



**THE CHURCH'S LIFE**  
News of the First Presbyterian Church  
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## From the Pastor's Desk



Dear friends of FPC,

Each day I come into my office, I look at my epiphany star and take a deep breath. I look at the word "Delight" and take a few moments to remind myself of what has been delightful since I was last in the office. Sometimes it is the incredibly large robin who must have had a few good meals over the winter season. My delight might be from my favorite song coming on the radio as I pull into the parking lot.

Delight is also found in the small moments that surround our grief. As we grieve the loss of one of the dear members of our flock, we know there is still delight. I delight in the stories I have been told about Martha. I delight in the peace of body and mind. I delight in knowing we are cared for and worship a God who also cried over the loss of his friends.

I described this Lenten season to a friend as "a VERY Lenten Lent." There has been suffering and grief, quite a few tears, and a couple of sleepless nights. And yet, God is with us through these holy Lenten moments—through the suffering and exhaustion, through the daffodils blooming, fat birds chirping, and the delight that God has in store for us.

*The sun will rise, the sun will rise. Won't you dry all your tears, lay your burden down? -  
Song, The Sun Will Rise by The Brilliance*

All my love,  
Pastor Jo



## Coffee with Pastor Jo April 29th, 10 AM - 12 PM

Join Pastor Jo for coffee and conversation at the Kickback Cafe on April 29th, 10 AM - 12 PM



# HOLY WEEK & EASTER

AT OREGON FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Palm Sunday, Sunday, April 13,  
2025

10:00 am Worship and Procession  
of palms

Maundy Thursday, April 17,  
2025 at People's UMC Oregon

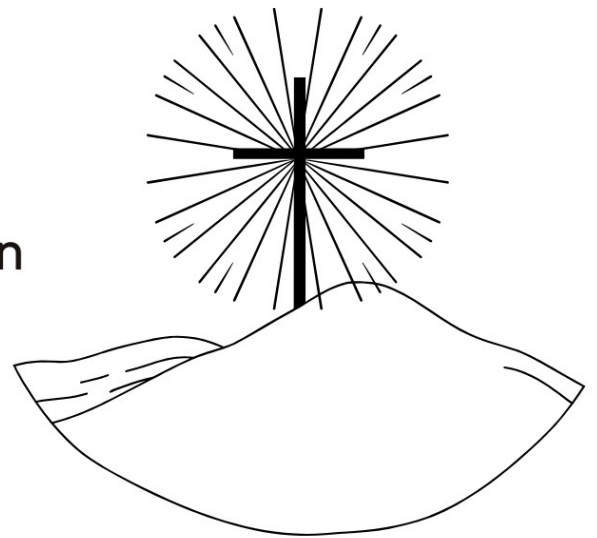
5:30 pm Soup supper  
6:30 pm Worship

Good Friday, April 18, 2025

12:00 pm Worship

Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025

10:00 am Worship and  
flowering of the cross



# Christian Ed

## AED and Fire Extinguisher Training April 13 following worship



On Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup> there will be an Adult Education Class on how to use our church's AED (Automated External Defibrillator) and fire extinguishers. This will follow the Worship service. AEDs are designed to be user-friendly and the class will be geared to all levels of involvement in an emergency.

An AED works by monitoring a person's heart rhythm and gives simple step by step verbal instructions along with colored pictures showing how to use this life saving device. The machine **NOT** the individual using it determines if a person's hearts needs to be shocked back into a life sustaining rhythm. You do not need a medical background to operate the AED, and it is safe and easy to use by following the voice prompts and colored diagrams. The AED also gives real time CPR feedback. If you are interested in learning more about the AED and how it operates, stay around for a few minutes after church for a demonstration and some hands-on learning.



## Christian Education

Over the past few months we have had up to 10 children in attendance, ranging in age from newborn to ten years old. We continue with our monthly Sunday School program on the third Sunday of the month. On that Sunday, youth leave worship, if they choose, after the Children's Blessing with two adults for a focused Bible lesson, craft and music. On the other Sundays, youth leave worship, if they choose, with two adults. We read a Bible Story chosen by the kids, sing and sign songs and activities are available to nurture their friendships.

We are returning to worship for Communion during Lent and will continue to return to worship to celebrate Communion with our church family. The playground in the back of the church always has quiet activities, worship bags of activities, and craft items available. These activities are changed on a regular basis as well.

