

Palouse Federated Church

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March 2010

***Our Mission: We exist to
worship God and to form one
another into loving servants of
Christ and the World***

Pastor's Column: Finding Home

Where is our true home?

I remember as a child, near the end of long road trips, I would begin to notice the signs that we were getting near to home. No matter what direction we returning from, the destination was always home. The closer you got to home, the more you recognized the surroundings. For me there was a feeling associated with the recognition of surroundings, one that's hard for me to describe, but it was mix of contentment and anticipation. I had a childhood home where I was loved; not everyone is loved at home.

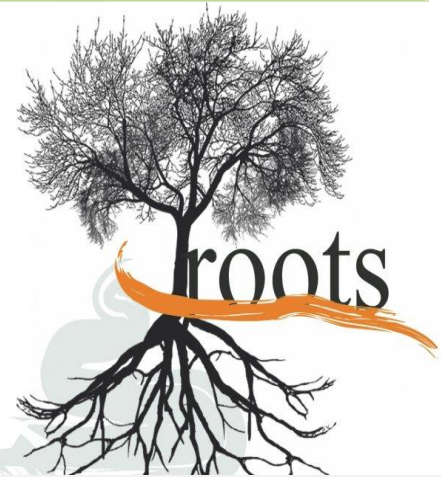
I have talked with some who have told me they feared coming home, that instead of the contentment I felt, they were filled with a mix of anxiety and dread. Usually the home was feared because it was a place of abuse, where they were devalued and harmed. God's intention is that we have homes on earth that are foreshadowing our eternal home. Our eternal home, often called heaven, is life with God in a perfect dimension that is filled with love, celebration and goodness. It is a place where hate, dissension, death and evil are noticeably absent; and we are complete, whole and at peace.

So if are our eternal home with God is this wonderful existence, then our earthly homes should be places that point to heaven with the traits of love, forgiveness, hope and celebration. There are plenty of anti-heaven activities that occur in our earthly homes; actions that in no way point to what God has for store in us in eternity. Broken trust. An angry temper. A rebellious disobedience. A self-righteous attitude. All these (and much more anti-heaven stuff) are found in homes of all sizes in every corner of the world.

These anti-heaven things remind us that though we can have it good here, we are not quite home yet. Our ultimate home is yet to come, the life that lies beyond this one. And yet, we need to make and find homes that begin to be like that eternal home; this is our urgent work on earth. We need to have lives as parents, children, neighbors and friends that build up homes of trust, love, understanding and compassion. Homes made of brick, wood and metal filled with truth, faith, and the Spirit of Christ.

We are focusing on a story in Lent from Luke 15:11-32, about two brothers and the challenge of them simply being at home with their parent. My prayer is that you will think on this story all month long. Are you truly at home with God?

~ In Christ,
Pastor Corey



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LLC – What is the PFC-LLC?

LLC- stands for “Leadership Learning Community.” It is a voluntary, quarterly gathering of people who are committed to the mission of Palouse Federate Church and who see themselves as people God can use as a leader of people to help implement the mission of our church.

The LLC includes all kinds of leaders. Some are in public positions, some are not. Some are behind the scenes and quiet leaders. Some are gregarious and outgoing. All are committed to seeing PFC be a community where we worship God and form one another into loving servants of Christ and the world.

Our next LLC meeting is April 17th, in the Fellowship Hall, 9am-Noon. We are reading the book “Got Style?” by Jeff Johnson, prior to the meeting. This meeting will discuss how to share your faith in Christ, as the authentic person God made you to be.

Anyone can come to an LLC meeting- please feel free to contact Pastor Corey with any questions. Books are available at the church.

Youth Group

Youth Group continues to meet Sunday nights 6pm-7:30.

A current service project we are doing is “stocking the pantry” with a food drive for the Habitat for Humanity house.

On Palm Sunday we will be helping out with the Pancake Supper and Talent Show- this helps raise money for Summer Camp experiences. Last year we had over 30 youth go to camp!



CAMP FUNDRAISER EVENT –MARCH 28TH

It's time to dust off the violin, or get your tap dance shoes out and join us for the big-time CAMP FUND RAISER TALENT SHOW and Pancake Supper on Palm Sunday, March 28.

If you all have some kind of talent and you can try to top some of the past events like Bob and Brenda's rendition of Cher and Sonny, or create your own act. Please sign up to share your talent by emailing Cathy Blood at kccat2blood@palouse.com.

