A bimonthly publication of Foster-Tukwila Presbyterian Church

## September-October 2023

## Volume XXIII, Number V

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Pastor's Pen
FTPC Financials
September Missions
September Calendar
October Calendar
Bulletin Board
Grace Point CC
October Missions
Trunk o' Treats

3

7

8

The Pastor's Pen

Entering into the months of September and October, FTPC continues to welcome other congregations in ministry

partnership with us.

As you likely have heard, we are strengthening the ties with one of our long term Ministry Partners, Grace Point Community Church. Over twenty years ago, Pastor Kent Murahashi of Grace Point and Pastor Nick Krantz of Foster Tukwila Presbyterian Church met and prayed over what the Lord was doing in themselves, their congregations, this city, and this region. And the Lord continued to nurture this relationship over time. When I came into FTPC and began to preach, Pastor Kent would meet with me and have similar conversations as he sought to pass on the gift of mentorship and relationship that Pastor Nick had given him.

And we have seen fruits of our church's relationship grow and swell. FTPC has been privileged to serve in ministry with Grace Point for years in a variety of circumstances including Snack Pack, Trunk O' Treat, PrayTukwila and the Easter Egg Hunt. Furthermore, I know that coming together in regular prayer, as well as times of consultation with members of FTPC and occasionally the FTPC Youth Team have been highly beneficial for the work of ministry that we have been called to.

For all of these reasons, and many more, when Grace Point began looking and praying for a new meeting location on Sundays, it was a natural bridge to consider if FTPC might be able to serve as that physical location.

Psalm 34 opens with a call to continuous praise the Lord.

- <sup>1</sup> I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
- <sup>2</sup> My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.
- <sup>3</sup> O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.

And this is the responsibility that we have been given as stewards of the Lord's facility. Just as we are to bless the Lord at all times, so we might rightfully desire his house to be filled with praise and prayer at all times. We seek to magnify the Lord, to reflect glory to him as much as we are able. And in this resolution, it is appropriate and a step forward in making Christ's name known to invite other congregations to worship the Lord in our location.

(Continued on page 6)

"Let us fear the LORD our God, who gives the rain in its season, the autumn rain and the spring rain, and keeps for us the weeks appointed for the harvest."

Jeremiah 5:24

### **Income**

For July 2023 \$16,645.00 Through July 2023 \$109,592.41

## **Expenses**

For July 2023 \$17,262.56 Through July 2023 \$106,790.84

## Net

For July 2023 -\$617.56 Through July 2023 \$2,801.57

## FTPC Missions: ECO Presbytery of the NW



The ECO Presbytery of the Northwest is comprised of delegates and pastors from 31 congregations in the states of Washington and Oregon. Elder Ed Hougardy shared about the spring meeting with the congregation on Sunday, May 7, 2023.

ECO Northwest Presbytery held their Spring two-day gathering April on 28-29 at Tacoma Central Presbyterian Church. There was only one item on the agenda for Presbytery business: the election of a Vice Moderator. Rev. Jim Deal, from Faith Presbyterian Church of East Wenatchee, was elected.

The ECO Presbytery of the Northwest is doing well financially. A church plant has closed recently, which has made funds available for other endeavors. ECO is encouraging congregations to start requesting assistance for events such as attending national conventions.

I was amazed that I took two and a half pages of notes during Moderator Jesse Skiffington's report; and Pastor Aaron said that's because the Reverand didn't give a report, he gave a sermon. I guess that's what happens when you have a room full of pastors. We had some great teaching throughout the Presbytery meeting, including the following:

What can you say about a single Lego block? It's small item, and can be a hazard if it's on the floor. The interesting thing about a Lego is it was not made to be by itself. It was created to be a part of community, to be with other Legos to build things. This Lego is basically useless by itself, yet in community with other Legos it is used to create things. Legos are not neces-



sarily the same shape or color; they're different. Some might have fancy windshields; some might have wheels. That's the great thing about Legos: they're all not created the same.

In the Church community we're not all the same; we all have different roles. I started thinking about how our congregation is a great example of this teaching. We have people who volunteer to be prayer partners, we have people who really love working with the kids, we have people who serve on potluck Sunday – I would be hard-pressed to find somebody not involved in some way in our church and that is what is exciting about the community of believers

Rev. Skiffington's message set the tone for the rest of the weekend. I was so encouraged by this – that we are a community of churches, a community of believers. What a positive thing! If you feel like an individual Lego; kind of by itself, not attached to anything, just talk to one of our members, and ask what you could do here in our church community. You don't need to just sit and be the Lego on the floor that gets stepped on. You can be a part of the full life of the congregation at FTPC.

