

November 2019

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

Clay Kari 11/02
Bill Schaaf 11/05
Sue Rugloski 11/05
JoAnne Allen 11/06
Bev Taylor 11/06
Karli French 11/07
Hanna Mack 11/08
Lana O'Brien 11/08
Steve Long 11/10
Francy Stewart 11/10
Terri Rosales 11/11
Jo Jordan 11/12
Sandra Piele 11/14
Saiya Sagmiller 11/15
Donna Reynolds 11/16
Marjorie Brown 11/19
Jim Bevan 11/20
Jerry Turk 11/21
Marjorie Pearson 11/22
Darlene Valtinson 11/23
Mikayla Irvin 11/29
Kim Uwate 11/29

From the Pastor:

Dear Friends-

I've always loved the fall season. I've never been entirely sure why this is, but it's always been that way with me, even when I was a kid. I've loved the cooler weather, the changing leaves, the colors, and Halloween (especially as a kid).

One of the nice benefits of writing this column is that I get to step back sometimes and reflect on something I've always taken for granted. Again, I'm not entirely sure why I've loved the fall, but as I stop and think about it, it's always seemed to be the most soulful of the seasons. It also seems the most romantic season to me – not in a Valentine's Day kind of way, but in a soulful, Romanticism kind of way.

Of course, I'm not the first one to feel this connection between the fall (or autumn) and a soulful, wistful mood. Poets such as Yeats and Rilke have written about and noticed this connection, as well as artists and musicians. It's also not difficult to see the connection between fall and aging. We naturally make a connection between the aging of the year and the aging of our lives.

Still, this does not answer my question of why I love the fall. I certainly don't think I have any morbid fascination with aging or dying. As I've been reflecting on my love of the season, I started thinking about how much I loved Halloween as a child, which went deeper than just a love of candy or dressing up in a costume.

Although the fall and Halloween seem like a time of year that suggest aging and dying, there is another feeling of soulfulness and eternity in the season as well. During the time of my life when I was first becoming a Christian, I started realizing that my Christian identity lay at the root of my love for the fall season.

As Christians, we know that Christ's love and resurrection go even deeper than loss, decay and death. Even though we may experience the suffering or death of loved ones, those things are not the last word. Christ's life, death and resurrection show us a way through and past death and decay, and towards eternal life.

Of course, this does not stop us from hurting, either in our immediate losses, or in the memory of those losses. This can bring a feeling or mood of melancholy, often associated with the fall season. Yet the triumph of Christ's love tells us to wait in the anticipation of coming through the other side, to the springtime of Easter.

All of this brings to my mind Paul's words to the Corinthians, "Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."

Peace, David

SAVE THE DATE

Westminster Presbyterian will be holding our Annual Children's Christmas Pageant and Festival on Sunday, December 15th right after Worship. More details to come!



MEET & GREET

NEW MEMBER AND VISITOR

You are invited, New Members (those who joined the church in 2019) and Visitors of Westminster Presbyterian Church to a Meet and Greet on Sunday, November 24th from 4-5:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. This is an opportunity for some one-on-one time with your Ministers and Elders. We will enjoy some fellowship time and would love to answer any questions you might have about WPC. Please join us for an afternoon of appetizers and good conversation.

New Adult Ed Class begins Nov. 17th
Everybody, Always: Becoming Love in a World Full of Setbacks and Difficult People

In this video Bible study, based on the book *Everybody, Always*, best-selling author Bob Goff shares some of the stories from his life that have helped him understand what it truly means to love everybody the way Jesus loved them—without fear, insecurity, or restriction.

Following Christ means more than just putting a toe in the water when it comes to loving others. It means grabbing your knees and doing a cannonball!



TREASURE SHOPPE NEWS

Volunteers are needed for the week of November 18 through November 23 for the Treasure Shoppe. We will need to move all of the donated sales items from the Camel room to the meeting room, then set up and decorate the room for the bazaar. Please sign up on the Harlow Road exit bulletin board if you are interested. It's a great chance to be creative and have fun!

Contact Lynn Heinle if you have any questions. 541-343-7949 or lheinle@comcast.net Also, we still need more items to sell. Please bring your gently used items to the Camel room -the more items the merrier.

