

May 27, 2015



GOOD NEWS

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

Vol. 59, No. 10 Web site: <http://www.fccalbany.com/>

A DAY TO REMEMBER

It is the afternoon of the great day and what a great day it was! It is amazing to be so completely spent by the emotion and energy of the day while at the same time feeling so incredibly full of love and gratitude for it all.

Your celebration of my retirement and farewell has to go down as one of the high moments in the annals of history. I can't begin to articulate what it all meant to me. From the music to the tributes, the delicious food to the generous gifts, your smiling faces and all the tears – every bit touched my heart in the deepest ways. I can't quite fathom what it will be like to be physically separated from you.

I join Henry Higgins in singing (with a little adaptation in the spirit of Paul Pritchard),

*"I've grown accustomed to your face.
You always make the day begin.
I've grown accustomed to the tune that
You whistle night and noon.
Your smiles, your frowns,
Your ups, Your downs
Are second nature to me now;
Like breathing out and breathing in.
I was serenely independent and content before we met;
Surely I could always be that way again-
And yet
I've grown accustomed to your look;
Accustomed to your voice;
Accustomed to your face."*



*And your hearts and spirits.
And the love and loyalty laid hold deep in you.
Your generosity.
Your compassion and good works.
Your commitment and faithfulness.
I've grown accustomed to it all and taken it, I dare say,
too often for granted.*

I have been incredibly blessed to know, love and serve with you these years. I will close with the same thoughts I shared with you earlier today as I can't think of anything more important to leave you with besides my heartfelt gratitude.

"It was my first word to you and it is my last word to you.

Love.
Love as you have been loved.
Love.
No matter what the cost.
Love.

Thank you for the opportunity to share this powerful word and way with you. Thank you for sharing it with me. Thank you for this day and all its gifts. Thank you for this ministry we have shared. Thank you for being my beloved family. Thank you. I do and always will love you. And that's the truth!"

Love always,
Patty



Church Family News

In Our Prayers

Harold and Georgia Parker
Joan Miner
Mary Lou Estes
Helen Wells
Fern Dixon
Gordon Kirbey
Ray Lindley
Jen Collins
Linda Bricker
Jan Goby
Nancy Robb's brother
Lynnie Evans
Harryette Anderson
Sarah Mack's stepmom
Cheryl Hersom, in hospice care
Our graduates

Attendance and Giving

Sunday, May 17

Attendance 107
General Fund giving \$3,488
Building Fund giving \$483

Sunday, May 24

Attendance 167
General Fund giving \$3,917
Building Fund giving \$405

General Fund giving in May \$21,241
Amount needed monthly \$24,322

Building Fund giving in May \$20,103
Amount needed monthly \$8,950

Year-to-date deficit: \$6,845

OUR MISSION

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

DEACON TEAM A GATHERING

All members of Deacon Team A are encouraged to attend a brief meeting with Douglass Anne following worship on Sunday, June 14, in the Cornerstone Room. We will be assuring that all the service spots on the schedule are filled and will review responsibilities. Deacons will also have the opportunity to hear and ask questions about the worship plan for July and how communion and offering will be handled. Please make every effort to attend.

Deacon Team A: Jerry Blais, DeeDee Blais, Anne Catlin, Rich Catlin, Joann Humprey, Candice Muckey, Kym O'Hare, Evelyn Ranck, Stephan Selvage, Jim Somppi, and Sue Stein.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS START IN JUNE

In June we begin our summer office hours, 9 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday. Please call ahead to make arrangements if you need access to the church in the afternoons.

HAPPY II RESULTS

Thanks to all who turned in intention-of-giving cards in our recent stewardship campaign. The new pledges begin July 1. We received 47 cards with pledges totaling \$165,306 for the General Fund and \$95,554 for the Building Fund.

Our 2015 budget for the General Fund is \$291,867 and our Building Fund loan payments are \$107,400. If you have not yet turned in an intention-of-giving card, you can bring it to the church office.

CELEBRATING OUR 2015 GRADUATES

On Sunday, June 7, we will be celebrating our graduates in our worship service. This year our graduates are Joe Burchfiel, Lauren Burchfiel, Marissa Minato and Nathan Tong.

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

LOOKING AHEAD

June 7

Graduation Sunday
Choir Appreciation

June 28

10 a.m. Singspiration!
5-7 p.m. Potluck & Games Night

July 8

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

July 22

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

July 18-22

General Assembly in Columbus,
Ohio (Douglass Anne will be at-
tending.)

