



“THE STARTER”

October 2021

Our email: 1stcongregperu@sbcglobal.net
Web page: firstcongregationalperu.net
Phone 815-223-0722

An Enduring Influence

*Jesus of Nazereth, without money and arms,
conquered more millions than Alexander,
Caesar, Mohammed and Napoleon; without science
and learning. He shed more light on things human
and divine than all philosophers and schools
combined; without the eloquence of schools. He
spoke words of life such as never were spoken before
or since and produced effects which is beyond the
reach of any orator or poet. Without writing a single
line, he set more pens in motion and furnished
themes for more sermons, orations, discussions,
learned volumes, works of art and sweet songs of
praise that the whole army of great men of ancient
and modern times.*

*Born in a manger and crucified as a malefactor, He
now controls the destinies of the civilized world and
rules a spiritual empire which embraces one-third of
the inhabitants of the globe. There never was in this
world a life so unpretending, modest and lowly in
its outward form and condition and yet producing
such extraordinary effects upon all ages, nations
and classes of men. The annuals of history produce
no other example of such complete and astonishing
success.*



*I do not at all understand the
mystery of grace - only that it meets
us where we are but does not leave us
where it found us.*

Anne LaMott



*Congratulations to Vicki Hall who has accepted the
position of Church Secretary. Vicki has been
working with Ellen for the past month learning
different aspects of the position. She is enjoying the
job already and is eager to continue her training.
Vicki is very organized in her work as we have seen
with her role as chair of Christian Education. Being
an active member of our church, Vicki is looking
forward to this new role and working with the
boards and congregation. Please take a moment to
congratulate her and wish her well in her new
adventure.*



*The Treasurer's position will continue to be held by
Ellen Marincic. Ellen has done a wonderful job in
keeping our financials up to date and accurate. We
appreciate her effort in learning this role and
continuing to be on top of our expenses and income.
This is an elected position and Ellen will be eligible
for re-election at our January Annual Meeting.
Ellen feels she will be able to commit the small
amount of time needed to continue in this role.
Thank you, Ellen, for your commitment and
dedication.*





Choir Rehearsals Resume

Our chancel choir will resume singing once again this fall when our Covid counts start dropping again. Watch your bulletin for rehearsal announcements. Hallelujah! We will soon sing a joyful noise!



Budget Sunday

Members are asked to stay following the October 31st worship service to review and approve the proposed budget for 2022.

You will be receiving a copy of the proposed budget in the mail mid-month.



Tithing is a Gift of Love

It is important to remember that tithing is an attitude of giving. The amount you give compared to the gifts of others doesn't really matter. What matters is that when you give, you give of yourself, all your loving concern, your affirmation of devotion to God, your good will to humankind, and your service to Christ. When you give with this spirit, then you are giving the fullest capacity of your spiritual, physical and mental resources. A true gift is a portion of yourself. When you give in this manner, you become an instrument of God. It is a gift of love.



Shoebox Time

Christian Education is sponsoring Operation Christmas Child this year. Build a shoebox for a child with Samaritan's Purse. All shoeboxes need to be returned by Nov. 7th to the church. Christian Education will be paying the shipping charges incurred with each box. Boxes and ideas to fill your box will be available on a table in the narthex soon.



October is Missions Month

The Mission Board is excited to announce who we will be having during our Missions Awareness month. You won't want to miss a Sunday in October as we hear updates from the ministries this church supports.

- October 10 Jay LaRette from Transport for Christ
- October 17 Betty Pappas from Abigail Women's Center
- October 24 Dan Hennensent from Cup of Cold Water

There will be a love offering taken for TFC and Cup of Cold Water ministries.



Food Pantry and PADS

Don't forget the baskets in the hall are waiting to be filled with items to be donated to the two food pantries and PADS. And please do some shopping at Lily Pads. All sales help support the homeless shelter.



Many thanks to everyone for the generous donations given to Supply and Multiply.

Christina Surber was very excited to receive 789.00 to help with their work in Haiti.



Congratulations Steve Ebener and Michelle Brady on your marriage on October 9, 2021. God's blessings be with you.

Thank You!

I am so thankful for my church family. Your cards and prayers were much appreciated when my Mom went home to be with the Lord. You are indeed precious to me.

Ellen



**Pray for the health of Jane McClintock, Char & Pete Belski, Sonny Whittington, Marilyn Cobb, Rita Tieman, Dawn's parents, Pastor Heidemann Dawn Tieman, Jeff Whittington*

***Please pray for daily grace for our shut-ins:*

- Myrle Sapienza Carol Edgcomb*
- Don Walker Jane McClintock*
- Lillian Mini Daryl & Lin Stuhr*

*** Pray for Pastor Roy Jacob & Peace Mission in India caring for children and widows*

*** Pray for Ed & Jane Skowron*

*** Pray for Jews for Jesus*

*** Pray for the Surbers and Supply & Multiply*

*** Pray for Abigail Women's Clinic*

*** Pray for Cup of Cold Water Ministries*

*** Pray for Transport for Christ*

*** Pray for PADS providing shelter to the Homeless*

***Pray that God will bring the next pastor for us that can inspire us to share his love with those needing to hear his word.*



Yard Clean Up Day

Leaves are falling and the temperatures are cooling down must mean fall is here. Bring on the bonfires, weiner roasts and s'mores. However, first we need to do a yard clean up on October 16th. Bring your rakes, brooms many hands make light work.

When I Say I'm a Christian

When I say that 'I am a Christian', I am not shouting that I am clean living. I'm whispering I was lost, but now I'm found and forgiven.

When I say 'I am A Christian' I don't speak of this with pride. I'm confessing that I stumble and need Christ to be my guide.

When I say 'I am a Christian' I'm not trying to be strong, I'm professing that I'm weak and need His strength to carry on.

When I say 'I am a Christian' I'm not bragging of success. I'm admitting I have failed and need God to clean my mess.

When I say 'I am a Christian' I'm not claiming to be perfect. My flaws are far too visible, but God believes I am worth it.

When I say 'I am a Christian' I still feel the sting of pain. I have my share of heartaches, so I call upon His name.

When I say 'I am a Christian' I'm not holier than thou, I'm just a simple sinner who received God's good grace, somehow!



Weiner Roast

Immediately following yard clean-up, the Diaconate board will be having a weiner roast at new fire pit.

Plan to stay after and relax in fellowship. Please bring a lawn chair.



*Give people a bit of your
Heart
rather than a piece of your mind.*