

September 10, 2014



# GOOD NEWS

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

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## IMPORTANT SEPT. 21 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

On Sunday, Sept. 21, we will hold a special congregational meeting after worship to vote on the recommendation of our search committee. After six months of intensive work, heartfelt prayer and careful discernment, the committee is ready to unanimously recommend the Rev. Douglass Anne Cartwright to serve as our Associate Pastor (Minister of Children, Youth, Young Adults and Families). If the congregation approves this recommendation, a letter of call will be extended. You will meet Douglass Anne in person on Sept. 21.

Douglass Anne currently lives in Fort Worth, Texas. She is a graduate of Brite Divinity School in Fort Worth and was ordained by the Southwest Region of the Christian Church in 2013. As a third generation Disciple minister, Douglass Anne has a deep understanding of church life, a rich faith and many vibrant gifts. She is engaged to be married soon to Amber Churchhill.

More information about Douglass Anne and “testimonies” from the search committee was sent out in a mailing this week. A biography is included in this newsletter and a job description is on pages 7-8 of the e-newsletter or available in the office.

You can also get acquainted online through two links: one takes you to a video greeting from Douglass Anne and the other is a video presentation of a sermon she recently preached. We will show these on Sunday at church.

We hope that you will review the packet and give thoughtful, well-informed and prayerful consideration to the Search Committee’s recommendation. You are invited to contact Patty or a member of the Search Committee if you have questions.

The search committee believes she is the person God has called to serve with us in such a time as this. They are hopeful that the congregation will support their recommendation to call Rev. Cartwright to fill our church’s very important ministerial position.

To see and hear a greeting from Douglass Anne, paste this address in your online browser:

<http://youtu.be/-bMBSLz3kOA>

To see and hear one of her recent sermons, paste this address in your online browser:

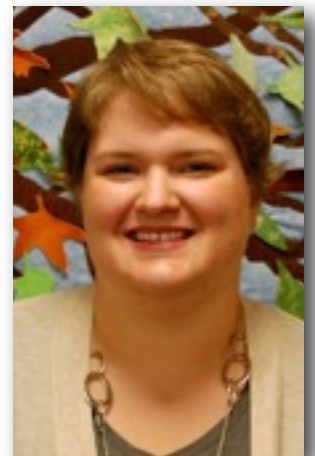
<http://youtu.be/m2PJXxaXNOO>



A huge thank you to our search committee for all the work of these past months.

### SEARCH COMMITTEE:

Ethel Ellingson, chair  
Nadine Wood  
MaryDale Salston  
Elizabeth Wood  
Alyssa Nelson  
Mandee Varner  
Ray Lindley  
Rollie Bilyeu  
Jay Mack  
Kris McLaughlin  
Patty Evans



*Rev. Douglass Anne Cartwright*

# Church Family News

## In Our Prayers

Ann Ayers  
Iris Johnson  
Tom Cochran  
Linda Bricker  
Jan Goby  
Betty Rea  
Nancy Robb's brother  
For those in hospice care:  
Phyllis Silsbee  
Cheryl Hersom  
Nadine Wood's mom  
For those who are battling cancer:  
Jack Miner  
Lynn Evans  
Harryette Anderson  
Sarah Mack's step mom

## Attendance and Giving

### Sunday, Aug. 31

Attendance 91  
General Fund giving \$2,697  
Building Fund giving \$425

### Sunday, Sept. 7

Attendance 126  
General Fund giving \$8,386  
Building Fund giving \$1,580

General Fund giving in Aug. \$21,842  
Amount needed monthly \$24,537

Building Fund giving in Aug. \$9,063  
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.

