

Port Orchard Church of Christ



Where Jesus is Lord, Jesus is
Lifted, Jesus is Lived

Panning for Traces of the Flood

Young children often play a game called “Gossip.” The rules to the game are very simple. Several people get in a circle or a straight line. The person at the beginning of the circle or line thinks of a sentence like, “the red horse fell into the water.” That person whispers the sentence into the ear of the person next to him. He cannot repeat the sentence once it is whispered, and he must speak very softly. The next person in line listens carefully and then whispers the sentence she heard into the ear of the person next to her. After the sentence has gone through every person in the line or circle, the last person repeats the sentence as he thinks he heard it. Almost every time, the sentence at the end of the game is not the same one that was whispered at the beginning. For instance, the last person might have heard something like “the dead house turned into the otter” instead of the original sentence, “the red horse fell into the water.” The game does a good job of showing that words and sentences can get confused when they are passed from one person to another. Yet, invariably the final sentence has some traces of the original weaved into it. The same often is true of legendary stories that have been passed down from generation to generation. Often, these stories are a tangled mishmash of facts and fiction that originated from a story based on truth.

Anthropologists who study legends and folktales from different geographical locations and cultures consistently have reported one particular group of legends that is common to almost every civilization. Legends have surfaced in hundreds of civilizations that tell of a huge, catastrophic flood that destroyed most of mankind, and was survived by only a few individuals and animals. In fact, over 250 such legends have been reported from nations such as China, Babylon, Mexico, Egypt, Sudan, Syria, Persia, India, Norway, Ireland, Wales, Indonesia, Romania, and the list could go on for many pages (Perloff, 1999, p. 167).

And although the vast number of such legends is surprising, the similarity between much of their content is equally amazing. James Perloff writes:

In 95 percent of the more than two hundred flood legends, the flood was worldwide; in 88 percent, a certain family was favored; in 70 percent, survival was by means of a boat; in 67 percent, animals were also saved; in 66 percent, the flood was due to the wickedness of man; in 66 percent, the survivors had been forewarned; in 57 percent, they ended up on a mountain; in 35 percent, birds were sent out from the boat; and in 9 percent, exactly eight people were spared (1999, p. 168).

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Kelli Keagle..... 757.389.1382

Deacons:

Gary Chasteen 360.895.4143
Gene Gerard..... 360.876.4612
Troy Hill 360.674.7181
Brad Orser..... 360.874.8184

Welcome Guests

We are so glad that you decided to visit Port Orchard Church of Christ this morning! Since you took this step to join us for worship, we would like to extend to you a warm welcome. Wherever you are this morning, as we lift worship to God, we pray that you are able to leave feeling uplifted, convicted, or encouraged in your faith.

We seek to worship God like the first century church did, with a sense of awe and with a fear of the Lord. Some things we do might seem old

fashioned or traditional, but we want you to know that at its core, it is for the praise of God's glory.

You are not required to do anything weird or ostentatious. We hope that you feel free to join us in worshipping God to the best of your abilities. If you have any specific needs, we have a ministry staff that would love to connect with you. Ask the people sitting around you for names of the ministry staff and to point them out!

Once again, we are so happy to have you here worshipping with us and we hope this is a chance to worship God in a deep and meaningful way.

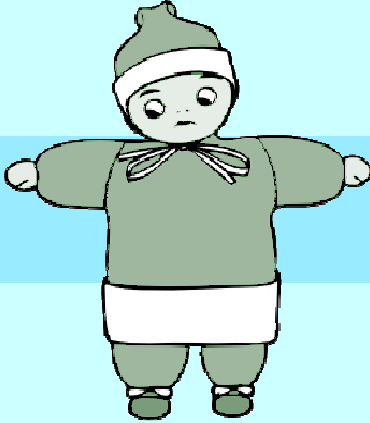
-Port Orchard Church of Christ

Save the Dates!

Saturday 12/2 Deacons Meeting
8:00 AM

Sunday 12/3 Congregational Meeting

Sunday 12/10 All Saints Potluck & Pounding for Woodrows



Serving December 3, 2017:

Port Orchard News and Events

Pulpit Preview

Tom Sibley will be preaching this upcoming Sunday. Worship Service begins at 10:45. We hope to see you here!

Happy Birthday!

Charles Nance-01, Nikole Karn-03, LaDonna Latham-03, Tristen Herbert-05, Sarah Benjamin-08, Kelli Keagle-12, Erika Wheeler-12, Anna Cartwright-17, Jedidiah Herbert-17, Bonnie Mitchell-18, Lilli Bell-19, Darlene Woodrow-24, Wayne Hammock-25, Nancy Armenta-26, Delores Brun-28, Gary White-28, Jake Orser-31, & Randy vanLeuven-31.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brad Orser

Brad Orser shared a sermon with us last Sunday. If you missed his message, please visit the church website at pococ.weebly.com to listen.

