

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR KEN



Dear friends, I'm writing this morning from the lobby of Les Schwab early on a Friday morning. My tire blew out last night, and do you know what? I did not plan for this to happen! Last week, I was helping Ches move into school. Melis and I bought him a used car to get around in now that he's in his second year. It broke down four times within two days. The last time it died, I was on the H1 and barely got it off safely. We definitely didn't plan for that!

So much has happened in the last several years that just reminded all of us of that old adage: "We plan, and God laughs."

This fall a lot of things feel pretty back to normal. Many of us are wandering around the world without masks again. People are traveling. Public events are happening. But. Things are most definitely anything but normal. Ches also tested positive for COVID just before his fall term started. Some of you have experienced a surprise infection after doing your best to stay safe. And our patterns of joining and participating that shifted so radically during the height of the pandemic seem to be changing for the long term.

The New York Times reported a concerning trend in the performing arts: "From regional theaters to Broadway, and from local orchestras to grand opera houses, performing arts organizations are reporting persistent — and worrisome — drops in attendance. Fewer than half as many people saw a Broadway show during the season that recently ended than did so during the last full season before the coronavirus pandemic. The Met Opera saw its paid attendance fall to 61 percent of capacity, down from 75 percent before the pandemic. Many regional theaters say ticket sales are down significantly.

"There was a greater magnetic force of people's couches than I, as a producer, anticipated," said Jeremy Blocker, the managing director at New York Theater Workshop. "People got used to not going places during the pandemic, and we're going to struggle with that for a few years."

The church is no different. A friend of mine, Richard Hong, is a Presbyterian pastor in Englewood, NJ. I sent the session an article he published recently in *Presbyterians Today* about similar trends facing congregations. He writes: "In-person worship services are returning at various rates and with various restrictions...and most churches are reporting lower in-person attendance with a significant number of people attending their online services. My congregation is in that majority."

Anecdotally, we certainly seem to be seeing this at TPC. We reopened last year on Reformation Sunday, and while many of us have returned, a lot of us have not. We know some folks are attending online. We know a significant number of folks have physically moved during the pandemic and are attending other congregations. Some discovered new rhythms that don't involve showing up to any congregation during the week.

It's always difficult to make plans with a congregation. There are so many variables and unknowns. But for the first 15 years of my time with you there was a stable predictability to our common life. Unknowns happened, but they were the exception rather than the rule. Today? My sense is we're finding our way together not unlike the Israelites wandering in the wilderness. Like them we experience nostalgia for the past and frustration that things aren't what they used to be. Like them, I've noticed we're irritable with one another, and we're impatient with God. And also like them, we, too, have the opportunity to see and experience ourselves and the holy in new ways. The Israelites experienced God's absence in the desert, but they also experienced God's presence in powerful new ways- in unexpected desert springs and mysterious manna showing up just when they needed it most.

What to do? The most helpful thing is simply acknowledging we're still living in an unusual time. Things don't feel normal...because they aren't. And just acknowledging this helps us to loosen our death grip on how we think the world "should be" just enough for us to begin to make out how things actually are, which then helps us see where the Holy Spirit might be hiding in the midst of it all. And make your plans. By all means make your plans. We have to. But don't be surprised when you hear a divine chuckling emanating from the world that you can't quite place.

In Christ, The Rev. Dr. Ken Hood

TPC FINANCE

It's hard to believe but fall is right around the corner. Along with cooler weather and fall colors comes the Session planning for 2023. Elders will be anticipating their committee financial needs for the next year along with their visions for TPC. They will give this to the Finance Committee in September, and the Stewardship Campaign will begin in October. Although Session is developing a budget, it is up to you, the supporters and friends of TPC, to make that budget a reality. Thank you for your continuing faithful support as we look toward a new year of fellowship and growth.

Lynne Neilson, Finance/Stewardship Elder

TPC READERS - September 8 and 15, 2022

New members are welcome to join one of our two reading groups which meet monthly on either the second or third Thursday of the month via Zoom from 10:00 am to 11:30 am. If you need help with Zoom, help is available. We read fiction that has implications for our lives as people of faith. We share joys, concerns and laughter. We often respectfully disagree. We stretch ourselves to read of different cultures, time periods and life styles. In the last year our book topics have included a college professor with early onset Alzheimers, a young basketball player from Africa adjusting to life on an American college campus, and the coming of electricity to rural Ireland in the early 1900s. Our fall and early winter book selections are:

September THE WATER DANCER by Ta Nehisi Coates A novel about the Underground Railroad with magical undertones.

