

January 2019

From the Pastor:

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS:

Greta Fridlund 1/04
Jordan Andreasen 1/05
Dick Kay 1/06
Sean Champoux 1/07
Bob Weeks 1/13
Michael Hertz 1/14
Steve Butt 1/15
Elaine Van Slyke 1/18
Kelly Hopper 1/18
Justin Kari 1/19
Jane Omlin 1/19
Trudie Puskedra 1/20
Suzanne Taylor 1/20
Preston Callison 1/22
Phyllis Bevan 1/23
Fran Caven 1/25
Robert Ludwig 1/27
Roger Keady 1/27
Sybil Ford 1/28
Phil Fitzer 1/30
Gayle Davies 1/30

Happy New Year! It is that time of the year where we hear people talking about their resolutions—ready to start the year by setting goals for self-improvement. Of course, we all know that the majority of resolutions hardly last through the month of January. Perhaps that is because we set unrealistic goals or expectations. We often pick resolutions that take time to achieve and in our culture where instant gratification is all around us it is hard for us to be patient and allow our resolutions to take hold and become part of our everyday routine. Whether you adopt resolutions or not, I am going to suggest a few resolutions for all of us. You can pick one or several. Whatever you pick, know that God is at work.

1. *Give thanks.* For my birthday this year, my mom bought me a gratitude bracelet. It has 4 beautiful beads on it and when you wear it and look down at your wrist, the beads are to help you remember things you are thankful for. It has already served as a wonderful reminder for me of all the many things I can give thanks to God for on a daily basis. You do not need a bracelet to do this. Place a note on your bathroom mirror, place a journal by your bed or favorite chair and spend time each day thinking of things you can give thanks to God for. If you decide to use a journal, by the end of the year, you will have quite the list to re-read!

2. *Invite a friend to church.* We Presbyterians are often a bit timid of “evangelism,” but there is no need to be. The best way to “evangelize” is by inviting a friend to church. From worship to fellowship events to classes, there are so many chances for you to invite a friend. If we all invited a friend to church in 2019, big things would happen! God works through us all; we only need to say “yes.”

3. *Read the Bible.* There is still time to join in David’s online weekly email e-votional which is using Philip Yancey’s book, *Meet the Bible*. This is a great way to pick up the practice of regular Bible reading. Or, you can explore the Bible on your own by using devotions, online resources, coming to one of the many Bible Study classes at church or simply just picking up your Bible and reading.

4. *Pray.* We have talked a lot about prayer in sermons this year. Daily prayer is an ancient Christian practice and one that anyone can do anywhere! Try to find time to pray each day. Whether it is before a meal, first thing in the morning, driving in your car or the last thing you do before falling asleep, try to make it a daily spiritual practice.

5. *Come to Worship.* We all know that worshipping God is important in our lives of faith. It is through worship that we praise God for who God is and we are nurtured and nourished so that we can be the body of Christ in our world. Make Worship a priority this year.

Thinking of these things: giving thanks, inviting friends to church, reading the Bible, praying and attending worship are already making me look forward with joy and thanksgiving to 2019. Won’t you join me?

Grace and Peace to you in 2019,
Marta

DEACON'S UPDATE

THANKSGIVING THROUGH CHRISTMAS IS THE BUSIEST TIME OF THE YEAR FOR THE DEACONS. WE PROVIDED THANKSGIVING GIFT CARDS FOR 2 CHURCH FAMILIES IN NEED. OUR SWEDISH HEART MAKERS WERE HARD AT WORK CREATING THE ORNAMENTS FOR THE GIVING TREE. WE ARE GRATEFUL TO THOSE WHO TOOK ORNAMENTS FROM THE TREE. YOU PROVIDED GIFTS FOR 15 FAMILIES AT RAINBOW VILLAGE AND OUR CAMPER, 35 GIFT CERTIFICATES FOR HAWTHORNE HOUSE AND MONEY FOR THE FOOD BOXES. ALONG WITH PEACE PRESBYTERIAN, WE PACKED 21 FOOD BOXES FOR RAINBOW VILLAGE. IT WAS HEARTWARMING TO DELIVER THE GIFTS AND FOOD. DEACONS ALSO MADE CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS AND DELIVERED THEM WITH A POINSETTIA. THANKS TO EVERYONE FOR YOUR GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT. DEACONS WILL BE HOSTING COFFEE HOUR ON JANUARY 20TH.

Let's come together Westminster women!

Every woman in the church is invited to dinner and discussion about creating a new monthly group! We'll have a soup, salad and dessert meal for our first meeting on **Sunday, January 27, 2019, 5:00 - 7:00 PM** in Fellowship Hall. We'll explore ideas for monthly meetings, e.g., mission projects, social events, spiritual growth, and speakers on important topics. What ideas do you have for this new group in the new year? The sign-up list will be available soon (with opportunities to bring your favorite salad or dessert) and childcare will be provided at the church. Please feel free to contact any of us with questions! We look forward to breaking bread and sharing!

