

SPOTLIGHT ON OUR MEMBERS



Born and raised in SE Portland, where she lived with her mom, dad, little sister, and mom's mom, she graduated from David Douglas High School. At home, there was always music as she loved to listen to records. She learned to dance at the family ballet studio, where she also learned makeup, lighting, and backdrops, which also sparked her interest in oil painting. They attended Gresham's Covenant Presbyterian, a small church which had grounds consisting of an open field and also a grove of trees. Soon, she was off to Mount Hood Community College, learning nursing through their LPN program, which brought her employment with Gresham Community Hospital for 14 years and found her often working in the drug and alcohol treatment center.

Later, she met Larry Chandler, who was employed as a welder while living in Sandy, OR, who previously worked as a logger in Sutherlin, OR. He later found employment in convenience stores. Larry was especially proud of his Lakota heritage, though he also had an Irish and Blackfoot background. After seeing each other for two years, Larry and Marcella Chandler wed. Their family grew with the birth of their sons, Devon and Byron.

At age 40, Marcella received her bachelor's degree in social science from Marylhurst College. She then worked for the White Shield Center with the Salvation Army, caring for newborns and toddlers, who often were the children of gang-affiliated mothers. She has had various jobs, learned to "be indispensable," and she has attended many classes and schools, eventually earning her master's degree in psychology from Antioch University in Seattle.

The Chandler family, including their chow dog, moved from Portland to Hazel Dell, having lived in various parts of East Portland, settled in a motel and a Burns Brothers truck stop for a while. Marcella didn't care for the larger church they found, telephoned Cascades one day, talked to Barbara Moore, who was so warm and friendly, attended a potluck and services, noted the field and grove, and decided, "This is it!" 11-year-old son Byron wanted to sing in the choir, approached director Marlene Taylor, who welcomed him. Then, one Easter, when the pastor invited all to sing the Hallelujah Chorus, Marcella stood next to Joann Sonnen because their voices blended, and, ever since, Marcella has been part of Cascades' choir.

2010 was tough. Marcella lost her husband, her house, and her job. She was by then a psychotherapist for Columbia River Mental Health, a case manager and counselor and had clients throughout Clark County and in Longview. This amazing woman, who loves to help others, persevered. Now retired and living at Kirkland Union Plaza downtown, she still enjoys oil painting and is very involved in environmental causes through the Sierra Club. We appreciate her presence in our church family.

WORLD DOMINATION



Not aliens, but Cloverbots are coming!!! The Cloverbots is the name of the Robotics Club at Prairie High School led by our own elder of Technology, high school senior, Seth Hartrim-Lowe. Seth recently traveled with 13 students, 2 mentors, and 7 parent chaperones to the World Robotics Competition in Houston, Texas where they finished 8th on their field of 75 teams receiving the Rising All-Star Award. Congratulations Seth!!!

TOP OF THE HILL

Top of the Hill Senior Potluck will be held after the Worship Service on Sunday, May 18th. Bring a dish to share but if you forget, we always have plenty of food for all! Top of the Hill will focus on volunteering and the Church Directory. We will share information on the volunteer opportunities and answer questions for anyone who is looking for new opportunities. A session member will talk about activities in our church. We will also pass a copy of the directory to make changes, corrections and additions and have the opportunity to sign up for a corrected copy.

HANDICAP PARKING

Our conditional building use permit requires us to have so much handicap parking spaces according to the number of seats in our sanctuary. No more or less. So, unfortunately adding more is not an option. What we can do, however is make it easier for less able bodied people to find parking upfront towards the doors. If you are able and willing, please consider parking at the further parking spaces from the front doors so that other folks can use these spaces who might have a more difficult time. And of course, there is ample parking available in the side yard behind the shed for heavily attended events. Thank you for considering!

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

On Saturday March 29, 2025 we had nine folks participate in our New Members Retreat. We shared breakfast, heard stories of how people came to Cascades, learned more about what makes us tick around Cascades and how they can be part of our church family. On Sunday, we welcomed Debbie Brakefield, Jeff and Debbie Engley, Jerry and Dorothy Cochran, Mary Mwangi, and Lucy Moses (and daughters Shekinah and Shenelle), and Joseph Branchflower into membership. Welcome to the Cascades Family of Faith!



