



October 2024



**CASCADES**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# THE CHURCH BELL

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**OCTOBER**

**DEACON OF THE MONTH**


Linda Beck



**SOLVE THE RIDDLE**

I'm not a lamp,  
but I light up at night,  
In autumn,  
I'm a child's delight.  
Carved with care,  
my face aglow,  
On porches and  
windows,  
my presence I show.

Stumped?  
See page 5 for the  
answer.

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

"As a prisoner for the Lord, I urge you then to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."  
Ephesians 4:1-3

Sunday October 6 is World Community Sunday. As we gather for worship around the globe, it is the day when we celebrate the unity that we Christians have in Christ. A unity is not based on sameness, but a beautiful diversity as unique people groups from around the world confess that we are part of one body, one Spirit, one hope, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. A unity that should bring a bond a peace not only to the church, but to the world.

But our world is not at peace and neither is the American Christian Church for that matter. Daily we see heartbreaking news coverage of a world at war whether in the Middle East or Russia and Ukraine. No matter what outside entities do to try to persuade cease fires or attempts at diplomacy, all efforts seem to fall on deaf ears and the matter only seems to get worse. And at home, bitter divisive politics within the American Church have marred the unity that Jesus intended. It all seems completely hopeless and beyond hope. What are we to do?

In the scripture above, the Apostle Paul was writing to a group of new Gentile believers in Jesus Christ. They were apparently struggling to leave behind the old way the pagan world had shaped them and instead live into a new identity as Christians. Notice Paul's "urging". He is very concerned that they show people that they were Christians not by the way they forcibly pressed a sound theological argument but by the way they treated others...being humble and gentle; patient, loving, and peaceful. Do these sound familiar? They should because they are fruit of Jesus' Holy Spirit that is produced in our lives.

This is what we are focusing on at Sunday worship during our sermon time. The Fruit of the Spirit. I felt that in this season of ugly American politics that it was important for us to be reminded of what God expects from us. It doesn't mean that we shouldn't debate or explain why we think a particular political position is best for our country. But does mean that the Spirit in which we do it should be the same as Jesus would. Instead of vilifying our political "enemy" what if we saw them as fellow believers or Americans with whom we have more in common with than what divides us? What if we loved them in the same way that we wanted to be loved? What if we prayed for them and allowed the Holy Spirit to melt our hearts toward them and loved them instead?

I truly believe that we cannot expect the world or our leaders to be peaceable people unless it begins with us. As Saint Francis of Assisi prayed, "Lord, make me a channel of your peace, that where there is hatred, I may bring love; that where there is wrong, I may bring the spirit of forgiveness."

So may we be committed to be peaceful people in our community and extending that peace to one another. And may we see God's kingdom come, on earth as it is in heaven. Before it can take place on the world stage, it must begin with us.

Peace be with you.  
Rev. Dr. Chris Montovino, Pastor

**FALL WORK PARTY**

Come One, Come All for a Saturday Fall Work Party at the Church. We will take some time to do some ground work and clean up in preparation for the winter season and a few projects inside the church. We are specifically wanting to steam clean a few of the chairs in the sanctuary and small conference room that have coffee stains. If you have a steam cleaner, please contact Faye Salamone. Saturday October 19, 2024 from 9:30am to 11:30am.

**HARVEST PARTY, POTLUCK, TRUNK-OR-TREAT**

Saturday, October 26, 5:30pm potluck & 6:15-8:00pm games, treats, and Trunk-Or-Treat. Cascades Youth is proud to present this year's Harvest Festival, and Community Life will sponsor the Trunk-or-Treat! Dress yourself (and your car) and join us for a potluck dinner, games, and treats! All are welcome to enjoy! There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for bringing food, as well as a sign-up sheet for the Trunk-Or-Treat. We look forward to seeing you for a spooky celebration!

We will start collecting candy the first weekend of October. Please bring only individually wrapped candies and those without nuts. Thank you for your generosity and participation!



