



OUR MISSION IS TO EXPRESS **CHRIST'S LOVE** TO ALL GOD'S CHILDREN



- March 5 (Mon) **Staff Meeting @ 11:00am**
- March 6 (Tue) **Community Garden Meeting @ 7:00 pm**
- March 10 (Sat) **Chipotle Fundraising for  
Community Garden  
God's Grace Church Fundraiser @ 2:00pm**
- March 14 (Wed) **UWM Circle meeting @12:00 pm**
- March 15 (Thu) **Senior Fellowship @ 11:30am**
- March 17 (Sat) **Serving Day @ 11:00 am  
St. Patrick's Potato Fest 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm**
- March 18 (Sun) **Potluck after Service**
- March 25 (Sun) **Palm Sunday**
- March 30 (Fri) **Good Friday Service @ 7:00 pm**

**Weekly Events:** Mondays: Walking group @ 9:30am  
 Thursdays: Men's Group @ 10:00am  
 Choir Practice @ 7:00p

**For details, contact the church office Mon-Thurs 9am to 2pm by phone or email**

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## Serving Day by Dula Baker

Serving day? What is that!? Serving Day, formerly called “work day”, is the 3rd Saturday of each month when the congregations of Tabor Heights and God’s Grace come to the church to clean and beautify the building and grounds, even in rainy weather. This teamwork is fortified by a time together for prayer, introductions, fellowship, and food before we separate into work teams or select individual jobs. Since the gardens and labyrinth have been major projects, the men have been mostly engaged in cutting bushes, digging out the many roots, leveling the ground, and doing whatever other tasks required. They also take care of cleaning the roof gutters and removing items thrown up onto the roof of the annex. The women and some older children work inside cleaning closets, kitchen, sanctuary, nursery, walls, and whatever else needs attention. When weather cooperates, come of the women work outside



clearing weeds and grass from the flower beds, planting bulbs and flowers, and trimming. Some people have their own special jobs: Marvin Doering’s project is trimming the trees in the front courtyard; Gerry Eichelburg and Evie Brim trim the rosebushes; Dorothy Glynn tends the lavender plot.

Whatever jobs are being done, we are enjoying working together and getting to know each other on a personal level. We regulars encourage the rest of the congregations to come

join us. We also encourage you to take note of anything that needs attention; maybe you are the one to join in in taking care of that need and invite a new friend to help you. Put March 17th “Serving Day 11:00” on your calendar now while you are thinking about it. We regulars look forward to having you!

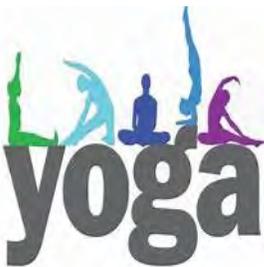
# WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW!!



**PAT and the Regan family** want to extend their heartfelt **thank you** to all who sent prayers and cards during her recovery. 



**Community Garden**  
Bring your green thumbs and bright ideas to our first **Community Garden Meeting**, Tuesday March 6 at 7:00 pm.



**Yoga With Christine**  
Come and get rejuvenated in mind and body with Christine helping you through the serene practices of Yoga. She will be giving classes at 11:00 am Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays and Saturdays at 10:00 am.



**Chipotle Fundraiser**  
Come and have dinner at Chipotle's on 704 NE Weidler Street on March 10th, 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

50% of proceeds will be given in support of our community garden. YAY! You must bring the flyer or a picture of the flyer with you when you go in. Does not apply to online ordering.



**God's Grace Church Fundraiser**  
Join our brothers and sisters of God's Grace Church in their mission trip fundraising event on March 10th, 2:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The "Lucky Number" raffle tickets will be sold at \$1-\$5. Lunch plates will also be sold by the youth group.



## GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

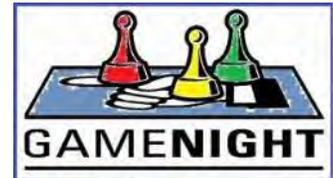
Our Good Friday Service will be held at 7:00 pm, March 30th.



