



**NOVEMBER  
DECEMBER  
2018**

**Banks  
Community  
United Methodist  
Church**

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**Pastor's Column**

Because of changes and shifting circumstances, I am not traveling very far for my

vacation this week. It has become a sort of stay-cation, and the pace is slow and easy. Have taken this stretch to pray about what God has been doing in my life this past year. In my searching and thinking I came upon this poem from the introduction to *Experiencing God*, by Blackaby and King:

**I Hear a Whisper**

*I feel a restless longing  
Deep within my spirit, Lord  
Like there's more to this life of faith  
Than I have known before*

*And from this place of discontent  
You've heard my constant cry  
Now You've begun to answer, Lord  
For I cannot deny*

*I hear a whisper in the silence  
A stirring in the wind*

*Saying I can know where You are moving  
And I can join in  
I can have purpose and passion  
Know Your will and know my part  
I hear a whisper and I'm feeling  
Change is coming to my heart  
-Experiencing God (c 1999 Star Song)*

This holy discontent that is the call of eternity upon a Jesus-follower's heart is familiar to you as the call to prayer, the hunger to read God's Word and meet and get to know Jesus better, or a calling to mission and ministry among those who have not yet met Christ. We have purpose and passion because God invites us continually into a real, personal relationship with Him.

The season of autumn is always exciting to me. It is a time when students of all sorts return to their studies -- at every level. In the church, we traditionally renew our commitment to small group meetings, Bible study and the mission of the church. The trees are displaying their colors

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that were not evident when chlorophyll was abundant in their leaves. The country side is stunning in its transformation.

This revealing of hidden beauty in fall foliage is a parable for the spiritual vision to which we are drawn in our journey with Jesus.

Jesus was fond of telling folks, "The (unseen) kingdom of God is at hand!" In the same way, when the work of chlorophyll, producing nutrient for the plant and oxygen for the atmosphere, stops in an oak or a maple tree, the presence of carotenoids and anthocyanins is revealed in yellow, red, orange and magenta -- there all along, but unseen. It is a glorious appearing. What was hidden is revealed.

My prayer for you and for me is that God will whisper His perfect will into our lives this season. May the Holy Spirit stir your spirit so that you hear and respond to Jesus' calling. May we all renew our commitment to be about prayer, presence, gifts, service and witness in the church and in our community -- revealing God's glory afresh!

Blessings,  
Margot



## CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER/ DECEMBER:

**11/04** ~ Daylight Savings ends.

**11/07** ~ Senior Lunch

**11/10 ~ 9 AM - 5 PM** St. Francis Bazaar & Luncheon

### November

11/06 Laurelen Jabbour

11/12 Lori Machado

11/14 Ane Fonua

11/18 Ron Smith

11/30 Jeannie Cochrane

### December

12/07 Sarah Boswell

12/13 Evelyn Teerlink

12/13 Julian Medinger

12/16 Dianne Harrang

12/23 Helen Schuman

12/31 Don Bake



**11/12 - 19** ~ OCC National Collection Week

**11/18** ~ Ad Council meeting follows the service.

**11/21 ~ 7 PM Thanksgiving Eve** service of worship with music by the Cornelius and Iglesia buen Samaritano praise bands. The offering is food items for the Community Table food pantry.

**12/01** ~ Cemetery Bazaar

**12/06** ~ Caroling at Jim's Thriftway

**12/08 ~ 3 PM - 6 PM** 9th Annual Christmas Tea & Silent Auction.

**12/15 ~ 9 AM - 11 AM**, Gift Wrapping for Kids at North Plains Elementary

**12/22 ~ 9 AM**, Christmas Box Packing at BCUMC

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## **MONDAYS:**

**7:00 PM:** Fall bible study on the Gospel of Luke at Leola Stigleman's home.

## **WEDNESDAYS:**

**9:30 AM: OGC a "retired guys fellowship"** meets at the Trailhead Café.

**10 AM:** Women's Bible study at Dianne Harrang's home.

## **SUNDAYS:**

**First & third Sundays, 5 - 6 PM:** Banks Community United Methodist Youth Group meets, for students grades 3-8. Contact Mariana Haboush Knifer, Sarah Howard Boswell or Jimmy Boswell for more information?



