



— Winter 2019 —

First Presbyterian Church of Aberdeen

FROM THE PASTOR

“be angry and do not sin”

Ephesians 4:26

Dear community and friends of First Presbyterian Church,

I heard David Powlison say once that “people tend to respond to trouble with more trouble.” I remember hearing a story of a man who kept a dozen golf balls in his glove compartment. When someone would cut him off in traffic he would speed up and pass the car, move into his/her lane, and then proceed to toss golf balls out of the sun-roof in hopes of hitting the car that cut him off. This is kind of terrifying when you are talking about speeds of 70 miles per hour in busy traffic.

Anger happens. It is a natural and often unconscious response to something that you don’t like. Some anger explodes and some anger simmers. Some anger plays out in minor irritations at daily frustrations – complaining and grumbling. Some anger takes on intense forms of bitterness, hostility, even plotting and planning

the pain or suffering of others (or at least relishing in the thought of such suffering). Anger can often lead to fear and anxiety which plays out in a multitude of destructive ways. And anger is no respecter of persons. Children get angry at parents. Parents get angry at children. People with great wealth get angry. People with very little means get angry. Men get angry. Women get angry. Teenagers think it’s their job to be angry.

Anger also reveals much. The things in which you get angry about reveal the things you care about the most. The stereotypical angry father who sits in his lazy-boy and barks at his kids all night is responding to something he doesn’t like. He wants to sit in his chair and watch the game. His kids’ horsing-around which leads to fighting and then turns into crying is getting in the way of the father’s R & R. So he gets angry. But he doesn’t just get angry for the sake of getting angry he gets angry because he cares about something. In this case what he cares about is selfish, he’d rather veg out and forget about life for a while more than productively interact with his kids. But his anger comes from somewhere – it reveals what he cares about

CON'T FROM THE PASTOR

most, namely, himself.

But anger can also be good. Powlison writes that anger “says ‘That’s wrong’ and energizes us to address real problems. God, who is good and does good, expresses good anger for a good cause. Jesus gets good and angry – in the service of mercy and peace. He is willing and able to forgive us for our anger gone bad. He is willing and able to teach us to do anger right.” When an innocent child is hurt by someone it is right to get angry. When someone steals your Amazon Prime order from your front porch before you get home from work it is right to get angry. Both of those situations are wrong. But, it is also wrong to respond in kind by throwing golf balls at their car at 70 mph.

As followers of Jesus we want to be angry at the right things, the things that are really wrong in the world in which we live. But we want to respond to that anger in a way that brings justice, light, restoration, renewal, and hope to the situation. In other words we want to respond to trouble not with more trouble but in a way that constructively and fruitfully brings new possibilities to the situation. Paul writes to the church in Ephesus, “be angry and do not sin.” He then goes on to describe a variety of ways that we can respond positively to our anger and tells us about the resources that God gives to empower us to do so.

During Lent this year our Soup and Study is going to look at this topic of anger. We will be meeting on Wednesday nights at 6:30pm starting March 13th and we’ll meet for six weeks leading up to Easter. We will take an honest look at our own anger and how it reveals what we care about the most and then we will look at how Jesus invites us and empowers us to be both good and angry – to redeem our anger by acting redemptively.

We would love to have you join us!

Grace and peace,

Doug

WHAT'S HAPPENING

ASH WEDNESDAY, LENT AND SOUP AND STUDY

Ash Wednesday is on March 6th. We will have a simple soup and bread dinner at 6:30pm followed by an Ash Wednesday service of songs, scripture, and communion. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, the 40 days leading up to Easter. During Lent we will have a Soup and Study on Wednesday nights on the topic of anger called Good and Angry. We will look at why we get angry, what our anger reveals about us and the things we care about, and how God calls us to use our anger to bring about positive change in our relationships and in our community. **The Soup and Study sessions will begin on Wednesday, March 13 at 6:00pm.**

AGING AND END OF LIFE CARE WORKSHOP SATURDAY, MARCH 16TH 10AM-1:30PM

There are numerous questions and decisions that individuals and families need to make as they or their loved ones get older. Often these topics are avoided because they are complicated or awkward. We want to help equip the church family and the community with some resources to help begin the conversation and answer some basic questions about the variety of issues that surround aging and end of life care. We will have a few representatives from the healthcare profession giving information on a range of topics from nursing homes to financing and Medicare to the different end of life directives etc. We will also have Bill Morgan give a presentation on the legal side of some of these questions – living wills, estate planning, etc. And then we will also have a short presentation on how churches, like ours, can continue to equip and serve and utilize the gifts and wisdom and experience of aging congregation members. This is a free workshop for the whole community and we will have refreshments and a light lunch for all attendees.

