



Yachats Community Presbyterian Church
A Welcoming, Come-As-You-Are, Christ-Centered Community Church

Agate Windows

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



November 2016

Daylight Saving Time Ends at 2:00 a.m., Sunday, November 6.

Be sure to set your clocks back one hour Saturday night.



All-Church Thanksgiving Dinner

Wednesday, November 16, 6:00 p.m.

SIGN UP: To Provide Food AND Helping Hands

Join our church family and friends in the Fellowship Hall . . .
for our most anticipated dinner of the year!

The traditional menu will feature turkey, dressing, potatoes and gravy, sweet potatoes, vegetables, salads, cranberry sauce, olives, desserts. **(Please bring your own table service!!)**

Sign-Up Sheets are in the Fellowship Hall.

PLEASE SIGN UP and let us know which Thanksgiving favorite you will bring for the table.

AND . . .

PLEASE SIGN UP for the fun, frivolity and community of preparing the Fellowship Hall for the meal and cleaning up. **Many hands make light work.**

Join us for this time of fellowship and sharing God's bounty.



October was Pastor Appreciation Month, and I was blessed to receive encouraging notes, cards and e-mails from many of you.

Thank you. I truly am lucky to be serving a congregation like YCPC.

As the calendar changes and our thoughts turn toward the holiday season, there is much to be grateful for. The letters I received these last few weeks got me thinking about what it is here at YCPC that I am thankful for. And I realized that I do not say thank you often enough. So, let me say thank you now.

Thank you for your generosity.

Thank you for serving so tirelessly, in so many different ways.

Thank you for tolerating my preaching.

Thank you for allowing me to experiment with different styles of worship.

Thank you for sticking with the church through thick and thin.

Thank you for inviting your friends and family to worship.

Thank you for inviting your friends and family to bible studies, to dinner, to concerts.

Most of all . . . Thank you for allowing me to be me.

The old hymn by Johnson Oatman Jr. implores us to count our blessings . . .

*Count your blessings, name them one by one,
Count your blessings, see what God hath done!
Count your blessings, name them one by one,
And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.*

The Lord hath done and is doing wonderful things in my life . . . and in the life of our congregation.

I am certain God is at work in your life as well.

As Jon reminds us in his article this month (*Cultivating a Spirit of Thanksgiving*), we would all do well to count our many blessings. And give thanks with a grateful heart.

Pastor Bob

Yachats Community Presbyterian Church Presents

Matt Nakoa in Concert!!!

Sunday, November 27th—2:00p.m.

Tickets: \$12.00 advance purchase

\$15.00 at the door

Tickets available in the church office or at :

<http://yachats.brownpapertickets.com/>





APPRECIATION SUNDAY . . . For Loyd and Verna Collett

On Sunday, November 13, following worship, we will be expressing our appreciation to Loyd and Verna Collett who served on the Building & Grounds Committee for many years, overseeing maintenance and repairs of our church property—inside and out.

Loyd and Verna attended to needs that most of us weren't even aware of. Please join us on Sunday, November 13, to show our love and appreciation to these special folks!

Have you noticed . . . the large, wall-mounted TV . . . in the Fellowship Hall?

Maybe you've just noticed the wall-mounted TV is different from the large floor model that used to be on the stage. Or . . .

You've been attending the weekly Wednesday study, *Living the Questions*, and seen the TV in use as part of the study.

The purchase of the TV was made possible by a "Church Vitality" Grant of \$9,990.00 from the Presbytery of the Cascades.

The grant application, which was prepared by Pastor Bob, was submitted in August. The Presbytery notified YCPC of the \$9,990 award by letter in September. The check arrived in October. In addition to the TV, the Vitality Grant will be used to: develop a new church website; make enhancements to the fellowship hall to transform the space into a more worshipful environment for our Sunday evening contemporary worship services; offer youth programs throughout the church year; and continue our outreach and service to the community. Look for more details in future newsletters about how this blessing from the Presbytery is being used.



Yachats Homeschool Group Is in Session

It was reported in the September newsletter that the YCPC Session approved a request for use of our building to provide a home school alternative to children in our community. The first day of school was Labor Day.