We will begin serving pancakes and all the trimmings beginning at 5 PM, with the Talent Show beginning at 6:30 PM. Food signups will be out soon, as well as that list of amazing talents to share. We need some volunteers to help the youth with the kitchen fun.

So mark your calendar for March 28 beginning at 5 PM. Hope to see and your family and friends there!

PFC MEMORIAL LIBRARY~ Judy Willcox

The Memorial library is getting new books and materials as the Pastor determines what the needs are and as donations come in. The records are being entered into the computer, Library card applications are now available for prospective users to fill out.

Applications will be available during the coffee hour on Sunday, February 28th and March 7th, as well as at the Lenten Soup Supper & Senior Citizens luncheon on March 3rd or from Pastor Corey.

All people who are interested in helping with the Palouse Federated Church Memorial Library are invited to attend an informational meeting @ 7:00 PM @ PFC Fellowship Room, Monday March 1st.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY DEDICATION

The dedication of the HfH house and turning the key over to Krista and her family on March 7, 2010 at 3 PM. Mayor Michael Echanove & Pastor Corey will be speaking and we will celebrate the completion of this HfH construction project and welcome a new family to town.

The Paint-A-Stud fundraiser was the single most financially successful paint-a-stud fundraiser that Palouse Habitat for Humanity every had raising over \$1,000

Congratulations Jeff Kent!

Jeff "JD" Kent has been accepted into the Carpenter's tools international music ministry this summer! He will be training in Willmar, Minnesota for 2 weeks, then head to a yet to be determined foreign country for 4 weeks. They only go where invited, and typically travel with invitations from Youth for Christ or Youth with a Mission. JD will be learning music in the native tongue(s) of whatever culture he goes to, as well as an appropriate style. We know for sure he is singing, don't know yet if he will be playing any instruments.

Since this is a mission trip, now the fund-raising begins. We will be working on that the next few weeks and have had many people already let us know they want to help!

JD is very excited and thankful for this opportunity to spend 6 weeks just playing music, traveling and sharing The Word! I am sure you will be hearing more from him about this!!

Financial – Consider- Consistent- Contributions- the 3 C's of PFC Giving

We talk about the 3 C's at PFC when we talk about giving
What are the 3 C's?

Consider- We believe everyone, every family, even every youth, should consider what God wants them to give to the mission of the church. "Consider" means prayerfully thinking through what you as an individual or family should give in order to further our mission. This means considering gifts of time, finances and whatever else God puts on your heart. As we consider, we realize God has given all of us, all that we have, and wants us to give freely to others as He has given to us.

Consistent- Once we have prayerfully considered and come to a conclusion on what we should give, than we should aim to give consistently. "Consistent" means that our giving is not a haphazard thing on the bottom of our list, but something we do in a disciplined, planned way, that is at the top of our list. Some times it is hard to be consistent. Some times we get too busy to serve, or we lose income and it is difficult to give. There are times of change that should cause us to step back and re-consider, based on changed circumstances, what we should give.

Contributions- A church is a team effort. It takes contributions from the whole body of the church to be at our peak performance in serving out our mission. "Contributions" means that we all have something unique to offer to our mission of worship, spiritual growth and service. We all have spiritual gifts, talents and resources to offer in order to promote the mission. Contributions are financial, but there are other types of contributions, including: time, prayer, creativity, effort and regular participation.

"This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him."- 1 John 4:9

March Birthdays

Darin Watkins, March 1st
 Juliana Geshay, March 1st
 Paula Echanove, March 2nd
 Beau Fisher, March 6th
 Suzanne Holling, March 11th
 Nate Culley, March 11th
 Bob West, March 12th
 Judy Gehring, March 22nd
 Taylor White, March 22nd
 Eli Elder, March 23rd
 Butch Smith, March 29th

March Anniversary's

Susan & Tuscon Smith, March 1st
 Larry & Zelma Foster, March 19th
 Bud & Joanie Bagott, March 21st
 Nancy & Dave Hill, March 31st

Special
 Occasions

Haiti Response: International Ministries

Contributions totaling \$328,454 have been received so far by IM for Haiti earthquake relief. A draft proposal identifying \$1 million in needs over the short and medium term has been received from our partner, the Convention of Baptists in Haiti.

