



May/June, 2024

Volume L, No. 3

Presbytery of the Cascades

Spring Presbytery Meeting:

**Co-Moderator Rev. Shavon Starling-Louis,
Offering for Warm Springs, Gearing Up for General Assembly**



GA Co-Moderator Rev. Shavon Starling-Louis led worship and highlighted our connection to the larger church.

Ministers and commissioners attended the Spring Presbytery meeting hosted by **Westminster, Portland** on April 19-20 for worship, business, learning and connection. The theme was Stronger Together. Co-Moderator of the General Assembly Rev. Shavon Starling-Louis highlighted our connections to the Church across the United States and globally during her pre-Presbytery workshop and sermon on Matthew 25 during the meeting.

Connection:

Warm Springs PC elders Heather Crow-Martinez and Jo Ann Smith shared about their community and the church on the Warm Springs Indian Reservation in a pre-Presbytery workshop. At the meeting the Administrative Commission for **Warm Springs** reported the work they are doing to get the manse ready for another pastor and challenged the presbytery to contribute \$150,000 towards manse renovations in recognition of the 150-year anniversary of **Warm Springs** in 2024. Towards that end an offering of \$13,300 was received for **Warm Springs** on Saturday.

Josh White from MakersPDX reported on recent developments for this New Worshiping Community. Peter Fargo's presentation on the **Climate Vigil** to be held May 4 in Salem. The reports highlighted our connection to New Worshiping Communities and regional movements towards climate justice. Attendees took advantage of the meals and breaks to make new friends and catch up with friends from the past.

Learning:

Three workshops were offered at 10 a.m. on Friday: Warm Springs, Artful Leadership and Mandatory Session Policies. After lunch the Reverend Starling-Louis, Co-Moderator of the General Assembly held a workshop discussing the ways the PC(USA) continues to live into the Matthew 25 movement as well as what she learned from our Church partners abroad.

Business:

We received the Reverend Joan Schmidt, Lead Chaplain at Peace Harbor Medical Center, Florence, Oregon, by transfer from the Christian Churches and Churches of Christ. We voted to replenish the **Barnabas Fund**, increase the personnel endowment and offset some of the projected deficit with proceeds from the Mt. Laki Property Sale. Looking ahead to **General Assembly**, the presbytery concurred with overtures to the General Assembly regarding single use plastics and protecting Utah's National Monuments. The Synod & General Assembly were asked to transfer the **Community, Moro and First, Lakeview** congregations to the Presbytery of Eastern Oregon. This transfer ensures that Eastern Oregon Presbytery remains viable and offers these churches at least equal services from their presbytery.

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A motion was adopted to commit transferring the Laurelhurst Property to another non-profit organized to benefit Native Americans if the property ever reverts to presbytery.

Worship:

Worship was interspersed throughout the meeting The Pastoral Support Team coordinated prayer, offered spiritual direction before the meeting and created a prayer room. We recognized **Rev. Audrey Schindler's** ministry as she will soon retire, commissioned our General Assembly Commissioners and heard the Rev. Shavon Starling-Louis preach on the theme "Unbounded We Thrive." We are grateful for the music provided by the **Vancouver Korean choir** and accompanists **Heidi Kohne** (Rose City, Portland) and **David Dornack** (First, Portland).



News Briefs

We are Hiring! Communications Manager

Qualified individuals are encouraged to submit resumes for the Presbytery of the Cascades Communications Manager position. This remote job will be responsible for the presbytery's creative channels, including digital newsletters, presentations, and information management.

The Communication Manager will supervise two part-time remote employees, as well as manage the presbytery's website and social media presence. Responsibilities also include the coordination of communication elements for presbytery meetings and to strengthen ties between the presbytery, its pastors, and churches. [CLICK HERE](#) for the Job Description.

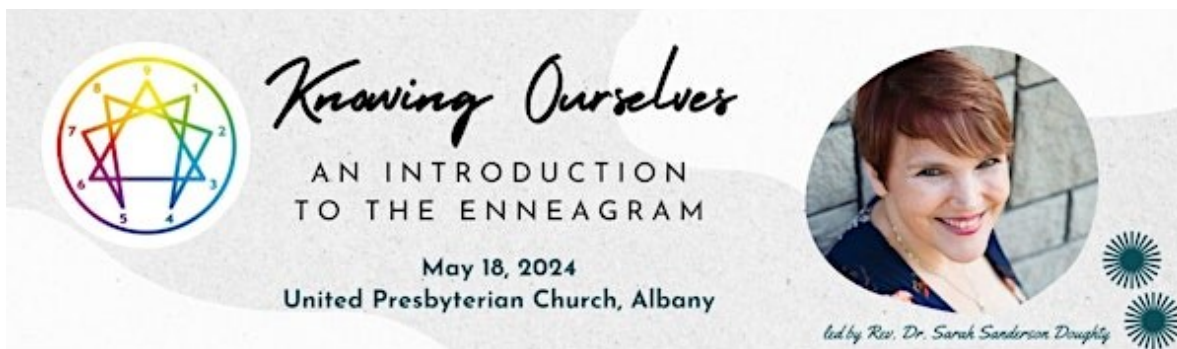
Presbytery meetings may be held in person and attendance is a high priority. Required technical skills include a solid working knowledge of MS Office 365, Canva, WordPress, and MailChimp, as well as strong writing, design, and editing ability. Additional skills needed include an awareness of church culture and the ability to inspire and motivate others, negotiate, and work through conflicts and barriers. Interested applicants should send resumes to Eileen Sheelar - [email](#). Note: Samples of creative and written work will be requested during the interview process.

