

# Palouse Federated Church

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September 2012

## Pastor's Column:

### Renewed for the Long Haul

2 Tim 4:7-8 "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."

Rev. Norman Gano, a previous pastor of Palouse Federated Church, and a friend and mentor of mine died on May 29th, 2012. His memorial was on June 16th, and we went to honor him and give thanks to God for his life and his salvation. It was a somber and yet celebratory way to begin our sabbatical. For many decades, among wearing many other hats, Pastor Gano was a dedicated preacher of good news. Not until the last couple of years, well into his 80's, did he have to stop preaching. His life was dedicated to serving Christ- both in his family and in the congregations he served. His life was the good fight.

I like to think of it as "the long haul." A journey of great distance, that isn't easy. We are never told the Christian faith will be easy. In fact quite to the contrary we are told it will be the narrow path. (Matt 7:13-14) True Christians keep growing, keep being challenged, keep facing challenges, and we keep the faith. We are not promised it will get easier. We are not promised that the road will get broader, with no obstacles in our way. Indeed we are often warned that we will see trials and will likely be persecuted for being true disciples of Christ (Matt 5:10-11).

We go the long haul, not on our strength alone, but on the power of the Holy Spirit inside of us. We persevere. We work on our personal holiness, confronting sin wherever it lingers in us. We seek to train our self to be Godly, and to develop spiritual discipline and health. We seek to grow in compassion and love towards others. We seek to follow God's lead in facing injustice. All of this can feel like a fight. It can feel like a long race. It is both these things. I want the long haul life. I want to see long haul Christians fill our community.

Fighting the good fight, persevering in the trace-  
All by God's grace,  
Pastor Corey

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

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## ***What Pastor Read and Studied on Sabbatical***

Reading time was one of the special blessings of the Sabbatical we had this summer. And not just the reading time, but the space and time to ponder things for a long period of time was very helpful. (I am leaving out my biblical readings) - A list of books that were read- shared for those who may be interested in reading or discussing them, or related topics:

- o "Spiritual Depression"- D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones
- o "Sermon on the Mount"- D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones
- o "Understanding Scripture"- Grudem, Collins, Schreiner
- o "1689- London Baptist Confession" [booklet]
- o "Strong Fathers, Strong Daughters"- Meg Meeker

Tina and I also attended "Basic Coach Training" by Coaches4Clergy. This 3 day class was a "coach approach" to how to lead as a pastor. I also finished about 20 lectures from a expository preaching course called "Simeon Course." It was very helpful! I have 2 more units of this course to pursue over the Fall.

Come to the Sabbatical Presentation and Potluck on Sunday, September 30<sup>th</sup> at 12:15pm

## ***Ross Point Campers Update Thank You! ~ Brenda Cook***

The kid's lemonade/bake sale stand for Ross Point Camp scholarships made \$833.04! Thank you for supporting the kids in our church and community. This year we sent 40 kids total, 22 of which received partial or full scholarships from PFC. We had campers aged 3-18 attend. We also want to thank the people from our church who were camp directors. Tricia Johnson, Brittany & Mark Sawyer led the week long "Middler Camp" and Deanna Bren led the 24 hour "My First Camp". We are grateful that our church body can be so involved in supporting camp by donations and by offering their leadership. Some campers have shared their experience: "I made 3 new friends from different towns that were my cabin roommates"."My favorite thing to do was go swimming in the river and make crafts"."I learned that Jesus loves me and that He made the WHOLE world!"!I can't wait to go next year, it was so fun!"!I really liked singing songs about God".

