

The Lamplighter

A Newsletter of **Community Presbyterian Church**

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Growing In Christ & Loving One Another



SEPTEMBER 2020

Church: In It Together for the Long Haul

As you read this in early September, we are nearly 6 months into our Pandemic Reality here in Central Oregon. There are endless memes and sarcastic ways of saying can we just get rid of 2020 and jump to 2021 or have a do-over? In recent weeks, all of us have settled deeper into the simple truth that we are a long ways from when this began and a long ways from when it will end. And there is no set calendar for what's next which is the hardest part for many of us. We feel like we could hold out a bit longer if we only had an end-date on the horizon. Apparently, that's not how pandemics work.

Going back to March, we as a church have narrowed our priorities, chosen simplicity in our plans, and taken a cautious approach to decisions regarding public health. At the same time, we haven't been sitting on our hands. A lot has happened in the life of the church in recent months and our Elders and leaders have all written reports to bring the church up to date on meetings, decisions, and where we go from here. Please enjoy reading those in the coming pages. If something sparks your interest or a question arises, call that person up talk it over. We are all eager to share about what is happening in our committees and online meetings.

As a church, we have acted on these core priorities:

- Continue the worshipping life of the church in a way that includes the whole body.
- Stay relationally connected with church members through phone calls from leadership, notes in the mail, backyard visits and so on.
- Imagine and discern what creative new directions for ministry and mission God might be leading us into as a church in this unprecedented time.

The Elders on Session and I are aware that there are aspects of our church life that haven't happened for months that we would all like to get back to ASAP. On our last online Session meeting, Wednesday Night Suppers came up in conversation. I said to the group, "There is nothing I would like more than to gather with 60 church members tomorrow night, eat one of Chef Benjy's awesome meals, reflect on scripture and pray together, and then I would hug every person there." I think we all feel the same, but that is not going to happen for a while.

So, here is my word of hope and encouragement for us as a church as we move from Summer to Fall: God is faithful and God will keep being faithful. We are a church family first and foremost, so stay connected to friends and fellow members, encouraging and praying for one another. Continue in worship and any other mid-week groups or meetings that spur you on in your life of discipleship and join with the leadership in prayer and discernment about how God is leading us forward in ministry and mission.

We are together in this moment and for the months and years to come. We are in it together for the long haul.

With you, Rev. Andrew Hoeksema.

This past month, we lost one of the saints of our church family, George Noyes. A major loss of Pandemic times is the inability to gather for large memorial services. In lieu of a public memorial service for George, we give thanks for his life here and re-print this obituary as printed in the Bend Bulletin, with permission granted by Carol Noyes. Please keep Carol and family in your prayers. - Pastor Andrew

George Eldon Noyes
1925 - 2020

George Eldon Noyes was born July 12, 1925, to Fred F. and Mary Carpenter Noyes. Born and raised in Independence, Oregon, he graduated from grade and high school where he was active in band and choral groups and lettered in baseball.

He was preceded in death by both parents and one sister, Polly.

He is survived by widow, Carol, with whom he celebrated their 74th wedding anniversary December 30, 2019. He is also

survived by daughter, Kathleen Horres; son, Randy Noyes (Judi Hamson); and grandchildren Nicholas and Valerie Horres.

Mr. Noyes spent 14 years in retail hardware and served Pacific Power in Springfield, Independence, Corvallis and Redmond, Oregon. He was active in many civic endeavors: President of Chambers of Commerce in Independence and Redmond; President of Redmond Rotary; Worshipful Master Lyon Lodge 29 AFAM (Ancient Free & Accepted Masons), Independence, Oregon and Ruling Elder Presbyterian churches in Corvallis and Redmond; volunteered with the Boy Scouts & Junior Achievement; sang in various church choirs; and was active in Christian Outreach.

After retirement in 1987, Mr. and Mrs. Noyes continued to live in Redmond, though spent their winters in Yuma, Arizona, until 2003. They were both active in church work and both enjoyed gardening together, though it was only Mr. Noyes who possessed a love for the golf green, on which he played for many years.

His family continues to celebrate the memory of his famous stories, wonderfully jolly laughter and his playful humor which he held onto until the end of his days.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

Condolences may be made to the family at redmondmemorial.com



KISAUNI SPECIAL APPEAL

**PLEASE CONTINUE SUPPORTING OUR PARTNERSHIP
WITH THE KISAUNI PARISH**



The Kisauni Partnership Committee has decided to cancel the annual CPC Parking Lot Sale in September due to safety concerns related to the Covid-19 pandemic. We have used the money raised from this event to support our five-year commitment to help fund the Feeding and Hygiene Programs operated by our Kisauni Parish partner church in Mombasa, Kenya.

Kenyans are suffering economically from the pandemic just as we are in the U.S., and the feeding and girls' hygiene programs are essential for students to be able to attend school.

