

**In September, Pastor Ken will return from his sabbatical.
And he will celebrate his birthday, on September 2.**



**But before then, he will preach online, on Sunday, August 29, 2021.
Go to www.tpcspirit.org, Facebook or YouTube at 10:10 am.**



It has been such a joy to be with you all this month. We have dug deep into prayer and learning in Morning Prayer and I have enjoyed getting to know you all there and through worship and fellowship. As you all look ahead both to Pastor Ken's return and to what the fall might hold for all of us, I will be holding you in prayer.

I have been reminded lately of the many times in scripture where God shows up to humans and tells us "Do not be afraid." This is a powerful sentiment and lately I've seen it used to justify putting oneself and others in danger. God does tell us, again and again, "Do not be afraid." But God is usually the one startling people, or at least God's angels are.

At the beginning of this summer, y'all embarked on an adventure, following the spirit's call and embracing the divine assurance to not be afraid. You embraced three different pastors, engaged in deep conversations and explorations. And now you all are embarking on a new and renewed adventure.

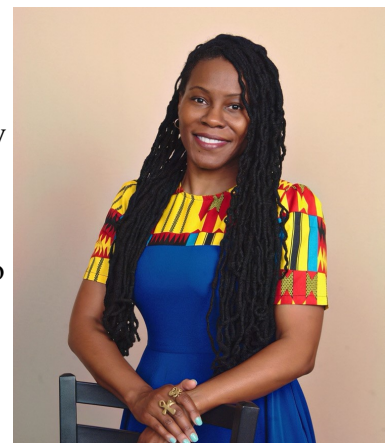
It would be easy to say once again, "Do not be afraid!" but I wonder, now that we are once again in a rising and ongoing pandemic, what it looks like to live in fear from a place of caring: to be afraid of infecting friends and neighbors, kids and those who are immunocompromised. What does it look like for masks to be a sign of care for our neighbors? What does it look like for extra caution to be love in action?

The world is scary in many different ways right now. It is not so much a matter of living without fear, but instead of choosing how we live in and respond to fear. I wish I were more hopeful about the end of this pandemic, but for now, I'll invite you to choose the fear that cares for your neighbor, yourselves, and your community as we move forward in this second year of quarantine. Blessings to you all on this never-ending journey of faith and thank you for your companionship this month.

Peace,
Pastor Emily
Photograph by Emily Ann Garcia



As August winds down, we say thank you and good bye to Pastor Elle Dowd, Dr. Telika McCoy and Pastor Emily E. Ewing. We are truly blessed to have spent time with you.



TPC RE-OPENING COMMITTEE

We have been targeting September 12th as our date to regather in person as a family of faith. Just two weeks ago, that seemed to be a very viable date. Now, with the escalating and rapidly changing health environment, that date is less certain. The committee feels that we need to carefully monitor the health trajectory and, importantly, get Ken's thoughts on the timing for reopening. To that end, we will be meeting with him after his return from sabbatical on Friday, September 3rd. Any decisions from that meeting will be quickly communicated to the entire congregation via email blast.

The following approach has been endorsed by Session.

Soft reopening. When we initially gather again, expect a phased reopening where traditional aspects of our Sunday will be postponed. These include childcare, Sunday School, Adult Edge and refreshment service during fellowship time. As conditions warrant, these will be gradually phased in.

Guidelines.

- All are welcome to attend service in person, whether vaccinated or not
- All attendees are strongly encouraged to be vaccinated
- All who attend in person, whether vaccinated or not, will need to be masked
- All children / youth aged 5 or older must wear a mask
- Masks will be provided at the door for those who need them
- All TPC staff members must be vaccinated
- Participants in any choir (vocal or bell), and solo or small group performers must be vaccinated
- Front door greeters must be vaccinated
- We will follow local school guidelines for space requirements for family ministry programs
- No food or drink will be allowed during worship or fellowship time following the service
- Attendees will be encouraged to respect social distancing.

Music. Initially, small groups - up to quartets - and instrumental music will be utilized for the worship service. No congregational singing or large choirs will occur. Again, as conditions change, these traditional aspects will be brought back.

Seating. Rows of chairs will be set up with 5-6 feet separation front-to-back. Family units will be able to sit together, but there should be 2 vacant chairs horizontally between family units.

Service Time. We return to our traditional start time of 10:00 AM

Chip Kyle, Committee Chairperson

WORDS FROM OUR PARISH NURSE, SUSAN FEE - words that bear repeating...

I was hoping my previous Covid-19 post would be my last Covid-19 post, but alas that is not to be. In that post, I alluded to the fact that I would continue Covid-19 precautions past the point when the government gave the all clear. I planned to continue Covid precautions until I saw the result of the all clear. I have continued to wear a mask whenever I leave my house. I have continued social distancing and handwashing. I avoid crowds. Maybe I should remind you that I am a nurse working with the OHSU Covid-19 hotline. That means I am constantly not only looking at the Covid related numbers, but I am also talking directly with people hearing their stories of how they have been affected by Covid-19.

