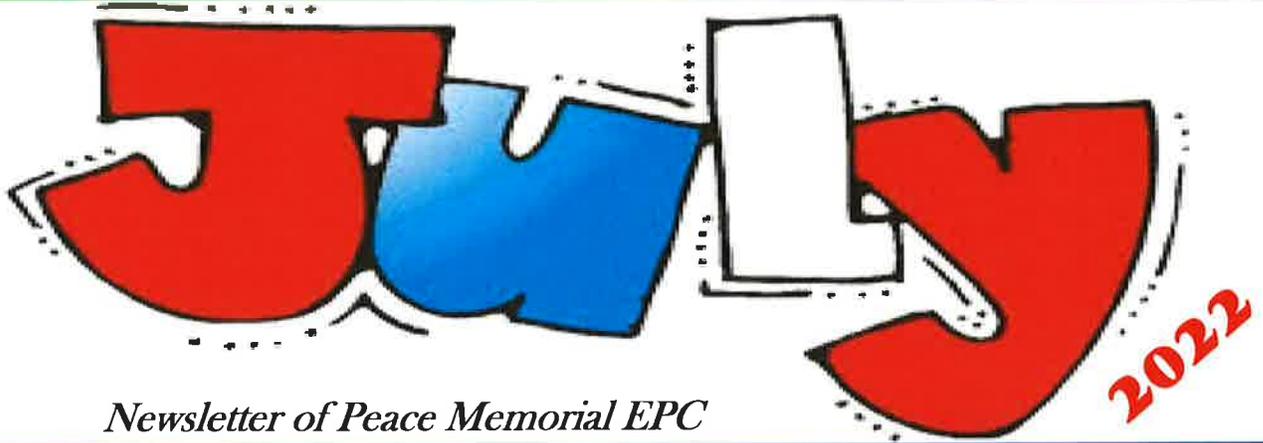


Tidings of Peace



Newsletter of Peace Memorial EPC

From the Pastor...

Enjoy the Blessing

Series Episode 7: "Goodness"

Dear Friends,

This year, I've been sharing with you each month, an article on an aspect of the blessings of the faith- and how you can enjoy these blessing as you follow Jesus. These blessings are the substance of following Christ- they are the elements of faith in Jesus that produce something different within us that contribute to being able to enjoy God on a daily basis. In this, our seventh episode, I share with you the blessing of "Goodness". Or perhaps more specifically- "doing good." The topic of "doing good" has received much attention throughout the history of the Church. There has been much confusion and struggle over the role of our good works in the process of our salvation. So before I dive into the rich depths of Goodness, I need to make this point very clear:

Good works are a **PRODUCT**, **not** a cause of our salvation. We are saved from our sin and adopted as God's children by the **GRACE** of God **ALONE**, through **FAITH ALONE** in **JESUS'** death and resurrection **ALONE**. So what role does good works have in our salvation? None. Good works are a **RESULT** of our salvation. They are both how we give thanks to God (how we glorify Him) and also a part of our calling to a new life. Understanding that fundamental lesson- we are saved by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone, here are some key insights into the blessing of "Goodness".

I: Goodness is an Objective Reality

The concept of Goodness is in the midst of an identity crisis in our culture. Before we talk much

about doing good- we need to unpack the nature of goodness. If you look at our culture, you will see a version of goodness that is neither a blessing nor is it good! What we see masquerading as goodness today in the secular world (and even within the Church in some places) is defined more by hedonism (the pursuit of pleasure) and Gnosticism

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(secret knowledge-that you can see certain truths that are hidden and only revealed to those who have received certain insights from human sources- this is in stark contrast to divine revelation) than it is by God's Word or anything objective.

