

The Lamplighter

A Newsletter of **Community Presbyterian Church**
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OCTOBER 2023

Growing In Christ and Loving One Another

CPC Friends, at the beginning of our Sept. meeting, Session reflected briefly on the following quote from Craig Barnes:

Your mission is not to get to the right place in life; that is God's mission in your life. Your mission is to develop a grateful heart along the way. That is the only way you can be useful to God, when he finally gets you where he wants you. So you are not wasting time on all the wrong roads that led in the wrong direction; those are the roads on which you were learning how to be open to God. Our spiritual character is always best formed on the wrong roads.

Barnes shared this while commenting on Paul's missionary journey in Acts 16, and the ways the Spirit was at times resisting, redirecting, and leading Paul into very challenging situations (like imprisonment!). It's a timely reminder for all of us to ponder when we feel like we are on the wrong road, because God is likely doing some of his best work in and through us, despite all appearances to the contrary. And in God's sovereign hands, such experiences form in us spiritual character, a humble and grateful heart.

We reflected on the Parable of the Vineyard Workers on 9/24. I quoted Barbara Brown Taylor who asks:

When we read this parable, why do we tend so immediately to identify with the folks hired at the crack of dawn, the hardest workers, the so-called "deserving"? Who told you or me that we've been working for 12 hours? How do we know that just maybe our work totals the measly one hour after all?

Taylor imagines that in the parable, when the landowner improbably hands the one-hour pickers a full day's wage, there must have been hoots of laughter and some "Ain't we the lucky ones!" good-natured back slapping going on.

Where is that sense of joy and laughter in our own lives, in our church? Ain't we the lucky ones!? Ain't we the blessed ones!? We ought to be slapping each other on the back in joy rather than presuming to be those who have labored long and hard and deserve better, deserve more, who look at what the landowner offers us and scowl in discontent and ingratitude.

We may just be those 1-hr workers after all. Not the greatest disciples in the world, not the most able laborers in the vineyard, we may have come late in the day, but the point is we've been invited and included! And not on the basis of our employment record or resumes or how much strategic value we add to the vineyard, but solely on the basis of God's mercy and grace in Christ Jesus.

May it give us cause for back-slapping gratitude, laughter and joy befitting our wondrous pay day and the blessed reality that God has chosen us and given us the most meaningful and life-giving work anyone could have, the work for which we've been created. Grace begets gratitude and gratitude begets generosity as we give ourselves to the work God calls us to for the common good.

Ephesians 2:8-10 *For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - 9 not by works, so that no one can boast. 10 For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*

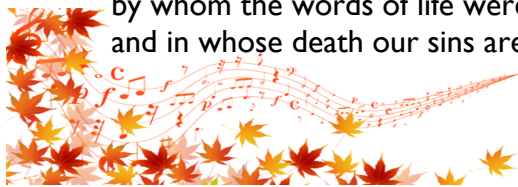
Blessings, Kevin

On Sunday, October 1st, CPC and congregations around the world will be celebrating World Communion Sunday. This is a time when we celebrate our oneness in Christ with all our brothers and sisters around the world.

As part of this service, we will sing songs from several different countries and communities, as well as the classic hymn "Bread of the World." This hymn was written by Reginald Heber in 1827. It was originally written as a prayer, asking Christ to show mercy to us and feed us with His grace. As we gather together may we always be mindful that Christ came to all the world to save all of us.

Bread of the world in mercy broken,
wine of the soul in mercy shed,
by whom the words of life were spoken,
and in whose death our sins are dead.

look on the heart by sorrow broken,
look on the tears by sinners shed;
and be thy feast to us the token
That be thy grace our souls are fed.



Karen Baldwin-Kuntz
Director of Music Ministries

Notes From Session

Session had a productive meeting via Zoom on September 19th, starting with a reflection on gratitude and expressions of thanksgiving for God's rich blessings. We all celebrated and gave thanks for the presence of Diane Wilson and her renewed health. It was her first Session meeting in about a year.

We approved the 2024 COLA for staff and approved Worship's motions for a new AV system and raising the left side of the chancel to make it all one level. The Session task force on remediations and reflooring reported that a contract has been signed to install Phase I flooring (hallways, nursery, choir room, fellowship hall). That work should commence in mid-October. The remediation of entry and sanctuary carpeting should also take place in the next month or so, and a contract for the new flooring installation in those spaces should be signed in the next few weeks.

