



November 2025

Highlights



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From the Heart

⁹ And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰ to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹ having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God. (Philippians 1:9-11, NRSV)

Dear Friends in Christ,

The Apostle Paul strikes me as cranky fellow, and somewhat of a rabblouser. He was unafraid to stand up to religious leaders, civil authorities, and even fellow disciples when he saw an injustice. Paul also never minced words when calling out bad behavior in churches he had served. But this passage in Philippians shows a different side of Paul. He opens his letter to the church in Philippi with expressions of pure joy leaping from his quill! Paul shares this astounding prayer for the church, that they experience the same overabundance of joy he has found in Jesus. He prays they will be

overflowing with the love and grace of Christ such that it fills them with knowledge, purpose, and praise.

It is hard to capture the extent of Paul's exuberance. *Overflowing* is a translation of the Greek word προσεύχομαι, which is found elsewhere in the New Testament as abundance or fullness. Paul uses προσεύχομαι somewhat extensively in his writings, even adding a prefix to make it more like *superabundance* (see Romans 5:20 or Ephesians 3:20, for example). Why all the excitement?

Part of the answer lies in Paul's own story. We are introduced to Paul—or Saul, as he was known before his conversion—at the end of the seventh chapter of Acts. He is a zealous persecutor of Jesus' followers, and was on his way to Damascus to arrest anyone who belonged to the Way (Acts 9:1-2) when he was struck blind by the Spirit and Jesus spoke to him. Paul, a man responsible for the murder of Stephen (Acts 7:54), was forgiven by Jesus and blessed with the power of the Holy Spirit to become one of Jesus' own apostles. It was a complete 180! He was overflowing with grace and forgiveness. It was a joy that never left him.

This same overabundance of grace is bestowed on us by Jesus. It is more vast than we could ever possibly quantify, and it is meant to flow through all who receive it so that others may be equally blessed. As we grow in awareness of how vast God's blessings are, our hearts are transformed. The world tells us to take what we can, but that is simply not possible with God's love and blessings. Greed leads us to believe that the more we receive the happier we can become, but grace teaches us that true happiness can only come through sharing. And since there is no limit to God's overflowing love, there is no end to the joy we can experience when we bless others from the abundance of what God has given to us.

May your love overflow with joy.

Godspeed,

Mall

Worshipping and Learning

All Saints' Day Service

Saturday, November 1, 11 am

Lunch reception to follow.

On All Saints' Day we honor the faithful who have died during the past year in our own church communities. It's a day of gratefulness for those who have passed away and who shared their faith with us and a time to reflect on how we can continue to share our faith with others.

Today, we celebrate All Saints' Day with an emphasis on the ongoing work of Christ, sanctifying the people of God to service while remembering the saints who have gone before us. As we read their names, may we rejoice in their lives with us and give thanks to God for their ministry:

Laura Erickson, George Bowman, Charles (Chuck) Whitney, John Crawford, William (Bill) Streur, and Julius Johnson.



Laura Erickson



George Bowman



Chuck Whitney



John Crawford



Bill Streur



Julius Johnson

Adult Sunday School

Sundays, 9:45 am, study continues through November 23

Todd Haworth and Wayne Brown are leading this 11-week course on the Apostles' Creed.

The Apostles' Creed – A Fresh Look

Thursday Evening Study Group

Thursdays, 7 pm, continues through November 13

Zoom Meeting

Stan Jacobson leads this 6-week Zoom class studying from the book *The Familiar Stranger* by Tyler Staton.

Naomi Circle

**Monday, November 10, 1 pm
Fellowship Hall**

Naomi Circle will continue to study from the book *Brave and Beloved, An In-Depth Study of Women of the Bible*.

If you need a book please contact the church office and we will order one for you. If you have questions contact Beverly Brown, 360-457-8205, antbk2p2@olyopen.com.



**Ecumenical
Thanksgiving Service
Wednesday, November
26, 7 pm**

**St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
510 E. Park Avenue, Port Angeles**

Rev. Bennie Grace Nabua from the Port Angeles First United Methodist Church will be preaching.

