

Tidings of Peace



Newsletter of Peace Memorial EPC

From the Pastor...

“Keep your heart with all vigilance,
for from it flow the springs of life.
Put away from you crooked speech,
and put devious talk far from you.
Let your eyes look directly forward,
and your gaze be straight before you.

Ponder the path of your feet;
then all your ways will be sure.
Do not swerve to the right or to the left;
turn your foot away from evil.”
-Proverbs 4:23-27

The Church is under a diabolical attack. Across the nation, we are seeing an emergence of contempt.

Contempt is one of the most destructive mind-sets in any relationship. A friendship will ice over in the midst of contempt, a professional relationship will fall apart when one or both parties holds contempt for the other. Even marriage cannot survive contempt for long. Contempt is to disregard another; to hold them in disdain as useless, worthless. You could say that contempt is the opposite of the love of God.

I say the Church is under an attack of contempt not because our culture is demonstrating contempt for the Church (Though this is certainly true- it is certainly nothing to be alarmed by- in fact, Jesus promises us that the world will hold us in contempt.) but because the poison of contempt is emerging WITHIN CHURCHES ALL ACROSS THE NATION.

A combination of bad communication and the great unrest and criticism generated by our media has fostered deep contempt in the hearts of many. Sometimes unexpressed and unmet expectations in one area of life develop from complaint into criticism and contempt. And as we Christians allow contempt for another in one area of our lives, we inadvertently also allow that spirit of contempt into the Church as

it comes with us.

Here’s a chilling truth: Once contempt has taken root in your heart for someone, it very easily transfers targets. While it may have started for a political figure or party, it very easily transfers to leaders in the church- the Session or the Pastor. It is easy for contempt to immediately flood into otherwise healthy disagreements between Christian brothers but quickly chokes out hopes of restoration. Therein lies the great threat that this spirit of con-

In this Months Edition

From the Pastor	1-2
Thanks for the Lilies.....	3
Thoughts from an Elder.....	4
Assistance League	5
Bucket Brigade/Spring Clean-Up Day.....	5
Bible Study.....	6
Quilt Show.....	6
Stewardship & Finance	7
Birthdays & Anniversaries	7
Upcoming Sermons/Church Information	8

tempt poses to the Church. For our primary response to God’s grace in Jesus Christ is what Paul calls, “The Ministry of Reconciliation.”

2 Cor. 5:17-20

“17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. 18 All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. 20

From the Pastor... Continued

Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.”

As God has reconciled us to Himself by His loving kindness through faith the death and resurrection of Jesus, He has also called us to be reconciled to one another. We are to “love one another as we have been loved.” -John 13:34.

If we allow contempt into our hearts, it ruptures our ability to even love our brother and sister- let alone be reconciled. Disagreements will come and if contempt has a hold of a heart, reconciliation is impossible. Loving fellowship is impossible if contempt is a factor.

If you think that’s the bad news, it gets worse. Not only does contempt easily change targets, it is also contagious. When one person expresses contempt for another, our broken nature effortlessly grabs on and adopts those same views. Contempt is as contagious as any airborne virus, but much more deadly. Its deadly because not only does it rupture our ability to love and forgive, by condemning others, but it also protects itself and grows by building up the pride of the infected. The end result, a person who judges and condemns others while developing an over-inflated sense of self-worth. Such a mind is often deaf to rebuke and resistant to repentance.

The frustration, distrust and hatred so carefully fostered across our communities over the past year is emerging as a spiritual illness in churches. Expressions of distrust, criticism and defiance are popping up in fellowships of all denominations.

I share this with you so that you will join me in defending the heart of the Church by guarding your own. As the author of Proverbs 4 states, “keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.” He describes the fight to protect a heart that fully belongs to God. A huge tool in a victorious defense is to be aware of the attack. The devil loves to corrupt the things of God and contempt is a powerful tool of destruction: An evil thing taking root in the core of a redeemed follower of Jesus? Outrageous!

So, don’t let it in. When you feel frustrations and recognize unmet expectations, communicate those to the right person. If you are upset with the pastor, or an elder, or a friend, go talk to them. Do not allow the frustration to mutate into criticism. If contempt begins to emerge because of our culture- guard against that as well!

There are fortunately some powerful antidotes to the poison of contempt. These are gifts given by God and empowered in us by the Holy Spirit. They are, simply put, REPENTANCE, THANKSGIVING and APPRECIATION.

