

July 2016



# GOOD NEWS

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (*Disciples of Christ*) 432 Ferry St. SW, Albany, OR 541-926-8606  
Vol. 60, No. 9 Web site: <http://www.fccalbany.com/>



## Worshipful Work Sunday

This Sunday, July 31, we will be sharing in Worshipful Work during the 10:10 a.m. service. We'll begin our worship together in the sanctuary and then split up into teams to spruce up outside the church and work on some projects inside for about 30 minutes. Afterwards, we'll gather together again for communion and fellowship time. If you have some work gloves, please bring them! There will be projects for all physical abilities!

The worship team is excited about the possibility to have mission/service projects on every fifth Sunday (4 times each year) and would love to hear ideas and have volunteers to help us coordinate future projects!

## Pet Blessing

Sunday, August 14, will be our second annual Pet Blessing Worship in Bryant Park. The Bible mentions many times that all creatures have the ability to give praise to the Creator, and this Sunday will be a day to celebrate with our beloved pets and include them in our worship. The service will begin at 10:10 a.m. in Bryant Park (at the shelter closest to the river) and will include an opportunity for pets and their families to receive an individual blessing for the year ahead!

**All pets are invited, as long as they are on a leash, in a cage, or in a photo!**

There are picnic tables, but you are welcome to bring lawn chairs. Parking is available right in front of the shelter. After worship there will be some small treats for animals and humans alike! Hope you will plan to join us for this fun and joyful celebration!



# CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

## In Our Prayers

Delores Kelly  
Fern Dixon  
Jace Lukenbaugh  
Russ Myers  
Cathy Myers-Wirt & Doug Wirt  
Judie Lindley  
Jan Goby

## Attendance and Giving

Sunday, July 3, 2016  
Attendance 77  
General Fund giving \$5,935  
Building Fund giving \$1,065

Sunday, July 10, 2016  
Attendance 58  
General Fund giving \$2,851  
Building Fund giving \$920

Sunday, July 17, 2016  
Attendance 67  
General Fund giving \$5,703  
Building Fund giving \$1135

Sunday, July 24, 2016  
Attendance 79  
General Fund giving \$3,133  
Building Fund giving \$5,220

**I will post the full July Financial Report in next week's email.**

## Finances

General Fund giving in July to date:  
\$17,622

Building Fund giving in July to date:  
\$8,340

Monthly Mortgage Payment:  
\$8,950

## Thank you from Fish of Albany

Dear Pastor and Members,

Thank you for inviting me to speak about Fish on Sunday, June 26! I enjoyed the lively dynamics of this group, and the great conversations. Thank you for supporting Fish! (Save the date: Fish Food Drive October 22, 2016)

Sincerely, Holly

## Happy Birthday Don Rea!

Don Rea turned 91 on Sunday, July 24!!! Make sure to tell him Happy Birthday when you see him.

## Thank you from Jeanette Armstrong

I want to thank you all for your prayers, the prayer shawl, and to Wilma Albright for the little angel and making the shawl.

Not being able to come to church and see you makes me appreciate your thoughts, concerns, and prayer.

With Sincere Thanks, Jeannette Armstrong

## Community Meal Update

If you have food to donate to the Community Meal please label it, and put it in the refrigerator. It is also helpful to contact Charlotte Smith at 541.928.8069 or email her at [charlottesmith@peak.org](mailto:charlottesmith@peak.org) and let her know of the donation so that she can inform the cooks what is on hand for them to use.

## Jackson Street Youth Shelter

Please join us for our "One Year Celebration Open House" on Tuesday, August 9 from 5-7 p.m. Food and house tours provided.  
1240 7th Ave SE, Albany



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR JULY 27 - AUGUST 31

## **WEDNESDAY, JULY 27**

10 a.m. Book Study

## **THURSDAY, JULY 28**

1-3 p.m. Reiki Prayer

Meals on Wheels using FCC Kitchen

## **FRIDAY, JULY 29**

## **SATURDAY, JULY 30**

7:30 p.m. FCC Movie Night at the Pix

## **SUNDAY, JULY 31**

8 a.m. Worship in the Round

9 a.m. Summer Sundays @ 9 a.m.

