

November 2024



**CASCADES**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# THE CHURCH BELL

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## NOVEMBER

### DEACON OF THE MONTH

Lynda Wittren

Jesus said, "Do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear... Consider how the lilies grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you! But seek first God's kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well." Luke 12:22-31

It was during our seminary years, working two part-time jobs with three young children under age five when Karen and I first set a conscious goal to give a full tithe. At the time, I must admit that it was a scary goal to reach for. And yet, what we had come to learn over our lives was that no matter how much we gave, we could never outgive God. While I don't recall if we made that goal at first, but ever since, we have striven to give at least at that level each year. It takes discipline, planning, and trust. We do our part of setting aside the resources we plan to give and then we trust that God will take care of the rest. And here is what we've found, time and time again, God continues to shower us with his blessings, more so than we could ever need. So we never have to worry.

In the scripture above, Jesus was approached by one of his followers who demanded that he settle a dispute with a brother over receiving his fair share of the inheritance. While we don't know the context behind this man's ask, Jesus chose to take it in a completely different direction. He focused on the man's worry and lack of trust in his heavenly father.

You see this man was worried that he might be treated unfairly by his brother. Never once does it seem that he considered how his heavenly father would take care of him despite the outcome. This is why Jesus told him, don't worry about your life, but consider how God lavishly cares for birds of the air and the flowers of the field. If God cares for them, provides for them, and they worry not, then God will care for you as well.

My friends, that is so true in this season of stewardship. We boldly ask the people who consider Cascades to be their home church to establish the discipline of tithing, to come up with a plan for how they will do that, and then to trust that God will take care of the rest. When we look back upon our lives, I'm sure we would see just how good, and kind, and generous God has been to us. And it's that generosity of God that leads us then to be generous in return.

So may we give thanks to the Lord, who has been so good to us. And may we reflect that goodness in the way we give back to God in return.

Happy Thanksgiving,

Rev. Dr. Chris Montovino, Pastor



### SOLVE THE RIDDLE

Why did the pilgrim's pants keep falling down?


Why did the apple pie cry?



Stumped?

See page 5 for the answer.



As you enjoy reading this month's Bell, try to find the hidden cross. 



## THANKSGIVING WEEK SERVICE

Tuesday November 26, 2024 at 7:00pm.  
 The Pastors of the Clark County Presbyterian Churches invite us to worship together and celebrate the goodness of God in this season of Thanksgiving.  
 The service will be at Cascades Presbyterian Church.  
 "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.  
 His love endures forever!"



## HANGING OF THE GREENS



Saturday November 30, 2024. Potluck at 6:00pm. Service at 7:00pm.  
 Come and help us decorate the sanctuary, as we usher in the Advent Season.  
 We will put up the Nacimiento on December 1st, pancake Sunday.

## CHESS FOR SUCCESS

Silver Star elementary school has need for a volunteer to help with their chess club, Chess For Success. They meet every Monday and Thursday after school from 2:30 - 3:30. No great knowledge or skill is necessary, just a willingness to spend some time with the kids there. Please contact Bill Honey if you are interested.

## WELCOME ABOARD

The Personnel Committee is pleased to announce the hiring of Lisa Kupfer as our new Office Administrator and Bookkeeper. Lisa comes to us with many years of ministry experience as an Office Manager for Cascade Park Baptist Church, Bellfountain Community Church, and Child Evangelism Fellowship of Benton County, Oregon. Along with Lisa's many skills, her faith, warmth and calming spirit really attracted us to her. Though she had moved away with her husband to serve in a church in Monroe, Oregon, she recently returned to Clark County following the unexpected passing of her husband last year. Please join me in extending the warmest welcome to Lisa as the newest member of our ministry team. We will certainly miss Michelle Drexler at Cascades after she retires, but are grateful for God's quick and well qualified replacement.

