

September 24, 2014



GOOD NEWS

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

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Above: Patty and Douglass Anne Cartwright after the vote to call Douglass Anne to ministry with our church. Below: The Search Committee makes its recommendation to the congregation.



WELCOME DOUGLASS ANNE!

It is with great excitement, hopefulness and delight that we announce that the congregation has called the Rev. Douglass Anne Cartwright to become our Associate Pastor (Minister of Children, Youth, Young Adults and Families). On Sept. 21 the Search Committee presented Douglass Anne as their recommended candidate for this important position, proclaiming, “Our recommendation of Douglass Anne is the result of many hours, deep thoughtfulness and careful discernment. This is our best work and we are pleased to recommend that this congregation call Douglass Anne to join us in ministry.”

Douglass Anne and her fiancée Amber Churchill are back in Fort Worth packing up their household into a U-Haul and will soon be on their way west. They hope to arrive in Albany on Monday, Sept. 29 and will be ready for us to pitch in to unload the U-Haul and settle them into their new home on Monday

evening or Tuesday morning. Watch your email for an announcement of time and place.

Douglass Anne will begin work on Wednesday, Oct. 1 and will participate in worship on Sunday, Oct. 5. On that Sunday Charlotte Smith is preparing a delicious chicken noodle dinner as a part of our World Communion/Open and Af-

firming Celebration and there will be a time to meet and greet Douglass Anne and Amber. We will have a big “Welcome to Oregon” basket ready for everyone to fill with the things that might be helpful to fill their pantry. No need to wrap – just bring some of those good Oregon fruits and vegetables you have put up this summer or a pound of this or that which you know they won’t want to pack into the U-Haul. Another thought is to get a gift card from Albany Farmer’s Market, Safeway or Target. Let’s shower Douglass Anne and Amber with our warm and generous love.

Many thanks are extended to the Search Committee for their long months of research, listening, praying, discerning and decision-making. Their faithfulness and wisdom has blessed us immensely. (*See note from Douglass Anne on pg.6*)

Church Family News

In Our Prayers

Laverne Bilyeu who took a fall

Ann Ayers

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

Lynnie Evans

Harryette Anderson

Sarah Mack's step mom

Attendance and Giving

Sunday, Sept. 14

Attendance 111

General Fund giving \$5,687

Building Fund giving \$870

Sunday, Sept. 21

Attendance 137

General Fund giving \$3,628

Building Fund giving \$640

General Fund giving in Sept. \$17,701

Amount needed monthly \$24,537

Building Fund giving in Sept. \$3,090

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.



FISH FOOD DRIVE

The church will participate in this year's Fish Food Drive during October. Bring non-perishable canned, boxed and packaged food to worship with you each Sunday. Let's fill the front of the sanctuary with food!

This food will fill the Fish food pantry and be disbursed throughout the year to hungry families and individuals.

The youth will be going house-to-house on Saturday, Oct. 18 and will need adult drivers and helpers. Please call the church office if you can help.

If you can bring your donations to church by Friday, Oct. 17, we can add them to the food drive on Saturday, Oct. 18. You can start bringing donations now!



Thanks to all who volunteered to help on our Homecoming Fair on Sept. 7. We ate well and learned a lot about the ministries of the church and had opportunities to sign up to be involved.

Thanks to Jim Schulte for fixing the edge of the counter in the kitchen.

Thanks to Charlotte Houser for planting flowers in the planters near the office entrance.

LOOKING AHEAD

Sept. 29

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

Oct. 5

Open and Affirming Celebration Lunch

Oct. 12

Music Sunday with the NCC Quartet reunion

Oct. 18

8:30 a.m. Fish Food Drive starts with breakfast at St. Mary's

Oct. 19

Jazz piano program by Gary Ruppert at 3 p.m. in our sanctuary

Oct. 27

noon- CWF Birthday Luncheon

Nov. 16

Jackson St. Youth Shelter Reader's Theater fundraiser in our sanctuary at 3 p.m.

Nov. 27

Thanksgiving Dinner potluck at 1 p.m.

Feb. 7-8, 2015

Women's Weekend at Silver Falls Conference Center

TRUE COMMUNITY

BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON IN OCTOBER

Christian Women's Fellowship will hold its annual Birthday Luncheon at noon on Monday, Oct. 27. The speakers for the event are Dena Minato and Dave Kullowatz, retired teachers, who will share travel stories and pictures. All invited for a salad lunch followed by birthday cake. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Laverne Bilyeu at 541-926-8068.

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. And we have someone who would like to be able to sing in the choir and would need to arrive for the 9:30 rehearsal. Please call the church office or Charlotte Houser if you can help with driving on a regular basis.



Defining the Indefinable

Gary & Karen Ruppert

First Christian Church – Albany
432 S. Ferry St.
Sunday, October 19, 2014
3:00 p.m.

