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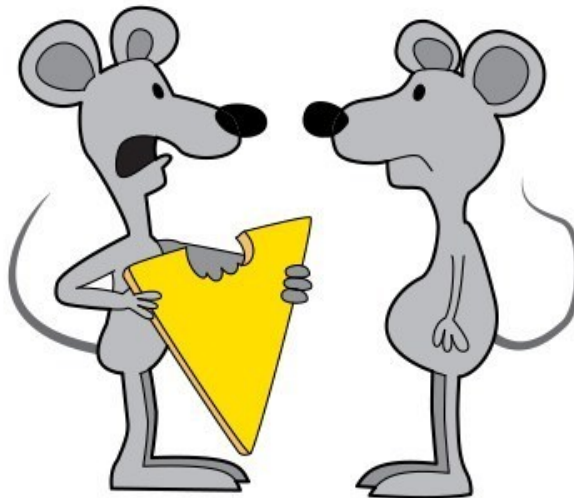
Welcome to the SUMMERTIME HUMOR ISSUE

Face it - life has been pretty solemn lately. To lighten things up a bit, we've sprinkled cartoons here and there. Enjoy a laugh (or at least a smile...) with us!

August 7, 2020

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K.Spear

"I hope the church reopens soon. We're nearly through the youth group's snacks."

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Black Lives Matter: An Interpretation



³⁵ One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: ³⁶ "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"

³⁷ Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." - Matthew 22:35-39

Black Lives Matter is not a political statement. It is a moral statement with emphasis on the word "matter." Whether a majority or minority, the people God created with skin colors other than white matter. Many Americans grew up in a culture that was largely perceived to be white European and such a view of this nation remains in the psyche of many. However, the racial diversity of the United States has been changing for decades. Today only 60.4% of Americans identify as white. Now I don't want to spend a lot of time on the civics of democracy but suffice it to say that democracy is a representative form of government, in which the minority has a "respected" voice. That is threatened by white privilege, white supremacy, or any bias for white today.

While I have a role as a citizen, even more important to me is my role as someone who promotes the teaching of Jesus who said that "loving God" and "loving neighbor" are co-equal commandments that sum up all the law of God. Jesus was trying to teach that "loving neighbor" is the form that "loving God" takes in this world. Therefore, one must say "black lives matter." This is not an assertion that they matter more than those of other races. What it means is one cannot devalue the neighbor based on race. The "other" matters.

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility consider one another better than yourselves. - Philippians 2:3

Jesus was a dark-skinned Arab of Middle Eastern descent. If one were to evaluate the value of Jesus based on race, he would not be welcome in many Christian churches in America today and would have a hard time getting a visa to visit.

I don't know what prompts us to think that those who look like us are more neighborly than those who look different. I just confess that there is something driving this impulse. Some of it is driven by nurture/education. But some of it is driven by nature. This

is what the Biblical prophets, poets, and theologians called “sinful nature.” It is what alienates us from God. Sin is turning our backs on God. Every time we turn our back on our neighbor, it is turning our back on God.

The prophets spoke harshly of injustice because they knew that whenever “disrespect of neighbor” entered the community it would break it apart and dishonor God. This prophetic pattern, “*if you continue in sin it will lead to death, but if you turn to God, you will receive life*” spoke to economic and racial inequities in Israel. Jesus identifies the need for a “change of heart” for authentic changes in behavior, while the Apostle Paul picks up this theme (*loving neighbor*), working to break down the barriers between Jew and Gentile.

In a democracy, learning and teaching the “value of all *citizens*” (*loving our neighbor*), is the way we protect community, the body politic, so no matter how demographics change the community sticks together. If we teach love instead of hate; if we teach cooperation instead of power, if we value equity instead of supremacy, if we learn to listen instead of doing all the talking, we may never have to cry out ourselves, “my life matters.” Therefore, we value the voice of minorities, whether it is based on race, religion, culture, gender or any other difference, because it assures that we will always know we are valued by God and neighbor. Black lives matter!





WPC PASTOR
NOMINATING

PNC UPDATE

The PNC is still hard at it! As you are aware, this process is not in the category of "quickie" projects!

At present, we have, and are still, receiving Personal Information Forms from candidates who are interested in pastoral positions. These are lengthy documents and take time for us to read, think about and discuss at our meetings.

We very much appreciate your continuing prayers as we continue our quest.

OUTSTANDING BLOOD DRIVE!

Thank you to all who participated in the recent Red Cross Blood Drive. We had an exceptionally good result this time. They were hoping to collect 26 units of blood, and by the end of the day, they had 29 units. Bravo!



FYI: The Church Office will be closed on August 19, 20 & 21, while the Office Manager enjoys a brief vacation. Please plan accordingly!

