

Montesano Presbyterian Church Newsletter

OIKOS

A Family Church

Worship Time

10:00am—11:00am

Adult Bible Study

9am—9:45am



201 E McBryde Avenue

Montesano, WA 98563

Pastor Patrick Cobb

360-249-3845

February 2023

From the roll top desk of Pastor Patrick:

Ephesians 4:4–6

There is one body and one Spirit just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

I was snooping through files the other day and found an old bulletin which read, “United Presbyterian Church.” Then one that read, “First Presbyterian Church.” Then another that read, “Community Presbyterian Church.” I sat and wondered, who are we?

As we continue through Ephesians and consider the impact of true joy in our lives, as we encounter trying times, I want everyone to remember who we are and that we are called to “One hope.” This one hope comes only from God and should be the source of our joy in life. This is what the Christian church was tasked with delivering to all the world.

The Reformers insisted that they were not trying to invent a new doctrine, or a new way of doing church, rather they wanted to recover the faith entrusted to the church and confessed since the beginning. They wanted the old ways to return to some degree. Think about this for a minute. The Reformation church did not cast aside the ancient church’s understanding of itself but rather maintained it. Proof of this is evident in that the Reformers maintaining belief in the unifying creeds, including the Apostles’ Creed. This creed confesses belief in “one holy catholic and apostolic church,” giving us four truths about the church of Christ: its unity, its holiness, its catholicity, and its Apostolicity.

Today consider church unity. I kind of like the idea of a “United” presbyterian church so, let’s decide to be a united church, simply put, there is only one church of Christ. Despite the institutional and denominational diversity of the visible church, the true church of Jesus Christ consists of one body. Paul teaches us this truth in Ephesians (Eph. 4:4–6).

In Paul’s day, there were many individual and distinct churches, each with its own personality. The church in Corinth was not precisely the church in Ephesus, which was not identical to the church in Philippi or in Galatia. Thus, when Paul refers to the oneness of the church, he must be referring to something that transcends subjective expressions of the visible church. He is referring primarily to the one invisible church, the universal church that is made up of everyone who is united to Christ by faith. Local churches may vary in their visible expression, but the church is finally and invisibly one.



From the roll top desk of Pastor Patrick: Continued

It is united in faith (v. 5), that is, truth – biblical and theological. Doctrinal differences are real and should not be ignored, but there is a core faith defined by the gospel that unites all Christians regardless of where they hold their church membership. Do we behave like this in our belief and attitudes?

John Calvin comments on this passage:

“Christ cannot be divided. Faith cannot be rent. There are not various baptisms, but one which is common to all. God cannot cease to be one, and unchangeable. It cannot but be our duty to cherish holy unity, which is bound by so many ties. Faith, and baptism, and God the Father, and Christ, ought to unite us, so as almost to become one man.”

Differences between believers remain, but because of the oneness of the true church, we cannot fail to recognize as Christians those who profess the biblical gospel, for when we do so, we deny the reality of the one, invisible church that transcends our local assemblies.

With that said, I know who we are; we are a united presbyterian church in Montesano, WA. Thanks be to God.

Mission Meals

Thank you to all those who signed up to help provide meals to the Union Gospel Mission for the first half of 2023 – the sign-up sheets will be available later in the year to complete our monthly commitments. The unheated meals need to be at the church no later than 3:30 when they are picked up. We have a new slot for anyone who would like to offer the gift of an encouraging word and/or praise music in the evening we provide a meal – the doors are locked at 7:00, so you'd have to be there by 6:45. Here is my cell phone number in case of questions so you can text or call me: (360) 964-0024. Diana Hill

Deliver Meal — CVCC

Encouraging word—Patrick Cobb (210) 867-8118

Mission Schedule—February 21

please have your part of the meal to the church by 3:30

MAIN DISH

Jay Chambers
(360) 964-0109

SALAD & DRESSING

Chehalis Valley Community
Church is doing everything

DESSERT

Deliver Meal — John & Peggy Gillespie—360-249-5601

Encouraging word—?? Mission Schedule—March 21

please have your part of the meal to the church by 3:30

MAIN DISH	SALAD & DRESSING	DESSERT
Peggy Gillespie (360) 249-5601	Jan Morrill (360) 581-2551	Patty Winkler (360) 495-5068
Danielle Parker (360) 581-0207	Melani Cobb (210) 867-8088	
Sharon Scott (360) 249-5257	Mindy Geer (360) 470-9766	

Deliver Meal — Diana Hill– 360-964-0024

Encouraging Word Patrick Cobb (210) 867-8118

Mission Schedule—April 18th

please have your part of the meal to the church by 3:30

MAIN DISH	SALAD	DESSERT
Pam Hildreth 360-470-1973	Sandy Spearin 360-589-9253	Diana Hill 360-964-0024
Susan Mandt 360-249-1971	Chad Baier 206-734-2113	
Emily Meier 360-580-7292	Mindy Geer 360-470-9766	

We are a praying church and we want to pray for your families and friends who are in need. Prayer chains tend to break down in the middle - our "chain" is actually a long list of prayer warriors who are notified by email when someone needs our prayers. If you'd like to be a prayer warrior, contact either Peggy Gillespie (jpgil20@comcast.net) or Edie Johnson (ediejohnson77@gmail.com). We will gladly add you to our lists. The outcome of our prayers is not up to us, but we can certainly let the Lord know that we care.

Matthew 7:7-8 “Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find, knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.”

