



# Presbyterian Press

A Publication of the First Presbyterian Church

August 2019

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Thank you to all the volunteers for helping out and teaching these young minds about the word of God. Thank you to all the parents and children for participating!

## THE CHOIR DIRECTOR'S CORNER...

Hello Everyone! I hope you all had a wonderful summer and that the time off has given you a new energy and excitement for the upcoming choir season! I have been reviewing new and old material,



I hope to see you all there bright eyed and bushy tale, ready to lift our voices in praise to the Lord! Please, if you know someone whom likes to sing, but they are not in the choir, INVITE them to join us.



**Sunday Worship** Church School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m.  
  
Live on WPDX Radio, 104.9 FM

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1. News/Events
2. Worship Schedule
2. Notes from Treasurer
3. John's Jottings
4. Session Highlights
6. Schedule of Volunteers

## A NOTE ABOUT THE YOUTH ROCK MINISTRY...

It was a pleasant surprise when Terri received a call from a young mother who was outside the church. She asked if her children could pick up some of the rocks from the courtyard and around the church grounds. When Terri said it was fine, she went outside to meet the lady. She had five children and said that they didn't have much money, but her children decorated their rooms with the rocks. The older girl went over to a somewhat larger rock which was painted white with a rainbow on it and the words, "He Loves You". She asked if she could take that one, and when Terri told her that was fine, the girl exclaimed, "That means GOD loves me, right?" What a lovely way to witness to the people who pass by. We will have the children working on more rocks soon because the stones are disappearing quickly. GOD IS GOOD! ALL THE TIME!

*Submitted by Jeanne Harris*



We are collecting items for the Mustard Seed for August. Some suggestions are:

Mac and cheese

spaghetti noodles and sauce

peanut butter and jelly

apple sauce

cereal

Canned goods

# WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST

## August 4<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**SCRIPTURES:** Hosea 11: 1-11 \*1 John 2:18-27

**SERMON TITLE:** "Warning Against Antichrists"

**THEME:** John continues his answer to the question about how to distinguish between those who are true Christians and those who are counterfeit Christians. The true Christian remains firmly committed to the truth of God.

## August 11<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost Sunday

**SCRIPTURES:** Isaiah 1:1, 10-20 \*1 John 2:28-3:10

**SERMON TITLE:** "We Are the Children of God"

**THEME:** The children of God are to live into their baptism. We are not to be content with staying where we are, but are urged to grow in Christ.

## August 18<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**SCRIPTURES:** Isaiah 5:1-7 \*1 John 3:11-24

**SERMON TITLE:** "Love One Another"

**THEME:** John returns here to the basics of Christianity. If we are truly Christians, then that will show in how we live our lives. Such Christian love informs not only personal relationships, but also how we deal with social issues like racism or care for the poor.

## August 25<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**SCRIPTURES:** Jeremiah 1:4-10 \*1 John 4:1-6

**SERMON TITLE:** "Testing the Spirits"

**THEME:** Amidst all of the "voices" of our society, how do we determine which is the Spirit of God. How can we tell if it is truly God's urging that we are following, or merely our own selfish agenda? John says that we must test the spirits against the person of Jesus Christ and the gospel that is proclaimed in scripture.

### Office Hours

Monday-Friday

9:00am to 2:00 pm

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### Church Staff

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Connie Leuliette, Asst.  
Clerk

#### PARISH ASSOCIATE

Rev. Charla Waters  
Koerner

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#### ORGANIST

Dr. Mary Kay Devono

## TREASURERS REPORT



Net Cash Flow-May	2018	2019
Income	\$84,517	\$70,947
Expenses	\$57,130	\$59,714
Net Income	\$27,387	\$11,233

# PASTOR JOHN'S JOTTINGS

I have been rereading a little book by Walter Brueggemann called, "Praying the Psalms." Since the adult Sunday School class has been studying prayer, this seems like a good topic. I was fascinated the first time I read Brueggemann's book, and I find myself drawn in all over again.

