

The Lamplighter

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

Growing In Christ and Loving One Another

CPC Friends,

Fall greetings to you all! It feels as though we are accelerating into Fall and will soon arrive at Thanksgiving and Advent, and then before we know it we'll be in the 12 days of Christmas and on the cusp of 2024. Put on your seatbelts, because we've got a lot of change coming in a relatively short period of time, to say nothing of shortening days and dropping temps on the horizon. The good news is the ministry and mission of CPC is about to be strengthened in some timely and strategic ways.

November, in particular, will be a packed month with new flooring going down in the entry and sanctuary after the chancel is remodeled. And then immediately on the heels of that work, a desperately needed update of our AV system will take place. It's quite possible that by Thanksgiving it will feel to us as though we've been transported to a completely different building and worship service. And we'll be able to celebrate and give thanks for the "sharpening" of these tools for our worship and witness.

Between now and Thanksgiving we continue with a focus on stewardship, that most-neglected spiritual discipline in the American church. There is an old Peanuts cartoon that shows Linus sitting at the dinner table just finishing his meal, when Lucy walks by, picks up a chicken wishbone off his plate, and explains to him about making a wish.

Lucy takes the lead and shares her wishes: "I wish for a new doll, a new bicycle, four new sweaters, some new saddle shoes, a wristwatch, and about a hundred dollars."

Then Linus says, "I wish for a long life for all my friends, I wish for peace in the world, I wish for greater advancement in science and medicine, and I..." But by this time Lucy is walking away in total disgust, throwing the wishbone away and saying, "You have a knack for spoiling everything."

Stewardship season can feel a bit like this dynamic! The tension between Lucy and Linus is one that exists in each and every one of us. Hear me out as we continue to reflect on our call to be generous givers in the way charted for God's people from the beginning.

It's clear throughout the Hebrew Scriptures that God desires and deserves not our leftovers but the first and best share of what we have. Over and over the Israelites are commanded to bring the first fruits of their farmland as an offering, a tenth of their harvest.

It's pretty clear what giving first fruits means in an agrarian context, but what does it look like in a society such as ours? Few of us raise crops or animals; our "produce" is in the form of dollars direct deposited in a bank account. The first dollar I earn in a year is no different from the last.

The distinction is in how the dollars get committed, in which expenses have a priority claim on income. First fruits are the first expenses to get inked into our budgets. They are the priorities around which our lives are organized, even more than a mortgage or a car or even our kids' college education (a tough one for us!).

Contributions to the Body of Christ to support its ministry and mission, its work of compassion, evangelism, and justice don't come out of the "miscellaneous" budget category! We don't limit our giving to whatever is left in the bank account at the end of the month. We consciously make room in our budget for support of the causes that are nearest and dearest to our hearts. That is the point of first fruits or tithing for us modern day people of God.

Tithing often means you don't buy things you otherwise could, and pretty soon you realize you can be perfectly happy without them, and even more, experience a joyful freedom from fear, anxiety, and a

(continued)

sense of scarcity which is freedom for fuller participation in God's work of reconciliation and renewal. Because there's always something more to want, to save for, to strive after: a new kitchen, a new car, a European vacation, new saddle shoes (I had to slip one of Lucy's wishes in there).

When we make a commitment to tithing - or take steps toward tithing - we discover we can actually be happy on less than we thought we could. It's freeing to order our lives around the things we say are most important to us (and the only things that really matter in the end, and the only things people will talk or care about when we're gone).

We live in a consumerist culture that pushes us to buy and upgrade and store up far beyond what we need, and we honor God with our first fruits when we make conscious choices to resist conformity and to manage our Lord's gifts for his purposes and priorities.

Someone once calculated that if every Christian in America tithed, and if every church gave 10% or more of its budget away, that there would be enough money to provide food, clothing, and education for all the poor people in the world, and still have \$70 billion left over for church potlucks! And we need more church potlucks! In our Lenten Soup Suppers we experienced the joy of gathering midweek for fellowship and formation - shared meals, shared study, and shared prayer - something we all want more often.

We also need to revive ministries in our church that have been dormant - most notably to children and families - in order to thrive and grow into the future. So we ask you to offer your first fruits so that together we can more fully participate in Christ's ministry of reconciliation in 2024 and beyond, in Redmond and beyond.