BENEVOLENCE BOARD

The Benevolence Board is grateful to have received yet more resources (over \$93,000) to help provide for the needs of vulnerable people in our community. As we see federal resources and grants be drastically cut, we are noticing a greater request from people who need rental support, food, and medical services. We even recently helped cover funeral expenses for someone whose brother passed away but could not afford the cost. Our board met in late April to discuss our budget for the year so that we can faithfully provide for our nonprofit partners and families referred to us by the Family Community Resources Coordinators (FCRCs) at our local schools.

APRIL SESSIONS

Devotions were offered by Elder Dian Poujade. Online giving platform has been switched from Presbyterian Foundation to Servant Keeper simplifying our online accounting processes. Approved exchange of current black and white copier for color copier. Only Lisa will be able to print in color. New lighting around church makes huge difference in church parking lot at night. Thanks Mark! New signage is in process. Handicap Parking ideas. Adding locks to the dumpster enclosure to prevent people from dumping their own trash there. Reported on Benevolence Board activities. Annual church picnic date set for July 20, 2025 at the Hartrim-Lowe farm. Nominating committee is gearing up. Approved Pastor Chris' next sabbatical for after Easter April 6 to July 6, 2026. Overall, we feel that God is calling us to speak up and not be afraid of protesting peacefully when governmental policies contradict our Christian values and morals. We prayed for those in need of healing, discernment, or strength. We also feel so blessed for how God is providing for our needs and we give thanks to God for the new members we recently added to our church family.



Partner with us for Road Trip VBS

Join us on our Road Trip!

July 21 - July 24, 2025  
Monday through Thursday, 9am to noon

Contact Janet Lind at (360) 921-5461

To sign up for opportunities to serve, lead  
and most of all HAVE FUN at Road Trip VBS!



A Mother's Love, A Gift from Above  
Poet: Catherine Pulsifer

God blessed my life in countless ways,  
But one stands out through all my days.  
He gave me you, so kind and true,  
A mother's love so pure and new.

You taught me faith, you showed me grace,  
With gentle hands and warm embrace.  
Through every trial, joy, or tear,  
You whispered, "Child, God's always near."

Your prayers have shaped the path I tread,  
With loving words so softly said.  
You live God's love in all you do,  
A shining light, forever true.

So on this day, I thank the Lord,  
For you, dear Mom, in one accord.  
A precious gift from God above,  
My greatest blessing—your endless love.

Happy Mother's Day!



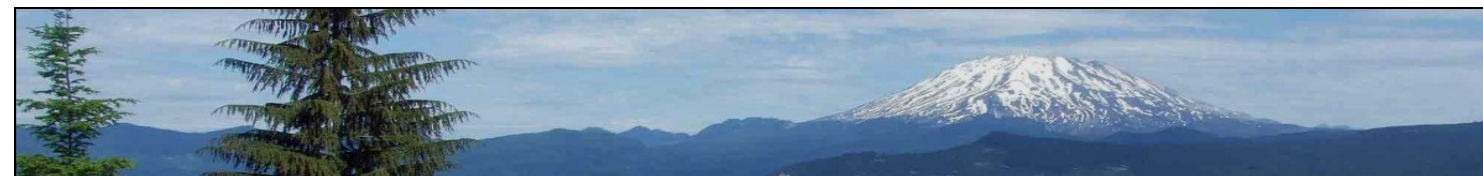


**CASCADES**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

RETURN SERVICE  
REQUESTED



**CASCADES**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**MAY**

**DEACON OF THE  
MONTH**

Becky Hickok




**SOLVE THE RIDDLES**

*I can fill a room but  
take up no space,  
especially as May  
brings longer days.  
What am I?*

I have a thumb and  
four fingers but am not  
alive, and I'm worn  
during May activities.  
What am I?

Stumped?  
See page 4 for the  
answers.

As you enjoy reading  
the Newsletter try to  
find the hidden cross  
somewhere in the  
newsletter.  
It looks like this. 

# THE CHURCH BELL

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"One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.' He said to them, 'When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation.'" Luke 11:1-4.

