



Connections

January 2019

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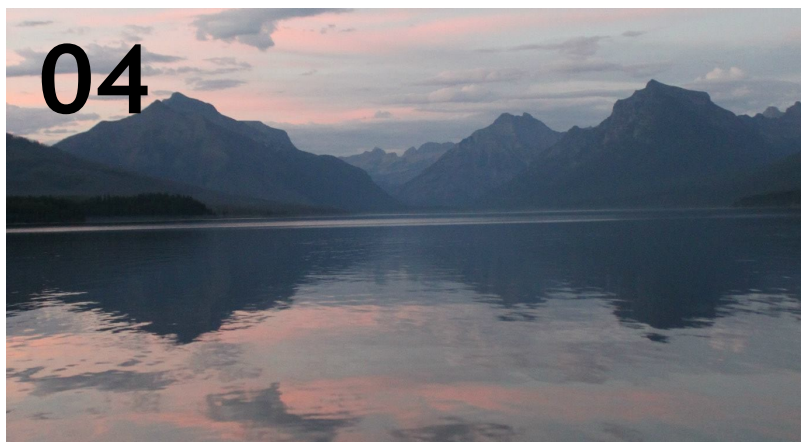


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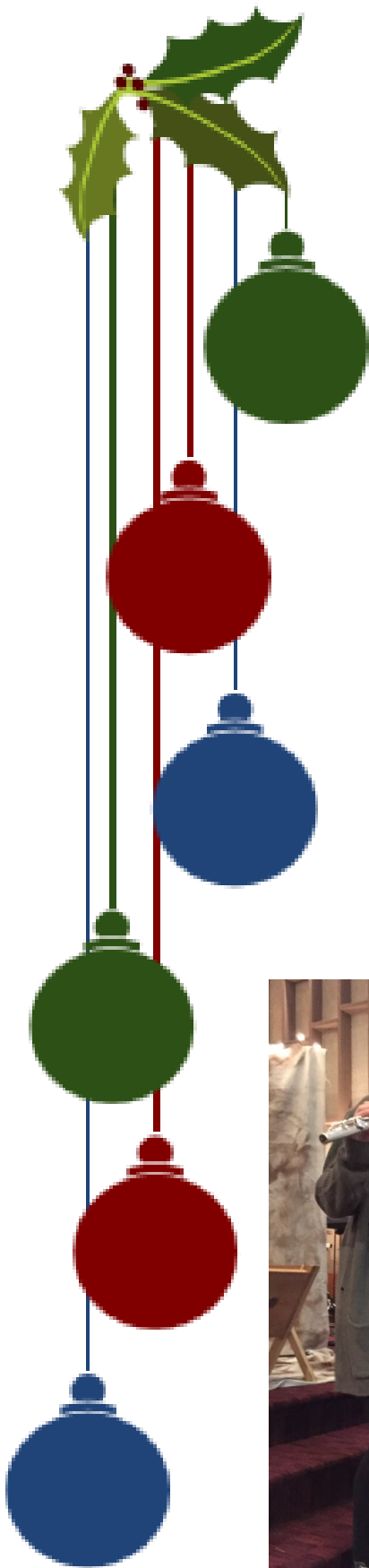
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PALOUSE
federated
CHURCH
DEPENDING ON JESUS



“And every beast,
by some good spell,
in the stable dark,
was glad to tell,
Of the gift he gave
Emmanuel,
The gift he gave
Emmanuel.”



A Flute Trio, comprised of Kennedy, Blair and Megan, played *Christmas Medley*.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM A SUCCESS

The annual Children’s Christmas Program was a resounding success. Thanks to all the children, teachers and attendees for helping us celebrate the arrival of Jesus!



Students in grades 3–5 present a Christmas skit.



Students in grades Pre-K–2 present *The Friendly Beasts*—a 12th century French Carol.



Phil Weagraff shares the Legend of the Candy Cane with program participants and audience members.

THE NEW YEAR - "JUST KEEP...GOING!"

