



**Yachats Community Presbyterian Church**  
**A Welcoming, Christ-Centered, Community Church**

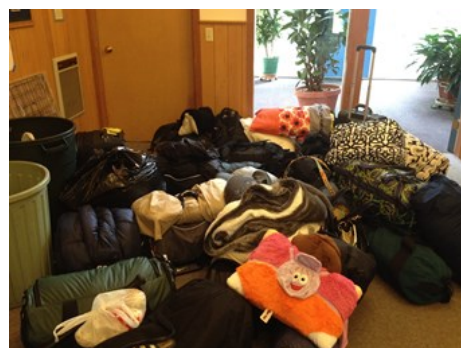
# *Agate Windows*

*And I will make thy windows of agates . . . . Isaiah 54:12*

## *January 2016, Volume II*



**Over the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday weekend**, the church hosted a delightful group of 128 young people from University Fellowship Church in Eugene. They were here Friday evening through Monday morning, using the church for devotions, classes and meals. Their enthusiasm and joy seemed to fill the building. When they left, they had cleaned and put the church back the way they found it.





Betty and Don and Lexie on a recent trip to Orcas Island

**Don and Betty Groth were received as members of YCPC** on Sunday, January 10. They already sing in the choir and play the handbells, and Betty will be offering her Living Affirmation of Faith Sunday, January 24. I asked Betty and Don for a picture and a brief bio for the newsletter . . . here is what they provided.

**Natives of Oklahoma, we grew up in Tulsa** and were married there at John Knox Presbyterian Church forty-five years ago. Since then we have lived in St. Louis, The Woodlands, Texas, Houston, briefly on Vashon Island, and then Portland before retiring in Yachats. We have two daughters, Stephanie living in Portland and Elizabeth living in Salem; two granddaughters (Meghan soon to be 16 and Shaylon 13) and one grandson (Bennett 11). These dear ones were the incentive for moving to the Pacific Northwest.

**Don is a retired CPA** who worked for The Woodlands Development Corporation and later for Haliburton while in the Houston area for nearly 30 years. Betty worked as a draftsman and later GIS specialist in the international exploration division of Conoco. After moving to

Portland, Don worked for a CPA firm and Betty went back to school at Portland State University, earning a BS degree in Geography in 2004.

**Both of us are devoted genealogists.** Don also enjoys working in the yard and Betty playing the piano. We like to sing and have been fortunate to sing in several church choirs over the years. And, of course, we love spending time with our grandchildren.

**We have been active in several Presbyterian churches** as we moved about the western United States. We are both ordained elders. Don has also been a trustee and Betty Clerk of Session. We were charter members of a New Church Development in The Woodlands, Texas. We have served in several areas in the life of the church and are looking forward to being a part of the ministry and mission of Yachats Community Presbyterian Church.

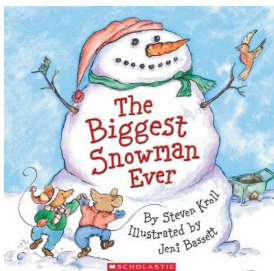
## Families Together

**Friday, January 29, 2016, 6:00—8:00 p.m.**

### Fellowship Hall

**Join us as we host fun family time** that includes dinner, story time and crafts.

**Each family attending** will receive a copy of the featured book, and . . .



**This month's book is** *The Biggest Snowman Ever*.

**Families Together is offered in partnership** between YCPC and Yachats Youth and Family Activities Program. **Pam Luderitz heads a corps of faithful volunteers** who prepare and serve the meal and clean up.

**Dinner and books are provided free . . .** thanks to the Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund and the Presbytery of the Cascades.



## Update from Reina Morgan YCPC Scholarship Recipient



**I just started my second semester of grad school.** The first semester was a great success. I took classes in Work Motivation and Employment Law that I earned a ton in and thoroughly enjoyed. I am very happy to say I managed A's in both classes so I had a strong start to the program.

**This semester I am taking** Attitude Theory and Foundations of Industrial

Organizational Psychology.

**At work I have been able to learn so many things** and work on a diverse range of tasks with such a great group of people. Right now I am coordinating the University Day at the Capitol and the Board of Trustees' Finance and Administration Committee meeting. I am also supervising a Policy Council Intern, which is a lot of fun. I have always wanted to supervise people and be as wonderful a supervisor as my supervisor is to me!

**Last term I played violin** with WOU's symphony again and also acted as a staff chair for the student conduct committee and co-advisor for a student chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management. I also sat on the advisory board for Western's internship program where I got to help decide the internships that would be offered on campus. Last month I started helping out with a program at the YMCA called Nite Court that is offered Friday nights to provide local middle school students a safe and fun place to hang out.

