

GOOD things come to

those who wait...right? I personally don't care for that proverb, but there is a fair amount of truth to it, isn't there? Granted, in the day of microwaves and high-speed internet and 2-day shipping, it's hard to be patient for things. However, most of us know that when we wait for something (like a homemade meal or the right job opportunity) the outcome is much better compared to if we rush things. But even though we know that, we very often decide we need something now and rush ahead to get it. James tells us in 5.7-8, *"Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand."* And I preached on this passage a few weeks ago now, but it really stuck out to me how impatient we are for life to get moving. We want what we want now and we don't react very well when it doesn't happen. In fact, James goes on to talk about grumbling against each other when things aren't happening or when they don't go according to our plans or our timeline. And I am definitely the same way.

A couple of years ago I bought some property with the hope of opening a food pantry here in Astoria. The first couple of months I had to spend a significant amount of time and resources on getting the rental house on the property to be ready for an occupant. When I finished that and winter started to roll in, I became worn out and didn't want to do much over there on top of my personal life being significantly altered. In the spring, I was able to

clean out a little bit of the building in order to prepare for the food shelf, but I still wasn't highly motivated and had other distractions. The following fall got busy with life and into winter I still had little motivation to get going on the property. This spring, however, I was finally able to clean out most of it, and despite some setbacks here and there, I finally cleared out enough room to move forward with the food shelf. A task that I had hoped to be done with in about 6 to 9 months had taken over two years to finally complete! But I'm sure no one can relate to projects that took much longer than anticipated.

And I say all of that because I've had to be patient with my life, my family, my circumstances and especially myself in order to finally get to where I am now. And my hope is that in the midst of that waiting (albeit not always patiently waiting) there will be even greater fruit and joy.

And in the midst of all that, being patient with myself was probably the hardest. I could easily have felt guilty or overwhelmed because of lack of motivation and, in some ways, that's what can cripple a project or a mission. And, so, I want to encourage you to go a little easier on yourself when you feel worn out or unmotivated and just keep the eye on the prize for whatever goal or mission God might have for you.

And I also say all of that because I'm hoping for a lot of others to come support this endeavor. We'll need resources and volunteers to get going and to keep our food pantry stocked and usable. I plan to get more details to our local churches in the coming month or so, but if you're interested in buying me a cup of coffee and hearing some of the details, I'm more than

happy to let you!

But if nothing else, I pray that each of us finds ways to patiently keep at the tasks and callings that God has given to us. It may not be a food shelf or a large project, but God has called each of us to be patient and diligent with the tasks he's given us. I pray that we are. Serving Him and you, Matthew

Youth offering

The youth offering from Sunday was \$219. We appreciate the continued support of our youth program! The funds we raise will help pay for camp fees and Family Night supplies.

If anyone wants to make a special contribution for camp or Family Night, funds are always helpful to keep these ministries going, so see Matthew or a board member about giving in addition to our regular offerings.

Camp Requests

THANK YOU so much to those who brought goodies for our camp session! They were thoroughly enjoyed and greatly appreciated.

Adult Night Out

Tuesday, August 8th at Country Side Family Diner Lewistown **at 6:00pm** will be our next adult night out. We are switching our location up but hope that everyone will still plan on coming out to enjoy time together. Please sign up at the back of the sanctuary or let Matthew know if you plan to attend.

Prayer List

Kirsta Anderson-colon cancer spread to liver
Rhonda Barfield - seizures
Bill Danner – continued healing, dialysis
Betty Davis – various health concerns, hospitalized
Jody Dean – treatments
Karen Fredrick – in hospital, not well
Mike Grater – cancer
Eric Hamm – leukemia
Gary Hulett – broken arm but no surgery
Cynde Ketterman – continued healing/strength
Bill Palmer – eye surgery recovery
Clyde Prater-cancer, experimental treatments
Lori Rodriguez – stage 4 cirrhosis of liver
Tom Trone – stroke but recovering well
Becky Watson – cancer treatments, stem cell
Debbie Opp – chemo treatment

Praise:

Lincoln Shaw – born July 4th, son of Jared and Jaylyn

2 Grandbabies of Danny Jones born since his passing

Condolences:

Terry Buckalew family

July Financials

	Actual Offering	Yearly Actual	Yearly Budget
July 2 nd	\$591.00	\$26,261.80	\$29,518.29
July 9 th	\$1,061.00	\$27,322.80	\$30,611.56
July 16 th	\$2,606.50	\$29,929.30	\$31,704.83
July 23 rd	\$682.00	\$30,611.30	\$32,798.10
July 30 th	\$932.00	\$31,543.30	\$33,891.37

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You Are Welcome At
Our Services!

Sunday

Morning Worship.....9 a.m.

Sunday School10:30 a.m.

Wednesday

Family Night.....6:00 p.m.*

*meets during the school year

Events:

Tues. August 8th-Adult Night Out, Country Side Diner @6pm

Sun. August 13th-Board Meeting @6pm

Thurs. August 17th-Ladies Fellowship @6pm

Mon. August 21st-Camp Fellowship, Astoria @6pm

Sun. August 27th-Worship & Prayer @6pm

All events are subject to change. Please keep up to date by checking the bulletin, Facebook page or website.



"For I will satisfy the weary soul, and every languishing soul I will replenish."

Jeremiah 31:25