



Presbyterian Portfolio

First Presbyterian Church
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Upon Further Reflection

Words and the Worlds They Create

God famously created order out of chaos through the words, “Let there be ...” One by one, there was light, atmosphere, dry ground and seas, plants and vegetation, lights in the heavens, living creatures, and human beings made in God’s own image. Words were spoken and a world was created.

Jesus is also described as “the word,” or in Greek, the *logos* as we read in John 1. For this reason he is sometimes referred to as the Living Word. Where Jesus speaks, the Apostle Paul discern a new creation – a new world.

Words create our world even today. Culture, society, laws, customs, books, movies, music, podcasts and software – they are all rooted in words. The more the words we use and surround ourselves with have integrity, depth, purpose, and life, the more they draw us into the loving heart of our Creator. And, on the other end of the spectrum, words can also destroy, dehumanize, distort, and dislocate our lives. When words are used deceitfully, when words throw people off balance and take advantage of their fears, when words pile up power for some at the expense and exclusion of others, we know whose world is being built.

Words come cheap – more so now than ever. Through AI chat bots, words of poetry, philosophy, analysis, and counsel can be generated in seconds. It seems a miracle. But if these words ring hollow it’s because they are literally telling us what we want to hear – an approximation of human speech rather than a dialogue between two selves.

And so we do well to pay attention to our words and the words being used by the powers of our day. Jesus taught us this when he tested a person’s words by asking oblique questions and challenging common assumptions.

The parables of Jesus show us his mastery of words – often commonplace words – by revealing the unique perception and dynamics of world being ushered in by his incarnational ministry. Jesus’ words can be confusing, hard to reckon with, and full of mystery. But they are chosen for our betterment, and the stories Jesus tells serve to remind us of God’s love for the whole of creation and where we fit within it.

What words have been closest to the tip of your tongue recently? What stories have you told? Whose perspective have you reinforced by these choices?

Words create worlds, and God has chosen the beloved people of Christ to be part of the new heavens and the new earth which the resurrection of Jesus anticipated. May the Spirit give us words that offer hope to a weary world. May we also have the courage to speak them.

Pastor Matt Johnson

Worship

WORSHIP *with us*

**Communion Sundays
August 2nd & 16th**

Join us on Sunday mornings at 10:30 am for worship in person or to watch the livestream. The service will be available on our website, fpc-mac.org, to view later.

The Deep River Contemplative Service is on a summer break. It will return in September.

Children, Youth, & Family

Children, Youth, and Family Ministry

Looking for a way to work with or support the children and youth of FPC? Then CYFM team may be the way to go. Opportunities include Kidventure, a Monday night program for children pre-K-5th grade, MYC, a Sunday night program for the middle and high school youth, or the planning team, our CYFM committee. Anyone who is interested in joining any of these options are invited to join us for our next meeting Wednesday, August 5th at 4 pm at the church, or contact Mary McBride, Denise Collins, or the church office for more information.

MYC Service Learning Trip

Many thanks to those who supported the youth as they ventured to Alabama to follow up their focus this past year on social justice. Financial support was close to \$5,000 from FPC alone—what generosity! Thank you. And so many prayers and notes/letters for the team that went...what a blessing to have so many in our church family lifting them up! The group returns late Saturday, August 1st.

Don't forget to join them, as well, for a time of sharing on Sunday, August 9th at 2:00 pm at First Baptist Church. The youth will recap their experiences and their insights. Desserts will be served!

CHILDREN'S TIME

Sundays at 10:30am
Children are invited to worship & will be excused to Children's Time



August 2
No Children's Time
Communion Sunday

August 9
Fruits of the Spirit -
Faithfulness

August 16
Fruits of the Spirit -
Gentleness

August 23
Fruits of the Spirit -
Self Control

August 30
Fruits of the Spirit -
Celebration

SUPPORT
The McMinnville Youth Collective
THROUGH:

BOTTLE DROP

- 1 Pick up a blue recycling bag from the Church Office
- 2 Fill the bag with recyclable cans, plastic bottles, & glass bottles
- 3 Take the bag to Bottle Drop 1250 NE Lafayette Ave. Mac

Earth Care Corner



Earth Care Retreat

Earth Care is sponsoring a one-day retreat, on Wednesday, August 5th at the Trappist Abbey. As we partner with God in taking care of His earth, our focus will be on “looking towards the future”.

Share your harvest or reap the benefits of a harvest

Earth Care will have a produce table in the gallery for sharing the vegetables and fruits from your gardens. Stop by to see if there is something you might like. The table will be out each Sunday through August 30th.

