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Christ's Church Methodist & Presbyterian United & Falls City United Methodist Church

Pastor's Ponderings

Dear People of the Way:

You know you're really a Pastor when you get installed and then it's time for a Stewardship Campaign. It's kind of silly, isn't it, to need a stewardship "campaign" when believers are always giving of themselves, imitating Jesus who gave everything to bring the divine to us, and finding unparalleled and deep joy in the impulse to generosity.

Stewardship, caring responsibly for what God has given us – be it Creation, our time, our wealth, or our very physical lives – is a spiritual discipline. We are stewards year 'round, all the time.

From life to life, cultivating generosity -- that's what we'll hear about during this season of a focus on stewardship, which begins on October 26 and culminates on November 16. Yes, we'll be asked to pledge toward an "asking budget" that will be shared with you, and which will be interpreted in terms of the ministries we offer. We will also be educated about the life we can provide by being organ donors – a special statewide emphasis on that Sunday. From life to life, in so many ways. From God's generosity to our own impulse to give.

With joy,

Becky



The Presbytery of the Cascades successfully installed our pastor, Rebecca Strader (Becky), on Sunday afternoon, September 28. Presbyterian Commissioners, representatives from the District Office, the choir, and many volunteers from Falls City and Christ's Church helped make this event a success. We remembered with joy our common calling to serve Christ, and we celebrated God's call for Becky to serve among us as pastor. Welcome Becky!



The Lectionary Group meets every Wednesday morning at 8:00 for breakfast at the Independence Grill on Main Street in Independence. All are welcome. One of the members will read the biblical offerings for the week as listed in the Revised Common Lectionary followed by discussion, sometimes erudite but more often not. The lectionary may be found online at [Vanderbilt Library](#). Some but not all members of the group read the offerings in advance.

Historically the group functioned as the Church's men's group. In this capacity the group served the Church in the manner of men's groups everywhere--hosting Easter breakfasts, providing handyman services to the Church and its members, and doing some of the heavier maintenance jobs at the

church and parsonage. Pastor Strader's participation in the group follows the tradition carried on by previous pastors before her and adds greatly to the group's understanding of the weekly topics.

– Jim Beard



School Supplies still needed. In addition to, or instead of regular school supplies, schools officials also request backpacks, new sweatpants and new underwear, in a variety of sizes, for elementary-aged children. Also needed are non-traditional school supplies such as ear buds/head phones for students to use when taking tests, calculators, Clorox wipes, and back packs. Donations can be brought to the church, to the district office at Henry Hill Elementary, or to different school principals' offices.



The Food Bank needs canned vegetables, sugar, coffee, and laundry soap. Items can be dropped off at the Independence Library as well as the church. Here's another supportive idea for contributions to the Food Bank in addition to food – donating "party bags" containing a cake mix and frosting, party plates and napkins for family celebrations.

Christ's Church (CCMP)
Methodist & Presbyterian
412 Clay Street W.
Monmouth, OR 97361
www.christschurchmonmouth.org
Televised on: WIMPEG
Channel 18
5am-6am, Sun. through Sat
3pm-4pm, Sun. through Sat

Falls City UMC (FC)
United Methodist Church
PO Box 473
242 N. Main St.

Falls City, OR 9730
Office Hours: M–F, 9am–12pm
(503) 838-1724
email: ccmpunited@gmail.com

Pastor Becky Strader
Becky's cell: (802) 454-8304
email: ccmppastor@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor: Joy Brown
email: jrnbrown@me.com

Join the Peace, Justice & Mission Team (PJM) on Tuesday, October 7 at 7:00pm. Join us for this, our first Fall meeting in the Christ's Church Board Room. Meet the team, help us refine our goals and our focus for the 2014-2015 year, and find out how you can play a part. Contact the office or contact Denvy or Gail Saxowsky for more information. After all, many hands makes light work!



From Gail Saxowsky: Many thanks to Kim Clark and Sue Badgett for their help setting out our financial books this month, as well as readying snacks for the people from five other area Presbyterian churches who came to review our church books. (We passed.)



Christ's Church Prayer Team. One of the ongoing ministries of Christ's Church is the Prayer Team (formerly called the Prayer Chain.) These are people who have volunteered to pray for concerns submitted to them by church members and friends. It currently has 19 members plus Pastor Becky. Concerns are added to the list in two ways: calls or e-mails to the coordinator or Pastor Becky, or requests for prayer on Sundays during the Prayers of the People. When these concerns are received, the coordinator sends out an e-mail to all of the team members giving information about the specific concerns for prayer. The coordinator also tries to send updates as further information is received.

