

November Link

I remember way back when I first heard the term “stewardship,” I made a funny puzzled face, and said “who’s this Stewart guy? And why does **he** get a ship? Patrick Stewart? . . ohhh right. . .Captain Piccard of the Enterprise NCC-1701-D, right. . . it’s a reference to start trek. . . cool!” The look on the person’s face I was talking to must have been utter confusion.

I love to play with words, but this time, truth be told, I really had no idea what stewardship was, what it meant to my Christian walk, and why I should even pay any attention to it.

Most people cringe just a little bit inside when they hear the word, for many it’s become a negative term, that basically means “that time of the year when the church guilts us for more money.” And while this may be true in some circles, the truth is that stewardship isn’t, nor should it ever be only about money. Giving to our church isn’t just about what goes into the offering plate on Sunday morning (or signing up for recurring giving at pleasantvalleyumc.com/egiving). True stewardship is about embracing your church, the place you go to worship the most incredible God. To help others find that same feeling you get when you walk into the sanctuary on Sunday morning, the feeling of belonging, of knowing you belong right here, in the arms of the most amazing God and being able to share that with **your** church family and with **your** non church friends alike.

Yes, stewardship is about giving, but not just giving money. It’s about taking responsibility, taking care, standing up and saying “hey! . . . this is **my** church, and I’m going to help out any way I can”. Let me be clear, yes, the church needs your financial gifts, we need to keep it heated, keep the lights on, pay the salaries of those that work here, and yes, even pay our apportionments to the conference. But we also need everything else you have to offer.

Stewardship is often described as the *Triple-T* - giving your **T**ime, **T**reasures and **T**alents:

Don’t have a ton of money to put in the plate? How about your time, can you give time to your church? Can you give an hour a week to help somewhere? Do you have a particular skill that perhaps few others have? Can it be put to use at your church for the glory of God? (the answer is yes). Don’t have any of the above? Can you pray? Praying for your church is indeed part of stewardship (it also falls under the time category).

My personal preferred understanding of stewardship is ownership. Remember, this is **your** church, **you** own it. So, take ownership of all God has blessed us with. Give to your church and to the Lord with all the time treasures and talents you can afford, I’m not putting a number on it here, not 5%, not 10% but give where you’re comfortable, and stop giving when it starts hurting. You’ll find when you give, God gives back. You can’t out give God!

Blessings always

Pastor Mike and Karen Antici

I read this article in the Otis Gazette recently and though it was too good not to pass along. I hope everyone enjoys it. ~ Re

Being Green

Checking out at the store, the young cashier suggested to the much older woman, that she should bring her own grocery bags because plastic bags weren't good for the environment.

The woman apologized and explained, "We didn't have this 'green thing' back in my earlier days."

The young clerk responded, "That's our problem today. Your generation did not care enough to save our environment for future

generations."She was right -- our generation didn't have the 'green thing' in our day.Back then, we returned milk bottles, soda bottles and beer bottles to the store. The store sent them back to the plant to be washed and sterilized and refilled, so it could use the same bottles over and over.

So they really were recycled.But we didn't have the "green thing" back in our day.Grocery stores bagged our groceries in brown paper bagsthat we reused for numerous things, most memorable besides household garbage bags, was the use of brown paper bags as book covers for our schoolbooks. This was to ensure that public property, (the books provided for our use by the school) was not defaced by our scribbings. Then we were able to personalize our books on the brown paper bags.But too bad we didn't do the "green thing" back then.We walked up stairs, because we didn't have an escalator in every store and office building. We walked to the grocery store and didn't climb into a 300-horsepower machine every time we had to go two blocks.But she was right. We didn't have the "green thing" in our day.

Back then, we washed the baby's diapers because we didn't have the throwaway kind. We dried clothes on a line, not in an energy-gobbling machine burning up 220 volts -- wind and solar power really did dry our clothes back in our early days. Kids got hand-me-down clothes from their brothers or sisters, not always brand-new clothing.

But that young lady is right; we didn't have the "green thing" back in our day.

Back then, we had one TV, or radio, in the house -- not a TV in every room. And the TV had a small screen the size of a handkerchief (remember them?), not a screen the size of the state of Montana.