Omnibus

Omnibus is published twelve times a year by the Presbytery of the Cascades for distribution to churches and individuals.

Omnibus welcomes news and views of all the churches of Presbytery and all its readers. Send all communications to Kathleen Waugh, *Omnibus* editor, Presbytery of the Cascades, 245 S. Bancroft St., Suite D, Portland, OR 97239-8526. Email: kwaugh8@outlook.com

Omnibus retains permission to modify submissions for clarity and space limitations. The Presbytery Communications and Technology Team (CATT) is the editorial board.



Saturday, May 18 — 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at United PC , Albany, 330 Southwest 5th, Ave., Albany

At this retreat, Rev. Dr. Sarah Sanderson-Doughty will introduce the Enneagram, a personality profiling system that helps us better understand our deepest commitments, how we see the world, and how we can relate to one another more generously and faithfully. Whether you are new to the enneagram, or have been utilizing this tool for years, this retreat will create space for you to engage in meaningful conversations about the nine personality types along with Presbyterians from across the Cascades region, forge new friendships, and inspire new patterns of relating to others in your community. [REGISTER HERE](#)

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In-Person Presbytery Meeting Enjoyed by All

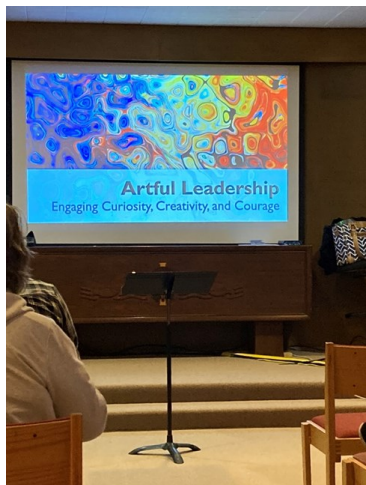


Thanks to Mike and Evonne Hubbard for taking the pictures that tell a story of presbytery!!



The playground where children in child care can play.

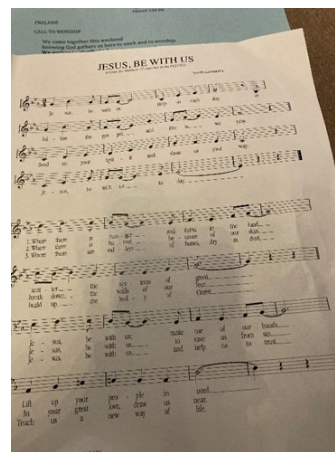
*Paul Belz-Templeman opens up and welcomes folks to the in-person meeting at **Westminster, Portland**. Cherie Elliott registers them as they enter. Thanks to those who spent weeks preparing a meeting where folks can both enjoy each other's company and do the presbytery's business.*



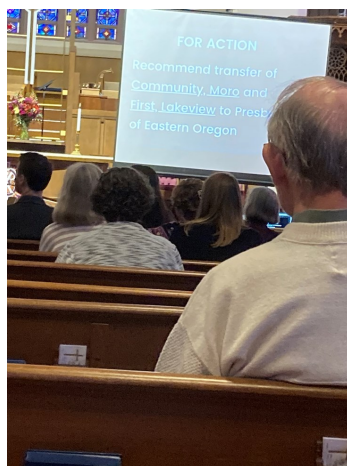
*Pre-presbytery workshop on **Artful Leadership**.*



*"Jesus, Be With Us," sung at worship. The hymn is also the theme of the **Matthew 25** movement.*



*Paul and Eric Lindsey (**North Bend**) enjoying a bit of conversation during breaktime.*



*The vote for **Community, Moro and First, Lakeview** to be transferred to Eastern Oregon Presbytery.*



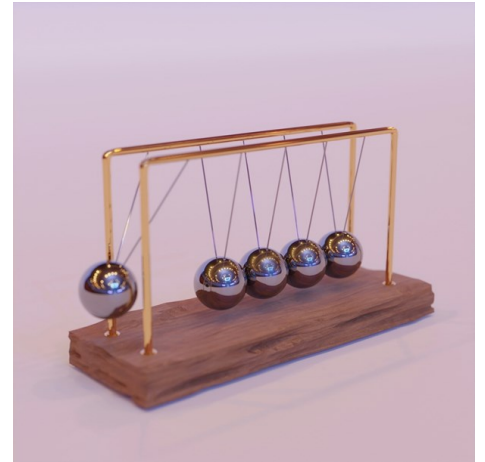
*General Assembly Commissioners: L to R: The Rev. Char Mace, **Camas, St John**; The Rev. Joanna Dunn, **Portland, Bethany**; Sharon Laddusaw, **McMinnville**; Dennis Smith, **North Bend**.*



