

Princeville Presbyterian Church

August 2018

August Events

- 1st, 8th, 15th – Prayer Service
- 2nd, 11th, 16th – Food Pantry
- 4th – Church Work Day
- 5th - Communion
- 5th, 19th – PSC Meeting
- 14th – Deacon/Session Mtg.
- 18th – Women's Brunch
Pool Party
- 19th – Fellowship Meal
- 22nd – AWANA Opening Night
- 26th – Rockin' Seniors

I had been visiting my friend, Michael, and was preparing to leave his home following a delightful afternoon visit. I turned to walk out when my attention was grabbed by a wall hanging set at eye-level next to the door. Within a picture frame on professional matting were three rectangles of high quality cotton paper with hand-scrawled calligraphy, of which the first read -

"I, Michael, take you, Lindsay, to be my wedded wife . . . I do promise and covenant before God and these witnesses to love you . . . "

The implication could not be missed. Whenever he would leave the house he was reminded of his vows of marriage so that they would call him to attention as he walked into the world. As the world, the flesh and the devil set all their energies against him, he would carry in his thought and heart the promise he made to one woman above all others that come Hell or high water, he would be hers and would care for her though it cost him blood.

The other two rectangles contained his church membership vows, and his ministerial ordination vows – implying the same devotion as he walked through the door. Here was someone who took his vows seriously, come Hell or high water, as we all should, . . . as we all must.

It was a great privilege to me when it was requested that I lead a different couple through marriage vow renewal after 10 years of trial and testing. That same commitment and devotion was reflected and renewed in a sentence added to their original promises -

"Let the winds be in our face and the storm rage around us . . . by Divine grace I promise to stand unwaveringly by your side as we in Christ face the world together."



Irrespective of what we like or don't like, what we want or don't want, vows are about being who we are supposed to be for the sake of someone else.

But vow-keeping has fallen on hard times in our day. Many speak words of promise with hardly a notion of actually holding true to it if it fails to serve their interests or their feelings. If it is to their advantage to shade the promise or bend it or ignore it altogether they barely resist the temptation.

Thanks be to God that his love and commitment to us in Christ rises as high as his holy character and nature! It is not so weak and fragile and variable as our love – not like the morning mist which the warm breezes blow away.

“I will never leave you nor will I ever forsake you. I will be with you always, to the end of the age.”

Such a sustaining devotion, when understood, cannot easily be snubbed. None with a Christian conscience can brush aside such a divine vow and wander off into the shallow enticements that dangle and sparkle before our eyes. When the storms rage around us, it is profoundly steadying to know that Christ has promised, vowed to always be right there with us.

When we really understand such unswerving commitment, it demands of us resolve to fulfill our own vows. After all, if Christ (who keeps his vows) is living within us, how could we not care to keep our own vows – vows that we've made to him and vows that we've made to others?

This is a significant part of the point, isn't it? Ultimately, a vow which has been made is not ONLY about us personally – it is made for others as well. Hebrews (6:17-18) tells us that when God wanted to affirm his word, he took an oath, a vow, and he swore by himself to assure the heirs of the promise that he would fulfill it for them. Heirs of the promise – that's us – we who look to the Lord in hope. We rely upon it.

This is precisely why my friend would remind himself of his vows as he left his home. His wife relied upon him. His church relied upon him. He promised.

But we don't only take wedding vows – we in the Presbyterian church take vows of church membership.

Do you promise to support the Church in its worship and work to the best of your ability? Do you promise to stand beside her unwaveringly even if the winds be in your face and the storm rages around you?

Anniversaries

16th – Jake & Ashley Potter

18th - Kirk & Nancy Potter



Church membership vows are not only for us and certainly not only about us. Church membership vows are about the Living God and about God's people. When we take those membership vows, we make promises about doing our part in the life of the church, Christ's body, God's people, for God's purposes, and for the sake of those others of God's who look to us and rely upon us. Interestingly enough, when we take church vows, we also do so for the sake of those who are NOT in the church, for they watch us to see if we are worth our words.

