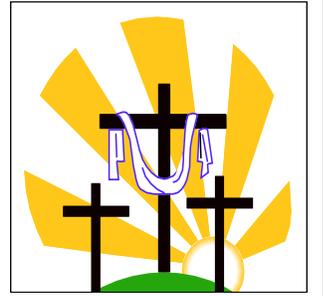


WOODLAND PARK PRESS

A PUBLICATION OF
WOODLAND PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A COVENANT NETWORK OF FAITH
AND A GREENING CONGREGATION



MARCH – 2018

From the Pastor...

Every week for the last 17 years, about a dozen people pull wagons full of wooden crosses down the sidewalks of Douglas, Arizona. These retirees, business people, teachers, pastors, and visitors stop about two blocks from the US Border Patrol check point that marks the entry to Agua Prieta, Mexico. One by one, the volunteers reach into the shopping carts, take a wooden cross, turn to face the line of cars and call out the name



printed on the cross. Then they lay the cross in the gutter while the next person in line faces traffic, calls out a name, and lays down the cross next to the first. This happens over and over again, until they reach the border checkpoint.

The names they call are the names of people who have most recently died trying to cross the US/Mexico border. Most died of exposure while being forced by the existing

sections of the border wall to cross in ever more remote and dangerous parts of the



desert. Like much of US border policy, the border wall and the resulting deaths are meant to be a deterrent—a warning to would-be crossers of the danger of attempting the journey. This deterrence-only strategy has proven ineffective and inhumane; more than 6,000 people have died while attempting to cross the US/Mexico border since 2001. As each name is shouted, the rest of the group

(Continued on page 2)



A Member Congregation of the
Covenant Network of Presbyterians

**Toward a Church as Generous
and Just as God's Grace**

(Continued from page 1)

responds by shouting “Presente”. The response means not just only “present” but also “We remember you” and “We see you”.

In Jesus’ day, the cross was an instrument of humiliation, torture, and execution. Death by crucifixion was a warning to others of what happens when you dare to defy the Empire. Death by crucifixion was a strategy of deterrence that was not so different from the strategy of border wall; they’re both an effort to deter those who dare to challenge a system that is killing them anyway. The crosses raised every Thursday night in Douglas, Arizona, are a testimony to every life sacrificed on the altar of national security. Each one is a modern-day crucifixion.



Over the course of the Lenten season, we will hang on this wall crosses representing and memorializing modern-day crucifixions. We will hang crosses representing the crucifixions of systemic racism, bigotry, gun violence, and more. By telling these stories and hanging these crosses, we’re saying, “Presente.” We’re saying, “We see you. We remember you. We won’t be deterred.”

May it be so,

Pastor Staci

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Parish Associate	The Reverend Ellen Acton
Minister of Music	Jeffrey Wilsor
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Church Custodian	Tom Keim
Nursery Attendant	Jenna VanderMeer Davis

Articles for the **WOODLAND PARK PRESS** are due by the 20th of the month. E-mail them to me at debbiealan@yahoo.com.

Please make sure to note **your name and phone number** with your article so I may contact you if I have any questions. Thanks again to all of the contributors for this month’s **PRESS!**

Thanks -

Alan Herbig - Editor

WOODLAND PARK PRESS

Tuesday Scripture Conversation

SCRIPTURE CONVERSATION with Pastor Staci meets Tuesdays at noon at the Green Bean Coffee Shop, 8525 Greenwood Ave N.

March 6: John 19: 1 -16a

March 13: John 19: 16b - 22

March 20: John 20: 19 - 18

March 27: : John 20: 19 - 31

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR COFFEE HOUR.

Please sign up to bring coffee hour snacks. The sign-up sheet is by the kitchen door in the Upper Room. The Coffee Captain for the month will provide lots of support (making the coffee, etc.) and all you need to do is bring your coffee hour goodies (store-bought or home-made) and help set them out.



Bits and Pieces

WE CHOOSE WELCOME!

A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR “BELOVED COMMUNITY” for all the care, love, cards, meals, and flowers that folks have provided me since my fall. I am, at last, making good progress. It took a second surgery, but I really am on the mend. I am so grateful for all your support. I look forward to being back in church in a few weeks. In the meantime, know that I love you all, each and everyone. June Howard

THANK YOU - THANK YOU -THANK YOU! I am thrilled, humbled, and so grateful for the donation to the Malala Fund in honor of my efforts in the Witness Committee for 50 years. I could not be more pleased with the selection of a fund that works for girls' education worldwide. Thank you all, so much. Oh, and one more thing - Thank you for including Malala's book - *I Am Malala* - a fascinating story of her life and miraculous survival. And in Large print, even. So considerate! Nancy Horman

HOLY HOPS BATMAN! Join us for fellowship and discussion at the next Holy Hops, Monday, March 5, 6:00 p.m. at The Dane, 8000 15th Ave NW.