Guest Speaker

Tom Sibley, missionary to Croatia at the Biblijski Institut, will be speaking the first two Sundays of December: the 3rd and the 10th.

Prayer Leader: Ken Reinke

Scripture Reader: James Greer

Offering Thoughts: Troy Hill

Communion Meditation: Dave Snypp

Servers: Tim Duffy & Greg Warner

Ushers: Jarrod Coley & Brandon Zepf

Greeters: Paula Hill & Carla Duffy

Prayer Partners: Darrell & Laura Fry

Sound: Dale Sanders

Slides/Lighting: Dale Sanders

Communion Prep: Barbara Chasteen

Communion Cleanup: Bratcher Family

Song Leader: Gene Gerard

Children's 9:30 Helper: Dale Sanders

Children's Church: Jennifer Delay

Preaching: Tom Sibley



Don & BobbyJo

Don and BobbyJo, who own the camper in the parking lot, are looking for work and also need a new truck. Don does excellent yard work. If you have any leads, they would really appreciate the work.

Woodrows

We will be hosting a Pounding for the Woodrows on Sunday, December 10th. A pounding is an opportunity to stock someone's pantry. *Items need to be with NO SALT and NO SUGAR ADDED. Preferably the Kroger brand from Fred Meyer.*

Canned Goods

- Green beans, French cut
- Peaches
- Crushed Pineapple
- Applesauce (NO SUGAR) in the small cups
- Peanut Butter
- Flour
- Cornmeal

Frozen Vegetables

- Petite peas
- Broccoli, Cauliflower, & Carrots

Household Items

- Bathroom tissue

If you would like to participate please let Bonnie Mitchell know or use the sign-up sheet in the foyer so that we don't get too much of one item or another. If you have already purchased items for this event, please let Bonnie or the office know what you got so that we can coordinate with others going forward.

Our Prayer List

Healing:

Virginia Chapman
Delores Brun
Runell Mason
David Latham
Wayne Hammock's friend Dave
Melvin Byrd
Lisa Bratcher

Encouragement:

Victoria
Those Grieving the loss of Loved Ones

Travelling:

Jim & Cindy Snead
Bonnie Mitchell & daughter Penny travelling to Roseburg, OR for Gene Mitchell's memorial service

Other:

Herberts expecting their 7th child
Our children, church, nation, President Trump and ministries.
That God will bless our deacons with wisdom in reaching the many decisions they are entrusted with.

November 26, 2017

Worship: 80

Class: 46

Offering: \$2,502.00

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Men's Breakfast

When: December 2, 2017, 8:00 am

Where: Lakeview church of Christ
1709 South 112th Street
Tacoma, WA 98444

Suggested Donation: \$4. All proceeds benefit Delano Bay Christian Camp.

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One deluge legend from China tells the story of a man named Fuhí who, along with his wife and three sons and three daughters, was saved from a great flood. One ancient temple in China has a painting that depicts Fuhí's boat in the water and a dove with an olive branch in its beak (Gish, 1992, p. 74).

Possibly the most famous flood account (besides the biblical record of Noah and the Flood) comes from the

ancient Babylonian empire.

The *Gilgamesh Epic*, written on twelve clay tablets that date back to the seventh century B.C., tells of a hero named Gilgamesh. In his search for eternal life, Gilgamesh seeks out Utnapishtim, a person who was granted eternal life because he saved animals and humans during a great flood. On the eleventh tablet of this epic, a flood account is recorded that parallels the Genesis account in many areas. To illustrate, in both stories the flood is brought on because of wickedness, an ark is built for the preservation of a select group, a raven and a dove are sent out to verify the safety of the post-flood world, and sacrifices are offered on the safe exit of the people in the ark (Roth, 1988, pp. 303-304)

Of course, the next question to be asked is, "So what?" What is the significance of the various flood legends? The

answer to that question seems fairly obvious: (a) we have over 250 legends that tell of a great flood; (b) many of the legends come from different ages and civilizations that could not possibly have copied any of the similar legends; (c) the legends were recorded long before any missionaries arrived to relate to them the Genesis story of Noah; and (d) almost all civilizations have some sort of flood story. The immediate conclusion to be drawn from these facts centers on the idea that some time in the distant past there was a colossal flood that forever affected the history of all humans and civilizations. The inspired Moses put it like this: "And the rain was on the earth forty days and forty nights" (Genesis 7:12).

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