



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

Agate Windows Newsletter

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

December 2018

Friday, December 14, at YCPC . . .

5:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary . . . YYFAP PreSchool Christmas Program.** Join us in the Sanctuary for a delightful program of Christmas music sung by the YYFAP PreSchoolers . . . followed in the Fellowship Hall by . . .



YCPC/YYFAP Families Together Ornament Night.

Families Together Ornament Night features dinner, holiday story time, crafts, ornament making, and . . . Santa! The ornaments made during the evening may be taken home or added to the tree in the Fellowship Hall.



Ornament Night began several years ago as part of YCPC's partnership with Yachats Youth and Family Activities Program. Ornament Night is a fun holiday gathering for children of all ages, and attendance is usually well over 100. Plan to join us for the meal, the fun and the fellowship.

****Even if you won't be staying for the Ornament Night activities,** please come for the PreSchool Program . . . it will lighten your heart.

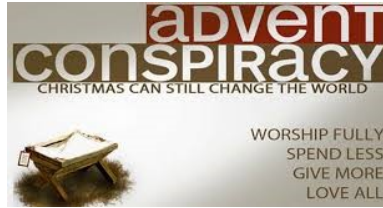
More Kids Celebrating Christmas at YCPC

The Yachats Homeschool Group (YHG) Holiday Variety Show will be held Friday, December 21, at 2:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

If you'd like to experience a BIG DOSE of holiday fun, you will definitely get it from the YHG kids.

Thursday Evening Advent Study Continues

December 13 and 20, 6:00 p.m.



Join us **December 13 and 20** as we continue to examine, the “Advent Conspiracy” as posed by the book *Advent Conspiracy: Can Christmas Still Change the World?* by Rick McKinley, Chris Seay, and Greg Holder.

Advent Conspiracy shows how to substitute consumption with compassion by practicing four simple but powerful, countercultural concepts:

- Worship Fully because Christmas begins and ends with Jesus!
- Spend Less and free your resources for things that truly matter.
- Give More of your presence: your hands, words, time, heart.
- Love All: the poor, forgotten, marginalized, and sick in ways that make a difference.

A light supper will be provided.



Saturday and Sunday, December 15 and 16
4:00 - 7:00 p.m.
23rd Annual Victorian Christmas Open House
Heceta Head Lighthouse

Enjoy the beautifully-decorated Lighthouse while listening to local musicians play holiday favorites. There will be warm drinks and goodies, and Santa Claus will be there!

Free admission and shuttle from parking lot.

Parking is \$5 or free with current State Park Pass.

The gift shop will be open for last-minute gifts.

YCPC is hosting the Open House on the 15th.



December 21, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

Longest Night/Blue Christmas Worship

For some, the wonder, joy and celebration of Christmas with its carols, parties, decorating, baking, gift-giving, and family time, can be overwhelming.

It can be a difficult time of intense sorrow and loneliness for those who are mourning the loss of a loved one.

We offer this special service of remembrance of those loved ones, of hope and assurance that the Lord is with us at these difficult times and longs for our healing to come through the love of God in Jesus Christ.



**Christmas Eve
December 24
7:00 p.m.
Service of
Candlelight
Carols
and
Communion**



Flickers from the Flame

Jon Nestor

The Merchant in the Marketplace (Part #2)

The unique paradox of being human is that, while we live in one world (realm), we have access to two worlds (realms). The world we live in is one of these. It is full of temptations, hazards, attractions, dogma, and temporal beauty. Some people call this realm “the real world”. It is the world we are born into, the earthiness of our existence, the dust our earthly bodies return to. It has all the trappings of reliability, and yet it is fleeting, just beyond our reach, or crumbling in our grasp. At once alluring and elusive, it is a world of promise, provided that we are strong enough, quick enough, healthy enough, and one-sided enough to pursue it. Often when we pursue it, we become oblivious to our fragility, our vulnerability, our limited perspective, and our sensitivity.