This is a shortened version of what for centuries Christians have called "The Lord's Prayer." When we recite it in worship, we usually use the longer version noted in Matthew's gospel. Many of us have had it memorized since childhood. It can be so easy to let it roll off the tongue without even making a personal connection to our Heavenly Father.

But did you ever wonder where Jesus got the words for it? Sure he was the Son of God who had a unique and intimate relationship with our Heavenly Father. However, Pete Grieg in *How to Pray, A Simple Guide for Normal People* claims that Jesus seems "to have adopted and adapted the opening lines" from one of the most important prayers in Jewish liturgy known as the Kaddish. This prayer reads: "Magnified and hallowed be His great name. In this world which He created according to His will. And may He establish His kingdom during your life."

Interesting. When you look at the two prayers side by side, they are remarkably similar. So what was the difference between the way Jesus' disciples knew how to pray (like as in this prayer) as opposed to how Jesus prayed?

The disciples spoke about God in their prayers. Jesus spoke to God as if He knew Him personally. That was it. When Jesus taught his disciples to pray, he used a common and very familiar prayer and then personalized it. That's it!

Recently, Cascades hosted a 24/7 Prayer Vigil as part of our Holy Week Celebrations. We created a prayer booklet that walked participants through a one-hour prayer experience. Some prayed in the church sanctuary. Others prayed at home. For me, it was a rich time of intimate communion with God. I praised God. I sang at the top of my lungs (thank goodness no one was there for that!). I walked around. I cried in lament. I even yelled out my disappointment at God's apparent lack of care over the issues of injustice in our country and around the world.

Others mentioned as they sat in the silence of the sanctuary the following: How important adoration is and how often it is skipped over as part of our prayer lives. How the memory of particular deceased loved ones came rushing into their minds. How uncomfortable the five-minute silence was at the start and then how soothing it became toward the end of their prayer time. How an hour wasn't long enough and that they could have continued praying for much longer. How having a guided format taught them so much about prayer that they hadn't experienced before.

For those who weren't able to participate, don't fret. There is still time. Grab one of the prayer booklets on the credenza as you walk into the sanctuary or look for it under the resource section of our website. Over the remaining several weeks of spring and then for several more weeks in the fall, I will be preaching more about prayer during Sunday worship and Adult Christian Education. I believe with all my heart, that this is THE most crucial practice we who are Christ followers can do in this day which is full of so much pain and suffering, chaos and instability.

So join me as we connect regularly with our Heavenly Father. As Pete Grieg suggests, "Keep it simple. Keep it real. And keep it up!"

Praying with you,

Rev. Dr. Chris Montovino, Pastor

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST**  
May 6 at 9am

**MEN'S BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY**  
May 17 at 8am

**TOP OF THE HILL POTLUCK**  
May 18 at 12pm

**WOMEN'S TEA**  
Saturday, May 10th, 11am-1pm

**SUNDAY WORSHIP**  
9am Sunday School All Ages  
10:15am Worship Service



MEMORIAL DAY



Memorial Day is an American holiday, observed on the last Monday of May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. Memorial Day 2025 will occur on Monday, May 26. Originally known as Decoration Day, it originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971. Many Americans observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries or memorials, holding family gatherings and participating in parades. Unofficially, it marks the beginning of the summer season. Memorial Day, as Decoration Day gradually came to be known, originally honored only those lost while fighting in the Civil War. But during World War I the United States found itself embroiled in another major conflict, and the holiday evolved to commemorate American military personnel who died in all wars, including World War II, The Vietnam War, The Korean War and the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. For decades, Memorial Day continued to be observed on May 30, the date General Logan had selected for the first Decoration Day. But in 1968, Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, which established Memorial Day as the last Monday in May in order to create a three-day weekend for federal employees. The change went into effect in 1971. The same law also declared Memorial Day a federal holiday.

- Here are some ways on Memorial Day to honor those who died in service:
- Plan a candlelight vigil and invite your community to honor those who have served.
  - Ask veterans or family members of the fallen to share their memories.
  - Visit a local memorial and lay some flowers on the memorial to pay your respects.
  - Attend a Memorial Day event.
  - Volunteer at a local veterans cemetery.
  - Display the U.S. flag in your home.
  - Ask a veteran about their time in the military.
  - Volunteer for, or donate to, a military support nonprofit like the USO.
  - Read a book or watch a movie about U.S. military history.