### **September Birthdays**

John Browse, September 1<sup>st</sup>  
 Nancy Hawbaker, September 1<sup>st</sup>  
 Verna Comstock, September 2<sup>nd</sup>  
 Kent Keller, September 6<sup>th</sup>  
 Darrick Blood, September 7<sup>th</sup>  
 Catherine Tuck, September 8<sup>th</sup>  
 Karen Huber, September 10<sup>th</sup>  
 Eric Fluegel, September 10<sup>th</sup>  
 Kathy Dernell, September 12<sup>th</sup>  
 Caden Sanderson, September 13<sup>th</sup>  
 Lyssa Blood, September 13<sup>th</sup>  
 Malia Aston, September 13<sup>th</sup>  
 Zelma Foster, September 16<sup>th</sup>  
 David Hill, September 16<sup>th</sup>  
 Sharon White, September 16<sup>th</sup>  
 Zoe Laughary, September 19<sup>th</sup>

### **September Birthdays Continued ~**

Steven Griffin, September 19<sup>th</sup>  
 Clara Fluegel, September 22<sup>nd</sup>  
 Shyra Hallan, September 23<sup>rd</sup>  
 Andi Edwards, September 26<sup>th</sup>  
 Chris Thurman, September 26<sup>th</sup>  
 Tylor Bates, September 30<sup>th</sup>  
 Alvira Spangler, September 30<sup>th</sup>

### **September Anniversaries**

Butch & Joyce Smith, September 6<sup>th</sup>  
 Ed & Judy Gehring, September 10<sup>th</sup>  
 John & Nancy Hawbaker, September 10<sup>th</sup>  
 Mark & Connie Keuhner, September 10<sup>th</sup>  
 Rich & Mary Miller, September 19<sup>th</sup>  
 Ellery & Alexa Blood, September 25<sup>th</sup>  
 Corey & Tina Laughary, September 25<sup>th</sup>  
 Dale & Kay Tronsen, September 25<sup>th</sup>

Jesus' final words to His disciples in Matthew 28:18 are, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And remember I am with you always, to the end of the age." Jesus was talking to His disciples when He gave these orders. Too often we read these words and we first think—"yes, I need to go out and make disciples too." But, I would like to suggest that our zeal, though well intentioned could be a little pre-mature. You see, Jesus had spent 3 years training and leading His followers before He commissioned them. Yes, they did lots of ministry, even miracles while they were with Jesus, but I believe all of their ministry was part of a process, a formation process Jesus was doing in them. Is your spiritual formation "in process"?

Yes, we are to make disciples but I think we are jumping the gun if we do not first "become" disciples. How do you know if you are a disciple? Just as we can tell a tree by its fruit, a disciple is marked by its traits. Ask yourself the following questions regarding these 6 marks of a disciple:

1. Prayer: Do you pray daily? Is your prayer life a lifeless ritual or sincere and passionate ongoing communication with God?
2. Study: Are you filling your mind and soul with God's word? Have you made reading the Bible a daily habit?
3. Worship; Are you committed to **regular** worship with the body of Christ? Is Sunday worship a real priority for you?
4. Giving: Are you a tither? Do you see giving as a joyful act of worship?
5. Serving: Do you put the needs of others above your own? Do you sacrifice your time and comfort to serve others?
6. Witnessing: Do you share the gospel with friends and family? Does your heart ache for those who don't know Jesus?

How did you do with these six questions? Are there areas in your spiritual life that need some work? Praying for God to make you a disciple and then sitting around and waiting for it to happen isn't going to work. Being a disciple takes commitment, sacrifice and hard work. The good news is—you don't have to do it alone. God has placed you in a loving community that wants to help. Over the next six months you will find Newsletter articles dedicated to each of these 6 marks of a disciple. Let's grow together as a community as we grow in Christ. We will be better equipped to make disciples of all nations when we too are true disciples ourselves. May God bless you.

### What's Up With Sunday Nights? ~Pastor Corey

Let's face it, if your "Lord's Day" (the old name for Sunday) consists of 1-2 hours on Sunday morning worshipping, and hanging out with Christians, that is probably not enough to consistently challenge you and grow your faith. With this in mind I am encouraging one and all to participate in both morning and evening worship on the Lord's Day. Not all will choose to do this, and some can't. But many of us can develop more of a routine of worship and study on the Lord's Day.

Why should we do this? It is good for our growth as disciples of Jesus Christ. It is good for the health of the local Body of Christ.

