

# HIGHLIGHTS

## First Presbyterian Church



Port Angeles, Washington

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Advent has arrived! We love this lovely time of the year leading up to Christmas! In many ways this is the best season of the year....even with it's shopping and baking craziness! The decorations, the lights, trees and music fill us with warmth and anticipation for Christmas day to come! We look forward to unwrapping gifts, setting our holiday table and to the joy of sharing it all with family and friends. Advent is our entry into it all and we welcome it....it announces that Christmas is coming!

But, as Christians, Advent of course isn't just an entry into a holly, jolly Christmas Day unwrapping a pile of gifts. For us it's an entry into gratefully reflecting on Christ's first coming to earth as a baby; and an opportunity to remember that we are people looking forward to Christ's second coming! We get so caught up in manger scenes complete with shepherds and wise men marveling at the sight of the Christ Child that we forget that we're also people looking forward to Christ returning on a cloud in the sky. In Advent we seize the opportunity to remember that we're people with great hope because of all Christ has done for us in his first coming, and that we have a firm hope for the future because he has promised that he will come again! We have the joy of remembering that yes! the Light of the world came on a dark night long ago in Nazareth, but that he will absolutely come again into our dark, and chaotic world bringing the complete fullness of the light of his presence to us all!

Wendy's message continued....

It's been said so many times, but it's true: Jesus is the reason for the season. Let's not forget that. The real gift we are celebrating is God's Christmas gift to us: his son, Jesus Christ. He is our true and certain hope, our only source of true peace & joy. He is the one and only Lord of our life in whom we celebrate and put our faith in every day of the year.

Blessings & Peace as we await his return, Pastor Wendy

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### THE POWER OF A SIMPLE GIFT

Our shoebox gifts for Operation Christmas Child have started on their way to children around the world who are suffering from poverty, disasters, disease, war, and persecution. The boxes go to more than 130 countries. As the boxes are handed out, the recipients are offered a colorful storybook, *The Greatest Gift of All*, which tells the real meaning of Christmas, and is available in over 70 languages. Operation Christmas Child partners with local churches worldwide to offer many of the children a Bible study course, *The Greatest Journey*.

This year we sent 89 boxes, and some additional monetary donations. The total includes 11 boxes put together by the elementary Sunday school class using items that have been contributed. We enjoy organizing these boxes and we thank those who contributed to our effort.

Please pray for the children around the world who will receive these boxes, and for their families. Also, pray for all those involved in processing, transporting, and delivering the gifts, and that doors will be opened in countries that are not receptive to the Gospel.



Chris Watkins



## SESSION NEWS

The Session met on Monday, November 13, 2017 and took the following actions:

- \* Reviewed and accepted the Financial Report through October 31, 2017.
- \* Examined and Approved Beverly Brown as a Deacon.
- \* Examined and Approved Bruce Emery as an Elder. They will be Ordained and Installed Sunday, November 19, 2017 during the second service.
- \* One of the responsibilities of an interim pastor is to update the church's membership rolls. Session Approved adding an "Inactive Membership" Category to the church's rolls. Letters were sent and/or calls were made to several members who have not attended services for at least one year asking what they wished to do about their membership. Depending on their response or lack of response they remained on the Active roll, moved to the Inactive roll or they cancelled their membership. We will not pay the Presbytery "Per Capita" for those on the Inactive roll or whose membership was cancelled beginning in 2019.
- \* Approved changing the Office hours to 9am-4pm.
- \* Approved discontinuing the church's Friday listing in the Peninsula Daily News as people use other tools for finding a church and charges for this have doubled over the past 6 months.
- \* Approved continuing the listing in the PDN Holiday Guide and the Visitors' Guide.
- \* Approved closing procedures for the building following Sunday services.
- \* Approved the Mission Committee's request to distribute the \$5,000 tithe from the Gretchen Crow and Bobby Ewing estates to the following organizations: Half to World Ministries through the Outreach Foundation. The second half will go to local ministries (Young Life, The Answer for Youth (TAFY) and MAN-NA).
- \* Approved increasing the pay for Pulpit Supply from \$150 to \$200.
- \* Approved changing the Session meetings to the third Monday of each month. The next meeting will be on December 18 at 7 PM.

## **ANNA'S HIGHLIGHTS EPISTLE FOR DECEMBER**

Christmas is upon us. Music is fundamental to the celebration of Christmas. Christmas would not be Christmas without music. The old traditional carols, some several hundred years old, get it right. They are indestructible. The words express the ageless Christian truths - telling us what the season is all about. The music is sing-able, accessible and flexible. You can jazz it up or go caroling or play them with full orchestra and mass choirs.