**SEPTEMBER SESSION NOTES**

Christie Mistrot led devotions on Are You Ever Troubled? Christie Mistrot and Janet VanFleet offered to tag team as Session Clerk each month. Discussed and set Operating Budget for Fall Stewardship Campaign. Reported on staff changes. Provided update on Kitchen Remodeling Group discussions. Approved Benevolence Board Budget for 2024. Approved facility use for Cedars 49 HOA meetings in 2025. Overall feel that new session works well together with right people in place. Thought it would be good to revisit our Strategic Plan developed in 2023 to see what areas need to be celebrated and what needed to be picked back up.

**CONGRATULATIONS!**



Congratulations to Sam Hartrim-Lowe on being the 2024 Boer Goat State Champion at the Washington State Fair in Puyallup, Washington.



**daily Devotions**



**Praise God, the Creator**

- Oct 1 Genesis 2:18-25
- Oct 2 Genesis 2:18-25
- Oct 3 Psalm 8
- Oct 4 Psalm 8
- Oct 5 Psalm 8

**Turn, Turn, Turn**

- Oct 6 Amos 5:6-7, 10-15
- Oct 7 Amos 5:6-7, 10-15
- Oct 8 Psalm 90:12-17
- Oct 9 Psalm 90:12-17
- Oct 10 Mark 10:17-31
- Oct 11 Mark 10:17-31
- Oct 12 Mark 10:17-31

**The Majesty of God**

- Oct 13 Job 38:1-7, 34-41
- Oct 14 Psalm 126
- Oct 15 Psalm 104:5
- Oct 16 Isaiah 53:4-12
- Oct 17 Psalm 91:9-16
- Oct 18 Hebrews 5:1-10
- Oct 19 Mark 10:35-45

**Overcoming Life's Adversities**

- Oct 20 Job 42:1-6
- Oct 21 Job 42:10-17
- Oct 22 Psalm 34:1-8
- Oct 23 Jeremiah 31:7-9
- Oct 24 Hebrews 7:23-28
- Oct 25 Mark 10:46-52
- Oct 26 Psalm 34:19-22

**Say What?**

- Oct 27 Deuteronomy 6:1-9
- Oct 28 Deuteronomy 6:1-9
- Oct 29 Deuteronomy 6:1-9
- Oct 30 Deuteronomy 6:1-9
- Oct 31 Deuteronomy 6:1-9



## CASCADES STAFF CHANGES

This summer, we have been extremely grateful to Josh Krane who stepped in to help lead worship following Erik Suttén's departure. As we have seen, Josh is a gifted musician with a heart for leading worship. Because of this, the Personnel Committee approached Josh about not just filling in temporarily but serving as Cascades' new permanent worship leader. I am pleased to say that Josh has agreed and has made the transition very smoothly. He has begun reaching out to members of Cascades' Worship Team to pick up where Erik left off. So welcome aboard Josh! We are touched not just by your musical talents but also for your heart of discipleship.

On a different note, after twenty two years of serving as Cascades' treasurer, bookkeeper, and office administrator, Michelle Drexler has submitted her intent to retire by the end of 2024. Michelle has been an incredible member of our ministry team with many talents and gifts and whose shoes will be challenging to fill. But as grandchildren have debuted, Michelle and Andy understandably want to spend as much time in Montana as possible. Because of this, the Personnel Committee will begin posting a job description as soon as possible to replace Michelle. Michelle has graciously agreed to stay on to train her replacement on the many aspects of her job. If you happen to know of anyone who might like to serve in this capacity at 25 hours per week, please contact Dian Poujade for more information. In the meantime, we will be planning a way to celebrate Michelle's retirement and send her off with God's and Cascades' blessing!

## FRIENDS OF THE CARPENTER

Friends of the Carpenter (FOTC) is a day shelter ministry serving unhoused members of our community and one of the nonprofits supported by the Cascades Church Benevolence Fund. Cascades has enjoyed a long-standing relationship with FOTC. It has recently undergone a change in leadership and is clarifying and strengthening its focus. They feel called to provide dignity services and support those who are marginalized by things such as being houseless or having non-traditional sexual orientation or legal records. They also seek to contribute to spiritual growth among both those served and those serving.

