

February 12, 2021

The Boulder Knoll Scroll

A publication of Westminster Presbyterian Church

The ANNUAL REPORT...

...is ready and available for your reading pleasure! There are several ways you can get a copy:

1. It's on the front page of the website - just follow the link;
2. Pick up a paper copy in front of the church. Look outside for a box labeled "Annual Report";
3. The office will mail you a copy if you call and ask (call Jean at 503-364-3327).

This year's Report is particularly interesting; it's a vivid reminder of the resiliency of our Church, even during times of major disaster and pandemic. We have a great deal to be thankful for! If you have questions, direct them to the appropriate committee chair.



ONE WORSHIP SERVICE & CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - FEBRUARY 28TH

On February 28th, there will be ONE BLENDED WORSHIP SERVICE at 10:30AM, led by Rev. David Mote. Following the service (at approximately 11:30), the Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on ZOOM.

At the meeting we'll hear year-end reports from Committees and Staff, and vote on the 2021 Budget. Be sure to review the Annual Report prior to the meeting, so you are up-to-date with all the Budget considerations. (see above!)

NOTE: The Congregational Meeting will be held online via ZOOM. The link will be posted on the front page of the website. If you do not have access to ZOOM, we are working out an in-person alternative. Please call the office for more information.



WORDS OF WISDOM FROM A GUEST PASTOR!

Dear friends,

I've heard it said many times over: "We are a divided people." No matter how you cut it, it looks a lot like this: Red states-blue states, Republican vs. Democrats, conservatives against liberals, right over wrong, "My dad can beat up your dad!" (I could have left that last one out.) Have you had one of those struggles talking with some-one that you disagreed with? Me too! Here are some tips I found that may make it easier to have those conversations.

1. Decide if that conversation is worth having. Every conversation can take a toll on energy, connection, and time. Is it worth that toll?
2. The topic may be very sensitive, ask if you can talk about it.
3. Keep it neutral. Start from neutral territory where no one is poking a stick in the other person's emotions.
4. Begin the conversation with understanding. As you show the other person you understand what it is they think, you begin from their perspective.
5. Look for where you agree.
6. Talk less. Give the other person space to respond.
7. Avoid using the word 'but'. When 'but' appears in a sentence, it negates everything that was said before it.
8. Tell stories that add specifics about differing perspectives. When stories are told the argument can be about ideas, productivity and overall goals instead of people or who's right or wrong.
9. Resist the current style to provoke. Take the opportunity when you can to reduce the emotional tension of the conversation and disarm the moment by choosing words carefully and lowering the tone of your voice.

I plan to use these steps the next time I am cornered by my irritant of an uncle who loves to prove he is always right on all things. (For more information, these tips were offered by Sarah DiGiulio in her NBC article entitled "Nine Tips For Talking to People You Disagree With". Many other similar articles are available with a quick internet search.)

Sincerely,
Pastor Peter
John Knox Presbyterian Church

(Reprinted with the permission of Rev. Peter Blank @ John Knox Presbyterian Church, Keizer, OR)

EASTER 2021

We won't be ready for in-person services by Easter, but we are still planning a rich Lent and Easter season for our congregation. Here is a brief rundown of the schedule so far—watch for more information on the website and in E-Blasts.

ASH WEDNESDAY—February 17th

A special service will be recorded and available to watch all day. (As always, the link will be on the website.) From 6:30-7:30PM, Pastor David Horn will administer ashes in a “drive thru” opportunity at the church. David is fully vaccinated against COVID, and will observe all required safety measures while giving ashes. Just drive in and drive out! No reservations needed.

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

See page 4 of this newsletter for all the details on this year's interactive Lenten Devotional, *Where Your Heart Is*.

PALM SUNDAY

Palm Sunday will be a normal Sunday, with two online services.

GOOD FRIDAY

Like last year, we will hold a worship service on Good Friday, rather than Maundy Thursday. Details are being worked out and will be sent an E Blast by the middle of March.

