

First Presbyterian  
Church of Kent  
Pastor Carol  
Kirkpatrick

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## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF KENT

### From the Pastor's Desk

February 2010

I am asked now and then what I hope to accomplish in the coming year. So I would like to share these goals with you.

#### Personal Health and Spiritual Care

- 1.) To take one day a month for personal spiritual retreat.
- 2.) With two extra Sunday's off in 2010 I will worship in different churches for spiritual renewal.
- 3.) Continue to walk 5 days a week – 2-3 miles.

#### Developing ways for people to connect to their Triune God.

- 1.) Begin a Bible Study on Wednesday evenings. The first class will be Feb 24. The study will include explanation of Bible passage, discussion on meaning for today, reflection on its application to our lives, and prayer for each other.
- 2.) Continue to help worship be a time when people experience God's presence. This will mean exploring various ways people of various cultures and generations connect to the worship experience. Will explore visual ways of communicating worship theme, and various styles of worship and music.

#### Continue developing partnerships with Bajo de Uncion (El Poderso Church) and Pilgrim Church.

- 1.) Meet regularly with pastor Rene, Pastor Carmen, and Pastor Vassily to check in and have conversation how we can help each other.

#### Will contribute to reaching out in community.

- 1.) Will be at McDonald's on Monday mornings after Prayer meeting to build relationships with others in our community.
- 2.) Participate in mission projects of KFP Church.

#### Will study on ways Kent First Presbyterian Church will continue to grow in ministry. Books that I plan on reading in 2010 are:

1. The Turnaround Church
2. When Better Isn't Enough - Evaluation Tools for the Church in the 21st Century.
3. Redeveloping the Congregation: A How To For Lasting Change
4. Holy Conversations
5. Pathway to Renewal – Practical Steps for Congregations

I look forward to the ways God will use my learning and ministry in 2010. Please let me know how you see God doing new things among us.

Blessings,  
Pastor Carol

We're on the web!

WWW.KENTFIRST.NET

#### MISSION STATEMENT

We are a welcoming and inclusive community worshipping in the reformed tradition. As we are empowered by God's grace we strive to educate, serve, and witness to members and friends of Kent First Presbyterian Church and to the people of Kent and surrounding communities, In, with, and through Christ's abiding love.

**KENT COMMUNITY SUPPER**

For the past eleven years, Laura Guinn has been going to the downtown Lutheran Church on Monday mornings to help prepare for the Kent Community Supper. Persons from other area churches also participate in this project that provides a healthy free meal to anyone in the community who wants one. There is no qualifying procedure, just being there is all that needs to be considered. Laura arrives at the Lutheran Church at about 8 a.m. every Monday and helps with food preparation and the cooking of food for the evening meal. The morning food preparation continues to around noon. Food and money is donated to the supper program by local businesses and area churches. The average attendance for supper is approximately 100 people. Some in attendance are family groups and others are individuals. During the month of December the attendance got as high as 195 persons.

Laura continues being a volunteer for the supper program as it provides a worthwhile service to the community. She is also quick to tell you that it is an enjoyable time for her. The volunteers start the Monday morning sessions with a cup of coffee and a time of fellowship. Then when the work is completed around noon, volunteers have a few more minutes for a cup of coffee and more conversation. Sometimes the morning sessions can be hectic, especially if there aren't as many volunteers as needed. Other times things progress quite smoothly.

This past year the Mission and Outreach committee of our church made a donation from our congregation to the supper program.

**PLEASE REMEMBER! FEBRUARY 7, IS WE CARE SUNDAY.**

Please bring your gifts of nonperishable food and clothing to church. Mission Committee volunteers will deliver them to The Kent Community Service Center whose shelves are in constant need of our donations. All categories of food are needed, including baby food and infant formula. Donated clothing goes out quickly. All sizes, infant through adult, are welcome. Just remember that used clothing should be clean and ready to wear because the Service Center does not launder or mend donations.

Monetary contributions are also welcome. You may place your check or cash donation in the bank on the table. Make your check out to Kent First Presbyterian Church and write *food bank* in the memo area. Our treasurer will send your donations to the Community Service Center.

