

Volume 21, No. 9

Dec. 2011

THE BEACON







First Presbyterian Church

Newport, OR

Upcoming Events

Inside this issue:

Advent Schedule	8	Dec. 2nd	Presbyterian Women - Noon	
Anniversaries & Birthdays	11	Dec. 4th	Christmas Potluck - 11:30 am	
Christmas Potluck	9	Dec. 8th	Fireside Circle - 9:30 am	
Food Pantry	8	Dec. 11th	Deacons Meeting - 11:30 am Coastal Aires Christmas Concert - 4:00 pm	
Gifts For Kids	6	Dec. 14th	Men's Group at Izzy's 6:30 pm	
Letters of Thanks	4	Dec. 16th	Fellowship Circle - 1:30 pm Recorder Society Concert - 7:30 pm	
Library News	9	Dec. 19th	Stone Soup at St. Stephen's - 4:30	
Opportunities for Service	3	Dec. 20th	Parents' Night Out - 6:00 - 8:00 pm	
Prayers	2	Dec. 24th	Christmas Eve Service - 7:00 pm	
Presbyterian Women	7	Dec. 25th	Christmas Day Sunday Service - Communion - 10:00 am	



Prayer List



Pastor's Pencil

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Philippians 4:8

My wife Kath and I had an opportunity to chat with the recent guest pianist at the Newport Symphony, Eduardus Halim. Famous for studying under extraordinary teachers like Vladimir Horowitz and Sascha Gorodnitzky, we asked him what it was like to be a pupil of such diverse musicians. Without hesitation he answered **PASSION!** Passion for music was the one quality all his great teachers had in common.

Throughout the history of the church there have been many saints who have left their mark in a variety of ways. There have been theologians like St. Augustine and St. Thomas, mystics like Hildegard of Bingen and St. John of the Cross, or servants of the poor and dispossessed like St. Francis and St. Margaret of Cortona. One unifying theme found in this diverse list is their passion for God. Whether it was through their sermons, worship or service they all sought to glorify God.

What better gift to offer the Christ Child this year than our passion? It may be our passion to learn, to pray or to serve, but in our diversity let us be united by our love of Jesus, his church and his world.

Christmas Blessings,

Lectionary Readings for Wednesday Brown Bag Bible Study



Readings will be provided for Brown Bag Bible Study during the month of December..

Church Triumphant:

- **Shirley Shriner**

Joys:

- **Martha Sneller** (continued recovery)

Concerns:

- **Johanna Wienert** (cancer treatment)
- **Bob Gableman** (cancer, Ramona Martin's brother)
- **Bill Barss** (recovery from surgery)
- **Betty Denison** (recovery from shoulder surgery)
- **Gary Garner** (recovery)
- **David Jenkins** (cancer, grandson of Jack & Tennie Jenkins)
- **Karen Bamer** (peace in new treatment)
- **Susan Lovelace** (cancer, mother-in-law of Denise Hartsel Lovelace)

Military:

- **Alex Barcenes** (deployed to Iraq)
- **Cody Harper** (deployed to Afghanistan)



Communion Service & Food Share / Baby Necessities Offering

Communion will be served in the pews on **December 25th.**

Please bring your food donations and drop them off in the baskets underneath the back table in the Sanctuary. You may also make a monetary donation to *Food Share* by including it with your Sunday morning pledge; please make a notation on the memo line for *Food Share*. **Monetary donations to Food Pantry should be sent to: Newport Food Pantry, PO Box 1415, Newport, OR 97365**

The white **Baby Basket** decorated with pink and blue ribbon next to the **Food Pantry Basket** at the back of the sanctuary is available to receive on-going donations for needy newborns in Lincoln County. A listing of items needed can be found in the baby basket and also on the PW bulletin board. Alternatively, your **tax deductible** check payable to **Lincoln County Health & Human Services** will be welcomed in any amount.

Questions? Contact **Pam Merwin** at 265-4095.