Mark Twain is credited as saying, "there is nothing less common than common sense." While witty, there is also a great amount of truth to this saying as Samuel Clemens was observing a fundamental shift in Western culture and its impact on the culture's view of goodness. Common sense was a term used

From the Pastor... Continued

to describe the reality that in Western Civilization (up until the late 1800's), Western culture functioned together with a common foundational system of ethics. The Judeo-Christian understanding of good v. evil was held in common throughout our communities. "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you" was the golden rule: a short-hand expression of this common sense of right and wrong. The common ethic was more specifically defined by the Ten Commandments and some practical lessons that stemmed from those. Don't lie, cheat or steal. Honor those in authority (and that included institutions- be a good citizen, be polite etc.) This common sense even included respect for (if not outright faith in) Jesus Christ specifically and God in general. This ethical system was in place for America whether people were church-goers or not, it was a "common sense" of right and wrong. But in the mid 1800's a shift took place in western civilization wherein a new worldview took root and swiftly began to spread. This new worldview re-envisioned the nature of everything in the context of natural law instead of Divine interposition. In short- the new world-view was godless. Everything came into being not because of a Creator God, but because of natural law. Things just happened- and all things naturally evolve from one thing to another with no greater purpose or meaning. All this to say, the concept of right and wrong, good and evil, after 1859 (the publishing of Darwin's "Origin of Species" which was the doctrinal catalyst for the emergence of this godless worldview) changed abruptly- we had a culture rapidly adopting an ethical system based on a rejection of Divine authority and adoption of human perception. So beware! When considering the concept of goodness in the context of Christian blessing, we are NOT talking about what makes you happy, or what makes people feel included, we are talking about the nature of God as He has revealed Himself to us through Jesus Christ including the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments. What is Goodness? Godliness.

2: Goodness is Revealed

God instructs His people to seek after a knowledge of goodness (so they can put it rightly into practice). Hear the prophet Jeremiah (500 BC):

"This is what the Lord says:
 'Stand at the crossroads and look;
 ask for the ancient paths,
 ask where the good way is, and walk in it,
 and you will find rest for your souls.'"
 -Jeremiah 6:16

Likewise the Apostle Paul says,
 "Do not be conformed to this world,
 but be transformed
 by the renewal of your mind,
 that by testing you may discern
 what is the will of God,
 what is good and acceptable and perfect."
 -Romans 12:2

There are two important points being made in these and other texts like it in Scripture. First, God's way is not instinctive to human nature. By nature, we are separated from God.

"Seek the Lord while he may be found;
 call upon him while he is near;
 7 let the wicked forsake his way,
 and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
 let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him,
 and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
 8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
 neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord."
 -Isaiah 55:6-8

From the Pastor... Continued

This means we cannot rely on our own perception to understand goodness. Our perception is corrupted by sin. At no point does humanity have the capability to discern goodness- let alone DEFINE it. However, since the garden of Eden, that was been humanity's curse- Adam and Eve fell from a perfect state into sin when they ate of the forbidden fruit- the knowledge of good and evil. From then on- humanity has both been blind to the nature of good and evil, AND determined to define it for themselves. The curse of the fall is rejecting God's Authority in not only refusing to submit to God's instruction but insisting on defining good and evil for ourselves.

Second, and this is very good news indeed, Goodness can be understood through Revelation. God loves us and will both teach us what is Good (His nature) and also what it means to live out that goodness on a daily basis.

"Ask where the good way is... and walk in it" says God through Jeremiah, "be transformed by the renewing of your mind so that... you might know the will of God.. what is good.." Says Paul.

God is the giver of wisdom and understanding. Through faith, in submission to God's instruction, we can understand objective goodness- the nature of God and His will for us. By the presence and work of the Holy Spirit which God pours out into our hearts, godliness becomes a part of us both in terms of passion (our desires) and behavior.

"If anyone lacks wisdom, let them ask of God who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given them..." James 1:5

3) Goodness is love in action.

While goodness is an objective reality in that it is the nature of God- unchanging and unchangeable, it I also is a manner of living. As Christians we are called both to set our minds on goodness (the things above- and on God from whom all blessings flow), and to "do good" as a lifestyle. Doing good is worship in a daily basis. Loving God with all our heart, soul, strength and mind, and loving our neighbor as ourselves (with the revelation of God's will through Scripture as our framework for what love really means), is what God desires of us and probably the best over-arching definition of doing good we could ask for. So do good. What does that look like?