Candid Conversations

By Rev. Dr. Brian Craker, Transitional Executive Presbyterian

Growing up I was always fascinated by my dad's pendulum puzzle on his desk. His was called "Newton's Cradle" and whenever I got to go into his office, it's the second thing I would run to (after first jumping into his office chair and spinning around a couple dozen times.) My father eventually got me a Newton's Cradle of my own, and I would be fascinated watching it magically swing back and forth, moving kinetic energy from one side to the other. It was fascinating to me that no matter how extreme a motion I would introduce to the cradle, the puzzle would always find a way to recalibrate the extremes to find balance and operate the way it was designed.



Source credit: Sunder Muthukumaran on Unsplash.com

From 1950 to 2000, we saw a bubble of church attendance and membership that had never been seen in American Christianity. According to Gallup, those who identified as having membership in a house of worship jumped to between 70-76 percent until 2000. As we know, that number has declined over the last two decades, now sitting nationally at 47 percent. For reference, if you go back further in history, the averages are 45 percent in 1890, 34 percent in 1850, and 17 percent in 1776, with the historical average of American Christianity still hovering around 30 percent. That means that while yes, American Christian churches are in decline, we are still currently above the national average.

The Rev. Tim Cargal, Ph.D, Associate Director of Ministry Development for the PC(USA), believes this changes the narrative a bit from "the American church is dying" to "the American church is moving back toward historical norms."

There are multiple research studies showing historical data from all over the world that religious attendance and membership ebbs and flows over time, with various cultural, generational, economic and conflict factors all at play. The data shows that the American church is in the middle of one of those shifts as we speak, while the church in other parts of the world is seeing great growth and seeing a renewed emphasis on active discipleship. In a way, the American church and its place in our current culture is operating a bit like my Newton's Cradle, recalibrating and finding its way back to balance.

Lastly, I believe that studying our past may hold clues to how to tackle the challenges in our future. Our denomination, along with other mainline traditions, has been operating under models that fit the bubble experience of 1950-2000. If we are returning to more historical norms, then there are a lot of pieces that need to be reexamined. History holds clues to how the Presbyterian Church functioned during times of lower membership and limited pastors to serve. It was also a time when the Session and the roles of Ruling Elders and Deacons played a more critical role in the life and ministry of each church.

History doesn't chart the future, but it can offer valuable clues and insights into the choices we make as we look to the future. One big clue is that as Presbyterians, we have always worked best when we work together. The Presbyterian Church, at its core, is a connectional body, and a critical component of charting our future is going to be taking the time to be in conversation, listening to our shared stories, and finding ways to work together as siblings in faith to live faithfully into this new normal.

Blessings! Brian

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ViewPoints

By Doug Anderson, Chair of the Presbyterian Leadership Commission

I have had the pleasure of spending the final year of my three-year term as “Moderator” as the Chair of the Presbyterian Leadership Commission (PLC). We Zoom-meet monthly on the second Wednesday of the month, or on demand if business can not wait. It is a group of about 25 who are the chairpersons or officers of the major decision-making bodies of the Presbytery of the Cascades. And, believe me when I say, “You are in good hands with this body!”

An example of their work was celebrated at the April Presbytery meeting with the consummation of the “Barbie’s Village” project on the former Laurelhurst Church property, which will be developed as a tiny-house community for Native American families. This was a two-year project with hard work from the taskforce and trustees, and PLC’s most recent role was to ensure that all of the important conditions set by presbytery for the property transfer were met and completed as quickly as possible. That goal was realized with the property transferred before our April Presbytery meeting in Portland, and we had dozens who attended a very joyous open house to visit the property and to hear and see the pride we all have in this collaborative effort.

Thank you, PLC, individually and collectively, for the body of work that you do at the heart of the Presbytery of the Cascades!



Pentecost Special Offering Highlighted April 1 through May 19, 2024

The Pentecost Offering unites us in a churchwide effort to support young people and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world. Investing in our greatest resource helps youth begin life with a solid foundation of faith.

Psalm 71 testifies that a foundation of faith established during childhood helps ensure lifelong faith and service. The patterns and lessons established during these formative years continue to bear fruit throughout a person's life. By receiving the Pentecost Offering, you are nurturing the faith of those who are the church to come — children, youth, and young adults.

A gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and also address the needs of at-risk children. 40% of the Pentecost offering can be retained by individual congregations wanting to make an impact in the lives of young people within their own community. The remaining 60% is used to support children-at-risk, youth, and young adults through ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.



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Eagle Creek Supports Its Community

By Pat Berger, Northeast Region Reporter

The first thing that Pastor Erik Huget reported about his congregation at **Eagle Creek Presbyterian Church** was that they had a great Easter breakfast! To add to that, there were 31 at worship that day – overall, a wonderful report on how this congregation began Resurrection Day.

