

# **A Publication of the Port Orchard Church of Christ**

## **January 1, 2023**

### **Happy New Year**

In just a few days the year 2022 will come to an end and the new year 2023 will be ushered in to take its place. With the close of year 2022, we will pass another milestone on our journey to meet our God in judgement (Acts 17:30-31, 2 Cor. 5:10). Over the last few days, I have given a lot of thought about my life, days past, days present and the Lord willing, days to come. I have been and I am presently blessed in so many ways and I praise God for his love, mercy and goodness to me. My life has been and still is and I have no doubt that it will continue to be a mixture of good days as well as days that will not be so good. But all in all, it is great to be alive and reasonably well as I continue marching onward toward that prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus (Phil. 3:13-14). I pray the same holds true for all who now read these words. May we never forget, not even for a moment, that the God we love and serve has promised us that he will never leave us nor forsake us and whatever circumstances may surround us at any given time, we can go to him for mercy and find help in time of need (Heb. 13:5-6, Heb. 4:13-16).

I do not know what year 2023 will bring into our lives, neither do you. But this I do know, so long as we faithfully serve our God, committing our entire being to him, he will grant to us the strength and courage to successfully continue our journey through this earthly life. As I have on other occasions told you and will continue to tell you so long as you allow me to send my thoughts to you is Isa. 40:28-31, "Do you not know? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the Lord, the creator of the ends of the earth does not become weary or tired. His understanding is inscrutable. He gives strength to the weary and to him who lacks might, he increases power. Though youths grow weary and tired and vigorous young men stumble badly, yet those who wait for the Lord will gain new strength, they will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not grow weary."

Lord willing, you and I will still be around when the year 2023 makes its exit and the year 2024 begins. But all of us need to understand and be fully aware that we could come to the end of our journey here at any moment, hence the need for us to live each moment as if we knew it would be our last moment on planet earth. We need to understand that everything about us including our life can change in a moment, in a twinkling of the eye (James 4:14-15). Every sunrise we see is just a reminder that we are getting older and drawing closer to the time when we will face the Lord in judgment (Heb. 9:27). One of our hymns says it so well, "Time is filled with swift transition, Naught of earth unmoved can stand, Build your hopes on things eternal, Hold to God's unchanging hand."

I am wishing for you nothing but the best as you close the year 2022 and enter the year 2023. The thoughts expressed in 3 John 2 convey my thoughts for you as you move forward into a new year, "Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may prosper and be in good health, just as your soul prospers." Enjoy the days of your life but as you do, be sure to make God an integral part of your life. Happy New Year!

Charles Hicks

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

- Weekly Bulletin – Click on [Bulletin & Newsletters](#)
- Current newsletters from Trent Herbert, Tristen Herbert and Roy Merritt. Click on Bulletin & Newsletters
- Live stream of worship services on YouTube Channel - Previous recordings, too:  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCL\\_SrX11URAkOYw7JOR9ZIQ](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.
- Pre-Covid audio sermons are also still online – Click on [Teachings](#)
- Current Event Calendar - Click on [News & Events](#)



### Sunday Worship for December 18, 2022 (10:30 am – 12:00 – noon) (Children are dismissed for Children’s Church after communion)

Watch live stream or after our worship time:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCL\\_SrX11URAkOYw7JOR9ZIQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCL_SrX11URAkOYw7JOR9ZIQ)

Speaker: Mark McLean	Singing Josh Bedford	Scripture: Mark McLean	Prayer: Darrell Fry	Communion: Dave Snyppe
Servers:	Gary Chasteen	Brian Bungart		
Note: The Tuesday Ladies Prayer group meeting at LaDonna's home is now meeting on Thursdays 10 a.m. Still meeting at LaDonna's.				
<b>9:30am Adult Class:</b> Auditorium 2 <sup>nd</sup> half of Jude		<b>Children Class:</b> Downstairs Two Classes: children and pre-teen		
Call Laura Fry or the Church Office (360-876-2604) for Zoom Meeting ID				
<b>Men’s Fellowship</b> Downstairs Fellowship Room Tuesdays - 10:00 am		<b>Ladies in the Word Prayer and Bible Study</b> Conference Room Tuesdays - 10:00 am		
<b>Bible Class &amp; Prayer</b> Ephesians (in person or on Zoom) Wednesdays: 5:00 - 6:00 pm		<b>Ladies Prayer group</b> LaDonna's home Thursdays 10:00 am		
Port Orchard Church of Christ 4135 Carr Lane SE Port Orchard, WA 98366 360-876-2604 - churchpococ@gmail.com		December 18, 2022 Tithes & Offerings – \$ 3,215.00		
		If you have any questions, please give me a call. God bless you. Gary Chasteen (cell) 360-731-4104		
Call Laura Fry or the Church Office (360-876-2604) for Zoom Meeting ID				

### **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:** Jake Orser – 31, Randy Van Leuven – 31.

**January:** Mark David – 2, Pat Woodrow – 9, Landra Reinke – 9, Isaiah Zepf – 13, Karen Taylor – 18, Michelle Herbert – 24, Tammy White – 29, Myron David – 30.

## Our Prayer List

- Continue to pray for Paula Hill, Trent's nephew Tyler, Wayne Hammock, Theresa Scott, Pam Woodrow, Ramona (Cisco's friend), Lori (LaDonna's daughter), Gary White, and Tony DelBarto,
- The Herbert family is in Texas for Tristen's wedding. Pray for a safe trip as they return.
- Pray that the new Mercy Mobile ministry will bless many people in South Kitsap. Pray that they will be given opportunities to share the gospel as they share food with the hungry.
- Pray for our congregation, that God will continue to give us a desire to reach out to our community to meet the needs of people; both spiritual and physical needs.
- Pray for the homeless. It looks like it will be a wet and cold winter.
- Continue to pray for our leadership team, and all of our ongoing ministries.
- Pray for our nation and leaders. They, like us, need God's continual guidance.
- Pray for the people of Ukraine.
- Remember to thank and praise God for our many blessings – both physical and spiritual.



### Teen NEWS

Teen Night - Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup>  
at the church building  
5:30 – 7:00pm

### **Mercy Mobile: Feeding the Homeless**

Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00am  
We will prepare soup all day.

The **Mercy Mobile** will then deliver the soup to the homeless in South Kitsap. Come and be a part of this new ministry.

# Hold to God's Unchanging Hand

## Verse 1

Time is filled with swift transition  
Naught of earth unmoved can stand  
Build your hopes on things eternal  
Hold to God's unchanging hand

## Chorus

Hold to God's unchanging hand  
Hold to God's unchanging hand  
Build your hopes on things eternal  
Hold to God's unchanging hand  
(chorus)

## Verse 2

Trust in Him who will not leave you  
Whatsoever years may bring  
If by earthly friends forsaken  
Still more closely to Him cling  
(chorus)

## Verse 3

Covet not this world's vain riches  
That so rapidly decay  
Seek to gain the heav'nly treasures  
They will never pass away  
(chorus)

## Verse 4

When your journey is completed  
If to God you have been true  
Fair and bright the home in glory  
Your enraptured soul will view  
(chorus)

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Since, then, you have been raised with Christ,  
set your hearts on things above, where Christ  
is, seated at the right hand of God.

Colossians 3:1 (NIV)



<https://youtu.be/4cESoLne6Fw>

## Hold to God's Unchanging Hand

CCLI Song #4742218

Song #613 in our hymnal

Alton H. Howard | Franklin Lycurgus  
Eiland | Jennie Wilson

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