EASTER EGG HUNT

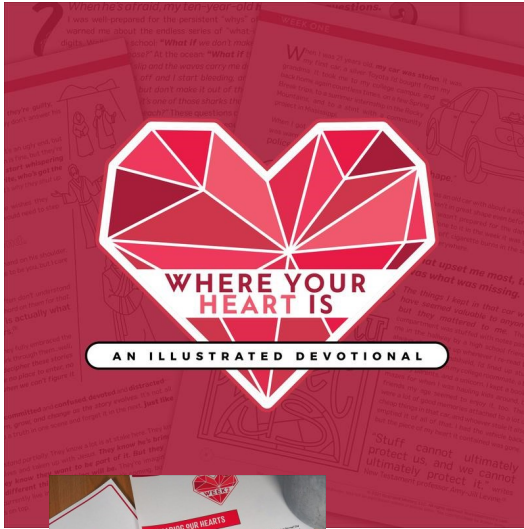
The annual Easter Egg Hunt is a possibility. Children's Ministries will keep up posted when they make a decision.

EASTER SUNDAY

Plans are being made to produce beautiful Easter Day services. Watch for more details as Pastor Kelly starts her ministry at Westminster, and Easter plans are confirmed.



WHERE YOUR HEART IS - DEVOTIONAL



Download your copy of *Where Your Heart Is: An Illustrated Devotional* here: <https://www.salemwestpres.org/lenten-devotional>. (The password to the page is: **lent2021**).

This includes seven weekly devotions for all ages, as well as illustrations that can be colored, and opportunities to doodle and engage with the content in creative ways. This Lent, we invite you to explore the many treasures you have in your life. By exploring Gospel passages about treasures and matters of the heart, we invite you to wonder more deeply about what kinds of treasure matter, why we store treasures, and the power these treasures have in our lives.

This devotional is best enjoyed by taking time and space for reflection as you go through it. You can use this on your own at home, with your family, or with others from the congregation in one of our **weekly small groups** (all ages welcome!). The groups will meet during the weeks of 2/21-4/4, some in person and some on Zoom. For more information on days/times available and to sign up, go to [salemwestpres.org/lenten-devotional](https://www.salemwestpres.org/lenten-devotional) and click Sign Up for Small Group Here. (See password info, above.)

If you have questions, need help with technology, or need a printed copy, please contact krisha@salemwestpres.org. If you prefer a daily reading-style devotional, check out Presbyterian Today's *The Way to Shalom* here: presbyterianmission.org/ministries/today/lent2021/.

NEW TESTAMENT STUDY SCHEDULE

For those of you following the New Testament Study Schedule suggested in the January BKS, this month the focus is on Matthew 24-28, the letters of John, Colossians, Jude, and Luke 1-3. The following books are available on the cart in Russell Hall for your February studies:

The Gospel of Matthew, Luke, The Gospel of Luke, Luke's Message, books on Jude, and The Pastoral Epistles. In addition, there are books on The Parables.

As Lent starts next week, some might wish to gain inspiration from authors like Carol Miller - *A Spiritual Journey Through Holy Week*, or Donald Griggs - *Passion, Promise & Praise*.

Month	Scriptures	Month	Scriptures
January	Matthew 1-23	July	Ephesians 6, Revelations 1-22
February	Matthew 24-28, letters of John, Colossians, Jude, Luke 1-3	August	Titus, Philippians, Romans 1-15
March	Luke 4-24	September	Romans 16, John 1-20
April	Peter, Thessalonians, 1 Corinthians 1-6	October	John 21, James, 2 Corinthians, Galatians 1-4
May	1 Corinthians 7-16, Acts 1-13	November	Galatians 5-6, Hebrews, Philemon, 1 Timothy 1-5
June	Acts 14-28, Ephesians 1-5	December	Timothy, Mark



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

Greetings Westminster family,

We are so fortunate the Pacific Northwest is not regularly racked by hurricanes and we have a stable food supply. Let's show our appreciation for God's gifts by giving back and generously to the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) special offering.

