



June 2025

## Highlights



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### From the Heart

Dear Friends in Christ,  
“That, my friends, is what we call a  
μυστήριον!”

A seminary classmate of mine used to say this in group study sessions whenever we ran across some biblical or theological concept that we could not recall. His comment would elicit raised eyebrows from some, and groans from the ones who were taking New Testament Greek.

Μυστήριον (pronounced: *mustérion*) is the Koine Greek word for *mystery*. Koine Greek was the common language written and spoken in Jesus’ time. According to *Britannica.com*, Koine Greek was found “in Greece, Macedonia, and parts of Africa and the Middle East that had come under the influence or control of Greeks or Hellenized rulers.” The New Testament was written in Koine Greek. (The Greek translation of the Old Testament is called the Septuagint.)

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*“From the Heart” continued*

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This is all to say that the English translations of the Bible we read today have been translated from ancient manuscripts originally written in Koine Greek, which themselves were transcribed by hand in a language with no lower-case letters or punctuation. Could you imagine reading this letter in hand-written form in all CAPS with no punctuation? Talk about a μυστήριον!

When translating from the original Greek, scholars must choose between multiple versions written by ancient scribes. Do they go by the oldest texts or the most commonly found ones? And how do they translate 1<sup>st</sup> Century idioms into terms recognizable to modern readers? So many questions and so many possibilities! In fact, according to the American Bible Society, there are more than 900 English translations and paraphrases of the Bible (though not all are complete). As you can imagine, biblical interpretation is an ongoing project.

The Confession of 1967 recognizes this truth, stating, “The Bible is to be interpreted in the light of its witness to God’s work of reconciliation in Christ. The Scriptures, given under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, are nevertheless words of men, conditioned by the language, thought forms, and literary fashions of the places and times at which they were written.” Yet, God’s word still speaks today, “where the Scriptures are faithfully preached



ΠΑΤΕΡΑ ΠΙΣΘΗΤΩΝ  
ΤΟΥ ΝΟΜΟΥ  
ΕΛΘΩΝ Η ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ  
ΤΟΥ ΕΛΛΗΜΑΝΤΩΣ  
ΕΝ ΟΥΡΑΝΩ ΟΥΤΩ  
ΚΑΙ ΕΠΙ ΓΗΣ ΤΩΝ

and attentively read in dependence on the illumination of the Holy Spirit and with readiness to receive their truth and direction.”

The Holy Spirit invites us into the great and wonderful mystery of God’s living word as it speaks to us through ancient writers inspired by God, and through the ongoing witness of the Church of Jesus Christ.

That, my friends, is a glorious μυστήριον we can all embrace!

Godspeed,

*Matt*

## Worshipping and Learning



## Vacation Bible School

**August 4 - 7, 2025**

First Presbyterian Church will be hosting VBS again this year. Look for details and sign up information in the July *Highlights* .

This year’s theme is True North: *Trusting Jesus in a Wild World*.

## Sunday School Opportunities for Summer

The last day of Sunday School this quarter is June 8. The Adult Christian Formation Committee would like to offer a summer class titled *Being Presbyterian - Foundations of Presbyterian Discipleship*.

There are five sessions of study within this class. Each session will start with a short video followed by discussion.

The study sessions are as follows:

June 29 - ***A People of Grace***. For Presbyterians the first thing we need to know is that God is a God of Grace. This truth affects every aspect of our life.

July 13 - ***Wicked Bad***. Why do we talk about sin and evil?

July 27 - ***Who Do They Say I Am?*** We are asked to name Jesus as our Lord and Savior. What does that really mean?

August 10 - ***Update Your Faith System***. A discussion on study and worship and how they are vital aspects of being Presbyterian.

August 24 - ***Blessed to Be a Blessing***. A focus on fellowship and mission.



We hope you will come to some or all of these sessions. No preparation needed.

Sessions will be held in the upstairs classroom at regular Sunday School time.

## Summer Camp

### Scholarships for Summer Camp

Summer will be here before you know it and with it the opportunity for fun and meaningful experiences at summer camp! The church is able to help families who plan to have their children attend a Christian summer camp by providing partial scholarships to defray the cost. Please let the Christian Formation Committee know of your interest in a scholarship by sending an email to the church office at [administrator@fpcpa.org](mailto:administrator@fpcpa.org), using the subject line "Summer Camp Scholarship." The Christian Formation committee will follow up with interested families.



## Deacons' Meet & Greet

Sunday, June 22, 9:30 am

### Fellowship Hall

Welcome our new deacons on June 22. The new deacons are Carol Browning, Chris Watkins, Karen Walter, and Lesley McCulloch.



