

Our Vision: Here at the heart of Beaverton, Christ calls us to feed our community, body, mind and Spirit.



Our Mission: Knowing that our works change our community and ourselves, we seek to ensure that no one in the Beaverton area goes hungry, investigate the teachings of Christ through research and communion with others, and respectfully share the love of God with all.

The Witness

January & February 2016 Double Issue

Pastor's Message

Happy New Year! Each Advent I get lovely compliments on my favorite stole – the scarf I wear around my neck each Sunday. This stole is a patchwork of blues and purples with delicate weavings of silver. It is my Advent stole. But when you flip it over it is all purple – it become my Lenten stole. I also get many compliments on this side of my favorite stole as well. Both sides are truly beautiful.

This year Lent and Easter arrive early and I joked to a congregation member towards the end of Advent that I would barely have time to turn my stole over before Advent had turned into Lent.

Lent begins on February 10 (no, really!) this year. The time of waiting for the coming of the Christ Child into the world (Advent) has become the time of waiting for Christ's sacrifice of Love, made for us – Lent.

I actually like these years when Christmas and Easter are so close to each other. We will celebrate Easter barely three months after Christmas, on March 27. Most of us know how quickly that time will pass. Because the two most important Christian holy days are so close together this year, it gives us a chance to consider their connection a little more closely as well.

Let's take a look at Luke's Gospel... Luke begins with no doubt that the child born in Bethlehem is the Son of God, the Savior born to be a completely new kind of king – a people's king. An Angel announces the birth of his cousin who will later announce Jesus' ministry. An Angel announces Mary's

pregnancy and she rejoices in the news! Jesus is born in Bethlehem and Angels announce his birth, not to the top of the social hierarchy, but to the very bottom... shepherds. The shepherds become the first to share the Good News of Jesus.

About thirty years later, and after a ministry that focuses on the very people to whom his birth was announced, Jesus is executed by Rome. Unfortunately for the Emperor of Rome, Jesus just didn't stay dead! The Good News of Jesus' resurrection is announced to his disciples and the world, just as his birth was, by the bottom of the social hierarchy – women. The disciples, especially Peter are amazed, but not inspired to do very much, at least not at first. It is when Jesus appears to two disciples walking to the town of Emmaus, explains the scriptures to them and finally breaks bread with them that his resurrected presence is truly known. These disciples are not two of the Twelve. Only one of them is given a name. They are just plain old guys, nobody special, just like you and me. But Jesus makes them special, makes us special, because he claims them as his own, as people of his resurrection, just as he claims us.

Jesus does appear to the disciples and eats with them and then promises them the Holy Spirit. No Angels at the end of Luke's Gospel. Jesus does his own announcing. The Holy Spirit will come upon the Twelve and inspire them to do great things – to spread the great Good News! Then he ascends into

heaven (but, I'm getting ahead of myself... Pentecost comes fifty days after Easter!)

What would it have been like to be Jesus' disciple in the time leading up to his execution? What would it have been like to have been "sent" as an Apostle – sent to preach and teach the Good News? Were they afraid? Did they embrace the mission they were sent on? What will you embrace this Lent? It is never easy to be a disciple of Christ, but it is always satisfying, always good to know that your faith has inspired another's.

This year during Lent we will explore the blessings of discipleship and how they impact our world. As we move from Advent to Lent, from Christmas to Easter, as we make the connection from the beginning of Jesus life to the end and the new beginning, spend some time in prayer and look at how his life, death and resurrection connects to your life! On the path together,
Pastor Kathy

My Cancer Journey

For those who do not know me, my name is Marlene McCormick. My husband, Ivan, and I have been members of this church for about 15 years.

Recently Pastor Kathy had a sermon on prayer. She has asked me to tell my story.

Many members of this congregation and prayer groups of other churches have been praying for healing for me. Now let me tell you about my cancer journey.

On February 13, of last year (2015) I was diagnosed with AML leukemia, one of the more aggressive types of leukemia, with few survivors in my age group.

At my first visit with the oncologist, he informed me that my life expectancy was about 4 months if I did not begin extensive chemotherapy treatment as soon as possible. My first words were: "That's not enough time!"