July 26-31

High school and middle school
regional camps at Suttle Lake
Middle school camp director:
Douglass Anne Cartwright

Aug. 5

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

Aug. 10-14

Grade School Camp

Aug. 16

Swim Party and Potluck at Otter
Beach with Corvallis First Chris-
tian

Aug. 21-23

Family Camp at Tumalo in the
Bend area.

TRUE COMMUNITY

SUMMER FUN

At its May meeting the Program Cabinet planned summer events to keep us gathering together for fellowship and fun. From 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. If you have other ideas of summer events that you want to lead, please talk to Tony Wilson who leads the Program Cabinet.

Three ice cream socials, 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!

MAY 31

5-7 p.m. Potluck and Games Night

JUNE 28

5-7 p.m. Potluck and Games Night

JULY 8

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

JULY 22

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

AUGUST 5

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

AUGUST 21-23

Family Camp at Tumalo State Park

AUGUST 16

Swim party and potluck dinner at Otter Beach with Corvallis First Christian Church from 5:15 to 7:00 p.m.

AUGUST 28-29

Harry Potter-themed Lock-in for Youth

HARRY POTTER LOCK-IN FOR YOUTH

All middle school and high school youth are invited to attend a Harry Potter-themed lock-in set for 10 a.m. Friday, Aug. 28, to 10 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 29.

The group will watch all eight magical Harry Potter movies filmed from 2001-2011, play quidditch and enjoy other special treats. Details will come later but save the date for a Hogwarts experience!



DEEP CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY

Dear Friends,

Summer is rapidly approaching and I'm guessing many of you are as excited as I am about the coming months of beautiful weather, some more time to relax and enjoy life, and opportunities to be together with family and friends. All of these things are wonderful and important, but the thing I am most excited about is our worship this summer at FCC, Albany!

As a community in transition, there are some very important questions we have to answer and many important conversations we need to have. The Transition Team will lead many of these questions and conversations later this year, but some of them we can begin talking about right now! And that's what we're going to do this summer in worship.

Together, we will ponder things like:

- What are ways that you connect to FCC, Albany right now?
- How would you describe FCC, Albany to others?
- What do you think are the most important things we do at FCC, Albany and why?

Each Sunday in June, July, and August we'll gather together in praise and celebration, we'll sing a wide variety of music selected by our community, and we'll have some time to reflect about who we are as a faith community and where God is calling us in the future.

If you would like to help select some of the songs we will sing, I invite you to consider what music/

songs have a special emotional or spiritual connection for you and fill out the questionnaire below. If you would be willing to sing or play a musical instrument, I invite you to talk to me or to Gary Ruppert.

Most of all, I hope that you will plan to be present in worship this summer and add your voice to the conversation about who we are here at FCC, Albany!

With Joy,
Douglass Anne

Our Shared Musical Heritage

Music has a very special way of speaking to each of us.

What music/songs have a special emotional/spiritual connection for you?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Your Name: _____

SUNDAYS AT NINE


May 31 at 9 a.m.


The Rev. Cathy Myers Wirt will talk about the various ministries of the Christian Church in Oregon and Idaho.

June 7, 14, 21, 28 at 9 a.m.

Discussion of the Brian McLaren book, "We Make the Road by Walking." Read chapters 41-44 and join in the discussion.



 American Red Cross

#ChooseYourDay  100 days of SUMMER 100 days of HOPE

First Christian Church
BLOOD DRIVE

432 Ferry St SW - Fellowship Hall

Monday, June 15
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

To schedule your appointment, or for more information, contact American Red Cross at 1-800-733-2767 or sign up online at www.redcrossblood.org and use sponsor code: BnGClub

PASSION FOR JUSTICE

COMMUNITY MEAL UPDATE

The Community Meal continues to serve delicious and nutritious meals every Tuesday evening from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Thanks to Charlotte Smith who has organized four teams to prepare the weekly entree.

Thanks to all the volunteers who give a total of about 55-65 hours each week to making this meal happen.

If you are interested in helping and filling in as a substitute during the summer when people are on vacations, talk to Sharon Gisler who coordinates the volunteers.

Meals served and donations for the meal for May have been:

May 5 - 104 meals	\$163
May 12 - 169 meals	\$210
May 19 - 184 meals	\$82
May 26 - 227 meals	\$134

The Reiki Ministry wishes to thank Patty Evans for nine years of love and support. Thank you for the lovely Reiki Reunion and lunch on May 9. We enjoyed a beautiful morning in the backyard sharing Reiki, lunch, memories and visions for the future.



