



## Open Handed Giving

When I was living in Madagascar, I had the privilege of praying with Christians and Muslims together. I was intrigued by what people did with their hands during the prayer. Christians would often place their palms against each other and hold them at chest level. Muslims would hold their hands open, palm up to the sky, either at their waist or under their faces.

On sabbatical I learned about the practice of meditation. Again, the way in which we hold our hands mattered. During the beginning of the meditation, we were invited to hold our hands palm down on our thighs. This was a position of grounding; becoming more fully present in our bodies. After awhile, we then would turn our palms upward, still resting them on our legs. This was a position of receiving.

Ultimately, how we hold our hands when we pray is intended to indicate the readiness of our hearts to listen to the voice of God. This is why during the liturgy we are invited to hold our hands up to receive all the blessings that God offers to us.

This image comes up for me often. I think of it when I see the political shouting matches on television. I imagine it when I read angry and hurtful signs and bumper stickers. I am aware that when we live our lives with clenched fists, unable to receive anything that we fail to reflect the love of God. We miss the blessings of the day. We miss the beauty of our neighbor. We miss the understanding that we need to create real community.

So I have cultivated a simple practice that I want to offer to you. When I find myself tightening up, getting angry or frustrated I pay attention to my

hands. Often I find that they are in positions of rejection or defense. They are shoved under my armpits or pockets. They are closed tight. Then, I simply open them.

What happens to me is subtle but important. I feel a shift in my body. I am more willing to receive and I am more willing to give. I don't stop being angry or frustrated, but I am aware that my closed stance will not help heal either my anger or the relationship.

This extends to our practice of generosity. In uncertain economic times we feel a natural tendency to hold on to what we have. We fear not having enough. That makes us close our hands (and our checkbooks) when the call comes to give to a cause that we might otherwise support. Yet, God does not remove the call to be a cheerful giver during difficult times. God knows that the faithful act of giving means more when times are tough. When we open our hands and share our resources we declare our trust in the One who "has the cattle on a thousand hills" (Psalm 50:10) It doesn't magically multiply our bank account, but it does reshape our perspective on the blessings that we have been given.

I hope that being a part of Nativity helps us all live our lives with open hands. I pray that it makes us more generous, more hopeful, and more open to others. In a time when closed fists and shouting seem to be ubiquitous, I pray that our open handed living would be a light to another path.

Peace,

Dave

Pastor David C. Nagler

# nativity notes . november 2010

## What's Happening . . .

### Food Pantry

Food Pantry is running very low in funds as well as food. Please assist this ministry as we are feeding approximately 25 to 30 families a week; and as we are approaching colder weather these next four to five months, we expect more coming in on a weekly basis. The list of food items are noted on the food pantry door. Thank you for your help in making this possible.

### Garden Harvest and Clean Up

If you have a plot in the garden or orchard please take a look at it to see if there is any food you can use or donate. Bags are located in the greenhouse and you can place bagged items in the NLC refrigerator for delivery to local food programs.



### Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Pastor Dave will lead this each Wednesday morning at 10:00 am in the fellowship hall, except there will be no Bible Study on Wednesday, November 17 for Pastor Dave will be in Haiti on a global mission trip.

### Firewood Ministry

Jan Ward has delivered firewood to the Nativity wood lot and we will be splitting every Saturday, from 9:00 am to noon. The Saturday morning schedule will continue until further notice. We have been notified by the two not-for-profit groups that provide screening for us that the demand is greater than last year.

### Counting Volunteer Needed

Are you the person to join the counting team? Once every four Sundays to volunteer in counting after service. Preferred banking, accounting, or church counting experience. Please contact Lee Jorgenson at 541-388-3635.

### Taizé at Nativity

Nativity Lutheran Church will host the Central Oregon Faith Community at a Taizé service on November 4, from 7:00–8:00 pm.

This service of contemplative singing and prayer is inspiring in its simplicity and silence. Please join with our neighbors for this special service of contemplative worship.

### Quilter's Going Out of Business Sale

On Sunday, November 7th the Quilters will hold a Going Out of Business Sale. If you have anything you would like to donate to the sale, please contact Millie Paul at 541-383-4166.

### Need of Water Glasses

If you are cleaning out your kitchen cupboards and have some water glasses to donate, the Fellowship Committee is in need of some every day use water glasses for our kitchen. They don't need to match, any mixed/matched glasses are acceptable.

### November Council Meeting

Council will be having their next meeting on Tuesday, November 16, at 7:00 pm, in the fellowship hall.