## A NOTE ON SPOTLIGHT ON OUR MEMBERS

If you have enjoyed the Spotlight On Our Members in The Bell each month for the past four years, please consider being the subject of one of the stories, if you haven't done so already. Contact Bill Honey if you are willing to be interviewed, either by email or in person. Unless someone is willing, we will no longer have those stories available.

## daily Devotions



### Say What?

Nov 1 Deuteronomy 6:1-9  
 Nov 2 Mark 12:28-32

### Do What?

Nov 3 Revelation 21:1-6a  
 Nov 4 1 Kings 17:8-16  
 Nov 5 Psalm 146  
 Nov 6 Psalm 146  
 Nov 7 Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17  
 Nov 8 Mark 12:38-44  
 Nov 9 Psalm 127

### God's Bigger Picture

Nov 10 Mark 13:1-8  
 Nov 11 Daniel 12:1-3  
 Nov 12 Hebrews 10:11-25  
 Nov 13 1 Samuel 1:4-20  
 Nov 14 1 Samuel 1:4-20  
 Nov 15 1 Samuel 2:1-10  
 Nov 16 Psalm 16

### Remembering the Future

Nov 17 John 18:33-37  
 Nov 18 John 18:33-37  
 Nov 19 John 18:33-37  
 Nov 20 Revelation 1:4b-8  
 Nov 21 Psalm 93  
 Nov 22 2 Samuel 23:1-7  
 Nov 23 Revelation 1:4b-8

### The Hope of Advent

Nov 24 Luke 21:25-36  
 Nov 25 Jeremiah 33:14-16  
 Nov 26 Psalm 25:1-10  
 Nov 27 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13  
 Nov 28 Matthew 6:25-33  
 Nov 29 1 Timothy 2:1-7  
 Nov 30 Luke 21:29-36



## THANK YOU

Over the past couple of months, I have asked for prayers about a grant from the General Assembly 1001 New Ministries Program and a matching grant from the Presbytery of the Cascades for which I applied in July. I found out on the first of October that I have received the grants! Thank you, especially session, for your support. Cascades has graciously offered to be my sponsor, managing my funds, praying for me, and supporting the ministry as needed.

The grants will allow me to serve retirement communities for a year as a full-time job. I will also have funding for events and activities (such as hymn sings, ice cream outings, and birthday/Christmas cards and celebrations). Right now, my plan is to bolster my time at Bonaventure of Salmon Creek, lead a Grief Share group at the Quarry, and connect to Van Mall retirement.

I am very excited about this and appreciate so much your support and love, not just to me but to our beloved friends in the retirement community.  
Thank you, Sarah Ostrand

## SPOTLIGHT ON OUR MEMBERS

Born Christmas day on a Warren, PA, dairy farm, anticipating many milked cows, he later attended Rocky Grove High School. Then, at age 17, he joined the Navy, serving for eight years. Naturally, he saw the world, visiting too many places to mention! He apprenticed as an ejection mold maker and machinist, leading to his career in that field. At age 43, he joined the Air Force Reserves for 17 years, retiring as a Master Sergeant. Life brought him to Ohio, Texas, Oklahoma, Colorado, California, Idaho, Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, and finally to Boeing in Washington employed in Research and Development.



She, the 13th of 14 children, born and raised on a farm in Spangle, WA, near Spokane. She regularly milked two cows, lived with her sister before graduating from Rogers High School, and left home at age 18. Subsequently, she moved 26 times! Home has been in Washington, California, Illinois, Montana, and in and out of California several times and back to Washington for the last 51 years. She attended Eastern Washington University for one year, then modeling school in Seattle. From the age of 11 she has loved to sew. Ever after, she sews and alters every chance she gets!

She found employment as a model on runways and in tea rooms and as a stewardess for Western Airlines ("the only way to fly!" as she traveled the West Coast, Mexico, and Canada). She became an expert alterationist and journeyman tailor, working for department stores and a big home business. She altered wedding dresses for a bridal store and other private customers. After that store re-located, she worked 10 years as a real estate agent.

