

# The Lamplighter

A Newsletter of **Community Presbyterian Church**  
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*Growing In Christ and Loving One Another*

**FEBRUARY 2022**

Session met on January 18th and discussed how we can face the New Year as a congregation. Although we have a deficit budget, we remain in a sound financial situation. The Annual Meeting on January 25th provided more information.

Two years after having been unable to meet, and more viruses on the horizon, we continue to deal with Covid issues. Nevertheless, Session has reactivated the Wellness Team, who will continue to measure our blood pressures, provide various support groups, maintain our automatic electronic defibrillators and keep their finger on the pulse of the congregation.

We have an active Pastor Nominating Committee that meets every week and continues to search for the person called to lead us. We have a Mission Team with renewed focus and energy to guide us in our outreach programs. The Property Team maintains our building, keeping us warm and comfortable when we can meet again.

Our children, youth, and adult educators will continue to provide educational and worship opportunities for all ages. In addition, our worship team will continually provide wonderful music and speakers despite not having a regular pastor.

Polarizing situations remain in our country and around the world. We can find ourselves quickly succumbing to unpleasant thoughts about those who disagree with us. Fortunately, we all agree that God made the world, the Heavens, and all that lives and breathes. And God gave us His Only Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus, who in turn sent the Advocate, The Holy Spirit, to join us all together.

If we focus on this as a positive note, we can do as our Lord has asked us, and love God with all our hearts, minds, and strength and love each other as He has loved us. We don't have to let political differences divide us when God has united us already.

*Steve Cross, Clerk of Session*



## Music Ministries

Director, Karen Sipes

As I write this, I'm in my bed, once again recovering from Covid. Unfortunately, this time Sean has also tested positive. I hope we are both back on our feet by the time this newsletter comes out. It has been just four months since my original bout with this virus, and I haven't changed my Yelp review in the slightest. I don't recommend it.

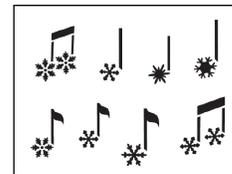
I want to thank those who have reached out and offered prayers, meals, and groceries. The support and care from our church family mean the world to us.

With a spirit of great hope, the choir is beginning preparation for our Spring cantata. We don't have a date for it yet, but we will present it when it is safe. Please get in touch with me for music and a rehearsal CD for anyone wishing to participate.

The choir will record a virtual anthem or two while we wait for numbers to go down. I am deeply grateful for their willingness to once again step outside the box and their comfort zones to share their gift and talents. Please contact me with interest in recording for our virtual choir.

I also want to share a little secret. Two years ago, as we prepared our first virtual services, we got through it by looking out into the empty sanctuary and envisioning you in those seats. I will continue to do that as we move through virtual services and with gratitude that we still connect as a congregation, together, not only through technology but in spirit.

Blessings to all,  
Karen Sipes  
Director of Music Ministries



### Prayer Retreat at Mt Angel

We still have rooms available at the Mt Angel Guesthouse for March 22-24, 2022 for our Prayer Retreat.

The retreat does not require much structure. We usually meet together on the first evening after dinner and last day after breakfast. This is a time together to share the prayer requests received from our church members and, for those interested, to have a 'Centering Prayer' session. The gathering after breakfast on our last day has been a time of reflection and communion.

The rest of the stay is yours to use as you wish. With six services you can attend with the monks starting with the bells ringing at 5:25 am and ending at 7:30 pm; a national award-winning library; possible lectures; a bookstore; walking the stages of the cross; partaking of Benedictine Beer at their brewery; renewing your spirit by using prayer or centering prayer, or enjoying the solitude. There are plenty of activities from which to choose.

The Abbey Guesthouse has been open most of the year. The two-night cost for a single is \$250, two nights for a couple is \$370. This includes dinner on March 22nd, 3 meals on the 23rd and breakfast on the 24th. We do have scholarship funds available to assist if needed.

The atmosphere at the Abbey is conducive to social distancing and the use of masks. I asked the Guest Services Coordinator how they have responded to the protocols. She responded as follows:

The Abbey is following the statewide mandate for face coverings/masks in all public areas of the guesthouse and hilltop (Church, Library, and Bookstore). Our dining room is open and our in-house kitchen prepares the meals. All meals are served buffet style and are available only to guest who have overnight accommodations, with the exception of any hilltop meetings or business that is taking place over a meal.

Contact Luann or Rocky Johnson for any questions, or you may reserve a room by contacting the Church Office. Thanks.

