



**First  
Presbyterian**

CHURCH OF PORTLAND

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**First  
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CHURCH OF PORTLAND

**SPIRE**

NOVEMBER 2022

## Stewardship 2023

This fall, our First Presbyterian Stewardship campaign for 2023 has taken its theme from 1 Peter:

*Love one another and have a compassionate heart.*

Over the past year, the support of our compassionate and generous congregation, both financial and the sharing of time and talent, have allowed us to continue our ministries and respond to the ever changing needs of our neighbors. As we look ahead to the coming year we again look to the support of our congregation. We continue to be impacted by the pandemic in various ways including reduced revenue from the parking garage, which usually augments church resources.

To keep our outreach programs responsive to the needs of our community we have set a pledge goal of \$800,000 for 2023 (an amount that we reached and exceeded last year, thanks to your gifts!) As we look ahead with renewed hope and energy for the coming year, please prayerfully consider making a pledge to First Presbyterian to support Christ's ministry as we **"love one another and have a compassionate heart"** for our neighbors near and far.

We will dedicate our pledges on Sunday, November 13. Please contact the FPC office by email at [office@firstpresportland.org](mailto:office@firstpresportland.org) or call 503-228-7331 with any questions, and thanks so much for your support of our church!



## Join us for the FPC Annual Meeting by Zoom - November 13 at 1:00 pm

This year, our annual meeting will be online by Zoom video conferencing (the same platform as the church has been using for many classes and online gatherings).

If you're new to Zoom, this tutorial will be helpful background and help orient you to set up Zoom:

<https://bit.ly/NextChurchZoomTutorial>

The annual meeting of First Presbyterian will be Sunday November 13 at 1:00 pm, by Zoom. We will hear reports of the church's life and finances and vote on installed pastors' terms of call.

Download Zoom as detailed in the video above and join the meeting using:

<https://bit.ly/FPCMeeting2022>

Please call or contact the church office if you need help in setting up a Zoom account:  
[office@firstpresportland.org](mailto:office@firstpresportland.org) or 503-228-7331



**First Presbyterian**  
CHURCH OF PORTLAND

**Annual Congregational  
Meeting**

*(by Zoom only this year)*

**November 13, 2022  
1:00 pm**

**Zoom link:**  
<https://bit.ly/FPCMeeting2022>

**Meeting ID:**  
**858 5811 9691**

## Mystery Women's Book Club

Women of FPC, do you like to read mysteries? Maybe you are unaware that there is a book club with you in mind under the hat of Presbyterian Women's Ministries at FPC? We meet on the 2nd Monday of the month via Zoom. The book for November is *The Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman. To receive the group Zoom link, just email Amy Wood at [awood6961@gmail.com](mailto:awood6961@gmail.com).

In recent months, we've shared articles highlighting the pastors and office staff, among a creative and dedicated team of staff who are serving the congregation in a variety of roles. This month, we'd like you to meet **our church facilities staff**:



**John Kelly is our new facilities manager**, working 36 hours a week, Monday to Thursday and Friday mornings to tend to all of the needs of our historic church buildings, for which he has helpful experience as a contractor.



**Bill Edwards is our Sexton**, working at the church on Sunday mornings to open the church and attend to all the logistics and needs to prepare for worship. He also is our wedding coordinator, working with couples in their planning and on the day of their wedding, and helps as Sexton for memorial services. His hours vary from 8 to 18 per week.



**Zenebaw Legesse has been our church custodian since 2009**, about 30 hours per week, keeping the church clean and maintained week to week.

He is assisted by **Peter Toscano** about 10 hours a week.