Trust in God and tear down idols (commandments 1-3)

Rest in the Lord (commandment 4)

When you work- work hard as if you were working for God. (Commandment 4)

Honor authority (your parents, those in office, and institutions) (Commandment 5)

Be kind to everyone and honor all human life as sacred (commandment 6)

Honor the sanctity of marriage between a man and a woman, do not look at others with lust, do not let the passions of the body have authority over you (commandment 7)

Be content with what you have (commandment 8)

Be honest and gentle (commandment 9)

Respect boundaries (commandment 10)

Let me share with you an important key to living out Goodness. The way to do this well is not to follow a list of rules- but to draw near to God in loving fellowship on a daily basis through Jesus Christ. The love of God, experienced through that fellowship transforms us into people who both know what Goodness is and are eager to put it into action. But people who only follow rules become self-righteous and judgmental.

Goodness is a profound blessing my friends. Set your mind on the Goodness of God. Every good and perfect gift comes from Him who desires to bless us who are in Christ in every way. And as you know God more and more, may you find joy both in His absolute, objective goodness, and in living out how the goodness of God has become a part of you.

From the Pastor... Continued

May the goodness of the Lord bless you richly today and forever.

Pastor Aaron

Therefore, as we have opportunity,
let us do good to all people,
especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

-Galatians 6:10

Do not be overcome by evil,
but overcome evil with good.

-Romans 12:21

The Lord is good,
a refuge in times of trouble.
He cares for those who trust in him.

-Nahum 1:7

Love must be sincere.

Hate what is evil;
cling to what is good.

-Romans 12:9

“And God is able to bless you abundantly,
so that in all things at all times,
having all that you need,
you will abound in every good work.”

-2 Corinthians 9:8

“For the Lord gives wisdom;
from his mouth come knowledge and understanding;
7 he stores up sound wisdom for the upright;
he is a shield to those who walk in integrity,
8 guarding the paths of justice
and watching over the way of his saints.

9 Then you will understand righteousness and justice
and equity, every good path;”

- Proverbs 2:6-9

“[Jesus] Who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness
and to purify for himself a people that are his very own,
eager to do what is good.”

Titus 2:14

*July Birthdays**17th Ann Wincentsen**July Anniversaries**2nd Fred & Sharon Haddock**25th Dennie & Sandra Deatherage***Stewardship & Finance Committee**

May 2022

Here is our monthly update on finance:

Operating Income:.....	\$11,755.93
Operating Expenses:.....	<u>\$13,905.48</u>
Monthly Net:.....	(\$ 2,149.55)
YTD /Net:.....	(\$ 5,276.47)
Checking 5/31/22:.....	\$55,340.91
Money Market 5/31/22:	\$61,746.95

Hi Friends,

Expenses in May beyond regular operations: Office supplies, including checks, deposit slips & paper \$505.26, building insurance \$1,818.26, Presbytery & GA askings each \$357.25, world missions \$250.00, Presbytery expenses \$503.44, Pastoral expenses to Idaho \$531.37 which was reimbursed to the church in June, organ fund disbursement \$150.00.

Kathy Todd

Sanctioned Love
Presents

Awaking
Wonder
In The Families of The Kingdom

This is an event for the entire
family! Join us!

July 21-23, 2022
@ Klamath Community College
Register ALL Attendees
@ sanctionedlove.com/events

There will be...