When Sunday morning comes around and you are not in worship where you have taken vows of membership, ask yourself, "Why?" When the church gathers for a church-wide activity and you are elsewhere, ask yourself, "Why?"

The promises of the world are flighty, giddy things that have little substance and, in these days, may be cast aside at will. The People of God are to be more steadfast and substantial than that. If we have promised, then come Hell or high water let us make every effort to keep our promises – to God, to his Church, to our loved ones, to everyone. If it means printing them up and posting them next to the front door of your house to remind you as you go out into the world, then so be it – so many others are watching to see if God be True.

Guard your steps when you go to the house of God. To draw near to listen is better than to offer the sacrifice of fools, for they do not know that they are doing evil. Be not rash with your mouth, nor let your heart be hasty to utter a word before God, for God is in heaven and you are on earth. Therefore let your words be few. For a dream comes with much business, and a fool's voice with many words. When you vow a vow to God, do not delay paying it, for he has no pleasure in fools. Pay what you vow.

(Ecclesiastes 5:1-4)

... let your "yes" be yes and your "no" be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

(James 5:12)

Taking Every Thought Captive to Christ,

Chris

Prayer – “Prone to Wander”

By Barbara R. Duguid & Wayne Duguid Houk

***Call to Confession: Romans 8:26-27**

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

***Prayer of Confession**

Heavenly Father,

Teach us to love prayer. Help us to live our lives before you, in public and in private, at church and at home, each prayer and each moment perfumed with the incense of Christ's atoning blood. We are invited by your promises to come to you with all our burdens and desires. Draw us by the power of your Spirit, or our hearts and minds will wander carelessly from thought to thought, and our anxieties will rule over us.

We praise you that great sin draws out great grace, for we are great sinners. We seldom want to pray, and when we do our petition are laced with self-importance and mixed with sinful motives. We confess our ignorance, for we do not know how to pray, and we confess our willful rebellion for prayers uttered from cold and selfish lips. But we celebrate Jesus and plead his righteousness to cover our iniquities, and rejoice that his obedience weighs more heavily on your scales than all our sin and satisfies your justice in full. Where our guilt is most terrible, your mercy is most free and deep, and we thank you for this incredible grace.

Holy Spirit, by your power, may the throne of grace become the pleasure ground of our souls. There may we know the delight of our Savior's love, the relief of repentance, and reconciliation, the privilege of our sonship. Ignite our hearts with joy before you, quicken our deadness with thanksgiving, and strengthen us to cling to you, love you, and obey you. Fill us with the imagination of faith, which considers all things possible and believes that you are a God who loves to give far beyond all that we could ask or imagine. May we grow to be persistent in prayer, until Christ is the pulse of our hearts, the spokesman of our lips, and the center of all our hopes and longings. In his great name we pray, amen.

***Assurance of Pardon: Romans 16:25-27**

Now him to is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith – to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.



Summary of Session work for July 2018

Two meetings were held this month. The first was on July 7 for the elders to discuss the resignation of John Meuser as was required by our Book of Order Chapter 14. Reports were given of conversations with him explaining his reasons. While we were sorrowful over his decision, we accepted his resignation with prayers for his spiritual well-being. We also discussed a communication to the congregation about his resignation with a commitment to deliver that the next day.

Our second meeting was the ordinary monthly meeting. It was a short one as we dealt quickly with business items that were at hand. Both elders and deacons were present as the meeting opened with a devotional from Proverbs 29:18 on the need for leaders to have and promote a vision for the people of God. The deacons brought a report of what they will do to operate the Community Pantry in the absence of John Meuser. They also explained what they will need to maintain operations. They also reported on what would be needed for the August Blood Drive. The deacons were dismissed with prayer and thanks. After this we made decisions on a Church Work Day and the Rally Day Picnic. We then spent a season in prayer for the congregation and were adjourned.

The next Session meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 14, 2018 at 7:00 pm. As always, session meetings are open for congregational members to attend unless there are matters to be discussed that require the protection of personal reputation.