## Rev. Douglass Anne Cartwright

### Education

- Master of Divinity, Brite Divinity School (Fort Worth, TX), 2014
- Master of Theology, Brite Divinity School (Fort Worth, TX), 2013
- Bachelor of Arts (Theatre), The George Washington University (Washington, DC), 2009
- Bachelor of Arts (Music), The George Washington University (Washington, DC), 2009

### Ordination

- 2013, Southwest Region, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

### Additional Training

- Pro-Reconciliation/Anti-Racism Training
- Boundaries Training
- Sexual Misconduct Prevention

### Ministries in Congregations

- Interim Associate Minister/Intern at East Dallas Christian Church, Dallas, TX – 2011-2013
- Youth Minister at Irving North Christian Church in Irving, TX – 2010-2011
- Interim Administrative Assistant at Presbyterian Welcome in New York City, NY – 2010
- Director of Children's Choir and Interim Summer Children's Minister at Metropolitan Memorial United Methodist Church in Washington, DC – 2006-2009

### Ministries in General and Regional Church

- Stage Manager for the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) – 2009, 2011, 2013 (and will continue in 2015)
- Global Ministries Council of Theological Students – 2012-2013
- Academy of Preachers, National Festival of Young Preachers – 2013
- Co-director, Worship Leader and Counselor for Junior Youth Fellowship, Chi Rho and CYF camps at Disciples Crossing in Athens, TX – 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014
- Brite Representative of the Multicultural Alliance in Fort Worth, TX – 2011
- Brite Student Association Executive Board (Agape Feast Coordinator, 2010-2013, General Secretary, 2011-2012; Member at Large, 2012-2013)

### Gifts and Strengths Identified by References

"She has been described as a rising star in the Disciples of Christ world. She shines in her understanding of emergent worship. She is personable, enthusiastic and thoughtful"

"Douglass Anne would be a great fit for a church looking for someone to help them move into the next generation of church life. She is a gifted musician. She is GREAT with kids."

"Douglass Anne brings light and life to the ministry. She is a deep thinker, yet open to discussion. She is a dreamer, yet knows how to plan and lead. She is creative, yet knows how to work within a framework to build up the Body of Christ."

*(continued on page 3)*



A warm welcome to Jim Somppi who joined our church recently. Jim has been an active part of our community for awhile now, joining in our Thanksgiving feast last year, and making ice cream and brownies for our summer socials and participating in our worship life. Welcome Jim.

## LOOKING AHEAD

### Sept. 14

1-3 p.m. Youth kick off event - pool party and barbecue

### Sept. 29

6:30-7:30 p.m. Back-to-School Night for our preschool families

### Oct. 5

Open and Affirming Celebration Lunch

### Oct. 19

Jazz piano program by Gary Ruppert at 3 p.m.

# TRUE COMMUNITY

*(Continued from page 2)*

## Gifts and Strengths Identified by References

“Douglass Anne is an excellent preacher. She is blessed with intellect and creative imagination. She has aesthetic vision. DA is a gregarious introvert. Not brash, but plenty bold, her leadership will arise from theological conviction, creative imagination and healthy processes of discussion and discernment.”

## Self Identified Gifts and Strengths of Douglass Anne Cartwright

“Preaching, creating worship and liturgy, bringing together a variety of people to accomplish something (and building community along the way), music, theatre, singing, dance, Hebrew and Greek interpretation, pastoral care, worship leadership... Listening and bringing together a variety of voices, encouraging others’ growth and development as church leaders, collaboration in a shared ministry environment, and taking initiative in planning and engaging in steps toward a shared vision, encouraging creativity in the life of the church.”

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## CONVICTIONS - NEW BOOK STUDY

The Wednesday Morning Book Study has just begun a new book and all are invited to join the discussion. The group is reading in class Marcus Borg’s new book, Convictions, How I Learned What Matters Most.

In this book Borg “*reflects on the convictions that he has developed over the course of his life and why they provide a path of hope for those seeking to be faithful Christians in the twenty-first century. With an open, inclusive tone, he explains why most of today’s summaries of Christian belief fail to move us or guide us and serve mostly to keep score among the various Christian tribes. Borg encourages today’s followers of Jesus to become more rooted to the deep convictions that can actually lead us to transformation and renewal, both for ourselves and for our world.*”

(from the back cover)

Join the group any Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. in Cornerstone Room.