- Worship
- Powerful Teachings
- Nursery
- Classes for kids (age groups)
- Breakouts (ages 14-25)

THIS EVENT IS FREE!

accepting donations

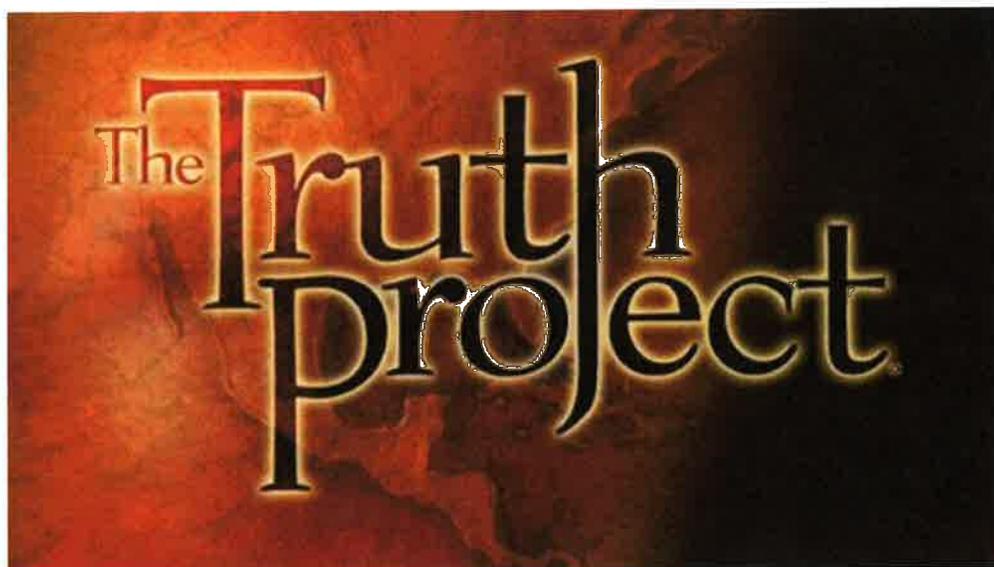
@ sanctionedlove.com/give



Sunday Bible Class

Has concluded for the
summer

Classes will resume in the Fall



Theology On Tap (TnT)

Has concluded for the summer

Classes will resume in the Fall



PEACE MEMORIAL WOMENS MISSIONARY GROUP

ANNUAL LADIES LUNCHEON

All women of the church are invited to join together for our annual Ladies Lunch at the Waffle Hut. See you there!

WAFFLE HUT

7/27/22 @ 11:00

106 Main St #2125, Klamath Falls

In the banquet room.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

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



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 Wednesday of the month. See Noreen Rhoades to purchase the book "His Last Words" for \$14.00.

Noreen Rhoades



Bible Discovery

Women's Bible Study

Every other Thursday 1:30

@ Laura Brassers House

(Call the Church office for details and location (541) 884-5057)

TATER TOTS

Pediatric Therapy

Greetings friends!

The Missions Committee would like to introduce you to a new non-profit in our community called Tater Tots Pediatric Therapy.

The committee is considering future support for this much needed service in the Klamath Basin, and wanted to share this information with you. Most of us know, or have known someone that needs this type of environment and therapy.

Tater Tots was founded by two hometown kids after returning to the Basin to raise their family. Their Board is comprised of community members with a passion for supporting children. Their mission is to provide high quality, family centered therapy services to the underserved children and families of our area, as well as serve as a community resource that can provide preventive services, educational opportunities, and community events for families.

Tater Tots currently provides physical therapy and speech therapy for children ages birth through 18 years old. They provide preventative, educational, habilitative, and rehabilitative services for children and their families. They are community focused and believe that the true measure of a healthy community is the health and well-being of its children and families. Much like farmers needing to consistently tend their crops, our community needs to tend and nurture children and families. Having a local source for these services rather than driving to an urban area for therapy is an asset to our area. Sometimes people will skip therapies if they have to travel due to time and expense restrictions.

Census data shows that children living in poverty are more likely to have a disability. In 2019 Klamath County had the highest poverty rate in Oregon. Another study found that children in rural communities had a higher rate of developmental disabilities than in urban areas. We are a rural area with a population density of only 11 people per square mile. Tater Tots was purposely formed as a non-profit organization, as they feel that the community should have ownership of their services. They depend on the financial support of the community to be able to operate, and are actively looking for community partners to make sure every child gets the help they need.