Pastor Corey Laughary

"As for you, brothers and sisters, never tire of **doing** what is **good**." 2 Thessalonians 3:13

"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?" Jeremiah 17:9

Do you ever feel like giving up? I encourage you- keep going! Pretty easy for me to say, right? Friends, I know the deceit and discouragement that can come from our own hearts. Our hearts can whip up cold storms of self-pity, doubt and anxiety, and before we know it we are buried in a snow drift of unhealthy feelings blowing in from our very own heart. This is why we must persevere! We must consciously choose to believe in the goodness of God, and believe that God's ability to dig us out, is always greater than what we are buried in. This is an ongoing battle for many. Fighting anxiety, fears, addictions, and temptation can be tiresome. But the good news is that Christ and His Holy Spirit do not tire of helping us. So keep fighting the good fight! (1 Timothy 6:12) Keep abiding in Christ (John 15) and He will produce good things in your life. And always know that He who is in you is greater than any storm from the world (1 John 4:4), and far greater than your own feelings.

Believe this my friends: The presence of Christ is greater than any problem or pain you will ever face!

Depending on Jesus,

Pastor Corey



ANNUAL MEETING & MINISTRY UPDATE

Sunday
January 27
5 PM

You're invited to join us for our Annual Meeting, Sunday, January 27 @ 5 PM. We will receive ministry updates from 2018 and present the budget for 2019.

All are welcome!



ANNUAL MEETING

EPIPHANY PARTY

January 6 @ 5 PM
Palouse Federated Church

Procession to Greet the Wisemen
Gifts for Children

Dinner & Games



TO THOSE OF YOU WHO FEEL YOUR WORK IS MEANINGLESS

Tina Laughary

The other morning I watered the Christmas tree. While reaching for the watering can I glanced at the dog's water bowl and realized it was empty. At the very moment I was filling the water bowl my daughter called from the other room asking for a glass of water. I thought about the monotony of life. This morning, I water all the things and this afternoon, I will do it again. We all have experienced monotony to one extent or another. Cook a meal, feed the people, put it away, clean the kitchen, only to repeat it all again hours later. Maybe you drive to your office each morning working as fast as you can to finish all of your assigned tasks knowing that your to-do list will never be "done" as it will be there for you to tackle again tomorrow.

It can be easy to feel like a rat in a wheel, constantly running but never arriving at a destination. Take heart my friends, you are doing important work. That is the gift I was given the other morning while accomplishing my endless task of watering. I was given an important realization: it may be monotonous, it may be endless - but I am sustaining life. The water I give things today helps them function and flourish today. The same is true of your life and your tasks. Maybe you don't think of your job at the office as life-giving



to anyone, but what about the people you serve? What about the co-worker who relies upon your encouragement? Your kind words and daily smile may be what sustains them today.

The truth is, we may never know the impact we have on the people around us. What seems meaningless and monotonous to us may be what is holding their world together. Never assume to know what is going on in someone else's life, in their head. We all fight battles, we all deal with pain. More often than you know, others are dealing with pain you know nothing about. As believers in Jesus Christ, we have a job to do. We are to encourage, strengthen, lift up and sustain those around us. Lest you feel unqualified for this task, let



me reassure you...You can do this! You have the opportunity to do it everyday. How? By doing your everyday "things" whether you are cooking for your family, teaching a group of students, caring for animals or running a business. Do everything you do with kindness and love. Every task is a Holy task because every person you interact with is a child of God, made in His image.

People are complicated. You don't know all the struggles others are dealing with, but honestly, you don't need to. No task is unimportant, no person is insignificant. Water what is in front of you- you may never know who you are giving life to.

HERE IN THE SILENCE

Tracy Lee Sievers

I have long been fascinated by silence. How funny that is to think about because I am known to be such an extroverted talker! One of my favorite things to do in late Autumn and all through the Winter, long after the crowds of summer visitors have dispersed, is sit on the shores of Lake McDonald in Glacier National Park in silence. The grandeur of the scenery is not noisy. The mountains do not have to shout their beauty; it is fully appreciated in the quiet tranquility of the moment, just me and the lake.