Often one can think of lent as "what are you giving up?" But at their best, Lenten practices often involve both a personal, individual commitment and a communal experience. Our special OGHS offering is dedicated to hunger, disaster relief and self-development. Here is just one example of the work your gift can fund:

Thirteen-year-old Trinity White Plume lives on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota where there is only one grocery store. Thanks to gifts from OGHS and partner organization Owe Aku, new garden projects put people in charge of their own food supply, nutrition, health and well-being. Trinity has learned to plant and tend the gardens, which include medicinal and ceremonial plants, and helps teach others to increase food security in their community.



We can all probably think of other examples where our offering could help to relieve some of those burdens. We often think of OGHS when we see the cardboard fish shaped coin banks that are used in Sunday School to involve the children in giving. But it is so much more than that.

The Lenten offering season this year begins February 17 and runs all the way through April 4, Easter Sunday. Please join us in helping other Presbyterian congregations with our OGHS special offering.

To give you have several options:

- 1) Please go to the Westminster web site and choose the Donate button in the upper right. Enter the amount you would like to give to OGHS and under the **FUND** area select OGHS from the drop down list of offerings.
- 2) Donate by credit card online at presbyterianmission.org/give-oghs
- 3) Checks can be sent to :
Presbyterian Church (USA),
P.O. Box 643700,
Pittsburgh, PA 15264
Specify OGHS in the FOR line on your check.

Thank you so very much for your generosity.



CHARITY CIRCLE
FEBRUARY 23RD

On February 23rd **Charity Circle** members will “e” discuss Lesson Six, “Lament Over the City” from PW/Horizons Bible Study “Into the Light, Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament.” Members will continue to exchange thoughts about the lesson via e-mail as virus concerns prevent our meeting in the usual format at the church. Bonnie Shaughnessy-Smith will lead the lesson. For information call Bonnie 503-364-8024.

The **Westminster Book Club** will meet virtually February 24, 10:00 a.m. via Zoom! The club will review “*Meet Me In Bombay*” by Jenny Ashcroft. A powerful, poignant and deeply emotional tale of love, mystery, loss and joy set in India and England in 1913-1920.

Please e-mail Dolores Byrnes, winbyrn@comcast.net or call 503-364-6646 to be connected to Zoom .

BIG ISSUES

local focus

RACISM IN SALEM -

Listening to Hard Truths about the Community we Love and Live in.

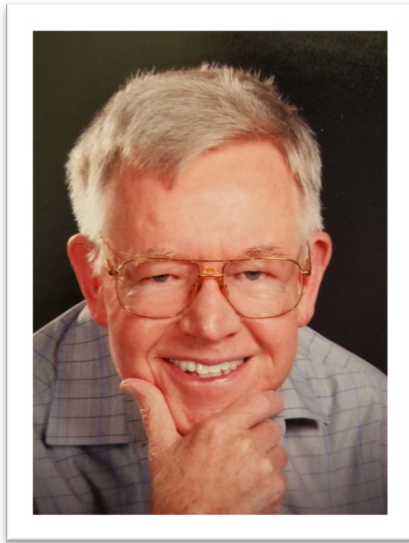
Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17. The theme this year is Shalom - what it can mean in our lives and bring to our world. The first week of Lent, February 17-23, the Presbyterian church asks us to reflect on Justice, to think more deeply on God’s justice and what it looks like in our lives. Go to: <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/today/lent2021/>

With that in mind, join us as we listen to the experiences of two local residents, Jonathan Jones, the owner of Epilogue Kitchen and Cocktails, a downtown Salem restaurant, and Esperance Matumaini , the choir conductor who conducted the Uhruhu choir at our own Westminster Presbyterian Church in July of 2019. Jonathan Jones is an African-American newcomer to Salem. He and his wife moved to Salem in 2014. Esperance Matumaini is a refugee from the Congo who moved to Salem 10 years ago.