VBS 2018

This year's VBS was a huge success! Thank you so much for all of the help and time donated. You are all an integral part of sharing the Gospel in our community.

A special thank you to:

Director: Joyce Basehoar

Registration: Barb Dallinger & Diane Hofer

Name Tags: Diana Williams

Pastors: Chris Baker & Mark Waldis

Music Videos: Kailee Keighin

Posters: Alaina & Amanda Keighin

Sound/Music: Olivia Potter

Kitchen: Janice Gardner & Wren Coats

Fill-In: Lynn Reiner

Crafts: Cindy Kelly & Faith Pensinger

Recreation: John Meuser & Conner Freres

Music: Kathy Hohenbery & Sara Long

Teachers: Mishona Waldis, Kim Friedman, Julie Hyde, Diana Davis, and Theresa Snedden.

Teacher Helpers: Hope Harwood, Jesenia Horton-Meza, Trista Frazelle, Jennifer Freres, Griffin Crear, Emily McMahan, and Callie Jo Coats



Birthdays

6th – Lynn Lehmann 9th – Alexis Heck
 10 – Robert Heck 11th – Alaina Keighin
 12th – Tanya Drummond 18th – Joanne Cox
 20th – Kiera Drummond 23rd – Don Wilson
 28th – Steve Cox & Zoe Potter
 31st – Chris Noonan



August 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Prayer Service @ 6:30pm	2 Food Pantry @5pm	3	4 Work Day @ 9am
Administrative Office Closed Through August 6th						
5 Communion PSC Mtg. @7pm	6 Prayer Group @ 9:30am Office Closed	7	8 Prayer Service @ 6:30pm	9 Blood Drive 2-7pm	10	11 Food Pantry @5pm
12	13 Prayer Group @ 9:30am	14 Deacons @6:30pm Session @ 7pm	15 Prayer Service @ 6:30pm	16 Food Pantry @5pm	17	18 Women's Brunch @10am (Micheale's) Pool Party @6-8pm
19 Fellowship Meal PSC Mtg. @7pm	20 Prayer Group @ 9:30am	21	22 AWANA – Opening Night @ 6:15pm	23	24	25
26 Rockin' Seniors	27 Prayer Group @ 9:30am	28	29 AWANA @6:15pm	30	31	

God does not demand that we give up our personal dignity,
that we throw in our lot with random people, that we lose
ourselves and turn from all that is not him. God needs
nothing, asks nothing, and demands nothing. It is a *life with
God* which demands these things.

~Annie Dillard, *Teaching a Stone to Talk*



AWANA 2018-2019

Opening Night is Wednesday, August 22nd @ 6:15pm (Registration Begins at 6pm)

Thank you to everyone who serves in, prays for, and donates to this outreach ministry! Here are this year's volunteers that you can be praying for. As always, help is always needed and appreciated.



Pied Beauty

Glory be to God for dappled things –

For skies of couple-colour as a brinded cow;
For rose-moles all in stipple upon trout that swim;
Fresh-firecoal chestnut-falls; finches' wings;
Landscape plotted and pieced – fold, fallow, and plough;
And all trades, their gear and tackle and trim.

All things counter, original, spare, strange;
Whatever is fickle, freckled (who knows how?)
With swift, slow; sweet, sour; adazzle, dim;
He fathers-forth whose beauty is past change:
Praise him.

~~ Gerard Manley Hopkins (1844-1889)

Commander: Joanne Cox

Game Leader: Steve Lehmann

Jr. Game Leader: Eli Keighin

Administrative: Janice Gardner

Cubbies Director: Sharon Van Meter

Leader: Michael Webber

Jr. Leaders: Olivia Potter & Ryan Lehmann

Sparks Director: Lynn Lehmann

Co-Director: Joyce Basehoar

Leaders: Dennis Van Meter, Jennifer

Freres, Tanya Drummond

Jr. Leaders: Brayden Lehmann & Connor
Webber

T&T Director: Suzi Noonan

Leader: Amanda Keighin

Helper: Tanna Krey

Jr. Leaders: Alaina Keighin & Tiernan
Simpson