*We are grateful for these staff members who help steward our beautiful church buildings as the venues for worship, gatherings, learning, and service!*

**Save the Dates!**

Please mark your calendar for upcoming all-church events:

Crafternoon/Game Time: October 30, 1:00-3:00 pm

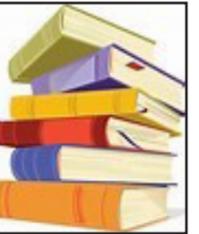
Annual Meeting (by Zoom): November 13, 1:00 pm

PWM Bake & Craft Sale: November 20

Valentines' Tea: January 29

**Recommended Reading: *Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes* by Cynthia Campbell**

During the Advent season, the Adult Education Committee recommends the following book for study: *Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes* by Cynthia Campbell. How might a house look for Christmas based on what each Gospel says about it? Architect Kevin Burns has come up with illustrations to re-imagine each of the four Gospels as a "house," which the church visits at Christmas. A new and exciting reflection for Advent. Advent begins the last Sunday in November, so purchase your book now, as we study the season by looking into homes each week.



<https://www.pcusastore.com/Products/0664264999/christmas-in-the-four-gospel-homes.aspx>

\$9.75 plus postage

<https://www.christianbook.com/christmas-gospel-homes-advent-study/cynthia-campbell/9781611649680/pd/103136EB>

e-book is \$7.90

**Tuesday Women's Book Club**

The Women's Book Club will meet on Tuesday, November 1 at noon in the Whitman Room and on Zoom. The Zoom code will come later. The book, *I Heard the Owl Call My Name* by Margaret Craven, will be presented by Deborah Resley. The story is about a young Anglican vicar, unbeknownst to him, has not long to live. He learns about life, death and the transforming power of love when he is sent to a First Nations parish in B.C.

**Coping During Holidays Can Be Difficult**



As the holidays approach and the days get shorter, sadness, grief and loneliness can affect our daily lives with deeper power. Stephen Ministers in our congregation stand ready to help you cope by offering a dependable listening ear. We are lay volunteers who are trained to provide confidential, empathetic, one-to-one, supervised, Christ-centered care to individuals who are experiencing grief and loss. To find out more about how a Stephen Minister can support you as you negotiate tough times, please contact Pastor Brenna or Pastor Audrey at the church.

**EXHAUSTED BY THE PANDEMIC?**

**YOU DON'T HAVE TO FACE IT ALONE.**

A Stephen Minister can walk alongside you or a loved one to offer support and care—and it's free and confidential.

To learn more, contact one of our Stephen Leaders.



**In Difficult Times...**

Stephen Ministers are trained, caring church members, who visit and support people in heavy times. If you are interested in setting up a Stephen Minister visit, or would like more information, please contact Pastor Brenna or Pastor Audrey at [office@firstpresportland.org](mailto:office@firstpresportland.org).



## Highlights of the FPC Fall Festival

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Fall Festival hosted by the Shively family at their big red barn in Hillsboro! We were blessed with a variety of chili, salads, cornbreads and beverages. We enjoyed a variety of activities including face painting and donuts on a string for all ages!



## Giving Tree Update

We will be starting the process for gift giving for the Christmas Giving Tree following worship service on November 20, the Sunday before Thanksgiving, and will continue on Sunday, November 27, with gifts completed and turned into the church office or at worship service on or before December 4. There will be tags on our tree, some for gift buying, and others for gift certificates at local stores.

Please watch the weekly bulletins in November for added information on how to give.

Agencies supported will be: With Love-Foster Care Support, New Avenues for Youth, Life Change Center for Women and Children, Ecumenical Ministries Organization for Men, and Friendly House for Seniors.



## Rutter Requiem on All Saints Sunday



On Sunday, November 6, at 2:00 pm, the FPC Chancel Choir, soprano Madeline Ross, and guest conductor Dr. Shohei Kobayashi will offer one of the most gorgeous pieces in the entire choral repertoire, John Rutter's Requiem. Some requiems are grim or sad, but Rutter's is unmistakably optimistic in its message of hope and comfort, expressed through the beauty of the chosen texts and uplifting music. We will remember in a special way three FPC choir members who died recently – Don Fales, Sue Miller, and John Hortenstine – and will invite those in attendance to hold in their hearts those loved ones who have died, who still rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light.

