

# Palouse Federated Church



*Our Mission:  
Worshiping  
God and  
forming one  
another into  
loving servants  
of Christ and  
the world*

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## *Pastor's Column: Constant Communion with Christ*

While reading a brief biographical sketch of a Scottish preacher, Robert Murray M'Cheyne, who died in 1843 at the age of 29, I was deeply convicted by his life and his relationship with Jesus Christ. Some beautiful and convicting words from M'Cheyne: To his mother, "Forgiveness of sins and acceptance with God becomes every day in my view more unspeakably precious." In a sermon to his church, "Unfathomable oceans of grace are in Christ for you. Dive and dive again, you will never come to the bottom of these depths." And, "Learn much of the Lord Jesus. For every look at yourself take ten looks at Christ. He is altogether lovely. Live much in the smiles of God. Bask in His beams. Feel His all-seeing eye settle on you in love. And repose in His almighty arms."

**I long to have more constant communion with Jesus Christ.** I know pastors are supposed to say and write stuff like the previous sentence. But, seriously, above all things in my life, I want to know Christ and be known by Him. I want to live to honor Him. I want to think of Him throughout the day. I want His eyes, to take over the way I look at people. I want His hope to triumph over my pitiful anxiety and self-centered dreams. I want His forgiveness and love to pour forth through my life. But I know that in the busy world of ours, this communion with Christ is

anything but automatic. We must seek it deliberately. We must rise early in the morning. As M'Cheyne wrote, "Who would not rise early to meet such company?" Good question.

Is staying up late to watch an additional TV show, really worth missing an appointment with God in the morning? M'Cheyne preached, "If you are ever so much taken up with any enjoyment that it takes away your love for prayer or for your Bible...then you are abusing this world."

Is going out late on Saturday night worth missing the worship of Christ together with the congregation on Sunday? For me the answer is no. I long to meet with Him, above any other entertainment and appointments, and yet at times I still fall short. We must be deliberate in seeking time with God- especially in the morning; we must lay the foundation of the day by spending time seeking Christ in prayer and scripture.

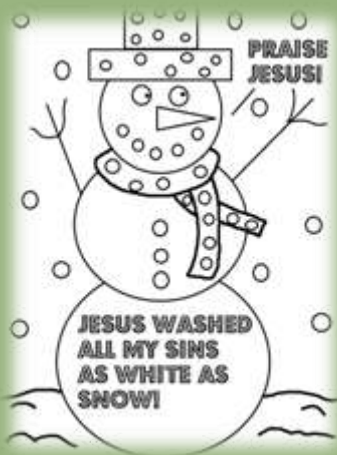
May the attitude of the Psalmist in the 27<sup>th</sup> Psalm come to dominate in our hearts: Psalm 27:4 - "One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple."

- In Christ we Live and Move,  
Pastor Corey

The Christmas tree



A popular legend holds that Martin Luther cut down the first Christmas tree and placed candles on it to represent the starry skies of Bethlehem on the night of Christ's birth. And under it he placed a nativity scene which included Mary, Joseph, the baby Jesus, and a few animals.



### *What are our core values? ~ Pastor Corey*

I will be sharing my core values for myself and my pastoral leadership of PFC.

I would like a similar work to be done by the people of PFC.

What are our core values?

What do we truly value in the

life of our congregation?

What do we value as central to our life with God, and our life on the hill here in Palouse?

Please contact me or your executive Board with thoughts on our Core Values.

### *Hope for All Children – Uganda Orphanage – Christmas Giving Option*

Are you looking for an alternative way to give this Christmas? Some people are opting out of giving presents, and instead are supporting causes they care about as a way to honor Jesus' birth, and to honor a person by giving in their name. Consider giving to the Hope For All Children Orphanage

You can help them buy more land for the orphanage. For a

donation a 11 cents for 1 sq ft. Or 50 cents per brick, which will then build their next building.

We will be sending these funds to help purchase land and build more permanent structures at the orphanage. If you are interested in going to Uganda- please contact Angie Cochran, who will be going to Uganda in March.

### *Traditional Christmas Program for Kids of All Ages!*

If you'd like to be part of our Christmas program, it's not too late to join in! We practice on Sundays from 9:30-10:00am-- some singing, some fun props and lots of costumes! The program will be on **Sunday, Dec 16 at 6 pm.**

Parents: If your child wishes to participate, please commit to bringing him or her to each practice as well as the performance. This will be a short but fun musical narration of Jesus' birth!



