

Tidings of Peace



Newsletter of Peace Memorial EPC

From the Pastor...

Dear Friends,

In last month's newsletter I shared with you that I would be sharing a practical lesson in making 2022 a wonderful year. Last month I shared with you the key to fueling Godly Hope and keeping that hope alive. This month, the lesson is how to Foster Love.

Love is one of the most critical expectations that God has placed upon our lives. Many may come to the conclusion that the highest expectation that God places on us is obedience and while that is partially true, in the great mystery of the Gospel, that perfect requirement is fully satisfied for us in Jesus Christ. In Jesus perfect obedience to God in every way, He was able to offer himself on the cross as payment for our sins, so that not only will our sins no longer be counted against us (they have been paid), but the perfect righteousness of Jesus is applied to us instead!

That great news- the Gospel of salvation by grace through faith delivers us into the Kingdom of Heaven as God's adopted children. That new citizenship brings with it a calling to glorify God and enjoy Him forever. The core to living as a citizen of God's Kingdom is to Love Him, and to love each other. In fact, loving one another is the marker of saving faith. James comments that "faith without works is dead." (James 2:17). By works, he is describing acts of love. If we claim to love God but do not love our neighbors, our faith is false (1 John 4:20). Love is crucial to both a sense of purpose and contentment in Christ.

Have you been feeling sad, lonely, afraid, angry, empty, pointless? It may be because your love has

grown cold. God's Word warns us that in the end times, the love of many will grow cold. The text warns us that as lawlessness increases, our cultures will become judgmental, angry and contemptuous.

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Love will grow cold. So what can we do about it? How can we foster love?

I: Let Jesus be your Guide.

John 15:12: My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Committing yourself to love others can be exhausting- especially if you start out trying to accomplish this out of your own strength. Another way to burn out in love is by trying to love others based on their lovely characteristics. I've met many people who devote themselves to seeing the good in others. If they can see the good in others, its easier to love them. But here's the catch. That is not the model of love that Jesus gave us. Look to Romans 5. "

From the Pastor... Continued

“For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly...God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” -
Romans 5:6,8

God’s love is the key to understanding our call to love our neighbor. We love each other as God loved us- not because of anything lovely in us, but because of God’s nature. That means we can care for the well-being of others because of what God has done for us. God delights when we love our neighbors.

Of course this requires discernment. Our world is so broken it has lost a common sense of what is good and evil- it has even lost a common sense of what is reality. It is no longer enough to say “love one another.” Everyone would agree to those words, and yet mean polar opposite things by them. What does it mean to love each other? Loving one another the right way is defined by Jesus Himself. So when we say that our Love is motivated by Jesus we are saying that Jesus nature and work both empowers us to love (by filling our hearts with His love by the Holy Spirit- See Romans 5), and defines by His own nature and teaching what it means to live in love. God’s word reveals Truth and truth reveals the nature of love. The world may use the word love, but it often re-defines it according to its own perceptions at the great expense of Truth.

II: To Foster Love, we must be “Other Oriented.”

Romans 12:10 puts it like this: “Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.” This is really an expression of the first point. If we love as Jesus loved us, putting others first and caring for their well being above our own is an example of how Jesus loved us. In fact, Jesus put our well-being so far ahead of His own that He died for us. So we too, since we have benefitted so greatly from such compassion, MUST strive to show that same compassion to others.

III: Foster Love through the Discipline of Fellowship.

Hebrews 10:24,25 says, “...let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.” A crucial aspect to fostering Love is expressed here. This point is often overlooked and it can also easily be over simplified or flat out misunderstood. Too often Christians read this as an encouragement to keep going to Church regularly. That certainly is one aspect of it, but the fellowship is not just attending. It is committing to stirring up one another to love and good works, committing to be together, encouraging one another- and to increase this discipline of building each other up as the culture becomes darker and more hostile. This is primarily speaking to the fellowship of believers. As Church, we Must commit to each other and learn to grow beyond mere attendance into true fellowship- connecting with, edifying and equipping each other, encouraging one another.

This commitment to connection and building-up also includes doing what we can together to help meet the needs of those we encounter. If we love God we will become passionate about ministering to the hurts of those around us- regardless of whether they are Christians or not. How do we- who have received the love of God poured into our hearts in the Holy Spirit- how do we share a blessing with those who are hurting around us?