THIS SUNDAY, MARCH 4TH, we celebrate our first “Blue Out” Sunday to support the ministry of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. As one of the recipients of the One Great Hour of Sharing, you are invited to wear any item of blue.

MEMBERSHIP INQUIRY GATHERING: Have you wondered about becoming a member of Woodland Park Presbyterian Church? Would you like to learn more about the Presbyterian Church (USA), and what it means to be a Presbyterian? Pastor Staci will lead a fun and informal gathering this spring (actual date TBD based upon availability of those interested). You don't have to be sure that you want to join nor do you have to commit to joining if you attend. Gathering date(s) will likely be a weeknight evening over a light meal. If you'd like to participate, or if you have questions, please reach out to Michael Bronsdon at (206) 799-7614 or michael@bronsdon.com.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Recovery: June Howard, Debbie Blane, Bethany Erickson, Evelyn Merritt, Salwa Nemr; Margaret Russell, and Ken Stover

Missionaries: Brian and Sandi Thompson-Royer.

Our college students: Arthur Bale, Miki Bale, Lupita Barren, Colin Bronsdon, Jessica Cruz, Erin Emery, Kai Hirayama, Luke Luttrell, Myles Sproul Nelson, Ben Peterson, and Emily Peterson.

Presbytery Connections - March, 2018

By Roger Lee

At the end of Lent we will collect our donations to the One Great Hour of Sharing. One of the recipients, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is highlighted in a separate article in this newsletter.

The other two recipients are Self-Development of People (SDOP) and the Hunger Program. The Hunger Program seeks to alleviate hunger and eliminate its causes. The SDOP approved grants in 2017 totaling \$133,753 to fund projects in the US and Belize. For more information see:

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/compassion-peace-justice/hunger/>

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/sdop-disburses-100000-nine-self-help-projects/>

Presbyterian News Service again lists the year's top 10 films with spiritual and moral/ethical values. For more information see:

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/top-10-films-visual-parables-2017/>

Presbyterians can register for advocacy training at New York Avenue PC to be held April 20, in Washington, D.C. You can also join a weekend of workshops and lectures followed by a lobby day on Monday, April 23, where attendees head for Capitol Hill to meet with lawmakers. This year's theme is around Migrants, Refugees, & Displaced People. For more information see:

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/registration-open-2018-compassion-peace-justice-2018-training-day/>



WPPC Celebrates Their First “Blue Out”

by Roger Lee

On March 4, 2018 WPPC expressed solidarity with thousands of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) volunteers. Each year they wear a blue shirt that says “Out of Chaos, Hope.” By wearing an article of blue WPPC showed one way to support the many disaster survivors who see the love of God evident through the PDA ministry.

After I became a PDA volunteer, I learned that PDA started after World War II as a ministry for refugees. While disaster response is now a more publicized component, refugee ministry remains part of its mandate. These two mandates intersect as PDA trains its volunteers to remind local responders to consider the often overlooked needs of immigrant communities within a disaster area.

I urge you to continue the support of the PDA ministry through the One Great Hour of Sharing offering.

WPPC Treasurer’s Report

As of December 31, 2017

The General (Operating) Fund

Church finances are stable. We ended the year on a positive note and our bank accounts are in good shape. Per the year-end financial statement, the total expenses for the year were \$235,918 and actual income for the same period was \$242,804, resulting in a positive cash flow of \$6,886. The anticipated budget deficit had been -\$7,657 so more than \$14,000 was either collected or not spent during the past year. The various committees did their best to stay within their budgets. As of December 31st, the General Fund checking account balance was \$19,197.

The Capital Improvement Fund & WPPC Mortgage

The Capital Funds campaign has just completed its term of three years. As the campaign was getting started at the end of 2014, there were pledges totaling \$268,000. As of December 31, 2017, \$266,936.87 was received! That is a remarkable 99.6% of the original amount!

The Capital Improvement (C.I.P.) funds are separate from the General Operating Fund. The mortgage is paid monthly from this account - about \$2,500 per month or a little over \$30,000 per year. The outstanding loan balance for the mortgage as of 12/31/17 is \$163,912. During the Capital Funds campaign, more than \$95,000 of the mortgage principal was paid off.

The total checking & savings amount for the C.I.P. accounts as of December 31, 2017 is \$83,298, with a balance of \$25,013 of those funds designated for mission. In 2017 some Mission designated funds were used to assist the Ramirez Soriano family’s relocation to Seattle from New York and to buy ORCA bus cards for refugees sponsored through Lutheran Community Services.

The remaining balance of the C.I.P. fund, \$58,285, plus additional contributions from the congregation will be used for the monthly mortgage and major building repairs and projects.