During the rest of the weekend we had wonderful times of teaching on the different types of churches by Jim Singleton of Gordon-Conwell Seminary, inspiring worship led by the Tacoma Central Presbyterian Church worship team, and an awesome dinner of traditional Korean dishes provided by our host church.

The closing session of Presbytery ended in a time of prayer. How exciting it is that our church is a member of the ECO denomination! It's a very positive and wonderful thing. The Holy Spirit is there, and they are preparing and training spiritual leaders to serve the church community.

The fall meeting of the ECO Presbytery of the Northwest will be Friday, October 6 to Saturday, October 7, 2023 at the West Side Church in Richland, WA. Pray for the pastors and delegates who will be attending, that they may continue making righteous decisions for the presbytery and that they will be blessed by the fellowship and unity of the Church.

For more information on A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians (ECO), including its tenets, constitution, church resources, and information on the National Gathering, visit https://eco-pres.org/.

# September 2023 - Foster Tukwila Presbyterian

	SATURDAY	10:00 am: FTPC Nepali Worship 1-2 pm: Ridge Cliff Apt Outreach	10:00 am: FTPC Nepali Worship	10:00 am: FTPC Nepali Worship	10:00 am: FTPC Nepali Worship	30 10:00 am: FTPC Nepali Worship
	FRIDAY	स	ω	15	22	29
	THURSDAY		10 am: Prayer 7 pm: Young Adult Bible Study	14 10 am: Prayer 5 pm: Good News Club 7 pm: Men's/Women's Bible Studies	10 am: Prayer 5 pm: Good News Club 5 pm: Missions IT 7 pm: Young Adult Bible Study	10 am: Prayer 5 pm: Good News Club 7 pm: Men's/Women's Bible Studies
	WEDNESDAY		6 1 pm: PrayTukwila 5:30 pm: CE IT	1:30-3:30 pm: Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm: Session	20	See You at the Pole (1 hour before class) 1:30-3:30 pm: Women's Bible Study 7 pm: Worship IT
	TUESDAY		First Day of School 5 4:30 pm: Bible Recap	4:30 pm: Bible Recap 6 pm: Youth 6:30 pm: YA Bible Study	4:30 pm: Bible Recap 6 pm: Youth 6:30 pm:	4:30 pm: Bible Recap 6 pm: Youth 6:30 pm: YA Bible Study
	Monday		5 pm: Ewnet Absari Prayer Meeting	5 pm: Ewnet Absari Prayer Meeting	5 pm: Ewnet Absari Prayer Meeting	25 5 pm: Ewnet Absari Prayer Meeting
	SUNDAY		3 10:30 am: Worship/ Junior Church COMMUNION 12:30 pm: Discipleship 5 pm: Ewnet Absari	10:30 am: Worship/ Junior Church 12:30 pm: Discipleship 12:30 pm: Grace Point 1:30 pm: Deacons 5 pm: Ewnet Absari	10:30 am: Worship/ Junior Church POTLUCK 12:30 pm: Grace Point 5 pm: Ewnet Absari	24 10:30 am: Worship/ Junior Church 12:30 pm: Discipleship 12:30 pm: Grace Point 5 pm: Ewnet Absari

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October 2023	Monday	2 10 am-12 pm: CEF 5 pm: Ewnet Absari Prayer Meeting	5 pm: Ewnet Absari Prayer Meeting	5 pm: 5 pm: Ewnet Absari Prayer Meeting	5 pm: 5 pm: Ewnet Absari Prayer Meeting	30 5 pm: Ewnet Absari Prayer Meeting
to	SUNDAY	10:30 am: Worship/ Junior Church COMMUNION 12:30 pm: Discipleship 12:30 pm: Grace Point 5 pm: Ewnet Absari	8 10:30 am: Worship/ Junior Church 12:30 pm: Discipleship 12:30 pm: Grace Point 1:30 pm: Deacons 5 pm: Ewnet Absari	15 10:30 am: Worship/ Junior Church POTLUCK 12:30 pm: Grace Point 5 pm: Ewnet Absari	10:30 am: Worship/ Junior Church 12:30 pm: Discipleship 12:30 pm: Grace Point 5 pm: Ewnet Absari	29 10:30 am: Worship/ Junior Church 12:30 pm: Discipleship 12:30 pm: Grace Point 5 pm: Ewnet Absari