[Kristy Engel](#), a pediatric nurse practitioner and IM missionary in the Dominican Republic (DR), leads weeklong rotating volunteer medical teams to Port-au-Prince. During one four-day rotation period they treated nearly 1,000 patients. [Ketly and Vital Pierre](#), IM missionaries in Nicaragua, and [Dr. Adalia Schellinger-Gutiérrez](#), IM missionary in Mexico, have joined these teams.



[Madeline Flores-López](#), IM missionary in the DR, works with her colleagues to provide medical care to Haitian victims being brought to the Contreras Hospital in Santo Domingo.

[Dr. Steve and nurse Nancy James](#), IM missionaries in Haiti are working with earthquake victims in clinics in the north and coordinating the response with our partners.

Give toward ongoing earthquake recovery by clicking the Give button at right. OR mail checks to: International Ministries – Haiti Relief; P.O. Box 851; Valley Forge, PA 19482 OR make checks payable to your American Baptist Church and write “Haiti Earthquake Relief” in the memo section. [A new tax relief law allows contributors giving to this relief, until February 28th, to take a tax deduction on 2009 tax returns.](#)

Bible Book(s) of the Month –Galatians & Jonah

We are focusing on God’s free invitation for us to find our home in Him. We call this “grace.” We are reading two books this month in order to emphasize grace. One book, Galatians, teaches very clearly that it is not by actions that we earn God’s love and our salvation, it is by grace. As Paul wrote, “I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!” (Galatians 2:21)

As humans we like to think we are made right with God by our right actions. Jesus Christ teaches us that we are made right with God by the gracious choice of God. We are reading Jonah, because it is a story of a “good” religious person who simply thought that God’s grace should not be given to his enemies. Jonah, a follower and prophet of Yahweh, detests that God is willing to forgive and save the Ninevites.

The reading schedule below is a six day cycle- you can read both books easily in six days and then we are encouraging you to do the cycle again, and again, and again- 4 times through would be ideal.

- Day 1- Jonah 1 + Galatians 1
- Day 2- Jonah 2 + Galatians 2
- Day 3- Jonah 3 + Galatians 3
- Day 4- Jonah 4 + Galatians 4
- Day 5- Galatians 5
- Day 6- Galatians



Don’t read for speed; read with a prayerful mindset. Don’t read legalistically to “get it done,” read it experimentally, open to whatever God’s Holy Spirit wants to show you. Below are questions to bring to scriptures for the different weeks of March.

Week 1 Readings: Approach the text asking- What is the basic, straightforward lesson of my reading today?

Week 2 Readings: Approach the text asking- What is the lesson of the story and teachings of these scriptures?

Week 3 Readings: Approach the text praying- “God what do you want me to hear and see as I read this again?”

Week 4 Readings: Approach the text praying- “God what should change in my life based on what you’ve shared with me?”

Have fun reading! – Pastor Corey

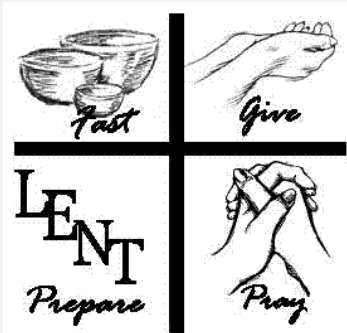
Washington Talking Book & Braille Library

PFC Contributions to the Haiti Relief Effort through One Great Hour of Sharing

January 24, 2010 \$336.00
 January 31, 2010 \$320.00
 February 7, 2010 \$20.00

The Washington Talking Book and Braille Library (WTBBL) need our help. WTBBL has had to reduce staffing by 6 people. WTBBL is a program of the Washington State Library, which is a division of the office of the Secretary of State. Please contact your legislators and ask that they restore funding for the Washington Talking Book and Braille Library. Tell your legislators that the funding for WTBBL appears in the Secretary of State's budget. The phone number for the Legislative Hotline is (800) 562-6000. One of our PFC members Bob West enjoys these books so much since he can no longer see to read and he and Frances would hate to see this service discontinued. If you would send this along to your friends also we would really appreciate your help, this is such a great program. Thank you.
 ~ Frances & Bob West

12 They entered into a covenant to seek the LORD, the God of their fathers, with all their heart and soul. (2 Chronicles 15:12)



Lent 2010 a journey with "The Prodigal God"

We are reading a great book by Tim Keller called "The Prodigal God." This book is available at the church. It is a good book and very readable, but will cause you to think about the love of God and our response.

