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#### Wood Village Voice Deadline

Articles submitted for the next edition (June/July) of the Newsletter are due May 19. Articles must include the name of the person submitting them in order to be considered for publication.

> If you no longer wish to receive the newsletter, please call or e-mail the office. Newsletter is also available on the website listed above.



**April / May 2020** 

Volume 24, Number 2

## FROM THE PASTOR

#### THANKS, FAITHFUL KELLY

In 2007, it was obvious that WWBC needed to make some changes in our Sunday morning worship services. Some people enjoyed the traditional hymns, while others preferred more contemporary songs and worship styles. A lot of prayer and discussion resulted in the following decisions:

- 1. To have two worship formats each week.
- 2. To keep the preaching message the same for both hours but make some adjustments in presentation appropriate to the age groups.
- 3. The Villager Group graciously moved their Sunday school hour to 11:00am - it had always been at 9:30am.
- 4. The formation of a new Worship Team to lead the contemporary service.

Kelly Woods – now Kelly Gable – was two years out of high school when she accepted the leadership position for the new worship



service. She gathered a team. They prayed, planned and rehearsed (and ate a lot of pizza) before launching that first service on the second Sunday of June in 2007. She has been leading that team for 13 years.

Kelly is ready for some Sabbath time. We are excited to think of Kelly and Nick sitting together in worship service. We love you and appreciate you. You are faithful. ~ Pastor Bill for all of us

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## A NEW WAY OF WORSHIP

by Pastor Tom Miles

The difficult question for our church during this COVID-19 pandemic is how to worship God when we are forced to be isolated from one another. Our normal Sunday services and ability to reach out to our neighbors have been **Banned!** 

Yet, the church of Jesus Christ, throughout history, has been the singular institution to meet world crises head on with compassion, creativity and grace. We do this through the power of the Holy Spirit and the desire to glorify God in all circumstances.

Here are some ways that you can continue to worship and serve:

 Watch our worship services and pastors' messages from our website every Sunday morning online at woodvillagebaptist.org (click on MESSAGES)

- Request a DVD be sent to you by mail
- Continue to support the church with your offering by mail, through online banking billpay, or through E-Giving online at woodvillagebaptist.org (click on GIVE BACK, then "Click here to Donate")
  - Call someone and encourage them
- Sign up with Pastor Tom to purchase and deliver groceries to a family in need (<a href="mailto:tom@woodvillagebaptist.org">tom@woodvillagebaptist.org</a>) or offer to purchase groceries for a neighbor
- Send an encouraging email to a friend, family, or neighbor
  - Pray, pray, pray!

This is the perfect time to show those who are living in fear the hope that you have — the **Gospel of Jesus Christ.** 

2 Timothy 1:7 for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.



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### **CARING FOR OUR FAMILY**

#### **DEALING WITH COVID-19**

The COVID-19 virus is a serious threat to anyone over the age of 65 or to those with chronic health problems. While the "social distancing" seems to create a barrier to our ability to worship, we see it as an opportunity to serve.

WVBC has created an Outreach Team to assist those who cannot



or should not leave their home. On March 18, the Team sprang into action. The team of Elders, shoppers, and delivery drivers began communicating with anyone in our church who may need prayer, groceries, or even toilet paper.

If we have missed you and you need any assistance or prayer, please contact Pastor Tom or the church office at 503-661-7686.

If you would like to receive e-mails with current prayer concerns, please request via email at office@woodvillagebaptist.org and we will add you to the list.

Thanks to our delivery team:

Norman Abel
Terri Clement
The Collins Family
Jessica Edholm
Benno, Amber and Anna Milmore
The Wardle Family

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## **CHURCH CAMPOUT**

This year's Church Campout is scheduled for August 28-30 at Deschutes

River State Recreational Area. It is at this point that the sparkle-laden, swift, green rush of the Deschutes converges with the Columbia. Many family activities, including hiking, mountain biking, rafting, swimming, fishing, volleyball, and bocce ball are favorites here. A BBQ and worship service is planned for Saturday evening. Watch for



sign-ups as the time approaches. Contact Maria Herrera, Ana Maira Graciano, or Pastor Tom Miles with questions (503.661.7686).

## **CO-ED FASTPITCH SOFTBALL**

by Craig Crandall

For over 40 years, WVBC has participated in a fastpitch softball league! We are hoping to continue that tradition, pending further evaluation of the coronavirus and its implications. As more information develops, the feasibility of having a softball season this summer will become clearer. In past years, we invited WVBC attenders and friends (16 years and older, both men and women) to participate in a league against other east county churches. We practiced one weeknight in May, and played weekly games in June and July at the WVBC field. We experienced great fellowship, made connections and enjoyed friendly competition! Watch for details as to whether or not we can put a team together!

## **MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT**

by Pastor Tom Miles

### **Elder Visitation**

Would you like someone to pray for you? Would you like someone to talk to?

Our Elders are available to meet with you and pray with you. While visiting face-to-face is discouraged at this time, our Elders can contact you, speak with you and pray with you over the phone. If there is something you need, they can help

with church resources and reach out to you at home.

As the COVID-19 virus dissipates, they are willing to visit with you at your home. Please don't hesitate to call the church if there is anything you need. We will have an Elder contact you as quickly as possible. 503-661-7686









**Gary Larsen** 

**Dave Schutjer** 



**Bert Welton** 



Jim Whitehead



**Gordy Whipps** 

## **BABY/CHILD DEDICATIONS**

by Pastor Tom Miles

We have a long-standing tradition of dedicating babies and children on Mothers Day, which is Sunday, May 12, this year. If you would like your baby or child dedicated on Mothers Day, let the office or one of the pastors know.