As with all Celebration Works concerts, this program is presented free of charge, as a gift to the community from FPC and generous donors. (Donations toward the CW concert series will be gratefully accepted.) Of special note, the choir's music was purchased using interest from the Fales Choral Music Fund (established in 2021 by Norma Fales in memory of Donald Dean Fales), and the instrumentalists and guest singers for this performance are sponsored by Sara and Katie Hortenstine. This is sure to be a profoundly moving event...please plan to attend!



## PWM Bake and Craft Sale - Items Needed!

The PWM Bake and Craft Sale is scheduled for November 20 following worship. We need your contributions! Many have expressed interest and we need additional products to make this sale a success. Pies, breads, cookies, cakes are welcome additions for people to add to their holiday meal. Can you help? Please drop Ann an email at [ann.walsh@gmail.com](mailto:ann.walsh@gmail.com) to let her know what to expect. Thank you all so much!

## Meet our Children's Ministry Interns

This fall we've welcomed four youth to serve as interns with our Sunday School program. Grateful for the energy and fun they add to each classroom.



**Eloise Dick** lives in Beaverton and has been at FPC her whole life. She enjoys lacrosse, reading, and volleyball. "I want to create more of a community and I like getting to know people."

**Alyssa Driver** lives in Canby and is new to FPC. She is the niece of Pastor Carmen and enjoys theater, tap dance, and band. "I love kids!"



**Walker Morris** lives in Portland and has been at FPC for 2 years. He enjoys photography, soccer, and snowboarding. "I want to help build up and make Sunday school more fun for the kids."

**Sophie June Morris** lives in Portland and has been at FPC for two years. She enjoys soccer, music, reading, theater, and sports. "I want to help kids know more about God."



## Mission Update and Philippines Highlights

One of our church members, Marci Hope, is the founding director of Ingan Leyte Project in the Philippines, to which our church recently gave a contribution from the mission portion of our capital campaign. Marci had an extended visit to the Philippines, and reports on their work: Even though the trip was quite challenging from the preparation, purchasing of tools to take with us on our flight and finding a reasonable company to ship other building materials, we were able to accomplish quite a lot for a 3-month period:

**Education** – ILP distributed a set of used encyclopedia and school supplies to Katipunan National High School. The Ingan Leyte Project also provided school uniforms to a handful of deserving needy students. Katipunan School has been a recipient of ILPs assistance for school and office supplies. The school is located in a remote mountainous area with very limited access to internet.

**Livelihood** – Members of our Ingan Leyte Project Agriculture Cooperative (ILPAGRICO) started backyard gardening for their own family consumption and to support themselves by selling garden produce. We plan to adopt hydroponic gardening. ILPAGRICO continues to provide mini loans to our members to purchase fertilizers and livestock feeds.

**Construction of a Multi-Function Facility and Training Center** - Most of our time was spent in continuing the construction of the building that was put on hold due to lack of funds before we received a Trust Gift from Joy Hutchinson and the First Presbyterian Church of Portland Capital Campaign Grant. ILP is grateful for the generous support of the church and our donors.

There were 25 members of the Construction Team working early morning and late evening due to the hot weather. The job included - cleared the campus from coconut trees and bulldozed the area, harvested lumber from my tree farm and carried them down to the construction site by foot and fenced the campus with a permanent gate. All the posts are done, ready to install the roof that we just purchased before we left. We hope to have the roof done by next year. First Presbyterian's funding helped complete these posts.

There is still much to be accomplished to continue this mission. The Ingan Leyte Project is grateful to the church and all the donors who have sustained us throughout the years. We look forward to a group of youth and adults from First Presbyterian coming to take part in mission with us next summer. We continue to pray for God's guidance, good health, joy and peace. To God be the glory!

*Marci Hope*