Well, we opened the state at the beginning of July. Our numbers are steadily on the rise again. Yes, most of the people who are getting sick have not been vaccinated, but what is not being talked about is that many of the people getting Covid-19 have been vaccinated. As of June 30, nearly 1800 fully vaccinated Oregonians tested positive for Covid-19. That is how the vaccine is expected to work. It will not prevent all disease, but those who get sick should not be as sick and hopefully will not require hospitalization and will not die. But this week I spoke with a woman whose husband is fully vaccinated and is in the hospital with Covid-19 and he may not survive. She is scared and desperately trying to find a way to save him.

Please continue to be careful. Follow the Covid precautions even if they are not mandated. And if you have not already, please get vaccinated.

Susan Fee, Parish Nurse



OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN AND SERVE

The members of session are working, along with the Streaming Committee and the Reopening Committee, to come up with a plan which allows us, the members and friends of Tualatin Presbyterian Church, to safely once again gather for worship in the sanctuary.

Since March of 2020 we have been worshipping by either live streaming, or streaming a prerecorded service at 10:10 am on Sundays. Moving forward, the goal is to live stream worship and other selected services.

A lot has changed in the sanctuary since March, 2020. There's a new audio system. There's a new video system with new cameras and supporting equipment. With all this newness come the need

for people to learn about and run these systems. Here's where you can help.

Greg Owen and his streaming committee would like to train people to run these systems on Sunday mornings. He anticipates needing a maximum of two people each Sunday. Greg would like to have a pool of people who are trained to run these systems.

No prior experience is necessary. Training will be provided. If you're interested and willing to help, please contact Greg Owen by text, or call (503) 819-5303.



CALLING ALL WOMEN OF TPC - LET'S RECONNECT!

Long ago, the women of TPC would gather at a thing called Women's Ministry Brunch. Tables were beautifully set, mouthwatering potluck items were shared, and a talk or presentation would often inspire. A contingent of women who call themselves "Soul Friends" has been meeting monthly over the past year and half and they have jumped in to organize new brunches AND (drumroll here) a fabulous Women's Retreat for Spring 2022 featuring Marianne Borg as our keynote speaker.

We invite you all to join us for a "Chitchat" brunch potluck on **Saturday, October 23rd from 10 am to noon**, location to be announced pending plans for the reopening of TPC and whatever mandates are in place at the time. (We are hoping for greater safety and the all clear from those tracking the Delta variant surge.) Bring a dish to share and we'll catch up and share ideas/preferences for the brunch program for next year. We will have a sign up in the fellowship hall whenever TPC reopens and would love to see everyone. Sign up and come enjoy each other's company -- a real gift as we have come to learn.

You may also want to take out your calendars right now and save the date for the Women's Retreat: June 4th-6th, 2022. We'll arrive on Friday evening at Menucha Conference Center in the Columbia Gorge. This is an amazing place. The surroundings abound with natural beauty, spaces for reflection, a labyrinth, and a gorgeous dining hall where meals will be served to us!! Our speaker is an ordained minister and accomplished theologian. Look for a profile of her in next month's newsletter. We will provide all the details and hope you will consider setting aside this time for reconnecting, restoring, and renewing together.

Sheri Schipporeit

REFLECTIONS by Rebecca Backen

As I sit down to write this, I am keenly aware of the level of mental exhaustion many of us in the TPC community are feeling. I captured this photo just this morning as I was pondering what to share. We are a year and a half into this pandemic which has kept many of us almost completely isolated and unable to come together as a community of faith.

The bird in the photo at the bottom left is leaning against the branch in what appears to be utter exhaustion, while the one on the right looks towards him, perhaps wondering what to do.

This ongoing and increasingly worsening pandemic, the social distancing, masks, fighting over vaccines, over science, over our rights, continues to take a toll on us. Certainly, the dealings of everyday life can be overwhelming. Add all the current challenges on and it can be a recipe for disaster.

I wish I could wave a wand and make this better. I wish I could write the perfect words and we would all collectively sigh and know it's going to be okay, but I can't. Believe me, I would be first in line for the magic of which I dream. I don't know when we will be together again physically, but spiritually we have never been apart. We can pick up a phone, send a card, do a drive-by parade, attend Morning Prayer on Zoom, attend church on Zoom. No, this is not as good as being in person, but at least there are options.



The week of September 5th-11th is National Suicide Prevention Week. Several years back I stumbled across this poem called "Wait" written by a college professor to a student he deemed to be contemplating suicide. During this trying time, I feel it is worth sharing.