Books, which cost \$17, can be ordered; call the church office.

## SUNDAY MORNING DRIVERS NEEDED

There is an urgent need for Sunday morning drivers! We currently have two people who need rides to and from church each week. These church members live across town from each other so it would be helpful to have two drivers each week. Please call the church office or Charlotte Houser if you can help with driving on a regular basis.

# DEEP CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY



## JOIN THE CHOIR

Does music raise your spirits?

Is giving praise to God a good thing?

Do you enjoy the fellowship of like-minded people? Do you appreciate being challenged?

Are you encouraged by the sense of accomplishment?

Are you the type of person who likes to take things seriously but do so with a sense of FUN?

If you can answer “yes” to one or more of these questions then you may be just the right person

to be part of the FCC Choir. You can make a commitment to participate regularly, as you are available, or you can make a commitment for a short time period (just for the fall or Christmas).

The choir rehearses on Wednesday evenings from 7:30 to about 9:00 and then meets a bit early on Sunday morning to brush up what they practiced on Wednesday. The first rehearsal is Wednesday, Sept. 10.

The ability to read music is NOT a requirement. Come try out the choir. You’ll find lots of reasons to stay.

## A SUNDAY OF MUSIC

You won’t want to miss worship on Sunday, Oct. 12. Frank Morse, Paul Pritchard and other former Northwest Christian College (now University) Quartet members will bring our morning message in song.

This reunion of wonderful singers will present music to stir our souls so be sure to hold the date on your calendar. This would be a great day to invite someone to come to worship with you!

## HEALING MINISTRY THIS FALL

You are invited to experience the peace and calmness that a session of reiki can provide, either seated in a chair or lying on a comfortable, portable massage table. If you wish to receive healing touch, please contact the leaders in advance.

1-3 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)



# PASSION FOR JUSTICE



*Thanks to all of you who have donated to the CWF drive for school supplies and the Jackson St. Youth Shelter. Your generous giving is greatly appreciated by our community.*

## OPEN AND AFFIRMING CELEBRATION

On World Communion Sunday, Oct. 5, we will be celebrating in worship the third anniversary of our Open and Affirming vote. As we worship, we will celebrate God's beautiful diversity in creation and community and be challenged by the Gospel's call to be a healing and reconciling presence in the midst of the tensions of diversity. A very special guest speaker has been invited to join us for the day. The Rev. Tara Wilkins, pastor of the Bridgeport United Church of Christ, will bring the morning message and be with us to share the Open and Affirming journey of the congregation she serves. Rev. Wilkins is a dynamic preacher who will bring challenge and inspiration to the morning.

Following worship we will enjoy an all church dinner prepared by Charlotte Smith. Her delicious chicken and noodles (and vegetable soup for vegetarians) will treat our palates and a time of great fellowship will strengthen the ties that bind us. She needs helpers to set up, serve and clean up. The celebration will continue with a special dinner program to be announced in the next newsletter.

Nursery care will be provided for little ones. The whole family will enjoy this dinner and program.

## YOUTH KICKOFF EVENT

All middle school (Chi Rho) and high school (CYF) youth are invited to a barbecue and pool party 1-3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 14 at the Albany Tennis Club. The food will be provided. Participants are asked to bring \$5 and have a completed permission slip on file in the church office for the 2014-15 year.

High school youth will begin the process of mission trip planning at this pool party. Please call the church office immediately if you plan to attend so we can make plans and shop for food.



Conner Welsh (our sound technician) is seeking yard work to earn money. If you have yard projects and need a hard-working teen, call Conner at 541-248-0884.

Pastoral Counseling Center is seeking a part-time office assistant to schedule counseling appointments and perform bookkeeping and record keeping tasks in the Corvallis office.

Application deadline is Sept. 12.