All through advent we will begin our morning worship with "O Come, O Come Emmanuel". The words remind us why we need Christmas to come. It's because we need a God who comes to earth, who comes near to us. He comes to ransom captive people, to set them free. We put space between Him and us by all kinds of rebellion, including being way too busy at this time of year thereby crowding the Lord out of our lives. God comes to us to release us from Satan's tyranny. We have victory over sin and death. Our emptiness is replaced with God's love in our hearts. Christ's advent chases away the gloom and clouds and dark shadows of this life.

"Rejoice! Rejoice!" God is coming. He comes and the fullness of His presence is what makes the season so full of love and joy for us.

May we sing together

"O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord."

I pray this will be a season of quiet and reflective joy and peace for each one of you.

Blessings, Anna

### **MISSION TRIP TO PUERTO RICO**

Are you interested in going on a mission trip to Puerto Rico to help with the devastation there? There are mission trips right now with the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance program all the way through summer of 2018. Contact Tom McCulloch (thlbm@olympus.net or 360-417-8869) if you have questions or are interested. Let's see what our God and our community together might do in this worthy mission trip!

## 2017 CHRISTMAS BASKETS



Once again it's time to prepare our congregation's annual Christmas Baskets (boxes). The boxes go to members of our church family or families in our community that members know who are having a difficult time. Family names with addresses, phone numbers, and the number of adults and children and their ages should be submitted to the church office by 4 PM Friday, December 8. We also ask the principals of the local grade schools to submit names of three students and their families who are struggling. We prepare boxes (from 3 to 6 per family based on family size) for up to 25 families. Family names remain confidential until the boxes are delivered on Saturday morning, December 16, 2017.

Donated food and other items should be at the church by noon Monday, December 11 when we will inventory donations and begin assembling the boxes. Turkeys and turkey breast donations can be placed in the kitchen freezer.

Donations of money are also gratefully received. Write "Christmas Baskets" in the memo line of your check. The money is used to purchase additional items that are needed.

We need and welcome your help assembling the boxes beginning Tuesday, December 12. The schedule for assembling the boxes is:

Tuesday, December 12, 2 to 4 - Organize and label boxes with family codes

Wednesday, December 13, 10 to 12 - Begin filling boxes

3:30 to 6 - Continue filling boxes

Thursday, December 14, 2:30 to 5 - Finish filling boxes, move boxes from basement to the Fellowship Hall

Friday, December 15, 1 to 3 - Add fresh food (except turkeys and perishables)

Saturday, December 16, 9 to 11 - Add turkeys and perishables.

Deliver to families!

Your prayers for this project and the recipient families are welcome!

Questions: Rosalyn Taylor (360) 477-4062



I Hear the Bells - The First Noel - Silent Night -  
O Come All Ye Faithful - It Came Upon A Midnight Clear

Join the Good Time Gang for Caroling  
Fun for the Whole Church Family  
Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> - 4:00 p.m.

Hot cocoa and cookies in Fellowship Hall will start our evening. Maybe a few warm-up choruses before we caravan to Crestwood and then to Park View Villas. If encores are warranted, we'll serenade some other friends in the area. Sign up at the Connection Center so we know how many marshmallows to buy.

### **ADVENT WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

#### **Sunday, December 3rd - 1st Sunday of Advent**

8:30 & 11:00 a.m. - Sermon: "Let Us Be Light: Illuminating Hope"  
based on Romans 15:4-13.

#### **Sunday, December 10th - 2nd Sunday of Advent**

8:30 & 11:00 a.m. - Sermon: "Let Us Be Light: Illuminating Peace"  
based on Isaiah 40:1-11.

#### **Sunday, December 17th - 3rd Sunday of Advent**

8:30 & 11:00 a.m. - Sermon: "Let Us Be Light: Illuminating Joy"  
based on Luke 2:1-14.

#### **Sunday, December 24th - 4th Sunday of Advent**

10:00 a.m. (only one service) - Sermon: "Let Us Be Light: Illuminating Faith"  
based on Luke 1:26-38.



### **CHRISTMAS EVE SCHEDULE**

Sunday, December 24th: 6:30 & 8:30 p.m. - Identical Candlelight services with the Festival Choir and others. The Sermon title is "The Light of the World Has Come" based on John 1:1-14. The 8:30 p.m. service will have the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.





Do you want to make a joyful sound?  
Mark your calendars now!

The 18th annual Messiah Sing-along will be held on Saturday, December 30, from 1-3:30 p.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church, 100 S. Blake Ave. in Sequim. Dr. Jerry Wright will be the Director/Conductor, and there will be instrumentalists, soloists, and an accompanist. Everybody is welcome to join the chorus! Financial contributions are welcome and will be donated to the Sequim and Port Angeles food banks and St. Vincent DePaul.

