

September
2018

Currents

A PUBLICATION OF EAGLE RIVER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Fall Presbytery Meeting

We will be hosting the Fall Presbytery meeting this year from October 11-13. There are many ways you can help our church with this endeavor. Below is just a short list:

- * Transportation to and from the airport, beginning Wednesday evening October 10
- * Housing the commissioners and other guests; probably between 15-20 beds needed, the majority for Friday evening the 12th only
- * Shopping for food and other needed items
- * Preparing and serving meals
- * Setting up for and cleaning up after meals

Our administrative assistant, Allison, will handle the communication and task coordination aspects of the meeting.

Please prayerfully consider helping us with this most important meeting as it is a reflection not only of our congregation but our dedication to serve our Lord in his ministry.

Questions? Please talk to Rev. Cartland.

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FROM THE PASTOR:



Dear Friends,

This weekend we celebrate Labor Day. The Labor Day holiday was first celebrated in 1882 and was originally conceived to honor American workers and their contributions to society. It's become a day for picnics and enjoying the last days of summer before fall sets in. It's also an opportunity to reflect on the meaning of work and vocation. I found these words in our online newsletter resource: *Vocation comes from Latin for "calling." Christians understand vocation as that for which God created you, involving activities you do well, enjoy and feel good about doing, and that serve others.*

All of us, no matter what we do or how old we are, have a vocation, a call from God to serve him. In the fifth century Saint Benedict said, "to work is to pray." Whether we are quiet in prayer before God or actively engaged in working for him we are working *and* praying – all of us, all the time, whatever we are doing.

After a summer of talking about God at work in our lives, we are beginning a new worship focus this month as we explore how our faith is at work in our own individual lives, in our congregation, and in the world. On September 23rd we will have a Service Emphasis Sunday and hear from representatives from the Chugiak/Eagle River Food Pantry and Alcoholics Anonymous about how their work and ministries have been impacted by their ability to use our building – a building that is sustained and maintained by the financial and

physical contributions of this congregation. In October we will be blessed to host the fall meeting of the Presbytery of Yukon, a gathering of pastors and elders from all over our state. The Presbytery meets twice each year to worship and fellowship and do the business of the church. Again, we will only be able to share our building and resources with the Presbytery because of your work and your contributions of time, talent and finances.

Presbyterian pastor and writer Frederick Buechner says this about vocation: *the kind of work God usually calls you to is the kind of work that (a) you need most to do and (b) that the world needs most to have done. If you really get a kick out of your work, you've presumably met requirement (a), but if your work is writing cigarette ads, the chances are you've missed requirement (b). On the other hand, if your work is being a doctor in a leper colony, you have probably met requirement (b), but if most of the time you're bored and depressed by it, the chances are you have not only bypassed (a) but probably aren't helping your patients much either.*

Neither the hair shirt nor the soft berth will do. The place God calls you to is where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet.

If we are working together for God, our work – and our faith at work in us – is holy, whatever we are doing. If we are glad in our work, whatever it is, God delights in us and our service honors him.

This year, enjoy your Monday holiday, and be glad in the work that we all do for God. It's a blessing to be working together with you!

In Christ,

Piper



Jeff Duft	4-Sep
Taya Peterson	4-Sep
Dennis Spencer	11-Sep
Ellen Koenen	14-Sep
Brent Koenen	17-Sep
John Malecha	21-Sep
Lee Jordan	22-Sep
Andrew Cottle	24-Sep
Kelly Blalock	24-Sep
Becky Musick	28-Sep
Cora Rasic	28-Sep
Jerry McNearney	28-Sep
Joe Braunwarth	28-Sep
Janet Blalock	29-Sep
Christa Cartland	30-Sep
Connor Spencer	30-Sep



Jim & Lorinda Mitchell
September 3

Bill and Ethel Dougherty
September 7

Communion Class

This fall we will hold a Communicants Class to prepare elementary school age children for the Lord's Supper. The class will take place on October 7th or November 4th before worship; October 7th is in the middle of the long Columbus Day weekend, if that matters in your family's schedule. Even if your child has been taking communion this class will help them understand the Sacrament on a deeper level. If you have questions, please talk to Rev. Cartland!



Confirmation Class

There is a brief informational meeting after worship on September 9 to schedule the confirmation class Big Questions, Big God. We expect it to happen on Sunday afternoons in October and November.



Annual Church Picnic is next Sunday Sept. 9th following the congregational meeting. Fellowship will be providing BBQ and Drinks for everyone. Please sign up to bring a side dish or dessert to share. Let's celebrate "Back to School" and say Good-Bye to Summer together with good food and good friends.



Since we don't expect to get Chancel Choir up and running until October we would welcome anyone who is interested in sharing their musical talents with the congregation during the worship anthem time. If you would like to be part of our worship service, please talk to Rev. Cartland!

Sunday School Harvest

Sunday school starts up again September 9th and we'll kick off the year by harvesting the garden! Please dress children appropriately or in clothing that can get dirty



Meeting Notices!!

Please take note of both upcoming meetings. Your attendance is requested.

The Session has called a congregational meeting on **Sunday, September 9, at 11:00 a.m.** for electing three congregational members-at-large to the Bylaw Review committee. No other business may be conducted at the meeting.

Congregational Meeting immediately after the Worship service on Sunday, October 28, for the purpose of electing officers, approving Pastor's Terms of Call, and other business as can be properly brought before the congregation.



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