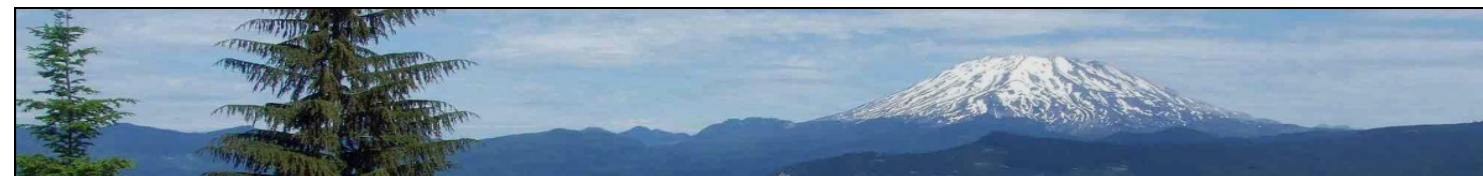




9503 NE 86th Street  
Vancouver, WA 98662  
(360) 892-6613  
office@caspres.org  
www.caspres.org

PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

RETURN SERVICE  
REQUESTED



### AUGUST

#### DEACON OF THE MONTH

Barbie Baker




#### SOLVE THE RIDDLES

Why do bananas use  
sunscreen in August?

What kind of sandals  
do frogs wear?

Did you hear about  
the ice cream truck  
accident?

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

Published Monthly

Volume 48, No. 8

“The early fellowship of believers broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.” Acts 2:46b-47

I love this word picture that Luke painted in Acts of the early fellowship of believers. There’s good food. Good company. And good conversations. It was such a compelling fellowship in fact that people flocked to it. The kingdom of heaven had literally broken into their midst and everyone wanted to be a part of it.

Reminds me a lot of our recent church picnic at the Hartrim-Lowe Farm. There was delicious food. There were kids jumping into the pool, with huge belly laughs. And there were people lingering over thoughtful conversation. No one was in a hurry. Everyone was present. The Lord was literally near.

In our hurried and overscheduled culture, we sadly do not get to experience many of these kind of moments. Too often our calendars are so full that we run from event to event and never slow down enough to notice when the kingdom of heaven actually arrives in our midst.

There are so many people that I would like to thank for such a wonderful event. Thank you to Community Life Elder Christie Mistrot and her husband Brian for organizing the event. Thank you to the whole Hartrim-Lowe family for offering their home and being such gracious hosts. Thank you to Sherry McKusick and Lynda Wittren for coordinating my wonderful 20th Anniversary of Ministry celebration. And thank you to everyone who I may have forgotten who set up tables and chairs, brought food, and then cleaned up afterwards. I felt cherished and loved as your pastor.

Wow. 20 years! It’s so hard to believe! We have certainly been through much over the years. We have had both joyful and sad times. We have seen seasons of want and plenty. We have experienced periods of great growth and tremendous loss. What has been common through it all, however, is that God has been with us and we have gone through it all together. Truthfully, I couldn’t imagine a better community of faith with which to journey through life. That is the best gift that I received.

Thank you so much for your very kind words and affirmations. I have been reading a few note cards each day and savoring their sentiments. But be sure of this, we are not done yet together. There is much to do and more people to draw into our great fellowship. *Come, Be Fed, Be Sent*, we say. Who are you inviting to experience the kingdom of heaven with us?

In Christ,

Rev. Dr. Chris Montovino, Pastor

**GOOD LUCK TO OUR  
CLARK COUNTY FAIR FAMILIES!**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP  
10:15am Worship Service**

**CHOIR PRACTICE RESUMES  
August 28 at 6:45pm**

**September 14 Sunday School Resumes at 9am**



## SPOTLIGHT ON OUR MEMBERS



A lifelong Vancouver-area resident, although born in Salt Lake City, UT, when her parents lived there briefly, Taushia Wallschlaeger since 2018, has lived in Battle Ground. An Evergreen High School graduate, she attended Clark College, majoring in general studies and medical billing, later studying business and accounting, and earning her bachelor's degree in 2020.

Taushia's employment has long been in the administrative field. For 11 years, she provided scheduling, billing, and referrals at Peace Health. Currently a fiscal analyst for the Washington State School for the Deaf, she is fluent in American Sign Language.

Meeting her husband, Chris, through a group of mutual friends, they have now been together for 15 years, married for the last three. In a "yours, mine, and ours" family, 13-year-old daughter Raynee often attends church with Taushia. The other children are Nathaniel (24), Kaleb (20), Kaitlyn (19), and Addisen (16). Nathaniel and Kieran's baby daughter, Lilah Mae, often graces us at church as well. Auntie Raynee is very close to the baby, and Taushia is so grateful to be introducing Lilah to the Lord at such a young age. We all love seeing them in church.