Property reported on the completed concrete repair of the north landing, continued partnering with Mission on the Safe Parking site, and painting of all Phase I spaces (big thanks to Curt Nitschelm, Todd Peplin, and other members of Property!). Mission updated us on the plans for the Parking Lot Sale (which went splendidly!) and upcoming service opportunities.

Wellness announced a Grief Luncheon scheduled for December 7th - more details will be provided closer to the date. Finance reported that the financial status of the church remains solid, though giving slackened over the summer.

The Nominating Committee is working hard to discern God's leading and seek those they believe may be called to service as elders and deacons - please prayerfully consider whether God might be calling you to join in these vital ministries of the church, or to serve in other ways.



CPC Session

Deacon of the Month for October is Candy Peplin

The Deacon of the Month is On Call to Help With Special Needs.

Candy grew up in church in an active church family and understands what it takes to care for all the people in both a church family and the local community. She and her husband, Todd, have been attending here for over three years, and Candy became a Deacon last year. Caregiving is easy for her as she is a Nurse specializing in caring for infants and their families.

One of her favorite verses she carries into adulthood is from when she was a youth active in the church. It's from 1st Timothy 4:12. Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith, and in purity.



Wellness Ministry Update

WELLNESS MISSION STATEMENT: *To help the congregation attain, maintain, and/or regain the best possible health, wellness of mind, body, and spirit that can be experienced. This is realized through education, guidelines, screenings, and providing ongoing support. Lois Millspaugh, Chairman*

Wellness Ministry

The Wellness Ministry of Community Presbyterian Church strives to support members and friends, of all ages in our church, by encouraging more physical exercise, healthy nutrition, spiritual awareness, and love of family, both church and personal. We are working on programs to support all of these endeavors and invite anyone interested in working with us to achieve these goals to join our team. The next Wellness Ministry meeting will be held at the church on Tuesday, October 10th, at 1:00 pm in the Eby Room. Thank you for your willingness to do good works in our church. If you would be interested in participating in this special ministry, please contact Lois Millspaugh (her contact info is in the directory).

Attention All Singles ~ Singles Dinner Group

We will enjoy a wonderful dinner on October 19th at Cindy's Chinese Restaurant in Redmond (1362 S. Highway 97). We will be meeting at 5:00 pm, and dinner will start at 5:30 pm. Please be sure to sign-up on the sign-up sheet in the church's Narthex so that we have adequate seating planned. For more details, please contact Lois Millspaugh (her contact info is in the directory).

Free Blood Pressure Screenings

Our Free Blood Pressure Screening for the month of October will be held on the second Sunday of the month from 9:30 – 10:00 am in the Eby Room. If you are interested in knowing your blood pressure, our nurse is there to help you. Remember, high blood pressure is a silent killer; see your doctor with any concerns. If you are a nurse and are interested in helping with this program, please contact June Isaak (her contact info is in the directory).

Hospital Equipment

The Wellness Ministry has an inventory of equipment to be loaned out to anyone needing assistance following a health issue. We have walkers, crutches, shower chairs, and numerous other items to support our church members and friends. We have an abundance of **older walkers** and we would like to reduce our inventory. If you find you need equipment or would like an additional walker, please get in touch with Lynda Talbot our equipment coordinator (her contact info is in the directory).

Parkinson's Support Group

The Parkinson's Support Group will be conducting their regular meeting on Monday, October 9th at 1:00 pm in the church Fellowship Hall. Our October program will feature Kevin Mansfield speaking on, Parkinson's Research and News. Please join us for this informative presentation. Reach out to Ginny Weeber for more information (her contact info is in the directory).

The Dementia Interaction Group

The Dementia Interaction Group will meet on Thursday, October 19th, at 3 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Both caregivers and persons with dementia are invited to attend. All are welcome. For questions, please contact Steve Thorp (his contact info is in the directory).



Health Tip - 15 Autumn Wellness Tips To Keep You Healthy

1. Start taking a vitamin D supplement.
2. Take some time for yourself.
3. Get your flu shot and yearly check-up.
4. Boost your immune system.
5. Get yourself ready for daylight savings time.
6. Make some plans for the cold months.
7. Moisturize your skin.
8. Buy in season food.
9. Stay active (winter slows your body down).
10. Wear layers and protect your body from the dropping temperatures.
11. Do some "spring cleaning" this fall.
12. Prepare your house for possible extreme weather conditions.
13. Get some books to read and shows to watch.
14. Keep a schedule.
15. Be kind to yourself.



