

May 14, 2014



GOOD NEWS

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (*Disciples of Christ*) 432 Ferry St. SW, Albany, OR 541-926-8606
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A *happy* STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Our month-long pledge campaign in support of the General Fund and Building Fund is coming to a close on Sunday, May 18. If you haven't turned in your intention-of-giving card, we encourage you to do so. If you can't find your card, we have replacements in the church office.

In keeping with our theme this year, a showing of the "Happy" movie, a 2012 documentary about happiness, is scheduled for 7 p.m. Friday, May 16, in Fellowship Hall. This documentary film was directed, written, and co-produced by Academy Award nominated film-maker Roko Belic. It explores human happiness through interviews with people from all walks of life in 14 countries, weaving in the newest findings of positive psychology.

WHAT MAKES US HAPPY

On Covenant Sunday, we wrote on our hands what makes us happy to be a part of this church. Here are some of the responses:

- the church is my family
- the welcoming style of inclusiveness for all
- openness to new ideas, possibilities and people
- community
- support for spiritual growth
- progressive theology
- freedom to explore my faith the way I want without creeds & doctrines that I am expected to abide by
- people and support
- church camp
- music
- love, love, love
- the social consciousness of this congregation
- warmth of friendship
- worship
- mission and work trip
- helps me grow as a person



Nadine Wood gives a Happy Moment in worship on May 4. Our stewardship campaign concludes on May 18.

DEADLINE EXTENDED FOR FAMILY CAMP

We have extended the deadline for registering for Family Camp until June. Currently we have nine sites filled but we have reserved 19 sites in the E loop. There are two tent sites left and 8 RV sites. If you are thinking to attend, please get your reservation form turned in.

Thanks to Teralee and Doug Weir who are coordinating this year's Family Camp.

The cost is \$55. The registration form/brochure is available on the rolling counter by the office. The fee must be paid when you register to hold a spot. Make checks payable to First Christian Church.

Church Family News

In Our Prayers

Marshall Smith who had hand surgery

Joan Miner

Vicki Heinzman

Tom Cochran

Linda Bricker

Jan Goby

Betty Rea

Linda Morse's brother Gil

Nancy Robb's brother

Sarah Mack's step mom

For those in hospice care:

Phyllis Silsbee

Cheryl Hersom

Nadine Wood's mom

For those who are battling cancer:

Rollie Bilyeu

Jack Miner

Lynnie Evans

Harryette Anderson

Attendance and Giving

Sunday, May 4

Attendance 135

General Fund giving \$9,772

Building Fund giving \$1,925

Sunday, May 11

Attendance 124

General Fund giving \$4,033

Building Fund giving \$823

General Fund giving in May \$13,805

Amount needed monthly \$24,537

Building Fund giving in May \$2,748

Amount needed monthly \$8,925

OUR MISSION

is to be a faithful, growing church that demonstrates true community, deep Christian spirituality, and a passion for justice.



DEACONS' CORNER

Deacons, remember to sign up for different responsibilities for the month your team is assisting with the worship service. Team B is serving during May and Team C will be responsible for June.

Summer in Oregon is a great time for people to take vacations, a weekend away, and just doing things on the spur of the moment!

If you will be gone during the summer, please tell your team leader or Charlotte Houser so we can arrange coverage.

THANKS VOLUNTEERS

This church relies on the volunteer efforts of so many to keep our building and grounds looking great and in good repair.

Thanks to Jim Schulte for recently doing maintenance on some of our equipment and keeping our lawn mowed and edged.

Thanks to Steve Etzel and Chet Houser who repaired the ceilings where we had leaks due to winter snow melting and backing up.

Thanks to Gary Goby and Eddie Defreze who removed shrubs that died in the cold and snow of the winter.

Thanks to Don Brash and Evelyn Ranck who rake and sweep to keep our grounds looking great.

OFFICE HOURS

During the week of May 19-26, Nancy will be out of the office. Please call ahead to make arrangements if you need access to the church in the afternoons after preschool ends at noon.

In June we begin our summer office hours Monday to Friday, 9-12 a.m.

Visit our web site to see photos from recent Sunday mornings. Thanks to Ray Lindley for taking the photos.

www.fccalbany.com

LOOKING AHEAD

May 16

7 p.m. Movie "Happy"

May 17

7:00 p.m. Willamette Valley
Symphony Concert

May 24

Reiki Circle 9-11 a.m.

June 1

Graduation Sunday

June 15

Last Sunday of choir for the
season

July 27 - Aug. 1

High school and middle school
camp at Suttle Lake

August 8-10

Family Camp at Honeyman

August 11-15

Grade School Camp at Suttle
Lake

Aug. 24

Swim party at Otter Beach
with Corvallis FCC

Sept. 7

Kick off fall programs

TRUE COMMUNITY

SEARCH COMMITTEE NEWS

The Search Committee for our new Associate Pastor enjoyed hosting three listening conferences over the last month and a half. They met with parents of children and youth, the middle school and high school youth groups and with the whole congregation following the congregational meeting on May 4. They were pleased with the congregation's ideas and appreciated the thoughtful input received at these gatherings and in the written responses sent to them by several members. All the gathered information has helped them to complete the job description and the congregational profile which have now been submitted to the regional office and will be used to help us find just the right person for this important pastoral position.