Church Office Help Needed

The church is looking for **substitute** office help. If you would be able to help out occasionally in the office when our regular volunteers are unable to be there, please contact the church office or Gladys Hartsel at 541-961-8283 or 541-265-5181.

Training will be provided.

Opportunities For Service

Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels needs more volunteers. If you have time and would like to help this wonderful service organization please call **541-574-0669**. To learn more about Meals on Wheels visit <http://www.mowaa.org/>

Stone Soup



Our church will serve dinner at **St. Stephens Episcopal Church** on the **third Monday of each month.**

Please come help us out by arriving at 4:30 pm to cook, serving from 5:30-6:30 pm, and / or cleanup from 6:30-7:00 pm. If you would like to help out by providing a dessert, please have it to the church no later than **1:00 pm on Monday.**



Dine Out for Samaritan House

Georgies Beachside Grill will host Dine Out for Samaritan House, Wednesday, December 7th. Enjoy breakfast, lunch or dinner at this popular Newport restaurant. Georgies will donate 20 percent of the days proceeds to Samaritan House Homeless Family Shelter.

Letters of Thanks

Gratitude for Donations to PW's "Newborn Necessities" Mission *

From **Shelley Paeth**, R.N., Parent and Child Health Program Manager,
Lincoln County Public Health Services:

You are all so generous!! What a joy to open up all the bags and see all the wonderful gifts! Someone is doing a beautiful job of sewing. The three blankets are wonderful fabric, and I love the stitching. The little onesies are so cute and match so well with the blankets. The knitted hats and the multi-color knitted blanket -- so sweet. Winter is coming, so they will be so appreciated. The onesies -- all of them -- are perfect, and so practical. Thank you to everyone!!

** Our "Newborn Necessities" Mission -- which benefits Lincoln County's newest citizens -- is sponsored by our Presbyterian Women, but credit for its ongoing success through the years goes to our entire congregation ... our heartfelt thanks to all who continue to help. Questions? Contact **Pam Merwin** ([541/265-4095](tel:5412654095)).*

LETTERS OF THANKS



Thank-You's from Recipients of PW's Mission Gifts *

A listing of 2011 recipients of Presbyterian Women's mission gifts* appears on the PW bulletin board (across from the Westminster Room). The October and November issues of **The Beacon** contained excerpts from some of the thank-you letters/notes received -- here are three more:

From **Suzette Boydston** (Director), Senior Companion Program: " ... We are forever grateful for your continued support. Your gift means so much to us and our homebound seniors living in Newport. ... Every donation helps our low-income seniors serving and our homebound seniors receiving the assistance. ... Thank you again for your continued prayers and gift."

From **Pam Salisbury** (Executive Director) and **Rob Bovett** (Board of Directors Chair), Children's Advocacy Center: "On behalf of the Lincoln County Children's Advocacy Center's Board of Directors, staff and the children we serve, thank you .. donations are used to provide a variety of services to children who are victims of abuse and neglect. We are indeed fortunate to have so many concerned and generous people supporting our efforts. It is the spirit of giving that makes it possible for the Center to achieve its mission."

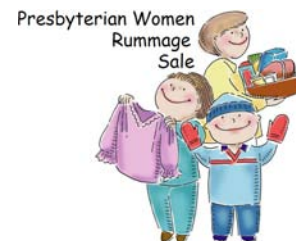
From **Sharon Fries** (Treasurer) Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of the Cascades (acknowledgment of Newport PW's support of the mission of the church worldwide): "I received your check today -- WOW, are you all amazing! Tell the ladies that I give them three hip-hoorays!"

** PW's mission gifts are made possible by the proceeds of our Annual Rummage Sale; gifts sent to Cascades Presbytery also include individual offerings.*

Rummage Sale

"READY-ING" FOR RUMMAGE

Beginning Sunday, January 1st, your **(CLEAN!!)** rummage will be welcomed and appreciated. Our weekly sorting-sessions begin Friday, January 6th, and will continue each Friday thereafter through April 20th.