WE MAKE THE ROAD BY WALKING

Our congregational project of reading and reflecting on Brian McLaren's wonderful book "We Make the Road by Walking" continues.

The monthly discussion group will gather on Monday, June 8 from 9:45 to 11:30 a.m. at the home of Nadine Wood. All are welcome to join this opportunity to read and discuss chapters 39-41.

Mark your calendar and plan to attend the Sundays at Nine discussion group that starts on June 7. This group will meet at 9 a.m. each Sunday through June 28 and will be discussing chapters 41-44.

REIKI IN THE SUMMER

On Saturday, May 30, our Reiki Healing Prayer Ministry will move its equipment and supplies upstairs into the Friendship Room it first occupied a few years ago.

This will be a wonderful change that will allow the tables to stay set up and not need to be hauled out weekly. All the supplies will be readily available. The room is a quiet space for healing and prayer. Reiki will be offered 1-3 p.m. on Thursdays and 9-11 a.m. on the fourth Saturday of the month.

Additional use of the room can be scheduled through the church office. If you are a Reiki giver and want to use the room, please talk to Nancy in the office. If you are interested in receiving Reiki, please contact Debbie Burchfiel.



Sign up for summer regional camps.
Forms are available in the church office.
Deadline to register: June 22



SUMMER CAMPS 2015

Christian Church in Oregon and SW Idaho
Suttle Lake Camp • Sisters, Oregon

July 26-31
CYF (High School) Camp
(completed grades 9-12) \$355

Chi Rho (Middle School) Camp
(completed grades 6-8) \$355

Aug. 10-14
Junior Camp
(Completed grades 3-5) \$320

First Christian Church of Albany will pay half of the fees for campers who are active participants in our youth programs.

Deadline to register in the church office: **June 22**
\$10 late fee after June 22

2015 Theme: Say What?

Campers explore the theme of the day in small groups led by two adult staff members.

Activities:

group hikes
crafts
canoeing
games
swimming
worship at campfire
Bible study



Directors and staff are members of Disciples of Christ congregations and each of them have undergone a background check.

First-aid trained staff members and lifeguards will be on site.

LOOKING AHEAD TO SUMMER

YOUTH SCHEDULE

May 31 • 5-7 p.m.

All Church Potluck and Games Night

June, July and August

Stay tuned for special youth events and outings

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

During the summer months of June, July and August, the children will stay in the worship services, which will be family-friendly.

Stay tuned for special events and outings for children and families. There will be all-church ice cream socials and an August swim party.

MINDFULNESS CLASSES

MINDFULNESS FOR HEALTHY LIVING



Have you ever wondered why you could not stay on that weight-loss program or why your relationships seldom seem to work out the way you envisioned or why you are stressed out much of the time? Perhaps part of the answer lies within you; more specifically, within the busyness of your mind. Mindfulness training is a technique focused on exploring the nature of mind with the aim of opening us to the present moment or “the now.”

Please join us for a 3-hour workshop spread over three sessions (June 10, 16, 18) as we explore the nature of mindfulness, why it is important for healthy living, and how to begin a mindfulness practice. Each of the three 1-hour sessions will begin at 7 p.m. and end at 8 p.m. and will explore a different facet of mindfulness practice (i.e., mindfulness of the breath, mindfulness of the body, and mindfulness of emotions).

Registration for the 3-hour workshop is \$30.

Preregistration is required. To register, pick up a form in the church office or contact Terry by email at penhiguy@comcast.net.

MINDFULNESS OF GRATITUDE, FORGIVENESS & COMPASSION

Major religions teach that gratitude, forgiveness, and compassion are keys to happiness. But how do we manifest these keys in our daily lives? Mindfulness practice directed toward gratitude, forgiveness, and compassion offers one path to this goal.

You are invited to begin your journey along this life-changing path by exploring the nature of these three traits and how they are stimulated through mindfulness practice. Please join us for a two-hour workshop spread over two sessions. The sessions, led by Terry Wood, will run 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, July 8 and Tuesday, July 14.

Prior to taking this class, participants must have established a mindfulness practice or completed the introductory class, “Mindfulness for Healthy Living.” Cost is \$35 for two sessions.

Preregistration is required. To register, pick up a form in the church office or contact Terry by email at penhiguy@comcast.net.



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

