

# Solid Rock Review

December 2010

## FPCW Ministry Staff

**Rev. Pat McElroy**  
Pastor

**Rev. Paul Pankey**  
Associate Pastor

**Mrs. Alice Belmont**  
Financial Secretary

**Ms. Mariann Browne**  
Assistant to  
Director of Music

**Mr. Scott Carlisle**  
Custodian

**Mrs. Kristi Ernsberger**  
Director of  
Family Ministries

**Mrs. Susan Johnson**  
Office Administrator

**Mrs. Michelle Klock**  
Director of  
Children's Ministries

**Mr. Ken Kracke**  
Facility Manager

**Mrs. Diane Larson**  
Director of  
Joyful Start Daycare

**Mr. Matthew Lodge**  
Choir Director

**Mrs. Michelle Loudon**  
Director of Music

**Mrs. Abbey Reynolds**  
Director of  
Youth Ministries

**Mr. Damon Ross**  
Director of  
Worship Technology

**Mr. Jeff Sandberg**  
Director of  
Musical Praise

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presents



# The

# Living Nativity

Live outdoor reenactment  
Music • Animals  
Cookies • Hot Beverages



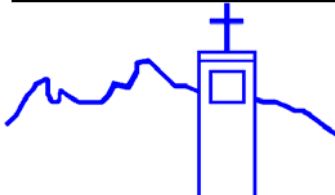
Wednesday, December 22  
5:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 23  
5:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.

Friday, December 24  
5:30 p.m.

Free Admission • Children Welcome

For information call 663-1187 • [www.fpcw.org](http://www.fpcw.org)  
1400 S. Miller • Wenatchee





Dear Saints of First Presbyterian Church of Wenatchee, Christmas is coming. There is no stopping it. Who would want to???? What a wonderful time of year! This is the time when we remember God's promise. We remember that He is faithful to keep it. We remember that He did not leave us in our sin but sent His only begotten Son to save us from it. This is the time of year when we remember that we could not, cannot and will not save ourselves but God has provided the means for us in Jesus.

I always find Christmas an ironic time of year. In the northern hemisphere, there is a lot less light around at this time of year. I find myself continually amazed at how quickly it gets dark now, in spite of our efforts at changing things through daylight savings time. It reminds me that the people of God were living in darkness with silenced prophets for nearly four hundred years. Yet into that darkness, God spoke His wonderful light: the light of the world, the eternal Son of God in human form, Jesus Christ.

In this ever darkening time of year, I am reminded of the dark times in which this world lives. Certainly there are wars, rumors of wars, natural disasters, depravity of every kind. The darkness in which we live threatens to snuff out any hope in the hearts of people. Sometimes it even appears that the darkness will prevail.

The joy of this time of year is that we remember that God has dispelled

the darkness and its power. His light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it. It only takes a little light to dispel the darkness in the world. God has provided that light in the Bethlehem manger and the empty tomb. One day that light will come again and dispel the darkness forever.

Remember that when you are hanging the lights on your Christmas tree this year, or on your house, or looking at the lights all around the church building. His light has come, is here with us now and will come again. Even so, come Lord Jesus!

Jesus is coming. There is no stopping it. Who would want to?

*In Christ  
Pastor Pat*



## ***Leadership Reflections***

Christian Leadership equips the body for service. Christian leadership exercises humility. These principles are the kinds of values that we are nurturing in the life of First Presbyterian Church. But that is not all. The culture of our congregation will be incomplete unless our focus goes beyond these walls to the world around us. The third principle in our series of leadership principles reflects this commitment.

### ***Leadership principle #3: Christian leadership develops partnerships with other believers***

Earlier in Ephesians 4, the Apostle Paul makes a long statement about the unity of the Church in verses 4-6. Jesus also prays for believers to be one even as He and the Father are one (John 17:11). Our essential unity as Christians transcends denominational lines, political borders and natural barriers. Beyond this essential reality, we are called to express that unity in love for one another through relationship with one another. This is the pattern of the early Church in Acts.

It is the responsibility of Christian leadership to foster and promote relationships with other Christians here in this valley and throughout the world, partnering with them in mission where they are.

The implementation of this principle will require guiding our ministry teams to ask and answer questions along the following lines:

- How many solid relationships can we maintain as a Church?
- How will we involve the congregants in these partnerships with other congregations in the valley? In the world?
- What will this relationship look like? What kinds of activities will characterize it?
- On what basis will we establish a relationship with a particular group? What criteria should we use?

