

The Lamplighter

A Newsletter of **Community Presbyterian Church**
529 NW 19th St. ~ PO Box 1689
Redmond, OR 97756
541-548-3367 www.redmondpc.org



SEPTEMBER 2023

Growing In Christ and Loving One Another

Hello CPC, I hope you are well and enjoying some clearer air by the time you get this. Alas, clean air has been scarce over the last month or two! And scarcity contrasted with God's generosity is what we looked at last Sunday, 8/27. We reflected on the extravagance and abundance of God's kingdom come in Jesus Christ, as revealed in the feeding of the 5,000, but also through many other such stories of God's extravagant compassion and generosity in the Gospels, and indeed through creation itself and a world teeming with incredible beauty and diversity of life. God seems to be as excessive in redemption as he was in creation - there is no scarcity of compassion, grace, love, or joy in the kingdom of God revealed in Jesus. And that excessive generosity or prodigality of God and God's kingdom is meant to show forth in our lives and life together as well, and confront our strong tendency to fixate on scarcity, practicality, security, etc.

This is a timely topic to pick up and ponder as we head into stewardship season this fall. I want to focus on a few subtopics as we seek to respond to God's amazing self-offering and compassion toward us in Jesus, and answer the question "Why should I give?" Of course, these principles are equally applicable to the giving of tithes and offerings and to the offering of our time and talents as well. Appreciation to my good friend Scott Cormode who framed these points in an article he wrote 15+ yrs ago, which I've adapted here for our shared reflection.

Generosity

First, we should each give generously because generosity is a good thing. It is the opposite of selfishness. It doesn't take a deep theological analysis to conclude that selfishness is at the root of all kinds of evil. All we have to do is look around us - or take a look at our own lives. Selfishness is one of the first negative behaviors we see in toddlers. It is one of the most difficult attitudes to root out in teens. And it remains prevalent in the adults most of us encounter each day. Generosity is the antidote to selfishness. We sometimes think that the opposite of some sinful behavior is the absence of that behavior. But the opposite of selfishness is not the absence of selfishness. The opposite is to practice generosity, in all its various forms.

Responsibility

The second reason to give is that we each bear a responsibility for one another and for our shared ministry and mission. Pastors and churches often create a free agent model of Christianity, especially when we talk about giving. The logic of preaching often says that each individual makes his or her own decision apart from the community of faith. We certainly don't talk about how much we give - or how much we give relative to how much we have or make! That would be considered highly inappropriate in most congregations. And yet, if we are indeed a community of faith, then we each bear a responsibility for one another. We need to be reminded of this regularly and not just because it is another impetus for our giving, in all its various forms.

Sacrifice

Finally, there is a time and a place for talking about sacrifice. I hesitate to bring this up because the notion of "sacrificial giving" has been abused by generations of pastors. When I talk about sacrifice with a congregation, however, I start small. I want them to think about some small but significant way that they can give up something. For example, my son and I were once at Tartine bakery in San Francisco when he was 5 or 6 years old. After a delicious lunch, we were heading down the stairs to catch the BART train

(Continued)

back to Oakland when he saw a homeless man soliciting donations. He felt it was important to do something, and he was holding an untouched, wrapped half sandwich in his hands, maybe his favorite sandwich in the world. He turned to me and said, "Can I take a bite before I give it to him?" I explained the need to make sacrifices for the needs of our neighbors (including not giving them sandwiches with big bites taken out of them!). He agreed to offer the untouched sandwich to the man. Not a big sacrifice. But it was, for my son, the next faithful step. And that was all-important. It made him more generous, and it fought in some small way against the corrosive effects of selfishness. Sacrifice is an important category for people to have when they think about giving money, time, etc.