The clinic recently had an open house which several of our members attended. It is a clean and safe environment for children and families. They currently have two physical therapists and one speech therapist, and have had approximately 130 referrals for their services. It looks like it will be a great addition to our community, and we wish them well in this journey.

Our Missions Committee is not yet sure of what our part will be, so we ask you to pray for us as we consider supporting them in some way.

Tater Tots is located at 2450 Summers Lane, Klamath Falls, phone 541-887-2207, with their mailing address of P.O. Box 5255 Klamath Falls, OR 97601, email: www.tatertotstherapy.org. If you would like to visit their facility for a tour, just give them a call. They are very happy to share their information with you. Many Blessings, Kathy Todd



Deacon Ministry

With our new officers installed in June, Geri Coker, our long-standing Deacon and moderator, completed her term and Susan Orton was elected by the Deacon board as the new moderator for the program year. Paul King was also elected as vice-moderator (a new position). Thank you Geri for your service, and blessings to you Susan and Paul as you step into the role of moderator!

One piece of interesting news that the Deacons are working on is the celebration of Peace Memorial's 75th year as a congregation! That's right, 2022 marks this church's sesquicentennial anniversary as a corporate congregation. The celebration proper will take place in November (the date on the church's cornerstone), but prayer meetings began, which lead to corporate worship, in July of 1947. Is it merely coincidence that we started up prayer teams last month to pray over our congregation's revitalization efforts? I don't think so! Thank you to all of our Deacons.

Deacons in 2022:

Susan Orton*, Paul King**, Vicki Zeller, Jocelyn Shellito, Bertra Bratton

Check out these other missions supported by our congregation.



PREGNANCY HOPE CENTER

www.pregnancyhopecenter.com

(541) 883-4357



www.kitsaphouse.org

EPC Church Plant. 1% of our budget goes

To support this church plant.



www.compassion.com

(800) 336-7676



www.klamathfoodbank.org

(541)882-1223



KLAMATH FALLS
Gospel Mission
RECOVERY CENTER

www.kfallsmission.org

(541) 882-4895

July 2022

July 2022							August 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31			
31													

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jun 26	27	28	29	30	Jul 1 Office Closed	2
3 Celebration Sunday 9:00am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Communion 10:30am Worship	4	5	6	7 1:30pm Bible Discovery w/LB	8 Office Closed	9
10 9:00am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Worship 11:45am Worship Comm.	11	12 10:30am PMWVG Mtg	13	14 10:30am Missions & Outreach	15 Office Closed	16
17 9:00am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Worship 11:30am Deacons	18	19	20	21 6:00pm Awaking Wonder (Klamath Community College (KCC)) 1:30pm Bible Discovery w/LB	22 Office Closed	23 5:00pm
24 9:00am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Worship	25 4:00pm Building & Grounds	26	27 11:00am PMWVG Annual Luncheon (Waffle Hut)	28	29 Office Closed	30
31 9:00am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Worship	Aug 1	2	3	4	5	6



Peace Memorial
Presbyterian (EPC)

4431 South 6th St.
Klamath Falls, OR 97603

Phone: 541-884-5057

E-mail: office@peacepres.org

Pastor: pastoraaronepc@yahoo.com

We're on the web!

www.peaceEPC.com

"like" us on Facebook

"Give thanks in every
circumstance, for this
is God's will for you
in Christ Jesus."

-1 Thessalonians 5:18

Sermons for July:

7/3 - **PENTECOST V:**
Jesus' Death and Burial
Mark 15:33-47

7/10 - Jesus' Resurrection
Mark 16:1-8

7/17 - Jesus Appeared to Many
Mark 16:9-20

7/24- The Hope of the Faith
Titus 1:1-4

7/31- Qualifications for Elders
Titus 1:6-16



SESSION



DEACONS

Susan Orton- Chair

Paul King- Vice Chair

Jocelyn Shellito

Vicki Zeller

Bertra Bratton

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

Pastor Aaron Beaty-	Moderator
Noreen Rhoades-	Clerk/ Discipleship
Kathy Todd-	Finance & Stewardship
Bob Wincentsen-	Discipleship
Geri Coker-	Mission and Outreach
Jim Zeller-	Building and Grounds
Betty Shaw-	Worship
Stephen Goode-	Building and Grounds

Session is taking off the month of July.