Rocky and Luann Johnson



## Pastoral Nominating Committee Report

The Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC) has begun meeting. Because CPC session had been advised by Presbytery to call a Designated Pastor, session voted yes to move in that direction to a Pastoral Call. A Designated Pastor is approved by the Committee on Ministry at the Presbytery level and Presbytery to serve a term of 2-4 years by vote of the congregation. Nominated by the Pastoral Nominating Committee from among the candidates designated by Presbytery. After 2 years a Designated Pastor, by vote of the congregation, may become the permanent pastor.



With the charge of finding a Designated Pastor the PNC has begun their work of reviewing and discussing the Pastoral Information Forms (resumes) that have been submitted to us through Presbytery of the Cascades. The PNC has come together to review sermons of the considered candidates and have prayed fervently for God's guidance.

We are committed to the job we have been tasked with to find the Pastor that God has found and groomed just for us. As was said during the January 16th worship service PNC update message: "This PNC believes that this congregation deserves the best candidate we can find no matter how long it takes, rather than settling for the best of the rest for a fast finish." We appreciate your prayers and patience in the process.

## Stewardship Campaign Update



Greetings from the Stewardship Team. As our 2022 Pledge program winds down, we are grateful for the 61 pledges totaling over \$230,000.00 made in 2021. We continue to receive pledge commitments as we welcome new Deacons and Elders to our church leadership.

The year ahead will be challenging for our CPC family, as we deal with Covid related outbreaks and our search for a new pastor. The ongoing support, generosity and faithfulness of our congregation will serve us well in 2022. Thank you again for yours.

*In Christ, The Stewardship Team*

## Introducing the Moderator of Our Session

The Presbytery of the Cascades has asked The Rev. Dr. Barry Heath to serve as our Moderator until we can find a Bridge Pastor to serve our congregation. Rev. Heath (who prefers to be called Barry) has lived in Redmond along with his wife, Connie, since 2009.

Barry is a retired Presbyterian pastor after having served three Presbyterian congregations. The last one is Westminster Presbyterian Church in Salem, Oregon. In addition, Barry served as Director of Pastoral Care, focusing on Medical Ethics and Palliative Care at Salem Hospital. Barry has also served the larger Presbyterian Church as Moderator of the Synod of the Pacific and the Presbytery of Eastern Oregon. In addition, he has served other churches as Moderator while they were also searching for a Pastor.

Barry says about serving Community Presbyterian Church, "I am glad to walk with you through this sometimes turbulent and uncertain time for CPC. I trust it can also be a time of growing leadership in the congregation and discovering new reasons for being a part of this special congregation. May God continue to guide us through this time in CPC history with wisdom and grace."



## Wellness Ministries 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.*

### Wellness Ministries

The Wellness Ministries of Community Presbyterian Church strives to support members and friends in our church of all ages to encourage more physical exercise, healthy nutrition, spiritual awareness, and love of family, both church and personal. We are working on programs to support these endeavors and invite anyone interested in working with us to achieve these goals to join our team. The next Wellness Ministries meeting will be held at the church on Tuesday, February 8th, at 2:00 pm, in the Eby room. Thank you for your willingness to do good works in our church.



### Free Blood Pressure Screenings

Free Blood Pressure Screenings will begin on Sunday, March 6th, at 9:30 am, by our church health care provider. Screenings will be held once per month prior to church service. Come a little early for church to allow time to work with our nurse provider.

### Hospital Equipment

The Wellness Ministries has an inventory of equipment to be loaned out to anyone in need of assistance following a health issue. We have walkers, crutches, shower chairs, and numerous other items to support our church members and friends. If you need equipment, please contact Lynda Talbot, our equipment coordinator (her info is in the CPC directory).

### Parkinson's Support Group

Call Ginny Weeber for information (her info is in the CPC directory).

*Lois Millspaugh, Chairman*

*Linda Jackson-Shaw, Co-Chairman*

## Quilters Quips February 2022

*Blessed are the quilters, for they shall be called the "piecemakers"!*

The CPC quilters continue to produce quilts at an unbelievable rate. We already have eighteen bed-sized quilts ready for the new Redmond Bethlehem Inn when it is prepared to open. A special thank you to Hazel Blackmoor for the generous contribution to this project.

In 2021 we produced 160 quilts/comforters, 88 cancer pillows, 68 dog/cat pillows/beds, as well as bibs, burp cloths, and table runners for a number of other agencies. Most items stay local, some are sold, and some go to places worldwide. The comraderie amongst the quilters themselves provides the best comfort.

With the unfortunate rise in COVID cases, we were unable to assemble for our Sew and Tell in January. We will continue to respect the decisions made by session to not gather until further notice. Supplies from the quilt room are available by contacting Gina or Ryan in the office during regular office hours.

