The Lamplighter

A Newsletter of Community Presbyterian Church

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Growing In Christ & Loving One Another

FEBRUARY 2021

Thoughts on the Year Ahead as a Church

At the January Session meeting, I shared some thoughts with our team of leaders about how the next year might unfold. I am adapting some of these ideas to share with the whole congregation as I desire for us to be transparent and open about our leadership plans and goals with the larger body. None of us can put specific dates on these themes or plans but I think we will encounter these realities in the coming seasons, even if slower than I/we hope:

- Winter: Keep Going As our older members and certain professionals begin receiving vaccinations, we will continue with online worship. Our elders and deacons maintain their commitment to reach out to every member and attender in our church to strengthen relationships and provide care throughout the body of Christ.
- **Spring: Resume and Recover –** Gradually, infection rates will keep going down; and our congregation and community members will be receiving vaccinations. We will incrementally resume gatherings with a priority on safety. Spring may bring opportunities for outdoor worship and meetings if we are not yet indoors with greatly reduced risk. We all look forward to being together more when it is safe to do so.
- **Summer: Analyze and Strategize** The pandemic has changed our lives and changed our church, but we won't know completely the nature of that change until we experience it. This applies to attendance and participation as well as intangible realities. What have we learned in this year of being mostly apart? How have our priorities and commitments as a church shifted or adapted since early 2020? How have we changed?
- Fall: Re-launch By the Fall, it is possible (and hopeful to think) we will be living into a new normal of worship, music ministry, mission, small groups, and kids and youth ministry. We will be proactive and inclusive in shaping our return to activity and invite folks to join us from within and outside our membership.

As leaders and as a whole congregation, our compass for guiding us through another year of change and adaptation will be our mission statement: **We are called by God to grow in Christ and love one another.** Our toolbox will include the seven marks of a healthy church and the resources of the Vital Congregations Initiative as a way to set priorities, goals and benchmarks.

I also set the following objectives before our leadership Elders, but I think they apply to all of us as how to proceed as a church in the year ahead:

- Stay connected in relationships and united in Spirit.
- Continue extending welcome and hospitality to our neighbors at every chance.
- Be creative in worship to encourage participation and faith formation.
- Adapt to serve our community, matching what we offer to the needs around us.
- Assess ongoing ministry areas and plan for revitalization or a fresh start where needed.
- Be open to new patterns of worship and gatherings in a new era as a church.
- Plan intentional events beyond Sunday worship for community re-connection.
- Strengthen our commitment to hands-on, relational service and acts of compassion in our community, alongside our growing commitment to justice work.

In all of this, we walk together with Christ, the head of the church. In Christ, Rev. Andrew Hoeksema

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Ash Wednesday Worship

Please join Pastor Andrew for a Ash Wednesday service on Zoom. Be prepared with olive oil (no ashes will be used) and mark the beginning of Lent Wednesday, **February 17**, at **7:00 pm**.

Lenten Devotionals

Coming Soon: Lenten Devotionals will be available electronically and if requested can be printed. The church office will announce when they are ready.

New Church Directory

A secure PDF of our online Church Directory will be available in Spring of 2021. Please take a moment to log on to our <u>Instant Church Directory</u> and check that your information is correct. Please contact the church office if you notice any corrections or updates that need to be made. If you have not set up your information in the online directory and need help doing so, please contact <u>Tammy</u> at office. We will send out a notification when it is ready and you can request a digital copy.

Covid-19 Vaccinations

The Wellness Team encourages members of our community to take advantage of the Covid-19 vaccinations that are now available in Redmond. We believe they are safe and effective and will shorten the time before we can meet together as a congregation. We also understand that some people have concerns about the safety and efficacy of the vaccines. Some Wellness Team members are nurses who are able to answer questions about the vaccines. We also encourage you to check with your physicians if you have concerns about having the vaccinations. The availability of the vaccines changes frequently so we encourage you to check on this website https://www.stcharleshealthcare.org/professionals/covid-19-vaccine-request or call (541) 699-5020 for up to date information about who is currently eligible to receive the vaccination. As of the writing of this article on Wednesday, January 27, people 75 and older are eligible to be vaccinated now.

College Scholarship Time for High School Seniors

The Scholarship team was formed in 2014 and the Scholarship program was developed to award CPC high school seniors' scholarships for attendance at universities, colleges, trade or technical schools. Seminary students are also eligible. CPC has been able to honor 18 CPC graduating high school seniors with a college scholarship. WOW, what a blessing this scholarship has played in the lives of our young Christians.

By giving to the Scholarship Fund, you have the opportunity to play a major role in the continued growth and educational development of our youth in our church. In 2021, we have 3 graduating seniors. If you are able to financially support the Scholarship fund, in the next few months, your gifts will be greatly appreciated.

Scholarship applications and guidelines are available through the church website or in the office. Students receive recognition at their high school honor's assembly and at a church service.

We hope you are inspired to support this worthy church program. Make your check to Community Presbyterian Church with a note line: "Designated Fund #45, College Scholarship Fund." This ensures your monies are deposited into the designated fund account, earmarked specifically for scholarships.

The team welcomes any of your questions, please email Nancy Patterson: nancynielsen2001@yahoo.com

Thank you, the Scholarship Team

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Endowment Team Update

Our deepest thanks and gratitude goes to a long time member of this congregation, Sam Jaye. Sam graciously arranged to leave the church \$30,000, upon her passing which has just been received.