In 2017, C.I.P. funds were used for extensive repairs of the south wall in the Christian Education wing. ELDC reimbursed us for about half those costs and WPPC paid the remaining balance of \$5,458. Roger and Abby Brockway completed the project by sealing and painting the new siding. Two anticipated C.I.P. projects in the next few years include re-design and repair of the brickwork and building on the northeast corner and possible roof repair replacement over the Christian Education wing.

Our excellent relationship continues with Umpqua Bank.

Carolyn Merritt, Treasurer

2018 Spring Work Party

We will hold the Spring work party on Saturday, March 24, the day before Palm Sunday, from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Please mark your calendars, bring tools if you have them and pray for good weather! If you have a particular project in mind, indoors or out, please let Finley Young (finleyy@gmail.com) know in advance what it is, and he will arrange for whatever support you may need. Thanks, from the Stewardship Committee!



Summer Outing Survey

The Fellowship Committee requested input into the possibility of a summer church function. Several options were presented. Sixteen surveys were returned and the results are below.

Sunday Picnic	At Woodland Park	Retreat	Number Responding
Yes	Yes	No	9
Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Yes	Yes	-	1
No	-	No	1

There were several alternative suggestions for a picnic venue; Carkeek Park and Martin Luther King Park. After consideration of these venues, it was determined that Woodland Park offers the best option. More activities will be planned for the afternoon in response to several suggestions.

The tentative date of the summer picnic is Sunday, July 29.

Five people indicated an interest in a retreat. Fellowship is looking for volunteers to help us explore retreat options with other churches or existing programs at camps. A look at Soundview found that there is no family camp offered during the 2018 summer.

There was also a suggestion for a service project. Fellowship is looking for volunteers to help identify a project that would be suitable.

Please contact Judy Andrews if you are interested in helping with planning a retreat for 2018 or 2019 or helping identify a service project.

The Documentary "Free CeCe" is Available to Borrow

The Witness Committee event last month to view the documentary "Free Cece" was in preparation for the Lenten Study groups, which are going on through Lent. Dustin Wilsor has donated the DVD version of "Free CeCe" to the WPPC Library. Thank you, Dustin. If you want to check out the DVD to view on your own, please contact Jeri Lee, WPPC Librarian.



A Book Review from the WPPC Librarian.

The Sacred Art of Lovingkindness: Preparing to Practice (The Art of Spiritual)

by Rami Shapiro

"The question at the heart of this book is this: Will you engage this moment with kindness or with cruelty, with love or with fear, with generosity or scarcity, with a joyous heart or an embittered one? This is your choice and no one can make it for you.... Heaven and hell are both inside of you. It is your choice that determines just where you reside."

—from the Introduction

We are all born in the image of God, but living out the likeness of God is a choice. This inspiring, practical guidebook provides you with the tools you need to realize the divinity within yourself, recognize the divinity within others, and act on the obligation to manifest God's infinite compassion in your own life....

- Harvest kindness through compassionate honesty
- Make room in your heart for reality
- Recognize the manifestations of God
- Embrace the paradoxical truth of not-knowing
- Be present in the moment
- Do right by others

With candor, wit, and honesty, Shapiro shows you that by choosing to act out of love rather than fear, with kindness rather than anger, you can transform how you perceive the world and ultimately lead a more complete spiritual life.

Everything changes when we read. --Neil Gaiman (author).

Jeri Lee

WPPC Librarian



Sojourner's Truth

Sojourners magazine:

March 2018

<https://sojo.net/about-us>

We Will Not Bow Down.

Tips from the book of Daniel for dealing with a tyrant.

Rev. William J. Barber II

Bowling Together.

Rejecting the heresy of individualism.

Wesley Granberg-Michaelson.

Out of the Ashes.

Two decades after the Good Friday accords, Protestant and Catholic churches in Northern Ireland are still working to build the peace.

Layton E. Williams.



The Political Drama of Revelation.

The last book of the Bible has more shocking twists than 'House of Cards'.

Reta Halteman Finger.

Commentary:

Trump's Nuclear Twilight Zone.

Beware of Greeks....

Can These Dry Bones Live?

Can This Country Be Saved?

We were Eight Years in Power: An American Tragedy, by Ta-Nehisi Coates.

One World.