*Carol Browning*



*Chris Watkins*



*Karen Walter*



*Lesley McCulloch*

## Events

### Book Club

**Thursday, June 19, 10:30 am**

#### **Fellowship Hall**

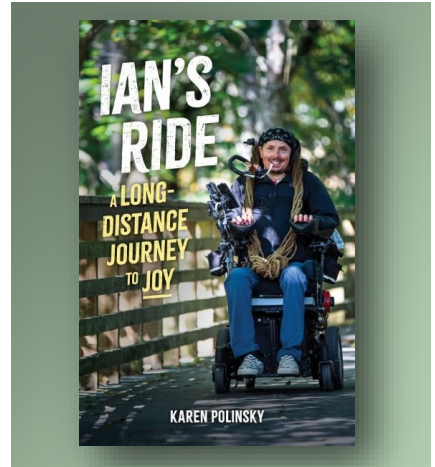
*Ian's Ride* by Karen Polinsky

While studying as a biology undergrad at UC Santa Cruz, Ian Mackay crashed his bike into a tree on campus.

Paralyzed from the neck down, Mackay adapted to his new life with the help of his dedicated family, particularly his mother, Teena Woodward, and a group of quirky friends.

After years of despair, and against all odds, he became an inspiring leader, an innovator with Apple, and a world-record-breaking athlete. He began by traveling bike paths in his local area of Port Angeles, WA, and kept going just a little farther.

In 2016 he rode his power wheelchair across the state of Washington from North to South. The 2016 Ride garnered a great deal of media attention, and Ian became a spokesperson, encouraging the mobility - challenged to get outside and advocating for outdoor accessibility: complete, connected trails and routes for ALL abilities.



In this intimate biography, writer Karen Polinsky recounts Ian's accident and determined recovery, in which he discovered the healing power of nature and community.

There are some copies circulating in the group. Plus, books are available at local bookstores and AbeBooks. The library has an audio e-book and a wait-listed hard copy.



## Reel Reflections Dinner and a Movie Edition

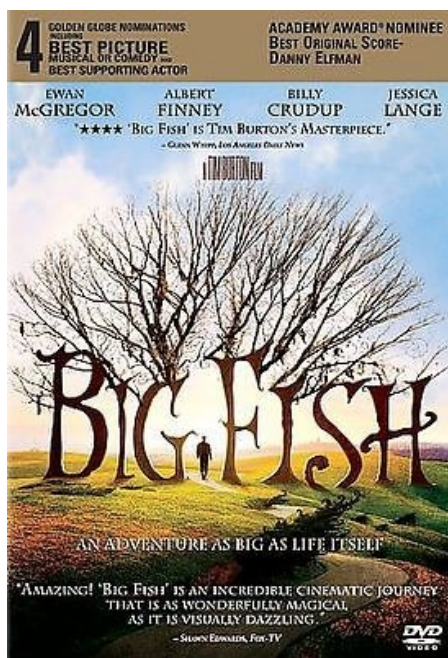
### *Big Fish*

**Thursday, June 19, 6:30 pm**

This movie will be shown at the church but NOT on Zoom.

If you want to watch the movie on your own and join the discussion afterwards there will be Zoom link in the eNews on June 13. The discussion will begin at 8:30 pm.

When Edward Bloom (Albert Finney) becomes ill, his son, William (Billy Crudup), travels to be with him. William has a strained relationship with Edward because his father has always told exaggerated stories about his life, and William thinks he's never really told the truth.



Even on his deathbed, Edward recounts fantastical anecdotes.

When William, who is a journalist, starts to investigate his father's tales, he begins to understand the man and his penchant for storytelling.

**If you are bringing your dinner please arrive at the church by 5:30.**



## Youth Group

**Sunday, June 22, 5 pm**

**Holy Trinity Lutheran Church**

Hey, Youth! Holy Trinity Lutheran Church is inviting all of you (and your families!) to their youth-led service.

The service will be followed by dinner and games. Come enjoy some early summer fun. Invite a friend, or two, and join us. Please RSVP to Becca @ beccapaul319@gmail.com by June 14 so Holy Trinity knows how much food to prepare.

## Giving

### TAFY Dinner

**Saturday, June 7**

If you have signed up to contribute a dish or beverage for the TAFY dinner and would like your food to be delivered, please drop off your contributions to the church between 1 - 3 pm. Dona Hair will deliver it for you.



## Food Bank

The FPCPA group will suspend monthly time at the PA Food Bank for now. The Food Bank has reconfigured much of its operations since we started. We will get a call if there is a need for a group response. Otherwise, please go on your own or with a buddy or two to help out as needed.



