

If there are days in which you are confused or doubtful in your faith and what it means to you, know that you do not need specific words or labels for your beliefs to be valuable and powerful. Sometimes we can get so focused on creating human classifications on what it means to be, and not to be a Christian, when God is not even human himself. Know that it's okay to practice religion differently from your friends, or to have unconventional views on Christianity as long as they are always rooted in love and empathy.

*Open your mouth for the mute, for the rights of all who are destitute.
Open your mouth, judge righteously, defend the rights of the poor and needy.*

When I was two years old, California's government passed a state law that struck down the legalization of same-sex marriage, and my parents pushed me in a stroller through the streets of downtown Portland, protesting that law. I had no concept of marriage, sexuality, homophobia, or romantic relationships in general, but I knew that the word 'hate' got me in trouble at daycare, and that the rainbows on the signs around me looked just like the ones that I would see after it rained, and that something that beautiful couldn't be a symbol of something I shouldn't support. When same-sex marriage was legalized in California five years later, I found myself back in a crowd of rainbows. This time it was not a protest; it was a parade. And when two years later, same-sex marriage was legalized nationwide, I wondered how powerful people can be if they use their power for each other, rather than against each other.

When I was 11, two men were killed on a train going into downtown Portland after placing themselves in between two women wearing hijabs, and a man spewing anti-Muslim hate speech. I didn't know much about the Muslim faith, but I knew that it was a religion, and that I practiced a religion as well, and that I had once sat on the same train as those women being targeted for practicing their religion. There was a rally held in the city, and at the train station, people had taken to writing messages on the concrete in chalk. Someone had written the words 'SPEAK UP' in bright blue chalk, and as my sister and I followed my parents down to the platform, I let the words settle in. I read everything that people had put on the walls that surrounded me, and on the ground beneath my feet— the calls to action, the expressions of gratitude towards the men who died, the hearts scattered across the spaces too small to fit words into— and I thought of those two men. The men who had seen someone causing harm, and the men who had sacrificed their life to try and stop that harm. The men who could have stayed silent, but did not.

When I was 12, I walked through the streets of downtown Portland with my family, signs all around me demanding that gun reform laws be passed. I learned about guns before I was able to add and subtract. I heard the same lecture about them every year in every classroom of every grade I passed through, when we took one day every two months to huddle ourselves into a dark corner far away from the windows, and stay as quiet as we could. On those days, I knew that I would rather be outside on the playground with my friends, and I knew that it was hard to sit still, and I knew that if someone knocked on the door I was not allowed to let them in. And even though I knew all of this, I also knew that there were kids who went to school expecting to learn, but instead they got shot, and that I was a kid who went to school expecting to learn. The first time I practiced a lockdown drill I was five years old, and for the first time in my life, my safety depended on my silence.

To be asked what it means to be a Christian in today's world, is to be asked what it means to be human. It means to open your mouth for the mute, and to advocate the rights of all who are destitute. Destitution is to be without the basic necessities in life, and to be deprived of human rights is to be destitute. Humanity is a necessity, for there is no grace to be granted upon those who preach love selectively, and practice kindness when they see convenience. To be Christian is to be human, and to be human is to speak up. It is to know that you must love your neighbor as you love yourself. It is to know that love is love, and that alone. It is to use the strength you are granted to stand up for the vulnerable. It is to use your body as a shield for those in need of protection, and it is to bleed for those who have only known injury, if only to feel a fraction of their pain so that they are less alone in it. It is to listen to those who have been silenced, and it is to quell the cruelties of those who have been told they are exempt. It is to build kingdoms of love, and to draw the bridge when hate attempts entry. It is to wait until the lights are back on, and to no longer sit silently in a corner. It is to remember why you were in that corner, and to make sure that no other eye must learn the darkness of it. I know that there is no lack of destitution in the world we live in today. But when I am asked what it means to be a Christian in today's world, I recall the commands Isaiah 1:17 makes.

