

August 2016



# GOOD NEWS

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (*Disciples of Christ*) 432 Ferry St. SW, Albany, OR 541-926-8606  
Vol. 60, No. 10 Web site: <http://www.fccalbany.com/>

FIRST CHRISTIAN & UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES  
INVITE YOU TO

## LABOR DAY WORSHIP & POTLUCK

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH  
10:00 A.M.

LINN COUNTY COURTHOUSE LAWN

Bring a lawn chair for worship and a  
potluck dish to share afterwards!

### Labor Day Worship & Potluck

We will have a combined service with the United Presbyterian Church on **the Courthouse lawn** directly across the street from FCC at **10:00 a.m.** (not 10:10), **Sunday, September 4.** Special music, sharing, celebrating ... (If it rains, we will worship in the FCC sanctuary) Please bring lawn chairs for the worship service.

For the **Potluck afterwards**, please bring a dish to share. Please drop off your food in our Community Room before the service. We will move inside to eat after worship. Beverages will be provided. See you there!

### Russ Myers Memorial Service

A memorial service for Rev. Russell Myers, retired pastor living in Oregon and father of Regional Minister, Cathy Myers-Wirt, is planned for **Saturday, September 3, 2:00 p.m.** at **Portland First Christian Church.**

Rev. Myers served congregations in Indiana, Washington, Oregon and Montana before his retirement. He served as Regional Moderator of both the Oregon and Montana regional churches during his active ministry years.

The service will be followed by a reception at the church.

Portland First Christian is located at:  
1314 SW Park Ave. in Portland, Oregon

## FALL KICK-OFF!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH

WORSHIP @ 8:00 AND 10:10 A.M.

LUNCH AFTERWARDS



# CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

## In Our Prayers

DeeDee, Jerry Blais, and daughter  
in law Amy Blais

Mary Lou McCorkle and  
daughter Debbie Reimer

Cathy Feeney and family: Dakota, Bill,  
Michelle, Cadence, and Trevor

Delores Kelly  
Fern Dixon  
Jace Lukenbaugh  
Cathy Myers Wirt  
Doug Wirt  
Judie Lindley  
Jan Goby  
Bailey Wood  
Laverne Bilyeu

## Attendance and Giving

Sunday, August 7, 2016  
Attendance 79  
General Fund giving \$7,716  
Building Fund giving \$875

Sunday, August 14, 2016  
Attendance 54 people, 10 dogs, and  
2 cats  
General Fund giving \$3,187  
Building Fund giving \$1,240

Sunday, August 21, 2016  
Attendance 73  
General Fund giving \$3,435  
Building Fund giving \$355

Sunday, August 28, 2016  
Attendance 69  
General Fund giving \$3,574  
Building Fund giving \$370

General Fund giving in August: \$17,912  
Building Fund giving in August: \$2,840  
Monthly Mortgage Payment: \$8,950

## Hospitality Teams

### Help Wanted! 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 September.

## Sundays at Nine

Needed: Muffins!

The Education Team is looking for some bakers to provide muffins for our Sundays at Nine gatherings beginning September 11. If you would like to provide muffins (they can be frozen if you won't necessarily be in church) please e-mail Christine Webb at [retromom@gmail.com](mailto:retromom@gmail.com). Just one Sunday, or on a regular schedule, we will appreciate your gift!

## Search Committee Update

The Search Committee continues its work. In August we received packets from four candidates and we are proceeding to call references on behalf of two of the candidates. More may be coming to us. We could be interviewing in a couple of weeks. In the meantime, we continue to meet about every 2 weeks.

Please keep the search process in your thoughts and prayers.

## Reiki Gathering

Join us on Saturday Sept 24 for Reiki sharing 9 a.m.- noon. We will first exchange Reiki sessions 9-11 a.m., and then break for a light snack and a refresher on hand positions for chair and self use. Our June survey revealed the desire for more practice and training. This will be a short hour of training and catching up.