FAMILY PROMISE

After almost 2 years of preparation and planning and prayer the Family Promise program has made it to Grays Harbor. Family Promise is a national program with over 200 affiliates that provides stable shelter for families. The purpose is to keep children together with their parents/guardians who are in unstable or have no permanent housing. Currently 11 churches in Grays Harbor have partnered together and each church will house the families in their buildings for one week intervals four or five times a year. The families will rotate to a different church each week. During the day the families are brought to the Family Promise Day Center (which is currently at Amazing Grace Lutheran Church) where there are showers, laundry facilities, computers as well as a Director and a part-time Social Worker who will work with each family to help them secure employment (if needed) and safe and stable permanent housing. We were scheduled to be the first host church but Family Promise was not able to find a family for the first week and so we will likely host sometime in April of 2019.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

RECOVERY GRAYS HARBOR

Recovery Grays Harbor is currently in the re-visioning process. Currently our church continues to provide space on Tuesday and Friday nights for the CMA 12-step recovery group. We are also continuing to provide meals on Friday nights before the group meeting. However, the Recovery Grays Harbor Oversight Team met for the first time on February 13th to begin asking the questions: What has been successful over the last several years? What have we learned? What aspects of the program would we like to continue? What aspects of the program can we realistically continue? And other questions like these. The team which currently consists of Elinor Robinson, Floyd Plemmons, Scott Light, Harry Carthum, Doug Basler, Margo Hood and Stephanie Becker is in the process of looking at what funding their might be available and how best we want to move forward. Please be in prayer for this ministry and wisdom for what our church can and cannot do.

FOOD BANK

Aberdeen Food Bank continues to utilize our basement for weekly distribution of food. The Food Bank began here this past summer and is still looking for a permanent home. We are praying for a 2000+ square foot building somewhere in the central Aberdeen area. So far we have been unable to find the right building that fits the Food Bank's budget and/or doesn't require too much work. If you know of a building that might even be a possibility we are able to think creatively with space. The weekly distribution has been going well and we are grateful for First Presbyterian Church's hospitality and space. We also received a very generous check from Aberdeen High School from their Fall Football Fundraiser. Please continue to pray for the Food Bank and for the right "home" to open up.

FOSTER THE HARBOR

In addition to the Food Bank, Family Promise and other programs in which multiple churches are working together we are also almost one year out from the first Foster the Harbor event. This took place last May and was informational gathering to just look at the reality of the number of Foster kids in Grays Harbor, the huge number of kids who actually have to be placed outside of the county because of a lack of foster families, and ways in which local churches can help support kids, families, DSHS, and the whole Foster-Care network. In February, Grays Harbor Four-square Church hosted a Valentines Evening for Foster-families and provided a prime-rib dinner, childcare as well as some entertainment. This event went really well, the families felt blessed and relaxed and enjoyed two hours of distraction free conversation. The Foster the Harbor team is working on scheduling monthly dinners like this as simply a way to serve foster families and remind them that the church of Grays Harbor is here to support them. We will give you more

WHAT'S HAPPENING

information as it comes on when and where these dinners will be held if you'd like to get involved. We also had the first two children placed in a home here in Aberdeen from a family who went to the event last May and began the process of licensing to become Foster Parents. Please continue to pray for this vital ministry for the children of our community and the families that are supporting them.

GREETINGS FROM STEWARDSHIP!

JANUARY 2019 FINANCIAL REPORT

For January, budgeted income was \$10,885.91

For January, actual income was \$15,557.80

January budgeted expenses were \$16,078.48

January actual expenses were \$15,355.76

This represents \$202.04 surplus for the month of January, and for the year to date.

| | Actual | Budget | Actual | Budget | Total Budget |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Jan 2019 | Jan 2019 | Year to Date | Year to Date | Year of 2019 |
| Income | 15,557.80 | 10,885.91 | 15,557.80 | 10,885.91 | 132,531.00 |
| Expenses | 15,355.76 | 16,078.48 | 15,355.76 | 16,078.48 | 155,272.00 |
| Net | 202.04 | -5,192.57 | 202.04 | -5,192.57 | -22,741.00 |