Prepare for Big Issues/Local Focus by reading the Washington Post article, [Battle for the Soul of Salem](#) , and join us on Sunday February 21, 6:00 - 7:30 pm to watch a videotaped interview with Esperance Matumaini and participate in the discussion afterward.

We look forward to seeing you on Zoom. For more information, please email [Christine Speak](#) and look for the Zoom link to the meeting on Friday, 2/19, on the church website.

REMEMBERING MARK



Mark Eugene Lawrence Jr. of Salem passed away on January 22, at the age of 76 after a long fight with Parkinson's disease.

Mark was born in Twin Falls, Idaho, on December 6, 1944, to Mark and Alice Lawrence. He graduated from Medford High School in 1963 and from Oregon State University in 1967 with a BS in Range Management. He wed the love of his life, Carolyn, in October of 1970. He was blessed by the birth of his daughter, Sara, in 1973 and his son, Mark, in 1976.

Mark was a faithful public servant, working with the Bureau of Land Management and the Department of Interior for 32 years. He served in Nevada, California, Washington, D.C. and ended his career as the Associate District Manager in Salem, Oregon. He loved managing and protecting public lands. He was especially proud of his work with wild horses and bringing various interests together to cooperate on public land use issues. He was integral in developing the Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area in Newport, Oregon, and the Wildwood Recreation Site near Welches.

His hobbies included landscape photography, hiking and traveling. He enjoyed U.S. history and loved listening to all types of music, but especially Christmas carols during his birth month. He delighted in time with family in all its forms.

Mark instilled in his children a love of the beauty of the outdoors and National Parks. He also bequeathed a love of music and community responsibility. He was a loyal and faithful provider for his family, who always had a smile on his face and loved a good laugh. Mark was also a respected and caring boss and co-worker.

Mark will be greatly missed by, and is survived by, the love of his life, his wife, Carolyn; his children, Sara and Weng-Keen Wong of Corvallis, Oregon, and Mark and Jennifer Lawrence of Milwaukie, Oregon; as well as his two granddaughters Cassidy and Victoria and foster grandchildren Eliza and Melodee.

Services will be held at Westminster Presbyterian, at 3737 Liberty Rd. S. in Salem, sometime in late summer 2021. Details will be released at a later time.

REMEMBERING BOB

Robert Lee Ohmart left this Earthly world to be with his wife, Shirley, on January 23, 2021. Bob was born on November 6, 1937 in Salem, Oregon and lived here all his life. His ancestors arrived on the Oregon Trail and had early ties in the development of the city of Salem.

Bob carried on this family tradition of building Salem and giving to the community throughout his life. His first grade teacher wrote on his report card, "He is a good leader and can follow as well . . . Robert still gets excited at the slightest change in the schedule." Some things never changed.

Bob started a fruit stand as a teenager in the Four Corners area which helped pay his way for college. These early entrepreneurial skills shaped Bob's work ethics, his integrity, and his reliability. He graduated from North Salem High School in 1955. Bob attended Oregon State University majoring in business administration and minoring in building construction. This is where he met the love of his life, Shirley Reynolds. They married on September 23, 1958. Bob and Shirley had four children: Julie Burnett of Driftwood, Texas, Kevin Ohmart of Salem, Holly Klein-Sheehan of Salem, and Heather Ohmart of Portland. In addition, they had 9 grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren.