In the kitchen, we blended and stirred by hand because we didn't have electric machines to do everything for us. When we packaged a fragile item to send in the mail, we used wadded up old newspapers to cushion it, not Styrofoam or plastic bubble wrap. Back then, we didn't fire up an engine and burn gasoline just to cut the lawn. We used a push mower that ran on human power. We exercised by working so we didn't need to go to a health club to run on treadmills that operate on electricity.But she's right; we didn't have the "green thing" back then.We drank from a fountain when we were thirsty instead of using a cup or a plastic bottle every time we had a drink of water. We refilled writing pens with ink instead of buying a new pen, and we replaced the razor blades in a razor instead of throwing away the whole razor just because the blade got dull.But we didn't have the "green thing" back then.Back then, people took the streetcar or a bus and kids rode their bikes to school or walked instead of turning their moms into a 24-hour taxi service in the family's \$45,000 SUV or van, which cost what a whole house did before the "green thing." We had one electrical outlet in a room, not an entire bank of sockets to power a dozen appliances. And we didn't need a computerized gadget to receive a signal beamed from satellites 23,000 miles out in space in order to find the nearest burger

joint. But isn't it sad the current generation laments how wasteful we old folks were just because we didn't have the "green thing" back then?


Scriptures for November

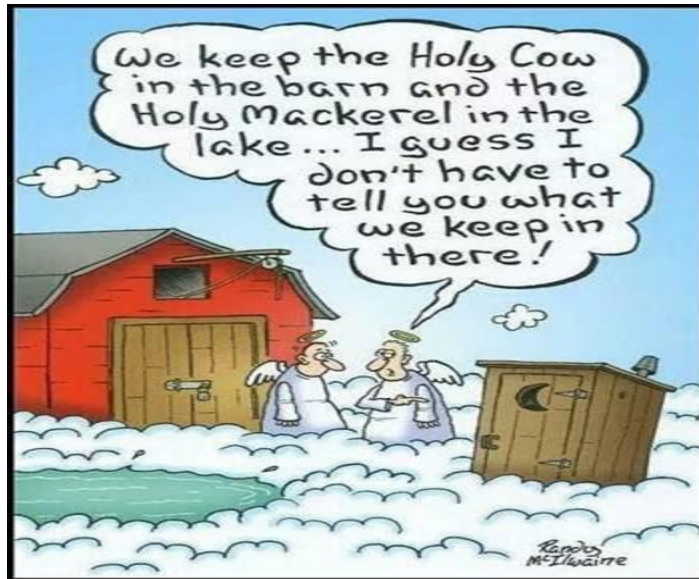
November 3: "The Road to Hana": John 4:1-18
November 10: "Church comes last?": Proverbs 3:1-8
November 17: "The Yokes on You": Matthew 11:25-30
November 24: "Why Jesus": Matthew 12:38-42

November Schedule

November 3 November 10 November 17 November 24	<u>Nursery Care</u> Volunteer Needed VolunteerNeeded VolunteerNeeded VolunteerNeeded	<u>Cleaners</u> J. Lee O'Brien Volunteer Needed Lucas	<u>Ushers</u> Volunteers Needed Shelley & Evan Bailey Steve Shaw & Judy McKay Bonnie Slater & Bertha Weih
November 3 November 10 November 17 November 24	<u>Counters</u> Wayne Roberts &VolunteerNeeded Barbara Bailey &Volunteer Needed John Baum & Steve Bailey Volunteers Needed	<u>Greeters</u> Peck Family Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed Margo Fenn	<u>Coffee Hour</u> Judy McKay & Margo Fenn Terri Collins & Barb Sherwin Angela Root & Ticia Tubman
November 3 November 10 November 17 November 24	<u>Lectors</u> Nick Peck Shelley Bailey Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed	<u>Children's Message</u> Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed	
November 3 November 10 November 17 November 24	<u>Lector Readings</u> John 4:1-18 Proverbs 3:1-8 Ephesians 5:25-33 Matthew 11:25-30		

November

<u>SUN.</u>	<u>MON.</u>	<u>TUES.</u>	<u>WED.</u>	<u>THUS.</u>	<u>FRI.</u>	<u>SAT.</u>
					1	2
3 Worship Service 10:00AM Holy Communion 2:00 - 4:00 PM Annual Charge Conference at PVUMC	4 6 -8 PM Food Bank	5 10:00AM Prayer Group 7:00PM Trustees Meeting 8:00PM AA	6	7 2 – 4 PM Food Bank 6:45PM AA	8	9 Christmas Fair 9:00AM – 2:30PM
10 Worship Service 10:00AM	11	12 10:00AM Prayer Group 7:00PM Admin./Finance Meeting 8:00PM AA	13	14 6:45PM AA	15	16
17 Worship Service 10:00AM	18 6 -8 PM Food Bank	19 10:00AM Prayer Group 8:00PM AA	20	21 2 – 4 PM Food Bank 6:45PM AA	22	23
24 Worship Service 10:00AM	25	26 10:00AM Prayer Group 8:00PM AA	27	28 Thanksgiving  6:45PM AA	29	30



Church Humor:

A Sunday school teacher asked her class, "What was Jesus' mother's name?"
 They all knew. "Mary," they answered in unison.
 The teacher then asked, "Does anyone know what Jesus' father's name was?"

