



**JANUARY/
FEBRUARY
2020**

**Banks
Community
United Methodist
Church**

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happy
Valentine's
day



**Pastor's Column
January –
February 2020**

*Have this attitude
in yourselves*

*which was also in Christ Jesus,
who, although He existed in
the form of God, did not regard
equality with God a thing to be
grasped, but emptied Himself,
taking the form of a bond-servant,
and being found in appearance
as a man, He humbled Himself by
becoming obedient to the point
of death, even death on a cross.
Philippians 2:5-8 (NASB)*

We have a ready-made theme
in the very number of our New
Year: 2020. My prayer for us all
is that we will have clear, 20/20
spiritual vision. I also pray that
we will seek God's kingdom and
His righteousness in every matter
in our personal and corporate
lives. May the United Methodist
Church awaken to our Lord's

righteousness. (Romans 13:11)

You and I seek to be humble
because we are flawed and fallible
and finite. We humans are subject
to many temptations and what
John Wesley called "infirmities."
When Wesley called human beings
infirm, he meant that we are not at
all like our God: eternal, infallible,
sinless, unconditionally loving and
forgiving. We need to be humble
because we all fall short of the
glory of God on account of our sin.
(Romans 3:23)

Jesus had no such limitations
upon His human life. He came
into the world as a human being
of flesh because that was the only
form in which He could bear our
infirmities, our sins and our death.
He lived His brief life without
sinning, constantly attentive to the
Father's voice in His heart – and
quick to respond to the moving
of the Holy Spirit always. May
we each look to the year 2020 in

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hopes of living more as He lived, even in our imperfection. Jesus was completely obedient to His heavenly Father.

My prayer for us as a church, as ministry and mission teams and as individual Jesus-followers is that we will trust Jesus' work in us to make the most of us for the sake of His kingdom. May we be taken up by Him as His beloved children, His co-workers, His humble friends. May we reflect His character in the coming year more and more – and give the Lord Jesus all the glory.

Happy New Year!
Blessings,
Pastor Margot

Jesus is Lord



Rev. Nako Kellum

I earned my Bachelor of Law from Aoyama Gakuin University in Tokyo, which was founded by Methodist missionaries in the 19th century. And having been brought up in a Buddhist family, with influences of Shintoism as well, I was not a Christian.” said the Rev. Nako Kellum at “*Transformed!* the Wesleyan

Covenant Association’s Fourth Global Gathering” at Asbury United Methodist Church in Tulsa, Oklahoma, on Saturday, November 9, 2019. “I knew about Jesus from my world history classes in high school. *I knew about Jesus, but I did not know Jesus.*”

“I knew about God, too. Actually, I knew about a lot of “gods.” I prayed to and gave offerings to my ancestors, whom we believed achieved a god-like status after death,” added Kellum, co-pastor at Tarpon Methodist Church in Tarpon Springs, Florida. “I went to Shinto shrines, and prayed to and gave money to many gods, for Shintoism, as you may know, is an indigenous animistic religion of Japan.”

“Consequently, I understand how people were confused about who Jesus was, and why the Nicene Creed was written. At that time, there was a pantheon of Roman and Greek gods in the culture, just like there are a plethora of gods in Japan, but *none of them were like Jesus*,” continued Kellum as she shared her journey to proclaiming Christ as her Lord. “He is ‘God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God.’ ‘Through him, all things,’ including you and me, ‘were made,’ and ‘for us and for our salvation he came down from heaven.’ No other ‘god’ did that for you and me.”

“The second half of John 15:14, after Jesus says, ‘You are my friends,’ reads, *‘if you do what I command you,’*” Kellum said. “When we confess in the Apostle’s Creed, ‘I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,’ we are confessing that Jesus *is more than our friend*,

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Jesus is Lord and ‘sits at the right hand of the Father.’ He is above all ‘gods,’ all rulers, all governments, all churches, all people, all created things...everything we like, love, and cherish. We are called to put ourselves under His authority, and to be loyal to Him, *and Him alone*. Jesus is Lord.”

(You may view a video of Rev. Kellum’s talk at: wesleyancovenant.org)



CALENDAR FOR JANUARY/FEBRUARY:

Sun., Jan. 12, 9:00 AM: The Adult Sunday School Class will begin a video study of the *Acts of the Apostles*. This will be an easy-going discussion based upon our own hearing of the dramatized Scripture. All are invited and welcome.

Thurs., Jan. 16, 6:00 PM: Banks Historical Reception and Kick Off, Schlegel Hall - Celebrating 100 years since Banks became a city. There will be a year of celebration events. Dates and times will be posted. Want to know the history of this town? Go to bankshistory.org.