Please try the Sunday evenings 5pm Potluck and 6pm Message and Communion. Let's raise the bar on our commitment to the Lord's Day- not in a legalistic sense- but in the reality that we each need a day of scriptural, spiritual, worshipful rebooting- where we are centered on Christ and in the midst of the community of believers. With this in mind- I encourage you to participate in morning worship and evening worship. Evening worship will begin at 6pm. Voluntary potluck and youth and family ministry at 5pm- all are welcome. The sermon at the 6pm service will be an entirely different scripture than the morning sermon. Upcoming evening sermons are from the sermon on the mount, Matthew 5-7.

## PRAYERS & PRAISES

Our prayers are with the family of Betts Marshall, Pastor Mark as he begins teaching in Tekoa and transitions out of paid staff at PFC, a continued safe harvest, all who have been involved with hurricane Issac, All the School staff and students as everyone prepares to return to school the parents in our community to come to Christ, Youth group, 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.

## Financial Peace is Coming Soon!

It's not too late to turn your finances around! Financial Peace University (FPU) is a 13 week class taught by Financial Expert and well known talk show host, Dave Ramsey. Each week Dave will teach (via DVD) God's principals for handling money. FPU provides an encouraging environment where you will find the support you need to make changes in the way you handle your money. PFC hosted an FPU class last fall. Over the 13 week our class saw a financial turnaround of over \$100,000.00. Come join us this fall and begin to take control of your finances. Our previous class learned that peace comes, not just you're your income goes up or the debt is all paid off, but when you have an organized plan for reaching your financial goals.

There is a \$75 class fee. The fee covers the class and all of your class materials. A limited number of scholarships are available. Sign up today & tell a friend. Class begins Thursday Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. Classes are 1.5-2 hours long, a snack and free child care will be provided. For more information or to register contact Tina Laughary at 509-878-1334 or e-mail [tclaughary@yahoo.com](mailto:tclaughary@yahoo.com).

## Vacation Bible School Praises

Thank you for prayers and volunteers of those who helped over 90 kids participate in VBS!

We raised \$1145 to keep VBS free for kids and families, thank you!

The kids raised \$166.33 to buy mosquito netting for kids in Mali, Africa- to protect against malaria.

Praise God!

## Car Discipleship - Commuters Unite? – Mark Sawyer

Do you travel in a car for 45 minutes to an hour in a typical work day? If you answer yes, let's choose to make our commute not a nuisance but an opportunity to worship and learn. As I embark on my new commute to Tekoa High School every school day I want to use my commute to grow spiritually. I enjoy listening to audio sermons and audio books when I drive, and I think you would too! What my mind is cooking up, is to create a pool of audio resources. All it would take is a group of intentional commuters who each contribute a couple audio books or teachings on audio cd's periodically through the year into a common resource hub (i.e. the church library!) It's a simple plan, but it would take some intentionality. So please let me know if you have interest in participating in this resource co-op! I'll look forward to learning with you! Interested? Call me 509-939-2143 (or text).



## Sunday School Changes Coming Soon!

Many of us have been praying for our Sunday school program. Specifically, we've been praying on how to offer the best program in order for our children and adults to grow in their faith TOGETHER. Recently Pastor Corey, 10 Sunday school teachers and I met and have decided to try something new for everyone this year beginning October 6th. Here are the main changes:

- **10:15-10:55 "FAMILY HOUR"**--We will offer a group setting "Sunday school class" to enable parents to worship with their children. We will have singing, a lesson and prayer for ages 4 and up. We encourage any adults -especially parents and also teenagers to join us. (If you are interested in leading, we are looking to share the responsibility with others on a 4-6 week rotation or so...)
- **10:15-11:00 Toddler Sunday school**--This class and format remains the same, just at a new time. For ages 2.5-3.5.
- **11:00-12:15 Service**--All kids aged 6 and up join their families for the service. Younger children in worship is up to parents discretion.
- It will be more interactive for the kids. There will be childcare available downstairs for ages 2.5-5. We will rely on parents who have children in this age group to rotate in childcare on occasion. There will be a sign up calendar in the Toddler room.
- Please Note – No elementary Sunday School at 11am.