Pick a card -- ANY card -- and take it home with you! A supply of 5"x4" cards specifying **what NOT to donate** will be continuously posted in five convenient locations within the Church (Library window and northeast window in Geneva Hall, window next to the Office Door, Calvin Room Door, and PW Bulletin Board) ... they have been prepared especially for YOUR convenience, so we invite you to take one home and keep it (on your fridge? ... in your glove compartment?) to remind you of those items that we **CANNOT ACCEPT**. Until you can pick up your card, here's a quick review of what NOT to donate: textbooks, old encyclopedias, dated magazines (such as news magazines and National Geographic), mattresses, refrigerators, stoves, pianos, organs, Christmas garland, personal toiletries (soaps, lotions, toothpaste, perfumes, etc.), medicines, pesticides, opened paint, other hazardous waste products ... **(AND AGAIN THIS YEAR):** absolutely **NO** exercise equipment; **NO** computer configurations and/or peripherals (CPU'S, Monitors, Keyboards, Printers); **NO** TV's, Copy Machines, Fax Machines.

In making your donation decisions, please keep in mind that the success of our Sale is directly dependent on QUALITY ... we do not offer items that are soiled, torn, incomplete, broken, etc. Please understand that if you bring us such items, you are creating a hardship in terms of time and effort for our sorters, and a further hardship in terms of the charges we must pay to have them hauled away. We ask for your thoughtfulness and cooperation in this regard. Questions? Call Rummage Chair **Clair Finnigan** ([541/961-0240](tel:5419610240)).

Rummage Sale Dates:

April 26 - 28, 2012

(Proceeds will support: Our Church, Our Community, and World-Wide Mission Goals)

New Member Classes

New Member classes will begin in January on the 15th and the 22nd with induction into membership on January 29th.

People interested in coming into membership should contact **Don Taylor** or **Bob Loeffel** to make arrangements.



Gifts For Kids

FOR THE CHILDREN ...

"Gifts For Kids" Christmas Mission

A gift each for a total of 133 children (77 boys and 56 girls) who are under the protection of the Lincoln County Children's Advocacy Center (LCCAC) and the Child Welfare Division of the Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) -- that is the goal of our Presbyterian Women's "Gifts For Kids" Committee for Christmas 2011.

Can we do it? With your help, yes we can! Please meet us at our "adoption" table in Geneva Hall after Sunday's worship service. We'll be there each Sunday until each child on our list is assured of a gift ... possibly the only one he/she will receive.

If shopping is difficult for you, your tax deductible check (payable to LCCAC) will be welcomed (*no amount too small or too large!!*). We are grateful for your help, and for your prayers for these very special children. Questions? Contact Committee Co-Chairs **Barbara and Art Bradley** (765-2272) or **Martha Sneller** (265-3471).



Choir Schedule

Dec. 4th - Sunday - 9:00-9:45am - Choir Rehearsal
 Dec. 7th - Wednesday - 5:30-6:30 pm - Choir Practice
 Dec. 11th - Sunday - 9:00-9:45am - Choir Rehearsal
 Dec. 14th - Wednesday - 5:30-6:30 pm - Choir Practice
 Dec. 18th - Sunday - 9:00-9:45am - Choir Rehearsal
 Dec. 21st - Wednesday - 9:00-9:45am - Choir Rehearsal
 Dec. 24th - Saturday - 7:00 pm - **Christmas Eve Service**
 Dec. 25th - Sunday - 9:00-9:45 am - **Christmas Day**
 Dec. 28th - Wednesday - NO CHOIR PRACTICE



Presbyterian Women

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN MEETING

Geneva Hall

Friday - December 2nd

Luncheon PROMPTLY at Twelve-Noon *

Program PROMPTLY at 12:30 p.m.

* R.S.V.P.

PW's December 2nd luncheon will be catered by Coca-Mocha Joe's.

Reservations (\$8 each) are required.

