

## GRACE NOTES

### January Birthdays:

1<sup>st</sup> – Ilene Renn

5<sup>th</sup> – Meri Pace

### SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Elder John Christ is now a member of the Budget Committee. The sound booth will be lowered and altered so that the cover does not bother those seated in the pew directly in front of the booth. The outside doors of the church building still are difficult to operate. Unlocking and locking these doors, especially at the front entrance, have proved to be a significant challenge. Elder Gerry is gathering information about the Alpha program. The community Christmas Baskets will once again be handled at Grace. The receiving of goods, boxing, and distribution of these baskets will take place in the Fellowship Hall December 13, 14, 15. All applications for these baskets will be handled by the Weed Police Department. A draft of a membership letter was presented. This letter will be revised and edited to be sent to those interested in becoming members of GCPC. Elder Betty has ordered postcards to be sent to all those who visit GCPC acknowledging their visit to one of the regular Sunday services. On Dec. 24, the regular 9:00 a. m. service will take place at GCPC. An evening dinner and service is planned by the McCloud church. A Community Christmas Sing-Along and dinner will be held on Sunday evening Dec. 17 at GCPC. Members of these congregations and their communities are invited to each service. Elders John Christ and Gerry Watson have been elected as delegates to the January EPC-North Presbytery meeting in Oregon City in January. The next Session meeting will be Monday, January 8 at 9:00 a.m. (NOTE: The time of this meeting has been changed to 3:00 p.m. due to a memorial service of a young man who died in a motorcycle accident in Redding. Pastor Nick, who knows the family well, has been asked to be a part of this service. Our prayers are with this family as they deal with their loss and grief.)

This is this Clerk of Session's last Highlights. The members of the Session graciously accepted my resignation presented at the September Session to be effective December 31, 2017. It has been a long, always interesting, and fulfilling experience to serve my church in this capacity. It was a longer journey than I ever dreamed it would be. A lot of prayer and deep thought went into this resignation. I will continue to serve my church in whatever capacity and direction God leads me. I feel like General McArthur (for those old enough to remember him) who said *Old soldiers never die . . .* and you might remember the rest of what he quoted. See you all in church and keep praying! Nancy Wallace, Clerk of Session, now retired

	LAY READER	GREETERS & USHERS
7	Mike Krause	Don VonTungeln
14	Gerry Watson	Marge and Neil McDowell
21	Neil McDowell	Jan Mauck & Marilyn Harrington
28	Jim Ray	Jim and Sharon Ray

COMMUNION – JANUARY: JOHN CHRIST FEBRUARY: BETTY CLOUGH

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT**

### Children's Sunday School:

We met twice in December; one Sunday with Robert, and another Sunday with Juliet and two visitors, brothers Nolan and Bryce. Both times we read and discussed Jesus' birth from Luke, discussed the Advent theme for that week, and ended with a Christmas craft.

Nine children attended the December 17 soup supper and sing-a-long. Each child was given a gift bag of fun Christmas items, tangerines and a few candies.

We're still needing an additional teacher in both the Nursery (crib to K) and Sunday School (grades 1-6), for only one Sunday a month. Please call me if you're willing to help.

### Adult Bible Study:

Eight of us enjoyed the Tuesday early evening Advent study beginning with a light soup supper. The Advent of Christ was led by Gerry Watson, with the themes of Hope, Joy, Peace and Love. We'll soon decide on the next Bible Study, so look and listen for that announcement. We hope others can join us this time!

Betty Clough, Elder (938-2019)

### **Building Committee Yearly Report: 2017**

We are in our new church facility as of mid-summer having had our official opening on September 15<sup>th</sup>. This was three years since the church building was lost in the Boles Creek fire. Much planning has gone into the structure and we had to deal with many code upgrades, phone calls or meetings with the contractor and architect as well as with the insurance agent. The end result has been that we have a wonderful fully paid for new church building.

God has truly blessed our congregation throughout the entire process. We still have to complete the landscaping around the building along with its watering system and install our new sign to indicate upcoming events, hours of services and other items of interest. The media system has additional microphones that we still have to install. The new building meets all of the required codes, is energy efficient has automatic lighting, a fire sprinkler system and many other automatic operating systems.

We now have three television monitors in the sanctuary which allow display of information such as song words, Bible verses, pictures and texts along with video information. This is all controlled from the booth at the rear of the sanctuary. Our new piano provides us with beautiful music for worship. The wall between the sanctuary and the fellowship is able to be folded up at the sides of the area opening the entire area for use when large activities require the space.

The building has two offices, a library, a state of the art kitchen, two Sunday school classrooms, a nursery located off the sanctuary, rest rooms and a patio located outside of the fellowship hall. We still are working on some problems with a new facility as some items do not work the same way they did in our old building.

We have been blessed in many ways throughout the entire process with the answers to many prayers and concerns throughout the process. Thanks to our God we were able to replace our building.

John Christ, Chairman