**Come and get your Irish on.** Join us on Saturday March 17th from 6 to 9 PM for a Potato Bar and Irish night. Baked potato, sour cream, and butter will be provided. Bring your favorite topping (and some to share). There will be music, games, laughter, and maybe even fun. Remember on St. Patrick's day - **all the world is Irish!**

## Game Night

Every 4th Saturday night of each month is game night here at THUMC. We first partake in a potluck dinner that starts at 6:00 pm and then continue into the fiercely fun and competitive game playing at 7:00 pm. These fun-filled nights are open to all friends, family, and neighbors. Come and join us in a game or two and **BRING YOUR A-GAME!!**



## Table Tennis

Jim Buchanan will be demonstrating Table Tennis on April 8th, 1:00 pm in the Annex. He has invited 2 exceptional players to also help demonstrate. Jim hopes to gather a group of kids and adults who are willing and able to play regularly. Come and join the fun!!



## Recyclables

Thank you, thank you, thank you!!! All proceeds from the recycling goes to the Senior Fellowship fund and some kitchen supplies. Please remember that all bottles must still have their labels on. They must all be empty and lids removed. Do not crush cans or put garbage into the bins. Your donation is greatly appreciated!

*Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again— rejoice!*  
*Philippians 4:4*

Your Celebrations are important for us to recognize with our family in Christ:

Please do not be reluctant to let us know if yours is missing on the monthly edition of  
‘Messenger’ by sending a note to: [church@taborheightschurch.org](mailto:church@taborheightschurch.org)

Contact Information Updates

Joan Finney: (c.p) 503-313-9068

John & Mia’s New Address: 3736 B SE 91st Ave

Portland, OR 97266



*Birthdays  
in  
March*

*Vincent Benedetti-White 1*

*Becky Marks 1*

*Tom Lohkamp 3*

*John Go 5*

*Mia Park 5*

*Souriya Khamvongsa 7*

*Christine Khamvongsa 7*

*Aiden Schneider 8*

*Lois Lee 9*

*Joanne Mattson 15*

*Georgia Koehler 19*

*Ann Eichelberg 24*

*Stan Clarke 28*

*Jennifer Khamvongsa 28*

*Gloria Go 30*

*Wedding Anniversaries*

*March:*

*Dennis & Linda Bridges, 17*





**HAPPY BIRTHDAY, LOIS!**

By Char Blakely

On March 09, 1938, Lois Lee was born right here in Portland, at Wilcox Memorial Hospital. She was the youngest of six. She grew up on her grandfather's farm near Tigard. It was a lot of fun climbing trees and playing in Fanno creek (before it was polluted). Then when she was 10 years old, she became an aunt for the first time, and a baby sitter ever after. She is still quite close to her nieces and nephews. When she was 12, her brother collected bicycle parts from all around. He built a bike and painted it and gave it to her for her birthday. Pretty nice brother, I would say. She went to Tigard High School and when she was a sophomore, her class was the first in the current high school. While there, she was very active in Youth For Christ. They had a lot of fun in the group, including a train trip to Vancouver B.C. She graduated high school in 1956. In July of that year, she joined the Navy. She was mainly on the east coast: Maryland, Virginia, winding up in Myrtle Beach, S.C. I think we know the rest of the story. She came back to Portland and met and married Wally. They settled down and soon started their family.

**Lois and Wally with the kids**



## A NEW FACE by Dorothy Glynn



Innok Owens is a new face to us around Tabor Heights but she is not a new face to Tabor Heights. Years ago, when the Korean Church was meeting in our facility, Innok attended that church.

Innok was born in Korea and grew up in a Christian environment. She was only child and was raised by her grandmother. She worked from an early age and learned to fend for herself in many situations. She met an American serviceman and they were married. They had two children, a son and a daughter. Her daughter and two grandchildren have visited our church. Innok was hoping that they would feel comfortable and attend regularly. That was her purpose for attending Tabor Heights. Once here, she found a welcoming group and has continued to attend.

