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Port Orchard Church of Ch<u>rist</u>

Where Jesus is Loved, Jesus is Lifted, Jesus is Lived

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Rwanda, Africa

the heart of Africa, lays a tiny country, no bigger than Maryland, USA. The cliché "Good things come in small packages!" is born to truth in Rwanda. This country of just over 12 million people is rich in history, culture, and life. Most of us know the devastating history of the genocide that killed off many innocent Rwandans. What we don't hear too much of is how a country rose from the ashes of self-destruction to new life. Rwandans know forgiveness, reconciliation, unity, and progress. Rwandans have figured out that holding on to deep wounds and resentment only creates a personal hell that kills the soul and all things good. They mourn just as fiercely now as they did in the aftermath that followed the genocide; however, Rwanda has learned that forgiveness is a part of grieving and healing, and that with healing comes rebirth, reconciliation, and inner peace. Rwanda is a country that has learned and is continuing to learn how to balance fear with forgiveness; grace with hurt. Rwandans have given up their right to be angry, to hold a grudge, to retaliate. If ever there were a

Image Credit: <u>Darwinek</u>, Wikimedia Commons. Author is not affiliated with the Port Orchard Church of Christ and all of its affiliates.

people with a right to be angry, it would be Rwandans. Here in the aftermath of vile and evilness, Rwanda has risen to relational heights that the rest of the world only dreams of attaining.



(See photos throughout this publication. Article continues on back page.)

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A Publication of the Port Orchard Church of Christ • March 11, 2018

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.

Save the Dates!

Sunday 03/11	Potluck	
After Services	Tweens & Kids	
	Playtime	
Wednesday 03/14	Pray, Pray, & Pray	
6:00-7:00 pm		

Port Orchard News and Events

Pulpit Preview

Dale Sanders will be giving the sermon on Sunday. Worship Service begins at 10:45. We hope to see you here!



Happy Birthday!

March: Ariana Avery-04, Charlotte Hahn-04, Lynn Chapman-05, Lydia Gerard-10, Brad Orser-12, Troy Hill-15, Mary Carter-23, Billy Hanson-23, Jim Furstenwerth-24, Darrell Fry-25, Faith Wichman-28, Mallory Hall-30, JT Keagle-29, Roger Taylor-31

Last Sunday

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

Wednesday Evenings

What: Pray, Pray, & Pray (1 Peter 5:7) Where: Port Orchard church of Christ Auditorium When: Wednesdays, 6-7pm

Serving March 11, 2018:

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Prayer Leader:	Ken Reinke	Communion Prep:	Rick Velasco
Scripture Reader:	Rick Velasco	Communion Cleanup:	Rick Velasco
Offering Thoughts:	Ken Avery	Song Leader:	Gene Gerard
Communion Meditation:	Wayne Hammock		
Servers:	David Lawrence & Tim Duffy		
Ushers:	Brandon Karn & Terry Bratcher	Children's 9:30 Teacher:	Bonnie Mitchell
Greeters:	Greg Warner & Sandi Warner	Youth Worship:	Jessica Zepf
Prayer Partners:	Dale & Lori Sanders	Preaching:	Dale Sanders
Sound:	Brittany Pringle		
Slides/Lighting:	Lisa Bratcher		
Greeters: Prayer Partners: Sound:	Greg Warner & Sandi Warner Dale & Lori Sanders Brittany Pringle	Youth Worship:	Jessica Zepf



Praise for the Woodrows

We bring thanksgiving and praise to the Lord for His providence. The Woodrows now have an apartment to move into in Bremerton!

Life Line Screening

Do you have high cholesterol or high blood pressure? Have members of your family suffered from these ailments? Do you have a poor diet? If you answer "yes" to any of these questions, you may want to consider being screened through the services of Life Line Screening. Life Line Screening uses ultrasound technology to view the plaque build up in your carotid arteries, the main arteries that carry blood to the brain. Blockages in these arteries are a leading cause of stroke. **We are pleased to host this Life Line Screening event on 4/24/2018 at The Port Orchard Church of Christ.** Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call <u>1-888-653-6441</u> or visit <u>www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle</u> or text the word circle to 797979

2018 High School Graduates

If you have a senior graduating this spring, please let sister Bonnie Mitchell know so that we can get our celebration preparations underway. We want to give our graduates a good send-off!

Garage Sale for Manger Scene Fund

To have a successful garage sale, donated stuff is needed. Please donate usable stuff. Not usable:

- No big exercise equipment.
- No old TVs or stereo equipment
- No badly stained, excessively used, excessively dirty, badly damaged, unworkable or broken, has an odor or appears to be unsafe stuff
- No items that go against church values or standards The church garage is available for storage. If you need assistance moving items, see or call Barbara Chasteen or Rick Velasco.

Our Prayer List

Healing:

Jessica, Norma Gregory's daughter Brandon, Jessica's (as above) boyfriend Jamin Mason Those suffering from seasonal viruses & other infections **Delores Brun** Runell Mason **DeLoris** Lawler Norm Brinkley Margaret Myers Tammy Avery's friend Roxanne Encouragement: Brennan, relative of Atwoods & Norma G. Wayne Hammock **Traveling:** Frys Other: 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.

Direction of our congregation.

March 4, 2018

Worship: 75 Class: 45 Offering: \$1,904.46

(Continued from front page.)

Kigali International Community School (KICS) is a PreK-12 school that serves approximately 300 international and national students and families. Families come to Rwanda for many reasons: government work, NGO work, missionary work, business opportunities and more. The mission of KICS is to provide a Christ-centered, U.S. accredited primary and secondary education that challenges students to excel academically and live out a biblical worldview. As members of KICS diverse staff, we interact daily with any number of faiths and worldviews, teaching young men and women what it means to live a life of faith. Staff teach through a biblical lens, developing the next generation of world leaders. Outside of KICS, there are many opportunities to engage in the lives of Rwandans. One such opportunity is Centre Marembo, a local girls' home that houses young girls fleeing abusive situations. Most staff are regu-



larly involved in some outreach outside of KICS. Most importantly, KICS provides is a solid faith based educational community that helps staff and student grow and mature in their love for God. KICS provides the opportunities for students and staff to put their love in action in real and relevant ways. Through

this work, we glimpse the kingdom of heaven here on earth. It is through this work that God's hands and heart are seen daily here on earth.

-Becky Byrd

Becky Byrd served in Rwanda for two years. Chad and Melia McNatt along with their children have been serving in Rwanda for four years. They will come home to stay in June.

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