New Adult Sunday School

beginning, Sunday, November 30

Practicing God's Presence, An Advent Study

Advent is a busy and stressful time. Liturgically, the Advent season is supposed to be a time of quiet reflection and anticipation. Practically speaking, the time is most often filled with anxious holiday preparations. It is so easy for our thoughts to drift away from God... This Advent season, we will try to recapture the lost art of being present before God by studying the works of Brother Lawrence, a 17th century French monk known for the simple wisdom he gained on the subject while washing dishes in the monastery kitchen. For the class, we will study *Practicing God's Presence: Brother Lawrence for Today's Reader*, by Robert Elmer.

Books are available from the church office.

Holiday Giving

2025 Christmas Grocery Gift Cards

As in past years the congregation is being asked to provide assistance to needy local families for their Christmas holidays.

The grocery gift cards given have restrictions: they cannot be used to purchase alcohol, tobacco, firearms, or lottery tickets. The amount each family receives is based on the amount of donations from you, the congregation, as well as each family's size.

To donate please make your check payable to FPCPA and write *Christmas Gift Cards* in the memo line. We will be accepting donations through Sunday, December 7, 2025. We encourage you to donate early as it takes a minimum of two weeks for the cards to arrive after they are ordered. We want to deliver them before the school break starts.

We appreciate your generosity!

~ Rosalyn Taylor, Community Life Committee

TAFY Christmas Bags

The Wednesday Women's Bible Study group is once again providing Christmas

bags for *The Answer For Youth* folks in mid-December.

The congregation has been very generous for the past two years in assisting us with achieving our goal by providing donations. If you are able to help once again please make your check payable to FPCPA with *Women's Bible Study* in the memo line.

Please make your donations by Thanksgiving.

Thank you so for all you do for our neighbors in need. ~ Judy Higbee

Operation Christmas Child

Shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child are now available in the Fellowship Hall. There is a pamphlet included with information for filling the box.

Please include a check for \$10 to help with shipping and other program costs, and return it to church by November 17.

Another way to send a box is online through our church website. The office staff can help you with this online process.

We hope the children will enjoy the gifts we send, but most of all we hope and pray they will, through this gift, be pointed towards God's greatest gift, Jesus Christ. ~ Chris Watkins

Love Overflowing Financial Stewardship Campaign 2026



I can almost hear you singing along with Tina Turner, asking what's love got to do with it? Tina was worrying

about being taken in a new direction—falling in love with someone. In personal relationships, your heart can be broken. The love of the God who sent his only Son to save us is overflowing. It is no “secondhand emotion.”

Our Stewardship theme is based upon Paul's prayer for the Philippians:

“And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.”

(Philippians 1:9–11, NRSV)

This coming year is a special one for our congregation. Pastor Matt will be taking

a well-deserved sabbatical—taking a few months to relax, research, reflect, refresh, and return reinvigorated. It also offers all of us in our church family an opportunity to do the same.

None of us can claim to be pure or blameless, but as a group, we do produce a good sized harvest of righteousness. We are a loving church family that demonstrates compassion and generosity in the use of our time, talents, and treasure.

As we look ahead to 2026, please prayerfully consider making a pledge that recognizes the extra bit of financial challenge we will face. Pray that we can reinvigorate our own faith and commitment to making our congregation a vital part of the body of Christ here on earth.

Pledge cards will be available during services, in the office, and with your Stewardship letter. Be a part of the tradition and join us for Commitment Sunday on November 16, to deliver your pledge and enjoy some pie to celebrate!



Dear Church Family,

We are filled with gratitude and joy as we reflect on the success of our recent *Rock the Block* event. With over 40 dedicated volunteers and an estimated 100 attendees, the day was a beautiful testament to what can happen when a community comes together with open hearts and helping hands.

One of the most meaningful outcomes was the opportunity to connect with neighbors who might not typically engage with our church. These new relationships are the seeds of



transformation, and we are excited to nurture them in the months

ahead. Additionally, we were blessed to host 10 resource groups, many of whom formed new connections with each other—something that rarely happens outside of events like this.