I also dearly love the silence that follows a heavy snowfall; the whole world sits in stillness. Birds aren't chirping or flying, animals are bedded down, and even people are sheltered in their homes. This is the time I love to go out to clear the snow off the path and driveway. The freshly fallen flakes muffle everything and all I hear is the sound of the shovel scraping the pavement. There in that silence I find the stillness my heart longs for in the busy-ness of my everyday activities.

When my kids went off to school for the first time, the silence that filled our home was the loudest thing around - deafening and somewhat terrifying. After a while, I got used to it, and now I would say I even enjoy it.

When we encounter the stories in the first chapter of the Gospel of Luke we find God's people had been through years of silence. They longed to hear God speak - to have His presence the way it used to be in the stories of old - but for 400 years all they were met with was silence from YHWH. What they did not know was that in that very silence God was moving all the pieces into place.



Zechariah goes into the Holy Place to deliver the prayers of the people and when he returns they are met with something no one expects - more silence! God has taken Zechariah's very voice and hearing. Not only do the people have silence from God, their priest now has fallen silent himself! It is almost as if God is saying, "Hush! You don't want to miss what I am about to do out of this silence!"

As has often happened in the past, Israel misunderstands and they move on with what's next on the to-do list of their everyday lives.

Sometimes we can be a lot like Israel, missing the movement of God all around us because we are so focused on the to-do lists of our lives. This January, I urge you to go back to the nativity and read the story again from Luke 1-2. Notice the silence. Notice how God is moving in and through it! Then, take a few moments to notice how God is moving here and now. Plan some silence for your day; really schedule some in - even if it's just 5 or 10 minutes. Remember, silence takes some getting used to. Give yourself time to calibrate...silence is not hurried. Center your hearts in Scripture and see how God speaks in the silence and space you create.

Relational Outreach Idea:
Many people are looking to start healthy habits in the New Year. Consider asking someone if they want to do a Bible reading plan with you in the Bible App.

What's the next step in your spiritual journey?

Next Class
January 20
@ 10:15 AM

NEXT STEPS

Monday

Ladies Bible Study | Sermon Scriptures
3 PM @ Tina Laughary's

Tuesday

Men's Way Too Early Study | Sermon Scriptures
5:30 AM @ PFC

First Thessalonians Bible Study
10 AM @ PFC

Wednesday

Ladies Bible Study | Sermon Scriptures
9 AM @ PFC

First Thessalonians Bible Study
7 PM @ PFC

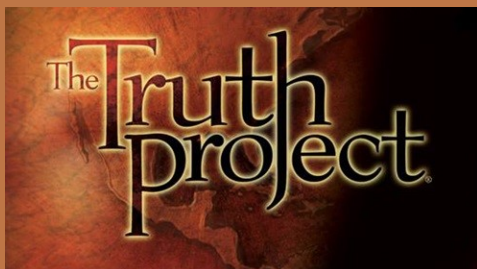
Relational Outreach Study
7 PM @ PFC

The Truth Project
7 PM @ PFC



THE TRUTH PROJECT: STUDY OPPORTUNITY FOR HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

Phil Weagraff is teaching a 13-week class for High School youth and young adults called, The Truth Project. The Truth Project provides a scholarly look at truth, the existence of God, authenticity of Scripture, creation, the plight of mankind, order vs disorder, hope for tomorrow and more.



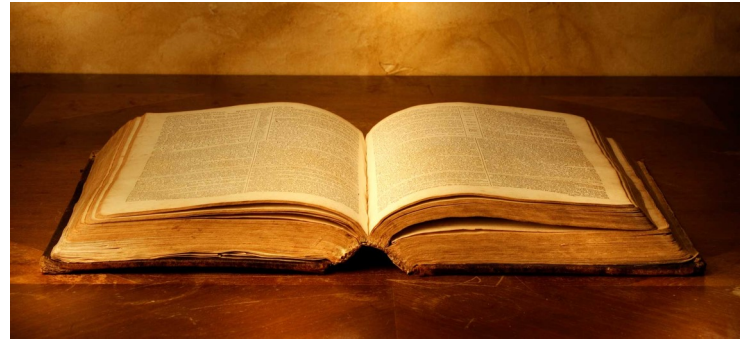
SET A BIBLE READING GOAL FOR 2019

Pastor Corey would love to help you take a step in learning from God's Word.