## **POINSETTIAS**

Would you like to add to the Christmas decorations of the church? You can bring a poinsettia in honor of, or in memory of a loved one. Please bring it to the church office by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, December 5th.



## **CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING**

The Christmas Joy Offering has been a cherished Presbyterian tradition since 1930. This year the Christmas Joy Offering will be dedicated on December 24th, the Sunday before Christmas. The Christmas Joy Offering is divided in two. Fifty percent of the receipts are distributed to the Presbyterian Church (USA) Board of Pensions for assistance programs that provide support to retired church workers and their spouses with financial and housing needs and to active church workers with financial and vocational needs. The other fifty percent supports Presbyterian-related schools and colleges provide education and leadership development while nurturing racial and ethnic heritage. This has been a Presbyterian commitment for nearly 140 years. Please give generously to these worthy causes.



## CPR TRAINING OFFERED AT THE CHURCH



Did you ever wonder what the white cabinet in the Fellowship Hall labeled "AED" held inside? It is a nearly automatic device that can save a life—possibly someone you know. It does NO good unless there a number of people in the Church trained in the basics of how to use it.

We will have a course taught by the Port Angeles Fire Dept. Paramedics in use of CPR and emergency care at the **Church on Saturday, Jan 13, 2018 at 9 AM** (lasts less than 4 hours). You will have an opportunity to be certified (or re-certified) in "CPR (adult, child, and infant), use of the defibrillator (AED), and treating conscious and unconscious choking" for a 2 year period. Course fees will be paid by the Church. These skills are not difficult, but they can save a life here at the Church or elsewhere at the grocery store or mall. If you would like to attend or have questions, kindly contact Chuck Whitney at 360-457-2799.

### FINANCIAL REPORT

Beginning 2017 Balance - \$357.05  
January -September Income -  
\$233,163.91  
October Income - \$24,048.33  
January - September Expenses -  
\$243,634.25  
October Expenses - \$27,466.25  
Ending Balance - \$ -13,631.21  
October 31, 2017



### FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY IS COMING IN JANUARY

A Nine (9) week class will start Tuesday, January 16 promptly at 7 pm. The classes are a good two hours long with DVD by Dave Ramsey and discussion time. We have a few kits at a reduced price of \$90.00. These kits will be available to the first ones who request them. Everything needed is in the kit, from the workbook that you bring to each class to a pencil and sharpener. Only one kit is needed for each family. Rosalie Doty and Marlene Lewis are co-coordinators for this class.





## STEP UP TO STEWARDSHIP

How generous are you? How old are you? Studies indicate that how we give is linked to our generation. Nationwide, the average giving to churches is 3 to 4% of churchgoers' income; 90% of churchgoers do not tithe.

Barna Group is a private, non-partisan organization that has been conducting and analyzing primary research to understand cultural trends related to values, beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors for more than 30 years. In 2016, Barna published *The Generosity Gap* report that focuses on "Generations & Generosity: How Age Affects Giving."

Four generations were identified along with rough estimates of dates:

- Elder generation - born prior to 1945
- Boomers - born 1946 to 1964
- Gen-X - born 1965 to 1984
- Millennials - born 1982 to 2004

The generations differ significantly in defining what generosity is, in the importance of generosity to them, in how generous with money they are, and in the ultimate financial goal for their lives.

There were ten financial goals to rate by importance for each generational respondent:

- Be content
- Be debt-free
- Establish a financial legacy
- Give charitably
- Meet my obligations and needs
- Provide for my family
- Serve God with my money
- Show my talent/hard work
- Support the lifestyle I want
- Other

Stewardship continued....

The first and second goals for all Christians surveyed were to **provide for my family** and to **support the lifestyle I want**.

Those were also the first and second priorities for the Millennials, Gen-Xers, and Boomers, although the last group gave equal weight to **give charitably** as second priority.

The first and second priorities for the Elders were to **serve God with my money** and to **give charitably**.

To **serve God with my money** ranked 6<sup>th</sup> for all Christians as well as for Gen-Xers and Boomers. It ranked 4<sup>th</sup> for Millennials and 1<sup>st</sup> for Elders.

How generous are you?