10:10 a.m. Worship/ Church Work Day

Douglass Anne will be out of the office from July 31-August 5 for CHI RHO & CYF Camps

## **MONDAY, AUGUST 1**

## **TUESDAY, AUGUST 2**

4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Community Meal

Pastor Eric Vacation August 2-8

## **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3**

10 a.m. Book Study

## **THURSDAY, AUGUST 4**

1-3 p.m. Reiki Prayer

Meals on Wheels using FCC Kitchen

## **FRIDAY, AUGUST 5**

## **SATURDAY, AUGUST 6**

## **SUNDAY, AUGUST 7**

8 a.m. Worship in the Round

9 a.m. **LAST** Summer Sundays @ 9 a.m.

10:10 a.m. Worship Service

## **MONDAY, AUGUST 8**

Junior Camp (August 8-12)

## **TUESDAY, AUGUST 9**

4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Community Meal

## **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10**

10 a.m. Book Study

## **THURSDAY, AUGUST 11**

Executive Committee Lunch

1-3 p.m. Reiki Prayer

Meals on Wheels using FCC Kitchen

6 p.m. Education Team Meeting

7 p.m. Mindfulness Group - Wood's house -  
2905 44th Ave SE Albany

## **FRIDAY, AUGUST 12**

## **SATURDAY, AUGUST 13**

## **SUNDAY, AUGUST 14**

8 a.m. Worship in the Round

10:10 a.m. Worship at Bryant Park/  
Pet Blessing

## **MONDAY, AUGUST 15**

10 a.m.-12 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry

6:30 p.m. Board Meeting

Douglass Anne Vacation (August 15-22)

## **TUESDAY, AUGUST 16**

4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Community Meal

## **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17**

10 a.m. Book Study

6:30-8 p.m. Ice Cream Social - Tadena Park

## **THURSDAY, AUGUST 18**

1-3 p.m. Reiki Prayer

## **FRIDAY, AUGUST 19**

## **SATURDAY, AUGUST 20**

## **SUNDAY, AUGUST 21**

8 a.m. Worship in the Round

10:10 a.m. Worship Service

Inquirer's Class- Immediately following

10:10 Worship Service

## **MONDAY, AUGUST 22**

6:30 p.m. Program Cabinet Meeting

## **TUESDAY, AUGUST 23**

4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Community Meal

## **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24**

10 a.m. Book Study

3 p.m. Open and Affirming Meeting

## **THURSDAY, AUGUST 25**

1-3 p.m. Reiki Prayer

## **FRIDAY, AUGUST 26**

Family Camp - Tumalo State Park  
(August 26-28)

## **SATURDAY, AUGUST 27**

## **SUNDAY, AUGUST 28**

8 a.m. Worship in the Round

10:10 a.m. Worship Service

6 p.m. Holy Sips - Deluxe Brewing

## **MONDAY, AUGUST 29**

6:30 p.m. Elder Meeting

## **TUESDAY, AUGUST 30**

4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Community Meal

## **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31**

10 a.m. Book Study

## Pastor's Reflection

Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It's always a great feeling to look back, after being into something for a while; at plans we have made or decisions reached or processes set in motion – and find that we are right where we had planned, and right on schedule! That's where FCC is on its transition and search process.

In the Spring of 2015 you set out an agenda and schedule for your transition time and search process for new staffing. That time-line (“Steps Through Transition”), which is

displayed on the Welcome Table in the narthex states:

“Summer 2016 -- Search Committee begins search for staffing needs.” Yep; check; done ... right on schedule! Congratulations, you are moving along right on the schedule you set out, just as you had hoped, just as you planned. Good job!

Plans are underway for exciting programs during the remainder of the summer and into the autumn: Family Camp, movie group, hiking group, biking group, Sundays @ 9, Special Music for worship, Pet Blessing, Ice Cream Socials, book reading group, 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday community service, and more ... ! Lots of opportunities to work, play, pray, sing, share with each other; and to invite friends and neighbors!

I will be vacationing with my wife and family the last two weeks of July. It's been awhile since we've had the opportunity to just hang out and be together, so we are very much looking forward to this time. Douglass Anne will be here for all pastoral needs.

I'm also very excited to be attending the writing workshop at Collegeville Institute in Minnesota, “Awakening Theological Imagination: A Spiritual Practice of Writing”, to which I was honored to receive a full scholarship. The workshop is designed to “help pastors and others cultivate personal attentiveness and invigorate theological conversation in their congregations.” I look forward to sharing with FCC when I get back. I'll be attending from August 2-8.