Even if you discover that contempt has a hold on you, no grip of the enemy is strong enough to withstand the Cross. Confess your sin of contempt to Jesus and let Him take it away. No broken relationship can remain dead in the face of the Resurrection. Re-submit yourself to the Lordship of Christ and in all circumstances, GIVE THANKS. Thank God for His mercy and for reconciling you to Himself. Give thanks for the person or situation that you are currently frustrated with, and commit to communicating your hopes. And while contempt can rewire your brain to be incapable of seeing anything good in the target, be sure to EXPRESS APPRECIATION for the one you once held in contempt. You will be amazed to see how swiftly the seemingly bottomless flow of hatred will evaporate under these powers of God’s Spirit.

So join me in the good fight as together we defend the heart of the Church by defending our own from the corruption of contempt. The Love of God is too beautiful to tarnish it with such thoughts.

Blessings to you in Christ our Redeemer!
HE IS RISEN!

Pastor Aaron

Thank you for the Lilies

Donated by

In Loving Memory of.....

Chuck & Geri Coker	Louis & Thelma Steyskal Ted & Doris Coker
Rog & Jan Vercruysse	Mabel Vercruysee-Rog's mom Dollie Gartman-Jan's mom
Barbara Massey	Robert Massey, Glen Roufs, Lura & Ralph Dunlavy, Gene Overen & Nicole Roufs
Kathy & Rodney Todd	Waldo Smith
Mary Fort	Jeanette Stepp
George & Sheryl Keady	Lucille, Sylvia, Jack, Beverly
Fred & Sharon Haddock	Our Parents: Jim & Hazel Hick- man; Folk & Eppie Haddock Our Son: Kelly Folk Haddock
Vicki & Jim Zeller	Janice Zeller, Victor Divine, Our Grandparents
Harold & Sally Heaton	Loved Ones
Marjorie Divine	Victor Divine, Loved Ones, Lucille & Russel Griffith
Pat Brown	Lewis & Mable Payne, Lois Deboner
Betty Shaw	Glen, Louise, Glenda, Elaine
Jeannine Wirth	Harold Wirth, Jackie Carter
Bertra Bratton	Shogren family Bratton family

Thoughts from an Elder: by Joe Riker

20 things you might consider giving up this Lent. And these are things to give up not just for Lent, but for the rest of your life. These thoughts have been excerpted from several Christian magazines I have read over the years and I don't remember which ones!

1. **Guilt** – I am loved by Jesus and he has forgiven my sins. Today is a new day and the past is behind.
2. **Fear** – God is on my side. In him I am more than a conqueror. (see Romans 8)
3. **The need to please everyone** – I can't please everyone anyways. There is only one I need to strive to please.
4. **Envy** – I am blessed. My value is not found in my possessions, but in my relationship with my Heavenly Father.
5. **Impatience** – God's timing is the perfect timing.
6. **Sense of entitlement** – The world does not owe me anything. God does not owe me anything. I live in humility and grace.
7. **Bitterness and Resentment** – The only person I am hurting by holding on to these is myself.
8. **Blame** – I am not going to pass the buck. I will take responsibility for my actions.
9. **Gossip and Negativity** – I will put the best construction on everything when it comes to other people. I will also minimize my contact with people who are negative and toxic bringing other people down.
10. **Comparison** – I have my own unique contribution to make and there is no one else like me.
11. **Fear of failure** – You don't succeed without experiencing failure. Just make sure you fail forward.
12. **A spirit of poverty** – Believe with God that there is always more than enough and never a lack
13. **Feelings of unworthiness** – You are fearfully and wonderfully made by your creator. (see Psalm 139)
14. **Doubt** – Believe God has a plan for you that is beyond anything you could imagine. The future is brighter than you could ever realize.
15. **Self-pity** – God comforts us in our sorrow so that we can comfort others with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.
16. **Retirement** – As long as you are still breathing, you are here for a reason. You have a purpose to influence others for Christ. That does not come to an end until the day we die.
17. **Excuses** – A wise man once said, if you need an excuse, any excuse will do.
18. **Lack of counsel** – Wise decisions are rarely made in a vacuum.
19. **Pride** – Blessed are the humble.
20. **Worry** – God is in control and worrying will not help.

God has so much more in store for you. But so many of these things above are holding you back from walking in the full destiny he has laid out for you.

Today is a new day.



Assistance League is a national organization with a chapter here in Klamath County. Assistance League owns Findables, a used furniture and home décor store located at 1330 East Main St.. It is operated entirely by volunteers and the proceeds from the store go to clothe needy children in Klamath County (Operation School Bell.) More than 1300 children were clothed in 2020 by Assistance League. The store is stocked by shopping yard sales, etc., and by donations. Findables desperately needs your gently used furniture. Drop off at 1330 E. Main between the hours of 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays. OR Call Reen Stagner at 1.253.468.8746 for pick up.