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Are you interested in helping build a house for Habitat for Humanity at N & 16<sup>th</sup> Street? Or are you interested in being a volunteer on one of the committees? Interested in working at the Habitat store located on Front Street? Interested in helping with a special event? Or are you interested in helping with a Neighborhood Revitalization project? There are many ways that you can help Habitat for Humanity other than these and even from your armchair. Check out [www.habitatclallam.org](http://www.habitatclallam.org). These individuals will also answer your questions as best as they can or help you get in touch with the right people: Karen Kremkau, Habitat for Humanity Volunteer Engagement Coordinator ([kkremkau@habitatclallam.org](mailto:kkremkau@habitatclallam.org) or 360-477-1051), Anna Nichols ([oldnick@olypen.com](mailto:oldnick@olypen.com) or 360-477-2203), Vee Canning ([vrcanning@gmail.com](mailto:vrcanning@gmail.com) or 360-457-6675), or Tom McCulloch ([thlhm@olympus.net](mailto:thlhm@olympus.net) or 360-417-8869).



Dear Church Family,  
I just want to thank everyone for their prayers, notes, cards, visits and support. It's been a difficult time for all of us, but getting home gave me a big lift. Recovery is taking patience, but I am making progress. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

Blessings to all of you.

Nancy Helwick

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Dear First Presbyterian Church,  
Thank you so much for hosting a reception for us at church! We loved being there and seeing everyone. We had a special weekend in P.A. and we can't wait to come back for a visit!

Love, Nick & Amy McCaskey

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Dear Church Family at First Presbyterian,  
We receive the Highlights each month so see changes happening in the church. Pat and I want to thank you for your faithful giving all these years. Hopefully, we will be seeing you in September 2018. Cataract surgery is on the agenda for Pat around Thanksgiving

time, so we will be staying close to home then. Enjoy the fall season,

Samme & Pat Pearson

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Dear Friends at First Presbyterian Church of Port Angeles,  
We are truly grateful for your generous support and continued prayers for our hero, Colton, and towards a cure to cancer through our Seattle Children's Guild.

With gratitude, the Matter Family

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Dear Friends at 1st Presbyterian Church,

On behalf of the Colton's Army Guild of Seattle children's Hospital, thank you for supporting the efforts of our guild. We are truly touched by your generosity and passion to help other families and children the way that so many have helped in order to make the treatments that Colton has received possible. Thank you again for your thoughtful gift of \$1,000 to Seattle Children's and the Colton's Army Guild.

Most sincerely,

Suzy Matter, President

## PATHFINDERS CORNER



Well, let's begin with our **Youth in the News**. Most sports are pretty much wrapped up for the season. A highlight from the pool was Erin Edwards taking the swim team to the State Finals with her amazing speed in freestyle, both in individual races and the medley relay. Great work Erin. Our youth activities last month included a couple of trips to the Olympic Peninsula Humane Society. Always an enjoyable time here with bathing dogs, socializing with the cats, (some not so social, but that's where we hope to help so these precious critters can be adopted by their forever families) then there is deep cleaning the dog kennels and of course dog walking. Last month (October) we also had a hoot of a time bowling ..... in costume. Besides being in costume what made this activity even more challenging was that for the first game and each frame the bowler had to bowl in a designated contorted fashion. The second game was bowled in normal fashion and surprisingly the scores were quite similar. I guess we have some very talented bowlers. Fun was had by all. Looking forward to sharing with you our November activity to the rock climbing wall at Sound Bikes and Kayaks on Nov 26<sup>th</sup>. December activities will include two trips to the humane society ( Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> ) and also on New Year's Eve we're planning a "Lock-in" with the youth from Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, St Andrews Episcopal Church, and First United Methodist Church. So put those dates on your calendars and come and join in some fun, food and fellowship. That is all.

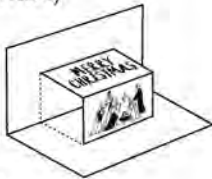


# POP-UP CARD

Share the good news of Jesus' birth with this creative Christmas card.

## What you need:

- Construction paper (two pieces, including one white)
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Pens
- Glue stick



## What you do:

1. Neatly fold the white paper in half, short side to short side.
2. Draw two parallel lines (at least 2 inches apart) from the fold to about halfway to the edge. Cut along the lines.
3. Fold the cut section back and forth so it pops up.
4. Push the section up so it pops up inside the folded paper. Draw a nativity scene on the pop-up box.
5. Fold the colored paper in half, short side to short side. Place the white paper inside it and glue the white paper down, being careful not to glue the pop-up box.
6. Write a Christmas message and give or send the card to someone.



# PUZZLE

## JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM

In the Christmas story in Luke 2, an angel tells some shepherds to go see baby Jesus in Bethlehem.