Fall Stewardship Campaign

The fall colors are in full swing in Eugene and with the early morning frost we are reminded that the holiday season will begin later this month with Thanksgiving. It is without question that the Thanksgiving holiday, uniquely an American holiday has varying historical accounts of its origin. But the underlying message of gratitude is one that is rooted in our faith journey. The practice of families to intentionally take time off from our busy lives to celebrate the gifts of harvest is one that should give us great courage in ever uncertain times. Each of us have received the gift of God's grace and the assurance that through Him all things are possible.

Over the past year, Westminster has experienced God's blessing through growth in our youth ministries, the steadfast support of friendship through fellowship and a financial stability to serve our church community and beyond. Your generosity last year allowed us to put plans in motion, seek new opportunities to support those in need and continue our shared church ministry broadly. It is with this in mind, that we ask you to prayerfully consider your 2020 stewardship offering and complete a pledge card by the end of this month. In sharing your financial commitment, the Session, in respectful stewardship can make plans for the coming year.

Thank you,
WPC Session

HOLIDAY BAZAAR NEWS

The Holiday Bazaar will be here before you know it! There are many opportunities to help (sign-up on the community board):

- ❖ **CASHIERS**
- ❖ **KITCHEN STAFF**
- ❖ **SOUP MAKERS**
- ❖ **DONATE TO SILENT AUCTION**
- ❖ **TREASURE SHOP STAFF**
- ❖ **DONATE TO TREASURE SHOP**

AND... You can help by attending! Do some shopping, have lunch with a friend and enjoy some live music. See you **Saturday, November 23rd** from **9:00am-4:00pm.**



Support for Aging Families:

The group will meet November 7 and 21 at 6:30pm at the church.



Holiday Bazaar

Saturday, November 23rd
9:00 - 4:00

Westminster Presbyterian Church
777 Coburg Road, Eugene

The perfect gift is waiting for you. Shop over 20 artisans and vendors.

Browse the Treasure Shoppe, brimming with vintage and collectible goodies.

Have lunch at The Cafe, serving homemade soups, gingerbread and cinnamon rolls.

Your holiday baking is done!
Check out the Bake Sale.

Bid on U of O sports tickets, Depoe Bay condo vacation, themed baskets and more at The Silent Auction.

Free hourly prize drawing.

Kids area with DIY Gingerbread Houses



For more information contact Teri Verton @ 541-726-7003

YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE:

November 17: Youth Group at 5:00 pm
Mission: Christmas gift Shopping for chosen Mission

CONFIRMATION CLASS SCHEDULE:

November 3: Confirmation Class 3 starts right after Worship in the Youth Room until 1:00pm.

**Westminster Presbyterian
Church**

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Find us on:

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/wpceugene

Instagram:

@westminsterpres_eugene



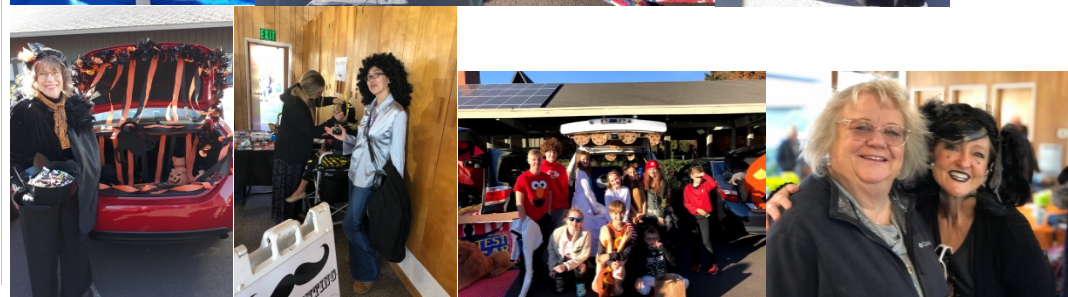
We're on the Web!

<https://wpceugene.org>

REMINDER:

**The 3rd SUNDAY of
each month is our
SHOPPING CART
SUNDAY for: FOOD
FOR LANE COUNTY**

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



TRUNK-OR-TREAT was a great success! Trunks, costumes, treats, games and face-painting made it a fun time for over 450 people.