It is always good to celebrate the things that we already do. In this case, we have a great emphasis on mission but we dare not let that history allow us to simply rest. Mission is the joy of our labor. It is fueled by our passion for God and the lost. May our congregation always be seeking for vital partnerships through which we can better fulfill the Great Commission.

*In Christ, Pastor Pat*

# The View from the Bell Tower

The view from here is kind of Christmas-like with the ground covered with snow. For those of us growing up in the Northwest, Christmas just isn't the same without snow on the ground. The many years I spent in warm or tropical climates, Christmas just didn't feel right.

My first Christmas overseas was in Baghdad, Iraq, in 1957. There were no Christmas trees, of course. So, we cut a fairly large limb off an evergreen kind of tree and stood it in the corner of the living room. It was a little weird, but it worked. My last Christmas overseas was in Saudi Arabia with Operation Desert Shield, just before Desert Storm. I cannot tell you how much candy was in Saudi Arabia. The sugar industry must have had a huge upswing that year. Of course, there were others, like Panama and Vietnam. None were like being at home, with snow on the ground. Yet they were all the same - celebrating the arrival of the baby Jesus as told by Luke in chapter 2 of his gospel.

With Christmas on the

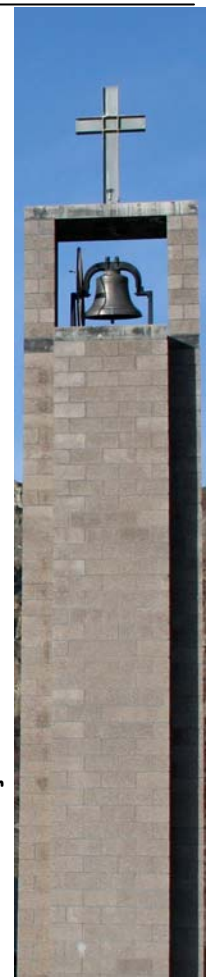
way, we are in the Advent Season, of course - the season of waiting for the arrival of the Messiah. On the way to the celebration of the birth of Jesus, we will be conducting our Live Nativity, on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> as has become our tradition. What a blessing that so many in our valley now look forward to the Living Nativity. I understand that some publication about the valley has designated our Living Nativity as a "must see" event in Wenatchee.

Also, while we are waiting we must continue our prayers for the Presbytery's Administrative Commission and our "discernment process", trusting that God's will prevails.

What a blessing to see 300 shoe boxes, of various sizes, moved from our church to the next point in the system getting the Operation Christmas Child boxes to the children.

Finally, we come to the end of another year. Two major events have occurred. One was the request for our congregation to be dismissed from the Presbyterian Church

(USA), to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. The other very major event was the departure of **Gail Foreman** from the church's staff. She was very ably replaced by **Michelle Loudon** and **Matt Lodge**. We on the staff miss Gail, but she's not really gone. She is still a vital part of our music ministry. Michelle brings some great enthusiasm to the music ministry, while maintaining the same direction and quality. And, Matt is a professional choir director with amazing ability. That was clearly in evidence during the Oklahoma show at the high school.

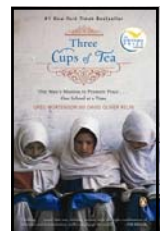


*Blessings to everyone,  
Pastor Paul*



**Mark your calendars**  
**One combined worship**  
**service December 26 @**  
**10:00 a.m.**

The FPCW Book Club will discuss Three Cups of Tea, by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin at their January 14, 2011 gathering. We will meet at 6:30 p.m., at Roberta Vanderlin's. "Here (in Pakistan and Afghanistan), we drink three cups of tea to do business: the first you are a stranger, the second you become a friend, and the third, you join our family, and for our family we are prepared to do anything--even die."



# FPCW HAPPENINGS

## Guatemala Mission Trip

Have you been thinking about going on our next mission trip to Guatemala? Save the dates.