For years, Sam was an ever-present fixture in the church kitchen taking on whatever job was necessary...including quietly taking home towels to be laundered, folded, and put away. She happily did many things which others never knew about. Sam let us know when things were not up to her standards and was a whirlwind of efficiency. We were a better team because of it!

Sam never wanted any acknowledgement. She took many, many people to hair appointments, grocery shopping and doctor's appointments...Just because she could! Few were aware of her care and generosity. She was a unique lady with a loving heart. One that is missed greatly.

We encourage our members who are able to consider making legacy gifts like this to plan in advance for endowment giving and bequests. If you would like more information, please call or <a href="mailto:email

Sincerely, Bob Ahern

Kisauni Update

This is our 4th year of a Session-to-Session relationship with the Kisauni Parish in Mombasa, Kenya, and 5th year of building relationships with our Kisauni brothers and sisters. Our main focus has been helping to subsidize meals for school children and provide hygiene products for girls. This past year we have also donated resources for meals during the pandemic, providing food for 40 families for 30 days.

During 2021, our contribution to Kisauni for feeding and hygiene will include discretionary funds that will allow the Kisauni Session to apply resources where there is the greatest need. Over the last 5 years we have given over \$23,000 for the aforementioned programs, with our main source of income being the annual parking lot sale. Due to the pandemic, our parking lot sale was cancelled in 2020, but we hope to be back again in the fall of 2021.

We also desire to bring Kisauni Parish members to Central Oregon, as we are able, over the next few years. With our assistance, Rev. Jeff and Beatrice have traveled to Redmond and we hope others can come in the future. We are grateful for their prayers for us, and we pray for them.

They have requested prayers:

for their children and teachers as they returned to school in January.

for the vaccine that they, and we, look forward to in 2021.

for their church members who have lost employment during the pandemic.

The world has become a little bit smaller thanks to our friends in Kenya.

Kisauni Team:

Don & Linda Shaw, Margo Menown, Lynn Hodecker, Connie Stoaks, Irv Nygren, Rocky & Luann Johnson

March Newsletter Article Due Date



The next Lamplighter news deadline for all article submissions is Thursday, **Feb. 18.** Articles turned in after the deadline may not be published and all articles are subject to editing. Articles should be sent via email to tammy@redmondcpc.org. You will receive a reply letting you know your contribution was received.

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Refrigerator Wanted



CPC, along with others in the community, have been most generous in the food and water drive for the Warm Springs people. We have recently learned that there is no storage place available when eggs, dairy and meat are donated. We are looking for a good used refrigerator of medium to large size to address this need. If you are remodeling, trading up or know of someone with a refrigerator who may be looking to re-home it, please call Leanne Latterell 541-604-1739 or Richard Lance 541-604 9159. Thank you for all your donations and please watch for the next

donation date to be announced soon. The generosity shown has been wonderful and says who we are as lesus' followers.

May all remain well, Leanne and Richard

Jericho Road



lericho Road is a non-profit organization that has been serving the community of Redmond, Oregon since 2007. Jericho Road began as an ecumenical effort intent on helping homeless families with children. Over the years, it has grown to include families, seniors, the disabled, Jericho Road veterans and the working poor of our area. Jericho Road stands ready to assist in every way possible when our friends and neighbors are challenged by circumstance. Through love and understanding, we all benefit.

The mission of Jericho Road is to provide consistent, nurturing and tangible support to the homeless and those in need within the Redmond, Oregon area.

Emergency Assistance Report for 2020

Despite the pandemic we had a very busy year in helping our homeless clients, we extended service to 96 clients.

The following is list of items given out during 2020.

- 364 Propane Canisters(for camping stove and heaters).
- 47 Bus Passes (for doctor visits). Bus passes were canceled due to Covid.
- 47 Shower Passes (at Redmond rec. center) showers were canceled mid March due to Covid.
- 16 Stoves
- 23 Heaters, hoses and filters (for winter use).
- 33 Tents
- 39 sleeping bags (sleeping bags were bought according to temperature rating and time of year).
 - 8 Loads of Firewood
- 384 Cleansing towels given out to camps and people living in cars, as showers were no longer available.
 - 4 Flashlights
 - I 5 gallon water container
 - 2 Pair of winter boots

Bob Troutman. **Jericho Road**







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2/04 Gary Hucke
Barbara Palmer

2/05 Lori Nitschelm

2/07 Sherry Verbeck

2/09 Claudia Terrazas-Herrera
Gail White

2/10 Nancy Barney
Irv Nygren
Sandy Sutherland

2/18 Ed McKinney

2/19 Jim Booth

2/21 Steve Lundgren

2/25 Nancy Smith



In Memoriam Bob Vancil



2/15 Jim & Peggy Waggoner2/29 Carl & Ginger Vertrees



Hannah Grandey

Offering Envelopes



If you need offering envelopes please call or <u>email</u> the office and let them know.

They will make arrangements with you to pick them up.



A Note From The Finance Team

End of year donation summaries should arrive to you by the first week in February. If you find any discrepancies, please contact Kathi Hayward at 541-526-0267 or kathih@bendbroadband.com.

The 2020 income books closed on January 4. All deposits made after that will show on the 2021 donation record.

For ONLINE donors: If you donated online on December 31, the church will not be able to credit your records until January 31, 2021.

Kathi Hayward will be able to provide the Presbyterian Foundation record that shows payment was credited December 31, 2020.



We wish to thank everyone turning in cans and bottles for the CPC youth group. They are always clean and without any garbage.

Thank you for all December cans and bottles which brought in \$276.00! Thank you to everyone dropping off returnable cans and bottles 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...