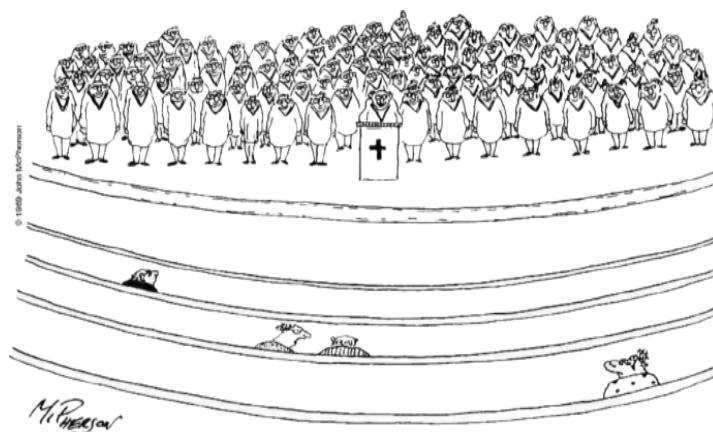
What is the next faithful step for you as you ponder Christ's call to continued discipleship in the year ahead? Grace and Peace to you all,

Kevin



Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who shared your musical expertise with us during the summer months. On August 26th, the choir members gathered for a choral workshop and luncheon. They are excited to lead in worship beginning in September, and invite you to join in on the fun any time the Spirit leads you. Remember, we are all supposed to "raise a joyful noise", whether we sing upfront with the choir or from the pews with the congregation. Let's grow both sides this year!

Karen Baldwin-Kuntz
Director of Music Ministries



"If you ask me, they got a little carried away with the choir membership drive."

Notes From Session



Session approved a 5-hour increase in Gina Sherrell's weekly schedule in anticipation of a website rebuild, new live streaming software, and other pressing needs. This expands our office hours by one hour daily. We decided to shift to an earlier open and earlier close (8 am to 2 pm M-Th). We also hired Nancy Patterson to work \approx 8 hours a week to help with administrative support (especially for finance and personnel functions). Mutual training between Nancy and Gina is a priority, so we have some redundancy and backup in place.

Session's remediation/reflooring task force reported on a final bid for carpet removal in the entry and sanctuary (Phase 2) and will soon have a final bid for Phase 1 reflooring (hallways, fellowship hall, choir room, nursery), after which that long-delayed work can proceed.

Session approved the Worship Team's application for a Technology Grant (\$4k max) to support our AV system updates. We expect to approve a comprehensive bid for an AV overhaul at the September Session meeting so that we can move forward expeditiously with urgently needed updates.

The Mission team continues to ponder how we can best address climate change as part of our call to missional/environmental stewardship, and the Property Team has been very busy this summer with painting, HVAC maintenance, parking lot renewal, concrete repairs, etc. We are blessed to have so many gifted servants helping to move the church forward in worship and witness to our risen Lord.

Stewardship



September is the month that we begin the Stewardship Campaign. You will receive a mailing around the middle of the month.

I had been in Teddy's Hall many times and had seen the quilt with rows of houses on the wall. I was drawn to it and kept thinking that it represented COMMUNITY, and that is our theme for Stewardship this year.

The Finance Committee liked the idea of the quilt representing our CPC community and that congregants were the fabric and thread of the CPC community. I then asked Becky Dennis if we needed permission from anyone to use it for the Stewardship theme. She happily reported that no permission was needed because every person at Quilt Camp had provided a house block or two for the quilt. There were about twenty-five quilters who participated in the project. They also wanted to keep the quilt, not sell it. How Fitting!

Please prayerfully consider becoming a thread joining the fabric of our community. Thank you for your consideration.

Kathi Hayward
The Finance Committee

Deacon of the Month for September is Steve Cross

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

Steve joined Community Presbyterian Church in 1979. He received ordination as an Elder in 1983. He practiced medicine in Redmond until age 64. Steve was the Clerk of Session for two and a half years and received ordination as a Deacon last year. He enjoys having the opportunity to serve as needed.

Steve offers this encouragement from Micah 6:8 "Seek justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with your God."