*Please sign up with PW Moderator **Clair Finnigan** ([541/961-0240](tel:5419610240))*

on or before Friday, November 25th.

Music ! Merriment !! Mirth !!! ... all that and MORE when we gather for our December meeting featuring our traditional program of Christmas music! Remember that PW meetings are open to ALL women in the church (members and non-members), and we cordially welcome guests; so, make your luncheon reservation(s), bring your friend(s), and enhance your holiday spirit with our musical program and the warm fellowship of your Presbyterian Sisters!.



Circle Meetings

Fireside Circle will meet at 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, December 8th, at **Gladys Snedecor's** home (3338 NE Coos Street, Newport). **Jane Haskell** will lead the meeting.

Fellowship Circle will meet at 1:30 p.m., on Friday, December 16th, in the Westminster Room. **Linda Mosley** will both hostess and lead the meeting.

Both Fireside Circle and Fellowship Circle will be studying:

Lesson Four:

"Greatly Honored Are Those Who Are Famished and Parched for Justice!"

Scripture: *Matthew 5:6; Luke 6:21a, 25a; Psalm 107:1-9*

Key Idea: Jesus promises sustenance to the famished, but calls the "stuffed" to account.



Women's Fellowship Groups

Newport Food Pantry

Matthew 22:37-40 – “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

Who is my neighbor? That's a question I've been asking myself quite a lot since October 4, when we opened the Newport Food Pantry doors for the first time. The word “neighbor” literally means “near dweller.” Rats. I really wish it meant “people I enjoy and with whom I have much in common.”

It's so easy to look at the story of the “Good Samaritan” and judge harshly the priest and Levite who passed by the man lying on the side of the road. It's quite another to be faced with situations that pale in comparison but still cause me to hesitate before offering help. I'm afraid I have much more in common with that priest and Levite than I ever hope to have with the good Samaritan.

But, even with my huge feet of clay at the helm of the Newport Food Pantry, we have managed to help a lot of people. So far, we have 446 families representing 925 people signed up to utilize the pantry. 252 people are under the age of 18. 106 are senior citizens. And 39 pantry clients are homeless, meaning they have absolutely no roof over their heads at night. Every time we open the doors, an average of 15 people come just to get a couple of loaves of bread from the “free bread” section which is available to anyone who needs it. And, even though I don't like the poverty and high unemployment rates that bring people to the pantry, I'm very privileged to get to meet so many of the neighbors I might otherwise never have encountered.



Advent Theme - Celebrate the Season

Dec. 4th - Second Sunday of Advent: “Celebrate the Miracle Baby/God

Becomes Flesh” - Hymn: What Child Is This

Dec. 11th - Third Sunday of Advent: “Celebrate the Divine”- Hymn: It Came Upon A Midnight Clear

Dec. 18th - Fourth Sunday of Advent: “Celebrate the Lowly” - Hymn: While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks By Night

Dec. 24th - Christmas Eve: “Celebrate the Birth” -

Dec. 25th - Christmas Day: “Celebrate the Lord Among Us” - Hymn: Joy To The World



Library News

NEW BOOKS FOR THE LIBRARY

Thank you **Nancy Cox** for contributing **Nearing Home: Life, Faith and Finishing Well. by Billy Graham**. "Join Billy Graham as he shares the challenges of fading strength but still standing strong in his commitment to finishing life well."

Thank you **Susan Roebber** for a book for children, **The Christmas Donkey, by William Taylor**. A little donkey finds a home and helps Jesus.

The following books were also donated:

Bible Stories for Children, retold by Geoffrey Horn and Arthur Cavanaugh This book includes the most important stories and themes with wonderful illustrations.

God's Kingdom: Stories from the New Testament, retold by Geraldine McCaughrean and illustrated by Ana Leplar's paintings in watercolor. A great choice for reading aloud, and given great reviews.

Days of Awe; Stories for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, adapted by Eric A. Kimmel. The author is a Professor of Education at Portland State and known though out the northwest for storytelling.