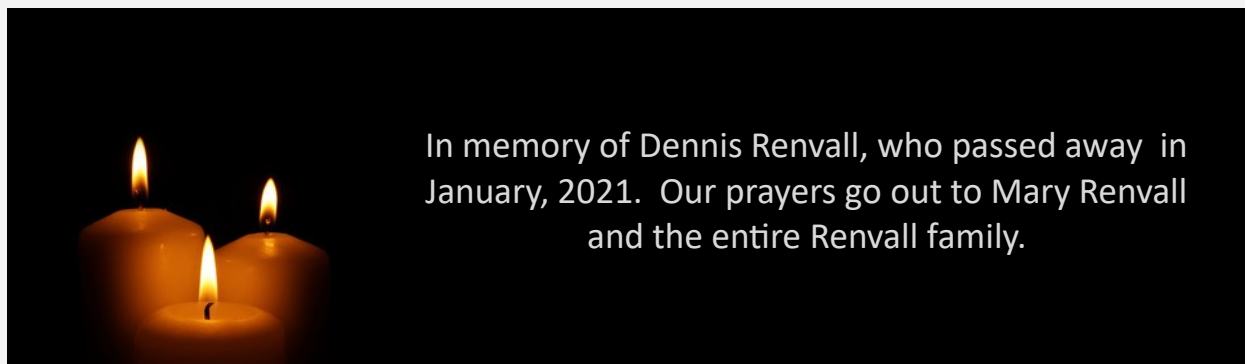


Bob joined his father and uncle's local real estate business, Ohmart and Calaba Realtors. He bought the firm in 1975 and continued as President of the company until retiring in 2003. Bob gave endlessly to his community. He was heavily involved in the Jaycees, Salem Board of Realtors, Salem Art Association, South Salem Rotary, State and National Association of Realtors, State and National Association of Homebuilders, Meals on Wheels, Habitat for Humanity, Salem Hospital Board, Mission Mill Museum Board, Salem Carousel Board, Salem Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Committee, and multiple committees at the Westminster Presbyterian Church.

In 1978, Bob was named Salem Realtor of the Year. He was awarded Oregon Realtor of the Year in 1986. Bob received the honor of Salem First Citizen in 1985 for all of his contributions to the community. Bob left a mark on this town and all those who he encountered. He would do anything for his family and his friends, and he will be deeply missed.

Bob is survived by his children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, and his sister, Judith McDonald, whom he loved dearly. An in-person service will be planned when gathering is safe again. In lieu of flowers, his family requests that donations be made to Meals on Wheels in honor of Bob's ongoing devotion to serving others.

REMEMBERING DENNIS



In memory of Dennis Renvall, who passed away in January, 2021. Our prayers go out to Mary Renvall and the entire Renvall family.



REMEMBERING BONNIE

Our dear friend Bonnie Finley, passed away unexpectedly this week. Her family is driving here from California—we pray for their safe travel, and that God comforts them on their journey and in the days ahead. Bonnie will be remembered with great love, and missed by many.

Our friends will be missed—until we meet again.





CATCHING UP WITH THE WESTPRES YOUTH

Here's Vik's latest letter to her youth and parents. It has some great ideas for Lent, and lots of info on what the youth are up to this Spring.

Hi Youth and Parents,

Lent is nearly upon us (February 17).... **I continue to encourage all of you to consider what you might give up for LENT this year.** A bad habit. A lazy habit. Something standing in the way of your relationship with God. If that doesn't inspire you, considering taking something ON. A new good habit. Journaling. Eating a vegetable every day. Drinking more water. Anything which feeds your relationship with God.

Westminster will be hosting our house-less family friends this next week over Valentine's day. The outreach committee has invited the youth to create **VALENTINES to gift to our guests** at dinner for Valentine's day. If your students would like to create/draw valentines for our guests, we invite you to do so and drop them off at the church in the main office or in Vik's box by Thursday of this week.

Our NEW PASTOR the Rev. Dr. Kelly Wadsworth will be starting at Westminster in March, with her first Sunday being March 14th. It is my goal to be able to have more in-person youth group gatherings beginning in mid-March. We will be on ZOOM leading up until that date at our regular times. We have some NEW activities created for zoom youth groups and encourage your students to pop in and let us know they're doing okay!

