

**A Publication of the Port Orchard Church of Christ
December 3, 2023**

A Better Way

The world says we should live one way, but the Bible informs us there is a better way. We can experience abundant life here and now by trusting God and imitating Jesus.

"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."

– Galatians 2:20

A BETTER WAY

- The world says we should be afraid, but the Bible says, "Do not fear!"
- The world says we should worry, but Jesus says, "Do not worry."
- The world teaches us to be full of rage, but Scripture says, "the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God."
- The world wants us to hate, but Jesus wants us to love our enemies.
- The world says it is good to hoard, but Jesus says, "it is more blessed to give than to receive."
- The world teaches us to seek revenge, but God says we are to forgive.
- Our peace comes from above, not from this world.
- The world would have us treat people as they deserve to be treated, but God calls us to treat people better than they deserve to be treated.
- The world teaches us to do for ourselves, but God wants us to do for others.
- The world demands an immediate reaction, but Christianity values patience.
- The world says we should imitate the rich and powerful, but God calls us to imitate the lowly.
- The world wants us to be leery of people who are different, people who may have a different race, religion, political affiliation, country of origin, etc., but Jesus wants us to share our tables with them.

How are you living? Who are you listening to? Where are you putting your trust? It makes a difference. There is pressure all around us to live a certain way, but Jesus is inviting us to something much better.

- Scott Elliott

Our Prayer List

- Nancy Armenta's granddaughter Gia is in Mary Bridge hospital. Her white blood count is elevated and they are checking her for appendicitis. Please pray for Gia and her family and the medical staff as they treat her. Give them calmness and peace.
- Wayne's grandson Cassidy had surgery on Tuesday and is recovering well. Pray for his continuing recovery.
- Pray for the those who have illnesses in their families
- Jon Powless' son Josh and his daughter Cora in Port Angeles have both tested positive for Covid.
- Please pray for those who less fortunate who are out in this cold weather.
- Please lift Gary Chasteen and his family up in prayers. His nephew Sean passed away on Thanksgiving Day.
- Pray for Shari 's son who may have cancer.
- My daughter is 21 and battling addiction to drugs. In and out of rehab, it's been a roller coaster ride. Pray she breaks away and gets the energy and desire to stop.
- Praise for Cydney and Banjo who were both recently baptized. Be sure to welcome our new brother and sister.
- Barbara requests prayers for her daughter Rebecca.
- Praise for our celebration of the Mercy Mobile's 1st year!
- Pray for the Snypp family as Dave's father recently passed away.
- Nancy Armenta is doing well after her recent procedure. She will have an ultrasound on the back of her head/neck area on November 21st. Please continue to keep her in your prayers.
- Dennis Badley is recovering from the removal of his kidney and also 2 knee surgeries. Prayers are requested for his physical strength.
- Pray for suggestions for those who may become future Deacons or Elders. Should you have any suggestions, please submit the names to the Spiritual Leadership Team (SLT) - Darrell & Laura, Brad and Eunice, Bob and Sharon or to our Deacons Gary, Troy, Brad and Cisco.
- Pray for Israel.
- Praise God, who is good ALL THE TIME.

From Cisco and Heather Velez:

Hello! Many people have asked us how they can help right now, and the first answer is always prayer!

Your prayers and continued support help keep this mission going every day. In this season of giving and cold weather we are asking for hand warmers, hats, gloves, socks, scarves, gently used or new coats, and blankets.

I also have many ingredients for some amazing soups so if you would like to cook for us just let me know!

Thank you,
The Mercy Mobile Team

POCOC Web Site (<http://pococ.weebly.com/>)

- Weekly Bulletin – Go to <http://pococ.weebly.com/> then click on Bulletin & Newsletters
- Pre-Covid audio sermons are also still online. Click on Teachings
- Current Event Calendar - Click on News & Events
- Live stream of worship services on YouTube Channel - Previous video recordings, too: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCL_SrX11URAKOYw7JOR9ZIQ then click on the desired video.
Please subscribe to be notified when new videos post or when we go live.