Friends if you have been feeling deflated, discouraged, empty, sad and angry, the cure is love. The Love of God in Christ Jesus, poured out into you by the Holy Spirit and spread from your heart to those around you through your words, your prayers and your actions.

How can we love each other today? Make that a daily question of your spirit as you spend time with the Lord, and then follow where the Word and the Spirit lead you.

May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts and minds in the love of Christ Jesus.

Pastor Aaron

Dear brothers & sisters,
 Mike and I wanted to say
 thank you for your prayers and
 encouragement over this past difficult
 2021! What a challenging year it has
 been and yet, we've all seen the
 Lord's faithfulness and experienced
 His strength.

As we look ahead, our hope and
 prayer is that we all find joy and

glace in Jesus to be our refuge and
 stronghold.

Thank you again and we pray
 His richest blessings on you all!

Mike & Steph Kuhn

HELP WANTED!

We are looking for someone willing to shovel snow from our church front and west-side entrances, and the sidewalk that connects them. Last year we had several people respond- this year, nada. The job requires removing snow before 8:30 am, Sunday through Friday. This is a paid position. If you know anyone who might be interested in making a few extra bucks, please contacted Geri at (541)884-7297, or the church office at (541)884-5057.



Mensahe para sa aking sponsor

(A message to my sponsor)

Date September 15, 2021

Dear Peace memorial Youth,

Hi!! Have a nice day to you. Thank you for continuing to support me. I'm so very happy that I write you a letter again. Thank you for giving me amount of ₱3,026.10 a birthday gift. I buy it pants, T-shirts, and wallet. Your gift has fulfill my needs. Thank you so much. I've always pray to all your safety and keep away from virus. My prayer request to you is to have my family healthy and keep virus away.

Thank you so much to all of you. I love you all, I hope I can meet you in personal.

Loving you,
EDWIN

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

4TH Thursday of the month @ 12:30 in the Fireside Room

We will finish the study of the book "Hagar", by Mike Kuhn, in January and the Women's Missionary Group has settled on "His Last Words" what Jesus taught and prayed in His last hours, by Kim Erickson. It impacts the importance of Jesus's last words of eternal life, powerful and full of love. If you've been longing for more intimacy in your relationship with God, more meaning in your life and more boldness in your witness, "His Last Words" will draw you into what you need: The Word of God. Ladies, if you are interested, join our Ladies Bible Study on the 4th Thursday of January 2022. See Noreen Rhoades to purchase the book "His Last Words" for \$14.00.

Noreen Rhoades

BUCKET BRIGADE February 28th

In January we met to finish a few tasks in the kitchen. With that, we have just one room left on the main floor to tackle. Since that room is the nursery and it would be too much to try and work around the preschool at this time, we'll put that room off until later. For our next campaign on MONDAY, FEB 28, we'll go back where we started- the Sanctuary Balcony. Since we already did the heavy lifting a little over a year ago, the tasks will be those year-to-year jobs cleaning the pew cushions and the like. But it's a lot easier to tidy up rather than clear out, and wipe down rather than scrub down. SO- if you want to help spruce up the Sanctuary, come join us. We'll start at 10:00 am. Since this is a large area, we can do some this month and finish up the next.



February Birthdays

1st Laura Brasser

6th Paul King

13th Frank Harvey

14th Barbara Massey

23rd Hallie Beaty

27th Roger Vercruysse

Sunday Bible Class

9:00-10:00 AM

Fireside Room

The Inheritance of Israel *from JUDGES to KINGS* *(1 & 2 SAMUEL)*



Join us in the Fellowship hall as Pastor Aaron Beaty and Geri Coker guide us through the story of the development of the Nation of Israel and how God worked to make a people for Himself. This winter and spring we will prayerfully follow the emergence of Kings in the land and how God has always pointed toward the one King, Jesus, who would deliver His people and sit on the Throne forever.



Theology On Tap (TnT)

1st and 3rd Mondays

6-7:30PM

Church Fireside Room

Join Pastor Aaron as we continue the video series,
"The Truth Project" with Dr. Dell Tackett.

Here are a few words about this powerful study from Focus on the Family:

"In a 2003 study, the Barna Research Group revealed a stunning statistic that continues to reverberate throughout the evangelical world – *only nine percent of professing Christians have a biblical worldview. The Barna Update, "A Biblical Worldview Has a Radical Effect on a Person's Life,"* December 1, 2003.

