

February 2019

From the Pastor:

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS:

Joan Hladky 2/02
Jane Emmett 2/03
Marilyn Graham 2/04
Elaine Stewart 2/04
Emily Dayton 2/04
Luke Puskedra 2/08
Roberta Cooper 2/10
Eileen Sanders 2/10
Daniel Long 2/11
Marian Little 2/13
James Brunner 2/14
Virginia Robertson 2/14
Adam Marwitz 2/15
Scott Sanquist 2/15
Cindy Sanquist 2/15
Kathryn Cotton 2/17
Daniel Day 2/18
Pat Diller 2/19
John Kurtz 2/21
Bill Reynolds 2/22
Barb Mack 2/23
Sue Walker 2/23
Sophia Nance 2/25
Whitney Schaaf 2/25
Doris Hayes 2/26
Carolyn Sinclair 2/29

On Saturday, January 26, Westminster's Youth Group served with the Burrito Brigade, a non-profit that prepares, assembles and delivers 800 burritos each and every weekend to the hungry and homeless in our area. We all had a wonderful time answering God's call to feed the hungry while serving along side each other. Here is what the youth and adult participants had to say about their time serving:

"I enjoyed sautéing and stirring the vegetables on the stove, because I had the opportunity to visit with some of the other volunteers and hear their stories." ~Serena Strode

"It meant a lot to me that we did something for people who don't have food." ~Eric Ukropina

"I liked meeting everyone and learning the process for how the burritos are made and handed out. I also liked exploding the mushrooms—breaking them apart." ~Reid Schukart

"I learned what tempeh is. It was really fun to be in the kitchen with my Youth Group. I really liked that I was able to make food for people who don't have any. Next time, I want to deliver the burritos so they can see who made it." ~Mikayla Irvin

"It was good, fun, and easy." ~Riley Strode

"I really enjoyed the kitchen staff volunteers at the Burrito Brigade! They were so welcoming to all who came to help. I also enjoyed watching all the kids do something so meaningful." ~Brooke Irvin

"Helping to make the healthy burritos for the homeless was a blessing for me. I enjoyed working with our enthusiastic youth who were eager to do any part of the preparations—even cutting onions that made their eyes sting. We have amazing youth at WPC." ~Martha Zaborowski

"I thought it felt really good to do something positive and healthy for hungry people. I was impressed by the story of the Burrito Brigade, started in a private home and now in 2 church kitchens producing 800 burritos per week for the street people of Eugene." ~Catherine York

"Youth always teach me so much about a heart of service. They took on each job with enthusiasm and love and reminded me that we are to serve others with joyful hearts."

~Pastor Marta

"It was rewarding to be a part of something that goes directly back to our community—and to see the church youth jump in and give their time and energy as well." ~Whitney Schaaf

We will serve again in late spring and will participate in the later shifts which include handing the burritos out. One of the other things we learned is that they pass out reusable bottles filled with water. They collect water bottles from donations and local thrift stores. They told us that the water bottles are always in high demand as everyone likes having a bottle they can refill. They never have enough bottles. We all accepted that as a call to action!

The Westminster Youth will be collecting reusable water bottles which we will take with us in the spring to hand out. Any reusable water bottle that has a lid is welcome: used or new. There is a box near the Harlow Parking Lot door labeled Water Bottles. Please drop your bottles off there. Thank you for your support.

~Marta

MID-WEEK
LENTEN
PRAYER SERVICE

Once again, we will offer Lenten Prayer services on Wednesdays during Lent. Come worship God and spend time in prayer, song and scripture. It is a wonderful way to ground ourselves in our faith during the season of Lent. Come as you are and find a time of stillness and reflection. These are designed to be short so you can come on your lunch hour. The first one will be on Ash Wednesday, March 6th and will include the imposition of Ashes.

Ash Wednesday Worship, March 6, 2019—Two opportunities: Noon prayer service with the imposition of ashes and 7:00 PM with communion and the imposition of ashes

Westminster Women

We had a wonderful first gathering on Sunday, January 27th! Thank-you to everyone who attended and generated so many excellent ideas for future activities! For those who couldn't make it, we missed you and look forward to seeing you soon.

Initially, we thought we'd have an activity in February, but instead we'd like everyone to put their energies towards Sunshine in February for the whole congregation on Sunday, February 10th.

