

Newsletter

June

2017

Dear East Woods Family and Friends,

As I write, it's the first day in a forecasted seven-day stretch with no rain and with at least partial sunshine. My heart is delighting in this weather and in this forecast, and I imagine I'm not alone. After this long season of rain and cold, the sun feels good... and so does the delight!

When I was at Ft. Jackson for training in early May, I read the newest book by W. Paul Young, the author best known for *The Shack*. Paul's latest book is called *Lies We Believe About God*. I enjoyed reading it. I recommend it. And, in the context of my delight over our recent weather, I want to mention the theme of the first chapter of the book, which is titled, "God loves us, but doesn't like us." Remember that the title of each chapter is shaped around an idea the author believes *is not* true.

I think Paul Young was intentional in picking the theme of God's delight in us for the opening chapter of the book. As in his presentation of God (who is referred to as "Papa") in *The Shack*, Paul wants us to believe that God doesn't just love us in a sacrificial and obligatory sense. God truly and completely delights in us... every one of us.

In *The Shack*, Mack (the main character) and Papa have a conversation about the man who kidnapped and murdered Mack's beautiful, young daughter. Rather than despising him, as Mack does, Papa declares, to Mack's surprise and disgust, that She is especially fond of the man. The conversation continues this way.

Papa: "I have no favorites. I am just especially fond of him."

Mack: "Are there any you are not especially fond of?"

Papa: "Nope, I haven't been able to find any."

It's a radical paradigm shift to embrace the idea that God's heart is so in love with His children that the Lord not only loves us – because His loving nature someone allows Him no other choice – but that God is especially fond of every one of His human creations, even those of us who have committed horrible atrocities like kidnap and murder. It's not that God delights in those atrocious choices. It's that God delights in *us*, all of us, because He created us in love and saved us in Christ.

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SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE BEGINS

SUNDAY, JULY 2

Connecting Time - 9-9:45 AM

Worship 10 AM

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In the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, when Jesus was baptized, the voice of the Father spoke of how well-pleased He is with His beloved Son. The Father certainly delights in the Son. And, when we are led by the Spirit of God into the body of Christ, we are not only re-created but also relocated into the body of the one in whom the Father was, is, and always will be very well-pleased. God's marvelous delight is not only offered over us because He made us but because He re-made us in Christ. As the father of the Prodigal Son delighted in seeing his wayward child return, so our Abba Father delights in throwing His arms wide and running to us, His beloved children, to embrace and celebrate us. You are not only loved. You are loved by a God who likes you and is especially fond of you. Hallelujah, and amen!

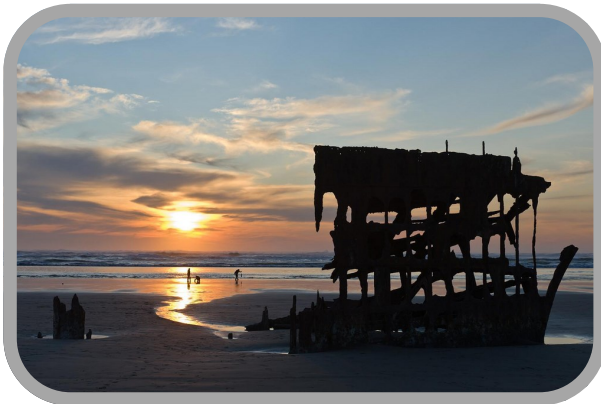
So, as the sun shines on you, may the light of the Son shine in you and through you. And, may you delight in the knowledge that your heavenly Father delights in you.

Blessings ~ *Bill*



Looking ahead to Fall—

FAMILY CAMP ANNOUNCEMENT Before you know it, Labor Day will be here! Our good friends at First Presbyterian have invited us to join them at Family Camp at **Fort Stevens State Park, Astoria, OR**. It will be **Friday, Sept. 1 to Monday, Sept. 4**. They have reserved sites at locations H & I with full hook-up. The cost for the weekend is: \$80 for a tent site, \$110 for RV's (willing to share with a tent) and \$190 for a non-sharing RVs. Price includes breakfast & dinner on Saturday and a light breakfast on Sunday, followed by Worship. Registration forms are in the Narthex. We all had a great time last year....we hope you will consider participating in this fun weekend! See Lynne Helmke if you have any questions.



Fort Stevens Beach

FAMILY MINISTRIES

CHILDREN

Connecting Time for Children

Nursery (Twigs room) is available for 0-5 yrs.

Team Builders Class for K-5th Grade (Maple room).

YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group welcomes students from middle school and high school to our regular meetings on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8 PM in the Redwood Room, and at 9:45 AM on Sundays during Connecting Time.