The feedback from attendees was overwhelmingly positive. While first-time events often struggle with turnout,

Rock the Block exceeded expectations thanks to the incredible support from our congregation and partners. We are especially grateful for our collaboration with Habitat for Humanity and the other resource providers who helped make the day impactful. And of course, a heartfelt thank-you to our volunteers and cookie makers—your generosity and spirit were felt in every corner of the event.

Some have asked about the name *Rock the Block* and whether it truly reflects the purpose of the gathering. We appreciate this thoughtful feedback. The name was suggested by our partner Habitat for Humanity, as it has been used for similar events in this area in the past. While the name may evolve in the future, we remain focused on the deeper mission: building bridges, offering resources, and strengthening our community.

Looking ahead, we are forming an ongoing committee to continue this important work. If you attended the event and have ideas or suggestions—or if you simply feel called to serve—we warmly invite you to join us. Your voice and presence matter.



With gratitude,

The Transforming Communities Committee

Church Business Items

Session Actions

The Session met in a hybrid meeting in the church's upstairs classroom via Zoom on Monday, October 20 at 7 pm, and the following actions were taken:

- Approved 2026 Pastor's Term of Call: \$101,665 for salary and housing, \$17,991 for medical, \$8,642 for his pension, \$1,525 for death and disability, \$1,635 for dental coverage, \$7,777 for SECA, \$160 for vision coverage, and \$6,204 for professional expenses (continuing education, auto, books, meals).
- Approved Stewardship Commitment Sunday to be held on November 16.
- Approved Congregational Meeting on November 16 at 12:15 pm to vote on the 2026 Pastor's Terms of Call.
- Approved allowing Monday Musicale to hold their fundraiser concert in the Sanctuary on Sunday, November 2 at 2 pm.
- Approved increasing the Building and Grounds budget by \$5,000 to cover increased costs for fire, sprinkler, and elevator inspections.

Financials

September 2025

Income Y-T-D \$326,739

2025 Income Budgeted \$412,380

Expenses Year-to-Date (\$332,987)

2025 Expenses Budgeted
(\$419,704)

Capital Spending YTD (\$21,034)

*2025 Annual Capital Budget
(\$46,534)

Water Damage Building Repairs
(This includes 2024 & 2025)
(\$259,526)

Water Damage Insurance Payment
\$245,594

Capital Expense spent on Water
Damage (\$13,932)

In September we collected \$2000 for Christmas Gift Cards, \$980 for saplings, and the Sizzling Super Sale earned \$6262.50 for Olympic Angels.

“Good News Flash”

An Advent Event presentation

It’s time to prepare for the Advent play. We are inviting you to join us in investigating the Good News of Jesus’ birth.

We need people for the following characters:

Editor	Reporters	Shepherds	Angel
Innkeeper	Mary	Joseph	

Practice schedule is as follows:

Sunday, November 2, 11:15 am (assign parts)

Sunday, November 9, 11:15 am

Sunday, November 23, 11:15 am

Wednesday, December 3, time TBD, (Dress rehearsal in the sanctuary)

Join the team of reporters that help track down and verify the *Good News* of the birth of our savior.

The Advent Event is planned for Sunday, December 7. For more information contact Pam Carnahan 360-477-0247 or Rainy Birch 360-460-7659.

Events

Mexican Train Dominoes

Saturday, November 15, 2 pm
Fellowship Hall

Please come and invite your friends. If you are new to dominoes, we will happily show you how to play.

Contact Steve or Melanie DeBiddle at 360-477-3643 for more information.

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, November 16, 12:15 pm
Fellowship Hall

There will be a Congregational Meeting for the purpose of voting on Pastor Matt's Terms of Call for 2026.

Pie Sunday



Sunday, November 16,
after both services
Fellowship Hall

Commitment Sunday will be celebrated by sharing pie. Stay after each service for your piece of pie.

Book Club

Thursday, November 20, 10:30 am
Fellowship Hall

In November we are reading *The Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhon. A *New York Times* bestseller, a “Good Morning America Book Club” pick, and an NPR Book of the Year.

A gripping historical mystery inspired by the life and diary of Martha Ballard, a renowned 18th-century midwife who defied the legal system and wrote herself into American history.