Sunday Worship December 3, 2023 (10:30 am – 12:00 – noon) (No children's church is this week.) Watch live-stream or after our worship time: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCL_SrX11URAKOYw7JOR9ZIQ					
Speaker: Trent Herbert	Singing Jon Powless	Scripture: Trent Herbert	Prayer: Brad Orser	Communion: Dave Snynn	Offering: Dave Snynn
For the latest worship leader schedule, click this link: http://pococ.weebly.com/uploads/2/6/7/2/26721665/worship_leaders.pdf					
December Servers – Brian Bungart Elijah Herbert Dan Gross Terry Bratcher					
9:30 am Adult Class: Auditorium Led by Trent Herbert			Children Class: Downstairs Two Classes: children and pre-teen		
Call Laura Fry or the Church Office (360-876-2604) for Zoom Meeting ID					
Men's Fellowship Downstairs Fellowship Room Tuesdays - 10:00 am			Ladies in the Word Upstairs Overflow Room Tuesdays - 10:00 am		
Bible Class & Prayer Colossians (in person or on Zoom) Wednesdays: 5:00 - 6:00 pm			Ladies Prayer Group LaDonna's home – 10:00 am		
Port Orchard Church of Christ 4135 Carr Lane SE Port Orchard, WA 98366 360-876-2604 - churchpococ@gmail.com			November 26 th - Tithes & Offerings – \$ 909.00 If you have any questions, please give me a call. God bless you. Gary Chasteen (cell) 360-731-4104		

Communion and Tithes & Offerings

The bread and fruit of the vine will be served during our communion time. You also have the option to pick up your communion supplies as you enter the auditorium. It contains both the juice and the bread.

There are also a few options for giving your tithes & offerings:

- 1) The collection box is in the foyer at the entrance to the auditorium.
- 2) Online bill-pay with your bank or credit union. Your bank will mail your check for you.
- 3) Mail your tithe/offering check directly to the Church address below. We have a lock mailbox.

Happy Birthday!

December: Cornell Stull – 1, Nicole Karn – 3, LaDonna Latham – 3, Tristen Herbert – 5, Sarah Benjamin – 8, Elizabeth Volpitta – 8, Madison Casely – 13, Jedidiah Herbert – 17, Bonnie Mitchell – 18, Barbara Foran – 24, Wayne Hammock – 25, Gary White – 28, Jake Orser – 31, Randy VanLeuvan 31.

January 2024: Mark David – 2, Michelle Herbert – 4, Pat Woodrow – 9, Isaiah Zepf – 13, Karen Taylor – 18, Tammy White – 29, Myron David - 30

From Bonnie Mitchell

Working at Jingle Fest this weekend as the Vendor Coordinator I wasn't able to leave until all the vendors were gone for the evening. Friday night at 8:15 there was frost on my windshield and I was so cold, however I have been blessed to have my car warm up fairly quickly so I could drive home with the heat and then immediately go into my warm house. The same for Saturday and last evening.

It made me realize even more how fortunate it is to get warm (I don't like to be cold) and remembering there are many who aren't so lucky.

For a few years I have had Favorite coats so I was able to wear what I wanted to . Nothing special about them , I just liked them as warm and comfortable and another choice I had.

Today I have 2 winter coats to get to Mercy Mobile and may have a couple crocheted hats too. I realized when we quit thinking of what we want to hang onto and remember how cold we get , those coats don't mean much. But it does feel good that I am helping someone stay somewhat warm this winter. How about you? Have something warm you won't mind parting with ?

God bless you all and Stay Warm (physically and in the heart!) Pray for blessings for the Mercy Mobile and ALL those less fortunate than we are.

Love, Bonnie

Cultivate God's Precious Gift

Loneliness . . . the word is one of the most frightening that I know. Imagine living your life apart from others. Imagine having no contact with anyone. Imagine total isolation. The picture is bleak and dreary, isn't it?

Friendship . . . the word is one of the most comforting that I know. Imagine living your life surrounded by a caring family. Imagine togetherness. Imagine a life filled with meaningful friendships. The picture is pleasing and encouraging, isn't it?

A part of human nature is the desire for companionship. We want, and must, be with others. God made us to be communal creatures. Do you remember the scene in the garden? "It is not good that the man should be alone," declared God. God's solution: he made Eve. God provided for the needs of man; he provided companionship. It was God's first gift to man!

The world places a premium on wealth and power to the neglect of cultivating relationships. However, a truly successful person is the one who values relationships and friendships. The statement has been made that if a man is unable to love his fellow man, he is unable to love God.

By [Jeff Foster](#)