



The FPC Newsletter

601 Pine Street Klamath Falls, Oregon 97601

November 2017



Musings from PJ (Pastor John)

In 2006 a medical study revealed that close to 600,000 people had heart bypass surgery that year. They were counseled by their doctors that post surgery; they must change their lifestyle in terms of smoking, drinking and diet. They must exercise regularly and work toward reducing stress in their life. *In a blunt sort of way, the doctors are saying 'change or die'.* You would think that most people would heed the doctor's voice and change their lifestyle. The study discovered that over the next two years ninety percent of these heart patients make no noticeable changes in the way they lived their lives. How does that strike you? Though they knew it was killing them, ninety percent remained living the status quo instead of seeking to change in order to live. An obvious question to be asked is, "Am I (are you) choosing life?" Are we seeking to change our life in such a way that our lives will flourish?

In Deuteronomy 30 Moses is on the eve of his death and Israel is on the threshold of entering the Promised Land. Moses goes to great length to describe for Israel the blessings of following God and the curses of following the gods of their neighbors. Moses concludes his conversation in verse 19, by calling on Israel to

"Choose life, so that you and your children may live."

His statement rings as true today as it did when it was first said. One of the ways (and there are many ways) we choose life with God is by paying attention to what God is doing in our life.

Here are three questions to ponder:

1. How have you noticed God in your life of late?
2. Are you becoming more aware of God's presence and his nudges in your life?
3. What are you doing in response to noticing God and his nudges?

How we answer these questions are going to determine if and how our lives flourish with God.

I've been on board four weeks now and as we continue this journey of faith together my greatest desire for myself, for you and for our church is that we would choose life with God. By choosing life with God we become people who are and will flourish in this life and in the life to come.

In God's grip, His is the strong one,
Pastor John

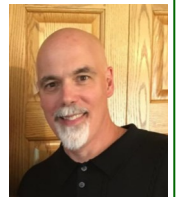
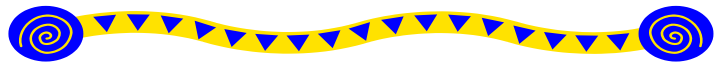


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FPC is AWESOME!!! We donated \$2,860.00 for Hurricane/Disaster Relief. Then add the \$2,000.00 from our Mission Committee and the grand total is \$4,860.00!!!

Samaritan's Purse is dispersing these funds for us.

Thank you, all the FPC people for your generous donations to this relief fund.



October 24, 2017 Children's Ministry Update

The golden days of fall are upon us and soon the last leaves will fall and with them snow.



The great thing about this time of year is that school and family schedules get a little more settled and life usually begins to take on a more regular pace. It's a great time to catch up on indoor activities and even volunteer. Children's Ministries has a multitude of ways for you to volunteer, (and all in the warmth of our geothermally heated building!)

Here are some volunteer opportunities for your consideration:

- Organizing and restocking Sunday School rooms
- Organizing crafts in the Children's Ministry office
- Co-Teaching 4th/5th grade on the 2nd Sunday of each month
- Substitute teaching at any time, but an immediate need is Preschool/ Kindergarten on November 12th
- Doing check-in/ check-out on Sunday mornings
- Taking curriculum baskets to the classrooms on Sunday mornings
- Coming soon, we will need people to lead worship with our kids downstairs on Sunday mornings before they go to their classes.

You know what makes volunteering even more fun? When you have a friend along for the fun! So grab a friend, pick a job and we'll get you going. For more information please give me a call at the church (541) 884-7781 or email: childrensministry@klamathfpc.com.

Written by Belinda Scalas

What have you found yourself honoring lately?

I confess I paid honor to the Seattle Seahawks for over two hours on Sunday afternoon as they played and beat the villainous N.Y. Giants. We honor what we believe has value and worth. You can certainly argue valuing and esteeming worth to a football team. However, as followers of Jesus Christ, honoring and esteeming worth to our God should be a normal and natural outpouring of our hearts. November is our stewardship month. The stewardship or managing of our resources is one of the ways we show esteem to God. In the scripture passages below God calls us to honor Him in our stewardship and in turn God pledges to us to be our faithful provider.

Note
from the
pastor



In Proverbs 3:9-10 we read,

“Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing and your vats will brim over with new wine.”

Notice there is a command and a promise tied together. “Firstfruits” are not an afterthought, but a plan of giving to God from our first and our best. When we practice faithful stewardship with what we have been given, God promises in return to meet our needs and even more so. Folks, this is quite a challenge from God. As we give to God, He promises to faithfully give back in the meeting of our needs. It is an opportunity to experiment and witness God doing what He has promised.