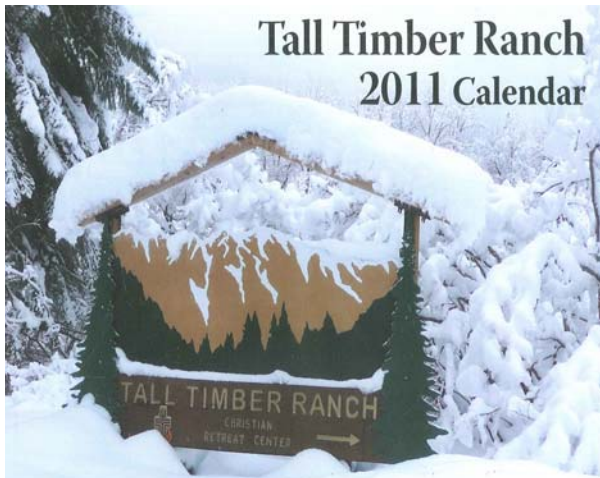
June 13-23

Informational meeting in January



## Contribution Deadline

2010 Contributions must be postmarked on or before December 31st or delivered to the Church office on or before December 30th in order to claim a charitable contribution deduction for 2010. Contributions may be placed in the church offering, Sunday, December 26, 2010 or written, mailed, and postmarked in 2010 even if they are not received until 2011.



## Tall Timber Ranch 2011 Calendar

Enjoy the beauty of Tall Timber Ranch and support Tall Timber Ministries by purchasing a 2011 calendar! Cost - \$17.00. Call Bob Butcher 662-5554 or purchase your calendar in the Narthex on Sunday mornings!

## Wenatchee Cabin Update . . . .

We have a great start on the Wenatchee Cabin makeover. Several volunteers helped to deconstruct and clear finish new pine wood for the walls and ceiling. **Future work weekends are coming and anyone can help.** Contact Bob Butcher for more information. Thank you so very much.

Dear Church Family,

You have been my constant support through these difficult years. We have been blessed by your prayers, visits, meals, gifts, and expressions of concern. Pastor Paul and Chaplain Scott's visits to our home and nursing home were such a source of strength. Through all of you I have felt Gods love, caring, and strength during this trying time. I thank you with much love.

Beverly Pritchard

## Save The Date! Sunday, January 30, 2011

FPCW presents a Christian Cabaret  
"Amplify Him"

Join us for an evening of fellowship and an inspiring, uplifting array of musical offerings. Coffee and dessert will be served. Admission is free and open to the public.

A special offering will be taken to support the FPCW Africa Mission Trip in the summer of 2011.

## SERVE WENATCHEE VALLEY

The Serve Wenatchee Food Bank is in dire need of some specific items throughout the winter months:



small jars of peanut butter  
small jars of jam or jelly,  
hamburger and tuna helper,



cereal,  
spaghetti,  
pasta sauce.



Donations are greatly accepted at the Serve Wenatchee food barrel in our church lobby.

# FPCW HAPPENINGS

## Deacon Doodles

Christmas is coming and your Deacons have much planned! Mark your calendars, heat the oven, dress warmly, and come join us as we spread the real meaning of Christmas.



Look soon for the Deacon Tree and the Angel Tree in the Narthex. The Deacon tree will be full of "mittens" with gift requests for Domestic Violence and Serve Wenatchee Valley families. Instructions will be on the tree and each mitten will have sizes, gender, etc. The stockings will be for stocking stuffers which will also be noted. The Angel Tree is for our Jail Ministry. Again this year, incarcerated parents will ask us to buy a specific item for their children and have it delivered, along with a tag from the parent. We would like to deliver these gifts Sunday, December 19 - Tuesday, December 21. Trees will be in the Narthex after Thanksgiving for you to pick up the tags. We also need help in delivering the gifts to the families. If you would like to join us in delivering or have any questions regarding these giving Trees, please contact:

### Deacon Tree - "Mittens and Stockings"

Rachel Brunner 663-6832 or [rachelb@nwi.net](mailto:rachelb@nwi.net)

### Jail Ministry Tree - "Angels"

Jim Cleveland 663-1524 or [cleveland@nwi.net](mailto:cleveland@nwi.net)



Also coming...The Living Nativity! Each year, we host all the families who come to this beautiful outdoor reenactment of the Nativity. And each year, we need...60 DOZEN cookies! Yes, 60 dozen. The Living Nativity will be December 22, 23 and 24, 5:30 and 6:30 pm each night, with just the 5:30 performance on Christmas Eve. If you love to bake, here's a perfect opportunity. Drop off cookies anytime before December 21 in the new Deacon kitchen right off the Narthex. We also need help setting up the Living Nativity on Saturday, December 18. If you would like to come for an hour or two that day, please do. Jim Rolen will be Head Manger Director, so please contact him with any questions. And be sure to bring friends and family to one of the Living Nativity performances. It's all anyone needs for Christmas!