Eagle Creek is a small church in a small community – and they do a huge amount in and for their community. Right now, the church’s Action Group is quite busy preparing for the plant sale to be held next month. (For time and date information, call the church office and leave your contact information – someone will get back to you!) The proceeds from this sale are given to organizations in their community in need of financial help.



And then there is the group in Sandy and Estacada called “The Ant Farm.” This group is comprised mostly of young people. They do yard work and other chores for people in the church and others in the community who need some extra help. The money they are given for doing all of this work goes to purchasing supplies they need to keep at their tasks.

This congregation also presents seminars several times a year that are open and inviting to all in the surrounding community. Those who lead are volunteers (except for the nice thank you note they receive!). The one coming up will focus on how to avoid being scammed. The first one will be presented by Clackamas County Bank, another will be led by a member’s son-in-law whose career has to do with mail fraud. Again, call the church for information on dates and time; leave your contact information and you will hear back. Flyers are put out in the community and in area churches. The seminars are free to all who come, as are the coffee and cookies they offer!



There is a very casual approach to worship at Eagle Creek. On the last Sunday of every month, worship features the Eagle Creek Revival String Band. The band is comprised (variously) of Pastor Erik on his guitar, a pianist, a ukulele and a banjo, and other players as it fits their schedules. Before worship, this group leads as everyone sings favorite old and new hymns and songs of the church.

There will be a rummage sale in the works for this year, too. Stay tuned! Eagle Creek welcomed a couple of new members last year, and already anticipate another this year. As a small church in a small community, they are very aware that they may have only one chance to make that favorable impression – they work hard at that.

Best wishes for your work and worship, Pastor Erik and the people of Eagle Creek! It sounds as if you are happily and gratefully busy doing God’s work!



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The Church's New Foundation-The Rest of the Story

By Mike Hubbard, South Region Reporter

Back in November, 2018 a South Region *Omnibus* article with the provocative title, "The Church's New Foundation" began with these words:

"Before one of our astute readers calls the Stated Clerk to report this heresy, let the record state that this story is about the aging foundation under the nearly 130-year-old home of **First, Myrtle Point.**"

Five years have passed, and the church building does, indeed, have a new concrete and timber foundation—and a whole lot more. Back in 2018 there was concern that as the building continued to settle additional pressure would be exerted on two already compromised stained glass windows.

Both windows have since been restored. A local glass studio was able to service the smaller of the two, while the larger had to be shipped to a specialty shop in the midwest. This past fall, it was reinstalled in time for the Advent and Christmas season. Once completed, the smaller one was moved from its previous outside wall location to the entry of the sanctuary.

With the foundation replaced and the windows restored, it was time to address the building's dated appearance. After much scraping, patching, and sanding, the church was given a bright pastel yellow with blue and white trim paint job. A local landscaping company added ground cover and shrubs. All that remained was erecting the white cross that faces Railroad Avenue.

This particular cross comes with its own history; having once adorned the now demolished **First, Coos Bay** church. It was salvaged by former pastor, Chris von Lobedan. Chris presently moderates the Myrtle Point session and made the much traveled cross available to the church.



Cross saved from the Coos Bay Presbyterian Church was positioned in front of the window. Background of window will be painted blue

As the church's exterior was receiving much-needed attention, the interior was being upgraded as well. New paint, safety railings, and a natural gas conversion for the furnace made the inside of the building beautiful, energy-efficient, and safe. Future plans call for improving the quality of the piano and organ used during weekly worship.

While the building committee was keeping busy with these much-needed repairs and upgrades, a very active women's Bible study group has been attending to the Myrtle Point's ministry to the greater world.

As First, Myrtle Point approaches 125 years in their current location, their stewardship and dedication is making a difference in their personal lives, in the life of their community, and in the world.

Several years ago, the women were in the national spotlight via Presbyterian Mission Agency's Facebook page for raising six-hundred fifty dollars to purchase five

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sewing machines for villagers in developing countries. In a recent conversation with Myrtle Point Elder, Laura Isenhart, this writer discovered that much has been done since, with ever more ambitious plans for the future.

In 2022, the group, which utilizes the Presbyterian Giving Catalogue, took on a two-year project goal to provide village garden wells at fifteen hundred dollars apiece. Enough for one-and-a-half wells was raised through beverage can recycling and a used book sale. A local Rotary Club doated enough to cover the cost of another, with the session rounding it out to three.



*L to R: Judy Hensen, Kathy Zappelli,
Denise Sanderson, Margaret Jones*

In the works are plans for purchasing chickens, fishing nets, and water carrying containers, as well as funding latrines.

All this was included recently on the Facebook page for the Presbyterian Mission Agency. The women told the agency, “a member of their congregation showed how sewing machines were used to help a community in Guatemala. They believed the success of their project was due largely to the member being able to speak to having seen how valuable they were to whole communities.”