Yours, trusting in the power of the Holy Spirit to continuously surprise us beyond our wildest imagining,

Eric



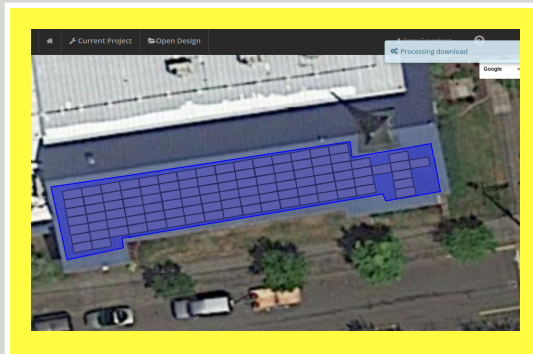


# ENLIGHTEN FCC

FCC APPLIED FOR A GRANT FOR SOLAR PANELS FOR THE CHURCH THROUGH PACIFIC POWER'S BLUE SKY BLOCK PROGRAM, WHICH HELPS ADVANCE THE CONSTRUCTION OF NEW NON-RESIDENTIAL RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS. IF SUCCESSFUL, FCC WILL JOIN OTHER CONGREGATIONS ACROSS THE COUNTRY THAT ARE ENGAGING THEIR MEMBERS IN CREATION-CARE BY REDUCING THE CONGREGATION'S GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IN ORDER TO SUPPORT A CLEAN AND HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT FOR THE FUTURE. THIS PROJECT SUPPORTS THE CHURCH'S "PASSION FOR JUSTICE" MISSION.

The church consumes about 56,000 kilowatt hours (kwh) a year at a cost of approximately \$9,000 a year. The south-facing roof is in good condition and can accommodate a 33 kW system that would generate approximately 39,700 kwh a year through a net-metered system. The system would reduce our electricity use and cost by about 70 percent at current usage rates (at least \$6,000 a year for more than 20 years). As the church replaces compact fluorescent and incandescent bulbs with LEDs, the savings will be greater.

The panels would be located on the south-facing gable roof, towards 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue.



Peter Greenberg of Energy Wise provided a below-market rate for the church at \$2 a kWh, the total system will cost \$66,000. A display panel and tasteful signage are estimated at \$1,000. The church applied for a grant for \$57,000 to cover most of the cost of the solar system, leaving \$10,000 for a required match.

You can support this green project by participating in the "Enlighten" campaign:

- 1) "Buy" one or more "T-8" LED light bulbs (\$10 each);
- 2) "Buy" a month of electricity from the last year (ranging from \$564 to \$1,378);
- 3) Sign up for the Blue Sky program at home; and
- 4) Volunteer to help replace bulbs with LEDs.

FCC will be notified around September 1, 2016, of award decisions. At this time, the church can make a final decision whether to accept the grant and grant conditions (panel display, sign, and Blue Sky participation). If we don't get the grant, funds raised will be used to replace all of the bulbs, light fixtures and other equipment as necessary with more efficient options to begin reducing energy consumption. Due to the steep pitch of the roof and the contractor's schedule, the solar panels will be installed the first dry days in mid November or early spring of 2017.



# ALBANY FIRST CHRISTIAN VISION STATEMENT

WE ARE AN OPEN, INVITING, ACCEPTING, DIVERSE INTERGENERATIONAL CONGREGATION

**1. We are an open, inviting, accepting, diverse intergenerational congregation offering a variety of **WORSHIP** opportunities for our community and ourselves.**

- Worship that is a celebration using music, prayer, a variety of worship styles and settings.
- Worship that is designed for all ages.
- Worship that is creative, dynamic and participatory.
- Worship that is inspired by scripture and opens us to the spirit.
- Worship that challenges, engages, and equips us for Spiritual living.



**2. We are an open, inviting, accepting, diverse intergenerational congregation enjoying **BEING TOGETHER AND WELCOMING OTHERS.****

- Connect with and support one another through small groups.
- Finding involvement and engagement by serving the community.
- Supporting each other in joy and crisis.
- Celebrating the gifts of all ages.
- Playing and eating together.
- Offering a variety of healing ministries.
- Having unity of heart.