SNACK PACKS

On Sunday, June 1, the people of Cascades Presbyterian Church will have an opportunity to assemble “Snack Packs” for Friends of the Carpenter. Snack Packs are sacks with a half-dozen treats like fig bars and chips and a bottle of water that provide hospitality to people using the Day Shelter at Friends of the Carpenter. The day shelter offers a safe place for people who are often looked down upon by others because of their poverty or handicap or lack of social skills. The shelter is a welcoming community for all. The youth of Cascades will set up the items to be included in the Snack Packs in the front classroom at Cascades before worship. After worship, they will direct us in assembling the Packs and loading them for delivery to “Friends”. The Snack Packs have a specific list of items that are the same from pack to pack, so recipients all get the same set of products and there is enough to go around to everyone in attendance on a particular day. Please stop by the classroom after your fellowship time on Sunday, June 1, to assemble a Snack Pack or two and meet members of the Youth Group. You don’t need to bring anything, just your heart reaching out to those in need.

MARCH FINANCES

Income	\$45,027
Expenses	\$27,442
Total	\$17,585
Year to Date 2025	
	\$ 18,208



May

May 1	1:30pm	Giving Hands Ministry
	6:45pm	Choir Practice
May 4	9:00am	Pancake Breakfast
	9:00am	Sunday School All Ages
	10:15am	Worship Service
May 5	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
May 6	7:00pm	Deacon Meeting
May 7	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
	6:30pm	Youth Group
May 8	1:30pm	Giving Hands Ministry
	6:45pm	Choir Practice
May 10	11:00am	Women’s Tea
May 11	9:00am	Sunday School All Ages
	10:15am	Worship Service
May 12	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
May 13	7:00pm	Session Meeting
May 14	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
	6:30pm	Youth Group
May 15	1:30pm	Giving Hands Ministry
	6:45pm	Choir Practice
May 17	8:00am	Men’s Breakfast Bible Study Fellowship
May 18	9:00am	Sunday School All Ages
	10:15am	Worship Service
	12:00pm	Top of the Hill Potluck
May 19	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
May 21	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
	6:30pm	Youth Group
May 22	1:30pm	Giving Hands Ministry
	6:45pm	Choir Practice
May 25	9:00am	Sunday School All Ages
	10:15am	Worship Service
May 26		Memorial Day—Office Closed!
	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
May 28	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
	6:30pm	Youth Group
May 29	1:30pm	Giving Hands Ministry

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Dorothy Cochran

Jerry Cochran

Brian Mistrot

Sarah Ostrand

Evelyn Peterson

Greg & Linda Beck

Bill & Kay Gibson

Chris & Karen Montovino



Answers : 1. Light 2. A glove

Daily Devotions



Encountering God

May 1 Revelation 3:14-22  
May 2 Isaiah 6:1-4  
May 3 Genesis 18:1-8

A Comforting God

May 4 John 21:1-19  
May 5 Acts 9:19b-31  
May 6 Ezekiel 1:26-2:1  
May 7 Psalm 121  
May 8 Revelation 5:1-5  
May 9 Psalm 23  
May 10 Luke 12:29-32

Renewed by Resurrection

May 11 Psalm 148  
May 12 Psalm 148  
May 13 Revelation 21:1-6  
May 14 Revelation 21:1-6  
May 15 Acts 11:1-18  
May 16 Acts 11:1-18  
May 17 John 13:31-35

Floating in Streams of Grace

May 18 Acts 16:9-15  
May 19 Acts 16:9-15  
May 20 Psalm 67  
May 21 Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5  
May 22 Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5  
May 23 John 5:1-9  
May 24 John 14:23-29

Being One in Love

May 25 John 17:20-26  
May 26 John 17:20-26  
May 27 John 17:20-26  
May 28 John 17:20-26  
May 29 Acts1:1-11  
May 30 John 17:20-26  
May 31 John 17:20-26