Yachats Homeschool Group (YHG) meets in the Fellowship Hall four times a week, 9:30 - 2:30. Twelve children attend, ages 5-11.

The goal of YHG is to allow the homeschooled child a social setting in which they can learn, play, and have unlimited creative expression. YHG wants the kids to have the freedom to learn about the things that interest them!

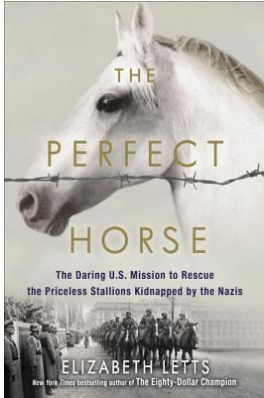
Angie Deriberprey is the YHG Program Director.

Photos are from the Yachats Homeschool Group facebook page.



November Book Group

The next Book Group meeting will be Friday, November 18, at 10:30 a.m. at Yachats Community Presbyterian Church. We've decided to read one non-fiction book and one author this month.



The book is *The Perfect Horse, The Daring U.S. Mission to Rescue the Priceless Stallions Kidnapped by the Nazis*, by Elizabeth Letts. It is a new book with a publishing date of 2016. (Mary Emma Parks found it at Costco!) In the chaotic last days of the war a small troop of battle-weary American soldiers captured a German spy and made an astonishing find—his briefcase was empty but for photos of beautiful white horses that had been stolen and kept on a secret farm behind enemy lines. Hitler had stockpiled the world's finest purebreds in order to breed the perfect military machine—an equine master race. But with the starving Russian army closing in, the animals were in imminent danger of being slaughtered for food. A compelling account for animal lovers and World War II buffs alike, *The Perfect Horse* tells for the first time the full story of these events. Elizabeth Letts's tale of behind-enemy-lines adventure, courage, and sacrifice brings to life one of the most inspiring chapters in the annals of human valor.

The author we are reading is Agatha Christie. Christie was an English crime novelist, short story writer and playwright. She is best known for her 66 detective novels and 14 short story collections, notably those revolving around the investigative work of her fictional detectives, Jane Marple and Hercule Poirot. You may read any of her works. We will discuss the stories you've chosen and Christie's approach to writing.

Please consider reading one of Christie's stories and/or Letts' book and joining us at 10:30 on Friday, November 18. We'd love to have more people in our little group!



Hanging of the Greens

"Hanging of the Greens" is an old Protestant tradition in which we prepare the church for the Advent season and in so doing prepare our hearts as well.



Please join us on Saturday, November 26, 2016, 9:00 a.m. to noon, when we will clean, polish and brighten up the sanctuary, decorate the tree, hang banners, decorate the windows, and prepare the Advent wreath.

Bring a brown bag lunch so we can enjoy a time of fellowship and relaxation when we're done.

YCPC Community Christmas Concert

Saturday, December 10, 2:00 p.m.

Each year, YCPC presents a Christmas Concert as a gift to the community.



This year's concert will feature Christmas carols and music by both the choir and the handbells, conducted by Milo, our Music Director. Refreshments in the Fellowship Hall will follow the concert.

Please join us Saturday afternoon, December 10, at 2:00 p.m., as part of your holiday festivities.



Flickers from the Flame

Cultivating A Spirit of Thanksgiving

Jon Nestor

How are you planning to spend Thanksgiving this year?

These days, celebrants of Thanksgiving gather together—perhaps around a table—on the fourth Thursday in November for a time of feasting, football, and family. In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln declared that Thanksgiving would be celebrated annually as a means of uniting a nation divided over the issue of slavery. Actually, the first Thanksgiving was celebrated in 1621 by a grateful group of survivors—known as the Pilgrims—who established the Plymouth colony after a perilous sea journey from England in which they lost half of those who originally set sail.

The early efforts of the Pilgrims and President Lincoln are important beginnings toward establishing a *tradition* of thanksgiving. The Pilgrims who gave thanks to God for survival mercies typify thankfulness that acknowledges the receipt of unexpected blessings. Meanwhile, President Lincoln's proclamation of an annual day set aside for giving thanks to God creates a space (opens the door) for regularly practicing thanksgiving.

