



Toledo Presbyterian Church
312 Augustus St.
Toledo, WA 98591
www.toledopresbyterian.com
TPCPray4m3@gmail.com

The Gleaner Aug-Sept 2024

August Birthdays

Stephen H 8/12
Darla M 8/17
Sandi M 8/19
Gary G 8/27

September Birthdays

Joyce A 9/1
Wayne A 9/13

Anniversaries

Tom & Kathy 8/16
Ernie & Paulli 9/30

Bible Study at TPC

This summer we finished our overview of the Old Testament using the BibleProject videos, using the Jewish order of the Old Testament as a guide to "*Kinda shake things up*", starting with Genesis and ending with Chronicles. **We succeeded.** I think the series went very well and good discussions were had in both the men's and the women's groups. On 7/18 we started with an overview of the New Testament to look at the New Testament as a whole, and I took the opportunity to unveil a new plan for our order.

We will be looking (with one exception) at the New Testament in the chronological order that the books WERE WRITTEN. Many of us are familiar with chronological Bibles that try to weave the various books and letters "as they happened" (or as close as scholars can ascertain), but we will be following the order that they were written, which is quite a different thing.
(Continued on next page)

There are (of course!) many different ways that biblical scholars try to arrange the books of the New Testament in this manner. My approach is to take a conservative view, based on the FACT that none of the New Testament books or letters mention the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem in 70 AD. I think this tells us a LOT about when these works were authored, because the destruction of the third Temple was a REALLY BIG DEAL, and one would expect some reference to it in the Gospels, in Paul's letters, or the general epistles, but there is NOTHING, just a deafening silence on the matter.

I've adopted the following list and approximate dates from Pastor Jacob Prahlow, and this is the order we will be using EXCEPT, we have started with the Gospel of Matthew (7/25) as it, being written for a Jewish audience, is the perfect way to bridge the Old and New Testaments. Key historical events are in ***bold italic***:

Matthew (~60 CE)
Galatians (48-49 CE)
James (48-49 CE)
Jerusalem Council (50 CE)
Mark (50-60 CE)
Jude (50-60 CE)
1 Thessalonians (51-52 CE)
2 Thessalonians (51-52 CE)
1 Corinthians (54 CE)
2 Corinthians (56 CE)
Romans (56-59 CE)
Colossians (58 or 61 CE)
Philemon (58 or 61 CE)
Luke (60-62 CE)
Philippians (61-62 CE)
Ephesians (61-62 CE)
1 Timothy (62 CE)
Titus (62 CE)
Acts (62-64 CE)
2 Timothy (64 CE)
Death of Paul (64 CE)
1 Peter (64-66 CE)
Hebrews (64-70 CE)
2 Peter (66-68 CE)
Death of Peter (68 CE)
Revelation (68-70 CE)
Destruction of Jerusalem (70 CE)

John (70-80 CE)
1 John (70-80 CE)
2 John (80-100 CE)
3 John (80-100 CE)

If you're enjoying our studies together, I hope you'll continue to come. If you've not joined us, I pray you will. The number one reason for the decline Christianity is an ignorance of the Scriptures and what they mean (as God's word to us) in our lives. Please join us! — ***Pastor Tony***



Karen & Tony Reynolds

Operation Christmas Child

This is the time of year when our thoughts turn to Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. It is also the time of year when our thoughts and prayers should be turning to The Greatest Journey Discipleship classes. Most of the shoeboxes from last year have been delivered so many children are now eligible for these classes. Franklin Graham has a mission going to supply 5,000 classrooms around the world with trained local leaders and the resources needed.

These discipleship classes are the most important outreach of the shoebox program. The classes cover the Bible story from the creation of the world, how sin came into the world, God's answer for sin, how to grow in knowledge and trust in Jesus Christ as Savior. Each chapter includes a memory verse and each chapter includes a Challenge asking the child with whom will he/she will share the story just studied. Fun activities are included. Shoeboxes with the pamphlet "The Greatest Story" introduces children to Jesus but the discipleship classes guide the child in accepting Jesus as a personal Savior. Over one-half of the children enrolled will accept Jesus and continue to spread the gospel in his/her family and community.

Upon graduation, each child will receive a certificate of graduation, participate in a graduation party, and most importantly, receive a personal copy of the New Testament in His/her own language. What a wonderful gift!

Each discipleship class averages around 21 children. \$6.00 is all it takes to send a child through these classes. That's the price of one latte-maybe- one ice cream cone- a little over one gallon of gas and none of these things have eternal values. \$6.00 just \$6.00. What an investment. You'll never find a better one. To donate go to www.samaritanspurse.org donate the greatest journey.

Scroll down until you come to TGJ. You'll find guide-plus stories- on how to donate. Thank you. May God put a burden on our hearts for this program and for the children who will benefit from our gifts.

"Angel, a 12 year-old girl in Kenya recently gave her life to Jesus Christ while attending The Greatest Journey. I learned how to live for Christ. I can't wait to be with Jesus each day. I share my story with others." Blessings on you all, Sandy

1 Corinthians 12:4-6— "Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all."

DECYCLES

TPC had a blessing this summer when we hosted 30 riders who were on a ride from Seattle to L.A. We hosted them with dinner, breakfast, snacks and a place to stay. They shared their stories, testimonies of God's impact in their lives and sang us their Decycles Song. God's presence filled our church as did their sleeping bags. A leader Nancy left a letter thanking us and said "We pray God's richest blessings on this church and all the members. You are all delightful. Decycles could not operate without congregations like yours". Thank you TPC!