FOTC is located near the far west stretch of the Port of Vancouver near Mill Plain, an area that has a lot of houseless tent shelters. People walk or share rides to the FOTC workshop that provides one of the very few public showers and laundry facilities in the county. Dignity begins with being clean and having clean clothes. It is further supported by having a place outside their tent homes to spend waking hours with something meaningful to do. People are invited to participate in woodworking to help raise money for operation of the facility and program. Simple tasks such as sanding pocket crosses or fish signs up to tasks requiring a higher degree of skill are available depending on interest and ability. Staff work to foster community among those choosing to participate at FOTC.

FOTC is working to restore and improve its income streams that were disrupted by the pandemic. They have submitted a major grant request that may be awarded late this year, but there is work that needs to be supported now. The showers currently are only available three days a week from 10am to 2pm because of staffing shortages. They would like to pay someone who has used the services and has demonstrated reliability to clean and manage the facilities. They have been using volunteers for this work but volunteerism has declined here as it has throughout our society. The Benevolence Board is currently in conversation with FOTC about providing interim support for these needs while their grant application is considered.

FOTC is working to move to a model of fundraising that offers small events where people can come together to celebrate and support the programs. How to assist in these events is also under consideration by the Benevolence Board.

As a new member of Cascades Benevolence Board, I will be serving as the liaison for FOTC and would be delighted to talk with you about any questions or comments you would like to share. Please join me in praying that all who minister and/or are served at Friends of the Carpenter continue to know they are surrounded by God's loving care.

*Submitted by Lindsay Winsor*

FRIENDS of the CARPENTER 

## CASCADES BENEVOLENCE BOARD NEWS

The Cascades Benevolence Board met recently to consider which organizations to provide Fall Grants. While there are many deserving nonprofits, we decided this year to simplify and reframe our giving based on the wisdom from the book, *Helping Without Hurting in Church Benevolence*. This resource is published by The Chalmers Center in Chattanooga, Tennessee which helps churches walk with materially poor people. They suggest that all benevolent giving falls in three categories: relief or immediate assistance following a particular crisis; rehabilitation or assistance that helps people get back to their pre-crisis condition; and development which aims to foster long term strategies and tools so people don't fall back into a financial crisis situation. After critical review, we found that a significant proportion of our benevolence grants to families was relief oriented and have chosen instead to be more balanced between the three categories. As a result, we have granted \$5,000 to the Winter Housing Overflow Program operated by The Council for the Homeless which shelters men and families; \$5,000 to each the Vancouver Public Schools and Evergreen School District Housing Support funds overseen by The Council for the Homeless; \$10,000 to Friends of the Carpenter in support of their dignity services program; \$10,000 to both Family Promise of Clark County and Open House Ministries, each family shelters providing all three types of assistance; and finally \$5,000 to The Giving Closet a free thrift clothing and home goods store for under resourced people. We were sorry to see Tim Rettberg-Speed leave the board following a recent move to Seattle but were glad to welcome Lindsay Winsor as our newest board member.



## SPOTLIGHT ON OUR MEMBERS

If you attended Cascades' craft fair this year, you may have discovered lilac scented candles and fragrant lavender heating pads. They are the creative work of Debbie Engley, who, along with Jeff, are one of the newer couples currently joining us for worship at Cascades. Debbie also helped this year shepherding our children at VBS.