BUCKET BRIGADE JOINING BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

The Building and Grounds Committee will have the Spring Work Day on MONDAY, APRIL 26 from 9:00 am until whenever. Those who have been volunteering for our monthly Bucket Brigade are asked to come join the Work Day party. We won't have a "designated area" for cleaning inside, and most of the work will be outside activities- pruning shrubs, prepping flowerbeds, washing outside windows. But don't let that stop if you're a "I don't really enjoy dealing with bugs" person. I'm sure we can find something for you. One of the benefits of working with B&G? We get fed lunch!

Big thanks to all who came to deck the halls with us and touch up the sanctuary in time for Easter. People may not notice other than "it looks a little brighter in here," but you know how many buckets of black water were dumped. You all do a terrific job!



Lunch will be provided!!

Contact
Jim Zeller
for more
information
541.274.1942



The Inheritance of Israel

A Journey through the book of Joshua

With Pastor Aaron Beaty and Deacon Geri Coker

Sundays 9:00-10:00 AM

Fireside Room

QUILT SHOW IS A'COMING!

The Peace Memorial Women's Missionary Group will be hosting our **QUILT AND AFGHAN SHOW on MAY 15th from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm**. We'll once again invite the community to share their treasures with us in a display of art and history. If you have a quilt or afghan to contribute, we have the registration forms in the back of the church at the Elder's table. And yes, you can definitely show more than one!

We have two quilts to raffle this year. We'll be doing it a little differently this year. There are separate tickets for the two quilts, so if you're interested in one over the other, you have that option. We'll put them all together for the afghan drawing. Susan Orton has the tickets and would love it if you'd take some to sell to friends and family.

We'll be serving scones during the event but I've got a bit of a problem. I got kind of wiped out of homemade jams at the bazaar and only have a few jars of strawberry-rhubarb. If you put up jams and jellies and have a few to spare, would you consider sharing? We like to have a variety. Thanking you in advance.

Stewardship & Finance Committee

Financial Report

February 2021

At a glance

Operating Inc.:	\$11,040.90
Operating Exp.:	\$9,014.03
Monthly Net:	\$2,026.87
Ckg Acct Bal 2/28	\$43,416.38
MMkt Bal 2/28	\$52,726.60

February 2021

Here is our monthly update on finance:

February Operating Income:....\$11,040.90

Expenses:.....\$9,014.03

Monthly Net:.....\$2,026.87

YTD Net:.....\$7,884.45

Checking 2/28/21:.....\$43,416.38

Money Market 1/31/21:..... \$52,726.60

Hi Friends,

Expenses in February beyond regular operations: Laptop repair, World Missions donation

Blessings All,
Kathy Todd

APRIL

Birthdays

1ST SUSAN ORTON

3RD EMILY BELLM

14TH ABBY HARVEY

16TH SALLY LOVINS

27TH ASHER GREEN

30TH GRACE JOHNSON

Anniversaries

10TH CHUCK & GERI COKER



Peace Memorial
Presbyterian (EPC)

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Klamath Falls, OR 97601

Phone: 541-884-5057

E-mail: office@peacepres.org

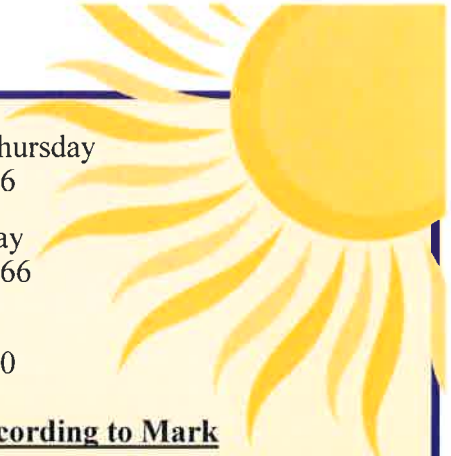
Pastor: pastor@peacepres.org

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



4/1 - Maundy Thursday
Matthew 26:1-46

4/2 - Good Friday
Matthew 26:47-66

4/4 - EASTER
Matthew 28:1-20

The Gospel According to Mark
I: Prologue

4/11 - "Preparation for the Christ, the Son of God"
Mark 1:1-13

II. The Disclosure of the Christ, the Son of God

4/18 - "Jesus preaching and making preachers"
Mark 1:14-20

4/25 - "Jesus' Saving Power at Capernaum"
Mark 1:21-34

Your SESSION

Elders

- Pastor Aaron Beaty- Session Moderator
- Noreen Rhoades- Clerk of Session
- Kathy Todd- Finance & Stewardship
- Don Perryman- Christian Education
- Linda Dart- Mission and Outreach
- Jim Zeller- Building and Grounds
- Sally Heaton- Worship

Your DEACONS

Geri Coker- Chair

Bev Moulton

Susan Orton

Jocelyn Shellito

Vicki Zeller

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 Wednesday of each month from 6-8PM.