**3. We are an open, inviting, accepting, diverse intergenerational congregation growing through exciting and engaging opportunities for **LEARNING** for our community and ourselves.**

- Encouraging questions.
- Working through challenging issues.
- Studying scripturally based theology.
- Mentoring and preparing leaders of all ages and in all forms of ministry.
- Providing opportunities for exploring and developing personal spiritual growth.
- Seeking to increase our knowledge and understanding of other faith traditions and religions.



**4. We are an open, inviting, accepting, diverse intergenerational congregation co-creating God's world of **PEACE AND JUSTICE.****

- Expanding ministries to meet the needs of the community.
- Increasing awareness of and response to injustices.
- Searching for and participating in mission and service opportunities.
- Empowering people to serve and make a difference.
- Working with other faith communities and community groups around common causes.



# FCC COMMUNITY

## Search Committee Update

The Pastoral Search Committee met twice in July. On July 14 we received job descriptions for Lead Pastor and Associate Pastor, and the updated Congregational Profile, both of which are shared with applicants. Cathy Myers Wirt shared steps we must take to ensure our website, governing documents, building and grounds are in order. She shared what the Search Committee process would be from now to September, along with questions and articles to equip us.

On July 22 we met to review our progress toward preparation. We will meet twice in August and receive candidate packets mid-month. After the committee's discernment, interviews (via Skype) will follow the reference screenings.

In the meantime, look for a large display titled **"7 Steps in the Pastoral Search Process."** It will be circulating around the church building, and show a checklist of the steps being completed to get us to the Selection and Welcoming Process. This is a very exciting time to be a part of FCC Albany.

Please hold this committee and the process in your prayers. The Search Committee is comprised of Jan Hagemeister, Chair, Jerry Blais, Deb Burchfiel, Charlotte Houser, Mac McClanahan, Lacey McLellan, and Denise Tafen.

## Help Needed! No Experience Necessary!

Help is needed on several of our seven hospitality teams that set out and clean up coffee hour refreshments before and after the 10:10 a.m. worship service each Sunday. You would be assigned to an existing team of experienced hospitality workers, and take a turn about every seven weeks. Your help would be a great addition to our Sunday morning "friendliness quotient". A sign-up sheet for new volunteers will be available each Sunday morning during July.

## Community Meal Need

Gary Ruppert has been leading a team of food preparers on the first Tuesday of each month. With his upcoming retirement comes the need for someone to take on this task! The task involves planning the menu, and shopping and leading the team in preparing the entree on Tuesday. There is a lot of immediate and ongoing support- you will NOT be left on your own until you are ready! Please consider if you might want to try your hand in this very important way. Please contact Sharon Gisler (541-928-7013) or Gary Ruppert (541-928-8420) for more information.

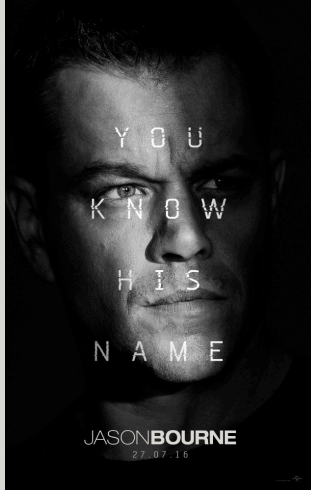
## FCC SUMMER INTEREST GROUPS

Movie Night at the Pix (Tony Wilson)  
Picnics in Parks or Backyards (Nancy Robb)  
Hiking – Gentle (Stacey Bartholomew)

Hiking – Not so Gentle (Tony and Maura Wilson)  
In-Home Bible Study (Jan Hagemeister)  
Holy Sips: Pub Theology (Rev. Douglass Anne)



# FCC MOVIE NIGHT AT THE PIX THIS SATURDAY!!!



Fellow FCC Movie Night Enthusiasts: Our next movie night of this summer is scheduled for **Saturday, July 30, 2016**. We will meet at the Pix Theater (321 SW 2nd Ave. Albany) at 7:00pm for the 7:30pm showing of **Jason Bourne**. Matt Damon and Julia Stiles star in this action thriller; the fifth of the Bourne series. Tickets may be purchased in advance at the Pix box office (same day or days in advance) for your convenience. The trailer for this movie may be viewed on the Pix's website at [albanypix.com](http://albanypix.com).

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Albany, OR 97321

432 Ferry St. SW

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

**GOOD NEWS**