Wed., Feb. 5, 12 noon: Senior Luncheon, *Celebrating Italy*
Entertainment: High School Choir directed by Ronnie La Grone; Speakers: Ride Connection and Superintendent Jeff Leo

SUNDAYS:

9:00 AM: Adult Sunday School

9:00 AM: Youth Sunday School

January

01/05 Samantha Medinger

01/08 Mariana Knifer

01/12 Laurel Medinger

February

02/26 Sandi Bond



WEDNESDAYS:

9:30 AM: OGC a “retired guys fellowship” meets at the Café 47.

10:00 AM: Wednesday morning ladies’ Study Group.



FOOD OF THE MONTH

The Food of the Month program seems to be an easy way to collect foods and has added greatly to our supply of items that go into our Christmas food boxes and we thank you. We hope you enjoy bringing in the listed foods each month to help build up our supply. For this year the items and months of collection are as follows:

January – chili

February – peanut butter

March – canned fruit

April – jello

May – pork and beans

June – tuna

July – refried beans

August – diced tomatoes

September – hearty soups

October – stove top stuffing – chicken

November – chicken broth

December – cranberry sauce



10th ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TEA AND SILENT AUCTION

Once again we put together an amazing, fun, and successful event and blessed our guests with an elegant tea and a wonderful auction.

On December 7th we hosted 80 guests to an afternoon of fun, fellowship, delectable foods and an opportunity to bid on items in the silent auction. Foods were dished up with eye-pleasing appeal, the men served with finesse.

After all receipts were added up the grand total came to **\$2630.00**, our biggest final total ever. Thanks to all who gave of their time and gifts of foods and



auction items, and to those who attended, to make this year's tea and auction another successful event. It truly couldn't be done without you all.

Gail



Rev. Dexter Danielson (Ret.)

I haven't been keeping in touch in the newsletter since leaving the Fire/Police Chaplaincy last winter but thought now was a good time to catch people up on what I, and Nancy, have been doing with our time. This summer we did go on an enjoyable two-week cruise to Alaska and learned more about our neighbor to the north and met interesting people on board as well as Alaskan residents. We have not yet been able to find the time we wanted to spend at our trailer on the coast but expect that will come.

We are enjoying the flexibility of attending different worship fellowships at churches we have associated with over the years; Banks, Forest Grove and Yamhill of course, and occasionally dropping in at Nehalem Bay UMC. I have also had the pleasure of supplying pulpits in the pastor's absence in Banks, Yamhill and Cornelius.

It is amazing how large that round-to-it list had gotten, and I have only been able to get a few things on it done, including setting up my woodshop and beginning to learn how to wood carve, I even started recently on some fundamental totem carving. Still waiting to get my golf game restarted but expect that will come along to.

More recently I decided that God was not yet finished with me in my calling and am a Volunteer Chaplain at Tuality Hospital. Not as intense as Police/Fire Chaplaincy, with one evening a week and every sixth week on-call

for after hours, I still find it rewarding for the remarkable opportunities for ministry. Visiting with patients and families gives me many opportunities to listen, provide encouragement and pray with those who desire it.

So, there you have it, if anything it has not been a time of idleness, but a time filled with promise of new adventures and ministry opportunities.



110 YEARS OF MINISTRY IN BANKS.....

That's what we celebrated the end of April with special guests, lots of good food and fellowship and a look down memory lane with 110 years of scrapbook history.



CHRISTMAS FOOD BOXES

In 1973 (the earliest record I could find) this church body gave out 4 Christmas food boxes. In 1976 we gave out 15 “baskets”. This year we served 45 families, a total of 191 people. Once again, as in the many years past,

everyone gave of their hearts and hands to help provide a Christmas meal with all the trimmings, produce and enough food for a couple weeks.

Foods for these boxes

were procured with funds from your recycling of bottles and cans, donations from the Food of the Month program, and individual donations, such as the one that was designated for all the turkeys and other meats. Jim’s Market donates all the fresh produce. Andy is also able to purchase foods throughout the year through the Oregon Food Bank for a very minimal price.

On December 21st we had a family from Cornelius, a family from Forest Grove, 4 young Mormon Missionaries, a couple from the Banks community and several church members filling boxes and sharing good

fellowship. We finished in good time and were ready to welcome the family members coming in to receive their boxes as well as Christmas gifts donated by Lucky to Serve, and to wish them all a Merry Christmas. We enjoyed a hearty lunch provided by Leola, cleaned up and said “a job well done” to serve those in need and show God’s love by serving others.

This outreach is the biggest mission of our church and we thank you all for your participation and we look forward to many more years of providing the same love and provisions to those in our community who need a little assistance.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

This congregation has been packing shoeboxes for 22 years, sending them to far-away places, reaching children who are greatly blessed by our efforts and given a chance to come to know Jesus through The Greatest Journey Bible course.



