



Dialogue

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ASHLAND

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August, 2014

Kathy Keener-Han to join First Presbyterian as Interim Pastor

By the Interim Pastor Nominating Committee: Amy Patton, Dan Bulkley, Barbara Marsh, Christine McCollom, and Carolyn Johnson

The Interim Pastor Nominating Committee is pleased to announce that Kathy Keener-Han has accepted the position of Interim Pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Ashland. Kathy's nomination was approved by Session and the Cascade Presbytery's Committee on Ministry.

Kathy grew up in Eugene, Oregon, attending Central Presbyterian Church with her educator parents. While attending the University of Portland, she helped to organize a Catholic Peace Ministry and a children's choir at a nearby church. After earning her BA (cum laude) in Peace Studies, Political Science, and German, she attended McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago and received



her Master of Divinity in 1986.

Kathy served as pastor for a small rural church in Illinois for five years, before beginning ten subsequent interim ministries, at various churches in the Midwest, with memberships ranging from 37 to 1100. She looks forward to returning to Oregon and periodically visiting her parents and 21-year-old daughter in Eugene.

Creativity, compassion, enthusiasm, and intelligence are what Kathy's references suggest she will bring to our congregation. Kathy states that she will bring her energy, passion, prayer, ideas, and a willingness to listen. She describes herself as a Mary Poppins who will blow into our lives with the tools in her bag that will hopefully help us to create

energizing spiritual experiences, discover and build on our strengths, and perhaps create a new spark of something ready to hatch, and then blow back out of our lives once her work is done and we are happily set up to welcome a called pastor. From us, she asks for our prayers and our agreement to participate.

Mary Poppins metaphor aside, pastors do not have magical skills. Effort, participation, faith and fun (!) will be needed in this interim period to achieve God's will for our church.

Kathy will fly out Sept. 6-7 to attend the Family Day Camp and Kick-off Sunday, (when she will also preach). After packing and moving, her first official day with us will be Sept. 22. Welcome, Kathy!

Lake of the Woods Family Day Camp Saturday, Sept. 6

Come for lunch or dinner
or both!

Join your church family for
food, fun, and socializing
in a beautiful natural
setting right on the lake.

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June financial report

By Carolyn Moeglein

Total income year-to-date: 118,098.10

Total expense year-to-date: 115,842.69

Net Ordinary Income: 2,255.41

We had a solid month and are currently in the black for year-to-date net income. I am still concerned about the unpledged income shortfall. The \$10,775 received for the organ is included in the bank account balance.

So far, we seem to be tracking with the projection for pledged income.

Linda will be sending out mid-year giving statements with amounts given through June.

See website (http://www.firstpresashland.org/page/monthly_budget_statements) for complete report.

Kick-off Sunday

Sunday, Sept. 7 after
10 o'clock service

Church program year
signups for children and
adults.

Come and see what's going
on at the church.

Lunch will be served.

Thank you, Eleanor and Linda, for interim administrative services

By Marcia Hunter

Just in case you don't realize it, we are lucky to have two very capable women organizing Sunday services and keeping the office running smoothly while we have been waiting for our interim pastor. Eleanor Robison has stepped up (as she has done many times before) to serve as worship coordinator, while Linda Brewer provides consistent services as the office manager.

Finding guest preachers and others to provide pastoral services, music, children's time, audio, etc. doesn't just happen automatically but requires coordination and lots of phone calls, especially during the summer when people are constantly on the move. Eleanor goes over and above, even preaching herself some Sundays.

Please say thank you to Eleanor and Linda for keeping us on an even keel this summer.

Community Resource Center needs our help

Here is a request from OHRA (Options for Homeless Residents of Ashland) for the new resource center. **The Ashland Community Resource Center greatly needs donations of the following items:** men's socks (wool socks are especially prized), men's underwear, razors, feminine hygiene supplies, disposable diapers, and coffee.

Whatever you can do will be most appreciated. Please spread the word to others.