Quilters Quips October 2023

The quilters continue to be busy! We will have deposited the quilts at the new Shepherds House by this time. They plan on opening in October.

We plan on hanging some quilts for the quilt sale when the floors and walls are done.

The quilters gather in Teddy's Hall from ten to three on Thursdays to quilt, chat, eat, get help, and receive inspiration. You are welcome to see what we do and join in the fun and fellowship we have while serving others.



Becky Dennis

Deacon Angel Tree



Can You Hear The Christmas Bells? It's pretty early to hear them in October, but it is right around the corner. Our Deacons have a plan and a Christmas list for you to use. This year, we are again asking you to shop "virtually" by sending in a monetary donation to our Deacons Fund or utilizing the Virtual Angel Tree. On the CPC website, click on an ornament amount and follow the instructions to complete your order. Some delightful children will benefit from your giving to our Virtual Angel Tree.

Redmondcpc.org/angeltree

The gifts will be in gift cards and go to about 15 families in Redmond. These families are a part of Neighbor Impact's Head Start Preschool Program. Gift cards will also go to each family to help them purchase food for their Christmas dinner.

As our Deacon's fund grows, so will our ability to be generous to these deserving families. We depend on all of you to help make all of this happen. We would love to have your donations sent in by November 25th; that way, we can purchase the gift cards and get them into the hands of the families so that they can do their own Christmas shopping!

Thanks so much for your part in giving Christmas to others through our church. May God bless you for it.

*Roxanne Duman,
Deacon Coordinator
For the Angel Tree*

Dry Canyon Cleanup Day, October 7th

The Mission Team is sponsoring a Dry Canyon Cleanup Day on Saturday, October 7th, from 1:00 - 3:00, and we hope to have a lot of congregational involvement! We will meet at the parking lot on the south side of Antler Ave, just past the skateboard park.

Gloves, bags, and snacks will be provided, and we will work our way south through the park.

Grabber tools are handy for saving your back, so consider borrowing or buying one (about \$10).

Please come, chat with friends as you work, represent CPC to the Redmond community, and remember that you will literally be the hands and feet of God while you work! A sign-up is available in the narthex (at the Kisauni display) or you can call Connie Stoaks to sign up or have questions answered (her contact info is in the directory).



Helping Hands Project November 4th



The Mission Team hopes to revive the Helping Hands Project this year, involving a team of CPC volunteers cleaning up a few yards for congregational members who need the help. The number of yards we can do depends on the number of volunteers we have. Please consider taking three hours to serve others in our church and have some good social time (or even consensual leaf fights!) with other volunteers. We will not be doing anything that requires a ladder. Going out to lunch afterward is a definite possibility!

If you can volunteer on November 4th from 9:00-12:00, please sign up in the narthex or contact Connie Stoaks. If you would like us to do some yard cleanup for you (we can't do this project without you!), please contact Connie Stoaks (her contact info is in the directory).

Angel Fest December 3rd

The Mission Team and hopefully other groups in the church are planning to revive Angel Fest this year. As in past years, this will be a fundraiser for selected nonprofit organizations. We will serve a soup/salad/roll lunch for a reasonable fee and hold a bake/crafts/white elephant sale for just the congregation.

Please start thinking about contributing your favorite baked goods and crafts and anything you think someone in the congregation would realistically buy that you aren't already selling at the Parking Lot Sale! Keep your eyes out for more details to follow.



"Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains. You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near."

~ James 5:7-8

Seeking At-Home Bakers/Folks Willing To Bring In A Treat!

No doubt everyone has enjoyed a cookie every Sunday in recent weeks - that's because we have a wonderful group of folks who are willing to pick a Sunday and bring in treats for the congregation. If you would like to offer this service, please contact Tina Manuel so she can add you to the list. You don't bake? That's ok. Store bought treats are welcome too!

Many thanks to these treat makers - Viki Cross, Judy McKinney, Brenda Johnson, Alyce Jantzen, Sharon Effinger, Sharon Lynch, Sharon Outcalt, and Hannah Grandey.