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 Martha Zaborowski (817) 528-8562 mhuntz80@gmail.com
 Karen Young (501) 730-8744 karenyoungmd@gmail.com
 Sher Castro (541) 255-5928 sheralyn.castro@gmail.com

SOCKS! SOCKS! SOCKS!

Once again we will be collecting socks in January for the Egan Warming Centers. As you are doing your shopping, throw in a few pairs of men or women's warm socks to put aside for our collection. Last year, they were very appreciated.

Doin' Mission

The last week of November, the Westminster Presbyterian family partnered with HIV Alliance to host a Holiday Dinner for the agency's Hepatitis C clients. It was a wonderful event. About 20 church members stepped up to prepare turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, green bean casserole, cranberry sauce, dinner rolls, plus, apple and pumpkin pie with ice cream and whipped cream. It was a fabulous party- church people can really cook an awesome dinner. We cooked for 80, because we were told the 30 HIV Alliance folks would welcome the chance to pack any leftovers because most of them are fighting the elements on a daily basis.

Prior to dinner, we were all treated to a 20 minute acapella concert by 16 students from the U of O Chamber Choir. A series of Christmas carols followed where we all joined in. Many of the students stuck around for dinner. While there was a lot of our church people who felt proud about the evening, the biggest take away for us was the opportunity to come together and do Mission work with a hands on level. One of our church servers reported the high-light was sharing her meal beside "Bdo" who told his story his story and what he'd been through. He was also thrilled to be able to take a meal with him for one of his buddies. We all appreciated the opportunity to listen and experience the saga of different people connecting at the human being level. One of our church people stated, "It was a good way for WPC to be doin' mission."
 -Bob Burk

NOTE FROM DICK AND ANN BEERS

Dick wants to thank the church for a wonderful place that hosted his 80th birthday celebration. His daughter, son and their families put together a great get-together. Church members, forestry friends, coffee drinking associates and family relatives all got together for a nice friendly celebration. Almost 100 friends joined in on the fun!

Our Mission Needs drive, which supports a number of local agencies, will be from February 3 to February 17th. Some of these items can be bought, but many are items that we have lying around our house, and are looking for a new home. (This might be particularly true after the Christmas season.) Please look over the lists that will be emailed and posted at church to see if there are some items you may be able to donate.

Lezlie Pearce-Hopper and Warren Hopper are pleased to introduce a healthy 8 pound 1 ounce, 21 inch Thomas Warren Hopper. He was born on December 11, 2018 to Jennifer and Kelly Hopper of Jefferson City, Missouri.

Our Christmas Eve Family Service at 4:30 pm received \$100 in donations along with plenty of diapers and warm pajamas for children which were all donated to *First Place* in Eugene. Thank you to all who donated!

MESSAGE FROM THE MUIDERMAN'S

Tony and Elly Muiderman are deeply thankful for the expressions of loving prayerful support from our church family as we grieve the loss of our son Jeff. You have carried out Christ's mandate to "love one another" and to offer encouragement to one another along on our journey together.



JANUARY YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE:

1/06: Youth Group Bowling 3:00-4:30pm at Emerald Lanes

1/26: Mission Morning at Burrito Brigade (TBA)

REMINDER:

Every 3rd SUNDAY is our SHOPPING CART SUNDAY for: FOOD FOR LAKE COUNTY

Please remember to bring in your canned and boxed food items. Every donation is very much appreciated !



NEW ADULT EDUCATION CLASS IN JANUARY— PHILIPPIANS — JOHN MAHON

Beginning **January 6** and lasting **5 weeks**, Rev. John Mahon will be leading a new adult education class on Paul's letter to the Philippians. This is perhaps the last letter that Paul wrote, and it reveals a softer side to the apostle, who had a very close relationship with the church at Philippi. One page background sheets will be provided so that all can participate. The class will be in the Meeting Room on Sundays following worship.

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| Jan. 6 | Introduction and Overview | Read Acts 16 |
| Jan. 13 | Chapter 1 Salutation, Thanksgiving, and Personal Disclosure | Read Phil. 1 |
| Jan. 20 | Chapter 2 Exhortations to the Church; Travel plans | Read Phil. 2 |
| Jan. 27 | Chapter 3 Warnings about false teachers | Read Phil. 3 |
| Feb. 3 | Chapter 4 Encouragements; Appreciation for gift; Greetings & Benediction | Read Phil. 4 |

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We're on the Web!

<https://wpceugene.org>

WESTMINSTER'S NO-REHEARSAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT WAS A SUCCESS! ALL THE CHILDREN WERE AMAZING AND ADORABLE.