We will no longer offer a separate Jr. High class Sunday mornings, but invite them to the new Family Hour as "crew leaders/helpers". PLEASE ask questions! This will be a transition for everyone and we are excited to begin! We will announce more details on Sundays, in the bulletin and by Facebook over the next month. These changes have not been made lightly and involved much prayer and consideration by many! Please join us in praying for these changes.

In Christ, Brenda Cook, Children's Ministry Team Leader

## Compassion Muscles ~Mark Sawyer

Has Christ changed your life? Maybe a better question to ask is: does your life look different because Christ lives in you? An article in the magazine Newsweek told of a national pole which determined that 93% of Americans have "faith" in God. The article also stated that 86% of Americans believe that Jesus is the Son of God. Yet, if we were to put 50 "believers" and 50 "non-believers" in a room together it would be nearly impossible to determine who was who based on their lifestyle. Sadly this spiritual inoculation in our nation states that "belief" in God is enough. Yet 100% of demons believe in Christ according to the book of James. So there must be more than an intellectual belief to following Christ. Some Christians rely on an emotional commitment- that whenever the right worship song is sung, or when they read a certain scripture then they emotionally well up a response to be committed to Christ. Remember that 100% of demons intellectually believe. In James 2:19 it says they shudder in His presence! So even demons have an emotional response, but they are far from salvation. They are in fact, enemies of Christ. So are you relying on a faith grounded solely on intellect and emotion? True followers of Jesus do have an intellectual commitment, emotional commitment, but ALSO a volitional commitment. Meaning true followers submit their will to the Lord and obey His commands. James 1:27 says *"Pure and genuine religion in the sight of God the Father means caring for orphans and widows in their distress and refusing to let the world corrupt you."* Yet we often live for ourselves more than others. If you were put in the room of believers and non-believers would your actions and lifestyle prove that you are a follower of Jesus? The truth is, being kind and compassionate is not a feeling that comes and goes. It is like a muscle that grows if you use it, or becomes weak when we don't. So don't wait for orphans and widows to knock on your doorstep! Mother Teresa said "Calcuttas" are everywhere if only we have the eyes to see." We need to show our volitional commitment to God, by relying on His Spirit to fill us and grow our compassion muscles in the everyday relationships we have. I believe that is a step toward a pure and genuine religion that not only pleases God, but can even move mountains.

## IT'S NEVER TOO LATE: A TESTIMONY OF GOD'S GRACE ~ROBIN RILETTE

My father, Neil Rilette, passed on July 3, 2011. It's never easy to lose someone and yet even in the most challenging times God is still at work. The last two weeks of my dad's life are a testament to that fact. In that time I saw prayers of decades answered, and healing and the beginning of healing happen. In order to understand just how amazing that time was I need to share a bit of background. I want you to know that I do this neither lightly, nor disrespectfully but with the desire that my family story may encourage you and give you hope.

I believe that every family has both a public and private face. This doesn't make us phony or dishonest, it's just that who we are for better, and sometimes for worse, seems to come out most intensely within our family circle. There are aspects of our life that we share only with those that we live with or are closest to and I think that's perfectly normal. However in my family, the public and private faces were markedly different.

If you had ever met my dad you would most likely have found him friendly, gregarious, intelligent, funny, a good raconteur and generous. All true. In fact, I've been the recipient of my dad's generosity my entire life. I have some good memories of my dad living out those characteristics. Unfortunately, that's not the dad I lived with most of my life. The dad I lived with was often volatile, verbally violent, irrational, angry, paranoid and fearful.

I can't tell you how many times I saw my dad look at me with hatred and disgust in his eyes. Certainly, there were many times growing up when I was disrespectful or disobedient. It's pretty obvious that I'm far from perfect! However, a torrent of verbal abuse would be unleashed on me, my mom, or my sister for the most mundane of things. It could be that I pushed my glasses up on my nose with my forefinger while my dad was talking to me, or I would come to the dinner table at the age of 13 with a new pimple, or laugh at something that my dad didn't think was funny. Out would come a torrent of verbal abuse beginning with my looks and moving on to my personality and my character.