The response of our congregation to those who need help has been warmly received. **Thank you for continuing to CARE.**

**NEW LIFE**

During 2009 the New Life Program assisted 226 homes by pay \$8,430.00 in power bills.

**UGANDAN ORPHAN'S CHOIR**

The Uganda Orphan's choir has received their visa's, 8 months late, but are on their way over. Unfortunately, this delay has drastically altered their schedule and they won't be able to come Dec. 13th as planned, but will instead be coming on June 13th 2010 for the 10:30 service. We will also need four host families to keep them overnight on Sat. June 12th. I know this is a way off, but now is a good time to put them down on your future calendar. All of this will become official after Pastor Carol returns, and the session approves the change in date, and other circumstances regarding their housing and meals. Thanks to all of you for your prayers for the choir, and your calls to government officials to help get their visa's approved. It is quite a story, and nothing less than a miracle that they were finally approved. Blessings to all, Richard Power

### Outreach Division Goal Setting

At our January 7 meeting, the Outreach Division set goals and planned for activities in 2010. The committee discussed a few primary goals, which will guide the activities and events we will plan in the coming year. These goals include:

- Minister to needs that the community has identified that are not being met through existing ministries.
- Equip members of our church to better use their skills to love and serve God and others.
- Foster activities that help members of our church to reflect on and share their personal faith stories with one another and with friends and neighbors more easily.
- Rather than passive giving, pursue mission causes and activities that help members of our church to connect more directly and personally with the community.
- Maintain our relationships to our mission partners overseas, including Bethel Evangelical Secondary School in Ethiopia and the 3:16 Street Ministry in Kenya.

In response to a number of these goals, the committee discussed the possibility of establishing an after-school tutoring program within the apartment complexes in the neighborhood around our church. The Outreach Division provided a motion to Session to authorize the committee further developing this proposal. The committee discussed other potential ministries and programs for 2010, which are further detailed in the Outreach Division January minutes. Please contact Mike McCarty for questions or further information.

### MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Want to become more involved in service to your neighbors? If so, check out the Mission Opportunities notebook on the table in the Narthex. The information has been recently updated and many opportunities await persons willing and able to give of their time and talents. Details, websites and people to contact by phone are included in the notebook.

Here are a few examples you might want to explore further:

The Kent Food/Clothing Bank needs volunteer help 3-4 days a week, 9:30 - 2:30, in the office, food and clothing rooms, or warehouse. You choose the day that's convenient for you.

The Way Back Inn in Renton needs volunteers to help maintain the houses and yards where they provide housing for homeless children and their families. Volunteers may also provide ongoing support and build relationships with the families and accept donations of clean linens, pillows, blankets and even furniture items.

The South King County Multi Service Center provides training for volunteer tutors for people of all ages, or training to provide support and advocacy for residents in long term care facilities. Other volunteers help produce a quarterly newsletter, process or assess applicants and maintain library inventory.

The Sharehouse collects usable furniture and household goods, and maintains a warehouse near Boeing Field. All activities are provided by volunteers.

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) plans an annual fund raising walk - this year on May 15. Volunteers plan and produce this event

This notebook of information is for your use. Please feel free to pull out and duplicate any of the pages and then return them for others who might also be interested. If you have material about mission opportunities and would like to have it included in this notebook, please contact Carole Millam (253-631-6987).

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT EDUCATION – 9:00AM-10:00AM

NEW VIDEO-DISCUSSION SERIES UNDERWAY

Our **QUESTIONS OF FAITH** video-discussion series continues. Then during Lent we'll begin a new 5-week DVD series: **COUNTERING PHARAOH'S PRODUCTION-CONSUMPTION SOCIETY TODAY**.

Here are brief descriptions of these two compelling video-series.