Perhaps you would like to read the Bible for the first time, we have a great 50-day reading plan for those new to the Bible.

Maybe you'd like to read the Gospels, or the New Testament, or even the whole Bible this year.

Pastor Corey can provide you a paper or digital reading plan. One great option is YouVersion also known as the Bible App, which is available for smartphones, tablets and on the internet at: www.bible.com.



YOUTH GROUP 6th - 12th Grades

Wednesdays @ 6:30 PM
Dinner Provided

Join us for Bible Study,
Worship & Fun



Unbelievable?



Do you like thinking through big questions?

Do you have friends and family that are skeptical about the existence of God?

I encourage you to check out the "Unbelievable?" podcast by Justin Brierly of Great Britain. Brierly hosts civil conversations between Christians and Skeptics.

This podcast is thoughtful and helps Christians and Non-Christians have meaningful conversations about important questions and topics.

HOPE IN THE UNFAMILIAR

Tim Sievers



I've always felt one of the best things about Christmas is the music. I love the thoughtful, contemplative lyrics of songs like *O Holy Night!* or *Silent Night*, as well as the jubilant lyrics of *Joy to the World!* or *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*.

Truth be told - most Christmas music is easy to remember and easy to sing - at least the first verse. But buried in the second, third and maybe even the fifth verses of some of the most familiar carols there lay deep and significant truths that often are overlooked and unfamiliar to us.

“...in the death and resurrection of Jesus—God’s plan to dispel the darkness and restore us is complete...That’s a truth that deserves not to be buried, but to be celebrated and sung with joy in our hearts.”

Following our worship service at Bishop Place on the Sunday before Christmas, our pianist Cody Wendt was conversing with some of the congregation on the topic of Christmas carols and I overheard him discussing the song *Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming*. Perhaps you've heard of it? Did you know it was a Christmas carol? It's not often part of the Christmas canon - even in the church! I am familiar with the first verse - or at least the first phrase, but then my knowledge of the lyrics ceases.

When I returned home that afternoon, I pulled out a hymnal to find the lyrics, did a little Internet research and searched YouTube, where I found a video of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir singing the song. It truly is one of the most beautiful pieces of Christmas music - an opinion, or dare I say fact, few would debate. First appearing in 1599 as *Es ist ein Ros entsprungen* and harmonized 10-years later by Michael Praetorius, a German court composer, the chords have remained virtually unchanged for more than four centuries.

Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming is not one of those carols that can quickly put us in the Christmas spirit. Instead, for more than 400 Decembers, singers have been vocalizing the lyrics and patiently waiting for each chord to come - expressing deep and beautiful truths about the nature of Jesus and God's plan for salvation. The first verse, rooted unequivocally in scripture, references Isaiah's prophecy:

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. (Isaiah 11:1)

But, there is so much more to the song. That afternoon in Pullman, Cody searched deep into the third verse of the song and sang these lyrics:

This Flow'r, whose fragrance tender
With sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor
The darkness everywhere.
True man, yet very God,
From sin and death He saves us
And lightens every load.

The Rose/Flow'r dispels the darkness. True man, yet very God, Jesus saves us from sin and death. While we're so focused on the cradle, the poignant lyrics of this unfamiliar carol point us to the cross and the true hope of Christmas -

that in the death and resurrection of Jesus - God's plan to dispel the darkness and restore us is complete and we are saved. That's a truth that deserves not to be buried, but to be celebrated and sung with joy in our hearts. As the Christmas season comes to a close, I encourage you to have hope and choose to live in the joy of that truth - that God's love for us is so great - that he found a way to bring us out of the darkness and into his marvelous light.

Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming

M. Praetorius

Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der stem hath
I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the rose I have in
This flower, whose fra-grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the

sprung! Of Jes-se's lin-eage com - ing as men of old have
mind. With Ma - ry we be - hold it, the Vir - gin Moth - er
air, dis - pels with glo-rious splen - dor the the dark-ness ev - 'ry -

sung. It came, a flow - 'ret bright, a - mid the cold of
kind. To show God's love a - right she bore to men a
where. En - fleshed, yet ver - y God, from sin and death He

win - ter when half spent was the night.
Sav - ior when half spent was the night.
saves us and light - ens ev - 'ry load.