## **CANNED FOOD OF THE MONTH AND RECYCLING**

Our stock is building and we thank you for that as it means we will have a good supply of foods to pack in our Christmas food boxes. Please continue to bring in the food of the month during these last months of the year. The following is what we will be collecting:  
**Nov/Dec – cranberry sauce.**

The collection of recyclable cans and water bottles is on-going and we appreciate your "contributions". Keep bringing in those empties! These funds keep growing and will help immensely with the purchase of foods for the Christmas food boxes when it comes time to shop, and we thank you. When you contribute through these 2 forms of

giving you are blessing many individuals with the gifts of food and love. Thank you.



## **NEW YOUTH GROUP**

Our first youth group meeting was great. Kids came in, grabbed a snack, and sat down to coloring sheets and a time to chat and get to know each other. We played a fun game of "Guess which Disney Character You Are". Each person had a Post-It stuck on their back with a Disney Character name written on it. They had to ask questions to figure out the they were. I think I was stumped the most, and I was in charge of writing the names! It turns out I was "The Beast" from Beauty and the Beast.

That was followed by a short video that compared what David went through as he prepared to battle Goliath and a boy named Chris, who battled stage fright in order to perform an audition. The Superbook Video series is a great way for children to learn how to apply Biblical truths to their own lives. In this case, it was how to deal with "giants" in our lives.

One quote that stuck in my mind was: When God gives you the ability, the size of the 'giant' doesn't matter!" When we use our gifts and talents, we can't lose!

We meet the 1st and 3rd Sunday each month from 5 PM - 6 PM at Banks Community UMC, 42451 NW Depot St. Invite others to join the fun as we learn about Daniel in the Lion's Den.

## CHRISTMAS TEA AND SILENT AUCTION

Our teas are fun, the auctions are successful and we are looking forward to this year's event set for **December 8th at 3:00 PM**. The tea foods have been planned, ladies have volunteered to decorate the tables, and the men have offered to serve.

If you are handy with knitting needles, crochet hooks, a sewing machine, an oven, woodworking tools, now is the time to handcraft some items for our silent auction. You may also donate purchased items, gift certificates, and items appropriate for youngsters to bid on. Talk to Andy or Gail if you have



items to donate.

It is so enjoyable to come together and participate in good conversation while being served delectable foods. It is also such fun

bidding against friends over a special item and raising funds for the church at the same time, and you may just find that perfect Christmas gift for someone special on your list. So, invite your friends, neighbors and family members, help with set-up or clean-up, donate auction items and contribute to the success of this fun afternoon.

Tickets are \$15/person or \$100 for a table of 8. You may make reservations and purchase your tickets from Leola. Talk to Gail if you have any questions.



## Shoebox Gifts Given in the Name Above All Names

*By a pastor in Albania*

Members of a church prayed for a long time to reach a particular village in my country with the Gospel. They tried evangelizing there, but received no response except occasional opposition. Last year, however, the church decided to bring them shoebox gifts.

The pastor talked to the school director, and he agreed to let the team come with one condition: “No Jesus, no religion, and nothing about your faith.” Yet, the pastor kept insisting that God be mentioned. The church prayed for many days and finally the principal said, “You can tell the kids only a little bit about God, but no other names.”

Later, the director, teachers, and children welcomed the team from the church to their school. While team members prayed and distributed the shoeboxes, the pastor explained to the children that the shoebox gifts did not come from Santa Claus, himself, the government, or the school director. Instead, God sent them because He loves them. During this time, the principal and a teacher were present in the classroom in an effort to control what was said.

One child raised his hand and asked, “How could God come and give us the gift?”

The pastor asked the director, “Would you like to answer this question, sir?”

“No, thank you. You go ahead and explain.”

The pastor then told the kids about the Good News of Jesus Christ and how God used people to deliver shoebox gifts to Albania. The team was so happy that the children could hear and experience God’s love. For almost one year now,

the church has helped the school and the village. The pastor said, “Jesus is the Way and He can help to find a way, when it looks like there is no way.”



## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

*Whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith. Mt 21:22.*

Prayer is an important part of Samaritan’s Purse Operation Christmas Child. Prayer works! We pray over our shoeboxes; we pray for the items we pack in those boxes; we for the children who will be receiving our boxes. We pray for all the logistics of getting the shoeboxes transported around the world; we pray for the volunteers who organize the distribution of the shoeboxes; we pray that hearts will be opened to allow for distribution; we pray the hearts of children who receive the shoeboxes will be receptive to the “Greatest Journey” Bible course and open to receiving Jesus.