Women's Bible Study

Every other Wednesday, 1:30-3:30 pm, beginning September 13, 2023

CE IT - 5:30 pm: Sept 6, 2023

Missions IT 5 pm: Sept 21 & Oct 19, 2023

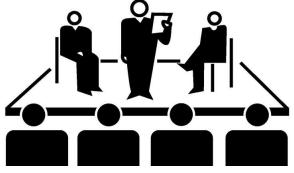
Worship IT - Last Wednesday 7 pm: Sept 27 & Oct 25, 2023



1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday, 1 pm Sept 6 & Oct 4 @ SCBC



Wednesday, Sept 13 & Oct 11 6:30 pm in the library





Sunday September 10 & October 8, 2023 1:30 pm

# **Grace Point Community Church Moves to FTPC**

Our flurry of neighborhood outreach, and preparation

for the transition from our campus for the past almost 21 years to a new venue, and the forming of new alliances, partnerships, and focus on being a light in our dark community have been both exhilarating — and exhausting.

Starting September 10 we will begin meeting Sundays (12:30 pm - 2:30

pm) on our new campus at Foster Tukwila Presbyterian Church. Our Good News Club will resume Thursdays on



September 14 at FTPC, and our Lighthouse youth will

join FTPC youth on Tuesdays, beginning September 12.

On September 17, we will have a Grand Re-Opening beginning with a joint potluck with FTPC! Join us to thank God for what He has done, and what He yet has for us. Together we will work to see His Kingdom come in Tukwila.

## Pastors Kent Murahashi and Maggie Navarro

**Grace Point Community Church** 



(Continued from page 1)

In September, we will have four congregations meeting at the FTPC building:

Foster Tukwila Presbyterian Church - Most of you reading are familiar with our church (which is why you are getting this newsletter)! It is incredible to be exploring what it looks like for us to reach our community for Jesus through individual ministries as well as through direct outreach times.

**Ewenet Absari Evangelical Church** - A growing congregation led by Pastor Tilahun Kasa, this church has been meeting at our facility for the last year. It is a gracious church that has been a pleasure to share space with. They meet from 5 PM until 9 PM on Sunday and Monday Evenings.

Salvation New Life Church - This congregation is effectively a church plant that has sprung from God's Worship Christian Church (BNCC). In this past year, the pastor of God's Worship Church, along with many of the members moved and the church in Washington is in the process of reforming under the leadership of Elder Harka. We are excited to see how God will grow this church plant as they continue to meet on Saturdays from 10 AM until 12 PM.

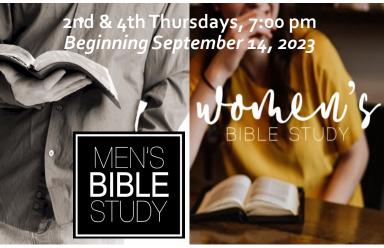
Grace Point Community Church - This congregation has been working for decades "To be a place where unchurched families from all cultures join together to exalt God, and be equipped and empowered to impact the community and the world for Christ." Before every service, they hold a meal, which starting on September 17th, you are invited to join! They will begin eating at 12:30 PM, and the service will end at approximately 3 PM.

As a church, I invite us to continue in prayer that the Lord might make the transition for all of these churches smooth and easy. **Grace Point** is moving a ministry that has been rooted for decades, and we pray earnestly that no sheep are lost or wander in the move. Salvation **New Life** is still in the re-forming stage, and we pray that they will be knit together as one body. **Ewenet Absari** is continuing to meet and pray with one another, and FTPC continues to seek to glorify the Lord in all that we do. God is so good, and it is a pleasure to be able to join in making the praise of the Lord continuous in His building.

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,

Pastor Daron





## October Missions: Trunk o' Treats

Each year hundreds of children from our community come to our annual Trunk o' Treats, held each year from 6-8 pm on October 31.

In recent years both Grace Point Community and South-center Community Baptist have joined us in providing a safe event for city. Young parents who came as children themselves are now bringing their own kids to enjoy the fun.

There is always need for volunteers to provide cars, prepare and serve popcorn, be part of the worship team, do candy runs, and take pictures. Last year we added a photo booth which was wildly successful. It gave us a chance to follow up with attendees by email and provide links to our website and FB page.

Mark your calendar this year for Tuesday, October 31, 2023, and plan on participating in this outreach to our community. More information regarding sign ups will be in the Sunday bulletin.















FOSTER-TUKWILA PRESBYTERIAN

PO Box 88576 Tukwila, WA 98138

September -October 2023

Web: www.ftpc.org 206-243-4455

"To Know Jesus Christ & to Make Him Known"