This lecture-performance is designed to help listeners understand what distinguishes jazz styles and makes music sound "jazzy."

Benefit for the music program at
First Christian Church



DEEP CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY

For those who need to avoid gluten products, the communion plate has gluten-free wafers in the small white paper cups.

A SUNDAY OF MUSIC

On Sunday, Oct. 12, Frank Morse, Paul Pritchard and other former Northwest Christian College (now University) Quartet members will lead our morning worship and share the Gospel 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!

SACRED PATH SEEKS BOARD MEMBERS

Sacred Path Ministry (SPM), a nonprofit organization focused on servicing the spiritual component in a wholistic health model, is seeking qualified individuals to serve on the Board of Directors. Directors meet monthly and serve three-year terms with annual renewal. Interested individuals can contact Terry Wood (SPM Board President) at 541-924-0976 or terrywood4@comcast.net for further information.



In August, the Reiki Circle met in Patty's backyard to give and receive Reiki and share lunch. Happy smiles all the way around!

HEALING MINISTRY THIS FALL

Are you interested in Reiki training?

First Christian can host a fall training for anyone interested. Please contact Deb Burchfiel at 541-974-2012 if you are interested and one will be scheduled.

These words are quoted from the book, "Reiki and Christian Healing" by Rev. Alice Mindrum:

"Can I be a person of faith and a Reiki practitioner? Every believer, regardless of their faith, points out the commonalities between prayer and Reiki. The ways in which they think about and experience prayer are similar to the ways in which they understand and experience Reiki. Both prayer and Reiki offer a direct and powerful connection with the Ultimate. This connection encourages spiritual gifts such as compassion, peace of mind, love and health; and these qualities in turn deepen prayer life and Reiki energy-and so it continues."

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)

The fourth Saturday is this week, Sept. 27.

PASSION FOR JUSTICE



OPEN AND AFFIRMING CELEBRATION

On World Communion Sunday, Oct. 5, we will be celebrating in worship the anniversary of our Open and Affirming vote in 2012. 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. The hospitality team for that Sunday will be helping with the serving and clean up and would welcome any additional helpers to speed up the clean up.

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

COMMUNITY MEAL NEWS

Our Community Meal was visited last week by Linn County Environmental Health Services to make sure that our kitchen, food preparation and serving methods meet all the requirements of the health department. We are happy to report that we passed the inspection and were able to quickly correct the few items where improvement was needed. We will soon have the required license to continue this important ministry and are grateful to the City of Albany which will waive the annual license fee once we have filed and paid for the necessary paperwork processing.

The Health Department has requirements that everyone using the church kitchen need to bear in mind. Leftover foods should NOT be left in the refrigerator unless you know that someone will be using it within seven days. All containers of food or condiments left in the refrigerator must be dated on the day they are opened. Seven days later they must be used or thrown out. So please, take home church dinner leftovers! Some helpful guidelines are now posted on the refrigerator.

A HOLIDAY GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

It's still early but start thinking now about the people on your Christmas gift list that you can remember with a gift to the Community Meal.

The Community Meal Governing Board and Steering Committee will have Christmas donation cards that you can purchase and send to your loved ones telling them that a gift to the Community Meal has been made in their names. What a great way to give a gift that gives!

Be watching for their table on Sunday mornings in November and December.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Chi Rho (middle school) and CYF (high school) fellowship groups are now meeting every Sunday unless notified otherwise. Chi Rho meets from 4:30 to 5:45 p.m. and CYF meets from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. There will be time for visiting, playing, eating, laughing and learning each week.

Some coming youth events to put on your family calendar include:

Fish Food Drive – Saturday, Oct. 18 at 8:30 a.m. at St. Mary's Church. We will meet for breakfast together and then spend the morning collecting food. Hasty Freez for lunch - compliments of Patty! This is for both Chi Rho and CYF.

Jackson Street Youth Shelter Reader's Theater – Sunday, Nov. 16 at 3:00 p.m. with pizza and fun afterwards. This is for Chi Rho and CYF.



Above: Haley Weir and Grace Catlin on Sunday morning

Below: Charlie Mack



A NOTE FROM DOUGLASS ANNE

Thank you, FCC Albany, for inviting me to be in ministry with you and for welcoming Amber and I so warmly! Sunday was an incredible day—from singing and praying with you in worship to playing games and sharing 'goods and bads' with the Chi Rho and CYF groups!

I am excited to begin learning more about you and your hopes and dreams for FCC Albany, particularly those that involve children, youth, young adults, and families! I officially start on Wednesday, October 1st and I cannot wait for it to get here (and to get all of that moving stuff out of the way)!!

When we landed at the Denver Airport on Monday as we were making our way back to Texas, there was a double rainbow falling just outside my window. I thought about you and the new rainbow swooshes that are gracing the church building. My hope for what will be and what we will create together was just overwhelming!

With Joy,
Douglass Anne