



THE WESTSIDER

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Created for community

Visit our website:  
[www.westsidecofc.net](http://www.westsidecofc.net)



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We hope you enjoy this issue of **The Westsider**. In an effort to keep administrative costs at a minimum, you will have access to this monthly publication the week prior to the first Sunday of each month on our website. If you do not have, or use, a computer we will mail it to your home. There will be a limited number of issues printed and available at the church building.

Items for the newsletter are due in the office the fourth Thursday of the month for the following month's publication. Please email: [office@westsidecofc.net](mailto:office@westsidecofc.net).

Sunday Assembly Times  
Bible Class: 9:45 a.m.   Worship: 10:45 a.m.

Office Hours:  
Monday & Tuesday 10 a.m.—2 p.m.  
Wednesday & Thursday 10 a.m.—6 p.m.  
Friday—Office Closed

March 2017



WESTSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST

# The Westsider

## From Aaron's Desk

Every year spring feels more miraculous than the last, as the tiny green buds begin to push up through the still frosty grass bringing hope of new life, color, and fragrance. This year, in particular, feels like a miracle. It seems only days ago that the land was covered in a foot of snow and ice. It seems only moments ago frost stifled any hope of life, hope of green. It seems only minutes before that the air felt heavy with winter's damp, and silence reigned. And yet, here they come. Birds are beginning to chirp louder and the air is becoming lighter. Visions of blooming gardens and rose buds begin to dance through our heads.

And yet this is a tricky time in the Northwest, because we know from experience that the hope of spring is still a far way off. We are at least a month or two away from any real spring springing forth. Right now what we have are the early signs of spring, which do bring

hope, though we know we are due for more cold mornings and frosty nights. It's still winter weather, sure, but there's something about seeing those green buds beginning to sprout that warms the soul.



The world seems to be stuck in winter. As reports of more wars, starvation, scandals, desperation, and plain bad news continue to roll in, it just feels like winter. Cold. There seems to be little hope. It's not hard to despair in this age and feel as though spring will never arrive. There seems to be more signs of winter around us than the hope of spring coming among us.

And yet we have begun as a faith community to

pray weekly, "Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven," which is a bold prayer and hope for spring. God has promised us, repeatedly in the Bible, that we will not wither away in winter, but will

explore and experience the hope of spring. God's kingdom, through Jesus and his followers, is coming to earth, sprouting out from the cold, hard ground. This is a promise, hard to believe, that God is going to

keep (God keeps all his promises) and we are called as God's followers to announce this sprouting – this kingdom – and keep our eyes on the watch for signs of spring.

A primary task for Christians is to look for and announce signs of God's activity. We are the spring watchers, those who are the first to see green and shout, "It's here, it's coming!" and join in not only as heralds but also as helpers in ushering this new

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## From Aaron's Desk

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spring life forward. We are called to be God's gardeners helping make space for the new life coming out of the old.

If this task sounds easy, it's not! The job as herald and helper might sound passive, but in the cold reality of a lingering winter the task is anything but simple. There is skepticism around every turn and we encounter heralds of the dark kingdom as well, urging us to let go of hope in God and grab onto only the truth of the cold winter. Remaining

hopeful, optimistic, can be a real challenge for those of us who follow Jesus and also follow the news (both are needed).

At Westside we're trying to practice the discipline of looking for new life and actively announcing it every single Sunday. It might seem like a simple or even silly practice near the end of services to announce ways we have felt God's presence over the last 90 minutes, but I'm beginning to believe it's one of the most crucial parts of our Sunday service. We are, hopefully, training our eyes to see new life and reach past the cynicism that would have us believe God's done acting.

Winter, dear friends, will wither away and spring will come. We are gardeners in God's garden, called to herald and help. As we see the green that's evident when we worship, pack backpacks, serve with NCO, Rock the Block with our neighbors, seek reconciliation with those who are different than us, provide funds for wells and people in need, and support one another through various crises we are participating in something big and bold. We are heralding and helping the end of winter and the coming of God's great spring.