We need a community effort to get these supplies to the center lo-



cated at 570 Clover Lane. Drop-off hours are Tues. - Fri., 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Donations are tax deductible; ask for a form at the reception desk.

The socks and underwear don't have to be new as long as they are clean and in good condition. Women's socks and underwear are also needed, just not in the same quantities. Our homeless guests love being able to put on clean underwear and socks after a shower in our shower trailer!

The Dialogue

Thanks to all who have contributed to the Dialogue. Articles are welcome for the September issue. Please submit by Thursday, August 21. Email huntermarcia@gmail.com

Marcia Hunter, editor

Tatsiana Asheichyk, talented musician

By Eleanor Robison

Editor's note: We featured Tatsiana last month as one of our graduates. Now we have more information about her to share in this issue.

Tatsiana Asheichyk comes to us from Belarus. She has been the accompanist for the eight o'clock service for three years.

Tatsiana has been granted asylum in the U.S. so she is making her home here. She received a BA degree in Belarus but started all over again here at SOU four years ago, receiving her Bachelor's Degree in Performing Arts last month. She will continue studying at SOU to com-



plete her Master's Degree, specializing in piano and organ.

Tatsiana recently returned from a four-day competition in the L.A. area, where the Siskiyou Violins (which she accompanied) won first place. She also played solo piano at Carnegie Hall a few months ago, a great highlight of her life thus far.

She is excited to see her mother for the first time in three years in Montenegro when she meets her there in September.

We look forward to Tatsiana's continuing association with us here at First Presbyterian.



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 1 – Jean Grover
- 7 – John Slyt
- 8 – Charlotte Dryland
- 10 – Ruth Ralls
- 19 – Linda Purdom
- 24 – Cheryl Therkelsen
- 29 – Doug Noakes
- 31 – Marty Turner

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 – Hannah and Jeff Kolega
- 4 – Brian and Ruth Ann Almquist
- 16 – John and Kathy Sager
- 17 – Ted and Judy Sockman

Sierra Stamps, new childcare provider

By Marcia Hunter

Sierra Stamps is our new childcare provider on Sunday mornings. You will find her in the nursery – with her toddler son Miles – providing nurture for our children and keeping the room neat and organized.

Sierra is a single mom and student at Rogue Community College, getting the basic courses under her belt by working online while taking care of Miles at the same time. After graduating from RCC, she plans to transfer to SOU to complete her



Bachelor's in Business (leading to a job in Human Resources) or in Early Childhood Education (leading to a job as a pre-K or K teacher).

Sierra has the determination and resolve to learn everything she can and succeed in her studies. And, on top of her own hard work and strength of character, she expressed her willingness to trust in the Lord to provide, over and above what she can do on her own.

She appreciates the opportunity to work for First Presbyterian.



Food Project needs you!

If you are not already part of the Ashland Food Project, you can join at any time. Look at www.ashlandfoodproject.com or call 541-488-6976 to sign up. Next pick-up date is Aug. 9.

Book Club reading *The Aviator's Wife*

By Karen Clarke

The Women's Book Group is flying into our August reading selection with great delight. *The Aviator's Wife*, by Melanie Benjamin, portrays Anne Morrow Lindbergh as an aviator in her own right.

Benjamin couples original source documents with excellent storytelling skills to depict Anne as her own person, not the individual we read about in the newspapers.

We also learn a few facts about Charles, her husband, that weren't covered in the newspapers either. This novel is a look back in time, very well written, and a catalyst for discussion topics.

Please join us at our monthly book club meeting on Aug. 25 at 7 p.m. in the home of Kathy Campbell. Questions, please contact Karen Clarke karensclarke@msn.com



From the church mouse library. . . .

By Virginia King

New on the Spiritual Life shelf is Tony Campolo's *Let me Tell you a Story*. His book is full of stories of all facets of life told from both his own experiences and that of others. Most stories are a page or less and are poignant and vivid as they relate to what most of us encounter in our hopes, doubts, triumphs and failures. He is an amusing storyteller.

