

Connections

February 2023

Prayer is Important, Y'all!

Corey Laughary, Pastor



Dear Church Family,

I have really been enjoying this "Y'all" series. The enjoyment is not coming just from the use of the you-all plural, truthfully my joy is coming from getting to preach and teach about the shared promises from God we receive together. We are on this journey of depending on Jesus together. The Holy Spirit is working on us all, shaping and growing us to be disciples of Christ. It is awesome that God has arranged us as parts of His Body here on Earth to care for one another and share the good news with our neighbors. I want you to know that I am truly blessed to be part of this local gathering of Jesus people.

"It is awesome that God has arranged us as parts of His Body here on Earth to care for one another and share the good news with our neighbors."

One of the deep blessings I have been appreciating more recently is the gift we have to pray for one another and with one another. It is so easy to take prayer for granted, I know because I have done that way too much. Lately, however, God has been teaching me what an immense privilege and blessing it is to be able to be pray with people, for people, and to have people pray for me.

How are you doing with prayer? Do you and God talk regularly? If you are like me, there's definitely room for growth, and that's a good place to be. I want to encourage you to take steps in your journey of talking to God and listening to Him. We have books, apps, people, and courses that can help you along the way. Additionally, I also am here as a fellow traveler to encourage your

spiritual journey with the Lord. Please let me know how I can help you. If you have questions, doubts, desires to grow - or whatever - I am here to listen, pray and help where I can.

Depending on Jesus,

Pastor Corey

“
By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?

1 John 3:16-17

Palouse Federated Church
635 N. Bridge St.
Palouse, WA 99161
(509) 878-1509
www.palousechurch.org

Corey Laughary, Pastor
Cell | (509) 336-9154
corey@palousechurch.org

Tina Laughary, Congregational Care
Phone | (509) 878-1334
tclaughary@yahoo.com

Hua Ming Newman,
Worship Arts & Tech
& Youth Leader
huaming@palousechurch.org

Tim Sievers, Connections Editor
Cell | (509) 595-2778
tim@palousechurch.org



NextSteps Class

Feb. 19 | 11:15 AM

Are you wondering what your Next Step with Palouse Federated Church is?

- Baptism?
- Membership?
- Bible Study?
- Service?

Join us for our NextSteps Class and learn more about PFC and how you can take your Next Step with us!

“
**WHAT'S
YOUR NEXT
STEP**
”



**Youth Group
6th - 9th Grades
Wednesdays
at PFC in February
6:30 - 8 PM
Join us for Dinner
Stay for Bible Study
Games & Fun**

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

After-School Program

Hua Ming Newman

Our new weekly after-school program kicked off at the end of January. Thank you for your prayers as we launch this new ministry and for the many ways you have stepped up to serve.



The after-school program takes place weekly on Tuesdays from 3:30 - 4:30 PM.

If you'd like to help out, you can sign up to help teach, lead an activity or provide snacks. Just check out the clipboard in the Fellowship Hall to see what days help is needed or contact me for more information.

New Ladies Bible Study Coming Feb. 6

Tina Laughary, CCT Director

PFC is committed to providing resources and opportunities to help you grow spiritually. We believe in the power of coming together to worship as the body of Christ. Something beautiful happens when we raise our voices together in song and sit side by side to hear God's word proclaimed, which is why we gather on Sunday mornings for worship.

We also believe in the value of opening up God's word to study and discuss it together. This is why we provide a variety of Bible Study opportunities throughout the week. We are excited to announce a new Bible Study opportunity beginning Monday February 6th. Here are the details:

- When: Every Monday at 4 PM, Starting 2/6
- Where: The Laughary Home | 200 E. Maxwell St.
- Who: All ladies are invited!
This study will be led by Tina Laughary
- What: We will be reading and discussing the sermon scripture that will be preached the next Sunday

Questions? Please feel free to reach out to Tina Laughary at (509) 595-4706 or e-mail tclaughary@yahoo.com