We'll soon have details about a community service project in March during Lent. In April, our church family will focus on Easter and in May, we'll have a Ladies Tea! Future planning will continue so please let us know if you'd like to help! Details will follow through the email list, newsletters, and announcements. ~ Whitney Schaaf, Karen Young, Martha Zaborowski, Ann McCarley, Sher Castro

SUNSHINE IN FEBRUARY

Feeling stuck in the fog? Think winter will never end?

Conquer those winter doldrums with "Sunshine in February"! Join the Fellowship Committee for an evening of bright colors, food and fun!

February 10, 2019 from 5:30-7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Soup, bread and beverages will be provided. We are looking for volunteers to bring in appetizers, salads and desserts. Please sign up if you are able to bring something!

Recycling Plastics, Candle Stubs, Electricals, and Living the Good Life

Thanks for all the interest in Westminster's plastics and other recycling projects. Westminster is an Earth Care Congregation of PCUSA. We're working to reduce our community's landfill impact, grow recycling industries in Oregon, and find ways to make life more just and healthier for all of God's creation.

Westminster is signed up to be a Community Collector with Lane County's plastics recycling program. We hope to invite building users—Scouts, AAUW, quilters, AA, and others—to partner with us in this program. Master Recyclers will offer collection bags, training, and literature to help our volunteer sorters meet with donors to vet and sort collections. Being a Community Collector means we can schedule drop-offs with Lane County more frequently to avoid storage issues. We will develop donation drives that match our ability to store plastics and our volunteer roster. If you would like to help with vetting donations, contact Karen Keady, keady8709@comcast.net.

Drop off your unwanted and partially burned wax candles to Westminster's candle recycling bin. Marian Little will take them to MECCA to find new life as art supplies. What a fun place to shop and host an art party all with reused and repurposed materials! Check MECCA out at <http://www.materials-exchange.org/>.

Creation Care usually meets on Session meeting nights, 5:45-6 p.m., at Westminster, Meeting Room. Join us to ask questions and discover meaningful ways to live your Christian calling. Check with Karen Keady to confirm next meeting date.

Just Living

February 10-March 3. How are you called to work, parent, retire, serve, be a friend, live in health with God's creation, give thanks? Let's take time in the busyness and challenges of life to explore how God is calling us to lead faithful, joy-growing lives in all our seasons. How is God calling you, and how will you respond? Four weeks, four topics.

Based on Collegeville Institute's intriguing program, *Called to Life*. Sunday after worship; childcare by arrangement. Contact Karen Keady for more information.

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.

THANKS to everyone for the very generous donations of socks, hats and ear warmers donated for the Egan Warming Centers. The box was filled to overflowing each week. Especially a word of thanks to those that made hats using their sewing/knitting talents. "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me" (Matthew 25:v.40)

During Coffee Hour, on February 10, a representative from Sponsor's will be here to discuss its efforts to help ease the transition of those recovering back into society.

FEBRUARY YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE:

Feb. 3: Souper Bowl of Caring. The Youth will be collecting soup cans as part of National Souper Bowl of Caring during Worship. This year's goal is to collect at least 300 cans!

Feb. 10: Potluck and games at church. Come with your family to the Soup Potluck at 5:00pm, then we'll head to the Youth Room.

Feb. 24: Youth Group in the Youth Room 5:30-7:00pm

REMINDER:
Feb. 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 !

Sacred Heart Hospice Volunteer Opportunity

"Hospice of Sacred Heart is looking for caring men and women who are interested in providing practical help and emotional assistance to patients and families dealing with a terminal illness, both in the home setting and in care facilities, working with families in our bereavement program and working with patients on our Palliative care program who are living with a serious illness. An informational meeting will be held on Thursday, February 21st from 1:00pm –3:00pm at 677 E. 12th Ave., Eugene, OR. Training for hospice volunteers will be held during the last week of April and the first 2 weeks of May. To register for the February 21st meeting with no obligation or for more information, please call Victoria Spear at 458-205-7443 or e-mail at vspear@peacehealth.org."



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We're on the Web!

<https://wpceugene.org>

Congratulations to Steve and Jeanie on the birth of their first granddaughter, Hadley May born January 31, 2019 at 7 lbs. 12 oz. 21 inches long. Their son, Kyle and daughter in-law, Kate are doing great being first time parents.

On January 26, 19, the WPC Youth Group volunteered at The Burrito Brigade making over 350 protein packed burritos for the homeless and hungry. This was a perfect Mission opportunity that the Youth dove right into. They all worked together as a team to prepare all the food.