EAST WOODS FAMILY SUMMER ACTIVITIES

This summer the Children & Family and Youth ministries will be coming together to offer a series of fun events for the whole family. All families of East Woods are welcome, regardless of age, and we hope you can join us for some or all of these great activities. The events are:

Hike in Washington Park – Saturday, June 24. Meet at Gateway Transit Center at 9 AM or the Washington Park MAX Station at 10 AM. We will do an easy 3 mile hike through Washington Park, then have lunch on the way home. Bring money for MAX and lunch.

Clark County Food Bank – Wednesday, July 19. We will meet at the Clark County Food Bank and spend a couple hours packaging food for local families in need.

Game Night – Friday, August 18. We will spend the evening at the church enjoying fellowship around board and card games.

For more information, contact **Charles Bivens**,
Jeff Kennedy, or **Cathy Roeper**.

CONNECTING TIME

Christian Education – the new BELIEVE study will include in June:

- ✦ Joy—June 4—Gathering Sunday
- ✦ Peace—June 11
- ✦ Self-Control—June 18
- ✦ Hope—June 25

Children's Activity – Nursery (Twigs room) is available for 0-5 yrs.
K-5th Grade (Maple room).

Youth Gathering – Middle school and high school students are invited to the Redwood/Youth Room for relationship-building and discussions on faith-centered and Bible-oriented topics.

Mission Time –

- ✦ June 4—Pentecost Offering
- ✦ June 15—Minute for Mission



THIRD SUNDAY BOOK CLUB

Next meeting: Sunday June 25- the Fourth Sunday

[The Third Sunday in June is dedicated to a Congregational Meeting.]

Our June book will be *The Meaning of Jesus, Two Visions*, by Marcus Borg and N.T. Wright. We will be discussing the introduction through page 107:

- Part 1: How Do We Know About Jesus?
- Part 2: What Did Jesus Do and Teach?
- Part 3: The Death of Jesus

Possible topics may include:

- Did parts of this book resonate with you?
- Are there ideas you have not considered before?
- Were there times the author's writing did not align with your way of thinking?
- What was the author's focus in writing the book?

Our purpose is to engage in thoughtful discussions that resonate with us individually, affirm our faith, and welcome all perspectives. Everyone is invited, from listeners to active participants. Email **Carol Domench** at kazooie@pacifier.com if you have any questions.

TUESDAY NIGHT SMALL GROUP GAME NIGHT!



Come and learn how to play the card game *Wizard*.
June 6 at the Konzeks' at 7:00 pm
16016 NE 16th Circle, Vancouver 98684

MAY SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Tom Koecher, Elder of Finance, reported that year-to-date giving has exceeded expenses by roughly \$6,400. April was a strong month for congregational giving, and the rental revenue from our partnership with Epikos was also a helpful addition to income.

Session discussed next steps in the developing partnership with Family Promise of Clark County. **Keith Bloss**, Elder of Buildings and Grounds, has been in conversation with the leadership of Epikos to confirm their willingness to partner with us in making our church campus available for four weeks each year to host the families of Family Promise. East Woods representatives will offer a Gathering Sunday discussion about Family Promise to provide the congregation with one more opportunity for Q&A before Session votes on the proposal to serve as a Host Facility for Family Promise.

Keith Bloss, who is leading this year's **Officer Nominating Committee**, reported that the committee's nominees for the three transitioning officer positions have accepted their nominations. The nominees are:

1. **Sheldon Tyler** to follow Larry Asher as Clerk of Session
2. **Peggy Konzek** to fill a newly-established Fellowship Elder role
3. **Maria Henry** to follow Nancy Dean as Deacon for the class of 2020.

Officer elections will be held at a 9:45 AM Congregational Meeting on Sunday, June 18.

Gwen Wagner, Elder of Communications, represented the Fundraising Committee in reporting that this year's Food, Art, and Music Festival is focused on bringing together the congregations involved in Family Promise of Clark County. The planned date for **FAM** is Sunday, July 30, at East Woods. The Fundraising Committee has also partnered with Panera Bread Company to host a fundraising dinner event on June 29 from 4-8 PM.

Jeff Kennedy, Elder of Youth, presented a proposal from Boy Scout Troop 545 to use the East Woods facility for up to seven evenings between June and September. Session approved the proposal under the agreement that Jeff and Keith Bloss will work with troop leadership to avoid facility scheduling conflicts and to guide the scouts toward service projects that will benefit the congregation and community.