Taushia's grandfather attended First Presbyterian Church for over 50 years. After his passing, Taushia didn't enjoy being there as much as she had before. She also had become more of an occasional or holiday attendee, but as Raynee took more interest in faith, they began to wonder where would be a good place for them to worship. Raynee's fellow 4-H member, Sam Hartrim-Lowe recommended Cascades Church, so they tried it out, being especially interested in a church with kids near Raynee's age, and also hopefully people of Taushia's age as well! They enjoy their welcoming, relatable, and non-judging church family, especially feeling connected to Pastor Chris's understandable sermons.

Enjoying crafting when she has the time, Taushia mainly enjoys her time with her husband, their children, and Lilah Mae. They have three French bulldogs, 25 chickens, and 15 goats, mostly due to Raynee's 4-H involvement. Taushia also volunteers with 4-H and goat projects. She has traveled to California, Texas, Virginia, and New York, and often to Florida to visit her dad, step-mom, and step-siblings. Her dream is to see Hawaii or maybe Puerto Rico. She asks for our prayers for peace and health.

## 2025 ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC



Thank you to everyone who came to this year's Annual Church Picnic! The Hartrim-Lowes were (once again) gracious hosts as they allowed us to gather at their beautiful farm. We had a wonderful time of food and fellowship (and had the opportunity to honor Pastor Chris and Karen on their 20th Anniversary of leading our church family). So many people made this possible: The Hartrim-Lowes opened up their farm and home... Linda Beck provided the beautiful bouquets that adorned each table... Sherry McKusick and Lynda Wittren took care of the cake and coordinated the gifts of appreciation to Pastor Chris and Karen... So much food was brought that we had to have 4 tables to hold it all - not to mention those that stayed and helped to stack chairs and load up the tables to take back to the church! So many hands that worked to make this possible. If you missed this year's celebration, be sure to join us next July - you won't regret it!

Christie Mistrot  
Elder, Community Life



## NW BATTLE BUDDIES



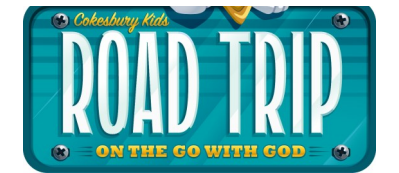
This year's Vacation Bible School mission project featured the NW Battle Buddies located in Battle Ground Washington. NW Battle Buddies was founded in 2012 to provide veterans with professionally trained service dogs who help these American Heroes who often struggle with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). As we Journeyed With God this week, we raised \$387.67 in funds to support this important ministry. The VBS Team would like to invite you to please join us in supporting this great ministry by sending cash and checks (made out Cascades Presbyterian Church:VBS) or even donate through the VBS link online at our website. For more information please check out <https://northwestbattlebuddies.org/>. Thank you for your generosity!



## VBS RECAP—ROAD TRIP ON THE GO WITH GOD



This year at Vacation Bible School, we had 38 travelers including 13 preschoolers and 24 adult helpers journey together through various adventures as we **Road Tripped - On the Go with God**. Each day, we made new friends, played fun road trip games, ate delicious snacks, created wonderful crafts, sang inspiring songs, and listened to compelling Bible stories. These stories taught us that *God is with us on the journey* (Genesis 12:1-9). *God is with us when we go off course* (Exodus 13:17-22). *God is with us when we're joyful* (Luke 1:39-56). *And God is with us when we're lonely* (Luke 19:1-10). Thank you to everyone who served to make this year's VBS such a success, but we'd like to especially thank Christian Education Elder Janet Lind for being a loving and good shepherd who helped us all stay on the road. And Janet would like to remind us all that Sunday school will start up again on September 14, 2025 at 9:00am for all ages.





KITCHEN REMODEL PROJECT

Ever since 1983, Cascades’ kitchen has been the heart of the church and has served our congregation well through many potlucks, weddings and funerals, pancake breakfasts, and other fellowship events. Now 42 years old, it has been obvious that it needs to be updated and expanded. A group of folks have been meeting to discuss current needs and wants, researching contractors, and developing conceptual plans to expand and remodel the current kitchen. On October 5, 2025 following worship, the Cascades session has called a special meeting of the congregation to discuss the project and receive approval to begin raising funds. We anticipate that a complete remodel and expansion would cost approximately \$100,000 to \$150,000. Stay tuned for more information in the September Newsletter. But mark your calendars for that October 5 Special Congregational meeting.

JULY SESSION NOTES

Started meeting with devotion on Hebrews 11:11. Welcomed Jeff Engley and Jerry Cochran as newest elder additions to session. Treasurer reported that finances are on target for year. Received updates on Kitchen Remodeling Project, discussed various facilities maintenance issues that need attention. Looking at possibility of adding solar lights to parking area. Discussed Future Worship Books and Ideas. Laura to form team to look at how Cascades might need to adapt to future worship needs. Women’s Gathering is taking shape for September. Annual Church picnic at Hartrim-Lowe Farm. Looking at alternative options for 2026. Set Congregational Meeting to pitch kitchen remodeling project for October 5, 2025. Future work is very slow. God is not in hurry. While we can plan for future, God invites us to focus more on the here, now, and us. Planting seeds now. Overall very optimistic and peaceful.