Historically we were called a prayer chain, and prayer requests were passed on by telephone. However, this method became cumbersome due to the need to make multiple calls or to leave long messages, which we were not sure were received by the team. Since all team members presently have access to e-mail, email has proved to be a much more efficient method of communication. Also the team members do not have to make notes or remember the details. (Have you ever played the game Gossip? You would be surprised how some of the messages changed in the chain process.)

Requests for prayer should be cleared with those to be prayed for whenever possible. All information should be kept confidential.

Is this a ministry you would like to participate in? If so, please contact Bev Herzog at bev@herzogmail.net or call her at (503) 838-1172. If you do not have e-mail, she will be pleased to contact you by phone with prayer concerns.



Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you
will fulfill the law of Christ (Galatians 6:2, NRSV)



Stephen Ministry is a one-to-one lay caring ministry. Stephen Ministers are trained to provide high-quality, confidential, Christ-centered care to people who are hurting.

We are starting to serve "extended communion". This means that we can deliver and serve communion to shut-ins (shut-outs?) or those unable to attend for any reason, after the elements have been blessed in worship. If you would like to be one of the servers, contact Pastor Becky for brief training or to go with her as she serves. It is a blessed experience!

In addition, we have a new supply of "Journeying Through Grief" books for those who have lost a loved one. If you or someone you know needs these books, please call Jo Ann King @ 503-838-6603.

We also are seeking New Stephen Ministry leaders here with Christ's Church. Six Leadership Stephen Ministry Training courses are scheduled in 2015 and we hope to entice you to go to one of these lovely places! Most weeks cost between \$1,000-\$1,500 (not including travel to and from). We will budget money to help! Here are the opportunities!

1. January 11-17, Orlando, Florida at the Doubletree Universal Hotel
2. February 1-7, Anaheim, California at the Doubletree Anaheim/orange Hotel
3. April 12-18, St. Louis, Missouri at the Renaissance St. Louis Airport Hotel
4. June 7-13, Orlando, Florida at the Doubletree Universal Hotel
5. July 12-18, Dallas, Texas at Westin Park Central
6. August 16-22, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania at Wyndham Grand Pittsburgh Hotel

Think about it. Pray about it! This is a special way to fulfill our commitment to serving as God's hands and feet here on earth. Please talk with Jo Ann King to discuss any questions you may have about this important one-on-one service for others.

– Jo Ann King



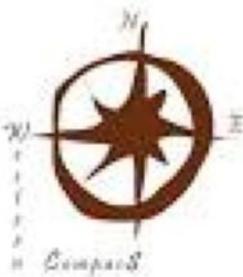
A Book Review for you: The Minor Adjustment Salon, Alexander McCall Smith. Another in the No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency novels. This book is like enjoying a good dessert after a great meal. The No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency series of books truly gives insight into the real culture of Africa and are so much fun to read. You might want to start with the first in the series to enjoy them the most.



The Oregon Old Time Fiddlers will present their annual benefit performance at Falls City United Methodist Church on Saturday, October 18, at 1pm. The concert is free, but donations will be accepted, and a bake sale will be offered, all to maintain the historic church building. Let the good times roll!



Join Us! Become a Member! If you would like to become a member of the United Methodist Church in Falls City! Or of Christ's Church, Methodist and Presbyterian United in Monmouth, or would like to serve on one of our committees, please talk with Pastor Becky.



Remember, Western Compass has started weekly free(!) meals for students at Sing Fay restaurant on Monday evenings at 5pm. Katie Moss invites adults from Western Compass' sponsoring denominations interested in conversing with students to attend – because relationships are at least as important as “programming”. If you would like to participate in Campus Ministry this way, please see Becky or Denvy. And “friend” Western Compass on Facebook!

<https://m.facebook.com/westerncompass?>

Sunday, October 12 from 12:30pm - 3:30pm. Join us in the barn at Rogue Farms in Independence on a crisp Sunday afternoon in October for lunch... and bid on some great local items at the low-key Silent Auction. Drop in anytime, but bid by 2pm to get your auction items! The address is: Rogue Farms Hopyard, 3590 Wigrich Rd, Independence, Oregon 97351.