One day, thanks to a friend's scheme, she was at that friend's house to pick up her youngest son, and met someone who "happened by" to pick up something. Apparently, what he picked up was her! In 1987, Joe and Laura Engel married, living in Lynnwood, WA for 11 years, retired to central Washington for 23 years, then moved to Vancouver this past Spring to be closer to Laura's family.

Laura has two daughters and two sons. The older son died when he was 35, with no children. The other three gave her seven grandchildren and six great grandchildren. Over the years of raising four children, Laura took care of pets: hamster, guinea pig, tree crab, and many cats and dogs. Joe also has cared for dogs and cats. Joe has three children from a previous marriage, including one daughter who passed at age 60.

Joe and Laura enjoy golf and bowling, while Joe also delights in hunting, fishing, and gardening. Together, they've sailed on five cruises, traveled twice to Hawaii, gone RVing, with a big journey through the west and south including Arkansas, Alabama, Texas, and finishing back in Washington. They stayed along the way at military bases courtesy of Joe's military retirement.

Joe, for 20 years a Presbyterian elder and also clerk of session, and Laura looked for a Presbyterian church near where they now live, and we are so glad they found us!

In case you wonder, Joe, with his big, booming voice, at one time attended broadcasting school, but jobs in that field didn't pay enough so he stuck with his day job!

*Submitted by Bill Honey, Elder*

## GIVING GENEROUSLY

In this season of giving, there are many ways that you can help Cascades carry forward its ministry and mission. You could consider making a charitable stock in-kind gift directly transferred to Cascades. This avoids any capital gains while maximizing your charitable deduction for the full value of the security. If you need help with that, the Presbyterian Foundation or your stock broker can assist with details of the stock transfer.

You could set up a Donor Advised Fund through the Presbyterian Foundation. These funds are opened with a minimum of \$2500 where the donor directs grants in minimum increments of \$100 to charities of their choice. Note that this sort of giving cannot be used to satisfy annual pledges however.

You could give annual gifts to the church from your traditional IRA and NOT from your checkbook. This is especially true for people over age 73 who must take required minimum distributions (RMDs) from their IRAs. Gifts from traditional IRAs through RMDs are considered Qualified Charitable Distributions which do NOT count towards a person's taxable Adjusted Gross Income and can be given annually up to \$100,000. The Presbyterian Foundation strongly advised that giving through Qualified Charitable Distributions is the smartest way for people over 70 to give charitably.

And finally, you could consider how you might like to give to Cascades through bequests such as wills, life income gifts, retirement accounts, or charitable lead trusts.

## FALL STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Each fall your session elders consider the ministry they feel called to for the following year and create a proposed budget of what they expect that ministry to cost. From that we generate a narrative budget brochure which highlights snapshots of the congregation, any changes we anticipate, and the impact that these funds have in our church and surrounding community. Along with these brochures are white planned giving cards which detail how much you and your family will prayerfully pledge or tithe to the church. We will receive these cards in worship on Sunday November 3. For those who worship online, if you would mail those cards in, that would be greatly appreciated. We always strive for 100% return of the cards whether or not people are able to make commitments at this time. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to one of your session elders.

## OCTOBER SESSION NOTES

Laura Livingston, Elder of Worship Arts, led a devotion that got us to ponder "what is worship to us?" Some thoughts are that it is both now and yet to come. It includes both heaven and earth. It is more than just music. Engages all five senses (sight, hearing, touch, taste, and smell). Is incomprehensible. Involves the great cloud of witnesses, both saints here and those who have gone ahead of us into glory. Treasurer reports that income and expenses were balanced for this time of year. Reviewed the Fall Stewardship Narrative Budget Draft to be sent out the congregation. Interviews for the Office/Administrator/Bookkeeper were under way. Planning to steam clean chairs in sanctuary at end of October. Looking at adding music from new Presbyterian Glory to God hymnal to worship service. Discussed plans for Presbyterian Churches of Clark County Thanksgiving Week Service, Michelle Drexler's retirement party on December 8 following worship, and a Longest Night Worship Service for those who are grieving during the Holidays. Spent time praying for those in our congregation who are sick and those who have been affected by the back to back hurricanes in Florida.