Wait, for now.
Distrust everything if you have to.
But trust the hours. Haven't they
carried you everywhere, up to now?
Personal events will become interesting again.
Hair will become interesting.
Pain will become interesting.
Buds that open out of season will become interesting.
Second-hand gloves will become lovely again;
their memories are what give them
the need for other hands. The desolation
of lovers is the same: that enormous emptiness
carved out of such tiny beings as we are
asks to be filled; the need
for the new love *is* faithfulness to the old.

Wait.
Don't go too early.
You're tired. But everyone's tired.
But no one is tired enough.
Only wait a little and listen:
music of hair,
music of pain,
music of looms weaving our loves again.
Be there to hear it, it will be the only time,
most of all to hear your whole existence,
rehearsed by the sorrows, play itself into total exhaustion.
- Galway Kinnell (1927-2014)



AN INVITATION TO TPC READERS

Do you love to read good fiction and share your reading experience with others? Do you appreciate the challenge of new ideas? Would you like to be part of a small group of men and women where you can get to better know others in our church body sharing joys and concerns? If so, consider joining one of TPC's two ongoing reading groups.

The groups are limited in size, meeting via ZOOM from 10:00 am until 11:30 am, with one meeting the second Thursday of each month and another one the third. If you need help getting set up on ZOOM, that help is available.

Our fiction reading is widely varied but all with a message that is important to us as Christians. Our selections for the next few months are:

ONCE UPON A RIVER by Diane Setterfield - September

On a midwinter night in an ancient inn on the Thames River in England a wounded stranger bursts in carrying a lifeless small girl. Several hours later she starts breathing. Is it a miracle or magic? Three families are keen to claim her. The mystery of her identity leads through folklore and science to a triumphant conclusion.

THE UNDERGROUND RAINROAD by Colson Whitehead - October

When Cora, a young black woman, decides to escape slavery, her flight does not go as planned. Through her journey she encounters different worlds of time and space. This story is grim, gripping and inspiring.

THE TEARS OF DARK WATER by Corban Addison - November

Daniel Parker, with physician wife and self destructive teenage son, sets off on a long-delayed sailing trip around the world. In Somalia, Ismail Ibrahim hijacks ships for ransom hoping to rescue his sister from their father's murderer. Paul Derrick is a top FBI hostage negotiator who is dispatched to handle a crisis at sea. Their paths collide in a single explosive moment testing them, breaking them but leaving them with a glimmer of hope.

TO DANCE WITH THE WHITE DOG by Terry Kay - January

In this hauntingly beautiful story about love, family, and loss, octogenarian Sam is still mourning the death of his wife when a mysterious white dog appears. Whether real or imagined, lives are touched and transformed.

If you have questions or to register your interest, please contact Priscilla Hagan 503 620-8275, Carolyn Hale 503 804-9203 or Jean Martin 971 244-5001.

Study Pilgrimage of the Holy Land and Passion Play in Oberammergau, Germany

“Where God’s Story Meets Our Story” is the theme of an international study pilgrimage of the Holy Land and the Passion Play in Oberammergau, Germany, led by Brian Heron, Presbyter for Vision and Mission, and pastors Steve Knox and Tim Cayton, next May 14-25, 2022 that explores how Jesus’ story informs our story. The group has 32 reserved tickets but 21 of them have already been taken by Disciples of Christ and Presbyterians from around Oregon. However, interested persons can put a ‘hold’ on any of the remaining tickets to guarantee a place with payment due only when international travel is reopened, and the trip confirmed. For a brochure or more information contact Brian Heron at brian@potc.life or at 541-465-9173

Rev. Brian Heron, Presbyter for Vision and Mission, Presbytery of the Cascades, 245 S Bancroft, Suite D, Portland, OR 97239, 541.465.9173, www.cascadespresbytery.org



RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE AT TPC, TUES., AUGUST 24
 There were 19 donors, including 2 first time donors. Twelve pints of blood were collected which will help up to 36 patients. The Blood Cross takes every donation they can get in these trying times.



Thanks to Scott Cameron for coordinating the drive, to Pam Cameron for baking cookies and hosting, and to Stephen Ricker and everyone else who donated blood. It takes a village.



THE STREAMING COMMITTEE
 Progress continues to be made in the sanctuary. Today members of the streaming committee managed to get the cameras working so that they can be controlled by the computer software.