~Transitions~

New pastors

- Gerald Poole, HR, has transferred his membership from Northwest Coast Presbytery

Commissionings

- CRE Heather Hellman was commissioned at Multnomah, Portland on April 14, 2024

Pastoral Changes

- Jennifer Ackerman has begun serving at Multnomah, Portland
- Chris Dela Cruz has transitioned from Westminster, Portland, to Together Labs, a local area nonprofit
- Kelly Dickson began serving at Hillsboro PC as bridge pastor on January 1, 2024
- Peter Blank began serving at Plymouth, St. Helens on January 1, 2024
- Kevin Manuel has completed his ministry at Community, Redmond
- Zane Buxton has completed his Temporary Supply at First, Creswell
- Sun Mook Jhee has transferred his membership to National Capital Presbytery

Retirements:

- The Rev. Dr. Audrey Schindler will retire from First, Portland on May 31, 2024

Necrology:

- Dick Clippinger passed away on January 24, 2024
- Ann Richards passed away February 16, 2024
- Hubert Newton passed away on February 5, 2024
- Charles Willming passed away on March 1, 2024

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Earth Care Congregations Inspire Others to Take Seriously God’s Call to Care for Our Earth

First, Vancouver is the latest Cascades congregation to be certified as an Earth Care Congregation by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)’s Presbyterian Hunger Program through February 2025. The Earth Care Congregation certification is designed to recognize churches that make the commitment to take seriously God’s charge to “till and keep” the garden.

The following congregations in the Presbytery of the Cascades also have been certified as Earth Care Congregations:

Central, Eugene
First, Portland
First, McMinnville
First, Bend
Kenilworth, Portland
Southminster, Beaverton
Valley Community, Portland
Westminster, Eugene
First, Cottage Grove

The Earth Care Congregation certification is designed to recognize churches that make the commitment to take seriously God’s charge to “till and keep” the garden. This status speaks to the serious commitment that these churches have made to care for God’s earth. To become an Earth Care Congregation, the congregations affirmed an Earth Care Pledge to integrate environmental practices and thinking into their worship, education, facilities, and outreach.

Started in 2010 by the PC(USA), the goal of this program is to inspire churches to care for God’s earth in a holistic way, through integrating earth care into all aspects of their church life. The Earth Care Congregation certification honors churches that make that commitment and encourages others to follow their example.

“Some 3331 churches in our denomination chose to dedicate themselves to intentional care of God’s earth this year. These congregations’ activities and commitment brings hope to their community and indeed to the world. We believe that they will inspire others to respond intentionally to God’s call to care for the earth,” says Jessica Maudlin, Associate for Sustainable Living and Earth Care Concerns for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).



Source: Medium—Preserving God’s Creation

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Two Churches, One Mission

By Dianna Weston, Northwest Region Reporter

Back in 1846, William H. Gray planted what is now the oldest, continuous Presbyterian church west of the Rockies in Warrenton, Oregon. What is also interesting to note, a trail used by the Clatsop people was later used by local farmers to attend weekly services. That trail is now known as US Highway 101.

The church in question is **Clatsop Plains Pioneer, Warrenton**. The Reverend Jerry O'Neil is its pastor. He's been there for a year and a half after having served the Lutheran Church for more than 40 years.

Pioneer averages 25-30 people on Sundays. Like many mainline churches, it is a greying congregation. Last year pastor Jerry became friends with Pastor Paul Davidson **First, Astoria** as they experimented with preaching at each other's church. They now consider each other "partners in ministry."

The trial led to a decision to share a joint service in months with five Sundays. Now called "Inter Church," the two congregations switch back and forth between the two sanctuaries. The host church does the worship service. (Join their next Inter Church on June 30!)

Pioneer invited First, Astoria folks to join them at their annual picnic and service in the Fort Stevens State Park. On St. Patrick's Day First, Astoria returned the favor. The joint service celebrated the saint, but also featured pastor Paul in a kilt and performing his "puppet ministry" with his sidekick, "Professor Hiccup." Pastor Jerry played his ukulele.

Pastor Paul brings some experience with cooperative congregations from his first call in Kansas, when he served three churches at once. Each of the churches had active sessions that formed a parish council to coordinate and share resources, such as a parish choir, new member class, and the like. The council shared a van, which they used to take new members on a tour of all three churches.

He sees a potential for First, Astoria and Pioneer to share a fellowship and outreach committee and perhaps a parish choir.

"I think partnership sounds too much like a business term. I think we're more like siblings in spirit," he says.

Pastor Paul and his worship committee want to host a "Kirkin O' the Tartan combined service. The two congregations also have plans for a joint Earth Day celebration and project next year.

At the moment they have no merger ideas but do want to expand joint activities. The two spiritual leaders want to keep trying to do more and more together and are mindful of keeping each other apprised of special events such as bowling/pizza nights. First, Astoria will host a Ladies' Tea, the Saturday before Mother's Day and Pioneer ladies are invited.