Please share this invite! What a deal for an afternoon of farm food and fun! Rogue will also be selling discounted cases of beer on site on the same afternoon. Student tickets are \$5 and otherwise just \$10. (Tickets sold at the door or at the Fair Trade Table at Werner Center on Mondays) or after worship!

In preparation for this festive Benefit event, remember donations from individuals and area businesses are needed for their auction, too. If you have items to you would like to donate to the auction, or if your business would like to offer an item or experience for the auction, please be in touch with Katie Moss, program director of Western Compass at mama.moss.is@gmail.com or at (503) 816-9549.



-- Regular Meetings --
Weekly

Sunday

- 9:00am Fellowship (FC Multipurpose Room)
- 9:20am Worship Service (FC Sanctuary)
Church is wheelchair accessible
- 10:00am Prayer & Meditation (CCMP Prayer Studio)
- 11:00am Worship Service (CCMP Sanctuary)
Child care is provided for Sunday service

Monday

- 5:00pm Western Compass (Sing Fay Restaurant)

Tuesday

- 7:00pm Boy Scouts (CCMP Basement Hall)
- 7:00pm Committees (CCMP Board Room)
- 7:00pm FC Board (FC Multipurpose Room)

Wednesday

- 8:00am Lectionary Discussion Group (Independence Grill)
- 5:30pm Joy Bells Choir Practice (CCMP Sanctuary)
- 6:30pm Choir Practice (CCMP Sanctuary)

Thursday

- 7:00pm Thursday Book Study (Monmouth)

Monthly

- Oct. 1 Horizons Study Group, 1st Wednesday (1:00pm, Heron Pointe, Dining)
- Oct. 1 Stewardship Team Meeting, 1st Wednesday (7:30pm, CCMP)
- Oct. 5 World Communion Sunday & Peacemaking Offering, 1st Sunday (9:20am FC; 11:00am CCMP)
- Oct. 8 Social Concerns Meeting, 2nd Wednesday (12:00pm, CCMP Board Room)
- Oct. 12 Guatemala Delegation fundraiser auction (12:30-4:00 PM, Rogue Hop Farm)
- Oct. 14 Peace, Justice, and Mission Team Meeting, 2nd Tuesday (7:00pm, CCMP)
- Oct. 18 Old Time Fiddlers (1pm, FC Sanctuary)
- Oct. 21 Board Meeting, CCMP, 3rd Tuesday (7:00pm, CCMP Board Room)
- Oct. 22 Fellowship House Board Meeting, 4th Wednesday (10:00am, CCMP Board Room)
- Oct. 23 Lunch Bunch, 4th Thursday (12:00pm, FC Multipurpose Room) (lunch and bible study for high school students)
- Oct. 25 Submission Due Date for the November Newsletter
- Oct. 28 Stephen Ministry, 4th Tuesday (7:00pm, CCMP Board Room)
- Oct. 28 James2 Dinner, last Tuesday (5:00pm, FC Multipurpose Room)
- Oct. 29 Board meeting, Falls City, Last Wednesday (7:00pm, FC Multipurpose Room)

Here is a date to put on your calendar for November:

- Nov. 23 Hunger Harvest Dinner (5:00pm, CCMP Basement)

October Birthdays

3 Nathan Brown
 6 Henry Kreft
 8 Roland Brown
 17 Jake Major
 ...We also want to post
 YOUR Birthday here!

October Anniversaries

...And we want to post
 Your Anniversary here!

In Memory



Marjorie "Marge" Jean Cutten, a member of Christ's Church until she and her husband moved to Dallas, passed away on September 8, 2014. Graveside services were held at the Fir Crest Cemetery on September 11, 2014.

Marge met the love of her life, United States Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Lewyn "Lee" F. Cutten, in the mid-1950s. They would enjoy a great life together for more than 56 years. She enjoyed quilting, volunteering and family. Lee and Marge lived in many communities but in the end, settled in Dallas. Survivors include her three children; five grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Oregon/Idaho Holy Land Task Force



The United Methodist Oregon/Idaho Annual Conference strongly encourages all churches and/or districts to have a study based on the "Kairos Response" document, an advocacy group that is promoting the adoption of a proposed resolution, "Aligning United Methodist Investments with Resolutions on Israel/Palestine," in preparation for further action at the 2015 Annual

Conference session. The legislation calls for all boards and agencies "to divest promptly" from three companies whose products are used in the occupation - Caterpillar, Motorola Solutions and Hewlett Packard.