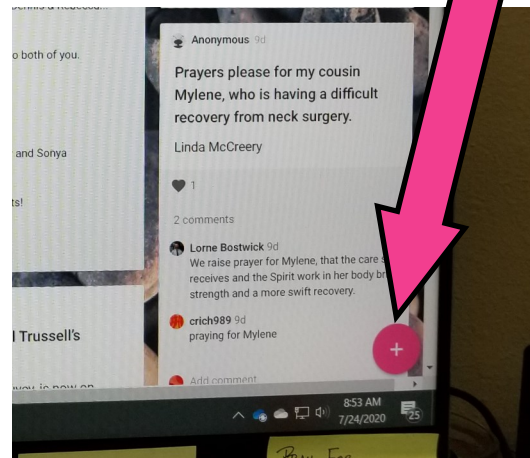
HOW TO SEE AND POST TO THE WESTMINSTER SHAREBOARD

We had a request for another quick “how to” lesson! This one will answer questions about the Westminster Share Board, where members can post prayer requests, comments, celebrations, questions, etc.

Step By Step:

- Go to our website: www.salemwestpres.org
- Scroll down until you see the pink block that says “Westminster ShareBoard.” Click on the word “**HERE**”. You will immediately be redirected to the ShareBoard.
- You’ll notice the Share Board looks something like a big bulletin board with many notes ‘tacked’ to it, including Lorne’s blog posts.
- Members often add comments to posted notes. To add a comment, go to the bottom of the specific posting and click next to the red circle that says “Add Comment”. Type your comment and hit “enter” on your keyboard.
- To add a NEW post, find the pink dot on the bottom right of the screen.
- Click on the dot. A new message block will appear in the upper left of your screen. Type your message, then click outside of your message block and that’s it! Your message is posted to Share Board.

We hope this has been helpful. If you still have questions, call Jean at the office (503) 364-3327. **HAPPY POSTING!**





GOD'S WET, WILD, WONDERFUL WORLD

FAITH ACTIVITY KIT

God's Wet, Wild, Wonderful World Faith Activity FOR ADULTS!

Our summer activity continues for 25 kids and their families, both within and outside the congregation. Kids are learning at home with story, song, craft, science, and more, then sharing with one another online.

Did you know there is a parallel, virtual-only faith activity kit for adults as well? Explore the same Bible story as the kids with short videos and more. We don't have science or craft projects for you (jealous of the kids?), but there are resources and activities to help grow in and practice faith.

Something new every week--check it out here:

www.salemwestpres.org/adults-god-s-www-world

CITY CAMP 2020

Thank to COVID-19, this year's edition of City Camp looked a LOT different than past years! No sleep-overs at the church, no contact sports, lots of social distancing with every activity. But as you can see, the kids still made the best of it!



Gardening at Liberty Community Garden



Biking Trip



Neighborhood Trash Pick-Up



SUNDAY AUGUST 23RD
6 PM
WINOLA HOUSE BACKYARD



GET YOUR PUP READY FOR THE VERY FIRST

WESTMINSTER DOG SHOW!

a low stakes youth event!

Dogs will be judged on:

- Agility (you'll guide them on an on-leash run through our "obstacle course")
- Fitness. Just general fitness. How fast can they run down the lawn and back?
- Fit --That is--Outfit. Bonus points if you match your dog's attire.
- Grooming.

PRIZES - HOT DOGS - BONFIRE - FUN - NO DOG NECESSARY TO ATTEND



THE WESTMINSTER DOG SHOW!

On Sunday, August 23rd at 6PM, all youth (including recent grads) are welcome to bring their dog and participate in a Westminster Dog Show! **No dog required to attend and laugh and cheer.**

Prizes will be awarded to TOP DOGS, and hot dogs will be available for roasting on the fire. Fun for all, we promise!

Join us at the Winola House backyard.

MASKS MUST BE WORN



The CARTOON KRONICLES





YOUTH RUMMAGE SALE UPDATE

Many of you have been anticipating donating to the Youth Rummage Sale this year! We have decided to make a small pivot and do a large donation to Value Village (Tigard). Value Village will pay us by the pound for both hard and soft goods. The funds will be deposited into the Youth Mission account for future work.

If you plan to donate anything to the youth for this cause, please let us know the number of bags of soft goods (clothes, sheets, etc) and hard goods (everything else) we can expect from you by PLEDGING using this link:

<https://fundrive.savers.com/e/westpresmissionfund>

We will be accepting donations at Westminster September 28-October 1st.

What can we take?

WE CAN ACCEPT All items must be clean and in good, clean and sellable condition. Men's, women's and children's - shoes, fashion accessories, belts, purses, bags, backpacks, blankets, sheets, tablecloths, curtains, kitchen items, decorative items, knick-knacks, toys and games, small electronics, small appliances, televisions less than 5 years old.