Until we can gather again to quilt or at least Sew And Tell we will quilt in our own homes.

*Becky Dennis*



*He Himself is our Peace.*



# FEBRUARY 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Stay tuned for when the Tuesday 10 am Ladies Bible Study will resume.		1 9:30 Sisters 4 Serenity 7:00 Boy Scouts	2 9:00-4:00 Oregon Family School	3 9:30 Sisters 4 Serenity	4 8:00 Men's Zoom Bible Study	5
6 10:00 Worship 2:00 Iglesia Betsaida 5:00 Sermon Zoom Discussion	7 1:00 CPC Art Class 6:00 Cub Scouts	8 9:30 Sisters 4 Serenity 7:00 Boy Scouts	9 9:00-4:00 Oregon Family School	10 9:30 Sisters 4 Serenity	11 8:00 Men's Zoom Bible Study	12
13 10:00 Worship 2:00 Iglesia Betsaida 5:00 Sermon Zoom Discussion	14  Valentine's Day 1:00 CPC Art Class 1:00 Parkinson's Support Group 6:00 Cub Scouts	15 9:30 Sisters 4 Serenity 7:00 Boy Scouts	16 9:00-4:00 Oregon Family School	17 9:30 Sisters 4 Serenity  10:00 Lamplighter Articles Due	18 8:00 Men's Zoom Bible Study	19
20 10:00 Worship 2:00 Iglesia Betsaida 5:00 Sermon Zoom Discussion	21 Presidents Day: Office Closed 1:00 CPC Art Class 6:00 Cub Scouts	22 9:30 Sisters 4 Serenity 7:00 Boy Scouts	23 9:00-4:00 Oregon Family School	24 9:30 Sisters 4 Serenity	25 8:00 Men's Zoom Bible Study	26
27 10:00 Worship 2:00 Iglesia Betsaida 2:00 Presbyterian Women 5:00 Sermon Zoom Discussion	28 1:00 CPC Art Class 6:00 Cub Scouts	<b>YOU ARE LOVED</b> <i>beyond measure</i>				

# Happy Birthday!

## February Birthdays

2/01 Lauren Peterson  
 2/04 Gary Hucke  
 Barbara Palmer  
 2/05 Lori Nitschelm  
 2/07 Sherry Verbeck  
 2/10 Nancy Barney  
 Irv Nygren  
 Sandy Sutherland  
 2/18 Ed McKinney  
 2/19 Jim Booth  
 2/21 Steve Lundgren  
 2/25 Nancy Smith  
 2/26 Margo Menown



# Happy Anniversary!

02/15 Peggy & Jim Waggoner  
 02/29 Carl & Ginger Vertrees

## February Deacon of the Month is Kimberly Rogers



The Deacon of the Month is on call to help with special needs.

Kimberly is in her third year as a Deacon. She serves as co-moderator of the Deacons along with her husband, Steve Thorp. She also serves on the Tech and Praise Teams for Sunday morning worship.

As Deacons, we are very excited to have a full Deacon Board this year who share the commitment of compassion, witness, and service to our church family and our greater community.

Kimberly is a bright light with a heart to serve. Her verse for the month of February is

*“Let all that you do be done in love.”*

*1 Corinthians 16:14*



## God's Peace

God's tender love and peace is what we all long for in a world so hopelessly chaotic, so unstable and unsure.

It brings stability to our minds and calmness to our souls, for that is what we desperately need as this world can be so cold.

We need to have God's peace when turmoil's in our lives, for God's peace doesn't depend on the daily pressures of life.

When we have those stressful days, God's peace can often soothe and bring us such a quiet hope that chases away the blues.

So when you feel the pressure on, remember, Jesus Christ, receive from Him the peace He gives as His daily dose for life!

By M.S.Lowndes

## Can & Bottle Return

Thank you for all the offerings!  
*In December \$88.00 was collected.*

There are three ways to give cans and bottles to the CPC mission team.

- 1) Drop them off at the north end of the church near the basement door.
- 2) Drop them off at Walt and Norrie Taylor's home at 1849 SW Canyon Drive (leave on the north side of the house on the sidewalk)
- 3) Call them and they will pick them up at your location. (their info is in the directory)

Thank you for your continued support of the CPC Mission Team and their activities.



Walt & Norrie Taylor

The next **Lamplighter** news **due date** for the March issue is **Thursday, Feb. 17th, at 10:00 am.**

Articles for publication should be sent to Gina via email at: **frontdesk@redmondpc.org.**

You will receive a reply letting you know your contribution was received. Thank you to all who contribute!