Live Chat

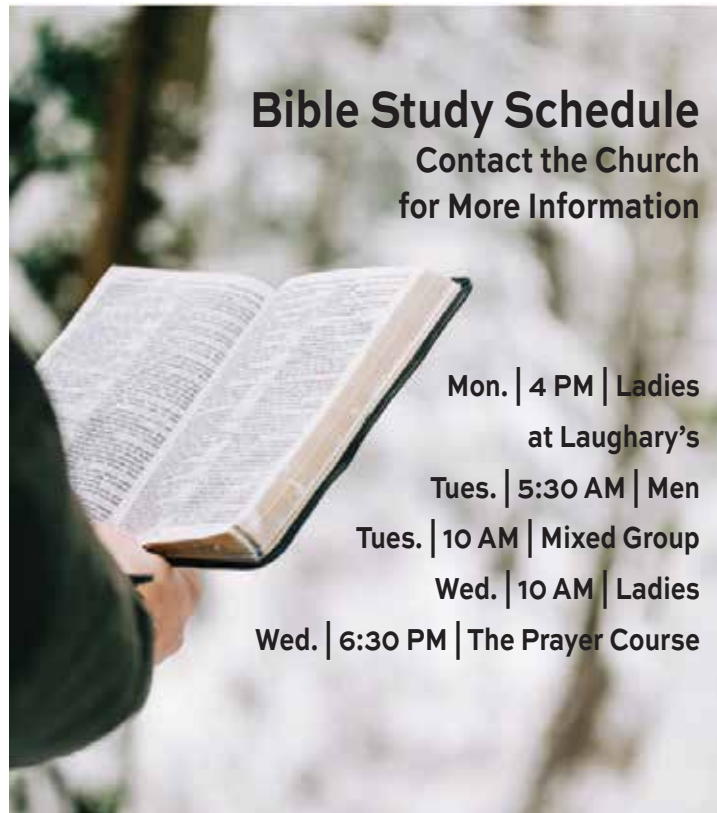
WEEKLY ON SUNDAYS
11:15 AM

FIND OUR TABLE IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL AFTER YOU GRAB A SNACK AT COFFEE HOUR.

WE'LL CONNECT FOR A QUICK CHAT AND SOME DEEP BIBLE TRUTHS!

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL CHECK-IN
WITH BETTY SAWYER

Bible Study Schedule Contact the Church for More Information



- Mon. | 4 PM | Ladies
at Laughary's
- Tues. | 5:30 AM | Men
- Tues. | 10 AM | Mixed Group
- Wed. | 10 AM | Ladies
- Wed. | 6:30 PM | The Prayer Course

Spiritual Growth Group

Wednesday Nights 6:30 PM

The Spiritual Growth Group will continue with "The Prayer Course" until Lent, when we will transition to our Lent Soup Suppers. You're invited to join us on Wednesday nights at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. You can learn more about "The Prayer Course" at:

<https://prayercourse.org/about/>

This course will help all who attend to learn and grow in our prayer life with God.

Lent Soup Suppers

We are getting together through the season of Lent for Soup Suppers on Wednesday nights at 6:30 PM starting March 01.

The meal will be soup and bread, and we will hear a reflection on one of the 7 final sayings of Jesus from the cross. Each week will focus on one of the 7 “Words.” Please join us for this time of fellowship and spiritual growth.

Want to Dig Deeper? Consider reading “Last Supper on the Moon” by Levi Lusko - it contains reflections on the 7 Words, as well as the 7 churches of Revelation and the 7 “I am” statements of Jesus in the Gospel of John. It’s a rich read and you won’t be disappointed!



WEDNESDAY
Feb. 22 | 6:30 PM
Service of Ashes

Please join us to reflect on the sacred gift of life and the reality of human mortality. This is a reflective service that begins the season of Lent. Scriptures, prayers and the message each help us to focus in on our need for deep reflection in the season of Lent to prepare ourselves to appreciate the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.



Nights of Peace Return for Lent

No matter the season, of the year or of our lives, we often find ourselves hurried as we go about the business of life. Our hearts desire peace between nations, in our family, among friends and neighbors...even peace with God. But, it's hard to find. We are worn out, exhausted! We know that there is something broken in our lives, but we don't know how to fix it – how to get back to where we want to be. So, we simply continue in discontent, feeling at the same time an emptiness, but also a deep longing for a path back to shalom – wholeness and peace.

Many have found that the institution of certain disciplines in our lives can lead us back to the shalom we desire. Engaging in disciplines such as silence, solitude and sabbath, creates anchoring points within our day or week, to remind us who we are and to help bring us back to the peace and wholeness we once knew.