Quilters Quips September 2023

The quilters had another successful quilt camp. Twenty-one quilters participated all week and a few for a visit and/or lunch. Jean Hoffman demonstrated half-square and quarter-square triangles. A group quilt will be made with the blocks that were made using the technique shown. Linda Larsen demonstrated a unique binding method and gave us hints on how to help your long armer. Rose Gallant challenged us to make a quilt using donated blocks or panels from the quilt room. We also managed to eat a lot, talk a lot, and catch up with friends from afar. The fellowship and camaraderie were wonderful.

We owe a huge thank you to the Friday morning men's group for emptying the fellowship hall and setting up. THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Once again, we placed five quilts in the Sisters Outdoor Quilt Show; two sold, and the other three are on sale online. Thank you, Paula, for making that happen! Last year, we made 100 quilts for Bethlehem Inn; this year, we have made 50 quilts for Shepherd's House and our other missions.

We will continue to meet on Thursdays in Teddy's Hall from ten to two or three. You are welcome to see what we are doing or join us as we work on quilts for the benefit of others.



Becky Dennis

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, September 12th, 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).

Health Tip - Make Time to Unwind and Connect With Others

Take deep breaths, stretch, meditate, or do an activity you enjoy for stress relief. Talk with people you trust about how you're feeling and express gratitude. Get your screenings with your doctor and dentist for preventive services and regular checkups. Sleep at least 7 hours per night, move more, and sit less. Adults need at least 150 minutes of moderate-intensity aerobic activity every week, Plus muscle-strengthening activities at least 3 days per week. Keep that body strong!



Attention All Singles ~ Singles Dinner Group

For September we will enjoy the wonderful food at the Madeline's' Restaurant in Redmond (2414 S. Highway 97 next to McDonald's) Thursday, September 21st we will meet at 5:00 pm with dinner at 5:30 pm. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex of the church so that we have adequate seating planned. For additional information please contact Lois Millspaugh (her contact info is in the directory).

Free Blood Pressure Screenings

Our Free Blood Pressure Screening for the month of September 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 nurses are 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).

Dementia Care Givers and You

Did you know the number of Americans living with Alzheimer's is growing? And growing fast! More than 6 million Americans of all ages have Alzheimer's. An estimated 6.2 million Americans age 65 and older are living with Alzheimer's dementia in 2021. Seventy-two percent are age 75 or older. One in nine people 65 and older (11.3%) has Alzheimer's dementia.

CPC is an aging congregation. Several members have either been diagnosed with dementia or are at risk for dementia. This affects the lives of the spouses, children, and family members who find themselves in the role of the caregiver or caregivers.

The Wellness Committee offers two programs to members, spouses, etc., dealing with dementia. A meeting for caregivers only takes place Wednesday bi-weekly at a local restaurant. The meeting allows caregivers an opportunity to get together over breakfast for support, information, and sharing stories. Contact George Johnson for more details (his contact info is in the directory).

Dementia interaction is a group that meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month in the Fellowship hall. The group is open to both persons with dementia and caregivers. The group offers guest speakers, activities, and art/music programs as part of a creative approach to dementia care. Please contact Steve Thorp for more information (his contact info is in the directory).

While both programs are offered primarily to CPC members and their caregivers, both groups are open to any person with questions about dementia and how to care for dementia.

(Wellness Continued)

Parkinson's Support Group

The Parkinson's Support Group will be conducting their regular meeting on Monday, September 11th at 1:00 pm in the church Fellowship Hall. Our September program will feature Dr. Laura Metzger speaking on, "How to advocate for yourself at the doctor's office." Please join us for this informative presentation.

Two Requests from the Mission Team

CPC has an opportunity to help with the Redmond Street Kitchen Sunday Picnic for houseless individuals and families. The dates are Sunday, September 17th, and Sunday, October 15th. At 10:00 am, two people in one large-ish car pick up food at The Family Kitchen near downtown Bend. Please bring it to the picnic in Redmond by 10:45 am. Contact Cathy Edgerton or Hannah Grandey to volunteer; full details will be provided.