Reel Reflections

Dinner and a Movie Edition:

JoJo Rabbit

Thursday, November 20, 6:30 pm
Fellowship Hall

A World War II satire that follows a



lonely German boy named Jojo (Roman Griffin Davis) whose world view is turned upside down when he discovers his single mother (Scarlett

Johansson) is hiding a young Jewish girl (Thomasin McKenzie) in their attic. Aided only by his idiotic imaginary friend, Adolf Hitler (Taika Waititi), Jojo must confront

his blind nationalism.

Please join Pastor Matt and friends for this moving film and stay afterwards for a lively discussion.

If you are bringing your dinner please arrive by 6:00 pm.

Holiday Sale

**Saturday, November 22, 10 am - 2 pm
Fellowship Hall**

There will not be a big Holiday Bazaar with vendors this year; however, there *will* be a Holiday Reuse - Repurpose Sale.

This is your opportunity to donate holiday décor you no longer use. We are looking for holiday indoor-outdoor decorations, crafted items, vintage items, any gently used holiday items. String lights will be accepted. Please test them at home to make sure they work.

Please nothing heavy, broken, or in poor condition. We will accept artificial trees but please contact Susan Fisher first for pre-approval.

Drop-off: Wednesday, November 19 - Friday, November 21, 10 am - 2 pm.

Proceeds will benefit MANNA.

Unsold items will be given away.

Contact Susan Fisher for more information, 360-809-3501.

Volunteering and Donating

The First Sunday of Advent is November 30. That means it's time to for volunteers



to sign up for candle lighting.

We need volunteers for the beginning

of each service beginning November 30, December 7, 12, and 21 (our 8:30 and 11 am Sunday services) and Christmas Eve, December 24, at 6:30 and 8 pm. A sign-up sheet for volunteers is at the Connection Center.

Little Free Pantry

Friends, you are generous! Thank you for your faithfulness to the Little Free Pantry. Our current needs include jarred pasta sauce, pasta, boxed rice, rice mixes or ready to eat pouches, and regular sized jars of peanut butter.

Thank you ~ Martha

Little Free Pantry Conversations

I usually don't see anyone when I stock a Little Free Pantry but I've had a few memorable encounters.

I was at the Cherry St. pantry when a late middle aged woman walked up and thanked me. She said she didn't want to take too much because she knew others had needs also. When I put a red bell pepper in the pantry in front of her, she drew in her breath and almost teared up, as if I'd offered her something priceless.

Another time, I was unloading food from my car when a young man and his girlfriend pulled up. "May I help you ma'am?" "Sure," I said. He loaded some cans of soup into the pantry and kept a couple for himself. I gave him some grapes and he thanked me profusely. Then I asked if he had a cat because I'd found a bargain on some cat food. "No ma'am, but my neighbor does. She's on oxygen and no one seems to care. Whenever we visit, her cats circle our legs begging for food."

Not a pantry story but this one touched me: I was leaving Country Aire by the back alley way when I spotted a young women rummaging in the dumpster

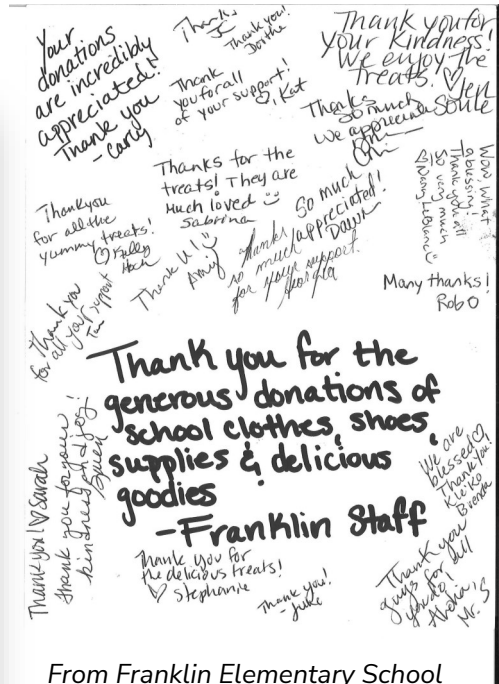
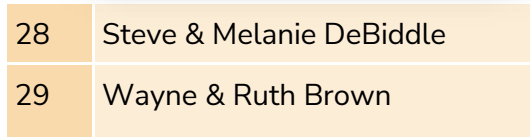
behind an apartment house. Luckily, I had some food items appropriate to offer her, asked if she could use them, and she accepted. But what brought tears to my eyes was when a woman came out of the apartment house and said, "I was just telling my daughter there was no kindness in the world anymore. Thank you."