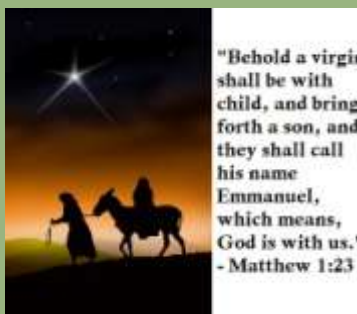
## *Worship: The Forgotten Discipline ~ Tina Laughary*



The way to Christmas lies through an ancient gate....

It is a little gate, child high, child wide and there is a password: "Peace on earth to men of good will."

May you, this Christmas become as a little child again and enter into His kingdom.



"Behold a virgin shall be with child, and bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which means, God is with us."  
- Matthew 1:23

I love reading about the early church. Shortly after Jesus' ascent into heaven, his followers grew in number and in devotion. They were telling everyone they knew about this man Jesus who was God and who died—but now lives. What did that kind of committed life look like? Acts 2:42-47 gives us an idea.

"They devoted themselves to the apostles teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of the bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved." This is a long portion of scripture but I believe it beautifully depicts the passion of the early church. What they spent their lives doing was worshipping and serving God together.

The spiritual discipline of the month for December is worship. Certainly worship can be done individually, you can worship God daily in the way you live your life. But I would like to focus on worship as a corporate discipline. That is, worship practiced together with the body of believers. According to Acts 2, the earliest Christians came together daily for worship. For many years, a daily form of corporate worship was

expected of all believers. Even today, many Catholic and Orthodox churches hold daily masses. However, in modern American Christianity the practice of corporate worship has lost its steam. Not only is daily worship a thing of the past, even Sunday worship is often seen as "optional". This is not good.

We need the type of insight, community and strength generated in worshipping together. We were created to need it. God himself exists within the beautiful relationship of the Trinity. We too, created in His image, need community as well. We need to acknowledge, glorify and bring honor to our creator—together. Dallas Willard says, "If in worship we are met by God himself, our thoughts and words turn to perception and experience of God, who is then really *present to us* in some degree of his greatness, beauty, and goodness." Worship is how we come to know and experience God.

If you are struggling in the Christian journey or you aren't growing as you should be, ask yourself, "Have I made regular corporate worship a priority?" Worship is a discipline, it doesn't happen without effort. As you think about a year of new resolutions, considering committing to regular Sunday worship attendance. We must each make the choice to do whatever is necessary to make it happen. It will be worth it. Coming together with a body of believers to lift up the name of Christ is never disappointing.



## *If you want to make God laugh... ~ Pinky Glass*



The nativity scene St. Francis of Assisi is credited with the idea of creating a model of the Nativity. He made ready a manger a crib and added a, an ox and a donkey. Once he had recreated the scene, it is said that he stood before the manger, bathed in tears and overflowing with joy.



Have you heard the expression that if you want to make God laugh tell Him your plans? Well I guess He has been laughing for about three months now. When I first learned that my friend's son was to be married in October in Tucson, I called my sister and made arrangements to visit them in Oct. That all changed the first part of September when Nancy became ill. After a few days at home, she was admitted to the hospital where she spent the next three weeks. She had a million-dollar workup, with no definitive diagnosis, however after 10 days of tests and treatment and 10 days of rehab to get her strength back she returned home. Of course when she went to the hospital I flew down to be sure she was getting the care I thought she should have. When she was close to being discharged, I flew home, packed up my van and drove right back down so I could be there when she got home, unbeknownst to them. They were both quite surprised when I showed up at their door the day after she was discharged from the hospital. The day I had planned to leave for home, Nancy had an eye appointment for an irritated red eye. She was scheduled for surgery the next day so naturally I stayed a few more days. Her surgery went well and her recovery is also going very well so we are truly blessed. As I told her when I left for home, I was so sorry she had to be sick but I would value the time we spent together forever.

While I was in Tucson I visited a number of churches. One service was bilingual, half Chinese and half of it in English. Both ministers presented a brief message. When

English was being spoken it showed up in Chinese on the screen and when the Chinese minister spoke, English was projected on the screen, the bulletin was also printed in both English and Chinese. It was an interesting service but I'm afraid I don't remember what the message was. I also had an opportunity to visit Verna Parsons and her daughter Diane at their church. It reminded me of our church some, and guess who was in charge of snacks, that's right Verna and Diane (her daughter).