These episodes could last from five minutes to an hour or more. I have a lot of memories of running up to my room, curling up in the fetal position on my bed, rocking back and forth with my hands covering my ears and saying over and over again, "Shut up! Shut up! Shut up!" while I listened to him yelling downstairs.

If I had to come up with a family motto it would have been "Damned if you do, damned if you don't." There was one certainty in our family. No matter what you did or didn't do, no matter what you said or didn't say you were wrong. As a young adult I found myself emotionally distancing myself from my family. I sought counseling after my mother was diagnosed with cancer in 1994, and learned how to be objective in an emotionally healthy way, a way that I've come to call "compassionate indifference."

Flash forward to June of 2011. My sister, Kim, called me on a Friday afternoon in late June to tell me that dad had been

taken to Providence Hospital. He had tried to leave her home at 4:30 in the morning and when she tried to stop him he locked himself in his room and would not come out for over an hour. When she finally got him in her car and took him to the hospital, he had to be forcibly, but gently removed from her car by hospital personnel. My sister was understandably upset. I, on the other hand, was rejoicing because a prayer of decades was being answered! It's not because I'm hard hearted, it's because someone outside of our family circle was **finally** seeing my dad's unstable behavior and they were trained, medical personnel! This was a miracle!

Eventually the wing where my dad resided was locked down due to his behavior. Again, as upsetting as this was to see it was a blessing because my dad was seen by a psychiatrist. This was another answer to decades of prayer!

While the doctors were trying to find the right medications for dad they asked Kim and me not to see him. Every time he saw us his anxiety and anger would increase, making it more difficult for them to help him. Dad's heart condition had precipitated many hospital visits in the past. Kim, being the excellent nurse that she is, would be there at 7:30 in the morning and want to stay until 10:00 or 10:30 each night. Dad would cooperate with the nurses and doctors while in the hospital but would be very angry and abusive with us when they were not in the room. I would try to encourage Kim to leave earlier in the evening, or to take a long break during the day but this was something that was hard for her to do. I'd been praying that she would be able to relinquish some of the responsibility that she felt regarding dad for years, and this time that prayer was answered! When the hospital staff asked us not to see Dad my sister agreed. Believe me, this was a miracle. If you are a nurse, or have one in the family you can relate!

When the hospital staff met with us to talk about dad the Lord showered us with blessings. The Providence team of the hospital chaplain, dad's geriatric specialist, Dr. Monica, a nurse and a social worker met with us for over two hours. In that time we received so many blessings, including another answer to a prayer of decades, a diagnosis of my dad's condition.

We all knew that my dad had emotional and mental issues but we learned that day to what extent. The team told us that dad had **three** mental illnesses. I'm crying as I write this because I can't tell you how much hearing that diagnosis meant to my sister and me. In some way it validated what we'd been through for the past 50 plus years, both as individuals and as a family. Plus, it meant that my dad would get help and might find some peace at the end of his life. The medical team told us how astonished they were by the fact that dad had held down a job for over forty years; and not only held it but rose as high as he could in his company, NW Natural. They couldn't believe that mom had stayed with dad all of those years, that Kim and I still related to him and that Kim had taken him into her home for four years. They acknowledged and affirmed each of us in ways that were so specific I knew the Holy Spirit was at work.

One of the biggest miracles of all was seeing my dad again, after the doctors had found the right combination and doses of medication. He was calm, happy and pleased with everything. The Lord blessed us with finding a wonderful care facility for dad within just a few days, and when Dad came in and saw how we had arranged all of his furniture he was full of nothing but praise. Really, this was a miracle!

I want you to know that I know my dad loved me while on earth and still loves me in heaven. I didn't feel his love very often, but for many years I've come to understand how much my dad overcame in his life to provide for his family, to give us the security and comfort that he didn't know growing up during the depression. He did this and he did it under extraordinarily challenging circumstances. I believe it was his love for us that enabled him to do something that medical specialists could not believe could be done by someone in his condition.

