

First Presbyterian Church

601 Pine Street, Klamath Falls, Oregon 97601 December 2018

Pastor John's Musings....

We hear thru every form of media... Christmas is coming! You have only so many more days to shop! We use 'black Friday' to get our hearts ready for the celebration. The question to be asking ourselves is, "what exactly are we celebrating?"

December 2 begins what is called *Advent*. Advent means "a coming". It has very little to do with the "Christmas is coming" sort of push most people are talking about.



It is the coming of the Christ child, who is the very savior of our world. This coming is a one-of-a-kind moment when all of life is being remade or at least has the possibility of being remade. We frequently speak about His "coming" but often find ourselves ill prepared to fully receive Him.

It is so easy to become swept up in the hype or commercialism of the "Christmas Season" and find ourselves completely

distracted and alienated from the reason for this season. As we find ourselves falling victim to the commotion and chaos of buying presents, preparing our homes inside and out, hosting parties and attending gatherings, we barely have time and energy to say "Happy Birthday" to Jesus. It can seem like we do all this preparation in the name of the One who is coming, even though what we do has very little to do with Him.

Advent is the time to prepare for God's coming to be with us. Advent speaks of the waiting and the hoping of what has-been-promised.

From the writings of the prophet Isaiah, chapters 7-9, we receive a pretty clear picture of God's promise that He will join us. In Isaiah 7:14 and again in Matthew 1:23, we read these words: "*The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel*" — which means, 'God with us.'"

"Prophecies of the Christmas King" is our advent guide for this year, which will be the basis of our sermons through December. (*This booklet*

Pastor John's Musing....

can be found in the church entrance) We will be considering five aspects from Isaiah's prophesy: *Immanuel, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father and Prince of Peace.*

I want to invite you to stand outside of the distractions and make the weeks of Advent *preparation* for receiving Jesus. There is no getting around the fact that we will experience hustle and bustle. But let us take time to breathe in deep the true hope, peace, joy and love that comes pouring forth from our God.

In God's grip, His is the strong one...

Pastor John



Christmas Events!

Bell Choir Concert
Saturday, December 8th
7:00-8:30 p.m.

FPC Christmas Concert
Sunday, December 16th
6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Children's Program
Sunday, December 23rd
10:30-between services

Christmas Eve Services
Monday, December 24th
4:00 and 6:30 p.m.

DECEMBER Children's Ministry News

There will be no King's Kids on Wednesdays, December 19th and 26th and January 2nd. Our next semester will start on January 9th.

King's Kids will have a pajama, pizza and popcorn party on December 12th when we will watch a movie. Please be praying for our Wednesday night program during Christmas break.



During the month of December, we will be using an amazing curriculum for Sunday School. Our children will learn about the birth of Jesus from Candy Cane Christmas.

Parents of our Sunday School and S.W.A.P. kids - we will be taking an offering through November and December for local families in need. The kids of FPC want to provide for families who need a little extra help during the holidays.

Bring your change and offerings on Sundays.

FPC Children's Ministry Presents

THE NEIGHBORHOOD LIGHTS



We are thrilled to be having a Christmas program on Sunday, December 23rd.

The kids of FPC will be presenting *The Neighborhood Lights* for the congregation between the first and second services.

Super Seniors!

For those of you who missed Denny's travelogue about her trip to Africa, you missed some excellent photos and some good information. I'll probably never get any closer than that to Africa but the pictures certainly made me want to go.

Thank you Denny and your travel companions Paul and Trudy Novak!

On the 17th of December please join us for some Christmas caroling and some holiday treats. We're providing Ham and the rest of us can bring the sides; salads, potato dishes, vegetables, desserts, fancy cookies, specialty candies or your own special traditional dishes.

See you all soon!
Barb Dehlinger and Belinda Reno



Young Adults Group Christmas Party
Saturday December 8th
5:00-7:00 p.m.
at
Pastor John & Deanna Geiter's home
611 Loma Linda Drive
Dinner will be provided
Childcare will be held at First Pres.
White Elephant gift exchange & bring goodies!