Pastor Paul summarizes, "We need a gentle nudge to wake our congregations up to the fact we're all the same family. Just as Jesus chose his original disciples, so has he chosen us. We can't just sit in separate buildings. Churches are not buildings. Churches are people."

"God brings people together to supplement each other's strengths and weaknesses, like gears and cogs."



Pastor Jerry O'Neil at Pioneer, Warrenton



First, Astoria

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John Knox, Keizer Led by Strong Lay Leadership

By Dennis Smith, Central Region Reporter

“When folks walk through that door, we want them to feel like they’re coming home.”

I’m talking to Mary Jo Emmett and Eileen Sheelar at the rear of the sanctuary at **John Knox, Keizer**. Mary Jo is a retired art teacher who serves as the liturgical artist at John Knox. Eileen is the office manager and clerk of session.

John Knox was founded in 1963. It was built, notes Eileen, in the “if we build it, they will come era.” In Keizer, Presbyterians purchased a whole city block, built a chapel and Christian Education wing, and dreamed of filling the plot with more buildings and parking lots.

But John Knox carved out a different path. They focused on strengthening their outreach to the community. As Mary Jo describes it, they became an “incubator” for all kinds of community ministries: an AA group, a Senior Center, and a kindergarten/preschool before those were available through the local public school system. For a time when no other space was available, this was the gathering space for middle school social gatherings and dances in Keizer.

That land that was set aside to build a large sanctuary? It is now a community garden, another kind of sacred space. Working with kids and alleviating food insecurity has always been mission priorities for John Knox. Eileen describes how they now work closely with child welfare caseworkers to provide gift cards for at-risk kids, most of whom have had choice removed from their lives.

A current emphasis is to work with the schools as “backpack buddies,” providing food for the weekend for at least 20 families. “We’ve never had to create a budget line item for this project,” comments Eileen. “We always receive enough donations to fill this need.”



John Knox Community Garden, another approach to sacred space.



Eileen Sheelar (L) and Mary Jo Emmett show this dramatic quilted banner. It is assembled from 2"x2" fabric squares.

I ask Mary Jo about her artistic vision. As a visual artist, she loves to create images out of paper and cloth that add energy and focus to the liturgy. Faith is never static, Mary Jo observes, and she is always looking for ways to make faith palpable.

Worship at John Knox is traditional, but with a twist. For this Lenten season, for example, they followed Peter’s faith journey with Jesus through Lent using resources from a group of PC (USA) pastor/artists at <https://sanctifiedart.org/>. The theme for this Lenten series was *Wandering Heart*. Mary Jo took their logo and designed much larger images, taping them on the church windows and sanctuary walls. Each Sunday during Lent the worship team added stops on a paper path on the wall coinciding with that week’s thematic focus. Mary Jo has found that such images give a sense of movement and coherence to worship from one Sunday to the next.

Music is another key component of John Knox’s creative vision. Mary Jo notes that they usually have about 35 people in worship and almost half of them sing in the choir. They are also blessed with a wonderful music director and pianist.

“We’ve been without a pastor for a year and a half now,” notes Eileen. As we share, Mary Jo and Eileen emphasized that John Knox has always been a session-led, lay-led church. That means they have come to embrace gladly – and celebrate - the parity of teaching and ruling elders.

What does it mean to be a session-led church? They have learned that they can’t afford the luxury of tolerating fiefdoms. The community must focus on nurturing lay leadership and taking seriously the priesthood of all believers.

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One way John Knox does this is by taking advantage of the many training opportunities offered through presbytery. By learning to be truly connectional, they are learning to thrive as a local congregation. Experience has taught them that when they stop growing in faith through their interconnectedness with others, they get stuck. “But this all works,” emphasizes Eileen, “because we love each other.”

As this was going to press, Eileen advised us that on May 1, Rev. Maggie Lewis will begin service as their half-time stated supply pastor. I caught up with Rev. Lewis on a Sunday afternoon and she shared that she is delighted to begin this new chapter of her ministry. She describes herself as a specialist in working with small churches. She’s happy to assume a part-time role that will focus on enhancing John Knox’s already strong and competent lay leadership. It’s not often, she notes, that you find a church this size that has strong mission involvement in the community, some children and youth, and a strong music program. Welcome, Maggie!



Rev. Maggie Lewis begins as pastor at John Knox on May 1.



Collaborative Conversations throughout the Presbytery

On April 24 at noon, we came together to collaborate and share stories on **CHURCH SECURITY & SAFETY**. The conversation was recorded and you will be able to view the conversation on our Youtube channel: [CLICK HERE](#)

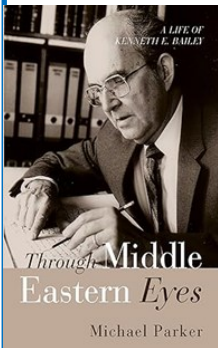
[CLICK HERE](#) for resources shared by our presenters, Randy McCort, RE, Multnomah PC and Chad Cunningham, Risk Management at the Insurance Board. We are grateful to both for sharing their expertise with us all. There are many important links for a deep dive into this topic or simply helpful hints just to get your congregation started talking about this topic. Email the office if you have any further questions.