October BOOK WOMAN OF TROUBLESOME CREEK by Kim Michele Richardson. Tells of a blue skinned woman bringing books by pack horse to the mountain people of Kentucky in the 1930's.

November LIGHTNING STRIKE by William Kent Krueger Young Cork O'Connor leads his sheriff father to determine the death of an Ojibwa man is murder---not suicide.

December No book to read.

January MY ABANDONMENT by Peter Rock A teen girl and her father live off the grid in Portland's Forest Park.

If you have questions, please call Priscilla Hagan 503.620.8275, Carolyn Hale 503.304.99203 or Jean Martin 817.422.1834 for more information.



GRIEF is the process of putting back together the pieces of a broken heart - a hole so deep in the middle of your heart that it aches and hurts and you think it will never stop hurting.

Joanne Petrie will conduct a 5-week **Grief Release** class that encourages unhurried healing, to bring back into focus from the blur of pain, confusion, and bewilderment caused by loss. **Grief Release** provides practical step-by-step support - a road to restoration.

Joanne Petrie is a bereavement chaplain for Bristol Hospice and author of *How to Say Goodbye*. She and her husband, Ron Petrie, host a weekly Saturday radio call-in show about grief on KPDQ 93.9 FM, 4-5 pm.

The class will be an in-person class of 10 to 12 people. The room will enable social distancing. Mask wearing requirement will be updated the week of the class.

Dates: September 8 through October 6, Thursdays

Where: Living Savior Lutheran Church, 8740 SW Sagert, Tualatin, OR 97062

Cost - No cost (Sponsored by Bristol Hospice)

Class Time: 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. Attending the first class is mandatory.

Registration: Call Living Savior Lutheran Church - 503-692-3490

Additional Class Offering: Thursdays, 6:30 to 8:30 pm, September 8 through October 6. Cost: \$25
Rolling Hills Community Church, 3550 SW Borland Rd, Tualatin, OR 97062
Register by calling Rolling Hills, 503-638-5900

CONNECTIONS

- The Women's Ministry August brunch at Fukasawas was a successful gathering of 22 joyful women, enjoying camaraderie, good food, and Paul's garden.
- Tuesday, September 13 at 10 am at the Marquis Community Center is the first fall Tuesday Coffee Connection. Come and enjoy coffee and connection for an hour.
- Women's Retreat – September 16-18 – 31 women will be attending the Women's Retreat "Consider the Lilies" with Marianne Borg as guest speaker. Committees are working on the final preparations to make this a spiritual and meaningful effort for all involved.

Judy Nix, Connections Elder

Cascades Presbyterian Women Hybrid Fall Gathering Saturday, October 8, 10 am –12 pm Caring for God's Creation

Columbia Presbyterian Church
805 Columbia Ridge Drive, Vancouver

Speaker: Ruthann Marquis, Coordinator for Earth Care, Valley Community Pres. Church
Other Earth Care Congregations will share what they are doing
Others will share what recycling options are available where they live

Gathering Time: 9:30 am

Program will begin at 10 am The Zoom Link will be shared prior to the gathering.

For those attending in person, there will be time for fellowship following the program.
Please bring a bag lunch.

Cascade PW Fall Gathering Registration

There is no registration fee for this event; however, we need to know how many are coming in person. Please send your name, church affiliation and email address for all attendees to Mary Lou Williams at mlwms41@comcast.net.

The Zoom link will be sent out to everyone on our email list several days before the event. If you would like to be added to this list, please send your name, church affiliation and email address to Rebecca Jewel at rojewel@gmail.com

An offering will be taken during the event. The proceeds will be donated to Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon's Creation Justice program. If you would like to participate in this offering, please send check(s) made out to Cascades Presbyterian Women to Mary Lou Williams, 14601 NW 26th Ave., Vancouver, WA 98685 (360-576-5364)



SEPTEMBER TPC FEATURED PARISHIONER

Candy Ferguson

Favorite Sandwich? Flank steak

Favorite book, tv show, or movie? Book: The Gentleman From Moscow by Amor Towles

Most Beautiful Place you've seen? Paris

What are you passionate about? Honesty

What do you want your grandkids to remember you for? Unconditional love



**ORDINATION OF ANNICA GAGE
SUNDAY, AUGUST 7
AT 3 PM AT TPC**



Photographs by Sarah Back

BLOOD DRIVE AT TPC, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 1 TO 6:30 PM

Results are in! There were 28 donors, including 3 first-time donors, 3 deferrals. Collected 21 whole blood and 4/7 power reds for a total of 28 on our goal of 25. Each unit of blood can help up to 3 patients which means the TPC drive could potentially help a total of 84 persons in the coming days and weeks. Just in time for the Labor Day weekend.