Also, book study "God's Touch" resumes Wednesday September 14 at 6:30. Look for an e-mail reminder and location.

Deb Burchfiel



# SEPTEMBER

## **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31**

6:30 p.m. Equipping Team Meeting

## **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1**

1-3 p.m. Reiki Prayer

1 p.m. Worship Team Meeting

## **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3**

10-11:30 a.m. Caregiver Support Group

2 p.m. Russ Myers Memorial - FCC Portland

## **SUNDAY, LABOR DAY, SEPTEMBER 4**

10:00 a.m. Labor Day Worship -  
Courthouse Lawn

Potluck at FCC after service

## **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5 - LABOR DAY**

Church Office Closed

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

## **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6**

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

## **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7**

10 a.m. Book Study

6 p.m. Personnel Meeting

## **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8**

11:45 a.m. Executive Team Lunch

1-3 p.m. Reiki

6:30 p.m. Education Team Meeting

7 p.m. Mindfulness Group

## **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10**

10 a.m.-12 p.m. Youth Band Rehearsal

## **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11**

10:10 FCC Fall Kickoff Worship & Potluck

## **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12**

6:30 p.m. Board Meeting

## **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13**

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

## **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14**

10 a.m. Book Study

2-4 p.m. Hang Out with Douglass Anne

6:30 p.m. Reiki Book Club

## **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15**

1-3 p.m. Reiki

## **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17**

9 a.m.-2 p.m. Worship Team Retreat

## **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18**

8 a.m. Worship in the Round

10:10 a.m. Worship Service

Open and Affirming Meeting after service

## **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19**

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

6:30 p.m. Program Cabinet Meeting

## **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20**

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

## **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21**

10 a.m. Book Study

2-4 p.m. Hang Out with Douglass Anne

## **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22**

1-3 p.m. Reiki

## **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24**

9 a.m.-12 p.m. Reiki Gathering

## **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26**

6:30 p.m. Elder Meeting

## **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27**

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

## **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28**

10 a.m. Book Study

2-4 p.m. Hang Out with Douglass Anne

## **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29**

1-3 p.m. Reiki





## Pastor's Reflection

Greetings Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Ahh, summer draws to a close, as the sunshine and warm weather continue, even as the trees begin changing color – have you noticed, autumn is creeping up. . . . Here at First Christian Church we've had a fun summer with the various groups and their activities – I got in on a few of the movie nights, three ice cream socials at different parks throughout town, Pet Blessing service in Bryant Park.

All these activities and more happen because you volunteer – you offer your gifts of time and energy to your church family. Even though our schedules are full of vacations, travel, and outdoor activities during the summer, church volunteers have ushered and greeted, and led worship on Sundays, provided special music and flowers, prepared and served communion, hosted coffee hour after worship services, visited homebound members of our congregation, coordinated ice cream socials, and prepared and served hundreds of free, nutritious meals to the community. I'm confident that there are many other ways volunteers have served this church that are missing from this list. Whoever said things slow down during the summer was wrong.

As summer winds down your teams and committees here at FCC are planning for and ramping up for our program year. As you'll read about elsewhere in this newsletter, Sunday, September 11 is our "Kick Off" for the program year. There will be many opportunities for you to participate and to volunteer in the coming months. A few are the following:

- **September 4 - Labor Day Sunday combined Worship** with United Presbyterian Church; contact Shanna Jenne to help with potluck setup and cleanup; contact Graham Kislingbury to help with setup and take down chairs on courthouse lawn.
- **Hospitality Teams** – Volunteers are needed to set out and clean up coffee hour refreshment each Sunday.
- **Community Meal** – Volunteers are needed to help setup, cook, serve, greet, and cleanup each Tuesday from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

A huge shout out to each and everyone here at FCC who volunteers!! Your giving is the life-blood of FCC, and makes possible powerful ministry in our community. Thank you one and all.