This passage makes it seem so simple! Ask God for what you want and you will get it; look for it and you will find it; just knock and doors will be opened to you. However, Jesus reminds us that God is a good father and will not give us what is wrong for us! When you were young, did you ever ask your parents for something that was just not right for you? Perhaps your children have done the same to you. You don't give a baby a steak, nor do you give a toddler a 10 speed bicycle. You wouldn't let your children look for milk in the cabinet where you keep your cleaning supplies. But sometimes we are looking for what we think we need in all the wrong places. Yes, Jesus tells us to keep asking for what we need and we shall receive it, but he also expects that we will be asking for the right things. We are bombarded with ads that tell us what we need to do or own in order to be happy, but are those truly what we need? Jesus tells us that we need hearts that are open to others, that we must be people of peace and forgiveness, and when we ask for the gift of the Holy Spirit, we will surely receive. When we pray, do we ask God to give us those things which He knows we need to be happy or do we ask for what the media says we need? If we leave the decisions up to God, then we will always receive what we ask for; we will find what we are looking for; and doors will open at our knock.

Gracious God, help us to know what things to ask for that will lead us to know of your glory. Amen

Cynthia Crisp

Worship Committee

Thank you to our AWESOME Teams, for being the welcoming face that folks see as they come in the door! Let's remember to offer a Monte Pres. mug to new people.

Worship Leaders

Feb. 5th – Melani Cobb
 Feb. 12th- David Mandt
 Feb. 19th – Garrett Dalan
 Feb. 26th – Pam Hildreth
 Mar. 5th – Tom Robins
 Mar. 12th – Melani Cobb
 Mar. 19th – David Mandt
 Mar. 26th -Peggy Gillespie

Welcome Team (Greeters)

Jan. 29th & Feb. 5th – Cynthia Crisp & Randi Toyra
 Feb. 12th & Feb. 19th - Diana Hill & Peggy Gillespie
 Feb. 26th & Mar. 5th - Mel & Gale Broughton
 Mar. 12th & 19th- Ron & Lorna Claxton
 Mar. 26th & April 2nd - Patty Winkler

✝
PRAISE
HIM
 AND
WORSHIP
HIM

February 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Groundhog Day Men's Breakfast 7am	3 Women's Lunch 11:30am	4
5 Bible Study 9am Communion & Deacon Sunday Uganda Auction following worship	6 Birthday Lunch 11:30 am Gepettos	7 Deacon Mtg 6pm	8	9 Men's Breakfast 7am Game Day 1pm Session Mtg 6pm	10 Women's Lunch 11:30am	11
12 Bible Study 9am Patrick JBLM Pulpit Fill Winston Urey	13	14 Women's Bible Study 10am 	15	16 Men's Breakfast 7am	17 Women's Lunch 11:30am	18
19 Bible Study 9am	20	21 Union Gospel Mission Meals to church by 3:30pm	22 Ash Wednesday Service 6pm 	23 Men's Breakfast 7am Game Day 1pm	24 Women's Lunch 11:30am	25
26 Bible Study 9am	27	28 Women's Bible Study 10am Joy Heals Seminar 6pm	Coming in March each Wednesday during Lent - Lenten Devotion & Soup Lunch Noon			

Missions and Outreach

Our Uganda benefit Auction is coming soon, February 5! Please get your contribution in as soon as possible. Stay after service for lunch and good fellowship. I and Don Norkoski are excited to be preparing for our Mission to Uganda starting February 21. Our Auction funds will allow us to help with the many needs there. Jim Dameron.

Congregational Life

Please consider participating in hosting Fellowship Hour. The food you provide does not have to be elaborate or homemade. It can be sweet or savory. You can partner with someone else. Congregational Life provides the coffee, cream, sugar, juice, cups, napkins, plates, and plastic utensils. If you have questions or need help please talk with Juanita or Pam. The sign up list is in the Fellowship Hall. There are lots of open opportunities.

The Second Annual Chili Cook off is Sunday, March 12th. Look for the sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall. You can make chili for judging or provide a side such as corn bread, chips, onions, cheese, sour cream or a dessert.



Carson Cobb

Art Tanner—15th

Emily Meier—17th

Psalms 23:1-6 KJV

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:

He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparast a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: And I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Literature Loop

I hope this Literature Loop will help all members of the congregation keep “in the loop” with bible studies and book clubs even if you are unable to attend in person. Please find the current readings of these groups below.

Men’s and Womens’ Bible Study Groups began reading the Book of Isaiah in January and will continue into February.

Melani Cobb and Tom Robins have also started Adult Sunday School on Sundays at 9:00. Melani is leading a video discussion on *The Pilgrim's Progress* by John Bunyan, an allegory of the Christian life as it tells the story of a man's pilgrimage toward heaven. Tom is diving into the life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer whose writing and speaking not only helped transform an entire faith community in Germany during World War II, but his beliefs continue to impact the Christian faith of people throughout the world today.

Danielle Parker

Something Fun - Revelation 22

D Q E R R F T F D E X U
 L L A U O Y H T L I F D
 A Z Y N G Q G S E Y O U
 H L E J N O J I F N R Z
 P L C U I F L R I P E X
 L W A S R O A H L Q H A
 A S R T P U T C F H E T
 G G G H S R S S O T A H
 A M E N F L Y U E I D I
 T C H M F O R S E W S R
 E Z T S O R C E R E R S
 S G O D M D D J T B A T

“Surely I Come Quickly”

ALPHA
 AMEN
 ATHIRST
 BE WITH
 CRYSTAL
 DOGS

FILTHY
 FOREHEADS
 GATES
 JESUS CHRIST
 OF OUR LORD
 OFFSPRING

OMEGA
 SORCERERS
 THE GRACE
 TREE OF LIFE
 UNJUST
 YOU ALL