

June 4, 2014



GOOD NEWS

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (*Disciples of Christ*) 432 Ferry St. SW, Albany, OR 541-926-8606
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SUMMER FUN

At its May meeting the Program Cabinet planned summer events to keep us gathering together for fellowship and fun. From hiking to eating ice cream to camping and swimming, there are plenty of ways to enjoy the great outdoors of an Oregon summer with your church family.

Three ice cream socials, three hikes, a swim party, and a weekend of camping are planned. These are family friendly, intergenerational events. As each event approaches, there will be more details coming but save the dates now!

JUNE 28

A hike and picnic at Silver Falls will be led by Graham Kislingbury. Graham will lead a hike to the ten waterfalls, covering a distance of 7.5 miles. If others want to hike a shorter distance, that can be arranged.

Gather at 10 a.m. at the church parking lot. Bring a sack lunch and water bottle and wear comfortable hiking shoes. We will return in the late afternoon. Please sign up on the sheet on the rolling counter by the office.

JULY 9

Ice Cream Social at Eleanor Hackelman Park at 6:30 p.m.

JULY 12

Hike led by Rowland Gaal at McDonald Forest



Above: Hikers on the Takena Landing Trail last summer.

JULY 23

Ice Cream Social at Doug Killin Park at 6:30 p.m.

AUGUST 6

Ice Cream Social at Takena Park at 6:30 p.m.

AUGUST 8-10

Family Camp at Honeyman State Park

AUGUST 16

Hike led by Bob Ross

AUGUST 24

Swim party and potluck dinner at Otter Beach with Corvallis First Christian Church from 5:15 to 7:15 p.m.

LAST CALL FOR FAMILY CAMP

The deadline for registering for Family Camp is this month. 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. Make checks payable to First Christian Church.

Church Family News

In Our Prayers

Marshall Smith
Joan Miner
Jan Hagemeister
Nita and Allen Campbell
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 25

Attendance 103
General Fund giving \$793
Building Fund giving \$0

Sunday, June 1

Attendance 115
General Fund giving \$10,183
Building Fund giving \$1,533

General Fund giving in May \$21,054
Amount needed monthly \$24,537

Building Fund giving in May \$9,738
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.

happy

RESULTS



Thanks to all who turned in intention-of-giving cards in our recent stewardship campaign. The new pledges begin July 1. We received 70 cards with pledges totaling \$208,027 for the General Fund and \$105,013 for the Building Fund. If you have not yet turned in an intention-of-giving card, you can bring it to the church office.



STAFF VACATION SCHEDULE:

June 11-18 – Nancy gone

June 19 to July 2 – Patty gone

Please be sure to make arrangements if you need access to the church. The office is open only in the mornings in the summer.

LOOKING AHEAD

June 15

Choir Recognition Sunday

June 16

Red Cross Blood Drive 9-2

June 28

Hike and picnic at Silver Falls led by Graham Kislingbury

July 9

Ice Cream Social at Eleanor Hackelman Park at 6:30 p.m.

July 12

Hike led by Rowland Gaal at McDonald Forest

July 23

Ice Cream Social at Doug Killin Park at 6:30 p.m.

Aug. 6

Ice Cream Social at Takena Park

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

TRUE COMMUNITY

THE SEARCH CONTINUES!

The Associate Pastor Search Committee is hard at work on the quest to help the congregation call a second full-time pastor to our congregation. They have completed all the necessary paper work and have met with Co-Regional Pastor Cathy Myers Wirt who will guide this challenging and important effort.

The committee has received the names and profiles of four exciting candidates and has begun the process of reviewing their resumes and contacting references. They are feeling very hopeful and greatly appreciate the congregation's supporting prayers as they discern next steps.

SUMMER SUNDAYS FOR CHILDREN

The summer quarter for our children's Sunday education program has begun. The children are exploring stories of the friends of Jesus. Each week Renee Windsor White meets with the children in the Children's Worship Center following the Children's Moment in the 10:00 a.m. worship service.

They are creatively exploring a Bible story through crafts, games, song, movement, puzzles, and role playing. Each week a new friend of Jesus will be highlighted so each Sunday's experience is fresh and helpful all by itself and especially meaningful if children are able to be present every week.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

The summer "domino effect" has already begun! Sunday morning worship attendance wanes a bit in the summer as people go on vacation or become busy with family projects. When worship attendance wanes, the offering plate sometimes gets a little too roomy! A too roomy offering plate puts a pinch on the General Fund and when the General Fund is pinched then the ministries of the church can not be fully supported.

So let's thwart the domino effect by gathering as often as we can with our church family for worship and fellowship. And let's respond to the rich blessings of our lives by sharing our lives and resources in generous praise.

Also, it doesn't hurt to remember that even if you can't be in worship on a Sunday morning your gift to the Lord's work can be! Pop it in the mail before you leave town and General Fund will smile in gratitude!

DEEP CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY

THANK YOU CHOIR!

We are so blessed to have such a fine group of musicians lead us in worship every Sunday. Gary Ruppert, Caren Luckenbill, our song leaders, Mitch Jones and all the members of the choir dedicate major time each week to the music that enriches our worship life.

