

*To the world you
might just be one person,
but to one person you
might just be the world.*



From the Pastor

It's May already and the year is half over (my cup is half empty). But then all of these April showers bring May flowers and warmer, sunnier weather and summer is almost here (my cup is half full), and so goes life! We move from month to month, season to season with a rhythm that reverberates throughout the universe. We all have our favorite seasons, and they differ from person to person. Our outlook on the rhythm of the seasons comes from our experiences and our personal comfort zones. Like me for instance, having been raised in Phoenix where we experienced our own special weather cycle; summer and "falter" (not quite winter but more severe than fall), my comfort zone is a little different than those of you who were raised in this four season pattern.

The weather pattern is only one pattern that helps define our outlook on life. Another is the patterns of the Church year, in the Church year, we move between Christmas and Easter, from purple to white to green; back to purple and then white, with one day of red in there among the white, and back to green; only to begin over again with Advent. Our outlook on life as a whole comes from our experiences of church. All Christian churches focus on the ultimate gift of Jesus Christ given to us from God, but some may focus on more-on the gift and some may focus more on the giver of the gift, Some may be .Easter People, filled with visions of the resurrection and of new life. Some may be Christmas people, focusing on the miracle of that humble birth in the stable and new life. Of course with a Trinitarian belief such as ours, it is each and both, along with the Holy Spirit, and the experience of Pentecost. But it is true that our experience of church shapes our outlook on the rhythm of life just as our experience of weather shapes our outlook on the rhythm of the seasons.

Intellectually I know that the weather patterns are formed by a variety of components, like the Gulf Stream and the Santa Ana winds. That doesn't change my view of the weather though, because it is my experience of the weather that shapes my comfort zone, not my knowledge of it. And you know what? The same goes for our experience of life. It is our experiences of God, not just our knowledge of God that shapes our experience of life. We can know all about God and not *know* God. It's not our knowledge of God that brings incredible peace; it is in *knowing* God that we find that peace.

Did you grow up in a church where people talked openly of their faith in God? Did you grow up in a church where people shared their lives and their stories with one another? Did you grow up in a church that opened the doors wide so all could walk through, or one where you unofficially needed a password to get in? Did you grow up in a church where people truly cared for one another and shared generously? All of those experiences helped to shape your experiences of life as an adult.

My last question is this; what kind of a church do you want our church to be? One where everyone knows all about God? Or one where everyone knows God?

Pastor Linda

Mother's Day

By: Mildred Hughes (Marilyn West's Mother; written for her Mother, Mary Green in 1957)



*She was so sweet and gentle,
So kind and good to me;
Sometimes I didn't appreciate
Her many wondrous deeds.*

*She never did any complaining
About the things she had to do,
Just as long as she was able
Because it was for me and you.*

*Just think of all the many chores
She did from day to day;
Cleaning, scrubbing and sewing
And putting our things away,*

*She taught us about Jesus
Before I went to school,
We went to church together
To learn the Golden Rule.*

*When she had time to sit
In her favorite chair,
She'd close her eyes in silence,
I knew she was in prayer.*

*I, too, would feel the nearness
Of our Lord she loved so dear;
I learned so many lessons
From her wisdom, good and clear.*

*She is no longer with us
The Lord called her away;
From darkness through the door of light
She's waiting for me someday.*

Bible Study

A new Bible Study will begin May 2nd at 9:00 am. We will be studying a Max Lucado book. See Jean Snyder if you need a book or further information.

One Great Hour of Sharing

This year our church generously donated \$145 to the One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering. This offering shares God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed. It is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world. Thanks to your heartfelt gifts, One Great Hour currently supports projects in over 100 countries. If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot!

