



Community Presbyterian Church

January 2020

Dear Members and Friends of Community Presbyterian Church,

It is amazing to me how fast 2019 passed by! I've been told the older you get the faster time passes. Maybe that is true, but I also think when we keep involved in activities and our minds are active, time passes quicker. I do remember when I was at work with the military if we were just waiting for the next training ~ time went slowly, yet if we were busy ~ time flew by. Possibly the same principle applies to whole years and decades? Anyway we find ourselves on the threshold of 2020 ~ amazing!

To begin the year, I started reading a new book. It is called **As Kingfishers Catch Fire** by Eugene Peterson. (Be warned it is not about bird watching, but is titled after the poem of the same name by Gerard Manley Hopkins.) If you aren't familiar with Eugene Peterson, he is a retired Presbyterian minister who died in 2019. He started and served a church in Maryland for 30 years, but is most noted for being the translator of **The Message** version of the Bible. He knew **As Kingfisher Catch Fire** would be his last work and wanted to make sure Presbyterian pastors got complimentary copies. I received mine as I attended a conference at Whitworth College (Presbyterian school) in Spokane. His son, Eric, was speaking at this conference and made sure we each received a copy of his dad's book. (Certainly a generous gift to give a hardback book and someone secured the funds for this to happen ~ thank you!)

The book is a collection of Rev. Peterson's sermons from his years in the pastorate. The theme (glue) that hangs all of these sermons together is the concept of ***congruence***. His desire was to assist his fellow disciples of Jesus in his congregation to live a life of congruence. He says, "*A life of congruence (is a life) with no slippage between what a person is saying and the way they are living.*" As modern day disciples of Jesus, as apprentices of Jesus, this should be our goal. Think about it. I ask myself a lot about congruence in my life ~ is what you see what is really within me, if not what needs changed?

May our New Year together be one of personal growth and enjoying the adventure of following God with our lives.

Grace and Peace, ***Bob***

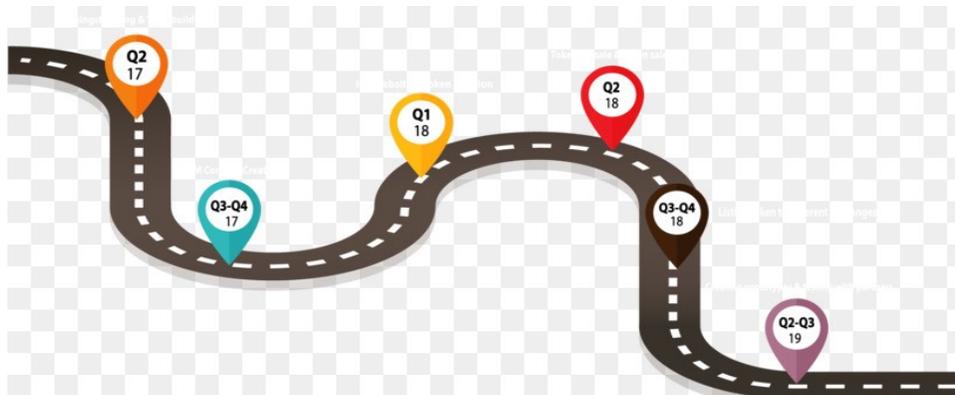
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The “ROADMAP” TO A NEW INSTALLED PASTOR

The ‘Roadmap’ To A New Installed Pastor: Don’t forget to **continue praying** for your Pastor Nominating Committee. Just as a reminder, below is the ‘roadmap’ to securing a new installed pastor:

- February ~ May 2019 - - Spend time getting to know congregation **(Completed)**
- June ~ July 2019 - - Complete congregational mission study **(Completed)**
- October 2019 - - Elect a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) **(Completed)**
- Oct ~ Nov 2019 - - Complete Ministry Information Form (MIF)(resume of the church) **(Completed)**
- December 2019 - - Submit MIF for circulation **(Completed)**
- January ~ August 2020 - - Review Personal Information Forms (PIF) - Interviews - Neutral Pulpit presentation - present candidate to congregation for vote



Updates on Website: *If you haven’t checked out our website (www.cpcpinetop.org) recently, please do. You will see many updates containing different types of material. Some of the information is directed toward folks seeking a church to attend, others is information that you as a member/attender may need to know. The biggest change you will see is the addition of videos of the anthem and sermon from our Sunday services. So if you miss a Sunday and wanted to hear the message, no worries, you can watch it wherever you are!*



Get It On The Calendar: If your group has an event/meeting planned at the church, please call the church office and have Tammy put it on the master calendar. Without this information, ‘double-booking’ could easily happen. Thanks for your help!

FELLOWSHIP

This time of the year I reflect on the past year. Here are a few of my thoughts.

I am deeply grateful that as a Church we are extending humanitarian aid. We have done a great deal and have blessed the lives of many people who are not of our faith but who also are children of our God. We will continue to do so for as long as we have the means. To all who have contributed to this effort we express our thanks.