Tina Manuel and Luann Johnson

October 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:00 Worship 11:00 Bible Study 11:00 Coffee Hour 5:00 Sermon Zoom Discussion	2	3 9:30 Women's AA 7:00 Boy Scouts	4 6:30 Cub Scouts	5 9:30 Women's AA 10:00 Quilters 4:30 Spiritual Growth Zoom	6 <i>Office Closed</i> 8:00 Men's Bible Study	7 <i>Office Closed</i>
8 9:30 Blood Pressure Check 10:00 Worship 11:00 Bible Study 5:00 Sermon Zoom Discussion	9 100 Parkinson's Group 3:00 Deacons Mtg	10 9:30 Women's AA 1:00 Wellness Mtg 3:00 Worship Mtg 7:00 Boy Scouts	11 2:00 Mission Mtg 3:00 Finance Mtg 6:30 Cub Scouts	12 9:30 Women's AA 10:00 Quilters 4:30 Spiritual Growth Zoom	13 <i>Office Closed</i> 8:00 Men's Bible Study	14 <i>Office Closed</i>
15 10:00 Worship 11:00 Bible Study 5:00 Sermon Zoom Discussion	16	17 9:30 Women's AA 6:00 Session 7:00 Boy Scouts	18 6:30 Cub Scouts	19 9:30 Women's AA 10:00 Quilters 3:00 Dementia Group 4:30 Spiritual Growth Zoom 5:00 Singles Dinner	20 <i>Office Closed</i> 8:00 Men's Bible Study	21 <i>Office Closed</i>
22 10:00 Worship 11:00 Bible Study 5:00 Sermon Zoom Discussion	23	24 9:30 Women's AA 12:30 PW 7:00 Boy Scouts	25 6:30 Cub Scouts	26 9:30 Women's AA 10:00 Quilters 4:30 Spiritual Growth Zoom	27 <i>Office Closed</i> 8:00 Men's Bible Study	28 <i>Office Closed</i>
29 10:00 Worship 11:00 Bible Study 5:00 Sermon Zoom Discussion	30	31 9:30 Women's AA 7:00 Boy Scouts Halloween 				



October Anniversaries

- 10/05 Ben & Judy King
- 10/10 Randy & Robie Harano
- 10/15 Gary & Janet Hucke
- 10/16 Gerald & Nancy Barney
- 10/20 Jerry & Jan Thackery
- 10/21 Brian & Julie Leutschaft
- 10/23 Steve Thorp & Kimberly Rogers

October Birthdays

- 10/01 Sonya McLaughlin
- 10/11 Garry Wilson
- 10/17 Gina Sherrell
- 10/20 Courtney Esarey-Ziegler
- 10/30 Margaret Herbison
- 10/31 Steve Cross



SAVE THE DATE!

Annual Hanging of the Greens

Saturday, December 2nd

Fun, fellowship, food, and beautifying CPC for the Advent season. More details to come as the date gets closer.

Mt Angel Prayer Retreat 2024

Mark your calendars and watch for more details. Rooms are reserved for our annual Mt Angel Prayer Retreat for Tuesday, March 5th (arrive) through Thursday, March 7th (depart). We would love to have you with us!



NEW DROP-OFF LOCATION!

Can & Bottle Return

Thank you for all the offerings. In August \$90 was collected for the CPC Mission Team!

There are three ways to give cans and bottles to the Mission Team.

- 1) **Drop them off at the west end of the church underneath the vehicle canopy.**
- 2) Drop them off at Walt Taylor's home at 1849 SW Canyon Dr. Leave on the north side of the house on the sidewalk.
- 3) Call 541-548-4472 and Walt will pick them up at your location.

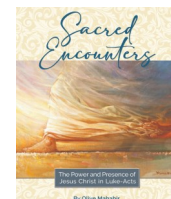
Thank you for your continued support of the CPC Mission Team!



PW Sacred Encounters Bible Study

The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts by Olive Mahabir

This women's Bible study meets the 4th Tuesday of the month at 12:30 in the youth room downstairs (during construction). There is still time to join; we would love to have you with us! Please contact Nancy Patterson or Linda Jackson-Shaw for more details (their contact info is in the directory).



The next Lamplighter news **due date** for the November issue is **Thursday, October 19th, at noon.** Articles for publication should be sent to Gina via email at: frontdesk@redmondcpc.org. You will receive a reply letting you know your contribution was received. Thank you to all who contribute!