Besides attending the wedding, which was lovely, I also had an opportunity to visit with two of my Stanford nursing school classmates who live in Tucson. We had just celebrated our 50th class reunion in May at Stanford but was good to see them again. I had another 50th celebration when I had lunch with two of my roommates from my Navy days. Our first tours of duty were in Bethesda, Maryland from 1962 to 64 and they now also live in Tucson.

I certainly missed you all and appreciated your prayers and am very happy to be back in "the Palouse". Nancy and Gordon will be coming to spend Christmas with us and I will return in March for another visit, Nancy and I have not had an opportunity to visit like this since we graduated from high school, what a blessing.

I plan.  
God laughs.



It is good to be children sometimes, and never better than at Christmas, when it's mighty Founder was a child Himself. We may see God by our intellect, but we only can find Him with our heart.



### *Thank you from YoungLife*

The GarPal Young Life Committee would like to extend a huge thank you to our community for all the support this past year. Over half of our high school students have attended a Young Life activity - and CLUB continues on Monday evenings. Campaigners (small groups of guys and small groups of girls) meet separately each week to go more in-depth together. The wonderful support of our towns has helped give a safe and fun place for our kids to go each week. One set of parents described it at the banquet, "We always knew our daughter was in a SAFE place when she was at Young Life Club." Relationships are formed, kids are shown the love of Jesus through actions and words, and decisions are made to trust Jesus with their lives.

If you haven't had a chance to send

in your pledge for Young Life, email Mark at [Mark\\_Sawyer@hotmail.com](mailto:Mark_Sawyer@hotmail.com) or [sawyers@potlatch.com](mailto:sawyers@potlatch.com) to find out more. You can also mail your first monthly pledge to GarPal Young Life, 630 North F Street, Palouse, WA 99161. Your receipt for your gift, along with a coupon for ensuing gifts will come from the Young Life Service Center in Colorado.

**Regardless of your ability to give financially, our greatest need is prayer for our staff and students.** We need to be connected with God and let His Glory be known through changed lives. Thank you for your continued prayers for Young Life in Garfield and Palouse. We will be giving out first names of students soon for you to pray for every day. Prayer changes us and those we pray for in ways that are eternal!

### *Financial Peace University Success ~ Tina Laughary*

Thursday November 29<sup>th</sup> was the final meeting of our Financial Peace University class here at PFC. Over the course of 12 weeks 8 different families learned God's principles for handling money. The results were life changing. Over the course of the class these 8 families put a total of \$7,170 in savings while at the same time paying off \$35,599.46 in debt.

That is a total turnaround of \$42,769.46 in just 12 weeks! I enjoyed coordinating this course and watching these families learn new money-habits and even change their family tree. Thank you to PFC for sponsoring the class. We look forward to doing it again in the future.

### *Care Network of the Palouse – Infant Clothing Drive*

The moms and babies who visit Moscow's Care Network receive donated clothing for their babies and toddlers. Please consider giving new or like new coats, hats and gloves, sizes up to 4T; clothing sizes newborn through 4T and diapers of all sizes, which are welcome any time of the year.

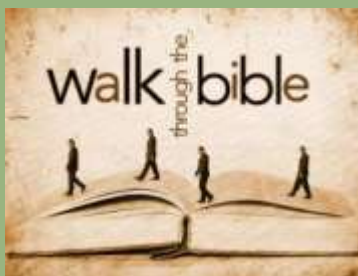
Care Networks' Family Resource Coordinator says, "Thank you for your desire to help our clients in need. It is a privilege to see the faces of clients light up as they realize they can now provide for their families."

## Samaritans Christmas Box Report ~ Cheri Brunner



### 1 Peter 1:3

<sup>3</sup> Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ~  
NIV



Thank you everyone that participated in Samaritans Christmas box giving this year. We had a total of 47 boxes. Forty seven more little children will hear about Jesus this year what a blessing for us and them. I got an encouraging email from Nancy the woman I take the boxes to in Pullman. She said from Colfax, Pullman, Palouse and Garfield there were 942 boxes, 200 more than last year. From Spokane there were 20,005 boxes they usually get 17,000. This is such exciting news!