One of the last things my dad said to me was, "You're so pretty. You and your sister are so pretty." While he said this he gently laid his hand on my face. At that moment the Holy Spirit whispered to me, "This is who your dad really is, Robin, and this is how he truly feels about you and Kim. I want you to take this in deep. This is who you will get to know in heaven."

Do my dad's loving words to me at the end of his life take away all that went before? No. The hurts and sad memories are still there and sneak up on me at unexpected times, but I rest in the knowledge that I will have eternity in which to get to know the Dad that was hidden under the horrific challenge of mental illness.

If God presents you with the opportunity to receive healing from someone that has hurt you deeply I encourage you to receive it. It certainly doesn't take away the hurt, but it can give you strength to get through it and use it for His glory. I'm trying! Let's try together.

### **Upcoming Events:**

September 15<sup>th</sup> Palouse Day 5k – 10 k Fun Run – sign up online at [www.visitpalouse.com/events/2012palousedays.html](http://www.visitpalouse.com/events/2012palousedays.html)  
The morning of the race sign in begins at 7 AM. Race begins at 8 AM in front of Bagott Motors with all proceeds going to Gar Pal Young Life.

September 16<sup>th</sup> – Presentation & Potluck, 5pm, by Alana Brunner on Hope4 All Children and an update on what is currently being done with the money saved for Uganda.

October 6<sup>th</sup> - Garpal Young Life Fundraising banquet, 6:01 PM at Palouse Community Center by RESERVATION ONLY. Seats are limited so if you want to attend, be sure you RSVP to one of the Sawyers. Silent Auction items with of a value of more than \$50 can be donated anytime! Email Connie at [cnewman509@gmail.com](mailto:cnewman509@gmail.com) to donate!

**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.

September 01 --- <a href="#">Ezekiel 18-19</a>	September 15 --- <a href="#">Daniel 4-6</a>	September 29 --- <a href="#">Nehemiah 11-13</a> -
September 02 --- <a href="#">Ezekiel 20-21</a>	September 16 --- <a href="#">Daniel 7-9</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 126</a>
September 03 --- <a href="#">Ezekiel 22-23</a>	September 17 --- <a href="#">Daniel 10-12</a>	September 30 --- <a href="#">Malachi 1-4</a>
September 04 --- <a href="#">Ezekiel 24-27</a>	September 18 --- <a href="#">Ezra 1-3</a>	
September 05 --- <a href="#">Ezekiel 28-31</a>	September 19 --- <a href="#">Ezra 4-6</a> - <a href="#">Psalm</a>	October 01 --- <a href="#">Luke 1</a> - <a href="#">John 1:1-14</a>
September 06 --- <a href="#">Ezekiel 32-34</a>	<a href="#">137</a>	October 02 --- <a href="#">Matthew 1</a> - <a href="#">Luke</a>
September 07 --- <a href="#">Ezekiel 35-37</a>	September 20 --- <a href="#">Haggai 1-2</a>	<a href="#">2:1-38</a>
September 08 --- <a href="#">Ezekiel 38-39</a>	September 21 --- <a href="#">Zechariah 1-7</a>	October 03 --- <a href="#">Matthew 2</a> - <a href="#">Luke</a>
September 09 --- <a href="#">Ezekiel 40-41</a>	September 22 --- <a href="#">Zechariah 8-14</a>	<a href="#">2:39-52</a>
September 10 --- <a href="#">Ezekiel 42-43</a>	September 23 --- <a href="#">Esther 1-5</a>	October 04 --- <a href="#">Mark 1</a> - <a href="#">Luke 3</a> -
September 11 --- <a href="#">Ezekiel 44-45</a>	September 24 --- <a href="#">Esther 6-10</a>	<a href="#">Matthew 3</a>
September 12 --- <a href="#">Ezekiel 46-48</a>	September 25 --- <a href="#">Ezra 7-10</a>	October 05 --- <a href="#">John 1:15-51</a> -
September 13 --- <a href="#">Joel 1-3</a>	September 26 --- <a href="#">Nehemiah 1-5</a>	<a href="#">Matthew 4</a> - <a href="#">Luke 4-5</a>
September 14 --- <a href="#">Daniel 1-3</a>	September 27 --- <a href="#">Nehemiah 6-7</a>	October 06 --- <a href="#">John 2-4</a>
	September 28 --- <a href="#">Nehemiah 8-10</a>	