Plastic Recycling Collection

Saturday, August 8th from 10-1 will be the Plastic Recycling Collection at the McMinnville Covenant Church. The cost of recycling is \$4 per brown paper grocery bag of sorted plastic. Sort and bag items separately. Plastic must be clean and dry to be accepted.

#1 PET plastics, must be clear and without color

Items must be marked with a #1 recycling symbol. Below are some examples of #1 PET plastics



Clamshells



Egg cartons



To-go containers



Apple cases

#2 (HDPE) Plastic

Items must be marked with a #2 recycling symbol. Below are some examples of #2 HDPE plastics



Bucket lids



Lids marked #2



Supplement bottles



Pak-tech beverage holders

#6 (PS) Plastic

Items must be marked with a #6 recycling symbol except for the few exceptions listed. Below are examples of #6 plastics:



Condiment cups
(#6 are "cloudy")



Takeout containers



Coffee cup lids



Cups



Breadclips



CD containers



Tape dispensers



Cassette cases

These items do not need to be marked with a #6

#4 (LDPE) Plastic

Items must be marked with a #4 recycling symbol*. Most #4 plastics are lids, below are some examples:



Lids marked #4



Squeeze bottles



Eyedrop bottles



Eyedrop vials
(*may not be marked but they are #4)

#5 (PP) Plastic

Items must be marked with a #5 recycling symbol. Below are some examples of #5 plastics



Dental floss containers
(with metal tab removed)



Cold drink cups



Takeout containers



Tupperware containers



Plant pots under 4"



Coffee cup lids



Prescription pill bottles with caps removed



Misc. plastic containers



Condiment cups
(#5 are clear)



Fruit cups
(empty)

Also accepted are straws and utensils, bread bag clips and plastic screw-on caps.

Nuts & Bolts

DOLLAR\$&CENTS

FINANCIAL REPORT

(Operating Fund)

<u>June</u>	<u>Actual</u>		<u>Budget</u>	
Receipts	\$ 31,971	7.3%	\$ 36,587	8.3%
Expenses	39,143	8.5%	38,373	8.3%
Increase/ (Decrease)	\$(7,172)		\$(1,786)	8.3%

<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Actual</u>		<u>Budget</u>	
Receipts	\$ 220,121	50.1%	\$ 219,522	50.0%
Expenses	200,497	43.5%	230,236	50.0%
Increase/ (Decrease)	\$ 19,624		\$(10,714)	50.0%

June receipts were less than budget while expenses were more than budget, resulting in a decrease.

Thank you for your continued support.

Session Highlights

Action taken and information items are summarized for the Portfolio monthly. Session met on July 15th. Here are the highlights:

1. The Session would like to extend a special, heartfelt thank you to Nancy Kinkelie for sharing her beautiful gift of music!
2. The Session approved the disbursement of \$18,500 from the Ruby Shelton Scholarship Fund to two deserving applicants.
3. Session approved the bid to install a mini split system in the kitchen and the balcony and to replace heat pumps for Calvin West and the Knox Room.
4. Session approved engaging Ministry Architects to provide us with the use of their Volunteer Management Tool. This will provide the ability to find volunteers based on their gifts and desires.



Pastor Matt is on Study Leave through August 2nd. He will also be on vacation August 10th through August 16th.

Prayer Requests

Contact Carley Bushart at
503-560-0183 or prayer@fpc-mac.org

Next Portfolio Deadline: August 24, 2026

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Join Pastor Matt on Monday, August 3rd
at 5:15 pm for discussion & fellowship.

All in the Family



August BIRTHDAYS

Pat Martin	2nd
Claudia Huwaldt	4th
Joanne Mucken	7th
Becky Donaly	13th
Janet Myatt	13th
Kris Brunner	18th
Arabella Thomson	20th
Daryl Garrettson	23rd
Karen Olson	24th
Janet Litchfield	26th
Elliott Barske	27th

Happy Birthday!



Keen-Agers!

Adults over 60 years old are invited to a no-host potluck dinner on Tuesday, August 18th at 5:30 pm at the church. Please bring a dish to share, your own beverage if you would like something other than water, and your own table service. There will be no program, just a chance to share a meal together.



**Beyond
Backpacks**

We are collecting cash donations again this year for the Beyond Backpacks program which provides backpacks, school supplies, and more to Yamhill County students. Please make checks to "FPC" and note for backpacks or go online to our website to give. Thank you!

PRAYING
FOR YOU

August Prayer Calendar

"Devote yourself to prayer, being watchful and thankful." Colossians 4:2

Please lift each household name or group listed below in prayer on that day of the month.

