

# Connections

February 2022

## "Give Me Your Peace, Jesus"

Corey Laughary, Pastor

In the coming weeks I will be preaching and teaching a lot about Christ's peace. Jesus offers a peace far deeper and better than what the world can give us. God's idea of peace is called "shalom" in the Old Testament. Shalom is a sense of a healthy wholeness, where the divisions within self are healed or restored to a healthy state of cohesion. It's far better than the ideas of "balance," "everything in moderation," or "do whatever makes you happy" - these are ideas out there that just can't hold a candle to the true light of peace God brings to us.



I hope the upcoming messages will bless you as you seek to live in the wholeness, or peace, that Christ offers. If the messages do bless you, please feel free to share the online version with friends - you can find them at: [palousechurch.org/sermons](http://palousechurch.org/sermons). Also, consider inviting friends, neighbors and family to come and hear the encouraging messages this month. In March the theme will continue, we will be starting a series for Lent called [Imperfect] Lives with Perfect Peace - more on that in next month's Connections.

On Wednesday nights in February, the Spiritual Growth Group, always open to new-comers, will be diving into studying self-care theology and Christian views on mental health and spiritual battles:

Feb. 2 | Self-Care Theology: Awe-Who-Joy-Now-Too, Part 1

Feb. 9 | Self-Care Theology: Awe-Who-Joy-Now-Too, Part 2

Feb. 16 | Christian Views on Mental Health & Spiritual Battles, Part 1

Feb. 23 | Christian Views on Mental Health & Spiritual Battles, Part 2

Jesus Christ offers us His peace. But, we have to receive the offer. We cannot simply say, "Give me your peace, Jesus" and then go on as we have been living. If we really want His peace, we will not only pray for it, but we will be willing to receive the instruction and changes He has for our life.

Jesus is offering you deep peace, shalom, in 2022. Will you receive what He is offering to you?

Join us on Sundays or Wednesdays - and if you can't make it, feel free to contact me to schedule a personal spiritual growth coaching session. That's what I am here for, to encourage and equip you in your spiritual growth so that we can all live lives that glorify God and introduce others to Him.

Depending on Jesus,

*Pastor Corey*

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***"If we really want His peace, we will not only pray for it, but we will be willing to receive the instruction and changes He has for our life."***

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“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

*John 14:27*

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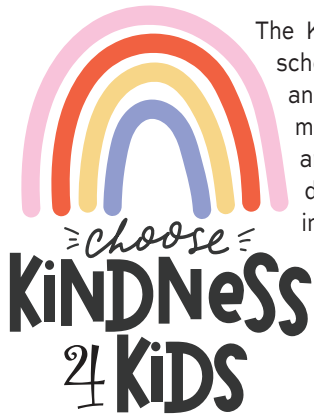
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## Kindness for Kids Food Pantry



The Kindness for Kids food pantry at the school is in need of instant oatmeal cups and cereal cups (the ones you just put the milk in and use it as a bowl). Also needed are apples and oranges. Bring your donations to the church and leave them in the clear plastic bins.



## Palouse Food Pantry

February 23

1-2:30 PM & By Appointment

Calvary Chapel of Palouse

Order Online: [palousefoodpantry@gmail.com](mailto:palousefoodpantry@gmail.com)

Or Call the Pantry: (509) 595-3048

In-person pick up, or delivery by request.

## Youth Group Activities (In-Person + Zoom)

Middle School Youth Group (Grades 6-8)  
Wednesdays | 6:30 - 7:30 PM

High School Bible Study (Grades 9-12)  
Sundays | 4:30 PM

Please contact Vanessa Moore  
with any questions:  
(509) 595-1910  
[vanessa@palousechurch.org](mailto:vanessa@palousechurch.org)



## Bible Study Schedule

In-Person and Zoom Options Available

Sundays  
4:30 PM - High School  
7 PM - Young Adults

Tuesdays  
5:30 AM - Men  
10 AM - Mixed Group

Wednesdays  
10 AM - Ladies  
6:30 PM - Middle School  
6:30 PM - Spiritual Growth Guide Study

Thursdays  
9 AM - Ladies





# Soil, Compost & Climate

Terry Keller

Last month I wrote about climate change and agriculture, specifically some of drawdown.org's solutions to lessen agriculture's greenhouse gas emissions and contributions to climate change. One of those solutions is regenerative agriculture: no till, no synthetic fertilizers or pesticides, using cover crops and complex crop rotations.

I've also mentioned in a previous column that reducing food waste is one of the best ways to reduce our carbon footprint and lessen the food systems' contribution to climate change. One of the ways to reduce food waste is to compost the food scraps, vegetable peelings, expired leftovers and use that compost to improve our soils. What regenerative agriculture can do for agricultural soils, compost can do for gardens, both food and ornamental gardens.