VBS UPDATE

Due to leadership change this year and lack of time to provide the expected spectacular VBS event at EWPC, the decision was made to cancel VBS for this year. Consider the VBS programs offered at:

First Presbyterian

360-694-3363

June 26—June 30, 2017

9-11:30 am

Preschool-5th Grade

“Hello Central—Discover
Your Strength in God.”

Columbia Presbyterian

360-694-7549

July 24—July 28 2017

9 am-12pm

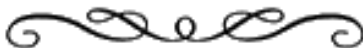
Age 4 to 5th Grade

“Maker Fun Factory, Created by God,
Built for a Purpose”

MADE TO CRAVE BIBLE STUDY – Satisfying Your Deepest Desires with God, Not Food. Has food become more about frustration than fulfillment? *Made to Crave*, by Lysa Terkeurst, is about the missing link between a woman’s desire to be healthy and the spiritual empowerment necessary to make that happen. **Peggy Konzek, Molly Sperry and Gwen Wagner** are offering this Bible Study to the women of East Woods. Coming meeting dates are:

June 6 - June 13, both at 1 PM.

Looking forward to sharing this terrific study with you!



**Meet up at Panera Bread - Thursday, June 29,
between 4:00 and 8:00 pm. No cooking required!**

Take a night off and support East Woods by buying your meal at Panera Bread.

Pick up a flyer in the narthex or print one from the church website or emails.

Present the flyer when you pay and a portion of the cost of your meal will be donated to East Woods.

*It takes 50 fliers for East Woods to earn the maximum donation--
So we challenge you to share the fliers with friends, family!*



The SUMMER SCHEDULE for buying SCRIP GIFT CARDS is different. Use this handy table to plan in advance! Purchase of these gift cards - from hundreds of merchants - earns money for East Woods at no cost to you. Thank you!

SUMMER GIFT CARD (SCRIP) SCHEDULE

		Plan Ahead
JUNE – Stock up! Normal Schedule	<i>Order By:</i> June 4 <i>Pick Up:</i> June 11	Home Repairs, Gardening & Patio (Home Depot, Lowes) Summer Crafts - (Michael’s, JoAnn’s), July 4th Celebrations Movies (Regal, Cinemark) Make-up (Ulta), Eating Out (Burgerville, Elmer’s, Olive Garden, Applebee’s, you name it!) Pizza (Papa Murphy’s, Papa John’s, Roundtable) Everyday Food & Gas (Fred Meyer, Safeway, New Seasons, Whole Foods) And the list goes on...
JULY & AUGUST	<i>Order By:</i> July 30 <i>Pick Up:</i> August 6	Back to School supplies, clothes & shoes (Macy’s, Fred Meyer, Old Navy, Gap, Target, etc.) Car Washes & Oil Changes (Kaady, Washman, Jiffy Lube)
SEPT. – Normal Schedule	<i>Order By:</i> Sept. 3 <i>Pick Up:</i> Sept. 10	Turn over a new leaf and develop a gift card shopping habit! Check out the many merchants available!

EAST WOODS ACTIVITIES -- SAVE THE DATE:

June 4	Emmaus Reunion Group, 12:15
June 6	<i>Made to Crave</i> Class, 1 PM
June 13	<i>Made to Crave</i> Class, 1 PM
June 18	Congregational Meeting , 9:45 AM
June 24	Family Hike, 9 AM
June 25	Third Sunday Book Club, 9:45 am (4 th Sunday, June only)
June 26	Men's Fellowship Happy Hour at McMenamins, 5:30
June 29	Fundraiser at Panera Bread, 4-8 PM
July 2	Summer Schedule Begins
July 16	Third Sunday Book Club, 9:45 AM
July 19	Family project at Food Bank
August 6	Ladies' Dessert Social, 7 PM
August 18	Family Game Night
August 25-26	Annual Rummage Sale
Sept. 1-4	Family Camp at Ft. Stevens, with First Pres.
October 5-8	Men's Walk to Emmaus
October 19-22	Women's Walk to Emmaus
October 29	Trunk-or-Treat

*For more information on these events, please visit our
"Happenings" web page at www.eastwoodspres.org/happenings*



LOOKING AHEAD: THE ANNUAL EAST WOODS RUMMAGE SALE

AUGUST 25 & 26.

Donations will be accepted beginning August 20. Look for the sign-up list to work at the Sale, beginning mid-July. Questions? Call or email Peggy Konzek, 903-2168 or at geopegkon@comcast.net.



Newsletter deadline—Tuesday, June 20

Office hours: Tuesday 1-3 PM, Wednesday & Thursday 9 AM - 3 PM

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Charles Bivens

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Please visit our website at www.eastwoodspres.org



EAST WOODS
Presbyterian Church

**16210 NE 20th Street
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