### Need Cookie Bakers

Please sign up on the sheet posted in the fellowship hall.

### Women's Lunch Bunch

The Women's Lunch Bunch will be not be meeting in the month of November and December, but will resume again in January.

### Christmas

#### Coordinator Needed

It may seem a little ways away, but we all know it will be here before we know it . . . We are needing a volunteer to head up the Christmas decorating of the church and tree on the 2nd Saturday of December. If you are interested in heading this up, please call the office.

#### Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study will meet on Thursday, November 4, at 9:30 am, in the fellowship hall.

#### Ushers Needed

The 11:00 am service is in need of volunteer Ushers. If you are interested in helping with this, please contact Lee Jorgenson at 541-388-3635.



#### Nativity's Fellowship Dinners

For those of you not familiar with Nativity's Fellowship Dinners..., it is an opportunity to get to know each other better, have fun and eat delicious food. What could be better? Groups of 6 or 8 are paired up each month, having a potluck at each others' homes.

We try to put couples, singles, early service and late service folks in each group. A sign up sheet will be posted soon. For more information, please contact Peggy Lindsay at 318-8897.

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## Meet Bill & Sherry Rodgers

Bill and Sherry Rodgers live at 1407 NE 9th Street with their dog, Micah. They own their own construction business, Constructor Services, Inc. . Bill has been in the construction business for 30+ years. Bill runs the job and Sherry manages the office. Due to the economy, Bill has recently taken a job with Jeld-wen Corporation using his expertise as a building contractor to obtain licenses in various states. Bill's joy of teaching has him teaching an Installation Masters course (correct installation of windows and doors) when scheduled, as well as motorcycle safety for Team Oregon. Teaching for Team Oregon is something he enjoys to the fullest.

They both have family in Virginia and Maryland and try to visit as much as possible. Family is an important part of their lives. Bill's father, step-mother, two sisters and two brothers-in-law live in the Maryland area. He has a brother in Eugene. Sherry's daughter, two sisters, brother, brother-in-law and sisters-in-law live in the Virginia and South Carolina area.

Bill and Sherry dated in 1976 when Bill was a building inspector for the County of Frederick, Virginia and Sherry worked in the Finance Department. She fell hopelessly in love with him but he was not ready to settle down and decided to move to Oregon. He camped across the country in his yellow pick-up with his 1976 Green Kawasaki tied in the back and his dog Kronus in the front. Once he got to Bend, he knew this was where he wanted to be.

He got married and has two children Samantha age 30 and Joe age 27. After getting a degree in Microbiology from Northern Arizona University, Samantha is the grass roots organizer of Greenpeace and Joe is a student at Portland Community College. Sherry stayed in Virginia, got

married and has a daughter, Sarah age 26. After getting her degree in Biology from Radford University, in Virginia, Sarah is working and taking classes to become an RN.

Bill and Sherry were both divorced when Bill called her Mother's house December 1993 to inquire how Sherry was doing. She, fortunately, was there helping her family decorate her mother's house for Christmas. When she answered the phone, Bill's first question to her was "Do you still live with your mother?" She explained that no, she did not live with her mother, she did have a life after he left Virginia! Bill went to visit her in Virginia in January 1994 and then she and her daughter visited Bend that spring. Bill returned to Virginia that June and they got married. They drove cross country with her daughter, Sarah.

Bill has been in Central Oregon for 33 years and Sherry for 16 years.

Bill and Sherry love riding their motorcycle, hiking, reading and just being at home. They also have been active in work with the Environmental Center.

They joined Nativity Lutheran Church in 2005. The wonderful warm feeling they received when they first attended Nativity and then meeting Dave Nagler, sealed the deal. Bill is Vice President of the church council.



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## Treasurer's Report for September 2010

**Income**                    **\$25,024.56**  
AUG \$17,534.25

**Expenses**                **\$20,942.54**  
AUG \$22,209.25

**Net Income**            **\$ 4,082.02**  
AUG \$ 4,675.00

**Checking Account Balance** **\$ 9,124.47**  
AUG \$ 3,531.18

**Designated Funds Balance** **\$26,475.54**  
AUG \$33,775.54

**Endowment Fund**            **\$45,028.00**  
AUG \$42,645.00

Our average income was \$6,256 per week, we need \$5,822 per week to make the new budget, inching us closer to where we should be (we had a substantial gift) We are expecting the Avion check at the end of October (circa \$14,000). Here's my plan: pay benevolence up to date (about \$1800), pay back the \$7,500 we "borrowed" from designated funds; put the rest in a "cushion" account. Also, the flood expenses that we paid out for the garden, orchard etc will be paid from another part of the reimbursement.