That’s a lot of prayer and there is much more prayer throughout the year in all areas of this mission program. We are just days from National Collection Week, November 12 – 19, and as you pack your shoeboxes we hope you are praying as you do so. Each box represents a gospel opportunity and sharing the love of Jesus.



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A couple reminders: Please, **NO TOOTHPASTE or CANDY in the shoeboxes and remember to INCLUDE \$9.00/box for shipping.**

We will be receiving our shoeboxes Sunday, November 11<sup>th</sup> and giving them a prayerful send-off during our worship service. Bless you all for your continued participation in this mission project, reaching out to so many children across the world.



## **IMPACT MINISTRIES**

Dear Praying friends,  
supporters and family:

Connie and I will be leaving this coming week-end for a two week visit

to Canada. It has been around five years since we have visited our supporters and Al's kin folks and thought it was time for a visit. We have lots to share of what God is doing in our ministry that they have been involved in. Connie says that she is looking forward to the cool weather up there as we have had a very hot summer here in Arkansas. Pray for us that we will be a blessing to those we visit.

When we get back on the 27th of Oct. I have been preparing for my last medical/dental mission trip to Honduras for this year. I leave on the 8th of November to the 18th. God has provided me with a full team, a good supply of reading glasses and enough dental

supplies and materials. What I am still lacking is funding for the medicines I need to help around 800 people that we will be sharing the Good News to. Pray with me for this supply. If you can help I know that God will bless you.

My Honduran co-worker, Victor, told us that we would be setting up our clinic in a church plant of his for a couple of days and the rest of our time will be in a penitentiary. What a privilege it will be to share the Good News to hardened criminals who need Jesus so badly. Medical and dental care is a wonderful tool to get the Gospel to those we will come in contact with. Will you begin to pray right now that God will begin to work in the hearts that need to hear the Good News?

When we think of those of you who have encouraged our hearts with your prayers and support, the verse in 1 Thessalonians 3:9 comes to mind and we are so grateful to you for the many years you have been part of our team. God richly bless you and keep you encouraged in Him always.  
Serving our King together,  
Al and Connie

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Box 780025  
San Antonio, TX 78278

Action International Ministries  
3015 A 21st St. NE  
Calgary, Alta. T2E7T1



Rev. Dexter Danielson  
Chaplain Forest Grove Police and  
Fire

It's true! I will be officially retiring as Fire and Police Chaplain in January of 2019, it feels awkward to call it "retirement" in the traditional sense, as I have been volunteering in chaplaincy, as in unpaid, for sixteen years, the last eleven-plus here in Forest Grove.

After thirty-one years and retiring from the Washington County Sheriff's Office as a Detective I had visions of owning a Winnebago and touring the highways and byways. I still don't own a Winnebago, but along the way I have traveled down many paths God has called me to; Chaplaincy with Police and Fire, local church Pastor at Yamhill, ordination as Deacon in the Oregon-Idaho Conference and many other ministry opportunities.

As a Chaplain I like to say that God has allowed me to be around three of my favorite kind of people: Firefighters, Police and Chaplains. With the first two groups I have been able to serve in both times of great need and in times of great joy and have fast friendships; with the third group I have been associated with and mentored by some of the most selfless people in ministry. These are the people and associations that are most difficult to leave behind.

With the community I have been called to minister by means of caring and comfort in some of the most horrendous and terrifying situations that people will experience. In these situations, people were experiencing crisis in what had become the worst time of their lives;

the death of loved ones, due to natural causes, accident or suicide, or the loss of their home in catastrophic fires. These are the circumstances that are not difficult to leave behind, taking off the "pager" is what I most look forward to.

For the future I do have some plans, still not a Winnebago, but maybe taking up Golf again, working in my shop and more time at the coast, but still worshiping in area churches that have formed mine and Nancy's strong connection with the United Methodist Church.



## SINGING IN THE HOLIDAYS

We have been asked to sing Christmas Carols at Jim's Thriftway again this year! It is so much fun to walk around the store like little Christmas elves, singing and bringing Christmas joy to shoppers. It's a big day at Jim's. They offer lots of free samples and have a special "cake walk" for foods. Come join us on December 6th. We'll let you know what time as soon as its set.



## CHRISTMAS FOOD BOXES

For more than 50 years our church family has been reaching out to families in our area who are less fortunate than we are.