Brueggemann points out that while the Psalms are scripture and thus God's word to us, they are also the cries and prayers of people in real life situations. They speak to the deepest hurts, fears, and desires of humans everywhere. The language of the Psalms is often raw. The Psalmist makes no attempt to hide the way things really are.

Many people think that faith is all about staying on a calm, even level. Worse, they believe that if that is not their own experience, they must speak and act like it is. However, that denies the reality of much of life. Life is often chaotic, out of balance, out of control, and full of disasters.

Brueggemann points out that the words of the Psalmist give us a language to deal with the reality of our own experiences. In the Psalms we find this constant movement that reflects our own lives. There is a constant moving from orientation to disorientation to reorientation.

Praying the psalms give us a language to be honest and to bring our whole selves to God. They bring our anger, our hate, our distress, even our desires for vengeance to God. While this may not seem to be a very "spiritual" kind of prayer, it is in fact a very necessary one. How can God change and transform us, if we will not bring our whole selves to God?

The book of Psalms contains many different kinds of prayers. The well known 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm is a prayer of thanksgiving and comfort. Such Psalms remind us that God is ultimately in control and that God loves and cares for us.

Psalm 13 is a lament. It is a crying out to God because things are so awful. Yet, in its own way, it too is a prayer about trusting God. This prayer trusts God to be big enough to handle our grief and our desperation and our anger and our disappointment. It trusts God enough to listen to us and care for us.

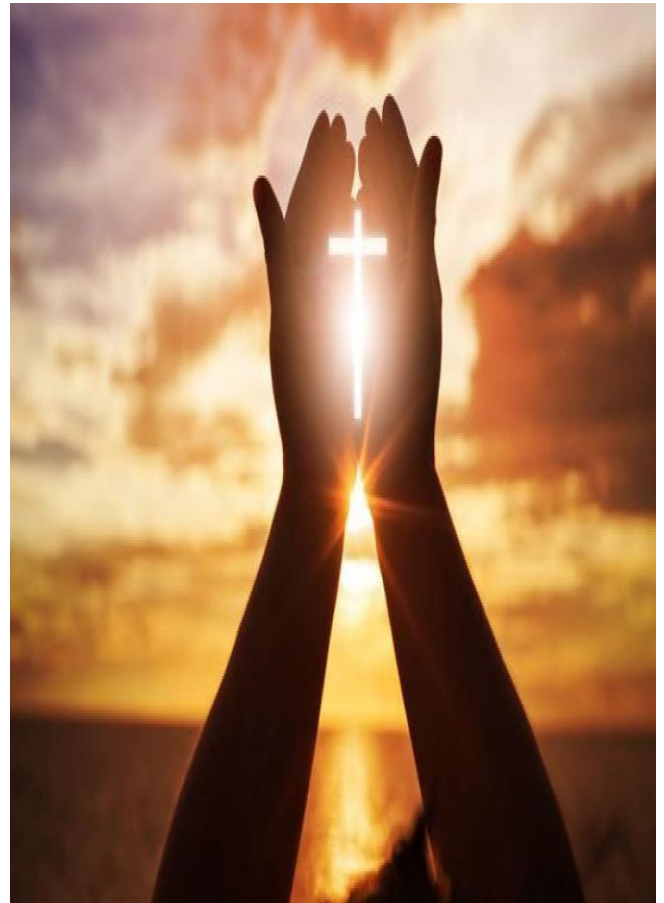
It is a raw plead for help in the midst of disorientation. It is also a form of trust. It is trusting God to somehow bring reorientation and transformation out of chaos.

Psalm 114 is a prayer of celebration of newness and wonder. It is a prayer of someone who has been to the pit, who has hit bottom, and then God brought about something new and good and wonderful.

Brueggemann points out that great prayer rarely comes from equilibrium and calm. Great prayer comes out of passion and distress and most of all, honesty. If you have never tried using the praying the Psalms, I urge you to do so.

Hope and Confidence,

Pastor John



A Christian's hope isn't an escape or wishful thinking, as C.S. Lewis says, but something that a Christian is meant to do.

