



# July 2017 GOOD NEWS

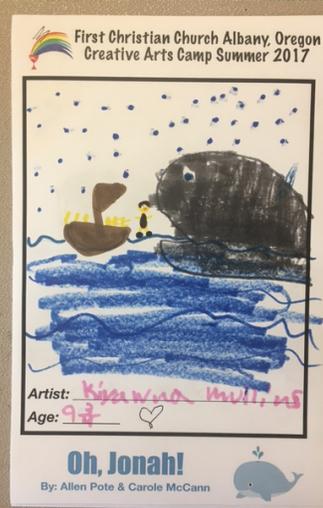
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## CREATIVE



## ARTS



## CAMP

# Why We March



*[God] has told you,  
human one, what is  
good and what the Lord  
requires from you: to  
do justice, embrace  
faithful love, and  
walk humbly with  
your God.  
Micah 6:8 CEB*

*We are an Open and  
Affirming congregation,  
rooted in Jesus' great  
commandment to love  
our neighbors as we do  
ourselves. We welcome  
all into the full life and  
ministry of our church,  
regardless of sexual  
orientation, gender  
identity, race, marital  
status, physical ability,  
mental ability, economic  
status, or faith  
background.  
FCC Open & Affirming  
Statement*

Albany's first-ever LGBTQ+ Pride March is Saturday, July 22 at 10 a.m. We will gather at the church at 9:30 and go over as a group to openly affirm our commitment to justice for all peoples.

**So, why do we march?** As Disciples, we start with the Bible. While there are many passages that inform our faith, the prophet Micah says it this way:

*[God] has told you, human one, what is good and what the Lord requires from you: to do justice, embrace faithful love, and walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8 CEB*

**We are called to do justice.** Though walking on the streets of Albany does not in and of itself change the attitudes and systems that oppress, the awareness that such a march brings is critical in implementing justice.

**We are called to embrace faithful love.** We have a unique message of expansive and extravagant love among the churches in our town. We strive to be fully inclusive. Loving our neighbors as ourselves is about being present. Love is about showing up.

**We are called to walk humbly with our God.** Having gone through the Open & Affirming process this congregation perceives God pushing us to risk as we open our hearts and church family to all peoples. Walking humbly with God means confessing our imperfection as a welcoming congregation. It is acknowledging that we still have a ways to go.

**Why do we march?** To come out of the closet as a safe congregation to the Albany community. There is some risk in doing so (as there was when we chose to be O&A) but it is indeed what I believe we are called to do. Join us!

In Service of the One,

# End of Summer

## Scripture Readings

Christine Webb will be leading worship on Sunday July 9 while Pastor Douglass Anne and Pastor Tim are away at General Assembly. Upon their return, the pastors will begin a short worship series on several of the minor prophets to finish out the summer. These will also be the scripture readings for the Thursday (at 3:30) Bible Study Group.

**July 16**  
Malachi (Tim preaching)

**July 23 & 30**  
Micah (Douglass Anne preaching)

**August 6, 13 & 20**  
Amos (Tim preaching)

**August 27**  
Obadiah or Nahum  
(Douglass Anne preaching)



*“God works with the world as it is in order to bring it to where it can be. Prayer changes the way the world is, and therefore changes what the world can be. Prayer opens the world to its own transformation.”*

*— Marjorie Hewitt Suchocki, In God's Presence*

# Church Happenings

## Blood Drive



Friday, July 14  
11 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
First Christian Church



To schedule an appointment, visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) (sponsor code: firstchristian) or call Red Cross at 800-733-2767



## LIKE TO SING?

Interested in being  
part of our  
Praise Team?  
Let us know!



#fccalbany

## ICE CREAM SOCIAL

6:30-8:30 p.m.

July 19 @ Hackleman Park  
Aug 9 @ Doug Killin Park  
Aug 23 @ Takena Park

ICE CREAM PROVIDED,  
BRING A TOPPING TO SHARE!