CHURCH ON A HILL PODCAST

Each week, Pastor Corey Laughary and Tim Sievers co-host the Church on a Hill Podcast - reviewing the sermon, discussing upcoming events and ministry opportunities and generally having a good time. There's usually a joke or two thrown in to lighten things up.

Each podcast is about 20 minutes so it's easy to listen to on your way to or from Pullman or Moscow...or anytime!

You can find us on the "SoundCloud" App (for smartphones, tablets, etc.) - search "Palouse Church on a Hill," or you can click on the link in the weekly e-mail or on the church's Facebook page.





PRAYER REQUESTS:

- ◆ Pray for the family and friends of Reuben Merry.
- ◆ Pray for the family and friends of Gary Brunner.
- ◆ Pray for the family and friends of Amy West.
- ◆ Pray for the family and friends of Ben Perkins.
- ◆ Pray for Terry Blair, recovering from surgery.
- ◆ Pray for Doreen Hanson's brother Frank, kidney failure.
- ◆ Pray for Mary Kernan, broken arm & cancer.
- ◆ Pray for Drake Davis, GarPal student, broken leg.
- ◆ Pray for Lynda Mills, daughter-in-law of Angie Cochran, heart issues.
- ◆ Pray for Sarah McCusker, friend of Tracy Lee Sievers, advanced Huntington's Disease.
- ◆ Pray for Ellen, friend of Tecla Blood, ongoing health concerns.
- ◆ Pray for Don Comstock, ongoing health concerns.
- ◆ Pray for a friend of Jeff Baldwin's whose daughter is struggling with drugs and anger.
- ◆ Pray for Barbra Vail, ongoing health concerns.
- ◆ Pray for Carol Stillman, cancer.
- ◆ Pray for Brock Hill, cancer.
- ◆ Pray for Bev Glass, ongoing health concerns.
- ◆ Pray for Ralph Heinlen, ongoing health concerns.
- ◆ Pray for Jeff & Kati Webb, ongoing health concerns.
- ◆ Pray for Kelley, malignant lung tumor.

- ◆ Pray for Keiona Zachow, Multiple Sclerosis.
- ◆ Pray for Tecla Blood, ongoing health issues.
- ◆ Pray for Carrie Doramus' dad, Richard, dementia.
- ◆ Pray for Charlotte, friend of Don Gilliland, Parkinson's.
- ◆ Pray for Don Gilliland, ongoing health issues.
- ◆ Pray for Paula Fielder Leftwich, cancer.
- ◆ Pray for Monte, friend of Tecla Blood—ongoing health concerns.
- ◆ Pray for Willy Treese—ongoing health concerns.
- ◆ Pray for Brittany Sawyer's Uncle Jon—Alzheimer's.
- ◆ Pray for Patty Myott, health.
- ◆ Pray for Judy Hart, recovery from stroke.
- ◆ Pray for Meredith Willcox-Norris, cancer.
- ◆ Pray for our national and community leaders.
- ◆ Pray for our nation - that peace, compassion, love and unity win out over hate, discord and division.
- ◆ Pray for your Oikos—those that God has strategically and supernaturally placed in your life.
- ◆ Pray for active duty service members.

PRAISES AND PRAYERS FOR THESE MISSIONS AND MINISTRIES:

- ◆ Pray for Young Life and Wyld Life.
- ◆ Pray for our International Mission Partners.
- ◆ Pray for the Bible study at Eastern State Hospital and the residents.
- ◆ Praise God for our youth ministry leaders. Pray for youth to come to Christ.
- ◆ Pray for our missionaries and partner church and orphanage in Uganda (pastors, teachers, orphans).

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS:

Richard Keyser
Catherine Tuck
Arnetta Tompkins

Patty Myott
Don Gilliland
Frances West

Dory Tuttle
Steve Gill

OIKOS - WHAT IS IT?

Your Oikos is the 8 to 15 people you interact with on a regular basis that God has supernaturally and strategically placed in your life - friends, family, neighbors, and co-workers.