Each year, the Deacons bring a bit of Christmas spirit to our true shut-ins. We order mini, decorated trees and deliver them and visit with our shut-ins the week before Christmas. This is a precious opportunity for your family or your children to bring Christ to our church family who cannot get to us. If you would like to help deliver these trees the week prior to Christmas, please contact Kathy Stephens at 884-6781 or at [wildraccoon@verizon.net](mailto:wildraccoon@verizon.net).



And finally, love to decorate? De-decorate? If you love to decorate, please help on November 27<sup>th</sup> get our church in fine holiday form – decorating the church begins at 9am that day. It's a very fun time! If you're more into "taking it all down", please join us on January 8<sup>th</sup> at 9am and help un-do all the garlands and ornaments. Either way, we need your help and promise a wonderful time!

## Merry Christmas


# FPCW HAPPENINGS

**2nd Annual  
Youth Christmas  
Movie Marathon**  
For Youth grades 6 - 12


Monday, December 20 in the Youth Room  
from 4pm-8:00pm. Dinner provided.  
Please bring a snack to share!!!  
See you there!

**Kid's Corner**  
Michelle Klock, Director of Children's Ministry  
michelle@fpcw.org, 663-1187

~Christmas Crafts for Kids December 11th, 11-1 and 1-3 Parents go shopping while kids make, wrap and take gifts for their family! Sign up at the church! Donation of \$5 per child or \$10 per family is appreciated! Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles and friends please sign up to help with fun, easy crafts! michelle@fpcw.org.



~Living Nativity, December 22-24th ~  
Choir! Angels! Shepherds! Wisemen! Cookie Makers! Servers! Fun for everyone! Sign up now!! michelle@fpcw.org.



~AWANA  
Wednesday evenings 6:15-8 ~You can still get involved! Kids ages 3-5th grade can begin any time and we always need adult helpers. Contact Laura Clifton, 884-0869, tlc@integrity.com or Michelle Klock 663-1187, michelle@fpcw.org for more information or are interested in being a leader.

**OPPORTUNITY TO HELP!**

Someone in our congregation who is on a limited income needs to move into an apartment by January 1. This person does not have any furniture or household goods to start this new adventure. Do you have any new or used furniture that you could donate to help them furnish an apartment? New or gently used dishes, kitchen utensils, bedding, etc. would also be appreciated. Monetary donations (checks made payable to the church - please note what it is for) would be wonderful! Please contact Kristi if you can help. kristi@fpcw.org or 663-1187 ext. 205.



**WEEK-DAY R.C. Sproul study this winter**

We invite you to join us for a study of R.C. Sproul's book, "Defending your Faith" and DVD lecture series beginning in January. Dr. Sproul presents practical suggestions for "defending our faith" and logically and rationally answers the two questions: "Does God exist?" and, if so, "Is the Bible the Word of God?"

Identical classes are offered Mondays at 3:45 P.M. and Tuesdays at 9 A.M.  
Classes begin January 10 & 11, 2011 and conclude March 28 & 29, 2011.  
To register or for more information please call Cindy Bumps 662-6250

What a church family we have at FPC! I knew this all along, but the many calls, cards, and caring concerns that you gave me during my recent bout with pneumonia moved me to believe this ever so deeply. Thank you for your love, kindness and prayers. ~ Georgia Boon

FISCAL FAITHFULNESS				FPCW FINANCIAL SUMMARY STATEMENT			
OCTOBER				YEAR-TO-DATE			
Budgeted Income	Receipts	Expenses	Variance	Budgeted Income	Receipts	Expenses	Variance
\$70,907	\$88,033	\$74,407	\$13,626	\$880,000	\$762,709	\$758,595	\$4,114

# FPCW HAPPENINGS

## *An Update on our Discernment Process*

We want you all to know how very thankful we are for the great patience, hope, and fearless trust in the Lord that you have all displayed during our discernment process. As we move forward, we will continue to keep you apprised of developments as we have from the outset of this journey. Here is our present situation:

- The Administrative Commission is in the process of determining if there is a viable “remnant” which can be called “the true church” composed of those who wish to remain in the PC USA. The words *remnant* and *true church* are from the PC USA Book of Order, Chapter 8 concerning property. This process will hopefully be completed soon.
- We have had one conversation between our congregation and the AC. We are waiting to hear from them concerning further meetings to be scheduled.
- The Reverend Richard Nordgren has resigned his position as Moderator of the AC. The Reverend Pat Thompson of First Presbyterian of Ephrata is the new Moderator of the AC. He will not be taking the position of Moderator of the Presbytery as originally planned. This will provide more continuity on the AC. We are thankful for Pat’s and Richard’s service.
- The Presbytery Council has appointed the Reverend Curt McFarland, Associate Pastor at First Presbyterian of Moses Lake, to replace Richard Nordgren. His appointment will be submitted for ratification by the Presbytery at their regular meeting in February.
- The Session is working hard on the vision for the Church. We will be opening a conversation with the congregation on this subject in January.
- Our conversations with the Evangelical Presbyterian Church are ongoing. Introductions have been made and we will be engaging in further conversations in the coming year.

The main thing that we want you to do during this season is worship. There will be no meetings in the month of December. We will be taking this subject up again in earnest in January. Until then, rejoice in the hope we have in our Messiah, the Son of God, Jesus Christ.

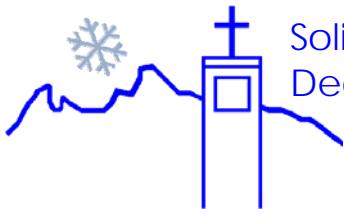
In Christ

Pastor Pat McElroy

Pastor Paul Pankey

## *December Birthday's*

Cindy Bumps	12/1	Nicole Hunter	12/11	Art Ruckman	12/20
Russ Havlicek	12/1	Sandra Smeller	12/11	Vaughn Smith	12/20
Dorothy Leedy	12/1	J.C. Derrick	12/12	Alma Studley	12/21
Janine Miller	12/1	Sharon Ortiz	12/12	Emily Burnham	12/22
Roger Bumps	12/2	Mike Allemandi	12/13	Heather MacNeil	12/22
Karen Krehblel	12/2	Adeline Vejvoda	12/13	Andrew Smith	12/23
Nigel Hunter	12/3	Mary Jo Kuechmann	12/15	Scott Carlisle	12/24
Isaiah Clifton	12/4	Deborah Lutz	12/15	Jackie Wilt	12/24
Anne Stevens	12/4	Krista Beck	12/16	Connie Burdick	12/25
Mark Trimble	12/4	Kayla MacNeil	12/16	Caroline Taylor	12/25
Amy Berkompas	12/5	Bob Benson	12/17	Greg Bean	12/27
Ruth Hull	12/7	Allison Detjen	12/17	Deb Strahm	12/27
Francis Oaks	12/8	Sue Gelatt	12/17	Sandy Brunner	12/28
Brian Stevens	12/9	Blake Jaeger	12/17	Gene Loudon	12/28
Travis Troxler	12/9	David Weber	12/17	Gene Anderson	12/30
Richard Cornell	12/10	Gerry Bland	12/18	Allison Higbee	12/30
Sharon Kyhl	12/10	Camille Cadman	12/18	Logan Pipgras	12/30
Nathan Smeltzer	12/10	Kristen Scott	12/18	Lydia Clawson	12/31
Sandy Barclay	12/11	Kevan Dyal	12/19	Michelle Klock	12/31
Lisa Buak	12/11	Jared Vidano	12/19		



Solid Rock Review  
December 2010

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Wenatchee, WA  
Permit No. 308

First Presbyterian Church, Wenatchee

1400 S. Miller ♦ Wenatchee, WA 98801  
Phone: (509) 663-1187 ♦ Fax: (509) 662-1776  
Email: fpcw@fpcw.org ♦ Web: www.fpcw.org

Return Service Requested



We invite you to experience ...

**The Living Nativity**

Wednesday, December 22—5:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 23—5:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.

Friday, December 24—5:30 p.m.

**Christmas Eve Services**

Family Candlelight Service December 24—7:00 p.m.

Midnight Candlelight Service December 24—11:00 p.m.

**Sunday Worship**

Sunday December 26—One service at 10:00 a.m.



**Susan Johnson, Editor** For questions, comments, or submissions, call or email the church office. Submissions must be received by the 21st of the prior month.