## WHAT TO DO IF SOMEONE HAS FALLEN

Unfortunately people fall. They trip or are accidentally shoved or they faint. What should we do when that happens? Here are safe and effective ways to help a person who has fallen.

1. See if the person is in pain. Look for visible injuries or facial grimaces.
2. If you do not notice or find injuries and the person thinks they can get up, place a sturdy chair directly in front of them or ask them to crawl to the nearest stable piece of furniture.
3. Let the person use the chair, first to get into a kneeling position then partially stand. Gently guide them if necessary.
4. If they are unable to kneel or stand help them get up slowly and sit in the chair.
5. Once they are seated look again for injuries.

**IF THE FALLEN PERSON IS INJURED OR UNABLE TO GET UP CALL FOR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IMMEDIATELY.** Sometimes when a person has fallen they are embarrassed and want to get up right away. Caution them to sit for a minute so they can get their bearings and then follow the procedures above.





**CALENDAR**

Nov 3	9:00am	Pancake Breakfast
	10:15am	Worship Service
Nov 4	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
Nov 5	7:00pm	Deacons Meeting
Nov 6	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
	6:30pm	Youth Group
Nov 7	1:30pm	Giving Hands Ministry
	6:45pm	Choir Practice
Nov 10	9:00am	Sunday School All Ages
	10:15am	Worship Service
Nov 11	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
Nov 12	7:00pm	Session Meeting
Nov 13	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
	6:30pm	Youth Group
Nov 14	1:30pm	Giving Hands Ministry
	6:45pm	Choir Practice
Nov 16	8:00am	Men's Breakfast/Bible Study
Nov 17	9:00am	Sunday School All Ages
	10:15am	Worship Service
Nov 18	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
Nov 20	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
	6:30pm	Youth Group
Nov 21	1:30pm	Giving Hands Ministry
	6:45pm	Choir Practice
Nov 24	9:00am	Sunday School All Ages
	10:15am	Worship Service
Nov 25	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
Nov 26	7:00pm	All Church Thanksgiving Service
Nov 27	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
	6:30pm	Youth Group
Nov 28	Thanksgiving	Office Closed
Nov 30	6:00pm	Hanging of the Greens Potluck
	7:00pm	Hanging of the Greens Service

**BIRTHDAYS**

Linda Beck  
 Bill Gibson  
 Ewan Hickok  
 Cassy Holcomb  
 Chris Montovino  
 Rhyan Montovino  
 Sofia Montovino  
 Marlene Taylor  
 Ray Young

**ANNIVERSARIES**

*Don't see your name here?  
 Contact the office to be added to the  
 Birthday & Anniversary List!*

**SEPTEMBER FINANCES**

Income	\$24,236.81
Expenses	\$25,578.35
Total	(\$ 1,341.54)

Year to Date 2024  
 \$5,340.35



Answer: 1. Because they wore their belt on their hat!  
 2. Because it's peelings were hurt!



**CASCADES**  
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PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

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RETURN SERVICE  
REQUESTED

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*Give Thanks*

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST**  
Nov 3 @ 9:00am

**MEN'S BREAKFAST/BIBLE STUDY**  
Nov 16 @ 8:00am

**ALL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES**  
**THANKSGIVING SERVICE**  
Nov. 26 @ 7:00pm  
Cascades Presbyterian Church

**HANGING OF THE GREENS**  
Nov. 30  
6:00pm Potluck | 7:00pm Service

**SUNDAY SCHEDULE**  
9:00am Sunday School All Ages  
10:15am Worship