Having said all of this, November is our stewardship month in which we consider our giving for the coming year. We are asking you to prayerfully consider your “first-fruits” that God would have you pledge or promise toward the work and ministries at FPC for the 2018 year. In the first part of November, you will be receiving a letter concerning stewardship. Within that envelope will be a pledge card, which we would ask you to fill out and bring on Sunday November 19th. Your pledge card will help your Elders, in creating the budget for the upcoming year. May the God who faithfully calls us His beloved children continue to lead and guide each one of us.

In God’s grip, after all His is the strong one,
Pastor John



*November 5th,
FPC Luncheon
Following the 10:00 a.m. Blended Service*

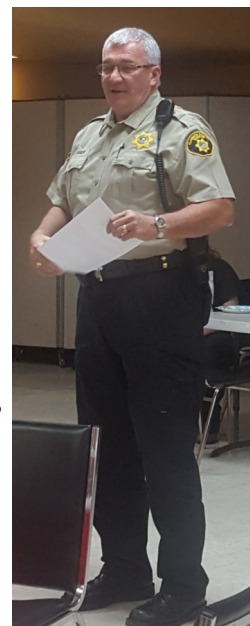
Super **October** Seniors' Luncheon

Wow, for those who the October 16th a really busy meeting. first Marilyn Simmons Christmas Child: shoe-presents, books and dren all around the Betty Dickson stepped and help get us all mo-worthy mission. The actual shipping out date is mid-November, so we really need to get this ball rolling! In years past FPC was a big contributor to this mission. The project is a really fun, world wide outreach. *(See the next page for more information on this mission project.)*



were not able to attend luncheon, you missed We had two speakers, spoke about Operation boxes filled with little love that go to chil-world. This year forward to organize tivated with this very

We also heard from Sheriff Chris Kaber about being ready for winter driving. He emphasized the AAA website for basic tips, but also talked about the necessity of giving ourselves enough time to go places, winter roads are not a good place for hurrying. He mentioned having some weight in the back of your car or truck...a big bag of dog food or bird seed, or lead weights all work to give more traction. Remember to keep a bit of water, food, warm blankets and coats and winter boots in the car so you can manage if you have to stop and wait for a long time. One more thing that Sheriff Kaber said was “that he never drives anywhere on less than 1/2 tank of gas, and that you always want to be prepared for anything. And if you have gas in your tank, you can stay warm longer. Be prepared!” Again, Sheriff Kaber pointed us to the Triple A website for good information about winter driving and being prepared for icy, wet, and snow-packed roads.



Next month we'll have a fun project and a speaker. A potluck lunch with lots of friendship on the menu. Come and enjoy this fellowship on November 16th. All ages are invited!

Hugs & Blessings to all,
Barb Dehlinger & Belinda Reno



Views from the Church Office
I love my office view! It is just spectacular!
If you are doing something fun with FPC members and/or attenders, why not take a picture, write a little paragraph of what you are doing, forward it to me, and I will try to place it in the coming Newsletters.
This could be great fun! Can't wait!
Blessings from Belinda Reno

Evangelism * Discipleship * Multiplication

Every shoebox gift is an excellent resource for evangelism and discipleship which leads to the multiplication of new believers and churches around the world. Local Christians share the Gospel, inviting children to trust in Jesus. Then boys and girls receive a surprise that may be their first gift ever. They hold in their hands a tangible expression of God's love.



You might be wondering how all these toys and school supplies help spread the Good News... one reason why we do not seal up the shoeboxes is that Samaritan's Purse volunteers go thru every box to make sure the items we pack can go thru customs. They also pack information about Jesus. New rules this year are that we cannot send toothpaste or candy. Samaritan's Purse has also had to raise the price of shipping from \$7.00 to \$9.00 for each shoebox.

There are different ways we can put together these shoeboxes:

1. You can put together shoeboxes on your own and bring them (unsealed) back to FPC by Saturday, November 11th. (Don't forget the \$9.00 for shipping)
2. Or you can help with purchasing multiple items to donate (please see flyers in the Narthex with information on items needed for packing these boxes)
3. Or you can even give money (will need this by November 6th to allow time for shopping for the items) and then we are going to have a "**Packing Party**" with an assembly line to put the boxes together.
4. There is an envelope in each box to include your check for postage. Write check to Samaritan's Purse with a note on the memo line for Operation Christmas Child.

Packing Party



We have decided to have the Packing Party on Saturday, **November 11th beginning at 1:00 p.m.** and it might take two or three hours.

And during this time, Betty Dickson has also organizing a "**Cookie Exchange**" for anyone who would like to participate. Bring a plate of cookies to share and a plate to put other cookies to take home!



Thank you so much!

This is going to be so much fun!



We need to have all of the packed shoe boxes by **November 12th** to be able to transport them to their shipping destination.





A Program of Prison Fellowship®

Merry Christmas!