In place of the parking lot sale, we are asking those of you who would normally donate, or buy items at the sale, (along with any others who are interested) to participate in a "Virtual Sale" by making a contribution to the Kisauni Designated Fund for the Feeding/Hygiene Programs on or after **September 13**. Contributions may be made [online](#) or with a check identifying "PLS" on the memo line. We appreciate your willingness to make a difference in the lives of Kenyan students.

Anti-Racism Resources



During the month of July, over 20 members of our congregation completed a 28 Day Challenge called, “Listen, Lament, Love” about racism in America. It was powerful, eye opening, and transformational. As a result of this study, we listed actions CPC can take to eradicate racism, so we are continuing as an expanded Social Issues Group. One of our goals is to share some short segments of our journey.

This 10 minute TED Talk is called “[What It Takes to Be Racially Literate](#)” (or) go to Google and type in TED Talk What it Takes to Be Racially Literate.” College Students, and co-authors of “Tell Me Who You Are”, Priya Vulchi (Princeton 2022) and Winona Guo (Harvard 2022) took a year off and traveled to all 50 states collecting stories about race. They are now on a mission to equip every American with tools to understand, navigate and improve a world structured by racial division.

Paul writes, in 1 Timothy 4:12 “Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.” We have hope for our own CPC youth and children, that they will grow into a more just and diverse world than we have. Let us listen to them.

*In Christ's Love,
Hannah Grandey and Ginny Weeber*

Youth Group



Hello youth and families! I hope you have had a great summer. We had youth group throughout the summer, but we are kicking off the school year again! We will continue to have youth group on Sunday afternoons from 4:00-5:30. As of now, we will be having it outside as weather permits, though we will have to move inside as it gets colder.

I would like to thank Daniel and Kayley for their continued help and support throughout this pandemic. Without them, we would not be able to have youth group together! That being said, I am looking for a couple more volunteers who would be willing to be a second background checked adult once a month. Daniel and Kayley have graciously said they would be available every other week, but I am looking to fill the other two weeks a month with volunteer power. Please let me know if you would be interested in helping, and we can make sure to get background checks done or updated as needed.

*Thank you all for your support!
Kelsey Stealey*

We wish to thank everyone turning in cans and bottles for the CPC youth group. The returnable are always clean and without any garbage. And all cardboard containers, labeled plastic bags and non returnable glass are recycled as well.

Thank you for all contributions of cans and bottles in July \$250.00 was collected!

Thank you to everyone dropping off returnable's at our home at 1849 SW Canyon Drive, it is working out beautifully.

There are three ways to give cans and bottles to the youth group at CPC.

- 1) Drop them off at the north end of the church near the basement door.
- 2) Drop 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 541-548-4472 and they will come and pick them up at your location.

*Thank you for your continued support of the CPC youth and their activities,
Walt and Norrie Taylor*



....THINK POSITIVE....NEVER STOP LEARNING...

Grateful Together, Stewardship 2021

Our annual Stewardship campaign will begin in September and run through October. We can be Grateful Together knowing God is with us through these uncertain times. We will see our way through this crisis and find ways to be renewed with the support of our church, pastor and elders, and groups like the Men's Friday Bible Study, Bible in a Year study, and Social Issues group. We can be Grateful Together that our membership has given generously what they can, even during this crisis.

For 2021 we ask for your prayerful consideration of a pledge to our church. Pledge cards will be mailed to you in mid-September and can be returned to the church office by mail, in-person at worship, or through an online form at <https://www.redmondcpcc.org/stewardship>. We ask for pledges to be submitted by Celebration Sunday, **October 25**, but we welcome them earlier.

We know the future is uncertain, but with trust in the Lord and the love of Jesus Christ, we know that we can get through these trials together and be stronger for it.

The Session of our Church is Grateful Together, for you!

Stewardship Team

The Life Long Learners Team

Sunday Morning After Sermon Discussion and Prayer: We meet every Sunday morning at 11:30 via Zoom. Approximately 10 of us participate in a wonderful time of sharing our concerns and prayers with each other and discussing Pastor Andrew's sermon. If you are interested in joining, just check out CPC's [website](#), subscribe to our [enews](#) or contact the [church office](#).

Women's Bible Study: This group has not been meeting but will determine in September how they wish to proceed in their studies going forward, perhaps by Zoom or smaller groups.

Men's Bible Study: This group is meeting every Friday morning from 7:00-8:30 am via Zoom with between 10-15 attending. They are currently reading and discussing Original Blessing - Putting Sin in its Rightful Place, by Danielle Shroyer. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact [Rick Hoffman](#), [Rocky Johnson](#) or [Steve Thorp](#).