WE CANNOT ACCEPT Mattresses, large furniture, chemicals, auto parts, tires, flammable material, strollers, car seats, building material and large appliances. All soft goods should be bagged in kitchen garbage bags. Hard goods should be boxed.

Thank you for supporting us! Even in a pandemic!
Vik & all the Youth

CHURCH SIGNS ACROSS AMERICA

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WESTPRES CALENDAR

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Sun., August 9

9:00 AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP—YouTube only
10:30 AM CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP—
YouTube only

Sun., August 16

9:00 AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP—YouTube only
10:30 AM CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP—
YouTube only

Mon., August 10

Stay Home, stay safe!

Mon., August 17

Stay Home, stay safe!

Tue., August 11

9:00 AM Nominating Zoom Mtg.
10:30 AM Pastor's Bible Study via Zoom online
4:15 PM Staff Meeting via Zoom online

Tue., August 18

10:30 AM Pastor's Bible Study via Zoom online
4:15 PM Staff Meeting via Zoom online

Wed., August 12

9:30 AM Women's Bible Study—Home Patio
7:00 PM Personnel Zoom Mtg.
7:00 PM Family Ministry Zoom Mtg.

Wed., August 19

9:30 AM Women's Bible Study—Home Patio

Thurs., August 13

10:00 AM Children's Ministry Mtg—Patio
9:00 AM Online—Nominating Committee
3:00 PM Budget & Finance Meeting (Patio)
5:30 PM Adult Education Zoom Mtg.
6:30 PM Online—Zoom Fellowship Hour

Thurs., August 20

5:30 PM MPEJ Zoom Mtg.
6:30 PM Online—Zoom Fellowship Hour

Fri., August 14

Stay Home, stay safe!

Sat., August 15

Stay Home, stay safe!



"After Ted closes with prayer, there will be a brief meeting in the parking lot to determine what, if anything, was actually decided in this meeting."

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PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS



Praises!

For the WestPres technical team, who works long hours to provide our church with Sunday morning online services, and is about to undertake construction of a new sound booth!

Our Love and Prayers go out for:

- ◆ Bill Hubble as he undergoes treatment at the Mayo Clinic
- ◆ The Pastoral Nominating Committee, as they review the many candidates for our Pastor position.

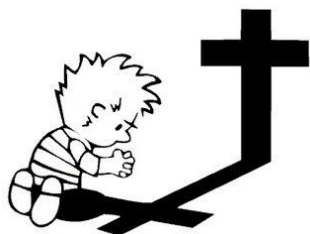
Continue to Remember:

Tim Holsten, Bill Hruska, Duff Kannier, Mark Lawrence, Mather's great-grandson, James Pratt and his parents, Linda & Dick Stephens, Cynthia Curran

- ◆ Daphne Russell (age 7), grandniece of Cindi & Bruce Chinnock, is slowly improving
- ◆ Sally Jacklin's son-in-law, Joe Huntington, who's in treatment for brain cancer
- ◆ Barbara Friday's mother, Patricia Schlundt, who suffers with medical and mental health problems
- ◆ Sheila Powell and her husband Tom, as Tom undergoes treatment for cancer.

PLEASE SEND PRAY REQUEST UPDATES TO JEAN SEVERSON (jean@salemwestpres.org).

We strive to keep the listing as current as possible, and rely on your ongoing assistance to do so. Thank you.



THE STAFF

CHURCH E-MAIL:

office@salemwestpres.org

Interim/Transitional Pastor:

Rev. Lorne Bostwick

pastor@salemwestpres.org

Office Manager: Jean Severson

jean@salemwestpres.org

Music Director: Dr. Jeffrey Larkin

music@salemwestpres.org

Dir. of Praise Team: Ariana Recher

music@salemwestpres.org

Dir. of Adult & Family Ministries: Krisha Horn

krisha@salemwestpres.org

Education Admin. Asst.: Katy Tillotson

wpkids@salemwestpres.org

Youth Director: Vik Schaaf

vik@salemwestpres.org

Financial Secretary: Dianna Calvert

dianna@salemwestpres.org

Church Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday:

8:30am –3:00pm (at the moment!)

Friday:

8:30am—2:00pm

Friday:

Office Closed (at the moment!)

Phone: 503-364-3327

Web Site: www.salemwestpres.org

facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Salem.Westminster.Presbyterian/>

THE



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Mail Coordinator: Kenn Battaile

Until such time as it's safe to bring our BKS production team back together, our newsletter will be online only.

**The deadline for submission is
Wednesday, August 26th @ 8:00 AM.**

Articles may be submitted directly to the church office or by email to:
jean@salemwestpres.org