Thanks volunteers for your help in pulling off this blood drive, whether it was helping at the drive, baking cookies, rearranging furniture, or helping with advertising and recruiting. Working together made all the difference. Thanks again.

TPC KITCHEN GUIDELINES

Many people use the church kitchen on an on-going basis. We ask that everyone abide by these guidelines.

1. Please use the assigned shelves, both in the freezer/refrigerator and the cabinets.
2. Dishwasher instructions are taped to the front of the dishwasher.
3. As dishes come out of the dishwasher, let them drain, then put them away.
4. Turn off the dishwasher and pull the drain.
5. Empty and wash all of the coffee carafes by hand. Dispose of used coffee grounds.
6. Unplug the coffee makers.
7. Wipe down all of the counters, including the area around the dishwasher and the tables.
8. Counters should be cleared.
9. All items need to be put away.
10. The aisles should not be blocked with boxes.
11. Empty the trash.

Thanks to everyone for following these guidelines.
August, 2022

REBECCA'S REFLECTIONS

Another summer is coming to a close and I want to cry out, "Say it ain't so, Joe!" This was a newspaper headline when Shoeless Joe Jackson was accused of throwing the World Series. And it is a term Dave and I have co-opted and have been known to use on many occasions.



This summer finally felt a bit more normal and we found ourselves venturing out in the wee hours of morning, looking for birds and taking in all that mother nature has to offer. We realized how very little we know about water fowl and shorebirds, and how challenging it can be to differentiate all the flycatchers and swallows. There is so much yet to learn! Our sightings are recorded on the eBird app, which is helpful to scientists and also to us. On one of our visits to the refuge we saw 56 different species and that number grew when we added in the other species we spotted when we arrived at home. It feels amazing to recognize so many different birds!

I adore getting up and hitting the path around 5:30-6:00 am when many are not yet stirring. It is usually cool and along with the bird songs, the smell of pennyroyal greets us as the sun begins to warm the earth. Many days we see no humans until we are finishing our walk a couple of hours later. It's an ideal way to start our mornings.

The sunrises have already grown much later and soon we will be bundling in layers and having shorter walks as part of the refuge is closed off during the winter. It makes me a bit sad to think of this. I am trying to remind myself of how exciting it is when spring rolls back around and migration begins again. I am just not there, yet. There was a specialness to being out this year and I do not want to forget what a privilege it is to just take a walk and breathe in the fresh air.

Rebecca Backen

Note: The birds pictured above are American White Pelicans.



OREGON'S NEW PHONE NUMBER, 988, FOR MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

During the last week of July, a large number of U.S. States, including Oregon, began offering a free, 24/7 Mental Health Crisis Assistance and Suicide Prevention phone number which is 988. Dialing 988 is a free call, from any type of phone or computer. Unlike dialing 911 for all types of emergency services and communication of serious events, 988 is a specific service for human beings, of any age, experiencing a mental health crisis and needing to speak to someone about it. If a person is contemplating suicide, this same number, 988, has trained individuals within the State of Oregon, for individuals to speak with. The complexities of daily life have become more difficult to mindfully process, and an ever increasing amount of news, social media options, along with an almost limitless amount of information streams unfolding and impacting our capacities to manage our regular life, there is now someone to talk to, anytime, about the stressors on our personal mental health, along with suicidal thoughts. Call 988. It exists for all of us to utilize. Talking to someone helps and works for our psychological benefits. This much needed public support option provides a genuine opportunity for one person to help one person by phone.

For more details, the website below is a summary of the 988 service, mentioning additional details, like Spanish speakers press number 2, which connects the caller to a Spanish speaking support person.

Humanity for Humanity, caringly provided by just calling 988.

