

A Publication of the Port Orchard Church of Christ • June 14, 2020

"Holding Down the Fort!"

When the expression "holding down the fort" is used, it is generally a reference to keeping an eye on things while others (particularly the one in charge) is temporarily away. Though something as inanimate as a fort would not seem to need being held down, there is the necessity of it being watched over, kept in order, and also protected if under attack. That which is left uncared for can begin to fall into disarray!

We are temporarily doing things differently due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Refraining from large gatherings appears to be slowing the spread. Therefore the building where we as the church would usually meet has not had as much use.

However, neither it nor the Lord's work has been neglected. Living in a physical world there are physical things to be taken care of. Therefore, regular contributions have been sent to cover bills relative to the physical structure and to support the spiritual work which continues. The property has not been abandoned or left unkept. Here are some things I have seen happening in and around the church building: Things are getting cleaned, sanitized, painted, weeded, mowed, repaired, updated, and put in working order so it will be easier to return to using the building without requiring a major catchup.

Gary & Barbara Chasteen continue to do what they do (which is a lot). Rick Velasco regularly mows the lawns. Bob & Sharon McDaniel, along with a few helpers continue to plan and get things set up and ready for a meaningful time of worship. The praise team rehearses each week to be better prepared for worship. Several men study diligently at home as they prepare to share God's Word with us. Bonnie Mitchell keeps everyone informed through the use of the prayer chain, along with other emails as needed. She also seems to always be prepared with a teaching, project, or game to share with young families. Ken and Tammy Avery are continuing to keep the baptistry ready, deliver communion, and offer help with material items to those in their homes, as well as always being prepared to share their faith and a prayer with someone. Darrell & Laura are quick to respond to calls for assistance, whether it be a ride, a place to stay, or a financial need. Folks are still working at the warming Center, headed by Jim and Cindy Snead, along with others who keep up that outreach. The meals at Coffee Oasis for homeless teens continues. Bible studies, prayer and leadership meetings continue virtually using phones, emails, texts, and Zoom. LaDonna Latham has continued paying the bills; and many of you have taken the time to check in on one another by various means. The list goes on.

These are just some of the things I notice from where I sit in the office. But I know there are also many others who are serving God by serving the family of God... in so many ways... from wherever they are.

God also notices. He sees it all. That's good, because we do it for Him anyway. ***It's all for His Glory!***

But one thing I haven't noticed.. I haven't noticed anyone in this family doing these things because it's their "job", or to impress someone, or take the credit - I had to sneak this article in so no one would try to stop me from including their name... :-)

So on behalf of all of us... to all of us... Thank you for your service! May God prepare us to do great things in His Name.

"Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality." Romans 12:10-13

"Whatever you *do*, *work* at it with all your heart, as working *for the Lord*." Colossians 3:23

- Jon Powless

Adapted from an article by Carl Hanson
Used by permission

2020 Graduating Seniors

Please congratulate the two young persons graduating this year from High School.

I am attaching their addresses if you wish to acknowledge them with a card.

Although we aren't having a congratulatory reception for them we are as a church presenting each with their own Bible. Pray for Isaac and Chloe as they start a new chapter in their lives.

Chloe Jayne LaDeaux

4313 Chatterton Ave SW

Port Orchard 98367

Isaac Hollmann

4000 Coronet Pl. SE

Port Orchard 98366

Gospel of John Bible Study

A Sunday evening Bible study is ongoing. It is a virtual study of the Gospel of John, using the Zoom app to study together. You can still join in; just call or text Ken Avery (360-689-6434) or Darrell Fry (360-710-8256). The class is using a study guide by Pastor Greg Laurie. The book is a free download and can be obtained at this link:

<https://harvest.org/resources/ebook/gospel-of-john-study-guide/>

The study begins Sunday at 6:00pm, but you should log in a little early.

Happy Birthday!

June: Judy VanLeuven – 11, Obidiah Herbert – 14, Lila Mason – 15, Dorothy Fletcher – 23, Miki Gross – 23, Kenny Benjamin – 24, Cathie Cates – 26, Pilita David – 26, Greg Warner – 29, René Powless – 29

July: Yvonne Lawrence – 16, Jori Hooper – 16, Peggy Hall – 19, Dale Sanders – 19, Sharon McDaniel – 23, Luke Orser – 25, Trent Herbert – 27, Ricky McKennon – 23, Pilita David – 26

Note: There are some new files now on the church web site. <http://pococ.weebly.com/weekly-church-bulletins.html>

- The worship song sheets for Sunday's worship service
- Newsletters from Trent Herbert
- Newsletters from Tristan Herbert
- Newsletter from Roy Merritt

Our Prayer List

- Darrell and Laura Fry received a call from their daughter Lisa. She had to call the ambulance for Daniel as he had a seizure that he couldn't come out of. Lisa will keep them updates but it sounds very serious.

Rachelle is trying to see if she can get out of Honduras but they aren't sure if she can. Darrell and Laura would appreciate prayers for Daniel, Lisa, Rachelle and all of them.
- Update from Laura Fry:

Rachelle got a flight. She should be able to be in Phoenix by 10 a.m on Friday, if she is allowed through the towns. In order to get her pass to travel she has to travel. Tomorrow is not an allowed travel day for her ID number and they have to pass through many towns that are locked down due to the pandemic.