Remember the parable of the sower in Matthew 13? Jesus, surrounded by crowds, got into a boat and from there, told them about the sower who scattered seeds in many places. Others were

too exposed and the birds ate them. Some fell on rocky ground where there wasn't enough soil to sustain the early growth once the sun got hot. Still others fell among thorns that choked out the young seedlings. But, some fell on good soil and produced grain, lots of it.

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***There is a whole world in our soil. If we help that world thrive, it will help us thrive. We'll be stewarding God's good creation as we were made to do.***

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Although we usually interpret this parable as being about spreading the Good News in various places, that interpretation wouldn't make sense if the parable wasn't also telling the truth about soils. It takes good soil to produce abundant food. We've been

treating our soils as if they go on forever. But, drawdown.org estimates that "at least 50 percent of the carbon [in the organic matter] in earth's soils, worldwide, has been released into the atmosphere over the past centuries." The United Nations says it takes up to 1,000 years to produce 2-3 centimeters of soil (<https://news.un.org/en/story/2019/12/1052831>). As with so many things on Earth, soil is precious, fragile, and not to be taken for granted.

The best thing we can do for our soils, at a garden scale, is to add organic matter. Organic matter in soil improves the soil's fertility, its ability to retain water and hold onto nutrients, its ability to make those nutrients available to plants, and its tilth, tilth being the physical condition of soil as it relates to its ability to grow plants. Organic matter can be added through incorporating cover crops or by adding compost. Making compost is a good way to reduce food waste, so making compost and using it in your garden is a win-win for the soil and for the climate.

Often, we hear the word "composting" and shy away because it seems too complicated. Here's the good news about compost: things decompose naturally without any help from us. Knowing that should take some of the pressure off. You can follow the rules and build a great pile with the right ratios of bulky brown material to

higher energy green material and have it turn into great compost. But you can also have stuff decay into compost without worrying too much about ratios. It may take longer, but it will still get there.

Things to remember: Don't include dairy or meat products (unless you have a dog who sorts through and removes the dairy and meat as soon as you dump anything on the compost pile or you want to attract raccoons because they're so cute). Don't include weeds that have gone to seed or any diseased plant material. Don't include anything that's been treated with herbicides or pesticides. Don't include pet poop. Chicken manure is okay. Horse manure will give you a lot of weed seeds.

Throw your kitchen scraps, food waste, plant cuttings, grass clippings, paper (as long as it doesn't have toxic ink on it and nothing glossy), leaves, and wood chips into a pile in a corner of your garden and let it do its thing. If you want faster compost, turn it weekly with a fork or compost turner and keep it as moist as a wrung-out sponge. Once it's dark and crumbly and smells like a forest, add it to your garden beds.

Here are a couple of websites for more detailed instructions and information:

<https://www.nrdc.org/stories/composting-101#howto>

<https://rodaleinstitute.org/blog/backyard-composting-basics-a-cheatsheet/>

<https://joegardener.com/resources/>  
(He has a free composting guide, but you have to sign up with your e-mail to get it).

Good soil is teeming with life. A gram of agricultural topsoil contains:

100 million to 1 billion bacteria,  
10 million to 100 million actinomycetes,  
100,000 to 1 million fungi,  
10,000 to 100,000 algae,  
10,000 to 100,000 protozoa  
10 to 100 nematodes.

(Source: Paul McDaniel, Dept. of Soil and Water Systems, University of Idaho in a UI Master Gardener presentation on Soils, Fertilizers and Composting).

Good soil is essential to life. Without it, we can't grow good food. Good soil is precious and we need to treat it that way.

"To see a world in a grain of sand and heaven in a wild flower  
Hold infinity in the palm of your hand and eternity in an hour."

~ William Blake ~  
*Auguries of Innocence*

There is a whole world in our soil. If we help that world thrive, it will help us thrive. We'll be stewarding God's good creation as we were made to do.



# To the Ends of the Earth: Africa Missions



## Uganda

**Mission Trip:** We have a goal to send a small team of people to Uganda in late 2022, probably December. Are you interested? It is time for us to have some of our own PFC family back in Uganda to worship and serve with our brothers and sisters there at Hope 4 All Children Orphanage.

Costs and dates of trip will be announced in the coming months, but if you are interested, please let us know. We are looking at partnering with people in our region to go with us and provide emergency medical training to the church and orphanage leaders.

Graduating residents: We are excited that several of the orphanage residents are graduating out of being residents, completing their secondary education, and in some cases vocational training. These are exciting times!

### Uganda Prayer Requests:

Pray for the young adults that are moving on to new opportunities.