I have a suggestion, start packing a box now and slowly fill it all year long. For December begin getting a box and get a stuffed animal, Jan. small notebook of paper, then in Feb get a toy, in March get school supplies, in April get socks or shirt or hat, in May get toothpaste and tooth brush, in June comb, brush, in July jewelry (for girl), in August hair ornaments, in Sept. make a cloth bag if you can or buy a small purse, Oct. hard candy or gum, November bring your stuffed box or two to church!

-Blessing and Thank you,  
Cheri

## Bible Reading Plan: A Tool to Help You Read Daily

We continue our goal of reading the whole Bible through in one-year. The schedule mapped out below is a chronological schedule. The intent is to read the Bible in the actual order that it "unfolded." If you want to do something different than chronological, consider going to: <http://www.bibleplan.org> and take advantage of the many different free plans they offer on that website.

December 01 --- [1 Corinthians 9-11](#)  
 December 02 --- [1 Corinthians 12-14](#)  
 December 03 --- [1 Corinthians 15-16](#)  
 December 04 --- [2 Corinthians 1-4](#)  
 December 05 --- [2 Corinthians 5-9](#)  
 December 06 --- [2 Corinthians 10-13](#)  
 December 07 --- [Romans 1-3](#) - [Acts 20:1-3](#)  
 December 08 --- [Romans 4-7](#)  
 December 09 --- [Romans 8-10](#)  
 December 10 --- [Romans 11-13](#)  
 December 11 --- [Romans 14-16](#)  
 December 12 --- [Acts 20:4-23:35](#)  
 December 13 --- [Acts 24-26](#)

December 14 --- [Acts 27-28](#)  
 December 15 --- [Philemon 1](#) - [Colossians 1-4](#)  
 December 16 --- [Ephesians 1-6](#)  
 December 17 --- [Philippians 1-4](#)  
 December 18 --- [1 Timothy 1-6](#)  
 December 19 --- [Titus 1-3](#)  
 December 20 --- [1 Peter 1-5](#)  
 December 21 --- [Hebrews 1-6](#)  
 December 22 --- [Hebrews 7-10](#)  
 December 23 --- [Hebrews 11-13](#)  
 December 24 --- [2 Timothy 1-4](#)  
 December 25 --- [Jude 1](#) - [2 Peter 1-3](#)  
 December 26 --- [1 John 1-5](#)  
 December 27 --- [2 John 1](#) - [3 John 1](#)  
 December 28 --- [Revelation 1-5](#)  
 December 29 --- [Revelation 6-11](#)  
 December 30 --- [Revelation 12-18](#)  
 December 31 --- [Revelation 19-22](#)



The Lord has said, "You will be my own people."  
 And as for every one who will  
 be my own people,  
 I will be their God.



*"But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare. Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives" 2 Peter 3:10-11 NIV1984*



## *Praises & Prayers*

Praise God for a wonderful Thanksgiving! We give thanks for our Veterans, and we pray for those actively serving. We pray for Eastern State Hospital Residents, staff and bible study.

Our prayers are with Christmas Food Voucher Recipients, Don Comstock (awaiting back surgery), Jeff West (recovering back surgery), Doug Barr (motorcycle accident), the family of Edna MacPherson, the family of Helen Bornmann (Kelly Brantner's Grandma), Nicole & Daniel Wegner, those impacted by hurricane Sandy,

parents in our community to come to Christ, those in need, the youth of our community, our community, the marriages in our communities, people who are visiting in worship, for those in need of a relationship with Christ.

**Active Duty Service Members:**  
Jason Evenson (Afghanistan), Mitch Kriebel (Afghanistan), Sean Tompkins (Afghanistan), Mark Tronsen (Japan), Steven Griffin (Oklahoma), Zach Spear (Hawaii), Michael Forbes (Egypt), Danielle Tavenner (Oklahoma), Nick Burgess (Virginia), and Adam Burnett (Shaw AFB).