In addition, the resource guide, "Working for a Just and Lasting Peace In Israel and Palestine" is being distributed to our churches. This makes two documents that will be ready to use! Christ's Church had a United Methodist Women's study on this topic several years ago and several books are available for additional reading.
 – JoAnn King

Praying for Others

– Linda Grund-Clampit

The form of prayer with which we are most familiar is praying for others. It is often called intercessory prayer. But despite our familiarity, many of us have a vague discomfort with it. We have two basic questions: does it work? and how are we to do it?

Our trust in intercessory prayer is grounded in our trust in God. Some of us may feel at ease in the presence of God and feel a deep trust. It is easy for us to bring those we love and for whom we have concerns into God's presence and to trust God's loving activity in their lives. Some of us cannot claim that experience, but we do claim the promises of Scripture and our tradition that God desires wholeness, health and peace for every person – and that Christ's offering of himself for each one is ongoing. The concern that we raise in prayer is already contained in Christ's own prayers. Your faith that this is so may be small, but your love and longing for the other person may be large enough that you will step out on that bit of faith and find that it grows. And if we find that we can't take that step ourselves, we may put our trust in the faith of others. When we ask in worship for prayers for our friends and loved ones and for our concerns about the world, we are asking this. It is a precious part of our communion in the Body of Christ – that we can ask this of others, and that we can hold this trust for others.
 (Continued next page)



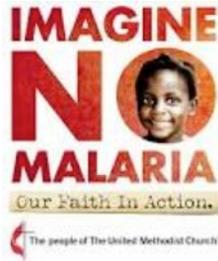
"When I pray coincidences happen and when I do not they don't."
 – William Temple, former Archbishop of Canterbury

Does it work? Sometimes we can answer joyfully and affirmatively, "YES!" But what about when we can't answer that way? There are so many understandings offered for this. One is that prayer changes the pray-er, opens us up to new insights, creates a willingness in us to do for the other. This is true. Another is that even though physical healing may not come, spiritual healing may and this is more important. This is true also. Yet another is that we do not know the grander plan of healing and redemption that God is working on, and so we have to be prepared for an "answer" to our prayer that isn't what we hoped for. True, yet again. But none of these true answers may suffice until we experience them ourselves. And, in my experience, the only way to enter these answers "from the inside" is to keep praying. Prayer is an activity which grows out of our relationship with God and nurtures our relationship with God. The only way to find out if it "works" is to keep praying.

Here is A Practical Exercise in How to Pray For Others from 50 Ways to Prayer: Practices from Many Traditions and Times by Teresa A. Blythe. This book is in the Prayer Studio at church for your use. In it, you are sure to find a way that "fits" you, or will re-invigorate your prayer practice – there are many and varied ways to open ourselves to God's care and guidance.

- Begin seated comfortably in a chair. Take at least five deep, slow breaths. Say to yourself, "Here I am in the presence of God's everlasting care and love."
- Using words, spoken or unspoken, state who and what you are praying for. Let your prayer be uncensored. Just lay your heart's desire out before God.
- Then become silent. Allow a visual image of God surrounding the person to emerge in your imagination. It could be a bright light, or Jesus holding the person in his arms, or any image that presents itself to you. In your mind's eye, see the person becoming whole and reconciled in the situation. Feel the grace of God transforming the person or situation.
- Using words, spoken or silent, ask that God's desire and purpose be fulfilled. Release the person or situation into the fullness of God's care. Leave the outcome in God's hands.
- Raise your arms in a body prayer, offering all that you are and all that you prayed to God.

The topic of intercessory prayer is immense, as are the myriad ways to pray, and these articles only offer the briefest exploration. Two other resources in the Prayer Studio that can deepen your exploration are Soul Feast by Marjorie Thompson and the "Pray for One Another" issue of the journal Weavings.



We held a successful Pancake feed to raise money (\$525) for the Imagine No Malaria Campaign Tuesday evening, Sept. 30. A compelling video was shown by Jo Ann King demonstrating the need and the work to eradicate malaria. This campaign started in 2008 when the Methodist General Conference adopted Global Health as one of four areas of focus. While previous work has made significant strides in Africa, Malaria continues to remain the key reason for hospitalization and one of the top killers of children under the age of 5 years and pregnant women.