The Story of King Saul and King David by Lore Segal. The author has presented the Old Testament in modern language. The illustrations are from 13th Century manuscripts.

Animals of the Bible, by Isaac Asimov and illustrated by Howard Berelson.

Where Time Stands Still, by Sally Foster. The author also photographs the family life of Amish families.

Craft From Your Favorite Bible Stories, by Kathy Ross. This book includes instructions for making 27 clever craft projects relating to Bible stories.



PUT ON YOUR CHRISTMAS LIST

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4TH, 12:00

FOR A CHRISTMAS STORY POT-LUCK!!

BRING A DISH TO SHARE AND ENJOY

CHRISTMAS STORIES READ BY STEVE CHRISMAN, JUDY CARKIN,
MAXINE BAHR, EBENEZER SCROOGE, ETC!

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE POT LUCK CONTACT LINDA
MOSELY

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO READ A CHRISTMAS STORY,

SEE DON TAYLOR



Dear Santa,

We've been good all year. We've done our chores around the First Presbyterian Church grounds and kept them mowed, pruned and looking neat and orderly, free of weeds and trash. We've even made some improvements on what we call the "West 40".

In late summer a cople of nice men installed electricity in our equipment shed. Now we can use electrical tools there.

But Santa, we don't have any electrical tools. Will you bring us an electrical bench grinder and a bench vice. We know economic times are hard Santa, so used equipment will please us if new is not possible.

Thank you, Santa. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

We'll leave the light on for 'ya (those nice men installed it too).

Help yourself to the apple pie and cheese.

Sincerely,

The Grounds Crew from 1st Presbyterian Church, Newport, OR



Church Financial Report

Church Financial Report as of October 2011

October Operating Income ***Budgeted*** **\$17,141**

October Operating Income **Received** **\$25,574**

2011 Operating Income ***Budgeted*** **\$171,415** Year to date

2011 Operating Income **Received** **\$196,662** Year to date

Difference in Budgeted versus Received for year to date \$25,247+

Actual Expenses Year to Date **\$163,353**

2011 Budget

Personnel \$142,429

Operating Expense \$58,268

Mission Giving \$ 5,000

Total \$205,697

Deacon's Corner

Thank you to our Deacons that are now finishing their terms of service. Each of you have greatly contributed to the Deacon ministry! A big thank you to:

Kathleen Dougherty

Pat Harcourt

DK Beemer

Kathryn Hawes

As we say goodbye we also say hello to our new Deacons joining the team starting in January. Please help us welcome:

Rebecca Wright

Patricia Henson

Stuart Clausen

Watch the Deacon bulletin board outside of the Westminster room for the new Deacon photos and job descriptions!

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Jean Barker 2nd

Pam Schindler 4th

Agnes Thompson 5th

Isabella Potter 10th

Drake Dougherty 13th

Ella Chrisman 24th

Vivian Johnson 24th

Ruby Cooper 31st



Casey & Kathryn Hawes 29th



Communion at Oceanview



Communion will be served at Oceanview Assisted Living on the first Wednesday of the month following communion at church. It will be served Wednesday, Dec. 14th at 2:00 in the afternoon in the small dining room.

A Reminder From Your Editor!

Beacon articles may be emailed to the editor at mikeand-wren@gmail.com or beacon@newportfpc.org or they may be placed in the Beacon mailbox in the conference room.

Please note the deadline for submitting an article is on the last page of the Beacon.

In an emergency who should we contact?

We have a card file in the office with that information.

If you would like us to have a file on you,

Please send the information to the office

Via mail, 227 NE12th Street

Or email office@newportfpc.org.



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**Open and friendly, we share God's Word
through Worship, Study & Service**

We're on the Web!

<http://www.newportfpc.org>

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**The article deadline
for the January Beacon is
*Dec. 5th.***

Email articles for the Beacon to:

beacon@newportfpc.org

Return Service Requested