Please keep your eyes open for a **sign-up to clean our road later this month**, Sunnyside Road. We're expecting snow this week, so I'll be looking for a day without rain/snow in the coming weeks.

Thank you all for a great and safe gathering on Sunday for the game!

We miss all your faces and are praying for your always! Let us know if there is anything you need from your church family!

Peace of Christ,

Vik



YOUTH PARK PROJECT SET TO GO!

The Youth are excited to announce that a major mission project we have been working on since early 2019 has been fully funded, thanks to generous grants from The Ford Family Foundation and Three Rivers Foundation. The total cost of the project is about \$31,000 and has been funded completely from foundations and individuals outside Westminster. This week an additional \$5455 was approved by the Cascades Presbytery's New Ministries Team. The youth will be rebuilding Henderson Park (formerly Triangle Park) in Reedsport, Oregon as soon as it is safe to travel and do so. To learn more about the project visit the Rebuild Henderson Park page on Facebook or google "Go Fund Me Henderson Park". This will be our fourth park build in Reedsport, Oregon. We will partner with United Presbyterian Church in Reedsport, The City of Reedsport, and the Reedsport Rotary Foundation to make this new park possible!



Henderson Park
Reedsport City, OR
View A

The 2021 YOUTH SUPERBOWL PARTY



In the long run, it was more fun to *play* football than to watch!



WESTPRES KIDS

Sunday school kids, check your mailboxes for One Great Hour of Sharing Fish Banks! We'll be collecting our coins throughout the season of Lent, and you'll have an opportunity to place them in the boat before Easter. Watch for more information on Easter fun!



Sunday School Live continues on Zoom at 9:45 every Sunday morning. Use-at-home materials are also available each week. Find both at saalemwestpres.org/sunday-school. If you need the password to get on the page, please contact krisha@saalemwestpres.org.

LET'S WELCOME PASTOR KELLY!

Family Ministry Committee invites **all families of any size and ages** to introduce yourselves to Pastor Kelly. Involve the kids, reach into your inner artist, be creative! Write a note, draw a picture of your family, write a note on a picture of your family and mail to Jean Severson at Westminster Presbyterian Church or drop off at the church by Thursday, March 4. Jean will put our packet of welcome for Pastor Kelly together with an appropriately large bow.

WESTMINSTER CARES FOR UNHOUSED FAMILIES

February brings Westminster's first hosting of IHN/Family Promise families of 2021. Several Westminster folks volunteered to bring hot dinners to the two shelter sites. Several others donated grocery money to ensure that the families have good breakfasts and lunches. Since the first night fell on Valentine's Day, party favors were made to accompany that meal. And Westminster's children and youth created valentines to give to the families. One volunteer contributed art supplies, so that IHN kids have something fun to do on these winter days.



We have gotten feedback about how much these personal touches mean to families who are working hard to prepare for getting into their own homes and for other steps toward successful independent lives. Being part of encouraging the families and letting them know they are not alone is a wonderful ministry at Westminster! The second 2021 hosting begins June 6. Please pray for these four families, especially for the kids. Transitions are hard for little ones, but it may be even harder for teens, who are at such a fragile time in their lives.