Imagine No Malaria is a ministry aimed at raising \$75 million toward the elimination of malaria deaths in Africa by 2015 – and eliminating Malaria as a scourge is actually doable! A comprehensive system of education, communication, and treatment, has been developed in partnership with the African Conferences to establish a multilevel means of targeting the disease. - See more at: <http://www.umcmission.org/Give-to-Mission/Search-for-Projects/Projects/3021190#sthash.rWIXf4tb.dpuf>

Did you know we have a movie producer in our congregation? We do. Have you ever wondered about that little blue house at 150 S Knox on Monmouth's City Park block? Well, that houses WIMPEG, an intergovernmental agency owned by Western Oregon University, and the cities of Independence and Monmouth. WIMPEG stands for Western Oregon University-Independence-Monmouth-Public-Education-Government (WIMPEG) public access TV. Its mission is to broadcast local culture, history, performances, and information pertinent to our local community. It broadcasts on the MINET cable TV system, with past shows available via YouTube, as follows:



- Channel 17, dedicated to Western Oregon University programming,
- Channel 18 focuses on Monmouth community programming
- Channel 99 focuses on Independence community programming
- YouTube at youtube.com/wimpegtv.

Video contributions by community volunteers are aired as well as scheduled government events such as City Council Meetings. Currently WIMPEG recruiting efforts are underway to train volunteers to record cultural, historical, and artistic performances for the community.

Communities are learning they have important needs that aren't being addressed elsewhere. For example, needs for educating people on health issues such as diabetes, or how to prepare for catastrophic events. Over the years WIMPEG's role as information provider is growing. The WIMPEG website states: "Our role is growing and our need for volunteers has increased with it. Contact us to find out how to get training and contribute to the community." They also state:

"Did you know we currently have three WIMPEG producers with their own shows?"

Sherry Pittam has been producing for WIMPEG for a few years now. She covers the Christ Church of Monmouth's services. We have schedule space for another church to be on air but it's not possible without the dedication and training like Sherry puts into it."

Thanks to our Communications Team Producer, Sherry Pittam, Christ's Church Sunday Worship Services are televised on WIMPEG Channel 18

- Sunday through Saturday - 5 am to 6 am
- Sunday through Saturday - 3 pm to 4 pm

Now you know! Thanks, Sherry! ...And if you would like more information, or to become part of the church Communications Team, contact Sherry Pittam at 503.838.2667 or Linda Grund-Clampit at 503.838.2339. Hey, you, too, could become a producer!



Editors Note: Our newsletter has been called Foot Hills. The reasons and history behind that name are unknown to this editor as of this printing. The newsletter, with the advent of our new pastor, is expanding. We are working to include more information from the Falls City United Methodist Church and from Christ's Church. We share a pastor and both churches share several activities throughout the year, so sharing this newsletter just makes sense. A new name for the newsletter seems appropriate – a name that speaks to both churches, the campus ministry, the community, and to all of us. Listed below are some suggestions. What do you think? On October 12th our

congregations will be polled to determine a name that meets our changing needs, best reflects our mission, and which reaches out to the most people.

Here are the possibilities thus far:

beacon l' bēkən l

- a conspicuous device designed to attract attention; a fire or light set up in a high or prominent position as a warning, signal, or celebration

harbinger l' hərbənjər l

- a person or a thing that announces or signals the approach of another
- a forerunner of something

herald l' herəld l

- an official messenger bringing news; the first sign or indicator. A proclamation, signal, or foretelling...

messenger l' mesənjər l

- carrying or bearing a message

signal l' signəl l

- a gesture, action, or sound used to convey information or instructions, typically by prearrangement between the parties concerned
- indicate the existence or occurrence of (something)



Coming Soon – There will be a “teach-in” on Saturday, November 15th at Clear Lake UMC in Keizer. Members of the Holy Land Task Force and the Methodist Federation for Social Action will provide any resources you need and give presentations in your church; they can explain why the Palestinian churches have asked the International Community boycott, divest and sanction in order to achieve goals.



Also Coming – A study trip to Israel and Palestine is planned for February 23rd–March 4th, 2015! You've always wanted to go see the Dome of the Rock, right? Contact Pastor Becky or the District office for information.