TUALATIN SCHOOL HOUSE PANTRY

The food pantry is going to continue curbside service for the time being. They will re-evaluate monthly to determine when we can open for in person shopping. In the meantime, volunteer opportunities are posted at schoolhousepantry.org/signup and financial donations can be made at schoolhousepantry.org/donate .
 Mike Shiffer

FAMILY PROMISE

Thanks for everyone’s continuing contributions to help provide groceries to the current families. Our next shopping trip will be in September and donations are appreciated. You can send the donation to TPC and label it Family Promise. If you have any questions, please call. THANKS
 Derrilyn Bayha and Pam Bowen
 661-747-8447 503-407-2945

TPC 2021 FINANCIALS	Actuals	Budget	Dollar Difference
Operating Income Year to Date 7/31/21	\$223,721	\$235,490	(\$11,769)
Operating Expenses Year to Date 7/31/21	\$222,523	\$245,268	22,745

This Income and Expense Report shows a positive balance, but there is concern from the Finance Committee. The Non - Pledged Income is under budget more than expected (56%). The Pledged income is over budget so thank you all for keeping your pledges current. The expenses for the year are understandably under budget but we expect them to increase after services in the sanctuary begin again.
 Lynne Nielson

SEPTEMBER TUALATIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CALENDAR

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

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
This calendar as of 8/28/2021. Stay tuned for possible changes in September.			1 9 am prayer on Zoom	2 9 am prayer on Zoom	3 9 am prayer on Zoom	4
5 10:10 am on-line worship at www.tpcspirit.org Also on Facebook and YouTube	6 9 am prayer on Zoom	7 9 am prayer on Zoom	8 9 am prayer on Zoom	9 9 am prayer on Zoom 10 am TPC Readers/Zoom	10 9 am prayer on Zoom	11
12 10:10 am on-line worship at www.tpcspirit.org Also on Facebook and YouTube	13 9 am prayer on Zoom 7 pm Deacon meeting/Zoom	14 9 am prayer on Zoom 7 pm Stephen Ministry/Zoom	15 9 am prayer on Zoom	16 9 am prayer on Zoom 10 am TPC Readers/Zoom	17 9 am prayer on Zoom	18
19 10:10 am on-line worship at www.tpcspirit.org Also on Facebook and YouTube	20 9 am prayer on Zoom	21 9 am prayer on Zoom 7 pm Session meeting on Zoom	22 9 am prayer on Zoom	23 9 am prayer on Zoom	24 9 am prayer on Zoom	25
26 10:10 am on-line worship at www.tpcspirit.org Also on Facebook and YouTube	27 9 am prayer on Zoom	28 9 am prayer on Zoom 9 am Oct. newsletter deadline 7 pm Stephen Ministry/Zoom	29 9 am prayer on Zoom	30 9 am prayer on Zoom		

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



02-The Rev. Dr. Ken Hood
03-Erin Mauer
04-Bill James
09-Katrina Weener
10-Dee Dee Hansen
10-Grace Love
12-Anna Sweetland
12-Charlotte Holland
12-Kerry Weaver

13-Sharon Capps
14-Julie Nader
15-Eliza Swanson
16-Edda Brown
17-Matthew Kress
18-Jalen Carlson
18-Vic Collins
18-Emma Wolf
20-Ryleigh Christopherson-Eng
20-Rachel Norse
20-Karen Ramos

21-Dee Johnson
22-Emily Gibson
22-Jason James
23-Debbie Imus
23-Katherine Kress
23-John Whitehurst
24-Michael Byers
24-Jeremy Reding
27-Doug Steffen
28-Marsha Steffen
29-Owen Schmidt
30-Priscilla Hagan



9230 SW Siletz Drive
Tualatin, OR 97062



2021

TUALATIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9230 SW Siletz Drive, Tualatin, OR 97062

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

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

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

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Ken Hood

Parish Associate: The Rev. Dr. Dick Wiggers

Elders: Dave Backen, Russ Carlin, Sandy Gurney, Lynne Neilson, Greg Owen, Carolyn Pursinger, Patrick Ramos, Ian Swanson

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

Director of Family Ministries: Sarah Beck

Financial Assistant: Mike Shiffer

Administrative Assistant, Newsletter Editor: Susan Springer

Director of Music Ministries: Emily Bavaro

Accompanist: Dr. Ron Fabbro

Bell Choir Director: Debbie Ivanov

Building and Grounds Caretaker: Bob Paetsch

Art Director: Chris Robertson

Bereavement Committee Chair: Barbara Crall

Blood Drive Coordinator: Scott Cameron

Clerk of Session: Craig Bowen

Cookie Coordinator: Sue Hayhurst

Fellowship Director: Barbara Crall

Hospitality Coordinator: Bonnie Nord

Membership Coordinator: Diane Paetsch

Men's Fellowship Group Coordinator: Mike Weaver

Parish Nurse: Susan Fee

Prayer Chain: Greg Imus

Technology Chair: John Martin

Treasurer: Chip Kyle

Tuesdays Treasures Coor: M&M Shiffer, Denise Collins

Video Editor: Rob Thompson

Wedding Coordinator: Stacy Mauer

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