Written on the inside door of the Cherry St. pantry: "Sorry for writing. But thanks for the pears. Like really thanks!" (triple underlined).

You can find the location of pantries from Sequim to Forks here:

<https://olyclimate.org/resources/lfp/>. The need now is greater than ever. As we enter this season of giving thanks, help those in need to feel thankful and cared for. How about donating a can of turkey Spam, cranberry sauce, or some pumpkin cookies for the season. Heck, even a red bell pepper could make someone's day!





Thank you



You're amazing, First Presbyterian Church of Port Angeles!

Thank you for being here and for showing up for some of the most at-risk children on the Olympic Peninsula and across the country.

Your generosity powers our programs and makes life better for kids and families experiencing foster care.

Thank you so much for your \$1,500 donation.

Youth Group October Activity

The challenge was set-guard the "precious ancient tapestry of Noah's Ark, so ancient there are rumors Noah's wife made it."

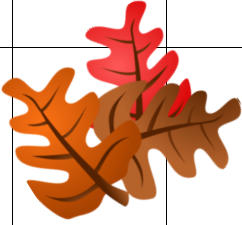
The museum hired our youth group after-hours to test their state-of-the-art-security system.

They did it! The group avoided the security lasers, and the tapestry was safe and everyone had fun doing it.

After that amazing feat the group enjoyed a well-deserved spaghetti dinner!



November

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 All Saints' Day Service 11 am
2 8:30 and 11 am Worship Service 9:45 am Sunday School 2 pm Monday Musical Concert	3 2 pm B & G 3 pm Sunday School Curriculum Mtg 5:45 pm Worship Team Rehearsal	4 8 am FISH Company 1:30 pm Community Life	5 9 am Women's Bible Study 9 am FPC Men's Breakfast, Fairmount Diner	6 1 pm Love Box 3 pm Mission & Outreach 7 pm Thursday Evening Study Group	7	8
9 8:30 and 11 am Worship Service 9:45 am Sunday School	10 1 pm Naomi Circle 5:45 pm Worship Team Rehearsal	11 8 am FISH Company 5 pm Youth Christian Formation Veterans Day Office Closed	12 9 am Women's Bible Study 9 am FPC Men's Breakfast, Fairmount Diner	13 1 pm MANNA Monthly Meeting 7 pm Thursday Evening Study Group	14	15 2 pm Dominoes
16 Pie Sunday 8:30 and 11 am Worship Service 9:45 am Sunday School 12:15 pm Congregational Meeting	17 5:45 pm Worship Team Rehearsal 7 pm Session	18 8 am FISH Company 4 pm Deacons Meeting	19 9 am Women's Bible Study 9 am FPC Men's Breakfast, Fairmount Diner	20 10:30 am Book Club 6:30 Reel Reflections	21	22 10am - 2 pm Holiday Décor Sale
23 8:30 and 11 am Worship Service 9:45 am Sunday School	24 1 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:45 pm Worship Team Rehearsal	25 8 am FISH Company	26 9 am Women's Bible Study 9 am FPC Men's Breakfast, Fairmount Diner	27 Thanksgiving Day Office Closed	28 Office Closed	29
30 Advent Begins 8:30 and 11 am Worship Service 9:45 am Sunday School						

First Presbyterian Church

139 W. 8th St., Port Angeles, WA
98362

360-452-4781 | fpcpa.org

Worship Services
Sundays 8:30 and 11 am

Office Hours
Monday - Thursday, 10 am - 3 pm
Closed on Friday

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



**What does practicing the presence
of God mean to you?**

Online Resources

Church Website: fpcpa.org

Online Worship: fpcpa.org/worship

Giving Online:

Look for this button on our website.

GIVE ONLINE