South Douglas Food Bank

This year when you are planting your garden, plant an extra row or two that you can donate to the South Douglas Food Bank. The fresh vegetables are delicious, good for health and will be appreciated by everybody that will receive them. Although we are grateful for what we have, there are ways to pay it forward. Through a giving garden we can grow food for others. A giving garden can be a whole garden, a raised bed **or a row or two** dedicated to growing healthy, organic food for those in need. Beyond its physical definition, a giving garden is a way to get your hands dirty, while volunteering your time close to home. If you're already a gardener, this volunteer opportunity is ideal. With the giving garden we can contribute without necessarily impacting our schedule. Instead of donating hours at a time, we can donate hand-cultivated food. Raising vegetables to donate is rewarding for everyone involved. And, giving gardens teach a valuable life skill: how to grow valuable, life-sustaining food for others that need it.

Deacons News:

On Sunday, May 20th, instead of a pot-luck we will meet at the Myrtle Creek Chinese Restaurant (Nan Sing Gardens) after church for lunch. This lunch will also celebrate Pastor Linda's birthday.



Customers shop the sale



John and Melody help customers



The sale is over and St. Vincent's pick up the unsold items

This year's rummage sale made \$1,618. A huge "thank you" to all that helped with our recent rummage sale! Perhaps you went through your items and brought them up for sale. Then you may have helped so sort them out and set up the sale. Perhaps you carried chairs to the back room! Maybe you helped with the on-line or poster publicity. Tables were delivered and set up. And JoAnne gave support and advice. Thanks to Melody for valiantly pricing items and also to all that helped with the sale. This includes the clean-up crew. Several boxes of good leftover items went to Battered Persons Advocacy in Roseburg. Other items went to St. Vincent's. Where will the proceeds of the sale go? The Deacons plan to donate up to \$500 for new curtains in Nash Hall, \$500 went to the South Douglas Food Bank, \$120 purchased the hanging flower baskets from the Lions Club and more will go to projects as needed. Thank you again! This sale could not happen without you.

For Easter

This year the Deacons purchased Easter Lilies to give to shut-ins and some of the residents at Adams House.



Elizabeth and Donald Carlson received an Easter Lily and chocolate eggs that they promised to share.



Elizabeth Hove received an Easter lily from Deacon Linda Gregg. The Deacons decided to reach out to Adams House and Forest Glen with the lily project this year. Some lilies were delivered early and others decorated the church and were delivered on Easter.

2018 Myrtle Creek Citizen of the Year Awards Dinner

Our Presbyterian Church was well represented at this year's Citizen of the Year Awards. It is wonderful to show the town that we are proud of our Church and our members.



Bill and Marilyn West receive the Lifetime Achievement award with their son and daughter-in-law.



Ann Shields and Pastor Linda receive award for Sharon Scherer



Evelyn Blanchard receives award for her husband, Del.

Attending the Dinner:



Joanie & Darrell Bangs



JoAnne Johnson



John & Donna Hunter

Easter



The Sunday School lesson on Easter was about the "open tomb" and as the story was told they made these edible treats to help remember the lesson.



Breakfast is being served

From: David and Melissa Raube

Why Bible Translation?

We keep getting asked...“Why do you keep going back to Papua New Guinea?” Acts 1:8 says, “...and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, *and to the ends of the earth.*” Melissa and I, with our family, have volunteered in Bible translation support roles for the past 17 years, and because we still feel God’s call, we want to continue to be God’s witnesses ‘to the ends of the earth.’ We count it a privilege to serve God in this way.

Committed.

It’s been a privilege to teach one of the children of Karl & Pat Whitehead who have worked among the Menya people for over 40 years. Earlier this year, Karl & Pat were part of the dedication ceremony where the Menya people finally received the printed New Testament in their own language. In a short video showing bits of the dedication ceremony and village life Karl & Pat were interviewed and he answers the question, “Forty years is a lot longer than the normal translation program. Why is it taking so long?”

If you’ve ever prayed for our ministry, Bible translation in general, or given financially, then you are a part of the excitement of the Menya people receiving God’s word in their mother tongue!