Pray for any child that is need of a healthy home to be connected with the orphanage.

Pray for Pastor Martin and Mary and other leaders there.

Pray for the development of their resources as we continue to encourage self-sufficiency.



## Lesotho

Missionaries **Joe and Karen Adams with Mission Aviation Fellowship** report a new tool is bringing water to the people of Lesotho and helping spread the Gospel.

Though Lesotho generally has plentiful water, the infrastructure for transporting it is often lacking, especially in isolated mountain villages, so carrying it in buckets is common. Recently we discovered an innovative solution called the “Water Wheelbarrow” that helps transport 100 liters (22 gallons) easily. Best of all, the Water Wheelbarrow is manufactured in South Africa, providing jobs for locals. Two of these wheelbarrows were recently provided for the use of the pastoral couples in Kuebunyane and Tlhanyaku, so they can spend more time sharing the gospel and less time carrying water!



# SUMMER CAMP!

Register at: [rosspoint.org](http://rosspoint.org)  
Scholarships Available

Ross Point Camp has announced this year's theme,  
"Rich in Mercy," and the following camp dates:

My First Camp (Age 7 & Younger) | June 24-25

Middler Camp (Grades 2-4) | June 19-22

Junior High (Grades 6-9) | June 19-24

Junior (Grades 4-6) | July 3-8

Senior High (Grades 9-12) | July 3-8

## Wednesday Ministry Nights

Middle School Youth Group - 6:30 PM

Spiritual Growth Group - 6:30 PM

The Spiritual Growth Group is for all ages 15 and older who want to dive into all kinds of topics related to spiritual growth. This group will use PFC's own "Spiritual Growth Guide" as a secondary resource, with our primary resource being the Bible. Join us for one session, all the sessions, or something in between.

### February 02

Self-Care Theology:  
Awe-Who-Joy-Now-Too, Part 1

### February 09

Self-Care Theology:  
Awe-Who-Joy-Now-Too, Part 2

### February 16

Christian Views on Mental Health  
& Spiritual Battles, Part 1

### February 23

Christian Views on Mental Health  
& Spiritual Battles, Part 2

### Lent

March 9, 16, 23, & 30 | April 6 & 13

Reflections on Spiritual Disciplines

### After Lent

Session 7:  
The Stress Bucket & Self-Care

Session 8:  
Financial Stress Relief  
Special Guest Tina Laughary

## ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL

# MEETING

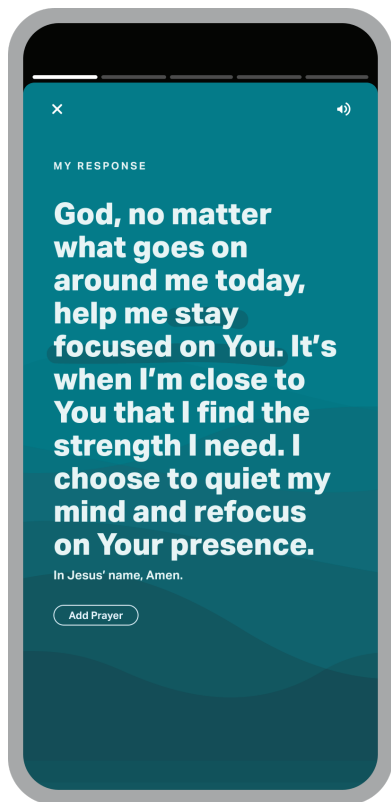
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FEBRUARY 27, 2022 - 10:15 AM  
IN-PERSON & ZOOM

## SUNDAY SCHOOL



Sunday School for kids ages 3 and potty-trained through 5th grade is currently on hiatus due to the increase in the spread of Covid in our communities. Classes are tentatively scheduled to resume on Feb. 27. When classes do resume, we hope you'll join us weekly on Sundays at 10:15 AM in the basement to learn about Jesus and his love.

You can access online worship resources, sermon audio, newsletters, and  
online giving at: [palousechurch.org](http://palousechurch.org)



## Sermon Schedule

We are back in the Gospel of John! Check out the scripture schedule below for upcoming sermons and Bible studies.

February 06 | John 14:27-31 | Jesus & the Peace He Gives

February 13 | John 15:1-11 | Jesus & the Vine

February 20 | John 15:12-17 | Jesus & His Commandment

February 27 | John 15:18-26 | Jesus & the Hatred

Consider starting a YouVersion Bible App reading plan this month and developing the discipline of being in the Word. The Bible App has books of the Bible plans, seasonal plans (Lent is coming up), and themed plans on topics like anxiety, prayer, worship, and work. Contact Pastor Corey if you need help finding a plan that works for you!



# YouVersion



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