## First Quarter for July to September 2010

**July to September 2010    July to September 2009**

Income	\$65,513	\$65,675
Expenses	\$65,446	\$70,387
Net Income	\$ 66.50	\$(4,712)
Budgeted	\$75,681	\$72,802

Bottom line, we're about \$10,000 below our budget.

### Welcome Aisea Taimani

On November 7, we will welcome Aisea Taimani to our community. Aisea will be our music leader for the 9:00 am worship service. He brings a variety of musical talents and a heart for authentic worship of God. He will be looking for people to sing and play with him. Please consider sharing your gifts with our congregation. You will have a great time and be deeply blessed!

### Daylight Savings Time



**Remember to set your  
clocks back an hour  
on Saturday evening,  
November 6.**

## Happy Birthday to You ...

November 2	Lee Jorgenson, Alice Banta	November 14	Claudia Martin
November 3	Sarah Joplin	November 15	Maury Hardman
November 6	Helen Roberts	November 17	Nancy Philiben
November 7	Denise Banton, Bud Munson	November 18	Joe Bowman, Don Aasland
November 8	Mary Bryant, Marlon Koland, Ruth Vettrus	November 21	CJ Fraley, Jean Hardman
November 9	Pam Beyer	November 22	Marcia McCullough
November 11	Pat Paris	November 24	Will Aasland, Charlie Canfield
November 12	Donna LaVenture, Paris Steen	November 26	Naomi Nagler, Rachel Nagler
November 13	Jim Aasland	November 27	Dick Ross, Ann Ross
		November 29	Ada Shiffer

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## What's Happening for Youth

### Element and NYC

It's crazy to think that in the next few weeks I will be a father. As Erin and I have approached the day when our little girl comes into the world, I can't help but feel enormous gratitude. After spending the last 5 years at Nativity working with families, I want to say a special word of thanks to all of you parents out there. As I knew before and am now learning first hand (even as she is yet to come), being a mom or dad is the hardest job out there. Thanks for being great models in the wonderful world of parenting!

Many special thanks to Marci Barnes, the fellowship committee, and the entire congregation for your love, gifts, and the beautiful baby shower you had for us a few weeks ago. As we have no family in town, it is calming to know that our little girl will have lots of surrogate aunts, uncles, and grandparents!

And finally, while we may go into labor at any moment, all of our weekly programs will continue thanks to our amazing volunteer youth leaders. Thank you all for stepping up this year and stepping in while Erin and I prepare for this new adventure. This November, we hope to see all high school students Monday nights at Common Table downtown from 6:00-8:00 pm and for all of you middle school students out there, join us Wednesday nights from 5:30-7:30 pm at Nativity.

Thanks again everyone!. Erin and I feel privileged to be a part of such a wonderful community and family at Nativity.

In Peace,

Ron

Director of Youth Ministries

### Kid's Night Out & Family Fun Night

Children were often part of the crowds that followed Jesus around as he taught and worked miracles while he was here on earth. He welcomed children and blessed them. We at Nativity also want to welcome children and see them as part of our community. We have several special things planned for children and families as we move into the holiday season. I hope I'll see you at the following events:

**Family Fun Night** will meet on Wednesday, November 3 from 5:30 to 7:00 pm. It is Thanksgiving month, so we are having a "Turkey Bowl." That's right, we'll begin with homemade turkey soup, cornbread, & pumpkin pie. Then families will "bowl" using frozen turkeys rather than bowling balls. You want to be sure you see this. We are asking families to please bring an item for the food pantry.

November 10 & 17 **Kid's Night Out** will meet from 4:00 to 5:30 pm. We will not meet November 24.

On Sunday mornings during the first service, children will be dismissed for Jr. Church. We now have both a Pre-School and Elementary department. Our Nursery (by the way – check out the new paint & furniture) is also open for those under the age of 3 and is staffed with loving & trained caregivers.

During November we will begin practice for our Children's Christmas Program, which will be held Sunday evening December 19 at 6:00 pm. Come and join us.

Blessings,

Dee

Children's Director



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## What's Happening . . .

### Family Kitchen

Dear members of Nativity Lutheran Church,  
The board of Family Kitchen would like to thank you for all of the support that you provide us with. The need in our community continues to grow!

Family Kitchen is now serving 1000s of meals each month. We are also working to increase our outreach to serve members of Central Oregon who are in need of food but cannot make it to our mealsite.

Please come by and see our beautiful new kitchen! Support from generous community members like you made the dream of a new kitchen become a reality.