<https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/2022/07/14/oregon-and-the-rest-of-the-country-launches-new-988-crisis-intervention-service/>

Submitted by John Casebeer

YOU CAN BE A PRODUCER

Greg Owen and Mike Shiffer (assisted by Rick Crall) have been managing our lights, sound and cameras during Sunday worship. We are streaming our worship "Live" every Sunday. We need more volunteers who would like to join our AV team on Sundays. We especially need help when one of the team is unable to be there for Sunday worship.

Please contact Greg at greg@gloconsulting.net or Mike at mshiffer@tpcspirit.org if you would like to help with lights, sound or video. We will set up a time to show you what we do and provide training

Greg Owen and Mike Shiffer

Summer Fun with the Kids

Robert Weener played clarinet during worship on August 21.

Gathering at Linda and Paul Fukasawa's home on August 6. Good eats.



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
				1 9 am prayer on Zoom	2 9 am prayer on Zoom	3
4 10 am in-person, and on-line worship at www.tpcspirit.org Also on Facebook and YouTube	5 9 am prayer on Zoom	6 9 am prayer on Zoom	7 9 am prayer on Zoom 10 am Loving Stitches	8 9 am prayer on Zoom 10 am TPC Readers/Zoom 7 pm Bells	9 9 am prayer on Zoom	10
11 10 am in-person, and on-line worship at www.tpcspirit.org Also on Facebook and YouTube	12 9 am prayer on Zoom 7 pm Deacon Meeting	13 9 am prayer on Zoom 10 am Tuesday Coffee Connect 7 pm Stephen Ministry Zoom	14 9 am prayer on Zoom	15 9 am prayer on Zoom 10 am TPC Readers/Zoom 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	16 9 am prayer on Zoom Women's Retreat thru 9/18	17
18 10 am in-person, and on-line worship at www.tpcspirit.org Also on Facebook and YouTube	19 9 am prayer on Zoom	20 9 am prayer on Zoom 7 pm Session Meeting	21 9 am prayer on Zoom 10 am Loving Stitches	22 9 am prayer on Zoom 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	23 9 am prayer on Zoom	24
25 10 am in-person, and on-line worship at www.tpcspirit.org Also on Facebook and YouTube	26 9 am prayer on Zoom	27 9 am prayer on Zoom 7 pm Stephen Ministry Zoom October newsletter deadline	28 9 am prayer on Zoom	29 9 am prayer on Zoom 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	30 9 am prayer on Zoom	

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL WITH SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS!!!

02-Ken Hood
03-Erin Mauer
04-Bill James
05-Spencer Cameron
06-Kevin Owen
09-Katrina Weener
10-DeeDee Hansen
10-Grace Love
12-Charlotte Holland

12-Kerry Weaver
13-Sharon Capps
14-Julie Nader
15-Eliza Swanson
16-Edda Brown
18-Jalen Carlson
18-Vic Collins
18-Emma Wolf
20-Rachel Norse
20-Karen Ramos
21-Dee Johnson
22-Emily Gibson

22-Jason James
23-Debbie Imus
23-John Whitehurst
24-Michael Byers
24-Jeremy Reding
26-Luke Winkler
27-Doug Steffen
28-Marsha Steffen
29-Owen Schmidt
30-Priscilla Hagan

TPC 2022 FINANCIALS	Actuals	Budget	Dollar Difference
Operating Income Year to Date 7/31/22	\$203,700	\$205,500	(\$1,800)
Operating Expenses Year to Date 7/31/22	\$206,800	\$215,900	\$9,100



9230 SW Siletz Drive
Tualatin, OR 97062



2022

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

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Ken Hood

Parish Associate: The Rev. Dr. Richard Wiggers

Elders: Dave Backen, Sandy Gurney, Lynne Neilson, Judy Nix, Greg Owen, Ian Swanson

Deacons: Derrilyn Bayha, Susan Cameron, Linda Fukasawa, Jason James, Dianne Lemmon, Kerry Weaver, and Rosemary Willis.

Director of Family Ministries: Sarah Beck

Financial Assistant: Julie Flint

Administrative Assistant, Newsletter Editor: Susan Springer

Director of Music Ministries: Open

Pianist: Dr. Evan C. Paul

Bell Choir Director: Debbie Ivanov

Building and Grounds Caretaker: Open

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: Open

Treasurer: Chip Kyle

Tuesdays Treasures Coor: M&M Shiffer, Denise Collins

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.