Grace and Peace, Kevin

Music Ministry November 2023

The leaves on the trees are changing, and some are even falling off; the birds are heading south; pumpkins are abundant, and there is a chill in the air. All of these are signs that Fall has come, and soon we will welcome Winter (well, some will welcome it). It also reminds us that in the winter, during Advent, and afterward, we celebrate the promise of a King.



It seems strange to write about this before the other Fall celebrations, but why should the stores be the only ones to jump the gun? On November 5th, the choir will start preparing "The Promise of a King" (A Christmas Proclamation of Hope). We will meet every Sunday morning from 9:00 to 9:45 am to practice. Plus, there will probably be extra practices before the presentation, during worship on December 31st.

Please consider coming to join us in celebrating the hope that our Savior brought in ancient times and still brings today. We need singers, instrumentalists, and narrators. If you have any questions, call or email Karen Baldwin-Kuntz (her contact info is in the directory). I hope to see you in the choir room at 9:00 am on November 5th!

Blessings, Karen Baldwin-Kuntz
Director of Music Ministries

Two Deacons Needed For The 2024 - 2026 Term

Attention all members, the Nominations Committee is currently in search of two individuals to serve as deacons for the term of 2024 - 2026. If you are interested, please feel free to reach out to Truman Grandey, Chair of the committee. (his contact info in the directory.) Thank you in advance for your consideration.



Notes From Session

Session met on Tuesday October 17th. Some highlights: our first action was to approve a raise for Ramiro and Claudia, our faithful custodial team. Their pay rates had fallen out of step with market rates, and so we wanted to express our deep appreciation for them by rectifying that to the degree possible at this time. The second thing we did was vote into being a task force to focus on the rebuilding of children and family ministry starting this fall - if that is something you are interested in participating in, please let Pastor Kevin know.



We voted to allow the Mission Team to have a donation table at Angel Fest and to ask for donations in the Lamplighter to support CPC's financial commitment to Jericho Table. Property reports that the North landing on the exterior stairwell is repaired and ready to use again. We decided against an expanded Kenya mission partnership with a sibling parish to Kisauni (Bamburi). The Safe Parking program is soon to start. Our current financial footing is not as strong as it should be this time of year - we ask you to catch up on your giving if need be and consider a special year-end gift to the church to help us meet our budget.

CPC Session

Quilters Quips November 2023

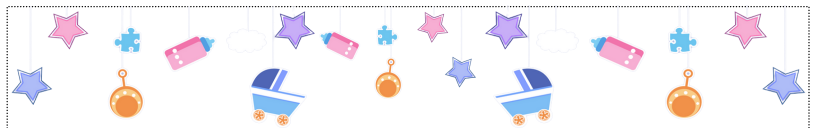
The quilters are plugging away. Because of the flooring, we cannot hang the quilts for you to see. The quilts are being stored off-site, so we are also unable to have a virtual show at this time. We will try to have a few things at the Angelfest on December 3rd. We will also see if we can display some in November.

Some of us will attend the Shepherd's House open house to see our quilts on the beds on November 2nd from 11:00 to 1:00. They will be giving tours then.

The quilters gather in Teddy's Hall from 10-3 on Thursdays to quilt, chat, eat, get help, and receive inspiration. You are welcome to come see what we do and join in the fun and fellowship while providing a service for others.



Becky Dennis



Baby & Toddler Items Sale I / I / I

On Saturday, November 11th, from 9:00 - 12:00, CPC will hold a mini parking lot sale and sell toys, books, and furniture from the nursery on a make-a-donation basis. The proceeds will go towards buying new toys for the nursery. Any member whose grandkids have outgrown toys can donate them to the sale.

Contact Rocky Johnson for more details (his info is in the directory).

*"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



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, November 14th, at 1:00 pm in the Eby Room. 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 Lunch Group

For November/December, we will enjoy a wonderful lunch at the Olive Garden restaurant in Bend on December 7th. We will meet at noon and have lunch at 12:30 pm. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet in the church's Narthex, so we have adequate seating planned. For additional information, please contact Lois Millspaugh.

Free Blood Pressure Screenings

Our Free Blood Pressure Screening for the month of November 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. 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).

Wellness Ministries has purchased a second knee scooter to replace the scooter that was taken without being checked out. We also have purchased an infant car seat to be loaned out to anyone having a small visitor and needing proper seating for a short amount of time.

*** All equipment that is loaned out needs to be coordinated with Lynda Talbot. She is willing to deliver the equipment and pick it up if you need assistance in this matter.