John Newton wrote the hymn "Amazing Grace." The biography *John Newton* by Dr. William Deal traces his life from days as a seaman in the Royal Navy to becoming captain of a slave trade ship.

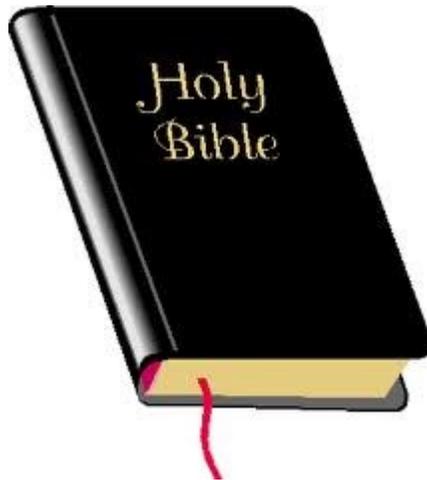
It is also a love story of his beloved Mary. When he can no longer tolerate being in the slave trade, he ends his naval career and starts a new life as a clergyman. He wrote many poems and hymns but is best known for penning "Amazing Grace." A good afternoon or evening read.

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Apartment/house wanted

If you know of an apartment or small house that our new interim pastor could rent in September, please contact Amy Patton or another member of the Interim Pastor Nominating Committee.

Thanks.



Romans 7:4b-13

As far as the Law is concerned, you also have died because you are part of the body of Christ; and now you belong to him who was raised from death in order that we might be useful in the service of God. For when we lived according to our human nature, the sinful desires stirred up by the Law were at work in our bodies, and we were useful in the service of death. Now, however, we are free from the Law, because we died to that

which once held us prisoners. No longer do we serve in the old way of a written law, but in the new way of the Spirit.

Shall we say, then, that the Law itself is sinful? Of course not! But it was the Law that made me know what sin is. If the Law had not said, "Do not desire what belongs to someone else," I would not have known such a desire [is sinful]. But by means of that commandment sin found its chance to stir up all kinds of selfish desires in me. Apart from law, sin is a dead thing. I myself was once alive apart from the law; but when the commandment came, sin sprang to life and I died. And the commandment which was meant to bring life in my case brought death. Sin found its chance and by means of the commandment it deceived me and killed me.

So then, the Law itself is holy, and the commandment is holy, right, and good. But does this mean that what is good caused my death? By no means! It was sin that did it; by using what is good, sin brought death to me, in order that its true nature as sin might be revealed. And so, by means of the commandment, sin is shown to be even more terribly sinful.

Submitted by Debbie Miller



First Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 626
Ashland, OR 97520
Return service requested
Dated material

First Presbyterian Church

Siskiyou and Walker Ashland, OR 97520 541-482-3536

A welcoming and affirming congregation

Worship Coordinator: Eleanor Robison

Director of Music: Laurie Anne Hunter lahunter@mind.net

Office Manager: Linda Brewer presbyashland@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Carolyn Moeglein cmoeglein@yahoo.com

Clerk of Session: Marjorie Bulkley

Childcare Provider: Sierra Stamps

Session members: John Wren, Amy Patton, Jill Turner, Judi Quiett, Gene Wright, Bernie Binder, Christine McCollom, Marjorie Bulkley, Raoul Maddox, Elaine Morgan

Deacons: Sue and Bill Sager, Karen Amarotico, Bruce and Carolyn Johnson, Shirley Patton, Gail Johnson, Kathy Oyler, Joan Whitsett, Marilyn Mobley, Marilyn Wright, Wendy Ray, Darlene Saunders, Pat Gaulke

Ministers: the whole congregation

Visit the church website at www.firstpresashland.org

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Follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/1stPresAshland

Our Mission: We are a faith community centered in Christ, doing justice, loving kindness and walking humbly with God.