In addition many members of the church share their musical gifts by singing solos and playing their musical instruments. Our hearts are lifted and spirits enriched by their sharing. So we extend our thanks and love to the musicians in our lives and church.

Sunday, June 15 is Choir Recognition Sunday – come ready to give our choir, director and accompanist an extra measure of appreciation and praise.

SUMMER MUSIC?

Don't forget that the choir takes a break in the summer and our worship services can use the extra support of musicians who have gifts to share. If you would like to sing a solo, play an instrument or put together an ensemble this summer, Gary Ruppert and Caren Luckenbill are both willing and happy to help make that happen. You can also call Patty Evans and she will gladly help you find the right Sunday to share your music.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BOOK STUDY

The Wednesday Morning Book Study has been reading Brian McLaren's book, "Why Did Jesus, Moses, the Buddha, and Mohammed Cross the Road?" It has encouraged the group to consider our Christian identity in a multi-faith world and all participants have found it to be a challenging and helpful book to discuss. This summer the study will meet on June 4, 11 and July 9, 16 and 23 from 10:00 to 11:30 and will finish the book. It is never too late to join in this adventure in faith exploration.

Following a break in August a new book will be selected and the first gathering in the fall will be held on Sept. 3. This study group is open to all interested people. The fellowship is warm and the discussion is stimulating!

HEALING MINISTRY

Since 2006, twenty members of our faith community have learned and continue to practice Reiki, a safe and simple way to care for your body, mind and spirit.

Our ministry continues to answer calls to be with those who seek the touch of healing hands. We have visited dozens of people in their homes, hospital beds, care centers, at retreats and here at church.

We invite you to experience the peace and calmness a session can provide, either seated in a chair or lying on a comfortable, portable massage table.

If you wish to receive healing touch, please contact us or the church office in advance.

Our schedule is:

12-2 p.m. Thursdays in Cornerstone Room

(Contact: Terry Wood 541-924-0976)

9-11 a.m. Fourth Saturday in Cornerstone Room

(Contact: Deb Burchfiel 541-974-2012)

You are also invited to be trained and learn for yourself how to practice and reap benefits daily from this meditative, spiritual healing practice.

Teacher Elaine Andres is offering classes at our church on July 25-27. The course consists of three sessions (12 hours total). The cost is \$225. Partial scholarships are available at the teacher's discretion.

Learn more about the teacher and classes at www.sacredpathministry.org. Registration forms are available through Sacred Path website and in the church office. We hope you will consider attending or tell a friend who may be interested.

REIKI SUMMER GATHERINGS

Healing Ministry students are invited to come share Reiki at these summer gatherings:

- 9 a.m. - 11 a.m., Saturday, June 28**
in Cornerstone Room at the church
- 9 a.m. - 11 a.m., Saturday, July 26**
in Cornerstone Room at the church
- 9 a.m. - 11 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 23**
at Patty Evans' home, lunch follows



PASSION FOR JUSTICE

OPEN, CARING, LOVING

Our Open and Affirming Advocacy Committee is comprised of Jim Magruder, Nancy Marshall, Beth Hogeland, Jay Mack, Jim Schulte and Shanna Jenne. They have been meeting to discuss ways our congregation can continue to be a more open, caring and loving community of faith.

On Sunday, June 15 they will host an “Open, Caring and Loving” welcome to worship and everyone will be asked to wear a nametag. Worshipers can bring a nametag of their own creation or make one during the 9:30 to 10:00 a.m. Coffee House time. This will give us all an opportunity to put more names and faces together which will boost our welcome of all people.

The committee is also at work discerning the ways our present church signage can be enhanced to extend a more open welcome to the community. The sign at the corner of Ferry and 4th will be the first sign to declare “Open, Caring, Loving” with a rainbow “swoosh.” Watch for it!

Finally, for now, the committee is planning to host an “Open, Caring, Loving” movie night following the Community Meal on Tuesday, Aug. 26. They hope to show a movie that will inspire and nurture our commitment to being an “Open and Affirming” congregation. We extend our gratitude to the Open and Affirming Advocacy Committee for all their efforts to help us put into practice the open, caring and loving way of Christ.

COMMUNITY MEAL VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR NEEDED

The Community Meal Governing Board is looking for someone to take over the responsibility of volunteer coordinator for the meal.

Sharon Gisler has generously and graciously shared her time, efforts and gifts as the coordinator for nearly three years. She is ready to explore other ways to serve the Community Meal and would like to pass on this work.

**Sign up for summer regional camps.
Deadline is June 15 in the church office.**



Praying it ForWard Suttle Lake Camp 2014

High School Camp

JULY 27-AUGUST 1

Middle School Camp

JULY 27-AUGUST 1

Grades 3-5 Camp

AUGUST 11-15

For information contact...
503.226.7648

www.oidisciples.org



Please prayerfully consider if this is a way you might be able to support the meal. The position needs someone who can organize a schedule and assure that each meal is covered by a full contingent of volunteers. The volunteer coordinator does not need to be present at the meal and can use whatever method for organizing the task that he/she finds most helpful – including online scheduling.

For more information and/or to answer this plea for help, please call Linda Lees or Patty Evans.

happy

...to be a part of First Christian Church



Steve Etzel
Member since 1990



Sue Stein
Member since 1991



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



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