Debbie, born in Rolla, ND, moved at age 5 to Kirkland, WA, then moved again at age 8 to Palmdale, CA. At 19, she chose to spend time with her aunt and uncle in Wenatchee, WA, and found employment with Pizza Inn. Jeff, born and raised in Wenatchee, graduated from Wenatchee High School. He found employment at Pizza Inn. There he also found his future bride! They married in 1983, and both their daughters were born in Wenatchee as well. Subsequently, they lived in Spokane, where Jeff earned his Associates Degree in electronics at ITT Technical Institute. They moved to Portland as Jeff spent two years repairing oscilloscopes for Tektronix. He followed that with 25 years at ADP in Portland serving as an electronics technician and computer programmer. For the past nine years, Fuel Medical in Camas has employed him as a web developer, the last three years of which he worked from home. He expects to retire sometime within the next two years.



Jeff and Debbie comfortably enjoy life at home. Jeff finds himself helping Debbie with her candle business. They, as so many of us do, relax with trips to the Coast, where they enjoy the beauty of the area in which we live. As for other travel, they enjoy visiting Southern California to see Debbie's family. Jeff's work has taken him to Philadelphia, PA, and Birmingham, AL, and he has traveled for pleasure just out of the country to Vancouver, BC, and Tijuana, Mexico. They hope someday to experience our nation's history by visiting the East Coast.

They attended Columbia Presbyterian Church for eight years, but decided on Cascades as they sought a somewhat smaller church closer to home. They feel people here are friendly and easy to get to know. As we get to know them, we enjoy them as well. Jeff appreciates that people here prayed for his mother as she faced hip surgery this summer. Please continue to pray for her.

*Submitted by Bill Honey*





CALENDAR	BIRTHDAYS
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Oct 1	7:00pm	Deacons Meeting
Oct 2	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
	6:30pm	Youth Group
Oct 3	1:30pm	Giving Hands Ministry
	6:45pm	Choir Practice
Oct 6	9:00am	Pancake Breakfast
	10:15am	Worship Service
Oct 7	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
Oct 8	7:00pm	Session Meeting
Oct 9	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
	6:30pm	Youth Group
Oct 10	1:30pm	Giving Hands Ministry
	6:45pm	Choir Practice
Oct 13	9:00am	Sunday School All Ages
	10:15am	Worship Service
Oct 14	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
Oct 16	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
	6:30pm	Youth Group
Oct 17	1:30pm	Giving Hands Ministry
	6:45pm	Choir Practice
Oct 19	8:00am	Men's Breakfast/Bible Study
	9:30am	Building & Grounds Work Party
Oct 20	9:00am	Sunday School All Ages
	10:15am	Worship Service
Oct 21	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
Oct 23	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
	6:30pm	Youth Group
Oct 24	1:30pm	Giving Hands Ministry
	6:45pm	Choir Practice
Oct 26	5:30pm	Harvest Party
Oct 27	9:00am	Sunday School All Ages
	10:15am	Worship Service
Oct 28	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
Oct 30	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
	6:30pm	Youth Group
Oct 31	1:30pm	Giving Hands Ministry
	6:45pm	Choir Practice

Joann Jacobs  
 Betty Scott  
 Joan Detrick  
 Chloe Hartrim-Lowe  
 Catherine Hartrim-Lowe  
 Harrison Hartrim-Lowe  
 Christina Miley  
 Heather Hartrim-Lowe  
 Art Derbyshire  
 Janet VanFleet  
 Amber Beck  
 Bob Walters

### ANNIVERSARIES

Cordell & Amber Beck

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

### AUGUST FINANCES

Income	\$24,163.69
Expenses	<u>\$19,209.32</u>
Total	\$ 4,954.37

Year to Date 2024  
 \$6,681.89



Answer: Jack-o'-Lantern



**CASCADES**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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PLEASE  
PLACE  
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PANCAKE BREAKFAST  
Oct. 6 @ 9:00am

MEN'S BREAKFAST/BIBLE STUDY  
Oct. 19 @ 8:00am

BUILDING & GROUNDS WORK PARTY  
Oct. 19 @ 9:30am

FAMILY GAME NIGHT  
Oct. 19 @ 5:30pm

HARVEST PARTY POTLUCK & TRUNK-OR-TREAT  
Oct. 26 @ 5:30pm

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