We have a hope in eternal life, which means that we can attack today with a renewed vigor and strength.

**Proverbs 23:18** Surely there is a future, and your hope will not be cut off.

**Romans 15:4** For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

**Micah 7:7** But as for me, I will look to the Lord; I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me.

**1 Peter 3:15** But in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect,

**Proverbs 24:14** Know that wisdom is such to your soul; if you find it, there will be a future, and your hope will not be cut off.

**1 Corinthians 15:19** If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.

**Colossians 1:27** To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

**Ephesians 1:18** Having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints,

**Job 11:18** And you will feel secure, because there is hope; you will look around and take your rest in security.

## Why We Should Have Hope

Why should we have hope in Christ? Because he has plans for us for good, to give us a future and a hope for better things, either in this life or the next.

**Jeremiah 29:11** For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

**1 Peter 1:3** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead

**Hebrews 10:23** Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.

**Hebrews 6:19** We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain,

**Lamentations 3:24** "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him."

**Zephaniah 3:17** The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.

**Numbers 23:19** God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind. Has he said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?

**Psalms 147:11** But the Lord takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love.

**Proverbs 10:28** The hope of the righteous brings joy, but the expectation of the wicked will perish.

**1 Thessalonians 5:8** But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation.



\*OUR\*  
**AMAZING**  
 Volunteers

**Children's Moments**

August 4<sup>th</sup> – Terra Burnett  
 August 11<sup>th</sup> – Pam Mitchell  
 August 18<sup>th</sup> –Beckie Alvaro  
 August 25<sup>th</sup> –Dick Ogden

**Worship Leaders**

August 4<sup>th</sup> –  
 August 11<sup>th</sup> –  
 August 18<sup>th</sup> –  
 August 25<sup>th</sup> –

**Deacon Greeters**

August 4<sup>th</sup> – Karen Tyson,  
                   Kandy Atkinson  
 August 11<sup>th</sup> – Judy McQuaid,  
                   Beckie Alvaro  
 August 18<sup>th</sup> –Harriett Northey,  
  
 August 25<sup>th</sup> –Jo Eckert

**Acolytes**

August 4<sup>th</sup> –Hannah Burnett,  
 and Kierra Harris  
  
 August 11<sup>th</sup> –Hannah Burnett  
 and Amelia Harris  
  
 August 18<sup>th</sup> –Bradley Burnett  
 and Anderson Mitchell  
  
 August 25<sup>th</sup> – Bradley Burnett  
 and Anthony Corsini



- 1 - Madison Stout
- 2 - Kris Burgess
- 4 - Jamie Atkinson
- 5 - Anne Barttelt
- 6 - Anthony Paletta
- 7 - Anthony Corsini
- 9 - Michael Sabatino
- 10 - Larry Woods
- 11 - Kathy Lawrence
- 11 - Taylor Bailey
- 14 - Gary Scheuvront
- 15 - Beth Allen
- 15 - George Clark
- 15 - Britney Atkinson
- 16 - Richard Ogden
- 17 - Anne Davis
- 17 - Morgan Caridi
- 19 - Rebecca Simmerman
- 21 - Landen Lafferty
- 22 - Joseph Emerson
- 22 - Elsa Davis
- 24 - Brad Tustin
- 26 - Carole Wilburn
- 27 - Amanda Garrett
- 27 - Bill Williams
- 30 - Alexis Kuhens
- 31 - Larry Kennedy

THE  
**POWER**  
 OF PRAYER

Angie Fowler  
 Eric Kuhens  
 Wilma Oldaker  
 Everett Shiffra  
 Jennifer Wetzel  
 Dottie Burkhammer  
 Derek Hardman  
 Doug Linton  
 Susan Orr (Carole's Sister)  
 Melanie Simmons  
 Jack Holt  
 Nickolas Nardone  
 Amy Pack  
 Bonnie Smith  
 Robbie Hood  
 Kenneth Oldaker  
 Donna Smith

**REREDOS  
 FLOWERS**



August 4, 11, 18, 25  
 September 1, 8, 15, 22, 29