*They meet the 2nd Monday of each
month from 1-3PM*



TRUSTEES

Harold Heaton

Stephen Goode

Sharron Goode

Sharon Haddock

MISSION MEMO

When a man came into our church a few winters back looking for a little help, it was obvious he needed more than just a "little" help. He wore a light jacket and falling-apart shoes. A coat was finally located and a member ran out and bought him shoes. The situation was solved for the moment but it brought up a problem to address. There were good men's jackets, left over from previous rummage sales, hanging in the Fellowship Hall coat closet, but who all knew they were there? Various other items that could be useful were stored in this cupboard and that hallway. Wouldn't it be nice to have a centralized location where every one knew where to look when someone came in, looking for a little help? Why, yes. And so the "Community Resource Room" was born.

Under the leadership of Linda Dart and the Mission and Outreach Committee, the old music office (and for you long-time members, the OLD nursery) was put to use. Years of accumulated junk was hauled out, and shelving hauled in. Linda has filled those shelves with coats, blankets, clothing, shoes, sleeping bags, pots, pans and can openers. Now when a transient approaches us while we're planting petunias and explains he's been in the same clothes for over a week, we know right where to go- the Community Resource Room.

The purpose of the Community Resource Room is to provide those emergency needs, such as a winter coat or a decent shirt. The Mission Committee is working to fine-tune what items to keep on hand. We don't want the room to take on the appearance of a "free rummage sale." As we develop a comprehensive list, we'll share it with you all so you might contribute when you're moved to do so.

We have been so blessed to have the church we have. We're like a little island of respite from the harshness of concrete, metal and glaring signs. Our location does make us attractive to a transient population that isn't always as, shall I say, respectful? as we'd like. But mostly, we're seen as a place of hope and caring, And a place where the love of Christ is sometimes preached through a winter coat and a pair of shoes.

BIG, BIG THANK YOU!

A little over two years ago, Sheryl Keady had a dream to do something about our west side beds. The juniper bushes were dying, the weeds were hard to stay ahead of, and the whole area had become one big eyesore. She took her concern to the Buildings and Grounds Committee and the Great Landscaping Project was born. The Deacons hosted a rummage sale and requested the proceeds be used for the landscaping project, which Session approved. We discussed and researched what best to do, something attractive yet low maintenance, and came up with a plan of attack to lay down landscaping cloth, plant variegated laurels, and bark the whole thing. We got the ugly juniper bushes cleared out... and came to a screeching halt. The weather wouldn't cooperate. COVID hit. And afterwards, the local nurseries didn't have the stock or staff to help out. The west side remained barren.

All this turned out to be a blessing in disguise. During the on-hold period, we re-evaluated the "attractive yet low maintenance" concept. Shrubs would still require quite a bit of TLC, and weeds would sprout through the holes cut to accommodate those shrubs. And those of us with not exactly young knees and backs were dreading all that. Container landscaping was the answer.

Now our west side is alive with color spilling out of oak barrels! But it took a lot of people helping to make it happen, and we can't thank them enough.. First, we had a crew at the Spring Work Day clear and level beds to lay the landscaping cloth and surround the beds with bricks. Another crew came later to roll out the barrels and rake out the bark. Finally, another crew (including some from the Friday AA group) filled the barrels (and front flower bed) with petunias and more petunias. Come fall we'll plant some spring bulbs in the barrels, and dress them up with artificial seasonal items such pumpkins or holly.

Again, so many people to thank for the hard work and dedication to get this done. It certainly paid off. Now, if those dang deer will just stay away....