



Spirit of Faith

Pastor Jim Deal
Faith Presbyterian Church
Of East Wenatche
February 2023 News Letter

....to inspire and challenge believers to seek deeper ways of serving Our Lord, to motivate all people to follow Jesus Christ, and to nurture one another.

Towards a Flourishing Church

¹² *The righteous flourish like the palm tree,
and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.*
¹³ *They are planted in the house of the Lord;
they flourish in the courts of our God.*

¹⁴ *In old age they still produce fruit;
they are always green and full of sap,*

¹⁵ *showing that the Lord is upright;
he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.*

Psalm 92: 12-15 NRSV

I have just returned from the ECO National Gathering of our denomination. Although tired, I am energized from the experience, and inspired by our future, both as a denomination, and as an individual church.

Besides inspiring worship, involving every possible instrument, from brass to organ to drums and electric guitar, I was also blessed with the opportunity to re-connect with old friends, including Rev. Randy Steele. Once upon a time, he was Jeana's youth pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Spokane. In 1985, he was one of the pastors who presided at our wedding ceremony. He is now retired from the pastorate, but still very active. He sings in the choir at Saint Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Newport Beach, where the Gathering was held. He also teaches an adult education at the church.

In many ways, Randy's life mirrors the vision of the Pre-Conference Workshop I attended, "Unlocking the Third Third Potential of Your Church: Biblical Foundations, Scientific Surprises, and Ministry Implications", by Rev. Dr. Mark D. Roberts.

Here is the description for the workshop:

“Many of our churches have an ample population of “third third” members. Given the demographics of our country, the percentage of older adults in our churches will increase dramatically in the years to come. The potential impact of third third folk investing their lives in the kingdom of God is staggering. It could be both church- and world-changing. But, for the most part, we haven’t given much thought to how to help our third third members flourish, that is, live fully and fruitfully as disciples of Jesus. Yet, we are eager to serve them well and we want to empower them to make a kingdom difference in the world, but we’re not sure how. This pre-conference gathering will help pastors and other church leaders discover the immense opportunity present in their third third members. It will provide both biblical grounding and fascinating input from science (gerontology, neuroscience, psychology, etc.).”

I look forward to sharing with you what I learned from this workshop, while working with our Session to explore ways to help our church flourish in its ministry to our community, and the world.

Faithfully yours,

Pastor Jim

ECO’s Ten Year Vision

from the ECO Team

ECO’s ten-year vision articulates the Kingdom impact we believe God desires through the influence of our movement. We talk about millions of people being touched with the tangible expressions of the grace of God that will lead to many being lavishly adopted into His family. The way we experience this kind of impact is through a thousand flourishing churches that are equipping and empowering a multitude of people to have daily gospel influence. One key strategy that will enable us to have a thousand flourishing churches has to be the planting of new churches. At the same time, we must not only start new churches but strengthen existing churches. One thousand churches isn’t just about the *quantity* of churches, it is about the *quality*. Therefore, we aim for one thousand **flourishing** churches. Our strategy at its core is to develop both lay and vocational leaders, who will be able to both plant and continually transform existing churches.

Pray for Ron Lodge

As many of you know, our accompanist Ron Lodge had a quadruple bypass and mitral valve replacement surgery on Tuesday, February 24th. He came home from the hospital early the next week, and is presently recovering at home. Ron says this wife Jeanne is “an excellent nurse.” He is also very thankful to be home, as he characterizes his hospital room as “the ideal sleep deprivation chamber!” It is good to know that Ron’s sense of humor is intact.

His most recent prayer need is for restful sleep, as he has difficulty drifting off, even with medication. He is certainly in our prayers...

During Ron’s recovery, we have two talented individuals who have stepped in to fill his shoes for nine weeks. Cathy Vejvoda and Gordon Schuster have both served as guest accompanists before, and we are delighted at their willingness to help us out.

Here is the email he sent to me before his surgery:

“Hi all, In the "I have some amazing friends" category, I am thrilled and relieved that between Cathy Vejvoda and Gordon Schuster, I've got every Sunday covered through the month of March!”

The schedule is as follows:

Jan 29 - Gordon

Feb 5, 12 - Cathy

Feb 19, 26 - Gordon

Mar 5 - Cathy

Mar 12 - Gordon



<i>Walt Backus.</i>	<i>2/2</i>
<i>Loren Fischer.</i>	<i>2/4</i>
<i>Bob Art.</i>	<i>2/5</i>
<i>Danny Zumwalt.</i>	<i>2/13</i>
<i>Kathy Monroe.</i>	<i>2/14</i>
<i>Al Cordell.</i>	<i>2/24</i>

Happy Birthday

Feb 2023 ash

Come to our
Ash Wednesday Service!

Wednesday, February 22nd
6:30pm at our Church

Featuring the Sacrament of Communion,
And the opportunity for the imposition of ashes
(optional)

The service will feature participants from both our church, and Saddlerock Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Wenatchee



The month of February

2023

5 Communion 10:00 worship Service 11:15 Fellowship	6	7 1:30pm Board of Deacons	8 9:30am Women's Bible Study	9 10:30 Office is open	10 10:30 Office is open
					11 10am food prep for Lighthouse 11:30 am serving at the Lighthouse
12 Lincoln's Birthday 10:00 worship Service 11:15 Fellowship 3:30pm Super Bowl	13	14 Valentine's Day	15 9:30am Women's Bible Study	16 10:30 Office is open	17 10:30 Office is open
19 10:00worship Service 11:15 Fellowship	20 President's Day	21	22 9:30am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Ash Wednesday Service	23 10:30 Office is open 6:30pm Session Meeting	24 10:30 Office is open
26 Communion 10:00 worship Service 11:15 Fellowship First Sunday of Lent	27	28			