When her children were fairly young, under 10, her marriage broke up and she raised her two children by herself. Being a foreigner and not having a skilled trade, she worked at whatever job was available from waitressing to house cleaning to working at McDonald's. Her best job was working for a well-to-do gentleman who lived in a high-rise downtown. She learned to be very frugal and paid close attention to keeping a healthy body. Medical care was not readily available for her and was very costly. This has set a way of life for her today.

Innok came to know Jesus as her personal savior when she was in her 50s, long after her children were grown. This is her one regret that they weren't raised with that assistance.

Almost everyday, Innok walks to and from a Korean prayer session a mile or so from her home and is very conscientious of keeping strong and healthy. We welcome Innok to our fellowship!



# Workshop Review

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“WESLEYAN IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD” by Jim Buchanan

I, along with several others from our congregation, and the God’s Grace congregation participated in an ongoing program that will help us to develop a relationship with our communities. The entire group, which meets one Saturday a month for four months, was then divided into smaller groups of different church memberships. These smaller groups will also meet once a month to become better communicators in our voices to the public. Saturday, March 3rd, is the second day of the large group meeting in the St John neighborhood at Woodlawn UMC; the first was held in January at Warner Pacific College, which included both speakers and help from their Theology Department.

The second meeting for the smaller group is Saturday morning, March 10th, at THUMC, where we will be the hosts. The purpose of these group meetings are for us to become better individual and team participants for extending programs to more persons in and out of our respective church communities.

We intend to shortly produce an annual calendar of events which leverages our “reach out” opportunities. Several of our existing practices fit well into the existing schedule.

Our focus is on better promotion and inclusion of those who do not currently know the church for the programs we support. You can expect to be asked for your input and help to nourish these efforts, just as many of you have done over many years.

**Tabor Heights United Methodist Church**

6161 SE Stark St. Portland OR

503. 232.8500

[www.taborheightschurch.org](http://www.taborheightschurch.org)





## Putting it into perspective...

By Tom Lohkamp—Chair, Vision Board

On Saturday February 10th, the Vision Board presented the 2018 church budget and reviewed the invested funds. This year (2018), we have received \$22,000 less in pledges than last year. That leaves us with a \$50,000 deficit to fill. In past years, we have made up the difference from our invested funds by using the Operating Fund. Our operating fund only has \$20,000 in it and \$10,000 is designated for specific uses. Clearly, we are in a difficult financial place.

### **We face three challenges to overcome.**

#### **1 - How will we pay our bills this year?**

After lots of discussion, the decision was made to free up the restrictions on the Outreach and Maintenance funds so we could meet our payments as needed. This will help us for 2 to 3 years before they too are exhausted. (Don't worry; the roof money is set aside and that work will be completed.)

#### **2 - We need to bring our budget into balance.**

Increasing income and cutting experiences, Are we able to step up our support of Tabor Heights? Is it time to move to a part-time pastoral coverage? Should we look to merge while we have some strength and assets? There are many ideas and paths that we must check on and decide.

#### **3 - Why are we not able to attract enough new members?**

We are aging away before the next "new" people even cross our door step. We have seen some small change but we need huge change. Can Oregon-Idaho Conference help us? We were going it on our own with Congregation Leadership Development. Is it time to have someone evaluate what we are doing and give us a path forward?

There were many ideas brought forward - one of the first is to contact our district leader and shout for help. I have met with Erin Martin to fill her in and discuss options for us.

What's next? Many of these options will require the congregation to approve and support for them to work and they will bring change. Not all paths will be open. We will meet more times to share what is available as it becomes known.

The board asks you to be in prayer for our congregation and what part God is calling you to do. ***What will our legacy be and who will we leave it to?***



## Pastor John 's Note

### **A Lenten Project**

“They will come and shout for joy on the heights of Zion; they will rejoice in the bounty of the Lord. They will be like a well-watered garden...”