One of our outreach ministries is providing a “Christmas food box” with all the ingredients for a nice Christmas dinner with all the trimmings and extra food to last about a week, and gifts for all children 12

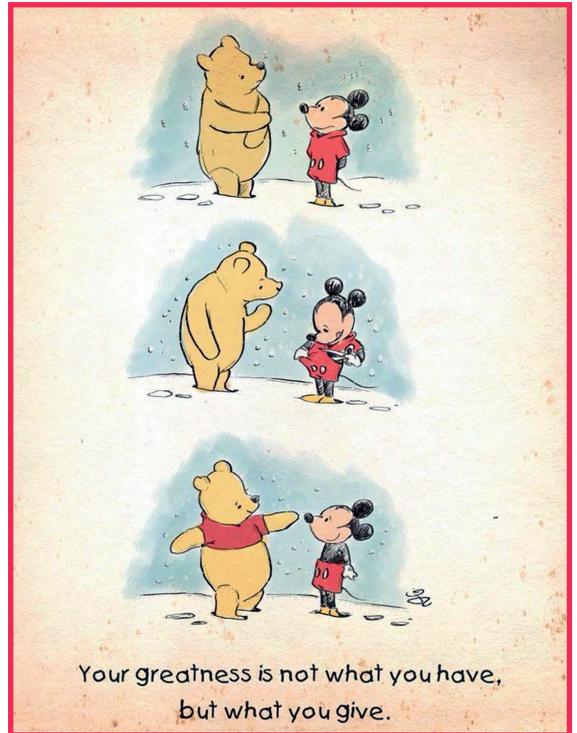
and under provided by Lucky to Serve. It is difficult to describe the blessings you receive while participating in this outreach. It could be as simple as a smile, a hug from a friend or stranger, and a chance to meet some of our community members as we work side by side filling the boxes with canned foods, produce, turkey and more.

As we start to plan for this year’s Christmas food box packing please be praying about ways YOU can participate. You could purchase a turkey, buy some canned goods, participate in the Food of the Month donations, recycle your bottles and cans, donate money to help with the purchases, and of course pray for the families about to receive our love and these gifts.

This year we will be packing boxes on Saturday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> starting at 9:00 AM. Please consider helping with this rewarding task and advise Andy of such.



*Christmas Box packing crew.*



## IN HONOR OF OUR VETERANS

Some veterans bear visible signs of their service: A missing limb, a jagged scar, a certain look in the eye. Others may carry the evidence inside them: A pin holding a bone together, a piece of shrapnel in the leg--or perhaps another sort of inner steel: The soul's ally forged in the refinery of adversity. Except in parades, however, the men and women who have kept America safe wear no badge or emblem. You can't tell a vet just by looking.

What is a vet?

He is the cop on the beat who spent six months in Iraq sweating two gallons a day making sure the armored personnel carriers didn't run out of fuel.

He is the barroom loudmouth, dumber than five wooden planks, whose overgrown frat-boy behavior is outweighed a hundred times in the cosmic scales by four hours of exquisite bravery near the 38th parallel.

She--or he--is the nurse who fought against futility and went to sleep sobbing every night for two solid years in Da Nang.

He is the POW who went away one person and came back another--or didn't come back at all.

He is the drill instructor that has never seen combat--but has saved countless lives by turning slouchy, no-account rednecks, city boys/girls, and gang members into Marines, and teaching them to watch each other's backs.

He is the parade-riding Legionnaire who pins on his ribbons and medals with a prosthetic hand.

He is the career quartermaster who watches the ribbons and medals pass him by.

He is the three anonymous heroes in The Tomb Of The Unknowns, whose presence at the Arlington National Cemetery must forever preserve the

memory of all the anonymous heroes whose valor die unrecognized with them on the battlefield or in the ocean's sunless deep.

He is the old guy bagging groceries at the supermarket--palsied now and aggravatingly slow--who helped liberate a Nazi death camp and who wishes all day long that his wife were still alive to hold him when the nightmares come.

He is an ordinary and yet an extraordinary human being, a person who offered some of his life's most vital years in the service of his country in Afghanistan, and who sacrificed his ambitions so others would not have to sacrifice theirs.

So remember, each time you see someone who has served our country, just lean over and say, "Thank you." That's all most people need, and in most cases, it will mean more than any medals they could have been awarded or were awarded.

Two little words that mean a lot: "THANK YOU."