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A little kid shot up his hand and said, "Verge."
 The teacher asked, "Where did you get that?"
 The little kid said, "You know, Verge n' Mary."

A man dies and goes to heaven. Of course, St. Peter meets him at the Pearly Gates. St. Peter says, "Here's how it works. You need 100 points to make it into heaven. You tell me all the good things you've done, and I give you a certain number of points for each item, depending on how good it was. When you reach 100 points, you get in."

"Okay," the man says, "I was married to the same woman for 50 years and never cheated on her, even in my heart."

"That's wonderful," says St. Peter, "that's worth three points!"

"Three points?" he says. "Well, I attended church all my life and supported its ministry with my tithe and service."

"Terrific!" says St. Peter. "That's certainly worth a point."

"One point?!!" "I started a soup kitchen in my city and worked in a shelter for homeless veterans."

"Fantastic, that's good for two more points," he says.

"Two points?!!" Exasperated, the man cries. "At this rate the only way I'll get into heaven is by the grace of God."

"Bingo, 100 points! Come on in!"

Three Men on a Hike

Three men were hiking through a forest when they came upon a large raging, violent river. Needing to get to the other side, the first man prayed:

'God, please give me the strength to cross the river.'

Poof! ... God gave him big arms and strong legs and he was able to swim across in about 2 hours, having almost drowned twice.

After witnessing that, the second man prayed:
'God, please give me strength and the tools to cross the river.'
Poof! ... God gave him a rowboat and strong arms and strong legs and he was able to row across in about an hour after almost capsizing once.
Seeing what happened to the first two men, the third man prayed:
'God, please give me the strength, the tools and the intelligence to cross the river.'
Poof! ... He was turned into a woman.
She checked the map, hiked one hundred yards up stream and walked across the bridge.

The famous Olympic skier Picabo Street (pronounced Peek-A-Boo) is not just an athlete. She is now a nurse currently working at the Intensive Care Unit of a large metropolitan hospital. Picabo is not permitted to answer the hospital telephones. It caused too much confusion when she would answer the phone and say, Picabo, ICU

November Announcements

Pleasant Valley United Methodist Church will be hosting the Annual Charge Conference on November 3, 2019 from 2:00 – 4:00 PM.



Altar Guild Help Wanted!

We are looking for volunteers to help serve on Altar Guild! Basically, the Altar Guild is responsible for putting flowers on the altar for Sunday worship services, and for help with decorating the sanctuary during the holidays at Christmas and Easter, as well as All Saints' Day. If you would like to learn more or can volunteer to help, please speak with Margo Fenn or Judy McKay.

Dear Church Family,

The United Methodist Women, with your help, will be holding our Christmas Fair Saturday, November 9th. This year we will not have the tag sale know as Grandma's Attic. In its place we will have a used book sale - but no text books please. Bring your books starting right away to the class room facing the parking lot.

There are sign-up sheets on the Bessie Table asking for baked goods and luncheon items for the Christmas Fair. Please sign up if you can. If you have not been asked to help at the fair talk to me. The fair set up is Friday, Nov. 8 at 9:00 AM. We will share a pot luck lunch so please join us.

Our next meeting is Sunday, December 8th after church. At this time we have the pleasure of spending the funds we raise from the fair. Please bring a bath towel and wash cloth to be donated to Susan B. Anthony. Items for our food bank are also welcomed.

Peace and Love,

Cathy Baum

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Prayer Chain Volunteers Needed

Our church has always had an active community of prayer warriors who, when notified of a need, will spread the word and send multiple prayers on their way to our Father in heaven. The purpose of the Prayer Chain is to pray for people in need of prayer, near and far, or whether or not they are a member of the church. There are no meetings to attend; just a phone call or two to spread the word and then prayers! If you are interested in more information about the Prayer Chain or are interested in volunteering, please contact Penny Church at 860-379-0716.

Church office hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:00AM to Noon.

Pastor Mike has office hours on Sunday from 12:30PM to 3:30PM or by appointment.

Church contact info:

Visit us online at: pleasantvalleyumc.com

Church Office: 860-379-2157

Church Kitchen and Food Bank: 860-379-0346

Church email address: pvumc181@gmail.com

Pastor Mike's email: mike@antici.com

Pastor Mike's phone number: 203-997-5069