Parkinson's Support Group

The Parkinson's Support Group will be conducting their regular meeting on Monday, November 13th at 1:00 pm in the church Fellowship Hall. 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, November 16th, 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 - STRESS

Long-term stress can increase inflammation, sleep disturbances, and the risk of chronic disease. A majority of Americans report feeling stress daily.

9 ways to De-Stress

- 1 - Go outdoors regularly
- 2 - Reduce caffeine intake
- 3 - Listen to calming music
- 4 - Learn to say NO
- 5 - Connect with others, laugh, cuddle, play, dine
- 6 - Write, paint, try other forms of artistic expression
- 7 - Take slow, steady breaths for 5 minutes
- 8 - Spend time with a pet
- 9 - Be thankful for the blessings you have



6 For 6

Suppers for Six has changed its name to 6 for 6. We want to make this open to everyone, and the group will decide what they want to do.

One example is game night, or everyone attends an event together. The new groups will start in January, and they will run through June.

A sign-up sheet is in the narthex (lobby).



George Johnson
Congregational Life

Deacon Angel Tree Reminder

Bless local families this year by "virtually" 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

November 25th is the giving deadline!

CPC White Elephant Christmas

The CPC White Elephant Christmas party is on December 9th from 11 - 2. Get ready for it! Search the closet, under the bed, or the garage. There's something there you haven't used in years, or you forgot what it is for. Wrap it and bring it - even that roll of Christmas toilet paper you got at the last White Elephant party.



Everyone who wants to participate must bring a wrapped gift we are also asking for everyone who can bring Hors D'Oeuvres or finger food (hint - cookies are finger food). Congregational Life will furnish the drinks that you can enjoy at church.

Please sign up in the narthex (lobby).

"I send warmest wishes of gratitude and love for all of the cards, flowers, visits, prayers, and concern as I grieve the loss of Don. I appreciate my CPC family so much."

~ Roxanne Duman



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THANK YOU

from
Danny Duff

Dear CPC,

Thank you so much
CPC ^{with} ~~for~~ unwavering
me ^{for} your community
scholarships ^{as well as}
all the love and
memories over the
years. Thank you -

Danny Duff

Angel Fest December 3rd 11:00-12:30

The Mission Team is sponsoring a modified Angel Fest to raise funds to support Jericho Table on Sunday, December 3rd. We will be serving soup and rolls to the congregation after church. Please sign up to bring sale items: baked goods, crafts, or good white elephants, so we know how many tables we need.

The sign-up form is on the Kisauni display table in the narthex, and remember, all sales proceeds will benefit Jericho Table. Contact Connie Stoaks with questions.

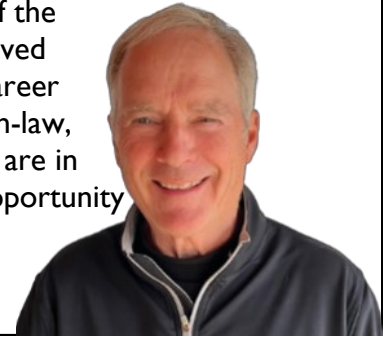


Deacon of the Month for November is Rocky Johnson

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

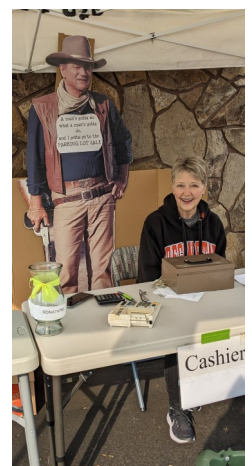
I have been a long time Presbyterian and have served in three church Sessions. This will be my first time serving as a Deacon, and I look forward to participating in service to our church and community.

Luann and I have been part of the CPC family since 2012, when we moved to Redmond after I retired from a career in banking. With our daughter, son-in-law, and three grandchildren in Bend, we are in the right place. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as a Deacon.



Parking Lot Sale Update

Our 2023 Parking Lot Sale included over 20 CPC Volunteers and over 100 community visitors who browsed through and purchased items from our assortment of treasures. The 5-hour sale on September 23rd brought in over \$3000, with the proceeds helping our Kisauni partners with a feeding program for school children and hygiene products for girls. Thanks to all who participated!