## Youth Group Happenings

On March 23 the First Presbyterian Youth Group was hosted by Holy Trinity. There were a total of 10 kids participating, with three churches represented. The evening was full of games, pizza, and fun!



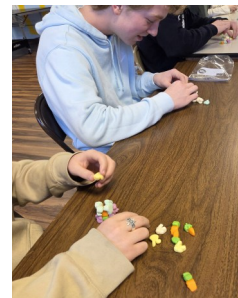
The first game involved walking back-to-back with a partner holding a hula hoop between you. The youth, of course, tried sabotaging the other teams, but they couldn't use their hands at all.



The second game: how high can you stack metal nuts using a wooden skewer held in your mouth? Issac was our champion with 6!



Build your own pizza time!



Let's see how high could you stack Easter-shaped gummies? It's not easy stacking bunnies on top of carrots!

## Thank you, Pat



A big thank you was extended to Pat Hyden from the members of session. Pat completed her term as an elder and after years of service will be retiring.

Prior to moving to Port Angeles in 1982, Pat served many terms as an elder at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Albuquerque, NM. She was also active in The Presbytery of Santa Fe/Rio Grande. Additionally, Pat managed the United Presbyterian Church Credit Union in NM.

Here, Pat has served as Commissioner to the General Assembly, was on the Bill & Overtures Committee, the Christian Education Committee, and on the task force to reorganize the committees and workings of the Presbytery.



# June

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:30 and 11 am Worship Service  9:45 am Sunday School	2 2 pm B,G,P Committee Meeting  7 pm Christian Formation	3 8 am FISH Company  12:30 pm Community Life  6:45 pm Praise Team	4 9 am Women's Bible Study  9 am "Chain Gang" Traylor's  7:00 pm Worship & Music Committee	5 1 pm Love Box  3 pm Mission & Outreach	6	7 3:45 pm TAFY Dinner Donations
8 8:30 and 11 am Worship Service  9:45 am Sunday School	9 1 pm Naomi Circle	10 8 am FISH Company  6:45 pm Praise Team	11 9 am Women's Bible Study  9 am "Chain Gang" Traylor's  11:30 Manna Annual Meeting	12	13	14
15 8:30 and 11 am Worship Service  	16 7 pm Session	17 8 am FISH Company 4 pm Deacons Meeting  6:45 pm Praise Team	18 9 am Women's Bible Study  9 am "Chain Gang" Traylor's	19 10:30 am Book Club  6:30 pm Reel Reflections showing <i>Big Fish</i>	20	21
22 8:30 and 11 am Worship Service  9:30 am Deacons Meet & Greet	23 1 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry	24 8 am FISH Company  6:45 pm Praise Team	25 9 am Women's Bible Study  9 am "Chain Gang" Traylor's	26	27	28
29 8:30 and 11 am Worship Service  9:45 am Adult Sunday Summer School begins	30					



8	Michael & Nancy Rivers
10	Gordon Anderson & Pat Graham
10	Dan & Carrie Cobb
11	Ed & Glenda Jaquins
17	Bill & CJ Isenberger
23	Colin & Linsey Monaghan
27	Art & Martha Bell
28	Hal & Jodee Force
29	Todd & Kimberly Ortloff
29	Chuck & Darlene Whitney



6	Tom McCulloch
7	Isaac Wendel
8	Beth McDaniel
8	Carrie Cobb
10	Katrina Weller
15	Nancy Rivers
16	Bobbie Buckley
17	Cindy Gallinger
18	Michael Bowlby
18	Michele Fraker
18	Peggy Kuch
21	Jennie Wendel
21	Jerry Nichols
21	Ross Canning
22	MaryAnn Smith
23	Bob Pappas
29	Vee Canning
30	Cathi Hughes

## Church Business Items

### Session Actions

The Session met in a hybrid meeting in the church's upstairs classroom and via Zoom on Monday, May 19 at 7 pm, and the following actions were taken:

- Approved the request to remove Jack Wise and Mary Ann Smith from active membership and place them on the legacy roles.
- Approved vacation request from Pastor Matt from July 24 - August 6 and August 18 - August 31.
- Approved changing the annual agreement to a 2 time per year service agreement with All Weather Heating and Cooling for the maintenance of all furnace and heat exchangers.
- Approved discontinuing the HRA benefit for the Office Manager and adding Family Medical insurance for the Office Manager with Community Health Plan of Washington: Cascade Select Gold plan, family coverage (totaling \$1,015.67 per month).
- Approved the resignation request from Paul Stutesman from the remainder of his Session tenure.