Follow up to Ferguson, a report on Racism in America today – or how the rest of the World views discrimination in America. The United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) report details how the United States has failed to fulfill its legal obligations under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (For more information see the actual report and its powerful recommendations for America at: http://www.state.gov/j/drl/rls/cerd_report/83404.htm) For a summary – with excellent, eye opening recommendations on

what we can and need to do – see: <http://truth-out.org/news/item/25990-us-slammed-for-failure-to-fulfill-legal-obligation-to-eliminate-all-forms-of-race-discrimination>)



Follow up on Ebola

Yet another set of ominous projections about the Ebola epidemic in West Africa was released that gave worst- and best-case estimates for Liberia and Sierra Leone based on computer modeling.

In the worst-case scenario, the two countries could have 1.4 million cases by Jan. 20 (if the disease keeps spreading without effective methods to contain it). ... In the best-case model, the epidemic in both countries would be "almost ended" by Jan. 20, the report said.

http://www.nytimes.com/2014/09/24/health/ebola-cases-could-reach-14-million-in-4-months-cdc-estimates.html?_r=0

Without effective intervention in Africa, Ebola will spread throughout the world. In fact, one case has already been diagnosed in this country. Projections are based on data from August, but Dr. Thomas R. Frieden, the C.D.C. director, said the situation appeared to have improved since then because more aid had begun to reach the region. Churches are an important factor in providing effective intervention.

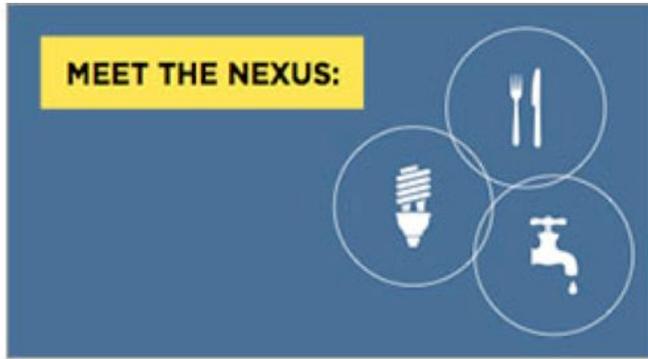
"My gut feeling is, the actions we're taking now are going to make that worst-case scenario not come to pass," Dr. Frieden said in a telephone interview. "But it's important to understand that it could happen."



**ARE CHRISTIANS
MORE LIKE
JESUS OR MORE
LIKE THE
PHARISEES?**

Christians: More Like Jesus or Pharisees? One of the common critiques leveled at present-day Christianity is that it's a religion full of hypocritical people.

An April 30, 2013, a Barna Group study examines the degree to which this perception may be accurate. The study explores how well Christians seem to emulate the actions and attitudes of Jesus in their interactions with others... Check out: <https://www.barna.org/barna-update/faith-spirituality/611-christians-more-like-jesus-or-pharisees#.VCd1Lr6Ezdk>



Meet the Nexus: How Food, Water, and Energy are connected. (Serving as Stewards of the earth.)

Consider a slice of pizza...

You don't see the "hidden water" in your slice of pizza, but it's there.

Even a single slice of pizza involves a global distribution network, industrial agriculture, fossil fuels – and a lot of water. That's the food, water, and

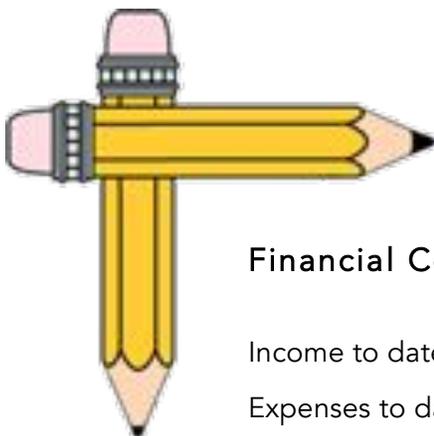
energy nexus in a slice.

When these three systems come into conflict with each other there are consequences for public health, the economy, and the natural world. Do you want to know what you as a single individual can do about it? Check out these links for more information: www.gracelinks.org and this link to the Presbyterian website:

<https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B2KWsEPQL2xOd2poV1JKX2ZWNzQ/edit?pli=1>

for an illustrated resource that reveals the hidden connections between food, water and energy in your everyday life, the economy and society as a whole. Decisions in one area have a profound effect on each other, and the guide suggests nine simple, doable, sustainable, and money-saving choices you can make.

You'll be amazed.



Financial Corner for October 2014

Income to date:	\$84,205.00
Expenses to date:	\$76,842.19
General Fund balance:	\$ 7,150.56