## BOARD RECEIVES REPORT ABOUT TREES

At its Sept. 8 meeting, the church board received a report from Larry Holverson on behalf of the City of Albany Public Works and the Tree Commission regarding the church's sweet gum trees on the west side of the building. Larry reported that after extensive evaluation, the city feels the trees need to be removed, the sidewalk replaced, the road repaired and new fast-growing, deeply rooted trees planted. They would like to do this work in October and are willing to cover all the costs of the project.

The board would like the congregation to receive more detailed information about the project and have the opportunity to ask questions and share concerns. To this end, a portion of the congregational meeting on Sept. 21 will be dedicated to this discussion.



**Job Description**  
**Associate Pastor**  
**(Minister of Children, Youth and Families)**  
**First Christian Church**  
**Albany, Oregon**

**Qualifications and Qualities of Ministry Required**

1. A person with a deep and vibrant faith, honesty, integrity and a strong commitment to exploring and sharing his/her journey of faith within the context of a diverse, theologically inquisitive, socially active congregation of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).
2. Demonstrated ability to understand family systems and relate well to and energetically motivate people of all ages, but especially children, youth, and young adults.
3. Demonstrated skills in the faith formation of children, youth, and young adults.
4. The ability and desire to encourage young people to share their lives in service to others, to put their faith into action in their time and place and to consider Christian ministry as a vocation.
5. The ability to maintain a long-term vision, think creatively and assess needs.
6. The ability to create, communicate and execute short and long-range plans and visions.
7. A person who demonstrates good organizational, technological skills, and communication skills (both written and oral).
8. The ability to embrace diversity and inclusion with the courage to make and promote change.
9. The ability to encourage and equip lay leadership.
10. An ordained minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in good standing.

**Responsibilities**

1. The Associate Pastor will take primary responsibility for ministries related to children, youth, young adults, and parenting families that enhance and strengthen the community life and faith foundation of the congregation.
2. The Associate Pastor will ensure a comprehensive program of spiritual formation and Biblical literacy for children, youth, and parenting families. This includes creating, selecting, ordering, and maintaining resources and curriculum, developing learning activities to enhance the curriculum, recruiting and training volunteer leaders, and publicizing those programs.
3. The Associate Pastor is a part of a ministry team that includes the Senior Pastor, Office Administrator, music staff, and other adjunct staff and will meet regularly with that team to assure open communication and the efficient oversight of the ministries of the church.
4. The Associate Pastor will share in the pastoral care of the congregation, focusing specifically on children, youth, and parenting families. In addition, The Associate Pastor will provide crisis care as needed.
5. The Associate Pastor is called to assist in the spiritual leadership of the congregation and to strengthen the mission and ministry of the church, through the ministries of preaching, teaching, worship, pastoral care, spiritual direction, stewardship, leadership development and social justice outreach in the community and around the world with a particular emphasis on children, youth and parenting families.
6. The Associate Pastor will maintain an active connection with the wider church; participating in the life and ministry of the Regional and General church and encourage the youth and their families to participate in programs and projects that strengthen that relationship.

7. The Associate Pastor will share responsibility in planning worship themes and facilitating the weekly Sunday worship service(s) and other special services of worship throughout the church year. The Associate will preach every four to six weeks and facilitate the participation of children, youth, and parenting families in worship leadership.
8. The Associate Pastor will attend Program Cabinet meetings regularly and represent the needs of the children and youth and facilitate their inclusion in the general programs of the church. He/She will attend meetings of other committees and teams as needed as they relate to the above job description.
9. The Associate Pastor will hold regular office hours.
10. The Associate Pastor will provide pastoral leadership as needed for the ministries of the church and congregation in any short-term (less than four weeks) absence of the Senior Pastor. Any changes in this job description, work hours or salary will be negotiated with the Personnel Committee and Church Board in consultation with the pastoral staff. In the event of a long-term absence of the Senior Pastor, The Associate Pastor's role will be determined by the Church Board and congregation in consultation with pastoral staff and the Personnel Committee.
11. The Associate Pastor will adhere to the Ministerial code of ethics recognized by the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Oregon and will abide by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Congregation, the Employee Handbook and all other written policies and procedures of the congregation.