The Mission Team is welcoming new members. We meet monthly, and our next meeting is Wednesday, September 13th, at 2:00 pm at CPC. We disburse charitable funds, organize to help our elderly with fall yard work, Dry Canyon clean up, collect and donate warm winter accessories, and more.

Please contact chairperson Connie Stoaks or any Mission Team member. Contact information is in our directory, or leave a message at the office at 541-548-3367.

The Mission Team

Parking Lot Sale 2023



This year's Parking Lot Sale is Saturday, September 23rd, from 9-3 pm. Like last year, we will bring our own items and sell them using the trunk of our car and/or a table or partner with someone. As in past years, the proceeds from the sale will benefit our Kisauni partnership. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex at our Kisauni display.

Thank you for considering participating. Please call Luann or Rocky Johnson with any questions (their contact information is in the directory).

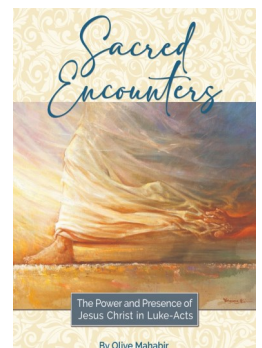
Sacred Encounters PW Bible Study

The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke - Acts by Olive Mahabir,
with suggestions for leaders by Wilma Angélica Quiñonez Cubero

Olive Mahabir invites you to consider Jesus and Jesus' disciples, who shared the Good News through sacred encounters with everyday people. The Gospel According to Luke and the Acts of the Apostles, or Luke - Acts "one story in two parts," demonstrates the unfolding of God's redemptive purposes in human history and presents a distinctive perspective on the person and work of Jesus Christ.

Written by Luke, a physician and traveling companion of Paul, the message to the early Christian community (and to us) is radical, inclusive, and hope-filled. Further, this message invites the church to deeper, compassionate engagement with the world. "What are the potential implications for the church if we treat our interactions as sacred encounters that demonstrate the transformative love of Christ Jesus?"

Please join the Community Presbyterian Women for our next Bible study on Tuesday, September 26, 2023, 12:30 - 2:00 pm in the youth room downstairs. Questions: contact Nancy Patterson or Linda Jackson-Shaw. You can find their contact information in the church directory.



The Land Is Not Empty

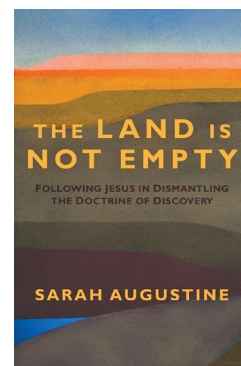
White settlers saw land for the taking. They failed to consider the perspective of the people already here.

In *The Land Is Not Empty*, author Sarah Augustine unpacks the harm of the Doctrine of Discovery - a set of laws rooted in the fifteenth century that gave Christian governments the moral and legal right to seize lands they "discovered" despite those lands already being populated by indigenous peoples. Legitimized by the church and justified by a misreading of Scripture, the Doctrine of Discovery says a land can be considered "empty" and, therefore, free for the taking if inhabited by "heathens, pagans, and infidels."

In this prophetic book, Augustine, a Pueblo woman, reframes the colonization of North America as she investigates ways that the Doctrine of Discovery continues to devastate indigenous cultures and even the planet itself, as it justifies the exploitation of natural resources and people. This is a powerful call to reckon with the root causes of a legacy that continues to have devastating effects on indigenous peoples around the globe and a call to recognize how all our lives and choices are interwoven.