Peace,  
Aaron

## Yamhill Events

**Men's Retreat**  
March 9-11

**Catalyst**  
(18-29 Year Olds)  
May 26-29

Thanks to everyone who participated in "Rock the Block," our neighborhood clean-up day on Feb. 26. Bucky Beaver made lots of new friends as neighbors came to drop off refuse. Volunteers welcomed neighbors or walked the streets of our neighborhood to pick up trash around the area.



A special thanks to Big O Pizza and Nothing Bunt Cakes for providing food for all the workers at the end of the day.

## Upcoming Events

### March

- 9-11 Men's Retreat at Camp Yamhill
- 10 Non-member wedding rehearsal in bldg.
- 11 Non-member wedding in bldg.
- 11 Daylight Saving Time — turn clocks ahead one hour tonight
- 13 Women's Bible Study—1 & 7 p.m.
- 19 Pack Backpacks
- 27 Women's Bible Study—1 & 7 p.m.

# March 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Building in use Offsite event Information Church Event			1	2	3	4
5	6 NCO 7-8:30 pm	7 Classical Conversations in bldg. 9 am Boy Scouts in bldg. 7-9 pm	8 NCO 7-8:30 pm	9 NCO 9 am—12:30 pm	10 Non-member wedding rehearsal	11 Non-member Wedding
12 Daylight Saving Time Begins	13 Women's Bible Study 1 & 7 pm NCO 7-8:30 pm	14 Classical Conversations in bldg. 9 am Boy Scouts in bldg. 7-9 pm	15 NCO 7-8:30 pm	16 NCO 9 am—12:30 pm	17	18
19 Pack Backpacks	20 NCO 7-8:30 pm	21 Classical Conversations in bldg. 9 am Boy Scouts in bldg. 7-9 pm	22 NCO 7-8:30 pm	23 NCO 9 am—12:30 pm	24	25
26	27 Women's Bible Study 1 & 7 pm NCO 7-8:30 pm	28 Classical Conversations in bldg. 9 am Boy Scouts in bldg. 7-9 pm	29	30	31	

## With Gratitude in Your Hearts Sing . . .

We take for granted that we will sing hymns anytime we gather to worship. We welcome the new praise songs from modern contemporary Christian musicians. But it was not always so.

Our church music extends to the Psalms, naturally, but it wasn't until the 19th century that anything other than the Psalms were used in corporate worship. Indeed, Heinrich Zwingli, an early restorationist in Switzerland, forbid singing at all in church because the scriptures instructed believers to "make music in your hearts," and he concluded this meant it was not to be audible.

The Church of England officially condemned singing anything other than the Psalms until early in 1800 when a collection of hymns by Reginald Heber was published. The Nonconformist churches (those who rejected the doctrines and practices of the Church of England) had been singing hymns other than the Psalms since the late 18th century. They became especially popular among the Nonconformists when John Newton and William Cowper published their collection of "Olney Hymns" in 1779 ("Amazing Grace," "God Moves in a Mysterious Way," and many others).

Heber was recognized as a great poet while a student at Oxford University and in a ten-year span (1811-1821), he wrote 57 hymns but they were not published until after his death.

Heber, born in 1783, was the son of a wealthy landowner who was a minister of the Church of England. Ordained in 1807, he took over the pastorate of his father's parish in Hobnet in Shropshire. In 1822 he was appointed to oversee the church's missions in India. This fulfilled his life-long dream to work as a missionary as expressed in one of his hymn-poems, "From Greenland's Icy Mountains."

After a little more than three years in Calcutta, Heber left for an extended tour of all the church's mission stations in India. In the village of Trinchinopoly, on a very warm day, he preached to a large crowd. Afterwards, seeking relief from the heat, he plunged into a cool pool of water, suffered a stroke and drowned. He was only 42 years old.