The Year of the Bible Group: They are currently reading Proverbs and Colossians from both the Old and the New Testament. They meet via ZOOM every other week. They report that they have had some lively discussions and good fellowship. Contact [Kimberly Rogers](#) if you would like to be a part of this group.

Women, Wine and the Word: The normal schedule for the group is to meet every other Monday evening in a home of one of the members. We will decide next month how we proceed going forward. If you have questions and might like to attend when we resume, contact [Julie Leutschaft](#) or [Cheryl Adams](#).

Seekers Group: They met August 25th and they are currently reading America's Original Sin: Racism, White Privilege, and the Bridge to a New America, by Jim Wallis. If interested, contact [Richard Lance](#).

Worship Team



Worship during a pandemic! The last 6 months have been very interesting for our church. I want to thank the congregation for being so gracious and flexible with the staff and worship team as we have tried to navigate through this time. There are many decisions to make in the coming months regarding indoor/outdoor services and we will keep the congregation's best interests in mind as we are trying to prayerfully consider our options. We are so happy to see some of you in person on Sunday mornings, and we are thankful for those that join us online each week as well. I pray that you all stay safe and are able to worship wherever you are, and hopefully we can all be together again soon.

Kelsey Stealey
Worship Team

Personnel Team



During the initial months of Covid-19, the Personnel Team continued to function through emails and phone calls. In June and July, we decided to meet in a backyard with social distancing since there are only 6 of us on the team. It was wonderful to actually see the team again in person!

This team has been very busy during the last few months. We have had to make the very difficult decision to temporarily close positions in the nursery and Benji Brown's position in the kitchen effective August 25, 2020. Sadly, we do not see the return of nursery care or large gatherings for meals in the next few months. Part time employees will be paid for hours worked and the youth position held by Kelsey Stealey will be cut from 20 hours a week to 15 hours a week. These changes were made not based on staff performance or available funds, but because there is either less or no work for these employees due to the pandemic.

Staff evaluations have been completed and a modest pay increase for the staff has been recommended to the Finance Team for consideration in the 2021 budget. We are grateful to have found ways to support our staff financially throughout this time.

Peggy Blocker was interviewed and auditioned for the position of traditional accompanist on March 9, 2020. Peggy has a Master's Degree in Piano and Organ Performance from the University of Tulsa in Tulsa, Oklahoma. We have offered her the position but, due to the pandemic, we have had to suspend the hiring process and have communicated this to her. Hopefully, she will be eager to fill this role when we are able to hire again!

Lois Ahern
Personnel Chair



Notes From Session



During the pandemic, the pause from gathering together, and the uncertainty of our economic times, our church has continued to function. We reach out to one another, we continue to study and learn, we share communion and continue to spread Christian love. As Pastor Andrew pointed out to us in Psalm 126, we sow with tears, but reap in joy.

We have held worship in Taylor Field, as well as streaming the service online. Our generous congregation has given enough to continue to pay our bills. As summer wears on, we need to renew our commitment to our wonderful congregation, and continue to share our talents and treasures as we enter fall and a new stewardship season. Session has deliberated, gnashed their teeth, and wrung their hands about when we can safely gather again together. As Fall arrives, our outdoor worship will eventually come to an end, and Session has planned to move to a safe indoor worship. We will have to register and reserve a place for ourselves if we want to worship indoors, and content ourselves with one worship service. We will need to continue to wear masks, to physically distance ourselves from one another, and follow the public health rules decided on by the Oregon Health Authority. Session thanks the tireless efforts of our administrative, custodial, and not least our Musicians to make our worship services possible.

As Session goes through the budgeting process for next year, we note that we face a 15-20% decrease in our income from pledges. We have made some cuts already in staff and administrative expenses, taken advantage of the Paycheck Protection Plan provided by the Federal Government and may end the year with less red ink than we might have. Creative planning, and generous giving as well as good stewardship have all helped.

We continue to Praise God and look forward to seeing one another as times will allow. Though we sow with tears, we will continue to reap in joy as we work and pray together.

Steve Cross
Clerk of Session

Nominations Team, 2023 classes



The Nominating Team has met twice and is building a list of people who might be interested and able to serve as elders & deacons for the 2023 class or for the 2021 Nominating Team. For those new to the practice, this church uses the term “class” to identify the year one’s service will end, although in truth once one has served as an elder or deacon, one is considered to hold that position indefinitely, even if you aren’t actively serving.

The green form, which is the church’s traditional way of inviting submissions, was included in the bulletin for a few Sundays and can be found at <https://www.redmondpc.org/nominations-for-2021>. The online form also provides a way for you to inform the church office that you would like a paper nominating form.

The nominating process is an important opportunity for you to participate in influencing the church’s future direction. Just please be sure that you’ve asked your potential nominee whether she or he would like to be nominated for one of the teams.