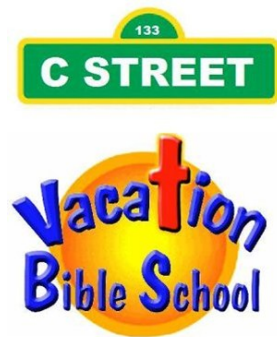
FPC has always welcomed and valued our youth. The CE committee is always open suggestions and Sunday morning volunteers. Please talk to Judy Belanus if interested.



## Mark Your Calendars for "Bake and Pray"

Instead of a traditional Bible Study during Lent, we will be having a weekly "Bake and Pray". You are invited to bring lunch or snacks on **Thursdays from 12-2pm** at church,. We will make bread, pray, talk, and eat together. Pastor Jo is already checking their bread recipes! Come every Thursday, or when your schedule allows, all are welcome.

## Vacation Bible School June 19, 9:00am—2:30pm



The date is set - Thursday, June 19, 9AM - 2:30PM - for our annual Vacation Bible School! **Our theme this year is *The Good Shepherd and Psalm 23***. Participants should be potty trained and through age 11. Invite your friends and family. To register please talk to Judy Belanus or contact the church office.

## 2025 Per Capita Reminder

Please remember to make your 2025 Per Capita payment of \$40.00 for each family member who is a member of our church, as your resources permit. This is the amount we pay directly to Presbytery, which uses \$23.66, sends \$5.50 to the Synod and \$10.84 to the General Assembly.



## Session News—March

Approved a motion to revise the 2025 United General Mission Pledge to reflect new recommendations from PCUSA: 20% to General Assembly, 10% to Synod, 70% to John Knox Presbytery.

Endorsed the addition of Jeanne Neath as a member of First Presbyterian Church.

Tom Niebauer

Clerk of Session substitute for March meeting

# Mission


## PPOW Delivery in March

On Friday, March 21, we served 9 PPOW families. Thanks to Wendy, Jess, Nancy N and Sue Mielke who packed and/or delivered! Look at all that food!

Again, the donated value eclipsed what we purchased! Donations were \$339.19; budget draw will be \$279.14. The total value was \$618.33, with each family receiving \$68.70. We also received \$350 in extra cash donations deposited to our fund. The generosity continues to amaze me. THANK YOU!



## PPOW Collection for April— Toilet Paper

It may not be glamorous, like canned fruit  , but the PPOW collection for April is toilet paper. While the goal of PPOW is to give healthy food to our families, we also realize that there are some non-food necessities none of us can do without. Bring on the toilet paper!

The Mission committee appreciates your donations of that "fancy" canned fruit (compared to TP, that is.) No matter what you bring to the donation table, we can't do it without you! Thanks!



## \$250 Gift from Thrivent for PPOW!

Earlier this month, Dave H and I attended the Kingdom Justice Summit, a great event with speakers and break-out sessions. I highly recommend! Our fee was covered by a grant through our participation in Awaken Dane.

Thrivent Financial was there and you could sign up to win a \$250 gift card to support a cause, no strings attached. A few days after, I got an email that I had won! I will be receiving a \$250 debit card to use for pantry purchases!! - Sue McGuigan

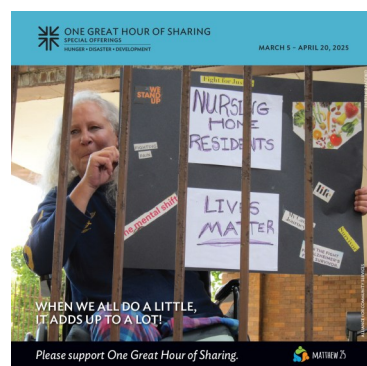
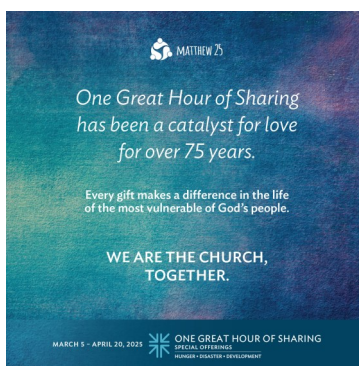


## One Great Hour Of Sharing Received on Palm Sunday, April 13

Typically received during the season of Lent, and this year on Palm Sunday, April 13, each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. All three programs work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

We are all aware that the number of disasters is increasing, in the United States as well as around the world. Who is there to help? The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance program. Who provides, for example, safe, clean water to people in Nepal following a devastating earthquake? The Presbyterian Hunger Program. Who supports women in New Mexico who work for social justice and help shape policy regarding the people's agricultural legacy? The Self-Development of People program. These are just some examples of the good work being done by the PCUSA.