GREEN BAG



Our next Green Bag date is Sunday, August 3rd. For information about the Clark Neighbors Food Project you can contact Debbie Engley.

NE 86TH STREET CLOSED!



On Monday, August 4th and Tuesday, August 5th, NE 86th Street will be closed all day from 7am to 5pm. There will be no access to the church parking lot on those days.

ARE YOU RECEIVING THE BELL?

The **Bell Newsletter** is available in 2 formats: by email or by regular snail mail. If you are not receiving the Bell Newsletter and would like to, please contact the church office and let Lisa know which format you prefer. The Bell Newsletter is also available on the church website. *Please keep the office informed of any changes in your address or phone number so we can keep the Church Directory up to date!*

WOMEN’S FELLOWSHIP CONFERENCE

WOMEN OF CASCADES—**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Saturday, September 20 from 8:45am-2pm** for a Fellowship Conference. Our Guest Speaker Dr. Deborah Baker from Tacoma, WA will lead a dynamic and interactive workshop.

**“Shine and Bloom through Your Cracks”**  
*When God’s light seeps out through our cracks others can see our blooms. 2 Corinthians 4:7*

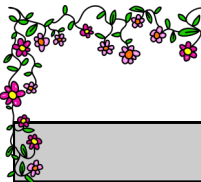
Come for a chance to get to know Cascades women better, to learn, to grow and to have fun.

Sign-ups coming soon! Questions? Contact Dian Poujade, Debbie Engley, Karen Montovino, Christie Mistrot, Janet VanFleet, or Janet Lind

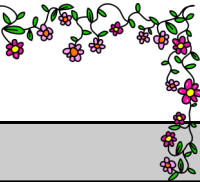


ONLINE GIVING

Go to <https://www.caspres.org/giving> or use the QR code. You can use our online giving to donate to several different funds or projects and you can also access your own Giving Statement! The Lord loves a cheerful giver. Thank you for being generous!



August



August 3	10:15am	Worship Service
August 4	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
August 5	7:00pm	Deacon Meeting
August 6	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
August 7	1:30pm	Giving Hands Ministry
August 10	10:15am	Worship Service
August 11	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
August 12	7:00pm	Session Meeting
August 13	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
August 14	1:30pm	Giving Hands Ministry
August 17	10:15am	Worship Service
August 18	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
August 20	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
August 21	1:30pm	Giving Hands Ministry
August 24	10:15am	Worship Service
August 25	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
August 27	12:30pm	Bowling Fellowship
August 28	1:30pm	Giving Hands Ministry
	6:45pm	Choir Resumes
August 31	10:15am	Worship Service

JUNE FINANCES

Income	\$25,213
Expenses	\$21,927
Total	\$ 3,286

Year to Date 2025  
\$27,683

BIRTHDAYS

Janet Lind	Greg Beck
Claudia Derbyshire	Isabella Simes
Bill Honey	Yukte Dayal
Liz Swanson	Phil Hickok
Kay Gibson	Mark Hartrim-Lowe
Fred Poujade	Luanna Walters



Daily Devotions



Treasures in Heaven

August 1	Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14;
	Ecclesiastes 2:18-23
August 2	Psalm 49:1-11

Wash Yourself;  
Make Yourself Clean

August 3	Isaiah 1:1, 10-20
August 4	Luke 12:32-40
August 5	Psalm 140
August 6	Luke 4:16-30
August 7	James 1:19-27
August 8	Malachi 3:1-7
August 9	Genesis 15:1-6

Faith Empowered by God’s Grace

August 10	Jeremiah 23:23-29
August 11	Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19
August 12	Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19
August 13	Hebrews 11:29-12:2
August 14	Hebrews 11:29-12:2
August 15	Hebrews 11:29-12:2
August 16	Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Witness to God's Will

August 17	Jeremiah 1:4-10
August 18	Jeremiah 1:4-10
August 19	Isaiah 58:9b-14
August 20	Psalm 71:1-6
August 21	Psalm 103:1-8
August 22	Luke 13:10-17
August 23	Luke 13:10-17

Pride and Prejudice

August 24	Psalm 81:1, 10-16
August 25	Jeremiah 2:4-13
August 26	Psalm 81:1, 10-16
August 27	Luke 14:1, 7-14
August 28	Proverbs 25:6-7
August 29	Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16
August 30	Psalm 112

Created and Re-Created

August 31	Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
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**Deadline for submissions to the September Bell Newsletter will be Monday, August 25th**

Answers:  
1. Because they peel.  
2. Open-toad.  
3. It crashed on a rocky road.