Our Nights of Peace are anchoring points intended to help you “find” peace. We’ve created a space in our community at the Holy Trinity Chapel for you to pause, even if just for a few minutes, to reflect, meditate and pray for peace in this season. **The Chapel is open weekly during Lent on Thursdays (2/23, 3/2, 3/9, 3/16, 3/23 & 3/30) from 6:30 to 8:30 PM** and you may come and go as you please, as there is no formal program – just a carefully prepared place for prayer and reflection.

Lent Focus: Words that Matter

The 7 Last Words of Jesus

This year our Lent theme is “Words that Matter.” Throughout the season, our sermons, Bible studies and Soup Supper reflections all will consider Jesus’ seven last “words” from the cross - words that truly matter to the followers of Jesus. You can find the schedule and “Words” below.

02/26 - Forgiveness	03/05 - Salvation	03/12 - Relationship
03/19 - Abandonment	03/26 - Distress	04/02 - Triumph
04/09 - Reunion		

REAL HELP FOR REAL PEOPLE

COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH TOOLS

Learning basic mental health tools to better
prepare people to help people in real life
situations.

Feb. 24 | 6-8 PM | Garfield Library

Community Mental Health Tools is a 2 to 2.5 hour class for individuals and groups, aimed particularly at people who aren't professionals in mental health fields.

In this offering, participants receive training in:

Suicide Intervention;

Adverse Childhood Experiences; and

Self-Care training - encouragement and goal-setting to help process stress and develop health.

Instructor: Rev. Corey Laughary is an experienced pastor, coach, EMS volunteer and small-town chaplain. He is a certified Mental Health First Aid Instructor (Youth and Adult) and a certified QPR Instructor. Corey Provides direct (never pre-recorded) in-person or online instruction, with personal service and follow up as needed.

This Community Mental Health Tools training is FREE and supported by a grant from WSU.

For more information, or to schedule a training, call or text Corey at (509) 336-9154

Is God Calling You to the Congregational Care Team?

Tina Laughary, CCT Director



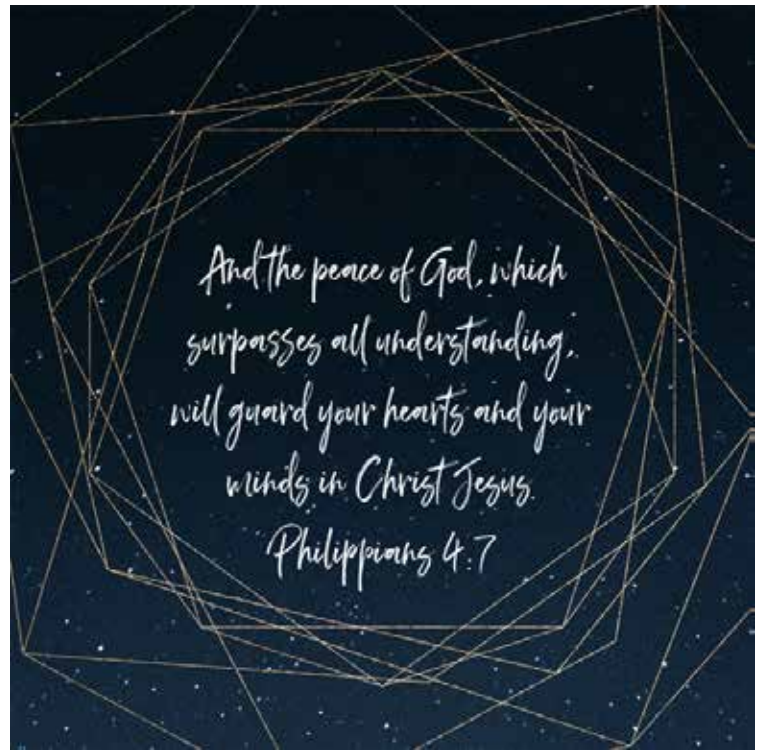
We all learned a lot of lessons from the social isolation of the Covid Pandemic. One thing the PFC Leadership learned is that without weekly, in-person gatherings it is really hard to “check-in” on our church family. What we found was that some people became disconnected. Others had needs that went unmet because their brothers and sisters in Christ simply didn’t know about them. Still others slipped into loneliness and despair without the regular social contact of our church community. We at PFC decided we must do a better, more intentional job of staying connected to one another. This is how the Congregational Care Team was formed in March of 2021.