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

Eric



## Three New Ministry Teams

FCC's recently crafted Vision Statement highlights four areas of our life together as "an open, inviting, accepting, diverse, intergenerational congregation." These four areas are worship, community, learning, and working for peace and justice. Through the efforts of the Church Board and Program Cabinet three of those areas are now being coordinated by newly constituted teams: Connections, Education, and Worship.

**Worship Team** members include Linda Lees, Connor Welsh, Maura Wilson, Nancy Marshall, Christine Webb, and Pastors Eric and Douglass Anne. Pastor Eric is the primary staff person working with the team. They are responsible, in coordination with the pastors, for overall worship planning, music, and the sanctuary space.

**Education Team** members include Christine Webb (chair), Jennifer Norman, Denise Tafen, Amber Churchill, Anne Catlin, Sharon Gaal, and Pastor Douglass Anne. Pastor Douglass Anne is the primary staff person working with the team. They are responsible for overall planning and coordinating of FCC's Education program, including children, youth, families, and adults.

**Connections Team** members include Graham Kislingbury (chair), Kathwren Hayes, Kendall Weir, Vicki McClanahan, and Pastors Eric and Douglass Anne. Pastor Eric is primary staff person working with the team. Its primary responsibility is developing ways to establish welcoming relationships with visitors, new members, and regular attenders.

Please take a moment to thank these folk for their efforts on your behalf. All of us together make a mighty witness to the "true community, deep Christian spirituality, and passion for justice", which is what FCC is all about.

Pastor Eric

## First Christian Church Community Meal is 5 Years Old!

Five years ago in July, an audacious young woman, Valerie Nording, a new member of FCC at the time, looked around at our facility, at the needs in the community and announced--"We will start a Community Meal to serve nutritious food and warm hospitality to those needing it in our community!" "Really?", some of us old-timers said, "You can't just go do something like that--there are so many obstacles. It's such a big undertaking. We have to really look at this and plan....." While we were standing on the safe shore of consideration and planning, Valerie was forging ahead and her passion made it impossible not to follow! So in the third week of July, 2011, the Community Meal was born literally on a wing and a prayer. The rest is history. Folks stepped up to volunteer and to create the structure that has served us well these 5 years. Key to our success was recruiting Gordon Kirbey to cook.

Gordon's depth of knowledge about cooking for crowds and his deep commitment to the Meal is a cornerstone of the Meal's success. He did all of the cooking until his heart attack two years ago, and from there has continued to lead the cooking team twice a month and lend his expertise to others.

Currently the Meal is serving between 140 and 240 meals a week every Tuesday. Our guests come from the community at large, including many for whom both the food and hospitality are a true blessing. FCC folks volunteer, provide much of the financial support, and come to meet friends old and new. Most volunteers are FCC connected, but some come from other churches and from the community at large. Donations have underwritten the cost of providing the Meal from the beginning.

If you haven't yet come to the Meal, do put it on your list of things to do! All are welcome to come and eat and share the experience. And, certainly volunteers are always most welcome!

Sharon Gisler, Volunteer Coordinator  
Contact info: [sharongisler@msn.com](mailto:sharongisler@msn.com) 541-928-7013

FCC ALBANY  
**YOUTH & CHILDREN'S**  
MINISTRIES

**SEPT. 11**  
**INDOOR WATERPARK**  
**FAMILY OUTING**  
after Fall Kick-Off  
\$7 per person  
RSVP by 9/7/16

*Youth, Children, &  
Family Potluck*  
SUNDAY, SEPT. 18  
4-6 P.M.

Rehearsal 9/10, 10am-Noon  
**Youth Band**  
Playing in Worship 9/11 @ 10:10 a.m.

**HANG  
OUT** WITH  
**DOUGLASS  
ANNE**  
SEPT. 14 & 21, 2-4 P.M.  
FCC ALBANY YOUTH ROOM

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

**GOOD NEWS**