A dedication is not a baptism. It is meant to bring the baby or child, together with his or her family, before the congregation to bless the child, to dedicate the child to God, and to challenge the church family to participate in praying for and nurturing the child. This includes the child's physical, emotional and spiritual development.

Children are a gift to the entire church, and the church has a responsibility to participate in the raising and welfare of every child.

### **BAPTISM**

Simply stated, water baptism is a "symbol of identity." When you go under the water and then come up out of the water, it symbolizes the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The act does not make you a believer and the water does not take away any sin. We're giving a live-action picture of what already has taken place – a symbol that tells a story. If you would like to know more about baptism, or would like to be baptized, please come:

### **BAPTISM CLASS**

Sunday, May 3, 12:30-2:00pm (lunch provided)

Our next Baptism Service is scheduled for Sunday, May 24. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Tom Miles, 503.661.7686

## **YOUTH SNOW DAY**

by Craig Crandall

The WVBC youth enjoyed a fabulous "Snow Day" at Mt. Hood's Snow Bunny recreation area on Saturday, February 8. The snow was plentiful, fresh and powdery, making for great and dry sledding! Along with our sledding equipment, approximately 20 middle school and high school youths and adults filled the two vans. After eventfully chaining-up at the 2,000-foot elevation mark, we completed our trip to Snow Bunny and enjoyed about two hours of exhilarating sliding on the disks and sleds we brought.



Our day included beautiful, crisp and sometimes heavy falling snow as we



played, along with brief breaks of sunshine, and continually sunny faces enjoying one another's encouragement and exploits. As we concluded, all were exhausted from matriculating up and down Snow Bunny's big hill — one of the great days to remember up on the mountain!

## **CARING FOR OUR NEIGHBORHOOD**

by Pastor Tom Miles

Many of you may have known that we have been reaching out to a community of homeless on our neighbors property North of the church. As with many of these encampments, the area soon became unhealthy with refuse and a danger to those camping as well as the neighbors. The city, the Sheriff's HOPE team, and WVBC worked with the campers to assist them in relocating, providing food and clothing as well.

On Saturday, March 7, we sent a team with a small tractor to clean up the property. The Team spent the full day removing trash, hazardous waste, and clearing the property to make it safe for our neighbors. We are grateful for these men,





willing to step into a hazardous situation to care for and protect our neighbors.

Please thank these men when you have the opportunity: Ric Ashford, Scott Seckels, LeRoy Stratch, Bert Welton, Rick Bossen and Miguel Angel Alonso.

## CHURCH FAMILY FEATURE

by Connie Crandall

### **CRAIG & CONNIE CRANDALL**

In this phase of social distancing and limited contact, I decided to take the safe route and just write about my own family this month!

Craig was born and raised in Portland. He has three older sisters who adore their "baby brother" (they are 7-10 years older).

Craig grew up playing lots of sports and enjoyed having his dad as his high school basketball coach at Wilson High.

Connie grew up in a family of 10, having 4 sisters and 3 brothers. I am still amazed that we all managed to get along in a house with only one bathroom!

We kept a written schedule for showers and sometimes had to get up three hours before school started in order to get a turn. I also was very active in sports, and was a 3-sport athlete in high school.

Craig and I met in college. We were both from Portland, but didn't meet until we were 1000 miles away from home, at Pomona College in southern California. We were both recruited there to play basketball. Craig was also on the college golf team, and I was on the college track team as a thrower.

In October, Craig and I will celebrate our 36th anniversary. We have two kids, Megan and Jake. Megan works in the Design

Department at Old Spaghetti Factory. She loves to travel and is known for baking amazing cakes and desserts. Jake will graduate this year with his Master's of Divinity from Talbot University. He plans to be a pastor after he graduates.

Craig and I came to Christ as adults. We

had some dear friends who mentored us as young Christians. When the Lord directed us to move to Columbus, Ohio, we knew He had a purpose. He grew our faith and rooted His Spirit deeply within us. After struggling for years with infertility, God gave us our beautiful baby girl. When she was just 3

months old, God provided a way for us to move back to Oregon to be near family, and directed us to Wood Village Baptist Church.

We have been attending WVBC almost 27 years. We are both involved in many areas of church life. Craig is the chairman of the Elder Board, works as a youth leader, and is involved with Men's Ministries. Connie serves on the Women's Ministries committee, is part of the second service worship team, directs dramas, and works in the church office.

We love how WVBC embraces its attenders as family. The love, encouragement and support of our pastors and friends is an incredible blessing to us.

# WHAT'S GOING ON

### **Jpcoming Events**

**NOTE:** All activities subject to change, depending on current COVID-19 situation.

**Friday, April 17** AWANA Grand Prix, 6-9pm

**Thursday, April 23** Fresh Food Program, 9:30-11:00am

Wednesday, April 29 Youth Parent Night, 6:00-8:15pm

Friday, May 1 AWANA Handbook Night, 6:30-8:30pm

**Sunday, May 3**Baptism Class, 12:30-2:00pm

**Sunday, May 10** MOTHER'S DAY

Wednesday, May 13 AWANA Award Night, 6:30-8:15pm

Friday, May 15 AWANA Volunteers Party, 6:30-8:30pm

Wednesday, May 20 AWANA Spring Fair, 6:30-8:15pm

**Sunday, May 24** Baptism Sunday

**Monday, May 25** Memorial Day

**Thursday, May 28** Fresh Food Program, 9:30-11:00am

### **New Babies**



Malachi Ephrem Mamo Born March 5, 2020 7lbs, 6.5oz; 20" Proud Parents: Ephrem & Rose

### **New Members**



**Norman Abel** 



Natalia Gonzalez Maldonado



Joshua Reman



Mike Reman



Frank & Elaine Bonneau