Da'Shawn Mosley

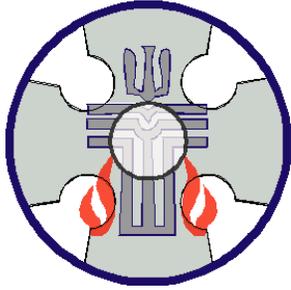


Seattle Fellowship of Reconciliation presents
Peter Lumsdaine on
**“Hope on the Brink:
How we can deal with
the Korean crisis,
Climate, and the AI techno-matrix
... *before its too late*”**

Sunday, March 18, 2018, 6:30-8:30 p.m
at Woodland Park Presbyterian Church
All are welcome! Free, an offering will be taken.
Info (206)-789-5565 or wwfor@wwfor.org
<http://www.wwfor.org/event/seattle-program-drones/>

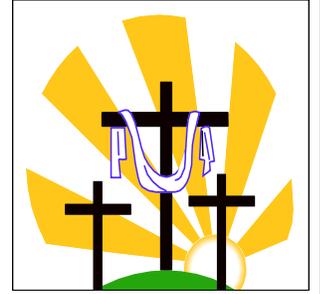
In the Spring of 2018, on the brink of unprecedented - potentially nuclear - regional/global wars and a new era of history: **we can act** to protect our families and communities, as well as the integrity of humanity and Creation, only with an understanding of the deep connections between human society, accelerating technology, and the ecological fabric of life on Earth. This groundbreaking discussion, with images and music, will shed light on the urgent choices we must make about our individual and societal way of life in the unfolding months and years of the early 21st century ... as the ecological impacts of global resource extraction and associated resource wars intensify; while electronic technologies, advanced automation, Artificial Intelligence, and autonomous weapons development accelerate at a logarithmic rate. From community and personal life-choices to social legislation and strategic direct action, the choices are in our hands, and the future is now.

Peter Lumsdaine, after completing his resource science degree at UC Davis, as well as working for government programs and private businesses, spent over 15 years on the program staff and board of leading edge nonprofit NGOs such as the Resource Center for Nonviolence and Global Exchange, delivering invited talks from Princeton to Cal Tech to the Parliament of the World's Religions - while writing articles for Fellowship, Mennonite World Review, and the Seattle Times. His work has taken him from the contested sacrifice areas of the western states and Mexico's Sierra Madre to Hiroshima, Korea, the Philippines, occupied Iraq and a two-year sentence in the US prison system. A co-founder of the new Tree of Life center on the Olympic Peninsula, where he lives near Sunfield Farm with his wife and their two children, he has focused his work in recent years on preparing people to deal with the accelerating era of corporate/military robotics and AI which we are now entering.

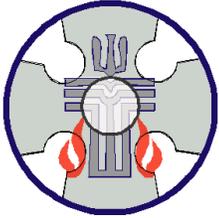


MARCH 2018

WOODLAND PARK PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
SEATTLE – WASHINGTON



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Each Sunday 9:15 Sunday School for All Ages 10:30 Worship Service RAC Coffee</p>	<p>Please let us know your (Birthday) so we can note it on the calendar. JBC = Just Before Church RAC = Right After Church</p>	<p>NAC = Neighborhood Action Coalition</p>		<p>1 7:30 Choir Practice</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 8:00 Men's Breakfast Group (Bay Café)</p>
<p>4 9:00 Book Study "Blue Out" Sunday RAC Fellowship Committee</p>	<p>5 Soup Kitchen 6:00 Holy Hops (The Dane on 15th)</p>	<p>6 6:00 – NAC #6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 7:30 Choir Practice</p>	<p>9 6:15 Open Mic Check In 7:00 Open Mic Night!</p> 	<p>10</p>
<p>11 9:00 Book Study RAC—Deacons Daylight Savings Begins</p>	<p>12 (Michael Bronsdon) (Theo Smith) Soup Kitchen</p>	<p>13 (Bobbie Barren) 7:30 - Stewardship Committee</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 6:00 – NAC #6 7:30 Choir Practice</p>	<p>16 7:00 Movie Night (New Time!)</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>18 9:00 Book Study Birthday Cake Sunday 6:30 Special F.O.R. meeting</p>	<p>19 (Tara Pauw) Soup Kitchen</p>	<p>20 Spring Begins</p>	<p>21 (Tom Keim)</p>	<p>22 7:30 Choir Practice</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 9:00 Spring Work Party</p> 
<p>25 9:00 Book Study</p>	<p>26 (Jan Oliver)</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 7:00 Session</p>	<p>29 7:30 Choir Practice</p>	<p>30 7:00 Chant Instruction 7:30 Good Friday Service Good Friday</p>	<p>31</p>



WOODLAND PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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March Worship and Scripture Readings

(All readings are from the Narrative Lectionary)

March 4: Third Sunday of Lent

- John 18: 12 - 27

March 11: Fourth Sunday of Lent

- John 18: 12 - 27

March 18: Fifth Sunday of Lent

- John 19: 1 - 16a

March 25: Palm/Passion Sunday

- John 19: 16b - 22

March 30: Good Friday Contemplative Service with the Northwest Firelight Chorale

- Chant instruction begins at 7:00 p.m., the service begins at 7:30 p.m.

April 1: Easter Morning

9:00 to 10:15 You're invited to bring flowers by 10:15 a.m. to decorate the cross

9:00 to 10:15 Easter Brunch Sponsored by the Fellowship Committee

10:30 Worship service and One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

John 20: 1 - 18