Stay tuned for next month’s conversation. **We are proposing to talk about PRESCHOOLS.** Do you have one? Do you want one? Can you somehow help meet this need in your community? Come and share what is working for you or come with questions you have. (This is subject to change depending on availability of facilitators. Watch the *Cascades Connections* for more updates.)

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Resources help Ministry and Mission



Brian Craker recommended this resource. *Through Middle Eastern Eyes: A Life of Kenneth E. Bailey*, by Michael Parker, was just published.

A Presbyterian missionary for forty years in the Middle East (1955-1995), Bailey served in Egypt, Lebanon, Israel-Palestine, and Cyprus. He was also a distinguished New Testament scholar,

who taught us all the need to view the parables and life of Jesus through the lens of Middle Eastern culture. His ground-breaking interpretations can be found in ten books, including such popular titles as *The Cross & the Prodigal* (1973/2005), *Jesus through Middle Eastern Eyes* (2008), and *The Good Shepherd* (2014). A lucid and fast-paced narrative, the biography provides the context in which Bailey's insights were formed and developed over the course of a long and often fraught career. Parker's book is based on extensive research in the Bailey Papers at the Yale Divinity School library and is now available at Amazon.com. Here's the link: [Through Middle Eastern Eyes: A Life of Kenneth E. Bailey: Parker, Michael: 9798385207794: Amazon.com: Books](https://www.amazon.com/dp/0830827794). Also, check out Parker's website, which includes several short videos on Bailey's life and importance as a scholar: MichaelParker.info.

(U.S.A.), devotions, Bible study resources (to support the annual PW/*Horizons* Bible study) and a short Bible study on the issue's theme! *Horizons* is just for you because *Horizons* is about you and your sisters in faith, amazing Presbyterian women!

A print subscription to *Horizons* includes five issues of the award-winning magazine and the annual Bible study. [Subscribe or renew a subscription to Horizons.](#)

Saving Delicia: A Story about Small Seeds and Big Dreams.



Written by Laura Gehl
Illustrated by Patricia Metola

Kari's favorite parts of summer are eating juicy fruit from the delicia tree and listening to stories from Old Otis. But now the last remaining delicia is in danger. What if this beloved tree dies out? Is there anything one girl can do? With inspiration, information, and a pocketful of seeds, Kari sets out to craft a surprise for Otis—and for the future.

This tender story celebrates the connections between generations, emphasizing that small steps can have a big impact when one looks beyond the present. An author's note about seed banks around the world is included. For more information, click [here](#).



January/February 2024
Simply the Best

Looking back at some of our most useful articles of the past 25 years

Horizons is the magazine (and Bible study) by and for Presbyterian women. It's the resource for helping you explore where faith and life connect. Focusing on issues of faith—from the interplay between literature and theology to violence against women—*Horizons* gives you insights from women around the world and inspiration to live boldly. Within the pages of *Horizons*, you will find a wealth of information you need to live in faith as a Presbyterian woman such as mission stories, ideas for justice and peace work, information about Presbyterian women and our denomination, the Presbyterian Church



Do you have a book, a Bible Study, a resource that has helped you in your ministry? Please share. Send to editor, Kathleen Waugh at kwaugh8@outlook.com

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Wednesday, May 1

John Finney, granted Honorably Retired status this day, 2016

Thursday, May 2

First Presbyterian Church-Lakeview -- chartered this month, 1911

Friday, May 3

John Waide, granted Honorably Retired status this month, 2005

Saturday, May 4

Dennis Dusek, granted Honorably Retired status this day, 2000

Sunday, May 5

Central Presbyterian Church, Eugene -- chartered this day, 1855

Monday, May 6

Lake Grove Presbyterian Church, Lake Oswego -- chartered 1925

Tuesday, May 7

David Kim, Serving Oregon Yedam since 2018

Wednesday, May 8

Heather Hellman, CRE at Multnomah PC

Friday, May 10

Synod of the Pacific and the Work it does

Saturday, May 11

Rev. Bruce Jarvis, Pastor at Brookings PC

Sunday, May 12

Helen Lewis, granted Honorably Retired status this month, 2001

Monday, May 13

Guigui Roberts, granted Honorably Retired status this month, 2002

Tuesday, May 14

Hillsboro Presbyterian Church -- chartered this day, 1967

Wednesday, May 15

Clatskanie Presbyterian Church -- chartered this day, 1904

Salem First Presbyterian Church-- chartered this day, 1869

Thursday, May 16

Your Presbytery Leadership Commission

Friday, May 17

Cynthia O'Brien, ordained this month, 1993, serving as Supply Pastor, First, Woodburn and Aurora PC

Saturday, May 18

Michaela Drummond, granted Honorably Retired status this month, 2005

Sunday, May 19

Vicky Brown, installed as Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Roseburg, this day, 2002

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Monday, May 20

David Prichard, ordained this day, 1984 & now Honorably Retired

Tuesday, May 21

First Presbyterian Church, Lakeview -- chartered this month, 1869

Wednesday, May 22

Rick Ribeiro, granted Honorably Retired status this month, 2017

Thursday, May 23

William Hoffman, granted Honorably Retired status this month, 2008

Friday, May 24

First Presbyterian Church, Astoria -- chartered this day, 1877

Saturday, May 25

Commission on Ministry-Northwest Region, John Wallace, Chair, and members

Sunday, May 26

Lindsey Santamaria, ordained this day, 2013.