I know it's early! We haven't even celebrated Thanksgiving but it's time already to begin working on Angel Tree. We have received our list of kids. I can't believe this will be my 5th year of coordinating this project which is so very close to my heart. God certainly knew what he was doing when he had Kim Morgan hand this over to me.

For 2.7 million children in the U.S. at least one parent is behind bars. These kids struggle with feelings of abandonment and loneliness and often get caught up in the same cycle of crime as their parent. Through Angel Tree we can show them the love of Christ in very real and tangible ways. As a congregation you have always gone above and beyond to support this cause and the children living here in our local community. Please watch for more announcements and of course our Angel "Tree". Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

Blessings,

Barb Keeney



COMING SOON!!!! Community involvement project! We will be donating food to help provide city school kids food over the Christmas break. Mitch Stokes is your contact for this involvement project. His phone number is (541) 891-8771. You could help with donating food from this list or with monetary donations (to help purchase this food). Either is very helpful. Thank you for helping!

See the list below for the Christmas Food Boxes (needed for each box)

Item Description	Quantity	Item Description	Quantity
Peanut Butter	1 Jar	Chicken Noodle Soup	2 Cans
Grape Jelly	1 Jar	Tomato Soup	2 Cans
Tuna Fish	3 Cans	Fruit Snacks	1 Box
Beef Stew	2 Cans	Milk	2 Boxes
Mayonnaise	1 Jar	Meals (Chef Boyardee	
Fruit Cups	2 - 4 Pack	or Spaghetti O's)	1 Can
Granola Bars	1 Box	Top Ramen	1 Package
Cereal	1 Box	Macaroni & Cheese	1 Box
Nalley's Chili	2 Cans	6-Pack Microwave	
Cup-O-Noodles	2 Cups	popcorn	1 Box
Pop Tarts	1 Box	Bread	2 Loaves
Ritz Cheese & Crackers	1 Pkg	Potatoes	1 5lb. Bag
Cool-Aid Juice Pouches	1 Case		

Our children here in Klamath Falls could use this help.

Session Meeting October 19, 2017 Summary:

Present: Rich Touslee, Craig Rappe', Don Boyd, Keith Stone, Heidi Neel Biggs, Laura Stewart, Dave Pollard, Barb Dehlinger & Pastor John Geiter

The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor John at 7pm. A devotion was led by Pastor John. A discussion of Children's Ministries was lead by Belinda Scalas, talking about plans, the responses to the Parents' Survey, and the hopes to hire a Children's Ministry Director. Personnel will meet in the next week to finalize a job description so that the job can be advertised. For the present this will be a part time job with hopes to make it full time by the beginning of 2019.

The agenda was approved with additions and the minutes of the last meeting were approved as presented. Communion was served on October 1, 2017. The next Session meeting will be November 16, 2017 at 7pm.

The last payment to PCUSA has been made. Concern was raised about getting a "Paid in Full" statement from them. Pastor John will follow up on this.

A discussion of the speakers for Minute for Mission was held, Jonna Reeder, a missionary that we support will speak this coming Sunday. Then in November Don Boyd will speak about Physical Resources, in December Mitch Stokes will speak about the Endowments, in February Keith Stone will speak about Personnel.

A discussion of the organizational chart followed and it is still not a finished product. Elder assignments for committees will be finalized next month, with elders bringing preferences and passions so that assignments reflect the elder's concerns.

The current advertising was discussed, and the current contract will not be renewed. Nominating Committee needs to gear up and this will be addressed at the November meeting. Several reports were reviewed, Deacons, Finance, Budget, Physical Resources, Worship, Mission, and Personnel were all discussed and filed as no action was needed.

Under new business we discussed the ushering situation and still feel the need for a few volunteers, especially for the traditional service. Training will be provided. The traditional meeting of the deacons and elders was set back to January, details will be provided at a later date as they become available.

John will be planning his installation, details will be available at a later date. Plans for the annual stewardship campaign were discussed. A letter will go out to the congregation about November 1, 2017 with November 19 selected as Pledge Sunday.

Mitch Stokes offered an idea about a food box project during the holidays, we will have a canned food drive to help fill the boxes, around Thanksgiving or just after.

We will be participating in a live nativity scene with Woodland Lighting as a part of the Snowflake Festival.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 9:33pm
Session notes supplied by Elder Barb Dehlinger

First Presbyterian Church

601 Pine Street

Klamath Falls, Oregon 97601

(541) 884-7781

Return Service Requested

FPC Elders

Heidi Neel Biggs

Don Boyd

Barb Dehlinger

Dave Pollard

Craig Rappe'

Steve Schultz

Andrew Smith

Laura Stewart

Mitch Stokes

Keith Stone

Rich Touslee

Gay Woods



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FPC Deacons

Randy Clark

Brian Coe

Charlie Dehlinger

Denny Fullerton

Janell Knutson

Terrie Mumford

Sharon Nelson

Judy Swan

Lee Woods