## Influence of Teachers ~ Dean Huber

### Thank You Church Family

Jeff Kent made it successfully to Tulane University in New Orleans, LA to begin his freshman year of college there, August 22! He will be majoring in Physics, Math and Music. He regretted not being able to give the church family a formal goodbye, but was busy taking a trip to visit grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins. He wants to thank everyone for their constant, literally life-long, support and looks forward to getting back to visit at Christmas! God Bless you all!!

### Youth Group Continues

With the transition of Pastor Mark resigning from his pastoral role, there will still be activities that welcome youth on Sunday nights, 5pm at the church. Though it won't be "youth group" it will still have elements that were part of youth group including, food, fellowship, games, and teachings. The Sunday schedule will start at 5pm and finish by 7pm.

### From the PFC Board

We have endorsed a plan by Tina Laughary to develop more opportunities for adult spiritual growth. Tina's new volunteer role will roll out in stages but in summary here is what she will be up to:

- Developing small group curriculum
- Scheduling Bible + Spiritual Growth Class (i.e. Bible 101, 102, Prayer 101)
- Assisting and coaching small group leaders
- Developing Spiritual development mentoring

Please keep Tina in your prayers as she works in these areas.

My grandfather immigrated to America because he wanted his children to have the opportunity for an education. Five of his six children eventually graduated college with teaching certificates (including my mother). I grew up knowing the importance of good teachers; but it was not just me.

Education was one of the highest priority in this country. An early national indicator of priority is found in the Public Land Survey System which was established by the Federal Land Ordinance of 1785. The ordinance established a perpetual endowment for funding public education. Land was systematically surveyed into six by six mile square townships, which were subdivided into 36 square sections. Section 16 in each township was reserved for the maintenance of public schools.

Family level indicators of educational priority have occurred since the mid 1800s. When school was in session, the children of some farm families left their homestead and stayed with family members or friends in order to attend a school of quality performance. Some families left their farm homesteads and took up temporary residence in a community with a school of high standing. Even today, families with high regard for quality education will seek housing in neighborhoods with high quality schools.

Unfortunately, times have changed. In contrast with the past, the concept of education as social responsibility and respect for teaching as a profession has come under attack by some segments of society and factions of government. This turn of events has taken its toll on the perceptions that teachers have of their profession and how much influence they have on the lives of their students.

The purpose of this note is to offer encouragement to teachers that they do have, or at least can have, considerable influence on the lives of their students. To do this, I offer the findings of student feed-back from a high school class celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> reunion of graduation this year. I am a member of that class – the graduating class of 1962. In preparation for our class reunion, a web site was set up into which we could register. Among the questions asked in this web site was: *Who was your favorite teacher, and why?* The respondents' comments are very insightful since they are made as a reflection over 50 years of life and career. As such, they have been tested and tempered by time. I will share a few of their comments. Consider the lifelong impact on these students by their teachers.

#### Some students need encouragement and support:

- ✓ Cathy -- Mr. Killo who kept in touch and encouraged me to go for the moon in spite of others judgments.

#### Some teachers were taskmasters that expected the best you had to offer:

- ✓ Lois -- Mrs. Ervin because she taught me how to think critically and develop my own opinions.

#### Some teachers taught lifelong skills:

- ✓ Fran -- Mr. Kunschak because he taught speech with much finesse and sophistication. Under his direction I developed a sense of confidence in public speaking that has benefited me in both my career and personal life.

#### Some teachers displayed positive personality traits that could be emulated by their students:

- ✓ Shirley -- Frau Simpsons because of her tenacity in trying to teach our privileged group in comparison to her own "story".