There are many reasons to be thankful: for example, for survival, for unity that encompasses diversity without devaluing it, for a meal that heals, etc. However, these reasons for being thankful do not in themselves contribute to cultivating a spirit of thanksgiving. To actually do this, we need not only the actions that demonstrate thankfulness, but also (and more importantly) the inner motivation for these actions. Finally, we need to practice consistency and regularity in demonstrating these actions.

Is there anything you're not thankful for? For example, how about those circumstances that "left or set you on the outside looking in," times when you made decisions that proved to be harmful or at least detrimental to you, your loved ones, and/or your neighbors, or people who made or make your life miserable at most, difficult at least? If so, I invite you, in the spirit of the apostle Paul, to start a new époque in the evolution of thanksgiving. This époque transcends tradition. I refer to it as a *spirit* of thanksgiving. Paul encouraged the Thessalonians to "be thankful in all circumstances" (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

This may sound impossible. But if we approach Paul's exhortation as a spiritual discipline, we may have a chance of becoming a more thankful people – that is, cultivating a spirit of thanksgiving.

In a spiritual sense, being thankful first means . . . understanding that there is more to any life than one who has that life can perceive here on earth. We often acknowledge this by admitting that God has the last word in our lives, that we belong to God, or that God is our Guiding Light (or Shepherd). When was the most recent time you did this?

Secondly, in a spiritual sense, being thankful means that we surrender our limited understanding of life to the understanding of our lives held by others whom we trust, including God. In this sense, surrender does not mean submission, which often has the connotation of giving up power and authority to a dominant other. Rather, in contrast, surrender refers to sacrificing one's own importance for the sake of a greater, more encompassing, or clearer purpose that we do not fully understand. And in this sense, surrender is a form of acceptance of our human limitations. When was the most recent time you engaged in this sense of surrender?

Thirdly, in a spiritual sense, being thankful means that we open ourselves to learning about this greater purpose. Chances are that this greater purpose will not come to us "in a flash," although it could. More likely, this more encompassing purpose will unfold (be revealed) to us over time. Where are you in this learning process? How long has it lasted?

Finally, in a spiritual sense, being thankful means that we wait patiently to live into this greater purpose. Especially when the circumstances we find ourselves in are difficult, we become impatient for this revelation to occur. Here is where our faith helps us maintain patience. That is, being assured of what we hope for (Hebrews 11:1) helps us weather a lot of patience-testing storms.

To cultivate this new thanksgiving tradition, we first find some circumstance for which we are not thankful. I invite you to select one of these that applies to you. Then review the above four marks of a spiritual sense of thanksgiving, asking yourself where you stand on each of them. Then devote a designated amount of time (even ten minutes) each day to working on each in regard to your selection. Finally, and especially as time goes on, take note of what happens to you in regard to your selection. Specifically, you will find yourself becoming thankful at a deeper level than before. That's because you're cultivating a spirit of thanksgiving.



SAVE THE DATE

Session has been “thinking outside the box” when it comes to church finances, and a committee has been hard at work planning a Winter Wonderland evening featuring a concert by Yachats’ favorite son, Milo Graamans, and a wonderful gourmet meal from Michelle and Anthony of Ona Restaurant.

Winter Wonderland will be held Saturday, December 3, 6:00–8:00 PM at the Commons. Tickets are \$40 each. Invitations will go out soon to the community and seating is limited to 100, so you will want to buy your ticket early. Michelle and Anthony are donating their services and providing the food at cost. All proceeds from the event will be used to support the music ministry of YCPC.



What can you do to help? Here is a partial list:

- ◆ Offer a donation to offset the costs of the event.
- ◆ Sign up to decorate a table using your favorite holiday decorations and creativity. Round tables seat 8. Base table cloths will be provided, but feel free to use your own table runner, place mats, table cloth, and napkins. We will need 13 people who are willing to do this.
- ◆ Be a table server. The meal will be a buffet. The table server would help clear dishes and replenish coffee/tea/water. If you are decorating a table, you could also be the server for your table, but that is not required.
- ◆ We will have a silent auction. Do you have something to donate that could generate some excitement and \$\$\$? – a painting, a quilt, a vacation venue, a catered meal ...?
- ◆ Help wash dishes and clean up. We will use the dishes from the Commons and their dishwasher/sanitizer.
- ◆ Promote the event to your friends and neighbors.
- ◆ Please email or phone Nan Scott to volunteer (scotttn@peak.org or 541-547-5470).