**START** *Directions: Follow the maze to arrive in Bethlehem.*

BETHLEHEM





- 1 Andrew Clemens  
Jan Johnson  
Sharon Woodward
- 2 J.W. Blaylock
- 4 John Hutchison  
Violet Kildall  
Martha McLean
- 6 Wayne Brown
- 8 Doug Erickson
- 10 Margaret Wilcox
- 11 Evan Cobb  
Shinia Kildall
- 12 Ron Fraker  
Penny Hall
- 15 Pat Hyden  
J.P. Smithson  
Branden Sofie

- 18 George & Sharon Bowman  
Betty Roper  
Randy & Ardith Schuchardt
- 19 Tom Kuch
- 21 Art Bell  
Bruce & Bonnie McCloskey
- 24 Harvey & Susan Evans
- 25 Melissa Raynes
- 29 Carol Foss  
Gary & Val McRoberts
- 31 Gale Marrs  
Lu Meiner

## HIGHLIGHTS DUE



Email, disk, mail  
or hand deliver

By  
December  
18th

## ANNUAL REPORT ARTICLES DUE DATE

To submit an article for our Annual Report, please get it to me no later than, **January 8th**. I would prefer to receive it by email or on a disk, if not, then hard copy will be fine.

The Annual Report will be completed and available on Monday, January 21st for all to review before the Annual Meeting on the 29th. Thank you!

Rita



The First Presbyterian Church of Port Angeles is a community of people of all ages who believe in Jesus Christ as the Son of God and who seek to follow His teachings. We come together to worship God, to grow in our love and support for each other, and to learn about God's will for our lives. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we go out to the community and the world to share our faith and to serve others.



**Worship Associates**

- 3rd Paul Stutesman
- 10th Vee Canning
- 17th Susan Fisher
- 24th John Taylor



**Christmas Eve:** 6:30 & 8:30 p.m. - Scooter Chapman

- 31st Randy Schuchardt

**8:30 a.m.**

**11:00 a.m.**

**Ushers**

- 3rd Bob & Barb Pappas
- 10th Tom Allen & Dona Hair
- 17th Mark Wendt & Dorita Reed
- 24th **10:00 a.m. only -**
- Christmas Eve:** 6:30 p.m. - ; 8:30 p.m. Jerry Nichols & Susan Fisher
- 31st Jerry Nichols & Andy Anderson

**Coffee Servers**

- 3rd Cynthia Isenberger
- 10th
- 17th Dona Hair & Beth Ann White
- 24th **10:00 a.m. only -** Marcia Garrett & Ardith Hansel
- 31st

- Marty Melcher & Chris Watkins
- Pat Hyden
- Edna Haworth
- Chris Keeling

USPS Identification Statement  
 First Presbyterian Church HIGHLIGHTS  
 Published monthly by First Presbyterian Church 139 W. 8th St., Port Angeles, WA 98362

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3 1st Sunday of Advent</b> 8:30 & 11:00 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 4:00 pm Advent event	<b>4</b> 4:45 pm Nominating Comm.	<b>5</b> 7:30am Fish Co @Traylor's 10:00 am Parable Bible Study	<b>6</b> 8am Women's Bible Study @ church 11 am Ministry Coordination Tm 1pm Prayer Shawl Ministry @ Whetstine's 6:30 pm Bells	<b>7</b> 7:00 p.m. Session Comm.	<b>8</b> 4pm Worship Team (11:00)	<b>9</b>
<b>10 2nd Sunday of Advent</b> 8:30 & 11:00 Worship 9:45 Sunday School	<b>11</b> 1pm Naomi Circle @ church 	<b>12</b> 7:30am Fish Co @Traylor's 10:00 am Parable Bible Study 6:30pm Worship Team (8:30)	<b>13</b> 8am Women's Bible Study  6:30 pm Bells	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 4pm Worship Team (11:00)	<b>16</b>
Christmas Baskets assembly and delivering						
<b>17 3rd Sunday of Advent</b> 8:30 & 11:00 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 4pm Good Times Caroling	<b>18</b>  <b>Highlights</b> <b>Articles Due</b> 7:00 pm Session	<b>19</b> 7:30am Fish Co @Traylor's 10:00 am Parable Bible Study	<b>20</b> 8am Women's Bible Study @ Pat Sexton's 6:30 pm Bells	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24 4th Sunday of Advent</b> 10:00 Worship only No Sunday School <b>Christmas Eve</b> Candlelight Services 6:30 & 8:30 p.m.	<b>25 Christmas Day</b> <b>Office closed</b> 	<b>26</b> 7:30am Fish Co @Traylor's 10:00 am Parable Bible Study 6:30pm Worship Team (8:30)	<b>27</b> 6:30 pm Bells	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31 New Year's Eve</b> 8:30 & 11:00 Worship 9:45 Sunday School						