Five days later I had my first treatment, followed by another treatment on each of the following 9 days with a 21 day rest before each of the next set of 10 days of chemotherapy for

7 months, for a total of 70 treatments. On my birthday in June, the oncology nurses and my doctor had a party for me to celebrate surviving past the four month period.

As soon as I received my diagnosis, we let Pastor Kathy know and this wonderful congregation began to pray for me. And God was listening!! About a month ago tests revealed that there were no living cancer cells in my blood at that time. I will continue chemotherapy 5 days every 6 weeks to maintain the cancer-free state.

This is truly one of God's miracles.

January & February Birthdays



Benjamin Jackson	01/04
Jessica Sojka	01/05
Mace Hood	01/07
Eric Kingstad	01/10
Ellen Kingstad	01/12
Dianna Himes	01/13
Ivan McCormick	01/18
Albert Smith	01/19
Neal Haines	01/23
Pat Lidrich	01/26
Rev. Kathy Boyes	01/26
Benjamin Thomas	01/29
Mark Himes	01/31
John wendt	02/07
Bill Wendt	02/10
Maxine Zerba	02/18
Shannon Fast	02/28

Anniversaries



Ivan & Marlene McCormick
Congratulations!

01/12

We are Praying for...

The Muramatsu Family after Marc's death
The Showalter Family after John's death
Roberta White
Ivan and Marlene McCormick
Dianna and John Himes
Our New Bible Study
Our Congregation



Tuesday February 9th will be our church's day to volunteer for Meals on Wheels at Elsie Stuhr Senior Center. Drivers should be at the Elsie Stuhr Center at 10:00 AM. Please call Pat Tervooren at 503-644-7475 for information regarding this program

Food Pantry "Item of the Month"

Thank you for continuing to take note of the "item of the month" and placing them in the large basket located in the Fireside Room. Your donations are much needed food items that are given to **Merlo Station High Schoolers** who are experiencing very difficult times.

December Item:

Fruit Cups – Single Serving

January 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Church Office Closed for Year End New Year's Day Pastor Kathy's Sabbath	2
3 10:30 AM Sunday Worship	4	5	6 10:00 AM Missions Team Meeting 7:00 PM Praise Band Rehearsal 7:30 PM Te Deum Choir Practice	7	8 Pastor Kathy's Sabbath	9
10 10:30 AM Sunday Worship	11 2:00 PM Hospitality Team Meeting	12 10:00 AM Meals on Wheels 6:30 PM Administrative Teams Meeting	13 7:00 PM Praise Band Rehearsal 7:30 PM Te Deum Choir Practice	14 7:00 PM Theology Pub	15 Pastor Kathy's Sabbath	16
17 10:30 AM Sunday Worship	18 Church Office Closed Martin Luther King Jr. Day	19	20 7:00 PM Praise Band Rehearsal 7:30 PM Te Deum Choir Practice	21	22 Pastor Kathy's Sabbath	23
24 9:15 AM Sunday Bible Study 10:30 AM Sunday Worship	25 7:00 PM Monday Bible Study	26	27 7:00 PM Praise Band Rehearsal 7:30 PM Te Deum Choir Practice	28	29 Pastor Kathy's Sabbath	30
31 9:15 AM Sunday Bible Study 10:30 AM Sunday Worship						

February 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7:00 PM Monday Bible Study	2	3 10:00 AM Missions Team Meeting 7:00 PM Praise Band Rehearsal 7:30 PM Te Deum Choir Practice	4	5 Pastor Kathy's Sabbath	6
7 9:15 AM Sunday Bible Study 10:30 AM Sunday Worship	8 2:00 PM Hospitality Team Meeting 7:00 PM Monday Bible Study	9 10:00 AM Meals on Wheels 6:30 PM Administrative Teams Meeting	10 10:00 AM Ash Wednesday Service 3:00 PM Feed the Hungry Kids 7:00 PM Praise Band Rehearsal 7:30 PM Te Deum Choir Practice	11 7:00 PM Theology Pub	12 Pastor Kathy's Sabbath	13
14 9:15 AM Sunday Bible Study 10:30 AM Sunday Worship	15 7:00 PM Monday Bible Study	16	17 7:00 PM Praise Band Rehearsal 7:30 PM Te Deum Choir Practice	18	19 Pastor Kathy's Sabbath	20
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