**QUESTIONS OF FAITH**

Throughout life, we find ourselves face to face with basic questions of belief and meaning. Sometimes we outgrow our answers – we may even decide the questions don't really matter any longer. But we seem to thirst for meaning, and to find it, every generation must ask these questions anew in their times. This series presents a variety of 14 contemporary American Protestant, Roman Catholic and Jewish thinkers including Madeleine L'Engle, Will Campbell, William Sloane Coffin, Harold Kushner, and Peggy Way. Each provocative montage of reflections helps us struggle with such faith questions as *What's Being Good Good For? Who Needs Organized Religion? And What Matters Anyway?*

**COUNTERING PHARAOH'S PRODUCTION-CONSUMPTION SOCIETY TODAY** It is a journey from slavery to covenant that we keep making over and over again... [because] Pharaoh has immense power always to draw us back into slavery." - *Walter Brueggemann*

Session One: The Way Out

Session Two: The Decalogue

Session Three: Countering Caesar

Session Four: An Act of Imagination

Session Five: On Not Doing God Any Favors

This series features Walter Brueggemann, an Old Testament scholar and retired professor from Columbia Theological Seminary. Also a United Church of Christ minister, Brueggemann has authored hundreds of articles, several biblical commentaries and more than 50 books, including *The Prophetic Imagination*, *Genesis: A Bible Commentary for Teaching and Preaching*, *Finally Comes the Poet*, and *Theology of the Old Testament*.

This class meets downstairs in room #1 each Sunday morning from 9:00AM-10:00AM. Everyone is welcome! Contact Tom Kirkpatrick, class facilitator, for more information.

**BIBLE STUDY CLASS**

A new Bible Study Class on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm will begin on February 24<sup>th</sup>. The first study series will be of the major stories in the Bible that tell of our Christian faith. The stories we will study are the Creation Story, Exodus, Exile, Return to Jerusalem, Jesus' Birth, Jesus' Teaching, Jesus' Death, Jesus' Resurrection, and the beginning of the Church. The study will include explanation of scripture, discussion on how the lesson applies to today's culture, and reflections on how the scripture applies to our personal lives. This is a multigenerational class ranging from fifth grade to older adults. All who would like more study of our Holy Scriptures are invited to come. Invite your family and friends to come as well.



At the same time Bajo de Uncion (El Poderoso Church) will also be holding a Bible Study. Their class will be in Spanish and our class will be in English. We're exploring Pilgrim Church to offer a study at the same time in the Slavic language. Our hope is to reach out to the community to those of different language preferences.

**ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICE**

Lent is a season in the church year when we purposefully reflect on our faith and spiritual life; humble ourselves before our God; and open our lives to receive God's grace. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 17, with a special worship service at 7:00 pm. All are invited to come to this reflective worship service where we begin our Lenten journey through music, hymns, prayer, communion, scripture, silence, and imposition of ashes. Come to be renewed.

# "LIVING IN TRUTH"

● **FEBRUARY 15**  
INTRODUCTION,  
WHAT IT MEANS TO BE  
"LIVING IN TRUTH"  
FR. VINCE PASTRO



## YOU'RE INVITED LENT 2010

MONDAY EVENINGS  
7 TO 8:30

**HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH**  
327 SECOND AVE SOUTH  
BETWEEN W TITUS AND W SAAR  
KENT, WA  
253.859.0444



● **FEBRUARY 22**  
"GROWING IN THE SPIRIT"  
BAPTISM AND DESERT  
EXPERIENCE  
PASTOR CAROL KIRKPATRICK



● **MARCH 1**  
"FREEDOM NOW"  
SERMON ON THE MOUNT  
PASTOR JANE PRESTBYE



● **MARCH 8**  
"FORGIVENESS" GIVING BACK  
DIGNITY AND SELF-WORTH  
PASTOR MARVIN ECKFELDT

● **MARCH 15**  
PARABLES, "IMAGES OF  
THE KINGDOM"  
TERRY HERSEY



● **MARCH 22**  
HOLY WEEK  
"JOURNEY TO THE CROSS"  
REV. FLORA WILSON BRIDGES



**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**  
CHILDCARE AVAILABLE  
UPON REQUEST



## THE JOURNEY TO THE CROSS

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## AFTERNOON CIRCLE

Afternoon Circle will meet February 4th at 11:30 AM in the Fireside Room. All women are invited. Bring a sandwich to share. Dessert, coffee and tea will be furnished. There will be a very short meeting with devotions, followed by lunch and fellowship. Bible study will be led by Margaret Johnson. If you have any questions or need a ride call Marian Willhite 253-852-2881.