Blessings,

Stewardship

upcoming events

Winter 2019

aberdeenpres.org

Ash Wednesday Communion & Soup

Wed, Mar 6 at 6:30 pm

Congregational Meeting

Sun, Mar 10 Following 10 am Sunday Worship

Aging & End of Life Care Workshop

Sat, Mar 16 from 10 am—1:30 pm

Feed the Hungry at First United Methodist Church

Sun, Mar 31 at 11:30 am Set up

Wednesday Night Soup & Study

Wed, Mar 13, 20, 27 & Apr 3, 10, 17

6:00 pm—7:30 pm

Palm Sunday Worship & Cantata

Sun, Apr 14 at 10 am

Maundy Thursday Communion & Soup

Thurs, Apr 18 at 6:30 pm

Good Friday Prayer Vigil

Fri, Apr 19 from 8 am—5 pm

Easter Sunday Worship & Children Easter Egg Hunter

Sun, Apr 21 at 10 am

First Presbyterian Church of Aberdeen and local community experts are hosting a FREE collaborative community event to provide basic information on a variety of topics that individuals and families face as they or their loved ones get older. You are invited to join in for discussion and learn more about end of life planning.

AGING & END OF LIFE CARE WORKSHOP

SAT, MARCH 16, 2019
10 AM TO 1:30 PM

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN
420 N BROADWAY, WA 98520

A light lunch and refreshments will be provided.

For more info: www.aberdeenpres.org
email: info@aberdeenpres.org ~ 360.532.1330

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JOIN THE
party

Every Thurs 11 am at Fellowship Hall (Beginning Mar 14, 2019)

First Presbyterian Church of Aberdeen

Birthday List as of August 24, 2018

January

DeSalvo, Dorothy
Caskey, Michelle
Hole, Pat
Ball, Judith
Tupper, Weston
Goheen, Fred
Jones, Kerri
Davis, Susan
Kiliz, Ann
Goheen, Barbara
Kolb, Laurie
Smith, Audrey
Babcook, Briana
Scott, Georgia
Carthum, Harry

February

Crow, Dick
Babcook, Brent
Amada Smith
Cavin, Sara
Sundstrom, Patty
Wright, John
Greeley, Tara
Ritter, Hadley
Basler, Addie
Whitaker, Laura
Small, Keziah

March

Caskey, Alyssa
Tupper, Daniel
Daniels, Ella
Wright, Candis
Sundstrom, Taylor
Plemmons, Floyd
Neisinger, Bob
Light, Aries
Tupper, Jolene
Beard, Karin
Hood, Griffin
Sundstrom, Colton
Cavin, Kendall

April

Sundstrom, Dan
Crow, Dorothy
Anderson, David
Carthum, Margaret
McNeal, Jeannie
Cavin, Bryn
Caskey, Barrett
Basler, Issac
Corban, Ericka
McNeal, Scott
Light, Judy Mei
Tupper, Dan
Greeley, Nick
Jamtaas, Jaime
Hole, Rich

May

Wirta-Daniels, Nikkol
Robinson, Myles
Caskey, Kevin Sr.
Hall, Beverly
Basler, Doug
Ritter, Brian
Ross, Gean
Caskey, Kevin Jr.
Oliver, Scarlett

June

Chrisman, Kelly
Ritter, Suzy
Long, Chloe
Nielsen, Ruth
Ross, Don
Beard, Eric
Sutera, Kelly
Becker, Stephanie
Nelson, Sheryl
Landstrom, Janet
Caskey, Barb

July

Long, Bonnie
Cavin, Darby
Randich, Carleen
Leggett, Steve
Light, Scott
Gordon, Corliss
Small, Levi
Beyer, Bill
Cavin, Steve
Hood, Jeff

August

Peterson, Wes
Neisinger, Nancy
Smith, Dawn
Landstrom, Robert
Jensen, Cyndi
Ritter, Madi

September

Sturm, Marilyn
Anderson, Elaine
Plemmons, Shelley
Small, Titus
Oliver, Hadley
Piehl, Becky
Jensen, Larry
O'Brien, Leslie
Ritter, Madi
Basler, Katie
McWilliams, Florence

October

Cavin, Sue
Battersby, Brenda
Beard, Jo
Hood, Margo
Long, Kara
Babcook, Nancy
West, Opal
Noggles, Marian

November

Tupper, Silver
Harris, Richard
Caskey, Kasie
Kolb, Gary
Lanning, Gordon
Small, Mordecai
Coic, Jinnifer
Wirta, Nadia
Harris, Richard
Basler, Jackson
Piehl, Glen
Smith, Michele
O'Brien, John
Long, Brett

December

Smith, Patti
Smith, Steve
Sutera, Tom
Peterson, Kay
Beard, Jeff
Evans, Elsie
Small, Mattaniah
Long, Levi
Piehl, Glen
Backholm, Doris
Morgan, Jan
Lanning, Pat
Morgan, Bill
Anderson, Carolyn

If you don't see your name on the Birthday List,
please contact the Church Office at 360.532.1330 or email at info@aberdeenpres.org