Monday, May 27

Sue Van Stelle, Pastor at Mt. Scott Park PC, Portland

Tuesday, May 28

Andrew Turner - Chaplain at the Portland VA

Wednesday, May 29

Hillary Roethlisberger - Medical Social Worker at Samaritan Evergreen Hospice, Albany

Thursday, May 30

Shimiko Montgomery, ordained this day, 2015.

Friday, May 31

Michael O'Brien, ordained this day, 1992

Saturday, June 1

David Horn, ordained this day, 2014, hospice chaplain, Providence Health Services, Mt. Angel

Elizabeth Crawford, ordained this day, 1998

Orenco Presbyterian Church, Hillsboro - chartered this day, 1909

Sunday, June 2

Amy Busiek, ordained this day, 2002.

John Knox Presbyterian Church, Keizer - chartered this day, 1963

Monday, June 3

Craig C. Stein, ordained this month in 1987

Marilyn Allen, granted Honorably Retired status this month, 2013

Tuesday, June 4

Grace Presbyterian Church-Portland -- chartered this month, 1926

Wednesday, June 5

Bob Stebe, Honorably Retired this day in 2022.

Thursday, June 6

Chi Young Kay, granted Honorably Retired status this month, 2006

Rise Church (Calvin PC), Tigard chartered this day, 1965

Friday, June 7

Jae Doo Chung, granted Honorably retired this month in 2003

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Saturday, June 8

Mark Rainey installed this day as Pastor of Orenco Presbyterian Church, Hillsboro in 1986

Sunday, June 9

David P. McDaniels retired this month in 2007

Monday, June 10

Basin Community, Malin, established in 2020

Laurie Newman ordained this day in 1990

Tuesday, June 11

East Woods Presbyterian Church, Vancouver chartered this day in 2000

H. Rodney Landes ordained this day in 1972, service as a private practice psychologist

Wednesday, June 12

Chi Young Kay, granted Honorably Retired status this month, 2006

Kelly B. Shriver, attending medical school in southern California

Marilyn K. Allen, granted Honorably Retired status this month, 2013

Thursday, June 13

Carolyn Hampton granted Honorably Retired status this month in 2010

Kally Elliott - Supply pastor at Bend, First

Friday, June 14

First Presbyterian Church, North Bend chartered this day in 1903

Saturday, June 15

Bethany Presbyterian Church, Portland chartered this day in 1873

Sunday, June 16

John C. Huenink granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2010

The Rev. Steve Mitchell who started service this day at Christ's Church, Monmouth in 2022

Monday, June 17

Bruce C. Armstrong, granted Honorably Retired this month in 2011

Robert J. Elder granted Honorably Retired status this month in 2013

Tuesday, June 18

David O. Bales granted Honorably Retired status this month in 2006

Kelly Dickson, ordained on June 18, 2021, and serving at Hillsboro PC

Wednesday, June 19

Jeffery G. Bridgeman ordained this day in 1983

Thursday, June 20

Patricia F. Berger, granted Honorably Retired Status this month, 2017

Friday, June 21

Conley Zomermaand ordained this day in 1981, now Honorably Retired.

Jon Nestor ordained this day in 1992, serving as Counselor at Oasis: Counseling & Psychotherapy LLC

Saturday, June 22

John W. Wallace granted Honorably Retired status this month in 2008

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Sunday, June 23

Douglas D. Rich granted Honorably Retired status this month in 2004

Robert J. Perdue, granted Honorably Retired this month in 2012

Monday, June 24

Isabelle F. Davis, granted Honorably Retired this month in 2013

Paulette Mixon-Weller ordained this day in 2001.

Tuesday, June 25

Mark T. Frey, HR, ordained this day in 1979. Now Honorably Retired.

William D. Russell, granted Honorably Retired this month in 2014

Wednesday, June 26

Gerald Poole, ordained this day in 1980, now honorably retired

United Presbyterian Church, Reedsport chartered this day in 1919

Thursday, June 27

Darrell C. Hall, granted Honorably Retired this month in 2010

Jack D. Hodges, granted Honorably Retired this month in 2005

Patricia E. Vanderpol, granted Honorably Retired this month in 2010

Friday, June 28

Christopher E. Von Lobedan ordained this day in 1992

Sunday, June 30

Catherine R. Quackenbush, granted Honorably Retired this day in 2015

Michael A. Grunwald, ordained this day in 1985