**I have been going to Monmouth Christian Church** (MCC) and really feel at home there. The pastor has so much energy and enthusiasm, and they are a really caring, fun group of people to be around. The pastor's wife held a Christmas party for the women of the church, which I attended, and we also baked 3,000 cookies to deliver to people's doorsteps for the holidays. There was also a dinner/theater fundraiser put on by the youth ministry that made for a really fun and heartwarming night. A close friend of mine from work goes to MCC with his family, and I have been enjoying getting to know his very sweet wife while attending events with her.

**Overall I am doing quite well** and have managed to find good balance in my somewhat crazy schedule. It took a while to find a way to fit everything in but I have

finally found a system that works. I have been attending a fitness class two days a week after work, and then on Saturdays I usually play badminton with my roommates. We are doing roommate dinners Monday nights as well to make sure we always get at least a little bit of time together to bond each week. Sunday nights I have been preparing meals for the rest of the week so I have quick lunches ready to go and can make the most out of my lunch hour.

**Over the winter break I started a painting project** that I work on a little bit here and there when I need some quiet time to relax, and I have started using Duo-Lingo when I get a couple minutes free to work on developing my Spanish and German (which currently are very basic). I have been enjoying pet sitting for Western's president when he is out of town and I walk a gorgeous Golden Retriever a couple days a week during my lunch break. I can't have pets at my apartment so it is always super exciting when I can help someone else out while they are gone and fill that void.

**I hope everyone at the church is doing well!** Feel free to share my updates with anyone who is interested. I'm looking forward to another good semester.

Take care,

Reina

[Now in graduate school, Reina has received scholarships from YCPC since her first year of college.]

### **Wanted: Piano Player for Communion Worship at Sea Aire**

The first Sunday of every month, Pastor Bob and a Deacon conduct a worship service with communion at Sea Aire Assisted Living.

The service includes music and hymns and Betsy is looking for a new piano player. Interested? Please see Betsy Maxfield, Moderator of the Deacons.

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## Quiet, Faithful Service . . . Have you ever wondered . . . ?

Page four, Volume II, of the December issue of *Agate Windows* asks, *Have you ever wondered who . . . changes the birthdays and anniversaries board in the Fellowship Hall; changes the display case in the Narthex; decorates the Fellowship Hall tables; posts the Sunday sermon and the anthem to the website?* Here are the answers.

**Birthdays and Anniversaries Board.** Currently, Cindi Clark changes or coordinates the change of the birthdays and anniversaries board. Maren Porter did the January board and Nan Scott changed the board a few times early last year. When I first arrived in 2008, Pam Luderitz changed the board every month. If you'd like to decorate the board once, twice or a few times a year, please see Cindi. The office will provide the names in the color of your choice.



**Display Case.** Currently, Betsy Maxfield changes the display case. She thinks she's been doing it for three or four years. She can't remember for sure who asked her to do it, but thinks it might have been Elizabeth Welch. Indeed, Elizabeth said she may have been the person who asked Betsy. Elizabeth changed the display case for about 10 years—at the request of former pastor John Waide, who retired in 2005! Hmm, I wonder who else has changed the display case over the years.

The items on display are usually of a theme, e.g., crosses during Lent, angels, pictures of mothers in May or fathers in June. Often the displays are personal collections, e.g. Betty Cline's figurines and other items reflecting her love of horses; Sue and Jim Finlayson's Alaskan art; and currently some of Betsy's Disney collection. **If you have a collection for display, please see Betsy!**

**Fellowship Hall Tables.** Charlene McLain, Chair of the Fellowship Committee, regularly decorates the tables with centerpieces that festively reflect the season or a particular holiday. The committee decorates for its special events and meals—like this month's Pizza Party . . .



**Sermons and Anthems for the YCPC website.** Every week Max Glenn posts the Sunday sermon and anthem to the YCPC website. Previously they were posted by former YCPC member Tom Rasmussen. Living in Waldport, it eventually became more convenient for Tom to attend Waldport Presbyterian, but he continued posting the sermon and anthem for a couple years after he transferred. Then Max volunteered.

**Thanks to everyone who quietly make these and other things happen at YCPC.**

## Saturday, January 30, 9:00 a.m. - Men's Fellowship Breakfast

Herman Welch

**Held the last Saturday of the month, the Men's Fellowship Breakfast welcomes men** participating in the church and those from the local community, along with the occasional "Knight of the road" who may be passing through town as part of his life's journey.

**Our Saturday breakfast gatherings are an easy going** friendly atmosphere where hopefully a volunteer provides a Keep It Simple ("KIS") type of meal that is self-serve and does not require any special cooking or preparation.

**There is usually a brief informal devotional time** of scripture reading or the telling of a story presented by one of our group that often touches the heart and reminds us why being part of this church is such a special experience. If the spirit is upon us we may even engage in some robust singing, or one of the men in our group provides some fine instrumental music for our enjoyment.

**Please join us. We're always happy to enjoy new company.**