## *Special Occasions: Birthdays & Anniversary's*

### **December Birthdays**

Pr. Tom Geshay, December 2<sup>nd</sup>  
John Hawbaker, December 4<sup>th</sup>  
GA Perry, December 4<sup>th</sup>  
Harvey Woodfor, December 8<sup>th</sup>  
Ariel Hoffman, December 12<sup>th</sup>  
Tyrel West, December 12<sup>th</sup>  
Robin Blair, December 12<sup>th</sup>  
Carol Heinlen, December 12<sup>th</sup>  
Tanya Stewart, December 14<sup>th</sup>  
Mike Echanove, December 17<sup>th</sup>  
Wil Edwards, December 17<sup>th</sup>  
Lorraine Gilliland, December 17<sup>th</sup>  
Scott Kent, December 19<sup>th</sup>  
Camille Wadleigh, December 20<sup>th</sup>  
Joanie Bagott, December 22<sup>nd</sup>

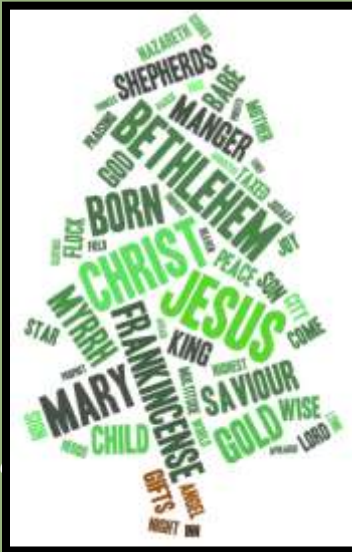
Bob Brown, December 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Brad Pearce, December 24<sup>th</sup>  
Adrian Green, December 27<sup>th</sup>  
Suzanne Keller, December 29<sup>th</sup>  
Robin Woltering, December 29<sup>th</sup>  
Kris Gibler, December 30<sup>th</sup>  
Sue Foster, December 30<sup>th</sup>  
Mary Miller, December 30<sup>th</sup>  
Ben Barstow, December 30<sup>th</sup>  
Carissa Person, December 31<sup>st</sup>

### **December Anniversary's**

Alex & Sarah Anderson, December 9<sup>th</sup>  
Roger & Amy Culley, December 21<sup>st</sup>  
Willy & Robin Woltering, December 31<sup>st</sup>

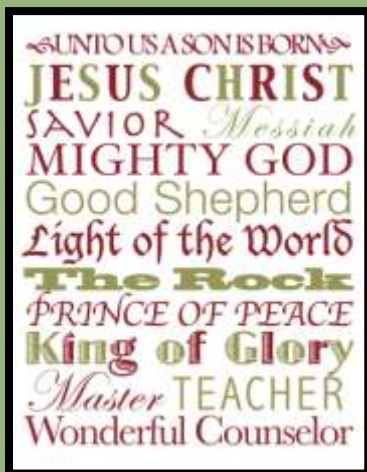
Joanie Bagott  
Whispring Hills, 1090 Latour Peak,  
Pullman, WA 99163

*Palouse Leadership Event— December 15<sup>th</sup>, Breakfast 8am*



**Matthew 22:37**

*37 Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.” ~ NIV*



Do you want to serve our area leaders? Come and help with breakfast and cleanup. Come and support out community leaders at this semi-annual event.

Please pray for our leaders. "The first thing I want you to do is pray. Pray every way you know how, for everyone you know. 2 Pray especially for rulers and their governments to rule well so we can be quietly about our business

of living simply, in humble contemplation. 3 This is the way our Savior God wants us to live." 1 Timothy 2:1-3

*Christmas Gifts for Eastern State Hospital Patients*

We are providing gifts for two patients at Eastern State Hospital this Christmas. Items should be new, and the residents cannot receive any glass, sharp objects, or food. In most cases the gifts we provide will be the only gifts that the patients receive. **If you would like to donate money or gift items, please bring them to church by Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>.** I will purchase gifts with the money, and my husband and I will deliver the gifts to the hospital in mid-December.

Here are the lists for our two people:

Terry G. is a 65 year old man and he would like

- Jeans, waist 40, length 34
- A calendar
- An analog watch

Beth Adeline N. is an 80 year old woman and she would like

- An extra-large shirt in pink or maroon
- Slippers, size 8 ½
- Fluffy socks
- A stuffed teddy bear

I would also like to buy each of them a warm jogging suit if we receive enough money. Thank you for your contributions.