It is the soldier,  
not the reporter,  
who has given us freedom of the press.

It is the soldier,  
not the poet,  
who has given us freedom of speech.

It is the soldier,  
not the lawyer,  
who has given us the right to a fair trial.

It is the soldier,  
not the politician,  
who has given us the right to vote.

It is the soldier,  
not the campus organizer,  
who has given us the freedom to demonstrate.

Let's remember them on Veteran's Day, November 11th.

## IN CASE YOU WONDERED IF IT REALLY MADE A DIFFERENCE...

This testimony was in the Bethel school newsletter today:

*Our own 2nd Grader, Akim Ochelkov's Mother, Nadezhda Shares her testimony about the power of a simple gift from Operation Christmas Child had in her life.*



*Nadezhda Ochelkov was raised by her missionary parents in a North Russian town called Narungri. Her family did not have much money so they received food from donations and clothing from humanitarian aid. Christmas presents were an extra that could not be afforded. Nadezhda remembers dancing with joy with her siblings when they received a gift from Operation Christmas Child.*

*During the next year, she anticipated the Christmas gift all year. The gift she received was her happiest*

*memory of the year. In her box, she received crayons which made her friends wonder if her parents were rich! She felt very loved by the family who gave her a gift from overseas and still treasures their photo that was included with the gift. Children who have nothing value even small gifts from the Dollar Store. Nadexhda encourages other families to make a difference in a child's life sharing the love of Jesus through a simple gift box.*

*Nik Harrang*

This story, submitted by Diane Harrang, was sent to her by son Nik in Redding, CA.



# WHAT CHRISTMAS MEANS TO ME

By Marcia E Clement

The weather's getting colder  
The nights are drawing in  
My thoughts turn to the manger  
That my Jesus lay within.

Made of simple timber  
By a carpenter was made  
And once the babe was fully grown  
It became my saviour's trade.

He came to set the captives free  
To bring this sinner home  
Not by my works but by the Son's  
Through grace and grace alone.

He healed the sick, He healed the lame  
And broke the devil's grasp  
He demolished the evil gates of hell  
As he took his final gasp.

He may have died but He's not dead  
He rose on the third day  
He died that we might all have life  
His blood our crimes to pay.

From Nativity's bed to Calvary's cross  
He came for all to free  
Heaven's Son came down in human form  
And that's what Christmas means to me.

Nadolig Llawen! {Merry Christmas in Welsh}

Written 7th December 2014  
Newport, South Wales.

## RECIPE CORNER

### ORANGE CARROT CAKE

#### Ingredients

3 cups flour  
2 cups sugar  
1 cup walnuts  
2 ½ tsp baking soda  
2 ½ tsp cinnamon  
1 tsp salt  
2 cups shredded carrots  
1 ¼ cups cooking oil  
2 tsp vanilla  
1 tsp grated orange peel  
11 oz can (1 ¾ cups) mandarin oranges,  
undrained  
3 eggs



#### Directions

Heat oven to 350 degrees.

Grease or spray 13" x 9" pan.

In large bowl, blend all cake ingredients; beat 2 minutes at high speed.

Pour into greased pan. Bake 45 to 55 minutes or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool, frost.

### STURDY WHIPPED CREAM ICING

#### Ingredients

1 8-oz reduced fat cream cheese, room temp.  
½ cup granulated sugar  
1 tsp vanilla  
½ tsp almond flavoring  
2 cups heavy whipping cream

#### Directions

With whisk in mixer, combine all except cream. Mix on medium speed until smooth. While mixture is still whipping, slowly pour in the heavy cream.

Continue whipping on medium high speed until the icing can hold a stiff peak, stopping a few times to scrape the bottom of the bowl.

*Courtesy of Trudey Cheney*

### PASTOR MARGOT'S OFFICE HOURS

#### Banks Community UMC

Tuesday - 10:00 a.m. - noon  
1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Thursday - 10:00 a.m. - noon  
1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

#### Cornelius UMC

Monday - 10:00 a.m. - noon  
1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Wednesday - 10:00 a.m. - noon  
1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

(At all hours, and any day Sunday through Thursday, please use her cell phone number.) She is also available for urgent or emergency matters at all times via cell.

### BANKS TELLER

All submissions to the *Banks Teller* are **DUE BY THE 15TH OF THE MONTH** preceding the month you wish it to run. The *Banks Teller* is published every two months.