Your support of OGHS supports programs like these and many more. If we all do our part, it adds up to a lot!





# Immigration Information

## **POA (Power of Attorney) ASSISTANCE FOR IMMIGRANTS**

People's United Methodist Church hosted a workshop Monday evening, March 24, led by a volunteer attorney for Voces de la Frontera. We learned how to complete Power of Attorney for Finance and Power of Attorney for Parental Power forms. These are important parts of preparing should an at-risk person or family be detained or deported to choose someone to pay bills and/or care for children's needs. Both are available in Spanish, and interpretation can be provided, along with a notary to witness the signatures. If you know of someone who wishes to complete these forms, please contact Sue McGuigan.

## **What to do if ICE Personnel Visits FPC/AOS**

This information is posted inside the main entrance door on the western door Frame and on the bulletin in the east entrance vestibule.

Churches, schools and hospitals used to be places off limits to ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement). With new executive orders issued January 20, 2025, that is no longer the case. While FPC seems unlikely to receive a visit from ICE personnel, we wish to be prepared. The following suggestions were from a joint webinar hosted by WI Council of Churches and WI ACLU and approved by Session February 28, 2025.

- Stay calm, respectful and maintain composure.
- Designate a spokesperson and have only the spokesperson talk to ICE.
- Record the incident on a phone. Take photos and of warrants and other documents presented.
- Determine warrant type. If it is not a valid warrant, we can say we want them to leave and can involve law enforcement. This would be an administrative warrant, official looking document signed by ICE agent. It **MUST** be Judicial, signed by US District Judge or US Magistrate. *See examples posted.*
- Ask for identification. People other than ICE can show up and attempt to act officially. You can ask them to leave if they don't have a search warrant as the church is private property. There is a difference between allowing ICE to come in during church services when the building is open to the public and during off hours when the church is locked. ICE does not have legal right to enter without a warrant when closed.
- Document names and badge #s of ICE officials, perhaps with a phone, plus when and where they came in.
- Limit ICE Movement within the building. If it is a legal warrant, it must specify area to be searched, such as a locked, private office area and/or the name of the person they are seeking.

# Valid Search Warrant

Will have name of a court:  
U.S. District Court or  
Wisconsin Circuit Court

Case # listed

The warrant should describe the  
locations to be searched and if a  
person is being searched and what for.

Will be signed by a Judge or  
Magistrate Judge

**EXAMPLE OF A VALID WARRANT**

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF MARYLAND

**SEARCH WARRANT**

In the Matter of the Search of  
Name, address or brief description of person or property to be searched:

123 MAIN STREET  
BOWAPOL, MD 21043 CASE NUMBER: 01-111 ABC

TO: U.S. SPECIAL AGENT JOHN SMITH and any Authorized Officer of the United States  
Affidavit having been made before me by U.S. SPECIAL AGENT JOHN SMITH, who has sworn to believe  
that  on the person or  on the premises known as Name, description and location

FOR DETAILED DESCRIPTION, SEE ATTACHMENT "A" TO THIS WARRANT WHICH IS ATTACHED HERETO AND  
INCORPORATED HEREBY BY REFERENCE.

In the District of Maryland, there is now considered certain premises to be searched, namely describe the person or  
property:

SEE ATTACHMENT "B" TO THIS WARRANT WHICH IS ATTACHED HERETO AND INCORPORATED HEREBY  
BY REFERENCE.

I am satisfied that the affidavit and any reasonable grounds to believe probable cause to believe that the  
person or property described in more complete detail in the premises above described and stated  
grounds for the issuance of this warrant.