1. MYC Service Learning Trip
2. Steve & Rachel Parker
3. Zoe Pearson
4. Personnel Committee
5. Earth Care Retreat
6. Dave & Gudie Pfendler
7. Markita Price
8. Steve Priebe
9. Christine Pritts
10. Duane & Carol Qualey
11. Marlene Radasch
12. Wednesday Breakfast
13. Gloria Richardson
14. Al & Nancy Richbourg
15. Community Dinner
16. Jim Rogers
17. Astuti Rossner
18. Bob Sagers
19. Session
20. John & Wendy Sagers
21. Thomas Sagers
22. Lou Savage & Cheryl Seagren
23. Barb Schoof
24. Ken Sherwood
25. Sandra Sherwood
26. Sara Shreve
27. Tim & Wendy Shuler
28. Bill & Melissa Singletary, Eloise & Savannah
29. Marvin & Eileen Slater
30. David Staneck & Mona Ornelas-Staneck, Jillian
31. David Staneck, Sr.

August Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 MYC Service Learning Trip Nancy on vacation 10:30am Worship 11:30am Fellowship Time	27 MYC Service Learning Trip Pastor Matt on Study Leave 9:00am Monday Morning Maintenance 12:00pm Oak Valley Bridge Club 4:30pm Priscilla Circle	28 MYC Service Learning Trip Pastor Matt on Study Leave 12:00pm AI Anon	29 MYC Service Learning Trip Pastor Matt on Study Leave Portfolio 8:30am Wednesday Breakfast 5:30pm Women's AA Group	30 MYC Service Learning Trip Pastor Matt on Study Leave	31 MYC Service Learning Trip Office Closed Pastor Matt on Study Leave	1 MYC Service Learning Trip Pastor Matt on Study Leave 5:00pm Community Dinner
2 Communion Pastor Matt on Study Leave 10:30am Worship 11:30am Fellowship Time	3 9:00am Monday Morning Maintenance 12:00pm Oak Valley Bridge Club 5:15pm Theology on Tap	4 10:00am Staff Meeting 12:00pm AI Anon 3:00pm 99 GAL Friends 3:00pm Personnel Committee	5 8:30am Wednesday Breakfast 9:30am Earth Care Retreat 4:00pm Children, Youth, & Family Team 5:30pm Women's AA Group	6 3:30pm Mission Team	7 Office Closed	8 10:00am Plastic Recycling Collection at the Covenant Church 3:30pm Praise Team Rehearsal 5:00pm Community Dinner
9 10:30am Worship 11:30am Fellowship Time 2:00pm MYC Service Learning Trip Sharing	10 Pastor Matt on vacation 9:00am Monday Morning Maintenance 12:00pm Oak Valley Bridge Club 1:00pm 99 GAL Friends 4:00pm Building & Grounds Team	11 Pastor Matt on vacation 12:00pm AI Anon 1:00pm PEO Chapter DO	12 Pastor Matt on vacation 8:30am Wednesday Breakfast 5:30pm Women's AA Group	13 Pastor Matt on vacation	14 Office Closed Pastor Matt on vacation	15 Pastor Matt on vacation 5:00pm Community Dinner
16 Communion MYC Pool Party Pastor Matt on vacation 10:30am Worship 11:30am Fellowship Time 6:00pm Investment Club	17 9:00am McMinnville Garden Club 9:00am Monday Morning Maintenance 12:00pm Oak Valley Bridge Club	18 10:00am Staff Meeting 12:00pm AI Anon 5:30pm Keen-Agers Potluck	19 8:30am Wednesday Breakfast 9:00am LIFT 9:30am Agape Circle 5:30pm Women's AA Group 7:00pm Session	20	21 Office Closed 10:30am 99 GAL Friends CES Team	22 5:00pm Community Dinner
23 10:30am Worship 11:30am Fellowship Time	24 9:00am Monday Morning Maintenance 12:00pm Oak Valley Bridge Club 4:30pm Priscilla Circle	25 10:00am Staff Meeting 12:00pm AI Anon	26 Portfolio 8:30am Wednesday Breakfast 5:30pm Women's AA Group 6:00pm MYC Dinner	27	28 Office Closed	29 5:00pm Community Dinner
30 10:30am Worship 11:30am Fellowship Time	31 9:00am Monday Morning Maintenance 12:00pm Oak Valley Bridge Club	1 10:00am Staff Meeting 12:00pm AI Anon 3:00pm Personnel Committee	2 8:30am Wednesday Breakfast 4:00pm Children, Youth, & Family Team 5:30pm Women's AA Group	3	4 Office Closed	5 5:00pm Community Dinner