The other realm to which we have access is full of mystery, depth, love, justice, embrace, true nurture, and lasting beauty. Unless we look for it, it is invisible. Unless we are open to it, it remains ready for our discovery. Yet, it is the realm that truly lasts. In this respect, it is far more real than the real world. Perhaps it is not real to us because we were not born into it. We inhabit this realm only by being reborn into it. It is full of everything that is truly valuable, upon which we can fully depend, if only we would. Indeed, it is the realm of our destiny, whether we sense it or not.

The question then becomes, “If we have access to these two realms, to which realm do we belong?” Jesus said that we belong to Him, and that all of us belong to the second realm. Yet, so often our actions would suggest that we belong to the first realm. This dichotomy demonstrates the paradox of being human. As we ponder the mystery of this paradox, I find it helpful to think of Jesus’ declaration as pertaining to our ultimate belonging. Therefore, Jesus’ declaration is essentially His plea to us to carefully examine our values. Why? Because our actions both follow from and reveal our values.

The realm to which we currently belong is the realm we value the most. As human beings, we can choose which set of values we wish to live by, which actions we want to demonstrate, and ultimately which realm we live in.

Choosing which set of values we wish to demonstrate shapes the life of the merchant in the marketplace.

. . . To Be Continued Next Month.

Sunday, January 6, 2019, following Worship

Congregation Meeting

To Elect New Officers, Receive the Budget, Approve Pastor's Terms of Call

Winter Wonderland

**Saturday, January 12, 2019, 6:00 p.m.
Yachats Commons**

Be sure to put Saturday, January 12, 2019, on your calendar for a wonderful evening of dinner by ONA Restaurant and music by Milo at the Yachats Commons. Winter Wonderland will be a fundraiser for YCPC.

Tickets are \$40.00 and are available at the church and at Mari's Books in downtown Yachats.

Questions? See Pam Luderitz, Betty Groth or Nan Scott.

Next Book Group Discussion . . . Friday, January 18, 2019

Mary Emma Parks

After a two-month leave-of-absence in November and December . . .

The Book Group will next meet on Friday, January 18, at the usual time of 10:30 a.m. Rather than a particular book, we decided to choose a **topic** for January. It's a very broad topic and can be interpreted in many ways.

We discussed the loss of Paul Allen—one of the founders of Microsoft and owner of the Portland Trail Blazers—and we decided to focus on a successful business-person who has made a considerable contribution to our society.

Names suggested were: Steve Jobs (Apple), Jeff Bezos (Amazon), Oprah, Phil Knight (Nike). I did a little research on Amazon and found others: Michelle Obama, Indra Nooyi (Pepsi), Mark Zuckerberg (Facebook).

Everyone is invited to join us at the church on January 18 at 10:30 a.m. to discuss their selected person.



December 2018

2	10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship 1:00 Communion at Sea Aire	3	12:00 Lectionary Study Group with Pastor Bob	4	9:30 Leta's Quilters 10:00 Piano Tuning	5		6	9:00 Choir Practice 12:00 Coffee with Pastor Bob 6:00 Advent Study	7		8		1
9	10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship 2:00 Christmas Concert	10	10:00 Stewardship & Finance Committee 12:00 Lectionary Study Group with Pastor Bob	11	9:30 Leta's Quilters	12	9:30 Deacons	13	12:00 Coffee with Pastor Bob 6:00 Advent Study 6:00 Yachats Big Band Rehearsal	14	5:30 YYFAP PreSchool Christmas Concert 6:00 Families Together Ornament Night	15	2:00 Advent Organ-Aided Meditations w/ Jon Nestor Part 1	
16	10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	17	12:00 Lectionary Study Group with Pastor Bob	18	9:30 Leta's Quilters	19	9:30 Session	20	9:00 Choir Practice 12:00 Coffee with Pastor Bob 6:00 Advent Study	21	7:00 Longest Night Blue Christmas Service	22	2:00 Advent Organ-Aided Meditations w/ Jon Nestor Part 2	
23	10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	24	Christmas Eve 7:00 Worship	25	Christmas Day Office Closed	26		27		28		29		
30	10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship													
		31 New Year's Eve												