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*Church Business Items, continued*

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## Financials

### April 2025

Income Y-T-D	\$160,687
2025 Income Budgeted	\$412,380
Expenses Year-to-Date	(\$132,967)
2025 Expenses Budgeted	\$419,704

Capital Spending Year-to-Date	\$5,081
2025 Annual Capital Budget	\$25,500

\*Capital Projects Gift Income left from  
2024 0

\*We were given a gift to be specifically  
used for the building.

^Water Damage Building Repairs thus  
far: (This includes 2024 & 2025)  
(\$229,819)

^Water Damage Insurance Payment  
\$197,019

^The water damage insurance \$ has been  
spent.

Any further repairs will be listed under  
Capital Projects.

Our church family celebrated Easter by  
giving \$3,398.28 to the One Great Hour  
of Sharing.



**What part of Church  
history are you most  
curious about?**



## Silver Linings and Golden Opportunities

With tariffs looming and the economy in flux, we've been advised to expect shortages and higher prices, but there may be some silver linings to the doom-and-gloom.

Fast fashion (cheap clothing items from Asia) will take a hit. But according to Earth.org, of the 100 billion garments produced each year, 92 million tons end up in landfills, the equivalent of a garbage truck full per second. Without the usual clothing glut, Mother Earth will give a sigh of relief, and maybe we can abandon retail therapy for a walk in nature or take up a threaded needle and do some mending.

Cleaning supplies will take a hit. Back to soap, vinegar, and soda. On *scandishhome.com* Noemi creates an all-purpose cleaner with citrus peels, vinegar, and water. I've tried it and it works. She also has many other tips for non-toxic living.

While we have an abundance of food produced nationally, prices have not gone down and there will be some shortages. Young families and those on fixed incomes will be the most impacted by higher prices. So more than ever, we



have a golden opportunity to help those on the edge. Little Free Pantries and food banks can use our donations. First United Methodist Church and Caring for Kids! provide free used clothing in good repair. See *pafumc.org* and on Facebook: *Caring For Kids!* for donation details. Watch for opportunities to donate school supplies at local banks or put basic supplies in Little Free Pantries or Little Free Libraries. Also consider donating basic hygiene supplies: shampoo, toothpaste, toilet paper, etc.

Unlike the Samaritan, we may not be able to rescue a wounded foreigner from a ditch and provide for their recovery. But there are many ways we can help our neighbors who may be struggling in these turbulent times.

As one of my favorite podcasters says:

Be safe and be well  
Find the light in the dark  
And we'll talk again soon.

***Interfaith Earth Care Coalition***

## First Presbyterian Church

139 W. 8th St., Port Angeles, WA 98362  
360-452-4781 | [fpcpa.org](http://fpcpa.org)

### Worship Services

Sundays 8:30 and 11 am

### Office Hours

Monday - Thursday, 10 am - 3 pm

**Closed for Lunch, 1 - 2 pm on Monday**

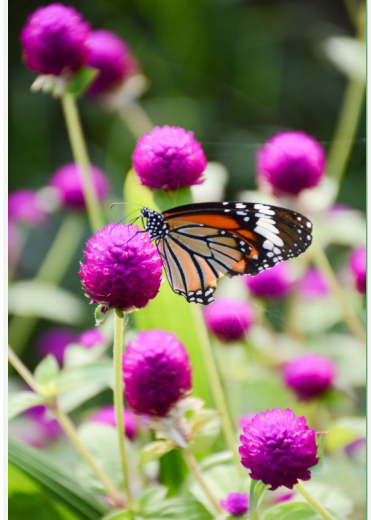
Closed on Friday

The office is behind the church building off the alley  
and is handicapped accessible.

Pastor Matt Paul, [pastor@fpcpa.org](mailto:pastor@fpcpa.org)

Lauren Corder, Office Manager, [administrator@fpcpa.org](mailto:administrator@fpcpa.org)

Cathi Hughes, Office Assistant,  
[office@fpcpa.org](mailto:office@fpcpa.org)



The First Presbyterian Church of Port Angeles is a community of people of all ages who believe in Jesus Christ as the Son of God and who seek to follow His teachings. We come together to worship God, to grow in our love and support for each other, and to learn about God's will for our lives. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we go out to the community and the world to share our faith and to serve others.

### Online Resources

Church Website: [fpcpa.org](http://fpcpa.org)

Online Worship: [fpcpa.org/worship](http://fpcpa.org/worship)

Giving Online:

Look for this button on our website.

GIVE ONLINE