For nearly two years our team of around 20 individuals has been committed to God’s call to care for one another. They each have a list of individuals or families that they pray for regularly and intentionally communicate with once a month. It is a rewarding job. As we have been hearing from Pastor Corey on Sunday mornings, “ya’ll need each other.” God created us for community and friendship. The CCT works to make sure no one gets left behind.

As we approach our second birthday as a ministry, we have several team members who have decided to take a break. Is God calling you to take a turn on the team? It is a rewarding ministry to be a part of. There are NO regular meetings to attend. We do most of our communication on e-mail, text, phone and good old-fashioned mail! If you would like to learn more about the Congregational Care Team we are having an in-person meeting that is open to everyone:

Monday February 6th at 11 AM in the PFC Fellowship Hall

Come with your questions, come to learn and consider joining our team!



Spring Youth Retreat at Ross Point: Practicing Peace

Who?	Youth in Grades 6-12
Directors:	Grace Hohag & Hua Ming Newman
Speaker:	Marty Masten
Theme:	Practicing Peace - Philippians 4:8-9
Dates:	March 3-5, 2023
Cost:	\$85 (Register by 2/17 to save \$10) Scholarships Available
Register:	www.rosspoint.org

In a world of chaos and uncertainty, God wants us to have peace. Paul encouraged the church in Philippi in the last part of Philippians 4:9 -

“The God of peace will be with you.”

You see, God wants us to live in his peace in spite of what is going on in our lives and our world. At this year’s retreat, we will be talking about the spiritual tools we need to deal with stress and anxiety in our lives. We will turn to God’s scriptures to learn what God has to say about peace, and apply it to our lives to help us through the uncertainty and chaos that sometimes troubles us.

Philippians 4:7 says:

“And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”



Mental Health Ministry

PFC reaches out to our neighbors through the Mental Health Ministry.

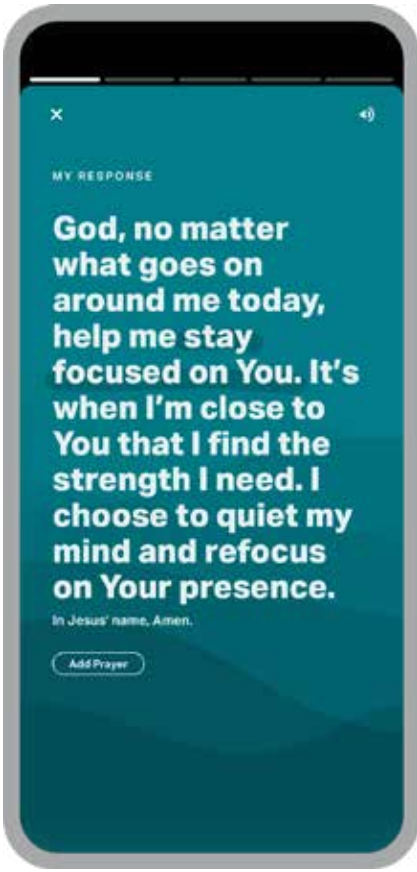
Please be in prayer for the following upcoming trainings:

Feb. 8
Colfax Teachers

Feb. 24 | 6 - 8 PM | FREE
Community Mental Health Tools for Adults and Teens
Garfield Library

Would you like to help Pastor Corey with the Mental Health Ministry? Prayers and assistance are needed.





Upcoming Sermon Schedule

Check out the scripture schedule below for upcoming sermons and Bible studies.

- February 05 Y'all Can Talk with God
Colossians 1:3-14 & Exodus 14:1-14
- February 12 Y'all Can Make a Difference for God's Kingdom
John 14:12-14 & Matthew 5:13-16
- February 19 Y'all Can Help Change Lives for God!
1 Peter 3:8-17 & Matthew 28:18-20

LENT SERIES: WORDS THAT MATTER

- February 26 The 7 Last Words of Jesus: Forgiveness
Luke 23:32-35

Join a Bible Reading Plan on the Bible App and read the scriptures along with others. This is a great way to read scripture together daily and go deeper with Jesus as we start the New Year. Contact Pastor Corey if you would like to join a reading plan, or if you need help finding a different plan that works for you!

YouVersion

Scan the QR Code to the right and make us "My Church" inside the YouVersion Bible App. You'll be able to quickly find our worship events for taking notes and have access to our featured Bible reading plan.



635 N BRIDGE ST | PALOUSE, WA 99161