Because of this, today's believers live very similarly to non-believers. A personal sense of significance is rarely experienced, we spend our money and time on things that fail to satisfy, and we begin to wonder what life's ultimate purpose really is. We are, in short, losing our bearings as a people and a nation.

To counter this downward slide within the body of Christ, Focus on the Family has launched one of the most ambitious and powerful projects in the history of our ministry – *Focus on the Family's The Truth Project®*.

The Truth Project is a DVD-based small group curriculum comprised of 12 video lessons taught by Dr. Del Tackett, instructor of Christian Worldview at the Focus Leadership Institute and a former Senior Vice President of our ministry. This study is the starting point for looking at life from a biblical perspective. Each lesson discusses in great detail the relevance and importance of living the Christian worldview in daily life.

We believe this curriculum can be a catalyst for exponential change within the body of Christ, as thousands of people are "transformed by the renewing of [their] mind" (Romans 12:2). As He has throughout history, God continues to call ordinary people to make an eternal difference in our world."

Bring your own dinner and join us together as we re-construct a Biblical world-view by diving into the TRUTH.

Stewardship & Finance Committee

December 2021

Here is our monthly update on finance:

Operating Income:.....	\$16,556.00
Operating Expenses:.....	<u>\$10,236.56</u>
Monthly Net:.....	\$ 6,319.44
YTD /2021 Year End Net:.....	\$20,687.52
Checking 12/31/21:.....	\$59,678.21
Money Market 12/31/21:.....	\$59,488.24

Hi Friends,

Expenses in December beyond regular operations: Yearly Intuit Payroll \$500, Session Discretionary \$250.

Happy New Year everyone!

We have been very blessed this past year and have been financially very stable. As you can see, we ended the year with over \$20,000 in the black for the 2021 budget year. The spread sheet of the 2021 year end expenses will be in the annual report, as well as the approved 2022 budget. Thank you for your continued support of Peace Church, and we look forward to learning and sharing God's Word together this coming year!

Many Blessings to All!

Kathy Todd

HUMAN TRAFFICKING BRAINSTORMING SESSION WEDNESDAY, FEB 16

Back in September, we hosted a Human Trafficking Community Awareness Event. Several churches and community organizations attended. Those attending were given materials to digest to help them identify where they feel called to work in the anti-trafficking movement. Our own Mission Committee has been reviewing those materials and looking at ways we at Peace Memorial can be most effective.

Now that those called to be modern-day abolitionists have had a few months to pray and consider how to combat this great evil, we figured it's time we have a BRAINSTORMING SESSION to find what others are planning or hoping to do. We have contacted the local churches and organizations who showed interest to meet WEDNESDAY, FEB 16th at 6:30 pm for an informal exchange of ideas and resources. For example, we learned that as of September 2021, there was NO child therapy specialist in Klamath County. We have therapists who work with children, but no one specifically trained in the field of child trauma. If Peace Memorial goes to the County Commissioners to request there be an active recruitment for such specialists, it's just one voice. But if 10 churches and organizations go together, that's a harder voice to ignore. We're hoping this gathering will help us connect with one another.



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We're on the web!

www.peaceEPC.com

"like" us on Facebook

*"In all your ways acknowledge
Him, and He will make your
paths straight"*
-Prov. 3:6

III: The Suffering of the Christ Mark 9:2-15:47

The Gospel of Mark:

2/6 - To Whom Should We Pay Tribute?
Mark 12:13-17

2/13 - **The Gospel of Mark: :**
What is the Nature of the Resurrection?

A Trick Question
Mark 12:18-27

2/20 - **The Gospel of Mark:**
What is the Most Important Commandment?
Mark 12:28-34

2/27 - **The Gospel of Mark:**
Who is the Christ?
Mark 12:35-40

Your SESSION

Elders

Pastor Aaron Beaty-	Session Moderator
Noreen Rhoades-	Clerk of Session
Kathy Todd-	Finance & Stewardship
Bob Wincentsen-	Christian Education
Linda Dart-	Mission and Outreach
Jim Zeller-	Building and Grounds
Betty Shaw-	Worship
Stephen Goode-	

Your DEACONS

Geri Coker- Chair

Susan Orton

Jocelyn Shellito

Vicki Zeller

Bertra Bratton

*The Deacons meet the third Sunday of each
month following worship.*

Your

TRUSTEES

Harold Heaton

Stephen Goode

Sharron Goode

Sharon Haddock

*Session meets the 2nd Monday of each
month from 1-3PM.*