Lent Events

Soup Suppers on Wednesdays, 6:00pm. Soup sign-ups are available in the fellowship hall. Meals are bread and soup. We will have a video lesson by author Tim Keller. Childcare is provided.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Praise God for the safe return home of Gary Brunner! Our prayers are with the Haiti Relief & Rebuilding efforts, Ellen (friend of Dixie's with cancer), Cheryl Good, Gary, Cheri, Alana & Emily Brunner, Ian Yoder (accident recovery), the family of JP, Loraine White (cancer), Gary Cochran (surgery), Mel & Betty Ingalls (cancer/recovery), Lwiindi Mudenda (loss), Tecla Blood, Kathleen (Cancer/Chemo) & her family, Monte Elder, Patsy Dunning (surgery), Bruce Baldwin, Amy West, Benji Gurtel, Marietta Huff, Susie Smith (loss), Betty Perry (cancer/chemo), those with broken relationships, those in need of physical healing, for those in emotional or spiritual pain, our community leaders, local families in financial crisis, people who are visiting in worship, for those in need of a relationship with Christ, families of the Palouse area, our neighbors, our nation, our troops & our communities.

Church Data

	Total Church Attendance	Sunday School Attendance	Youth Group Attendance	Plate Offering
January 3, 2010	100	21	17	\$3,177.00
January 10, 2010	107	19	13	\$7,183.23
January 17, 2010	100	14	2	\$3,047.00
January 24, 2010	114	22	15	\$1,613.00
January 31, 2010	106	20	17	\$1,461.75
February 7, 2010	105	18	9	\$3,008.15
February 14, 2010	97	11	n/a	\$2,272.41
February 21, 2010	80	14	16	\$2,166.00

LET THEM GO!

There are people who can walk away from you. And hear me when I tell you this!
 When people can walk away from you: let them walk. I don't want you to try to talk another person into staying with you, loving you, calling you, caring about you, coming to see you, staying attached to you. I mean hang up the phone.
 When people can walk away from you let them walk. Your destiny is never tied to anybody that left. The bible said that, they came out from us that it might be made manifest that they were not for us. For had they been of us, no doubt they would have continued with us. [1 John 2:19] People leave you because they are not joined to you. And if they are not joined to you, you can't make them stay.
 Let them go.

And it doesn't mean that they are a bad person it just means that their part in the story is over. And you've got to know when people's part in your story is over so that you don't keep trying to raise the dead.. You've got to know when it's dead. You've got to know when it's over. Let me tell you something.. I've got the gift of good-bye. It's the tenth spiritual gift, I believe in good-bye.. It's not that I'm hateful, it's that I'm faithful, and I know whatever God means for me to have He'll give it to me. And if it takes too much sweat I don't need it. Stop begging people to stay.
 Let them go!!

If you are holding on to something that doesn't belong to you and was never intended for your life, then you need to.....

LET IT GO!!!

If you are holding on to past hurts and pains

LET IT GO!!!

If someone can't treat you right, love you back, and see your worth.....

LET IT GO!!!

If someone has angered you.

LET IT GO!!!

If you are holding on to some thoughts of evil and revenge.....

LET IT GO!!!

If you are involved in a wrong relationship or addiction... ..

LET IT GO!!!

If you are holding on to a job that no longer meets your needs or talents

LET IT GO!!!

If you have a bad attitude.... ..

LET IT GO!!!

If you keep judging others to make yourself feel better.....

LET IT GO!!!

If you're stuck in the past and God is trying to take you to a new level in Him.....

LET IT GO!!!

If you are struggling with the healing of a broken relationship.

LET IT GO!!!

If you keep trying to help someone who won't even try to help themselves..

LET IT GO!!!

If you're feeling depressed and stressed

LET IT GO!!!

If there is a particular situation that you are so used to handling yourself and God is saying 'take your hands off of it,' then you need to.....

LET IT GO!!!

'The Battle is the Lord's!'



A Thought Crossed My Mind **~ by Sierra Hoffman (PFC Youth)**

As I walked the lonely fields,
 A thought crossed my mind.
 With the fields golden in the right sun,
 Why do some crave riches,
 With the beauty of the fields so divine?

As I ran along the water at the river,
 A thought crossed my mind.
 With the beautiful sound of the rushing
 water,

Why do some insist on getting music players?

As I scratched my dog behind her ears,
 A thought crossed my mind.
 When someone can enjoy the love of their
 pets,
 Why stay inside and play video games?