In 1809 he had married Amelia Shipley and they

became the parents of a daughter in 1818 but the child died in infancy. Two more daughters were born to them in 1821 and 1824, both surviving to adulthood. It was after Heber's death that Amelia found his collection of 57 hymns and sought to have them published.

Heber had actually been given approval by the Archbishop of Canterbury to publish the hymns in 1820 but the Bishop of London was less enthusiastic and instructed Heber to wait until "public reaction" could be gauged. The Church of England was still unsure about singing anything other than the Psalms. Fortunately, his widow pursued the publication of the hymns and they appeared in 1827.

It was the publication of Heber's hymns that led to the flood of other hymns being introduced to the Church of England and eventually into the hymnals in use by all denominations.

Heber's most well-known hymn that changed the minds of the Anglican bishops to accept hymns other than the Psalms is still a favorite in churches today.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee.  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy, Though the darkness hide Thee  
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see.  
Only Thou art holy, There is none beside Thee,  
Perfect in power, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!  
All Thy works shall praise Thy name In earth, and  
sky, and sea.

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Bonnie Miller



time when I wasn't aware that God was my father and he would be with me always. Counselors may see that as a reaction to an absent father, but I see it as a result of the prayer my mother taught me to say each night before bedtime. "Our Father, who art in heaven...."

In my earliest memories, I knew God as my father. And that relationship has never changed.

As we focus this year on the "Lord's Prayer" for our Dwelling in the Word passage, it may be an opportune time to begin a nightly routine with your children (if you haven't yet) in which your family says the Lord's Prayer together.

A regular bedtime routine including prayers, hugs, and affirmations of love and acceptance will contribute significantly to a good night's sleep.

Bonnie Miller

Sometimes counselors will tell you that your image of God is formed by your relationship with your physical father. If you had a distant, critical, undemonstrative father, you may see God in the same way. On the other hand, if your father was kind, attentive, involved and loving, you may view God as such.

My parents separated the month before I was born, so I grew up without a father. I didn't even meet him until I was 32. But I cannot remember a

## Backpack Ministry



We are committed to providing 18 backpacks several times each month to Fir Grove Elementary School for families who are below the poverty line. We have been joined in this ministry by the Classical Conversations home school group that meets in our building. They have agreed to provide the food from time to time and pack the bags for us.

A list of needed items (below) is available in the church lobby. Most of these items can be purchased at Dollar Tree making the total cost for each filled backpack between \$12 and \$15. Our next date to pack backpacks is March 19.

Each backpack should contain:

Peanut Butter	Jelly/Jam/Honey
2 cans Tuna	Tuna Helper
Mac & Cheese	Dry Soup Mix
Bag of Rice	Bag of Beans
Pk. of Tortillas	Pk. of Fruit Cups
4 Oatmeal pks.	2 Granola Bars

## Extended Prayer List

~Those with health concerns~

**Janice Ator**  
**Jasper Bawcom**  
**Linda Bissett**  
**Joyce Farguharson** (Melinda Coleman's sister)  
**Janet Maples**  
**Caleb Osborne** (Donna Urban's grandson)  
**Ben Snodgrass**  
**Helen Urban**  
**Jennie** (Carolyn Mentzer's niece)

~Family and Friends battling cancer~

**Lauren Ray** (friend of Christy family)  
**Samira Khoury** (Nader's mother)  
**Margo** (Ray Martus' sister)  
**Stephen Berry** (Greenlee Family Group)  
**Gay Stroud** (Loretta Stroud's daughter)  
**Betty Call** (Janet Maples' aunt)  
**Jon Morgan**  
**Mary Ellen Taylor** (Josh VanderZanden's grandmother)  
**Kendra Hornbostel** (friend of the Ators)  
**Patti** (mother of Linda Zagorski's sister-in-law)  
**Arnold Holloway** (friend of Kathy Skelton)  
**John Farquharson** (Melinda Coleman's brother-in-law)