<Jeremiah 31:12>

Each year I have a project, especially in Spring (Lent), to remind myself of being in a spiritual discipline. Over the last several years, I accomplished a few things, like installing a deck, building a chicken coop, creating a flower garden and a patio. Also, I finished a couple of races well, like the triathlon-sprint at Blue Lake and 100k bicycle race at Canby a few years ago. Often it takes for a couple of months or a longer period from design to finish those projects or from push-ups to reshape myself to run the full races. All of them, basically, teach me how to motivate myself, how to get help and learn, and, more importantly, how to stay focused and endure it until it's done.

In Spring 2018, my Lenten project has started with a simple desire of planting some vegetables and tomatoes. So, I built two small (3feet X 3feet) raised beds, and found out that they need a lot of soil (about 6 bags of compost-approximately \$70). Ouch! I should have known how much it would take to have my own garden. Instead of changing the entire garden plan, I rather researched how to make my own compost without spending too much money to purchase bags of soil in the future. Of course, it is not only economic, but also environmentally suitable to me.

Here is what I have learned as my spiritual discipline in this compost process that I'd like to share with you and my children: First, making compost, it always needs decomposition process of two different elements—'nitrogen' and 'carbon'—which contribute to this recycling process. It requires a certain amount of BOTH materials—Brown (old) and Green (new)—in order to get it started. As you can imagine, I have now a small container to



keep food scraps like banana peels, coffee grounds, egg and nut shells in the kitchen. This becomes my daily and spiritual practice of composting to collect different ideas, opinions, and perspectives to create a balanced ratio: ‘prayers of self-denial.’

Second, any church community is like a compost bin or pile that can be eaten by our theological and cultural differences. It’s a matter of fact that the decomposition or recycling process also may produce a not quite pleasant smell. How about Noah’s ark? Shane Claiborne says, “The church is like Noah's ark. It stinks, but if you get out of it, you'll drown.” What can we as a family expect as we stay close with one another, but it can still hold the truth of life!

Third, ‘aeration’ is the key to an optimized composting process. The mixed elements have to be adequately exposed to the air in a regular basis. In fact, that helps to reduce the odor of composting, as well. However, this must be the most challenging discipline, because it may take much energy and time to turn over the compacted thoughts and ideas-status quo occasionally. It sounds like the Holy Spirit often stirs up hearts of believers and interrupts them through the wind of divine wisdom.

I have not seen yet the entire process of composting that produces a nutritious and rich soil for the seeds and plants for the next season. However, what an exciting process it will be as I fully give myself for a new project and a new adventure in planting and gardening.

In the same way, what we as a faith community may experience together which may not be all pleasant but rather stinks would be a part of the process of our spiritual disciplines and requires us to seek the Holy Spirit who often breaks and stirs up our tendency and compliancy.



Lenten blessings,

Pastor John

# MARCH 2018

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY-  
DAY

				1	2	3
1						Cooking class 10am
WEEK						
				Choir practice 7:30pm		

	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2	Sunday School 9:30am	Walking group 9am		Parents' prayer 9am	Mens' coffee 10am		GGC Fund- raiser 2pm
WEEK	Worship 11am	Staff meeting 11am			Young Women' 12:00pm		Chipotle Fundraiser 4pm—8pm
			Community Garden meeting, 7pm		Choir practice 7:30pm		

	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
3	Sunday School 9:30am	Walking group 9am		Parents' prayer 9am	Mens' coffee 10am		Cooking class 10am
WEEK	Worship 11am			UMW Meeting 2pm	Senior Fellow- ship, 1130am		Serving Sat. 11am
					Choir practice 7:30pm		St Paddy's Potato Fest, 7pm

	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
4	Sunday School 9:30am	Walking group 9am		Parents' prayer 9am	Mens' coffee 10am		
WEEK	Potluck				Young Women '12:00pm		
					Choir practice 7:30pm		

	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
5	Sunday School 9:30am	Walking group 9am		Parents' prayer 9am	Mens' coffee 10am		Cooking class 10am
WEEK	Worship 11am						
Choir in the courtyard, 630pm					Choir practice 7:30pm		Good Friday service 7pm