As I lay in my bed at night,
 Crickets chirping,
 Remembering my day,
 A thought crossed in my mind.
 God has created this beautiful world for us to
 enjoy,

So why do some people spend more time
 enjoying human made creations,
 Then the beauty that surrounds us?
 It surrounds us every day,

Yet we don't take the time to take it in.
 But God created it with its beauty
 So we may realize it,
 And so we may enjoy it.



March

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	1 6:30 – 8pm TOPS	2 9:30am: Women’s Bible study @Brenda Cook’s 10am: Bible study @ church 4pm: Dance Class 7:00pm Prayer Meeting	3 12pm: Community lunch 7:00pm: Women’s Bible study @ PFC	4	5 9am: Women’s Bible Study @ Kay Tronsen’s home	6
7 9am: Worship 10am:Fellowship 10:15am: Give & Take 11am: Sunday School (age 2- 8 th grade) 11am: Worship 3:00pm: HfH Dedication 6:00pm: Youth Group	8 6:30 – 8pm TOPS	9 9:30am: Women’s Bible study @Brenda Cook’s 10am: Bible study @ church 4pm: Dance Class 7:00pm Prayer Meeting	10 12pm: Community lunch 7:00pm: Women’s Bible study @ PFC	11	12 9am: Women’s Bible Study @ Kay Tronsen’s home	13
14 9am: Worship 10am:Fellowship 10:15am: Give & Take 11am: Sunday School (age 2- 8 th grade) 11am: Worship 6:00pm: Youth Group	15 6:30 – 8pm TOPS	16 9:30am: Women’s Bible study @Brenda Cook’s 10am: Bible study @ church 4pm: Dance Class 7:00pm Prayer Meeting	17 12pm: Community lunch 7:00pm: Women’s Bible study @ PFC	18	19 9am: Women’s Bible Study @ Kay Tronsen’s home	20 Men’s Breakfast 7:30am: Cook 8:00am: Eat
21 9am: Worship 10am:Fellowship 10:15am: PFC annual meeting (31 st) 11am: Sunday School (age 2- 8 th grade) 11am: Worship 6:00pm: Youth Group	22 6:30 – 8pm TOPS	23 9:30am: Women’s Bible study @Brenda Cook’s 10am: Bible study @ church 4pm: Dance Class 7:00pm Prayer Meeting	24 12pm: Community lunch 7:00pm: Women’s Bible study @ PFC	25	26	27
28 9am: Worship 10am:Fellowship 10:15am: PFC annual meeting (31 st) 11am: Sunday School (age 2- 8 th grade) 11am: Worship 6:00pm: Palm Sunday Talent Show	29 6:30 – 8pm TOPS	30 9:30am: Women’s Bible study @Brenda Cook’s 10am: Bible study @ church 4pm: Dance Class 7:00pm Prayer Meeting	31 12pm: Community lunch 7:00pm: Women’s Bible study @ PFC			

Palouse Federated Church

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*We exist to worship God and to form
 one another into loving servants of
 Christ and the World.*

Find us on the Web:

www.pfc.palousechurch.org

Check us out on Facebook!

Sunday Schedule

9am Worship (childcare available age 5 and under)

10am- Fellowship Time

10:15am – Give & Take

11am – Sunday School

11am – Worship (Childcare available, Youth Sunday School Available, age 2 yrs through grade 8)

Prodigal God

The Prodigal God is a book, dramatic teaching film, sermon series and six-week group study based on Jesus' best known—and least understood—parable: The Prodigal Son. This new teaching resource dramatically illustrates Timothy Keller's core message: that the gospel is neither religion nor irreligion, neither morality nor immorality, but something else entirely.

March Sermons

- March 7th, 3rd Sunday in Lent, Luke 15:11-32, Prodigal God, part III, "Bad Goodness."
- March 14th, 4th Sunday in Lent, Luke 15:1-3, 11-32, Prodigal God, Part IV, "The Superior Sin."
- March 21st, 5th Sunday in Lent, John 12:1-8, Prodigal God, Part V, "Selfless Love."
- March 28th, Passion/Palm Sunday, Luke 22:14~23:56, Prodigal God, Part VI, "Emptied For Us."

Holy Week Events

- Wednesday, March 31st – Final Soup Supper
- Thursday, April 1st – Maundy Thursday – Servant Service @ PFC 7:00pm
- Good Friday, April 2nd – Service @ Holy Trinity Church Palouse, 7:30pm
- Sunday, April 4th, 6:30am Sunrise Service, 9:00am & 11:00am services

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