Let us continue work to strengthen our families. Let husbands and wives cultivate a spirit of absolute loyalty one to another. Let us not take one another for granted, but let us constantly work to nurture a spirit of love and respect for each other. We must guard against faultfinding, anger, and disrespect one for another. Children learn about life from their parents. *Proverbs 22:6. Train up a child in the way they should go: and when old, they will not depart from it.*

Parents, safeguard your families. Bring up your children in light and truth as the Lord has commanded. Shower them with love, but do not spoil them. Share your testimony with them. Read the scriptures together. Guide and protect them. You have no greater blessing and no greater responsibility than those whom the Lord has placed in your care. Pray together. There is no substitute for family prayer before the Lord.

Thank you from Fellowship and Blessings for 2020.

John Marble



The CHURCH MOUSE

I have a gift that I want to share with each of you as we begin the New Year. I hope you enjoy it. It's called:

"RECIPE FOR A HAPPY NEW YEAR"

Take 12 whole months; remove all bitterness, hatred and jealousy. Wash them in love, light, and life.

Then cut each into 28, 30 or 31 pieces, as desired. Set aside all but one portion. Prepare the daily portion, one day at a time, by adding the following ingredients: 1 part faith, 1 part patience, 1 part courage and 1 part honest work. Mix well.

Add to each day 1 part hope, faithfulness, generosity and kindness. Blend with 7 parts prayers and 3 parts meditation. Add at least 1 good deed.

Season the whole with a dash of good spirits, a sprinkle of fun, a pinch of play and a cup of good humor. Carefully fold in family and friends until thoroughly combined.

Pour all ingredients into a vessel well oiled with harmony. Cook thoroughly over radiant accord until your heart tests warm and tender. Garnish with a smile and serve with quiet unselfishness and unending happiness.

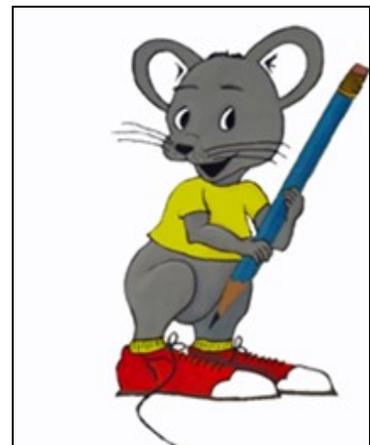
Yield: A Happy New Year filled with joy, peace, hope and love.

Until next time - be happy, do good deeds, and keep love in your heart.

Love To You All, Webster

Submitted on Behalf of Webster

By Lynda Marble



SO MANY THINGS TO BE THANKFUL FOR



Cup of Joe

Check out the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall for the 'thank you' emails. **Some of the emails also contain a request for 'pen pals' by email.** If you would be interested in writing to a service member, contact Pastor Bob and he can give you the information. Thanks so much.....



Cookies for Our Service Members

We are receiving 'thank notes' about the boxes of cookies also. They are posted on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall!



Christmas Food Boxes

Through the vigorous work of our members, **60 food boxes** were prepared and donated to the following organizations serving veterans in our community: Walking Down Ranch, Fishers of Men and the VFW. Thanks to all who assisted to make this project have a significant impact on our community. In particular, thanks to **Tom and Liz Jernigan** for organizing this effort!



Many Thanks from Arlen Kerr

Arlene Kerr says thank you to Community Presbyterian Church for donating to the WMCC Clothing Bank that is on Porter Mtn. Rd. along with the WMCC Food Bank. It has become a very popular and badly needed mission for our local needy and homeless population. CPC has been instrumental in making it such a success and we will accept donations all year long.



Youth Sunday School Schedule

We are trying to rebuild our youth Sunday School program. The plan is to start small and expand as we can. In order to accomplish this, we need to establish a regular schedule when the families with children can count on there being a class. Thus, the Christian Education Committee decided to start with a very limited schedule. The first Sunday of each month, the students will remain in worship to celebrate communion with the whole church. Then on the third Sunday of the month, there will be a class offered for the second half of worship. It is hoped that a regular schedule will be helpful to families with numerous other commitments. Please be praying for our young people and their spiritual development.

Did You Know That You Can Donate To The Church By Using Your IRA?

*Because of changes in the tax laws there is now a tax-friendly way to contribute to qualifying charities (like a church). In general, distributions from a traditional IRA are taxable in the year you receive them. But one exception to this rule is the **Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)**. A QCD generally is a nontaxable distribution made directly by the trustee of your IRA to an organization eligible to receive tax-deductible contributions. You must be at least age 70½ when the distribution is made. Also, you must have the same type of acknowledgment of your contribution as you would need to claim a deduction for a charitable contribution. (You can't claim a charitable contribution deduction for an QCD not included in your income.)*

This provision of the tax code may be of interest to taxpayers who are at least age 70½ and have a traditional IRA. These individuals must take required minimum distributions from their IRA each year. Seniors in this position can now make charitable contributions while at the same time reducing their taxable income by directing the trustee of their IRA to make qualified charitable distributions (QCD), which count towards their minimum distribution.

For more information please call the church office or see IRS Publication 590-B.