~Those who have lost loved ones~

**Sue Bowman** (Sue's mother)  
**Mel Winters** (Mel's father)  
**Trina Vorderbrueggen** (Trina's grandmother)  
 Family of **Opal Pruitt** (CCS staff)  
**Nader Khoury** (Nader's father)  
 Family of **Kimiko Carpenter**  
**Mel Winters** (Mel's grandmother)  
**Carolyn Mentzer** (Carolyn's mother and father)  
**Bill Coleman** (Bill's mother)

~College Students~

**Jade Bawcom**  
**Becca Brower**  
**Ben Brower**  
**Julia Khoury**  
**Shiloh Simmering**  
**Riley Toll**  
**Robert Towell**

~Those with special needs~

**Jim & Janet Maples**  
**Kayla VanderZanden**  
**Rebecca Dickerson**  
**Annette Elder**  
**Brittnie**, Mark Wingfield's niece

~Those serving in the military~

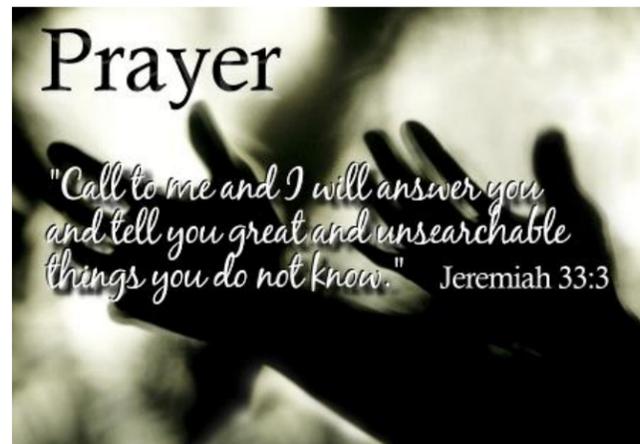
**Jason Magdos** (Patti Honc's grandson)  
**Kallee Koontz**

~Shepherds~

**Bob Greenlee**  
**Ray Martus**  
**Dwayne Towell**

~Staff and Volunteers~

**Aaron Metcalf**  
**Jen Christy**  
**Bonnie Miller**  
**Linda Coburn**



## March Service Opportunities

### Communion Prep

Bonnie Miller

### Slides

3/5 Bonnie Miller

3/12 Jonathan Diaz

3/19 TBA

3/26 TBA

### Sound

Matt Buckingham

Ella Metcalf

TBA

TBA

### Contribution Counters

Kim Toll, Ben Snodgrass

### Communion Servers

Jay Schneider, John Pivovarnik, Robert Bristol, Nader Khoury, Stephen Mentzer  
 Larry Morgan, Caleb Coleman, Bill Coleman, Mark Wingfield, Jim Maples  
 Chelan Metcalf, Jasper Bawcom, Bob Greenlee, John Pivovarnik, Miles Metcalf  
 Kim Wingfield, Mel Winters, Kim Toll, Linda Zagorski, Robert Bristol

### February Contribution

\$13,708.43

### Paper Airplanes Help Build Water Wells



Another church event that raised \$262 for Living Water International was the first ever Paper Airplane Contest. Participants paid \$1 for each piece of paper they decorated and/or folded into a paper projectile. Awards were given for longest flight, most creative and best tricks.

Living Water International digs water wells in impoverished countries around the world to provide access to clean water. Each December the Westside church collects funds for this work through the Advent Conspiracy. The Paper Airplane Contest was an effort to expand our fund raising for this work to more than just one month.

## March Celebrations

### Birthdays

8 Kayla Coleman  
 8 Kallee Coleman  
 16 Mel Winters  
 19 Jasper Bawcom  
 19 Mary Wolfe  
 20 Jamie Rodriguez  
 21 Antony Davies  
 22 Sue Ruby  
 25 Isaiah Osorio  
 28 Keyshia Daly

### Anniversaries

11 Dave & Jen Christy  
 18 Stephen & Carolyn Mentzer  
 21 Dann & Penny Pierce