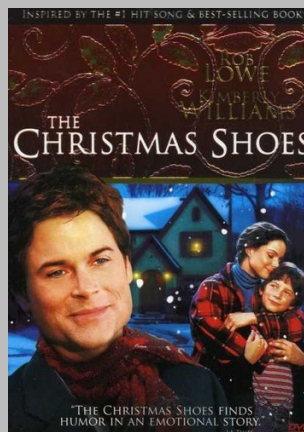
Please RSVP to contact@klamathfpc.com
or call the office at (541) 884-7781

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE CHURCH LIBRARY VOLUNTEER STAFF



LISTED BELOW IS A SAMPLE OF SOME OF THE SEASONAL TITLES
THAT ARE AVAILABLE TO ENJOY:

DVD's



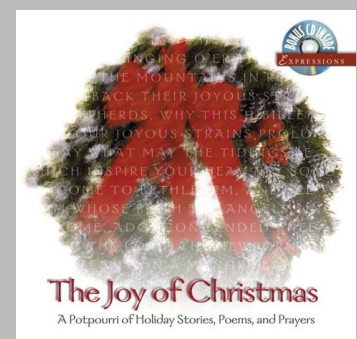
**CHRISTMAS IS NOT YOUR BIRTHDAY: EXPERIENCE THE JOY
OF LIVING AND GIVING LIKE JESUS by Mike Slaughter**

This Christmas, cut through the hype that leaves you exhausted and broke at the end of the year. Instead, experience the peace of knowing that God is truly with us, the joy of giving sacrificially, and the love of a Savior who gave everything he had for us. In five short, engaging chapters, Pastor Mike Slaughter inspires readers to approach Christmas differently, and be transformed in the process.

**THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS: A POTPOURRI OF HOLIDAY
STORIES, POEMS AND PRAYERS by Angela Kiesling**

This gift book celebrates the "most wonderful time of the year" in words and pictures. The Joy of Christmas features Scriptures, poetry, prayers, and stories, all centering on the miracle of Christ's birth.

Amazon.com





To our dear and treasured FPC family,

We wanted to thank all of you who have taken Angel Tree tags and will be providing presents for the children of incarcerated parents. The Angel Tree Prison Fellowship is such a worthwhile cause. This program so helps these children to know that they are truly loved by their parents and our Lord.

There are still 14 Angel Tree tags that are available to be picked up. It helps tremendously (to make sure all the kids will have presents) if you can have the gifts back to the church by December 5th.

Thanks again for your loving support of this ministry.

Blessings,

Barb, Coral and Gena.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Christmas Concert

❄️ Family-friendly ❄️
Childcare under 3 yrs
Food and drinks provided

❄️ **DECEMBER 16TH**
❄️ **6:00 - 7:00PM**

*We wish you a Merry Christmas, We wish you a Merry Christmas,
We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*



PLEASE COME TO THE KLAMATH JOYFUL RINGERS FOR THEIR 15TH YEAR OF PARTICIPATION IN THE KLAMATH FALLS SNOWFLAKE FESTIVITIES ON SATURDAY DECEMBER 8TH, 7:00 P.M. AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

**HAND BELLS RINGING
AND CHRISTMAS CAROLS SINGING.**

**COME ON
RING THOSE BELLS
EVERYBODY SING!**





New Members Class
Wednesday, December 12
5:30 – 7:30
Includes light dinner

Are you interested in knowing more about our church or making First Pres. your home church?

Do you have a desire to become more involved or find ways to serve?

Then this class might be for you!

Please sign up on the Connection cards, or contact the office at (541) 884-7781 or email contact@klamathfpc.com



EMOTIONALLY HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS COURSE

CHANGE PEOPLE. CHANGE THE WORLD.

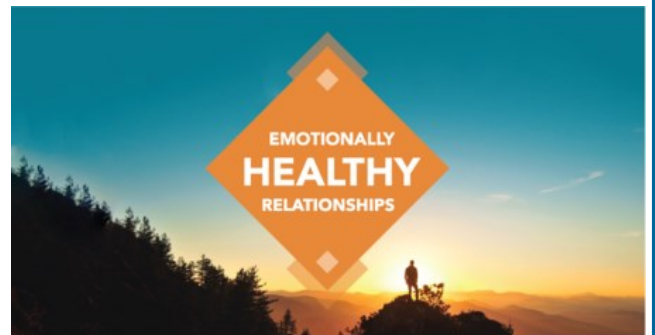
DISCIPLESHIP *that DEEPLY CHANGES YOUR RELATIONSHIP with OTHERS*

In The *EH Relationship Course*, everyone will learn 8 practical skills to develop mature, loving relationships with others such as:

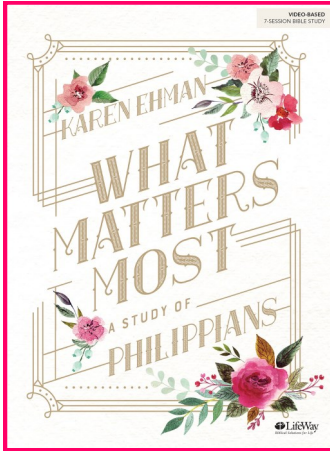
- Stop Mind Reading and Clarify Expectations
- Incarnational Listening
- Climb the Ladder of Integrity
- Clean Fighting

Loving others and loving God cannot be separated. Join us as we grow in our personal first-hand relationship with Jesus.

DATE: January 13TH Sunday
TERM: 8 Sessions, every two weeks
TIME: 5:30pm to 7:30pm
PLACE: Fireside Room



Upcoming Women's Bible Studies



What Matters Most - Bible Study Book: A Study of Philippians By Karen Ehman

The world has always been full of trials, disappointments, temptations, fractured friendships, and financial hardships. Yet Paul's letter to the Philippians claims we can discover contentment and joy in the midst of it all by prioritizing what matters most—Christ.

Over 7 sessions, study the ever-relevant Letter of Philippians to deepen your relationship with Jesus, turn your worries into worship, and develop gospel-centered tools for navigating relational conflict and thriving in Christian love.

Benefits:

- Learn to live in joy despite your circumstances.
- Unearth the secret of contentment—knowing Christ.
- Banish anxiety by implementing biblical practices to rest in the peace of Christ.
- Prioritize the Lord above all else.

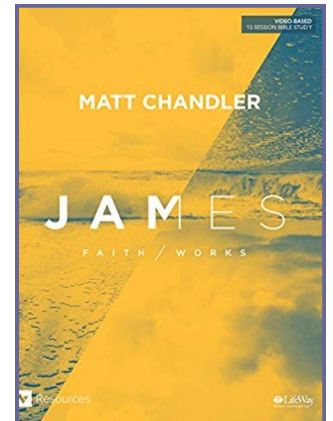
Develop gospel-centered tools to navigate relational conflict. [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/What-Matters-Most-Bible-Study-Book/dp/1493414444)

What Matters Most Bible Study begins January 8th & 9th.



James Bible Study Book by Matt Chandler includes a small-group experience for 13 sessions, personal study between group sessions, applicable Scripture, “How to Use This Study,” a leader guide, and a family discipleship page.

James had a unique earthly relationship with Jesus, but his letter clarifies what the Christian life should look like for us all. The Book of James is filled with practical wisdom for Christians, calling us to live out genuine faith through good works, but it is also rooted in rich theology. Perhaps more than any other book in the New Testament, James emphasizes the application of Christian belief.



Benefits:

- Gain a better understanding of the Book of James and apply its practical wisdom for all Christians.
- Learn how to deal with trials and temptations, understanding that enduring adversity ultimately brings joy.
- Learn to extend mercy, not harsh judgment, to others.
- Realize that words are important and must be used for good, not evil.
- Learn to fight against the passions and desires at war within us.
- Recognize the importance of praying for one another in sickness, health, suffering, and joy.
- Accept the challenge to speak truth to our brothers and sisters who wander from the faith.
- Come to humbly view all of our days as lived under the sovereign will of the Lord.

[Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/James-Bible-Study-Book/dp/1493414444)

James Bible Study begins February 26th & 27th.

First Presbyterian Church
601 Pine Street
Klamath Falls, OR 97601

Return Service Requested

FPC Elders

Heidi Neel Biggs
Thelma Cox
Barb Dehlinger
Craig Rappe`
Belinda Scalas
Andrew Smith
Laura Stewart
Mitch Stokes
Rich Touslee
Gay Woods



A Covenant Order of
Evangelical Presbyterians

FPC Deacons

Randy Clark
Bryan Coe
Charlie Dehlinger
Denny Fullerton
Bill Kennedy
Emily Mengis
Terrie Mumford
Valerie Picard
Brooke Smith
Judy Swan
Lee Woods

Contacts at FPC

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601 Pine Street
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(541) 884-7781
contact@klamathfpc.com
(prayer requests)



WEBSITE:
www.klamathfpc.com

Our time of services are:
9:00 Contemporary
11:00 Traditional

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