## PRIME TIME JOURNEY

**Prime Time Journey** meets the first Monday of each month. The next meeting will be February 1, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. in the fireside room. We will be concluding our discussion of The Glass Castle, a memoir by Jeannette Walls. We will also choose our next book, so bring your ideas along. Join us for lively study and conversation! For more information, contact Maureen Dean: 253-939-5528. [thorsmom1@aol.com](mailto:thorsmom1@aol.com)

## PRAYER CHAIN

Prayer chain. Our church has two prayer chains, one telephone and one e-mail. If you are in need of prayers for your life or would like to be part of this ministry you may call the church office 253-852-3370, Maureen Ludwig, 253-852-7532 or e-mail Gene [Sherwood@g12gesher@aol.com](mailto:Sherwood@g12gesher@aol.com).

## EARLY EDITION ODYSSEY

The Early Edition Odyssey Circle will meet Tuesday, February 23, in the Fireside Room at 1:00 p.m. All women are invited to attend this afternoon event of fellowship, study and refreshment. Jan Hefford will be hostess, assisted by Gigi Shafer. Marjorie Elgin will lead devotions and Jeanne Alexander will facilitate the study, chapter 5 of Joshua. Contact Nora Fisher, Early Edition Odyssey chair, for more information.

## MENS BREAKFAST

The **Men's Fellowship** group meets the second and fourth Saturday of each month at the Golden Steer restaurant in Kent, located at 240th and 104th. Join other men from Kent First on February 13th and 27th at 7:30 AM for good food and fellowship!

## MORNING PRAYER

Get a powerful start to your Monday Morning!!!

You are invited to join us every Monday morning at 7:00 for a quiet, but powerful, time of prayer. We gather in the sanctuary, the setting is comfortable, and the prayers are informal but meaningful.

If you have questions please contact Pastor Carol.

## OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH

Out to Lunch Bunch meets the 3rd Sunday of each month. We enjoy fellowship with each other over lunch at a local area restaurant. All are welcome to join us. Questions? - call Maureen Ludwig, 253-852-7532 .

<b>FEBRUARY 2010</b>			
<b>7th</b>	<b>14th</b>	<b>21st</b>	<b>28th</b>
<b>LAY READER</b>			
Vernon Elgin	Stuart James	Jim Drinkwine	Marian Willhite
<b>USHERS</b>			
Jeanne Alexander	Lud Ludwig	Glen Sherwood	Rod Parkinson
JoJo Gibson	Maureen Ludwig	Sharon Drivdahl	Al Dermody
<b>GREETERS</b>			
Jeanne Alexander	Tori Bell	Maureen Ludwig	Marian Willhite
<b>COMMUNION SERVERS FEBRUARY 7TH</b>			

**\$\$\$ TREASURER'S REPORT \$\$\$**  
**FOR THE PERIOD DECEMBER 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2009**

**GENERAL FUND SUMMARY**

**INCOME**

General Fund	\$146,943.52
Other Giving	\$2,483.64
Building Use	\$22,070.00
<u>Other (Note 1)</u>	<u>\$14,000.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$185,497.16</u></b>

Note 1: \$14,000 transfer from Reserve Fund

Program	\$51,407.33
Mission	\$12,952.80
Payroll	\$126,529.28
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$190,889.41</u></b>

**RECONCILIATION**

**GENERAL FUND**

Beginning Balance	\$4,402.34
Income	\$185,497.16
Expenses	\$190,889.41
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b><u>(\$989.91)</u></b>

**Specified Funds \*** \$122,519.00

**Gen/Spec Funds** \$121,529.09  
**Bank/BECU Bal.** \$121,529.09

\* Specified Funds includes  
Reserve Fund of \$16,000.00