This year we packed and prayed over 91 shoeboxes, our highest number ever. The Banks Drop-off Location received 1264 boxes, down 9 from last year. The west Portland Metro area received 12,598. We are still waiting to hear the final tally from worldwide and national collections and are praying for good numbers. This year the boxes from the West Coast will be sent to Philippines, Ukraine, Mongolia, Kiribati, and Solomon Islands. We can be praying for the children in these countries who will be overjoyed with excitement upon receiving our shoeboxes jammed full of surprises and love.

What a joy it is for us to realize how we can bless so many children with such a simple gift of a shoebox and offer them the opportunity to come to know Jesus. We thank you for your participation in this great mission project and look forward to another great year come next November.

Andy & Gail

WINTER SENIOR LUNCH

Join us Wednesday, February 5th at 12 noon as we celebrate Italy with lasagna, garlic bread and all the fixings. Entertainment will be provided by the High School Choir directed by Ronnie La Grone and our speakers will be from Ride Connection and Banks School District Superintendent Jeff Leo.



BRINGING IN CHRISTMAS AT JIM'S

What fun and joy we had singing Christmas songs and Carols at our local grocery store. Every year we are invited to come and sing. I don't know who benefits more, those listening or those singing.

This year I had to leave a little early...as I left, I stopped to listen as another Christmas Carol was ringing through the store. The music was as if Angels were singing. The blend of the voices was so wonderful, I left feeling very blessed.

Thank you so much for all who came to sing, reminding us all of the Hope through Jesus.

Leslee Sipp



VBS 2019

Marcelle Danielson



Celebrating



100



Years



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Many thanks to Mariana, Sarah and Renee, for taking a bud of an idea and blossoming it into where our children led the church service and telling the majestic story of Jesus's birth. We are indeed blessed by all the talent and willingness to give in our so busy lives.



Joseph went to Bethlehem. He went there with Mary. Luke 2:4-5



She gave birth to her first baby. It was a boy. Luke 2:7



The angel said, "Do not be afraid. I bring good news." Luke 2:10



Every good and perfect gift is from God. James 1:17



And thank you to all our young people for the wonderful Christmas service you presented and lead.

SIX LITTLE STORIES

Thoughts to consider (provided by noted philosopher Michael Terrizzi):

{1} Once all villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella.

That's FAITH.

{2} When you throw babies in the air, they laugh because they know you will catch them.

That's TRUST.

{3} Every night we go to bed without any assurance of being alive the next morning, but still we set the alarms to wake up.

That's HOPE.

{4} We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future.

That's CONFIDENCE.

{5} We see the world suffering, but still we get married and have children

That's LOVE.

{6} On an old man's shirt was written a

sentence 'I am not 80 years old; I am sweet 16 with 64 years of experience.' That's ATTITUDE.

Have a happy day and live your life like the six stories. When I was a child, I thought nap time was punishment. Now it's like a mini-vacation.



[Facebook.com/ThinkPositivePower](https://www.facebook.com/ThinkPositivePower)

How you make others feel says
a lot about who you are.



Leave them with a smile,
a hug, and a kind thought.

**"GOOD FRIENDS ARE THE RARE
JEWELS OF LIFE. DIFFICULT TO FIND
AND IMPOSSIBLE TO REPLACE!"**

RECIPE CORNER

LEMON MELTAWAYS

3/4 cup butter, softened
1/3 cup powdered sugar
1 tbsp lemon juice
1 tsp lemon zest*
1 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
1/2 cup cornstarch



*I used 1/4 tsp lemon OIL instead.

In a medium bowl, cream together butter and powdered sugar until smooth. Stir in lemon juice & zest (or lemon oil). Combine flour and cornstarch, and blend into the lemon mixture to form a soft dough. Divide dough in half, roll each half into a log approx. 8" long and 1" in diameter. Wrap in plastic wrap and refrigerate for 2 hours, or until firm.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Cut each roll into 1/4-inch slices and place

onto cookie sheet.

Bake 10 to 12 minutes, or until set. Cool completely before frosting. Makes approx. 5 dozen cookies.

FROSTING

3/4 cup powdered sugar
1/4 cup butter, softened
1 tsp lemon juice*
1 tsp lemon zest*

*I used 1 tsp cream & 1/8 tsp lemon oil.

In small bowl, mix all frosting ingredients until smooth, adjusting liquid (juice or cream) if needed, for consistency. Frost cookies and allow to dry before serving or storing.

(I used more frosting than this for piping, so made at least a double batch.)

Recipe courtesy of Trudey Cheney

PASTOR MARGOT'S OFFICE HOURS

Banks Community UMC

Tuesday - 10:00 a.m. - noon
 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Thursday - 10:00 a.m. - noon
 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

(At all hours, and any day Sunday through Thursday, please use her cell phone number.) She is also available for urgent or emergency matters at all times via cell.

BANKS TELLER

All submissions to the *Banks Teller* are **DUE BY THE 15TH OF THE MONTH** preceding the month you wish it to run. The *Banks Teller* is published every two months.