November 2023



Sun

Mon





Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1 6:30 Cub Scouts	2 9:30 Women's AA 10:00 Quilters 4:30 Spiritual Growth Zoom	3 <i>Office Closed</i> 8:00 Men's Bible Study	4  9:00 Helping Hands
5 10:00 Worship 11:00 Bible Study 11:00 Coffee Hour 5:00 Sermon Zoom Discussion	6	7 9:30 Women's AA 7:00 Boy Scouts	8 3:00 Finance Mtg 6:30 Cub Scouts	9 9:30 Women's AA 10:00 Quilters 4:30 Spiritual Growth Zoom	10 <i>Office Closed</i> 8:00 Men's Bible Study	11  9:00 Church Cleanup 9:00 Baby & Toddler Sale
8 9:30 Blood Pressure Check 10:00 Worship 11:00 Bible Study 5:00 Sermon Zoom Discussion	13 100 Parkinson's Group 3:00 Deacons Mtg	14 9:30 Women's AA 1:00 Wellness Mtg 3:00 Worship Mtg 7:00 Boy Scouts	15 2:00 Mission Mtg 6:30 Cub Scouts	16 9:30 Women's AA 10:00 Quilters <i>12:00 Lamplighter Articles Due</i> 3:00 Dementia Group 4:30 Spiritual Growth Zoom	17 <i>Office Closed</i> 8:00 Men's Bible Study	18
19 10:00 Worship 11:00 Bible Study 11:00 Coffee Hour 5:00 Sermon Zoom Discussion	20	21 9:30 Women's AA 6:00 Session 7:00 Boy Scouts	22 6:30 Cub Scouts	23 <i>Thanksgiving Office Closed</i> <i>Give Thanks</i> 	24 <i>Office Closed</i> 8:00 Men's Bible Study	25
26 10:00 Worship 11:00 Bible Study 11:00 Coffee Hour 5:00 Sermon Zoom Discussion	27	28 9:30 Women's AA 12:30 PW 7:00 Boy Scouts	29 6:30 Cub Scouts	30 9:30 Women's AA 10:00 Quilters 4:30 Spiritual Growth Zoom		

Warm Springs Community Offering

For World Communion Sunday, we sang “Uyai Mose” as people brought forward their offerings of food for our local food bank. This was a fun way to support our community, and we want to spread that support further in the coming months. On Sunday, November 5th you are invited join hands with our Presbyterian Women’s group in supporting their mission work at Warm Spring’s Presbyterian Church.

Please plan on bringing one or more of the items on this list and showing Christ’s love to our friends at Warm Springs:

Hygiene products: Shampoo, Soap, Toothpaste, Toothbrush, Deodorant, Feminine Products

Clothing: Gloves (solid, not knit), Socks, Hats

Other: Bottled water



The items can be placed at the base of the altar before the service or brought forward as we take the offering. Thank you for reaching out to help others!
Presbyterian Women

REMEMBER - 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.



Can & Bottle Return

Thank you for all the offerings. In October \$208 was collected for the CPC Mission Team!



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

- 1) **Drop them off behind 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.
- Thank you for your support of the CPC Mission Team!
Walt Taylor

November Birthdays

- 11/01 Jim Irwin 
- 11/03 Evelyn Leavitt 
- 11/04 Marge Biggers 
- 11/07 Betty Moffitt 
- Dave Putnam
- Julie St Peter
- 11/08 Danika Lundgren 
- 11/09 Sandy Booth 
- John Land
- 11/11 Lois Millspaugh 
- 11/13 Carole Kardy 
- Jeanne Simonsen
- 11/14 Jay Jantzen 
- Brenda Johnson
- 11/15 Jan Thackery 
- 11/17 Ben Hucke 
- Marian Stratton
- Marian Tripp
- 11/22 Susi Nissen 
- 11/24 Marianne Watson 
- 11/25 Viki Cross 
- Jeannine Rondema
- 11/27 Brian Leutschaft 
- 11/28 Joe Kosanovic 
- Mary Stiewig
- Judy Vancil
- 11/29 Rona Davis

November Anniversaries

- 11/21 Corky & Ruth McCrea
- 11/26 Tom & Cathy Edgerton
- 11/28 Rocky & Luann Johnson



Join us for the Fall Church Cleanup

Saturday, November 11th at 9:00 am
Please bring rakes and gloves.



The next Lamplighter news **due date** for the December issue is **Thursday, November 16th, at noon.** 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!