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to aid and assist the undersigned, on July 07, 2004,  
not to exceed 10 days) the persons named above for the person or property specified, serving the  
warrant and making the search  on the person or  on the premises and to prepare a return on the person or  
property, for the return to be made to me, Judge, a copy of this warrant and receipt for the person or property  
taken, and prepare a return inventory of the person or property seized and promptly return this warrant to  
the undersigned, James K. Bishop, United States Magistrate Judge, as required by law.

Baltimore, Maryland

**SIGNED BY A JUDGE**

THE UNDERSIGNED: JAMES K. BISHOP  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

\* The contents of this booklet do not constitute legal advice. Consult an attorney for legal advice.

# Invalid Search Warrant

No court listed

No specific location of  
what is being searched  
listed

Signed by Homeland  
Security agent **not a judge  
or magistrate judge**

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY Warrant for Arrest of Aliens

File No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

To: Any investigation officer authorized pursuant to sections 126 and 287 of the  
Immigration and Nationality Act and part 287 of title 8, Code of Federal  
Regulations, to seize any means of access for investigative purposes.

I have determined that there is probable cause to believe that  
is removable from the United States. This determination is based upon:

- the execution of a charging document to initiate removal proceedings against the subject,
- the pendency of ongoing removal proceedings against the subject,
- the failure to establish admissibility subsequent to admission to the United States,
- forensic confirmation of the subject's identity by means of a check of federal  
databases that affirmatively indicate, by comparison with known or other reliable  
information, that the subject either lacks a lawful immigration status or  
information that the subject either lacks a lawful immigration status or  
information that the subject either lacks a lawful immigration status.
- statements made voluntarily by the subject to an investigation officer and/or other  
reliable evidence that affirmatively indicate, by comparison with known or other reliable  
information, that the subject either lacks a lawful immigration status or  
information that the subject either lacks a lawful immigration status.

YOU ARE COMMANDED to aid and assist the undersigned to carry out removal proceedings under the  
Immigration and Nationality Act, as above stated above.

Signature of Federal Immigration Officer \_\_\_\_\_  
(Printed Name and Title of Federal Immigration Officer)

**Certificate of Service**

I hereby certify that the Warrant for Arrest of Aliens was served by me at \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_  
on \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ and the contents of the  
return were read to him or her in the \_\_\_\_\_ language.

Name and Signature of Officer \_\_\_\_\_ Name and Number of Immigrant (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

**SAMPLE**



## April Birthdays

April 1 Jim Wallace

April 3 Steven Gmeinder

April 5 Kitty Montgomery

April 10 Debra Marchant

April 11 Ron Clark

April 16 Rodger Engel

April 18 Judy Belanus

April 20 Stephanie Johnson

April 22 Margaret Johnson &  
Mark McDermid

April 26 Mark Curless

April 29 Barbara Rueth

# February Financial Snapshot

First Presbyterian Church of Oregon				
Monthly Financial Summary				
as of	February 28, 2025			
		Monthly Amount	Year-to-date Actual	Year-to-date Budget
Pledges Committed (Annual Budget \$131,230)				
	Operating Cash Revenue from Pledges	\$ 9,685	\$ 14,845	\$ 21,872
Operating Income				
	Total Income	\$ 11,071	\$ 17,848	\$ 24,365
	Deduct: Total Expenses	\$ 16,391	\$ 29,717	\$ 32,180
Adjustments to Cash:				
	Add: Transfer from Reserve Funds	\$ 9,471	\$ 9,471	\$ -
	Add: Per Capita, PPOW, Worship Plate	\$ 336	\$ 903	\$ -
	Deduct: Principal Payment on Debt	\$ 846	\$ 1,708	\$ -
	<b>Net Operating Income (Loss) ADJUSTED</b>	<b>\$ 3,641</b>	<b>\$ (3,203)</b>	<b>\$ (7,815)</b>
Cash Balance-Operating Fund				
	Beginning Balance	\$ 525	\$ 7,597	
	Ending Balance	\$ 4,608	\$ 4,608	
	Increase in Available Operating Funds	\$ 4,084	\$ (2,988)	

**Per Capita for 2025** — The Per Capita payment for each FPC member this year is \$40.00 per person, an increase from last year. As you are able, please place your check made out to FPC in the offering plate or mail it to the church, or you may pay via our online giving page. Your per capita payment is much appreciated by the church and John Knox Presbytery.