Yes, teachers do have an influence on their students – as noted in these student's own words after 50 years of testing and tempering in the real world. As we commence a new school year, to the teachers of today I would say: Stand tall, step forward with confidence and pride, address your students with passion and conviction. Beyond the subject matter of your class, you also have an influence on their lives.

# September

<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 10:15am Sunday School 11am: Worship 5pm: All Church Potluck/Youth grp 6pm: Worship	<b>3</b> 6:30 – 8pm TOPS	<b>4</b> 10am Bible Study	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Men's Breakfast 7:30am: Cook 8:00am: Eat
<b>9</b> 9am: Worship 10am:Fellowship 10:15am Sunday School 11am: Worship 5pm: All Church Potluck/Youth grp 6pm: Worship	<b>10</b> 6:30 – 8pm TOPS	<b>11</b> 10am Bible Study	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 6:30 Financial Peace University Class	<b>14</b> 5:00 Update from Alana Brunner with a potluck dinner	<b>15</b> 7am: YoungLife Palouse Day Fun Run (1K, 5K, 10K 7am signup at Bagott Motors/8am run)
<b>16</b> 9am: Worship 10am:Fellowship 10:15am Sunday School 11am: Worship 5pm: Alana Brunner Presentation & Potluck 6pm: Worship	<b>17</b> 6:30 – 8pm TOPS	<b>18</b> 10am Bible Study	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 6:30 Financial Peace University Class	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 9am Mentoring Class
<b>23</b> 9am: Worship 10am:Fellowship 10:15am Sunday School 11am: Worship 5pm: All Church Potluck/Youth grp 6pm: Worship	<b>24</b> 6:30 – 8pm TOPS	<b>25</b> 10am Bible Study	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 6:30 Financial Peace University Class	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 9am: Worship 10am:Fellowship 10:15am Sunday School 11am: Worship 12:15pm Sabbatical Presentation & Potluck Lunch 5pm: All Church Potluck/Youth grp 6pm: Worship						

## Palouse Federated Church

635 N. Bridge Street/PO Box 535  
 Palouse, WA 99161  
 509-878-1509 (church)  
 509-878-1334 (parsonage)  
 pfcoffice@palouse.com (office)  
 thelaugers@yahoo.com (pastor)  
[Mark\\_Sawyer@hotmail.com](mailto:Mark_Sawyer@hotmail.com) (assoc.  
 pastor)

Pastor Corey's Office Hours:  
 Mon-Thurs 9am-1:30pm

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

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

### Regular Sunday Schedule

**9am** Worship (childcare available  
 age 5 and under)

**10am**- Fellowship Time

**10:15am** – Sunday School

**11am** – Worship (Childcare  
 available, Youth Sunday School  
 Available, age 2 yrs through  
 grade 5)

**5pm** – All Church Potluck/Youth  
 Ministry

**6pm** – Worship with communion

## A Change in Preaching Approach – Lectio Continua

I am changing my approach to my preaching calendar. I am committed to preaching through books of scripture or large sections of scripture in order to build up the Church Body on the whole counsel of scripture. This means at times that we will be marching for months through the same book (in the morning services starting with 1 John). It also means that we will have time to intently focus on and learn deeply from scripture. Our first evening series on the Sermon on the Mount (which will alternate Sundays with the "Life of David" or Genesis Profiles) may take many weeks or months to complete- but it will be beneficial to all who engage. I have generally always led Bible studies in this way, but I am now convicted to apply this approach to my preaching calendar. Having different sermons in the morning and evening will help the church body hear messages from more of scripture, getting a rounder more fuller view of the Bible. Let me know if you have questions.

- Sunday mornings - 1 John
- Sunday evenings (6pm) - Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7), alternating with Sermons on the Life of David

-Pastor Corey

## September Sermons –

- September 2, 2012, Introduction – "An Eyewitness Account", 1 John 1:1-4
- September 9, 2012, "Light & Dark", 1 John 1:5-10
- September 16, 2012, "Truly Knowing Him", 1 John 2:1-6
- September 23, 2012, "Loving Rightly", 1 John 2:7-17
- September 30, 2012, "Deception", 1 John 2:18-27

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