Please continue to pray that God will clear the way for Rachelle so that she can be with her family on Friday.
- Update from Virginia Chapman: Lynn's fibrillation is somewhat controlled now. Our thanks for all of you who have prayed and offered any help. Right now we don't know of a need, but it is so inspiring to have the offers.

We still love you, and feel part of the church family, tho' our health has not allowed us to be with you.

We're thankful that there is no pain or even discomfort, just tired, frustrated, and reminding each other that God is still in control. Thank you for your prayers. We'll keep you updated...
- Dale Sanders' father (Glen Sanders) will be having knee replacement surgery on June 3rd at 7:30 am MDT in Denver, Colorado. This was planned before the virus thing and fortunately is coming off as scheduled.
- Stimulus money received by a member has been donated to help someone who would be unable to pay their rent due to the current situation. If you know of anyone who could use this blessing, please let Bonnie Mitchell know and she will pass it along.
- Please lift up Mark Riordan to our powerful and merciful GOD - details are already known to our Creator - Much thanks and love
- Daniel Tillman is recovering from brain surgery.
- Steve Smith is undergoing chemotherapy.
- Pray for our school children who will do online schooling for the rest of this school year. Pray for the children whose parents don't have the facilities to let their children do the online schooling.
- We need to continue to pray for those being affected by child abuse even more so with the Stay at Home that we have going on. It breaks my heart to think that this even goes on but when those affected can't escape to get the help - especially children who can get help through the schools.

<http://komonews.com/news/local/reports-of-child-abuse-in-washington-are-down-advocates-worry-victims-arent-getting-help>
- Pray for encouragement to all those who are tirelessly working to deal with the Covid-19 virus. Prayers that God will guide them.
- Continue to pray for our Deacons, Leadership Team, Our church family, Our missions, Families, Our nation and its leaders.
- Pray for those who will participate in the study of the Gospel of John which begins this Sunday at 6:00pm using the Zoom app.
- George who has Lou Gherig's; for his health and safety
- Whitney, granddaughter of the Byrd's for safety as a nurse dealing with treating patients with Covid-19
- Greg and Sandi Warner as they await the completion of their home renovation
- Greg and Sandi Warner for their son Michael
- Pray for all of the high school and college students who are not going to be able to graduate because of this virus. I know of two; Karen and Roger's grandson and Darlene's son, who is to graduate from college.
- Margaret Meyers' grandson, Ryan has been diagnosed with Covid-19. His mother Laurie will need to be quarantined with him for the next 14 days. Please keep them in your prayers.

Note: If you have a prayer request or an update, please contact Bonnie Mitchell at mitbem0519@gmail.com

If you need communion supplies or song sheet printouts please call the church or any of the SLT and we will get those items delivered to your door before Sunday. We have to do it this way as we are not allowed to pass anything out at the service. So please call; we will get whatever you need delivered to your door.

Children's Ministry, which I subscribed to, has sent me information to pass on with some Children and Adult activities - to make and color placemats using scriptures.

Feel free to check it out - good family activity.

www.childrensbulletins.com/covid19-childrens-activities-for-churches.

Bonnie

Tithes and Offerings

Several members have asked how to give their tithe to the Lord during this time. There are three options that allow me to enter your information in for tax purposes.

- 1) If you use on-line bill pay with your bank or credit union, set up a payee for Port Orchard Church of Christ. Your bank will mail your check for you. Other members have been doing this and it works well.
- 2) Mail tithe check to the Church. We have a lock mail box.
- 3) Or drop the check in an envelope into our mailbox out front of the building.

Church Address:

Port Orchard Church of Christ
4135 Carr Lane SE
Port Orchard, Wa. 98366

June 7, 2020 – Tithes & Offerings - \$4,363.12

If you have any questions, please give me a call. God bless you - Gary Chasteen - (cell) 360 731-4104

May we help?

With so many of us sheltering in our homes as best we can, life and it's needs go on, such as trips for food, medications, etc. A young man in our congregation is offering his time to make grocery and pharmacy pickups and deliver them to your front porch. His time and expenses are being covered by a local businessman/member of our church so there is absolutely NO charge to you for this service. Take advantage of it and stay safe! Just like Jesus, the debt has already been paid!

Here's how it works:

If you have needs, do one of the following: Phone or text: 253-380-4806 (Lorri Celletti) or, Email: mlcell@wavecable.com (Michael/Lorri Celletti)

Give your name and contact info, list of items needed, prescription pickup info etc.

Your items will be delivered to your front porch with a phone call to let you know they have arrived. Your receipt will be left in an envelope, then you can forward a check to the address on the envelope or call the above number to arrange payment when convenient.

There will be no personal contact between you and the person making the delivery. We want to keep everyone as safe as possible! If you should need financial assistance in procuring the items you need, please let us know. The goal is making sure everyone's needs are met until God conquers this virus. In the mean time, God bless all of you and stay safe!

P.S. You may also call 253-223-9095 (Bob McDaniel) if you have questions or are unable to get through on above contact info.