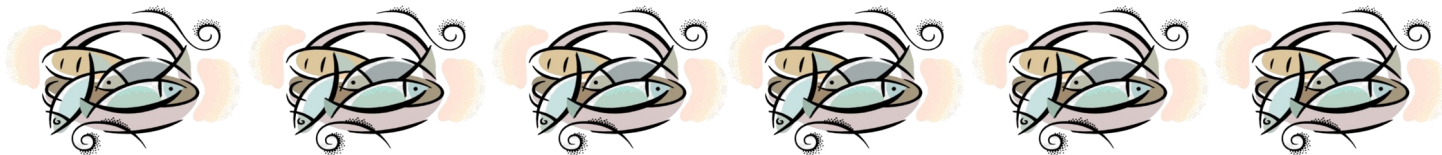
The author claims that what was done in the name of Christ must be undone in the name of Christ. The good news of Jesus means there is still hope for righting wrongs. The right relationship with God, others, and the earth requires no less.

Join The Cascades Presbytery Committee On Representation for a discussion on the book. The discussion with Sarah Augustine via zoom will be on Saturday October 28th, 2023, 9:30 am-11:30 am. Space is limited: contact Linda Jackson-Shaw to reserve your spot (her contact info is in the directory).



“Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, Jesus gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over.”

~ Matthew 14:19-20



Cookie Baking Crew (CBC at CPC)

We're always looking for bakers to provide for CPC cookie consumption. These cookies are used for fellowship hours, Bible studies, special meetings, and deacon visits. Two ways you can contribute:



1. Let Tina Manuel know you'd like to be part of the CBC and join others for a baking extravaganza every 6-8 weeks at the church (her contact info is in the directory).
2. Bring cookies into the church any time and place them in the freezer. We only ask that you label your cookies with the date, type of cookie, and any allergen info (gluten-free, vegan, dairy free, has nuts, etc).

Thank you!

Tina Manuel and Luann Johnson

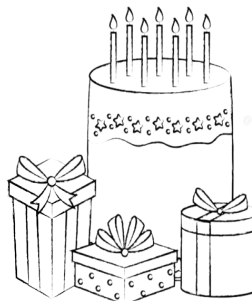


Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Office Closed 8:00 Men's Bible Study	2
3 10:00 Worship 11:00 Bible Study 11:00 Coffee Hour 5:00 Sermon Zoom Discussion	4 Labor Day Office Closed 	5 9:30 Women's AA 7:00 Boy Scouts	6 6:30 Cub Scouts	7 9:30 Women's AA 10:00 Quilters 4:30 Spiritual Growth Zoom	8 Office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



September Anniversaries

- 9/3 Jay & Alyce Jantzen
- 9/6 Bruce & Nancy Smith
- 9/8 Karen & Mike Rooney
- 9/13 Jim & Kathi Hayward
- 9/19 Don & Joan Sheets



September Birthdays

- 9/2 Gloria LaBore
- Paul Whitaker
- 9/5 Raydene Heitzhausen
- Adam Hucke
- Carol Noyes
- Lee Rondema
- 9/9 Bill Creach
- 9/14 Cheryl Adams
- Lynda Talbot
- 9/16 Carol Johnston
- 9/17 Nancy Eskeldson
- 9/18 Gerald Barney
- 9/21 Luke Lundgren
- John Seitter
- Kathy Touchon
- 9/23 Julie Leutschaft
- 9/24 Diane Putnam
- 9/25 Curt Nitschelm
- 9/26 Ann Gilliland



NEW Church Office Hours

Mon ~ Thurs
8:00 ~ 2:00
(closed ≈ 11 am for a break)

If you need help when we are closed, please contact
FrontDesk@redmondcpc.org or 541-548-3367
 & we'll reply as soon as possible.



I would like to thank everyone who worked to make the Golf Tournament a fun event. And a special thank you to Steve and Viki Cross for graciously opening their home for the Church barbecue.

George Johnson


Can & Bottle Return

Thank you for all the offerings.
 In June \$197 & July \$241 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 north end of the church near the basement door.
- 1) Drop them off at Walt Taylor's home at 1849 SW Canyon Drive (leave on the north side of the house on the sidewalk)
- 2) Call 541-548-4472 and he will come and pick them up at your location.

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



Walt Taylor

The next Lamplighter news **due date** for the October issue is **Thursday, September 21st, 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!