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

<p><u>Sunday, February 14</u></p> <p>9:00 AM Traditional Worship—Online Only 9:45 AM Sunday School—Online 10:30 AM Contemporary Worship—Online Only 6:00 PM High School Youth Zoom</p>	<p><u>Sunday, February 21</u></p> <p>9:00 AM Traditional Worship—Online Only 9:45 AM Sunday School—Online 10:30 AM Contemporary Worship—Online Only 6:00 PM BIG ISSUES: Local Focus - Zoom 6:00 PM High School Youth Zoom</p>
<p><u>Monday, February 15</u></p>	<p><u>Monday, February 22</u></p>
<p><u>Tuesday, February 16</u></p> <p>10:30 AM Pastor's Bible Study 7:00 PM Session Meeting—Zoom 5:00 PM Bell Choir</p>	<p><u>Tuesday, February 23</u></p> <p>10:30 AM Pastor's Bible Study 1:30 PM Charity Circle 5:00 PM Bell Choir</p>
<p><u>Wednesday, 17—Ash Wednesday</u></p> <p>9:30 AM Women's Bible Study— Russell Hall 2:00 PM Handbell Class - Boulder Hall 5:30 PM Worship Team Rehearsal 6:30 PM DRIVE-THRU ASH BLESSING 7:30 PM NA—Fellowship Hall</p>	<p><u>Wednesday, February 24</u></p> <p>9:30 AM Women's Bible Study— Russell Hall 10:00 AM Westminster Book Club—Zoom 2:00 PM Handbell Class - Boulder Hall 5:30 PM Worship Team Rehearsal 7:00 PM Deacons Meeting 7:30 PM NA—Fellowship Hall</p>
<p><u>Thursday, February 18</u></p> <p>9:30 AM Tea with Jesus—Eastminster 6:00 PM Mid High Youth Zoom 5:30 PM Mission Peace Eco/Justice Mtg. 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><u>Thursday, February 25</u></p> <p>6:00 PM Mid High Youth Zoom 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal</p>
<p><u>Friday, February 19</u></p>	<p><u>Friday, February 26</u></p>
<p><u>Saturday, February 20</u></p>	<p><u>Saturday, February 27</u></p>
	<p><u>Sunday, February 28</u></p> <p>9:45 AM Sunday School—Online 10:30 AM Blended Worship—Online Only 11:30 AM CONGREGATIONAL MEETING—Zoom 6:00 PM High School Youth Zoom</p>

Prayer Requests

JOYS & BLESSINGS:

OUR LOVE AND PRAYERS GO OUT TO:

- The family and friends of Bonnie Finely as they grieve her sudden passing.
- Carol and Bert Huber both need prayers for healing, and prayers for their ongoing care in the future.
- Prayers for Bill Grupe, who will undergo a heart procedure on February 23rd.
- Prayers for Ben Silveira, who took a tumble and is now recovering from broken ribs.
- Prayers for Lorna Motte and her family. Lorna's mother is in hospice in California, and her son Ryan is suffering from a shingles outbreak on his head and in his mouth.
- Prayers for Claudia Ingham's shepherd and farmer friend, Roger and daughter Emily, a former OSU student, as they learn to live without Susan Ruckert who died from COVID.

CONTINUE TO REMEMBER:

Tim Holsten; Bill Hruska; Duff Kannier, Mather's great-grandson, James Pratt and his parents; Linda & Dick Stephens; Cynthia Curran

- ♦ Daphne Russell (age 7), grandniece of Cindi & Bruce Chinnock, is slowly improving
- ♦ Sheila Powell and her husband Tom, as Tom continues to undergo treatment for cancer.

PLEASE SEND PRAY REQUEST UPDATES TO JEAN SEVERSON (jean@salemwestpres.org). We strive to keep



The Mission Peace Eco-Justice Committee is very grateful to the congregation for the overwhelming support that has been given to the **5th Sunday Donation Drives** that we sponsor. Because of the wonderful response the week leading up to January 31, 2021, we were able to deliver approximately 40 grocery bags of non-perishable food to the Salem Dream Center. This non-profit organization provides weekly food boxes for approximately 200 families each month, so the need has been great. They are ever so appreciative that we helped stock their pantry.

In gratitude,
Katie Nelson

Contact Us

CHURCH STAFF/EMAILS

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Phone:

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facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Salem.Westminster.Presbyterian/>

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday:

8:30am—4:00pm (at the moment)

Friday:

8:30am—1:00pm

Until such time as it's safe to bring our BKS production team back together, our newsletter will be online only.

Articles may be submitted directly to the church office or by email to:

jean@salemwestpres.org