Isaiah 1:17

*Learn to do good; seek justice; correct oppression;
bring justice to the fatherless; plead the widow's cause.*

JUNE TUALATIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9 am Adult Edge 10 am in-person, and on-line worship	3	4	5 10 am Loving Stitches at TPC 7 pm PNC	6 12:45 pm Uke practice	7	8
9 9 am Adult Edge 10 am in-person, and on-line worship	10 7 pm Deacon Meeting	11 Connections 10 am at TPC	12 7 pm PNC	13 10 am TPC Readers/Zoom 12:45 pm Uke practice	14	15
16 Father's Day 9 am Adult Edge 10 am in-person, and on-line worship	17	18	19 10 am Loving Stitches at TPC 7 pm Session Meeting	20 10 am TPC Readers/Zoom 12:45 pm Uke practice	21	22
23 9am Adult Edge 10 am in-person, and on-line worship	24 TPC	25 YOUTH	26 7 pm PNC CAMP	27 9 AM	28 TO 4 PM	29
30 9am Adult Edge 10 am in-person, and on-line worship						



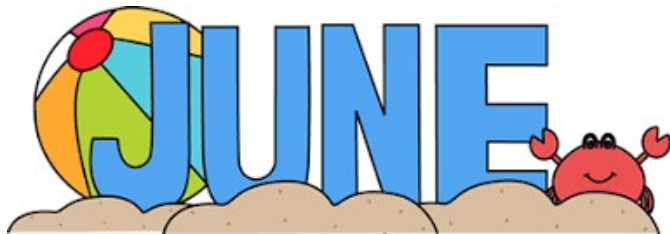
04-Bob Eddy
 04-Shari Olson
 04-Bob Paetsch
 07-Julian Awdry
 07-Bradley Olson
 08-Jackie Norman
 09-Sarah Beck
 09-Candace Fant
 11-Jan Bender
 12-Mike Nelson

14-Carolyn Hale
 14-Marilyn Wood
 15-Diane Adams
 16-Russ Murphy
 17-Judy Nix
 21-Gordy Winterrowd
 23-Lincoln Reding
 28-Barbara Harriman
 29-Marilyn Staples-Sundt
 30-Herb Zachow

TPC 2024 FINANCIALS	Actuals	Budget	Dollar Difference
Operating Income Year to Date 5/31/24	\$147,757	\$126,472	\$21,285
Operating Expenses Year to Date 5/31/24	\$147,269	\$152,264	\$4,995



9230 SW Siletz Drive
Tualatin, OR 97062



2024

TUALATIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9230 SW Siletz Drive, Tualatin, OR 97062

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

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

Worship Service – Sundays at 10 a.m. in person, and on line at www.tpcspirit.org

Interim Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Ken Henry

Elders: Eileen Eakins, Worship; Sandy Gurney, Family Ministries; Bunny Lewis, Mission; Susan Kelchner, Stewardship and Administration; Judy Nix, Connections; Greg Owen, Technology and Building and Grounds

Deacons and their parish number: Macy Walchenbach (1), Merle Olson (2), Candy Richard (3), Jason James (4), Candy Ferguson (5), Rosemary Willis (6), and Susan Cameron (7).

Director of Family Ministries: Sarah Beck
Financial Assistant: Julie Flint
Administrative Assistant, Newsletter Editor: Susan Springer
Director of Music Ministries: Jennifer Schloming
Pianist: Dr. Evan C. Paul
Bell Choir Director: Debbie Ivanov
Building and Grounds Caretaker: Larry Nord
Art Director: Open
Bereavement Committee Chair: Barbara Crall
Blood Drive Coordinator: Scott Cameron
Clerk of Session: Craig Bowen

Cookie Coordinator: Sue Hayhurst
Fellowship Director: Barbara Crall
Hospitality Coordinator: Derrilyn Bayha
Membership Coordinator: Judy Nix
Men's Fellowship Group Coordinator: Dale MacHaffie
Parish Nurse: Open
Prayer Chain: Greg Imus
Stephen Ministry: Jean Martin, Susan Springer
Treasurer: Chip Kyle
Wedding Coordinator: Stacy Mauer
Archivist: Rick Crall

The office is open limited hours. Leave voice message at 503 692-4160. We will get back to you.