When are we going back? -Ukarumpa International School (UIS) desperately needs qualified teachers! We would love to return to PNG in **July** this year. This would allow us to get back into our teaching roles at UIS beginning July 18th. Here’s how you can pray with us that this will happen:

1. Mariah’s teeth are being treated orthodontically. Her teeth would need to be at a stable place where the orthodontist could take the braces off – allowing us to return to PNG for 2 years (until Hannah’s high school graduation), at which time we could return to the US in order to continue – and finish – her orthodontic treatment.
2. Because of the heightened level of stress in which we have lived over the years, Wycliffe is helping us develop and implement a ‘growth plan’ in which we will have gathered tools and strategies to more effectively deal with the stress that comes from living on the field.
3. According to a 12-month average we are about \$1000 short per month of our foreign budget. Pray that God will give us opportunities to share our ministry with people and they would be prompted to partner with us.

If you have prayerfully considered giving, now would be a great time to commit, as it would allow us to finalize plans. We pray many of you would like to join us in Bible Translation!_



About Ron Burns:

Our church received a request from Judy Hazlett Starsinic from the San Diego area where Ron worked as a Youth Group leader. Their church wanted a copy of the newsletter that we put out when Ron passed. We sent it, along with a photo of our beautiful stained-glass-window. The following photos were sent to us from their church:

RIP Ron Burns – RSF Youth Group Leader

It is with a sad but grateful heart that I share with you the passing of our beloved Youth Group leader, Ron Burns. Gone within weeks of his pancreatic cancer diagnosis, he leaves us with childhood and teen memories that will surely last a life time. He love the RSF Village Church, he loved God...and he loved us.



Photo #2 above: Ron took us on an adventure of a lifetime, where we lived on this traveling little boat and stopped in remote islands in the Alaskan waters to bring a fun, fellowship based variety show to every person in need of smiles and song! (Anchorage, AK)

Photos #3 below: Road trip!! With Ron, it was All Smiles, All The Time!!

Photo #2 at the bottom: How did we all fit on this little house boat? Our sleeping bags made a patch-work quilt on the roof! (Ron's daughter, Lori, dressed up the boys for this funny fashion show at Lake Powell.



Photo #5 above: When Mary Giffen's Dad died the day before her wedding, Ron stepped in to walk her down the isle. He was certainly like a father to all of us...

BEST POEM IN THE WORLD

I was shocked, confused, bewildered
As I entered Heaven's door,
Not by the beauty of it all,
Nor the lights or its decor.
But it was the folks in Heaven
Who made me sputter and gasp—
The thieves, the liars, the sinners,
The alcoholics and the trash.
There stood the kid from seventh grade
Who swiped my lunch money! Twice.
Next to him was my old neighbor
Who never said anything nice.
Herb, who I always thought
Was rotting away in hell,
Was sitting pretty on cloud nine,
Looking incredibly well.
I nudged Jesus, 'What's the deal?
Would love to hear Your take.
How'd all these sinners get up here?
God must've made a mistake.
'And why's everyone so quiet,
So somber – give me a clue.'
'Hush, child,' He said, 'they're all in shock.
No one thought they'd be seeing you.'

JUDGE NOT.

Remember...Just going to church doesn't make you a Christian
Any more than...Standing in your garage makes you a car.

"A cheerful heart is good medicine" (Prov. 17:22)

A Closing Thought for Mother's Day

Do What I Can't

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Make sure to call mama on Mother's Day
Her birthday and the rest
You know she's sitting by the phone
Wishing you all the best.

She doesn't want to bother you
So she waits for YOU to phone.
She has so much free time now.
Most of it spent alone.

She knows you are very busy now,
With work and kids and wife
She helps you out whenever she can
She is the one who gave you life.

The years go by, so fast they fly
The years just never stop
She has joined the local church and
At local thrift stores she shops.

Luckily you have an organized wife
Who sends the cards you sign
You moved away for job prospects
Not because you wanted to leave her behind.

She quietly lives her life
Puttering around the yard
Thinking of ways she could help you
And cherishing your beautiful cards.

Whenever you think of her,
Please, listen and take the time
Because I would give everything I have
For just five minutes with mine.