Our Co-Regional Pastor, Cathy Myers Wirt, will be meeting with the committee on May 22 and bringing the first group of names and resumes for the committee to review. They ask for the congregation's prayers as they prayerfully review each person's materials. This will be a time when confidentiality concerns require that the Search Committee not share information about the candidates.

If you have questions or have ideas, concerns or needs to share, please call our Search Committee Chair, Ethel Ellingson at 541-979-3713.

CELEBRATING OUR 2014 GRADUATES

On Sunday, June 1 we will be celebrating our graduates in our worship service. If you have a graduate in your family, please send information to the church office for the next newsletter.

Bailey Wood is graduating from South Albany High School. Bailey plans to attend Oregon State University in the fall and work toward a degree in Merchandising Management in the College of Business.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING WITH FLOWER DELIVERIES

Thank you to all who helped deliver flowers for Mother's Day. \$150.00 was raised for our church youth ministries. Thanks to Mac and Vicki McClanahan, Capi Alexander, Jane Stevens, Julie Willis, Jenny Willis, Linda Lees, Don Rea, and Shanna Jenne.

Jim and Jim
The White Rose

DEEP CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY

SPECIAL MUSIC FOR SUMMER

by Gary Ruppert

We are truly blessed at FCC with an amazing number of musically talented people. Summer creates a wonderful opportunity for all of us to experience your talents. However, in order to do that we need to know your interest and willingness to share. I will be scheduling the special music for the summer, and would love to hear from you. I'd be happy to help you with selecting the music you want to share. Our worship will be enhanced by the experience of individuals or small groups singing or playing instruments. Please contact me to ask further questions or to schedule yourself or small group if have other willing participants. Phone: (541)928-8420 Email:

garyruppert@comcast.net

We will also have a Family Chorus one Sunday in July and one in August. The idea of a Family Chorus is give the opportunity to anyone who wants to join with a group and sing for worship. The only commitment will be to show up a little early on that Sunday morning, rehearse, and then sing during the service. No previous experience is necessary. It will be a chance to sing with others and have a lot of FUN. Stay tuned for more information.

Thank you for your love of music and the enrichment it provides in our spiritual journey.

Gary Ruppert, Choir Director



SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL: MEETING THE FRIENDS OF JESUS

Each Sunday morning during June and July our children who are 3 to 12 years old will spend a portion of each Sunday morning worship service in the Fellowship Hall with Renee Windsor White and helpers as they learn all about several of the friends of Jesus. Through story, song, crafts and games they will join Jesus' friends as they follow Jesus and learn from him.

As usual the children will be invited to join the pastor during the Children's Moment in worship and then they will be excused to continue their worship in ways especially designed to meet their unique needs and interests. Those who want will return to the sanctuary in time to help the deacons receive the offering, serve communion and receive the Lord's Supper themselves.

COFFEE AND PRAYER

Our Morning with the Word gathering that has been held in the Fellowship Hall every Sunday morning at 8:30 a.m. is going to take a break until Fall at which time those interested along with the Program Cabinet will discern future directions for this informal study, prayer and reflection time.

In the meantime all are invited to a time of Coffee and Prayer between 9:15 and 9:55 a.m. on Sunday mornings through the summer, beginning this week. This will be a time to gather informally around tables in the Fellowship Hall, share joys and concerns over a cup of coffee and spend time in prayer for each other. The church building will open at 9:00 a.m. beginning Sunday, May 18.

PASSION FOR JUSTICE



GARDEN PROJECT

On Saturday, May 31 people from around the Christian Church in Oregon and South Idaho region will be gathering to plant beans at a plot of land in Springfield. These beans will be harvested, dried and then shared with the churches of the region that are doing food ministries. That would be us!

If you would like to help plant the bean field, plan to travel to Springfield on Saturday, May 31 and join this happy crew for planting and lunch.

Please let Patty Evans know if you are interested and a carpool will be organized!

WEEK OF COMPASSION REACHES OUT

Rescue and relief efforts continue across the Midwest and South in the aftermath of several days of severe weather that has left a wake of death, damage and destruction. At least 29 people have been killed. Hundreds of homes and businesses have been destroyed and entire communities devastated. Week of Compassion is contacting local pastors and regional offices to learn the full extent of the impact on our congregations.

Your gifts to Week of Compassion throughout the year help at times of crisis in places near and far.



YOUTH GROUP FUN - SUNDAY MORNING AND EVENING!

All youth interested in giving a happy helping hand to the Happy! Stewardship campaign on Sunday morning, May 18 are invited to come to the church at 9:00 a.m. that morning to help Graham Kislingbury with the day's "Happy Moment." Graham has a few special ideas up his sleeve and is looking forward to the creative help of our youth. Plan to help!

Also, this Sunday will be the last regular gathering of our youth groups this school year. The Chi Rho group will meet at 4:30 p.m. and the CYF will meet at 6:30

p.m. In between all youth are invited to share a delicious barbecue with all the fixings. This last gathering before summer will include games and a discussion and creative response to the movie "Happy!" It's going to make you smile!

Be sure to watch for texts from Shanna Jenne this summer because a variety of fun activities especially for youth are being planned. We'll have a movie night, a bike ride and picnic and perhaps a trip to the beach. Watch the newsletter for these activities and other fun family plans.



happy

...to be a part of First Christian Church



Sandy Jenne
Member since 1980



Shanna Jenne
Member since 1985



First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
432 Ferry St. SW
Albany, OR 97321



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