Let's work together to make this a successful fundraising event and outreach to the community.
It's gonna be fun!!!

November 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 9:00 Leta's Legacy Quilters	2 6:00 Study: <i>Living The Questions</i>	3 9:00 Choir 9:00 Fabricators 10:00 Worship/Music Committee	4 12:00 Fellowship	5
6 10:00 Worship (Communion) 11:30 Fellowship 1:00 Sea Aire	7	8 9:00 Budding and Grovnds 9:00 Leta's Legacy Quilters	9 9:30 Deacons 6:00 Study: <i>Living The Questions</i>	10 9:00 Choir 9:00 Fabricators 6:00 Yachats Big Band Rehearsal	11 Veterans Day	12
13 10:00 Worship 11:30 Fellowship Appreciation of Loyd and Verna	14 10:00 Stewardship and Finance Committee	15 9:00 Leta's Legacy Quilters	16 No Session Today See 11/18 6:00 Thanksgiving Dinner	17 9:00 Choir 9:00 Fabricators 6:00 Yachats Big Band Rehearsal	18 9:30 Session 9:30 Master Gardeners 10:30 Book Group 6:00 Families Together	19 2:00 Organ-Aided Reflections w/Jon Nestor
20 Christ the King 10:00 Worship 11:30 Fellowship	21	22 9:00 Leta's Legacy Quilters	23 10:00 Women's Study <i>Who Is Jesus?</i>	24 Thanksgiving Office Closed	25	26 9:00 Hanging of the Greens
27 Advent I 10:00 Worship 11:30 Fellowship 2:00 Matt Nakoa Concert	28	29 9:00 Leta's Legacy Quilters	30 6:00 Study: <i>Living The Questions</i>			

November

Birthdays



- 3 Lyn Pruett
- 4 Lynette Sproul
- 9 Eric Clark
- 9 Herman Welch
- 10 Whitey Gardenhire
- 12 Loyd Collett
- 14 Janet Heightland
- 14 Inanda Lampman
- 19 Maria McQuaw
- 21 Don Groth
- 27 Anthony Velarde
- 30 Betty Cline



Anniversaries

- 19 Carol & Mike Korgan

Deciding Who We Can Trust

Making a decision to trust another person is one of the most basic intuitive skills developed in our childhood years, and it seems to carry over into adult life, involving the more complex decisions that all of us make in selecting friends, relationships in our jobs, and the personal trust decisions regarding love and marriage.

We usually provide outward reasons for trusting others, but in reality we usually employ our personal inner Intuitive skills to make the real basic decision.

Deciding who we will trust with the Power of the U.S.

Presidency (or perhaps who will be less of a threat with presidential power) is at the core of the 2016 election. This is particularly true in an era of atomic weapons held by a variety of countries that pose an existential threat to our country (and our families) in a very dangerous and uncertain world.

The key issue of entrusting presidential power in one person often seems drowned out with an avalanche of confusing information from TV ads, endless “talking heads,” print media, and the spectacle of presidential candidates castigating each other in TV “Debates.”

The Presidential election process of 2016 has now become the most degrading, vulgar and divisive in U.S. history, with a major theme of anything goes and no apparent limits of decency.

Each major Presidential Candidate in 2016 seems to have their own individual set of personal flaws and weaknesses, some greater than others; and as voters we have the difficult task of using our inner intuitive senses in sorting out the issues of personal character that determine our voting decision on Who We Will Trust With Power.

There is an old saying that “Showing Up is 70% of life,” and November 8, 2016, is an election day where everyone registered **NEEDS TO SHOW UP AND VOTE!** At the end of the day we will most likely rely on our basic intuitive skills learned very early in life about Who We Can Trust relating to what matters most in our lives.

As the refrain goes in the old Bob Dylan song of the 1960’s, ***The answer, my friend, is blowing in the wind.***

Herman Welch