Thank you to all of the Family Kitchen volunteers for their hard work and dedication to serving those in need of a healthy meal.

Margaret Wyman, Family Kitchen Board Mbr

### Picture Directory

It's not too late! Anna Trobaugh will be taking pictures on Sunday, November 7, between services for those who didn't get theirs taken back in March and April. The directory will be published sometime in the spring of 2011.

### Cantata

The Chancel Choir will be singing a wonderful Christmas Cantata called "Night of the Father's Love" by Pepper Choplin on Sunday, December 19 at both services.

### New Member Sunday

If you would like to join the mission of Nativity, New Member Sunday will be on November 14. The New Member Dinner will take place on Tuesday, November 9 from 6:00 - 7:00 pm. Please call Corry in the office at 541-388-0765, if you would like to join our mission and become a member of Nativity.

### Giving Envelopes

We are in the process of ordering "Giving" envelopes for 2011. If you are **not** interested in receiving these envelopes, please call the church office at 541-388-0765. Also, another way of giving is via electronic payment, which is very convenient, especially when you are away from home on vacation. For more information, please contact Corry in the church office.

### Seeking Treasurer Position

Nativity is seeking someone who is skilled in accounts payable, accounts receivable and general ledger to fill our treasurer's position.

If you are interested, please contact a council member for more information.

### Thrivent Members

How would you like to have a free dinner at the new faith-based restaurant in Bend (sponsored by the Presbyterian, Lutheran and Episcopal churches). On Tuesday November 2 at 6:30 pm, the Central Oregon Chapter of Thrivent is taking over the entire restaurant to introduce it to Thrivent members and others. Admission will be by ticket only and you can get a ticket from Elaine Salmonson, Thrivent Central Oregon Chapter President; or talk to Nativity's Thrivent Congregation Advocate, Barb Smith at 541-317-8805.

### Prayer and Memorial Garden

The Prayer and Memorial Garden will continue to take orders for those interested in having stones placed in honor of a loved one, special acknowledgements, etc. - an order may be placed anytime, for there is no deadline. To place an order, please pick up a form in the church office.

### Thanksgiving Service at Nativity

Nativity Lutheran Church will be hosting Thanksgiving service with Trinity Episcopal Church and Grace First Lutheran Church on Wednesday, November 24 at 7:00 pm.



## The People of Nativity Staff

**Pastor** David Nagler  
Office 541.388.0765  
david@nativityinbend.com

### Director of Youth Ministries

Ron Werner  
ron@nativityinbend.com

### Children's Director of Ministries

Dee Engel  
dee@nativityinbend.com

### Office Administrator

Corry Hollingsworth  
corry@nativityinbend.com

### Office Assistant Administrator

Bonnie Norris

### Minister of Music

Jon Basham  
jon@nativityinbend.com

### Music Director

Aisea Taimani  
Aisea@nativityinbend.com

### Accompaniest

Judith Herron  
mjherron@bendbroadband.com

### Custodian

Catalina Cordova 541.388.0765

## Church Council

### President

Kirk Sandburg 541.389.2679

### Vice President

Bill Rodgers 541.317.3953

### Secretary

Lisa Bailey 541.350.9196

### Treasurer

Elaine Mikkeltorg  
541.389.8544

Dave Nissen  
541.815.9455

Todd Wysuph  
541.633.7021

Kathy Hunt  
541.330.9026

Larry Johnson  
541.383.3730

Ruth Vettrus  
541.285.3565

Peggy Lindsay  
541.318.8897

Don Senecal  
541.389.9739

Ann Ross  
541.617.9280

## Mutual Ministry

Brad Bailey  
541.419.6982

Sue Jorgenson  
541.388.3635

Justin Iverson  
541.350.7565

## Office Hours

**9:00 am to 3:00 pm**

**Pastor Dave:** Monday - Thursday

**Ron:** Monday - Thursday

**Corry:** Monday, Wednesday -  
Friday

**Bonnie:** Tuesday

## Worship and Educational Opportunities

### Sundays:

9:00 am - Informal Worship Service

9:15 am - Junior Church

11:00 am - Formal Worship Service

### Mondays:

6:00 pm - NYC (high school)

### Wednesdays:

10:00 am - Morning Bible Study

4:00 pm - Kid's Night Out (elementary)

5:30 pm - element (middle school)

For more information,  
please visit our website at  
[www.nativityinbend.com](http://www.nativityinbend.com)

NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
60850 BROSTERHOUS ROAD  
BEND, OR 97702

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



# november . 2010

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