One more thing. TPC looked so nice thanks to the work of the Gary, Diane and those who helped make the building and grounds look great.

We love seeing our church as a backdrop of the parade every year. It was a beautiful day. TPC set up 2 tables in front of the church with watermelon being handed out. Diane and Jen sliced all of it while Judy and Sandi handed out the slices. Gary and Tony kept them well stocked with watermelon and napkins. The other table had ice cold bottles of water, cookies and caramel popcorn, each sold for \$1.00. We also had our Toledo cookbook for sale for \$10.00. We sold \$233.00 of water and goodies and 22 cookbooks for \$220.00. Thank you Paulli for donating cookies to sell. The money brought in will be given to Toledo Neighbors. They are an amazing team helping our community. We still have cookbooks if anyone asks; a great deal for \$10.00. Faithfully, Karen



Above: the riders get a briefing after arriving at TPC. It was like a whirlwind showed up and all were blessed by God's Spirit.

Toledo Neighbors Program

Amber and the board hosted a Volunteer Appreciation Dinner on June 29th, and we thank them for their vision, leadership and perseverance. The event was held at the Grange. Dinner included healthy in season salads, soups, and purple sweet potato bread. Deserts were provided by Carol (from the Thursday Farmers Market), including bags of cookies to take home. The food was fabulous! It was wonderful to fellowship with other volunteers and to hear the plans for the next year. Education has become a large part of the Neighbor's Program. Printed material including recipe cards, magazines (Washington Grown, Seasoned, Chop Chop) are available in the meeting room. The nutrition program is helping focus our food distributions toward healthy seasonal choices. This fall in partnership with Valley View Medical Clinic, a cooking class is being planned to showcase healthy recipes for crock pot meals. Currently the Distribution includes many fresh organically grown lettuce, zucchini, peppers... People are encouraged to bring their excess produce to share with others. A bee hive has been added to the garden. The raised beds have been planted and irrigation has been installed. There should be a modest harvest this year. Plans are underway to instal a chicken coop. There is so much to learn about gardening. The garden will be a wonderful resource to help our community become more self sufficient. Our Community has been blessed by the vision and hard work of the Toledo Neighbor's Board. Thank you Ladies. Stay tuned for the 2nd Annual Apple Cider making event! Paulli

Rowdy Rooster & Winlock/Vader Foodbank

What a wonderful, diverse, group of Volunteers! I am having way too much fun bagging groceries once a month at the Food Bank. There is a positive helpful attitude, which is infectious. Rylie knows her committee members and always finds time to visit with them. God is at work in this place. I am hopeful that someone will come by and provide us with a Moment for Missions. Rylie is busy running the Children's Program at her Church Sunday mornings, so we are looking for someone else. This group is providing so much to the community. Rowdy Rooster will be open one Saturday a month to provide clothing for Community Members in need. Paulli

Hebrews 13:16 ESV

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Worship Committee

Tony and Karen are off to a Family Reunion and road trip. Robyn Hogue will once again provide our sermon and serve communion on August 4th. As many may remember, Robyn is a retired Pastor from Skyline Presbyterian Church in Tacoma. I look forward to hearing Robyn's message. Tony will be back the following week to continue his sermon series on the Book of Acts. Prayers for safe travel for Robyn, Tony, and Karen. Your Sister in Christ, Paulli

Treasurer's Report for June/July 2024

Let me start by saying that we are in the black as of the end of July even though the month of July itself saw a minus net income. Rest assured we are in good financial condition now, especially considering we are a small and aging congregation. Thanks be to God.

Our building was constructed in the mid- fifties, completed in 1957. In other words, it's an old building. Not as old as some European cathedrals, but old enough to need seemingly constant attention. And that means money. In case you're not aware of the elevator story let me fill you in.

In the middle 2000's Cecile, one of our cloud of witnesses, seeded an "elevator fund" which grew very well and afforded us enough money to remodel what had been the library and make it a lobby for the chair lift. It's really a chair lift. And add a bathroom. There was lots of volunteer labor involved. Pastor Steve had been a carpenter along with his dad in the seventies, and others of the congregation, much larger then, helped out.

It's been a blessing, that elevator/chair lift, but it has been a money pit too. Some years ago, it was decided by Session that our own building committee chair, Dennis, could do the maintenance on the elevator. Save the cost of the expert, who didn't really do much anyway. Turns out that's not how it works! The Washington State Department of Revenue has an Elevator Program which oversees every conveyance in the state. Ours included. Every property owner with a conveyance of any sort must have a Maintenance Agreement in place. There are very few companies in the state who can fill that bill. And they don't come cheap. Plus, when it was discovered that we'd gone seven years with no maintenance agreement we had to make that cost up. Yikes! And now we had to pay for the recent repair of the fried wiring. About five thousand dollars. Makes it difficult to budget for the elevator, I assure you.

Well, I've gone on long enough. As always, if you want more details please ask me or Rebecca, text or email and we'll have an answer or find one.

Yours in Christ, Tom