If you have questions, or would prefer to identify your nominee over the phone, please feel free to call me or any of the other nominating team members: Rebecca Parker, Viki Cross, Ed McKinney, Dottie McMenamy, Truman Grandey, Lynn Hodecker, Andrew Hoeksema. Our phone numbers and email addresses are in the church’s directory.

Rebecca Parker
Nominating Team

Wellness Team



The Wellness Team hasn't met since before the pandemic. Since the Covid-19 problem will be with us for awhile, I will be convening an outside-in-the-shade meeting with the team. There are several issues we need to discuss so the agenda is already taking shape in my mind.

As most of you have probably noticed, the membership of the Wellness Team is heavily skewed towards older people. In some ways that seems appropriate since the congregation's average age is in the 60s. However, practicing wellness is important for a high quality life at every age. Indeed, starting to attend to one's wellness at a younger age, increases the likelihood that you'll continue to participate in wellness-oriented activities as you get older.

By following those behaviors, you can significantly reduce health problems that might have otherwise seem inevitable. Those wellness activities I'm referring to are, of course, eating a healthy and balanced diet, getting regular exercise appropriate to your physical abilities, having a rich social network, maintaining and growing your spiritual self, addressing emotional or mental health problems directly, getting enough, high quality sleep, and wearing sunscreen. There are many additional practices that could be added to the list, but I think that's a good starting list.

If you have any ideas about wellness activities the team could help people try or just have an interest in the topic, please let me know. We'd love your input and participation.

*Stay safe and healthy,
Rebecca Parker, 916-606-6952*

Finance Team



Hello Congregation! First of all, I want to thank one and all for their generous giving thus far this year. CPC appreciates all you have provided during these most challenging times. When we cannot worship together you all continue to give to CPC.

We were able to apply and receive a PPP loan in late May for just under \$60,000 which we believe shall be a forgiven loan. This was designed to help with salaries and expenses during June and July. With expenses exceeding income during the summer, this loan came at a very opportune time.

Income for July: \$21,012.14 / Income January – July: \$246,345.01

Expenses for July \$33,698.00/ Expenses January – July: \$ 216,969.08

We saw giving far ahead of budget early in the year and recent months have been under budget. The Finance Team is cautiously optimistic that our giving will be strong to finish out the year.

Our Current Assets thru July are \$1,483,320.01

Our Designated Funds Stable Balance is \$120,353.47

Our Investment Funds have recovered all deficits and are stronger now than in the beginning of the year, due to the recovery of the stock market.

My sincere thanks to all of you at CPC, and please continue to give.

*Frank St Peter
Finance Committee Chair*

★HAPPY★ BIRTHDAY!

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 9/02 Gloria LaBore
Paul Whitaker
- 9/05 Raydene Heitzhausen
Adam Hucke
Carol Noyes
Lee Rondema
- 9/09 Bill Creach
- 9/14 Cheryl Adams
Liz Scanlon
Lynda Talbot
- 9/16 Carol Johnston
- 9/17 Nancy Eskeldson
- 9/18 Jerry Barney
- 9/21 Luke Lundgren
John Seitter
Kathy Touchon
- 9/23 Donna Altig
Julie Leutschaft
- 9/24 Diane Putnam
- 9/25 Curt Nitschelm
- 9/26 Ann Gilliland
- 9/28 Wayne Cox
Gary Lynch

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 9/03 Jay & Alyce Jantzen
- 9/06 Bruce & Nancy Smith
- 9/08 Mike & Karen Rooney
- 9/13 Jim & Kathi Hayward
- 9/19 Don & Joan Sheets
- 9/28 John & Nancy Eskeldson

SEPTEMBER Deacon of the Month

Donna Altig

The Deacon of the Month is on call to handle requests of those who need assistance with special needs.

Dear CPC,

Thank you so much for your support of my education through this scholarship. I am beyond grateful for the experiences and opportunities CPC has given me in the past, and for my future.

Thank you,
Danika Lundgren



Dear CPC,

Thank you for this opportunity, I really appreciate it. I look forward to attending COCC in the fall and all the educational opportunities that await me. CPC has changed me into the person I am today. My favorite memories are definitely VBS and Youth Group.

Thank you again very much!!!
Adelaide Leutschaft



 * Dear Church Family,
 * I want to thank each & every one of you who helped me through my recent surgery by
 * sending cards & notes, giving me caring phone calls, providing us with delicious meals, &
 * doing special loving acts of kindness. Your love sustains me. I'm recuperating well thanks to
 * God and all of you!
 * Roxanne Duman
 *



The next *Lamplighter* news **due date** for the October issue is Thursday, **Sept. 17, at 10:00 am**. Articles for publication should be sent via email to: **tammy@redmondcp.org**. You will receive a reply letting you know your contribution was received.