Nobody is better equipped to share the truth of Jesus with them than you.

Pick up and fill out one of our OIKOS Prayer Cards and start praying for the people in your OIKOS to grow in their relationship with Jesus. We even have OIKOS Prayer Cards for Kids!

Or...Download the OIKOS App today - search "8to15" in your app store.



YouVersion



The Bible App
FOR KIDS

Did you know that YouVersion has created a Bible App just for kids? By introducing children to 41 of the "big" Bible stories, the Bible App for Kids helps them understand the overall story that the Bible is telling. Kid-friendly navigation helps them find and select whichever story they want, then reads it aloud to them in a friendly narrative style. Throughout each story, fun, interactive animations keep children engaged, and select stories even include games designed to help them learn, understand, and retain important Bible story concepts.



PALOUSE FEDERATED CHURCH CALENDAR

JANUARY 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		JANUARY 5:30 AM Way too Early Men's Bible Study* 10 AM Bible Study*	9 AM Ladies Bible Study* 6:30-8:30 PM Youth Group 7 PM Wednesday Nights @ PFC	3	10:30 AM Story Time @ Palouse Library	5
9 AM Worship 10:15 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Fellowship 11 AM Worship 1:30 PM Bishop Place 5 PM Epiphany Party @ PFC	7 3 PM Ladies Bible Study @ Tina Laughary's	8 5:30 AM Way too Early Men's Bible Study* 10 AM Bible Study*	9 9 AM Ladies Bible Study* 6:30-8:30 PM Youth Group 7 PM Wednesday Nights @ PFC	10	10:30 AM Story Time @ Palouse Library	12
13 9 AM Worship 10:15 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Fellowship 11 AM Worship 1:30 PM Bishop Place	14 3 PM Ladies Bible Study @ Tina Laughary's	15 5:30 AM Way too Early Men's Bible Study* 10 AM Bible Study* 3:30 PM STEAM Activity @ Palouse Library 6:30 PM Cribbage Club @ Palouse Library	16 9 AM Ladies Bible Study* 6:30-8:30 PM Youth Group 7 PM Wednesday Nights @ PFC	17	10:30 AM Story Time @ Palouse Library	19 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast
20 9 AM Worship 10:15 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Fellowship 10:15 AM NextSteps 11 AM Worship 1:30 PM Bishop Place	21 3 PM Ladies Bible Study @ Tina Laughary's	22 5:30 AM Way too Early Men's Bible Study* 10 AM Bible Study* 3:30 PM STEAM Activity @ Palouse Library	23 9 AM Ladies Bible Study* 1-2 & 4:30-6PM Food Pantry @ Calvary Chapel 6:30-8:30 PM Youth Group 7 PM Wednesday Nights @ PFC	24	10:30 AM Story Time @ Palouse Library	26
27 9 AM Worship 10:15 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Fellowship 11 AM Worship 1:30 PM Bishop Place 5 PM Annual Meeting	28 3 PM Ladies Bible Study @ Tina Laughary's	29 5:30 AM Way too Early Men's Bible Study* 10 AM Bible Study* 3:30 PM STEAM Activity @ Palouse Library	30 9 AM Ladies Bible Study* 6:30-8:30 PM Youth Group 7 PM Wednesday Nights @ PFC	31	FEBRUARY 10:30 AM Story Time @ Palouse Library	2 Bible studies with an * are held at PFC.

Depending on Jesus to Restore Our [Imperfect] Lives

JANUARY SERMONS

Jan. 06	9 & 11 AM	Perfectly [Imperfect] People	Matthew 2:1-18 Luke 2:22-38
Jan. 13	9 & 11 AM	Depending on Jesus: Rescued	Acts 23:12-35
Jan. 20	9 & 11 AM	Depending on Jesus: Paul the Plague?	Acts 24:1-21
Jan. 27	9 & 11 AM	Depending on Jesus: Alarming Teachings	Acts 24:22-27



PULLMAN WORSHIP SERVICE

You're invited to join us for worship in Pullman at our Bishop Place Worship Service. Worship Services are at 1:30 PM in the Social Room - 815 SE Klemgard St.