~ Peggy Collier

*Cookie Exchange, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 10am*

Please join us Saturday, December 8, at 10am in the Fellowship Hall at PFC to share and exchange Christmas cookies. **Please bring 3 dozen, 2 dozen to share in the exchange, and 1 dozen to leave so we can make plates to share with families throughout our**

**community.**

We will have coffee and tea ready and waiting for you all. **Please bring your cookie recipe to share with others.**



# December Calendar

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> 9am: Worship 10am:Fellowship 10am: Christmas Open House at the Parsonage 10:15am Family Hour 11am: Worship 12pm: Christmas Open House at the Parsonage 2pm: Open Gym 5pm: All Church Potluck 6pm: Worship	<b>3</b> 6:30 – 8pm TOPS	<b>4</b> 5:30am: Men’s Bible Study 8:30am: Bible Study for Moms 9am: Women’s Bible Study at Linda Arrasmith’s 11am: Bible Study	<b>5</b> 1pm: Women’s Bible Study at Tina Laughary’s	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 10am: Women’s Bible Study	<b>8</b> 10am: Christmas Cookie Exchange
<b>9</b> 9am: Worship 10am:Fellowship 10:15am Family Hour 11am: Worship 2pm: Open Gym 5pm: Christmas Caroling and Chili	<b>10</b> 6:30 – 8pm TOPS	<b>11</b> 5:30am: Men’s Bible Study 8:30am: Bible Study for Moms 9am: Women’s Bible Study at Linda Arrasmith’s 11am: Bible Study	<b>12</b> 1pm: Women’s Bible Study at Tina Laughary’s	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 10am: Women’s Bible Study	<b>15</b> 8:00am: Leadership Breakfast
<b>16</b> 9am: Worship 10am:Fellowship 10:15am Family Hour 11am: Worship 2pm: Open Gym 6pm: Traditional Christmas Program	<b>17</b> 6:30 – 8pm TOPS	<b>18</b> 5:30am: Men’s Bible Study 8:30am: Bible Study for Moms 9am: Women’s Bible Study at Linda Arrasmith’s 11am: Bible Study	<b>19</b> 1pm: Women’s Bible Study at Tina Laughary’s	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 10am: Women’s Bible Study	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 9am: Worship 10am:Fellowship 10:15am Family Hour 11am: Worship 2pm: Open Gym 3-6pm: It’s a Wonderful Life 6pm: Worship	<b>24</b> 7pm Candlelight Christmas Eve Service 11pm Candlelight Christmas Eve Service	<b>25</b> 	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 10am: Women’s Bible Study	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 9am: Worship 10am:Fellowship 10:15am Family Hour 11am: Worship 5pm: All Church Potluck 6pm: Worship	<b>31</b>					

## *Upcoming Sermons: Gospel of Luke – The Journey Begins*

**Palouse Federated Church**  
 635 N. Bridge Street  
 PO Box 535  
 Palouse, WA 99161  
**Office Phone**  
 509-878-1509  
**Parsonage Phone**  
 509-878-1334  
**E-mail**  
 pfcoffice@palouse.com  
 (office)  
 thelaugers@yahoo.com  
 (pastor)

**Pastor’s Office Hours:**  
 Mon-Thurs 9am-1:30pm

### Regular Sunday Schedule

**9am** Worship (childcare available age 5 and under)  
**10am**- Fellowship Time  
**10:15am** -Family Hour  
**11am** - Worship (Childcare available)  
**5pm** - All Church Potluck/Movie  
**6pm** - Worship with communion, “Simple Service”

Find us on the Web:  
[www.pfc.palousechurch.org](http://www.pfc.palousechurch.org)

Note: Pastor Corey will be preaching through the Gospel of Luke at the morning services, for the next few months. This is a good time to read through Luke, to become familiar with it.

December 9<sup>th</sup>, Psalm 1

December 16<sup>th</sup>, Luke 1:1-25, “Before Jesus Was Born”

December 23<sup>rd</sup>, Luke 1:26-45, “Jesus’ Birth Plan”

December 24<sup>th</sup>, Luke 1:46-56, “Jesus’ Mom”

### **Christmas joke:**

What do you call a person who is afraid of Santa Claus?

Claustrophobic!

### **Invite Friends and Family to our December Events:**

December 8<sup>th</sup>: Cookie Exchange at 10am

December 9<sup>th</sup> : Christmas Caroling and Chili at 5pm

December 16<sup>th</sup>: Traditional Christmas Program at 6pm

December 24<sup>th</sup>: Candlelight Christmas Eve Services at 7pm & 11pm