## Enchanted Forest

July 15 + 10 to 3!

Family  
Fun!

This trip is planned for  
children 6th grade &  
below & their families.  
RSVP to office by  
Wed., July 12.



## Connect with a Pastor

Rev. Tim Graves, Lead Pastor  
541-223-7562 call or text  
[rev.timgraves@gmail.com](mailto:rev.timgraves@gmail.com)  
[facebook.com/timothygraves](https://www.facebook.com/timothygraves)

Rev Douglass Anne, Pastor  
541-286-5085 call or text  
[fccrevda@gmail.com](mailto:fccrevda@gmail.com)

# Church Happenings



## March with us at Albany's First Pride Parade

We will be going to Albany's first ever Pride March as a church to openly affirm our LGBTQ+ family. We are having t-shirts made up with our rainbow & chalice logo. Do you want one? If so, what size? We have a sign up form at the church but you can also add your name to the list by emailing the office at [fccalbany@comcast.net](mailto:fccalbany@comcast.net). The cost will be \$20 or less depending upon how many we order. Any extra funds will go to LGBTQ+ justice ministries of the church. More questions? Ask Tim or Douglass Anne.

## POTLUCK & GAMES

Sunday, July 30th  
5 - 7:30 p.m.  
Bring a dish to share & a game to play!

## Holy Sips:

### Pub Theology

6:00 P.M.  
WEDNESDAY,  
JULY 26TH  
@  
NO RAILS ALEHOUSE  
(117 1st Ave NE)

#FCCALBANY

### The ACTION followup to the This American Life Series)

## Social Justice Team Gathering

Sunday, July 23 @ 11:45

## Facebook 101 (Part 2)

Thursday, July 18  
@ 10:30 a.m.

Bring your laptop if you have one.



**Music is powerful.** It touches us in deep emotional and spiritual ways. For example, I tear up when singing, “I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry.” While it is a fine hymn, my attachment is not because of its intrinsic value. I tear up because it reminds me of my mother’s memorial service. This is to say, we all have different styles of music and particular hymns and songs that speak to us.

In my short time at Albany First Christian Church, **I’ve heard many conflicting viewpoints** regarding styles of music and particular hymns. This is not surprising as we are individuals.

**Our goal is to use a variety of singable music styles that support the theme of the scripture and worship each Sunday.** We also reject hymns that reflect an understanding of the faith and of God that are inconsistent with the values of Albany FCC. This is our job as preacher-teachers.

**Sometimes we are more successful than other times.** That is what it is to be human. Sometimes I don’t know what hymns you know. (I will gladly accept lists of your favorite hymns.) But sometimes it is good to learn a new hymn. Sometimes we make a bad call. That’s what happens with creativity. Sometimes you soar and sometimes you plop.

All this is to say, Douglass Anne and I along with the Worship Team strive to be sensitive to your preferences AND the tone of worship we are trying to set.

**So, where’s the choir?** I confess I’ve been dragging my feet a bit for several reasons: 1) Due to so many conflicting views, I’m not yet clear what we need in a music director; 2) A music director is a significant expense; and 3) I’m not (yet) convinced we have enough folks to commit to a traditional weekly choir. In short, I think we need time to sort this out.

**In the meantime this is what you can expect:**

**Behind the scenes,** the Worship Team subgroup on music is striving to identify a variety of music ahead of each season. For example, we sat down together and looked at hymns appropriate for the Jonah series. Douglass Anne and I found those lists helpful.

**Through the Summer**

- pop-up choir once a month
- other special music by arrangement

**Beginning in September**

- choir rehearsal 2x a month & performing 1 Sunday a month
- pop-up choir 1 Sunday a month
- other special music by arrangement

Douglass Anne will direct both the pop-up and rehearsed choir. Our experiences with this approach will continue to inform how we move forward as a church.

Questions? Thoughts? Please let me know.

# Thank You!

## Dear Transition Team Members and Church Family

Thank you all for the kind acknowledgement and gift in recognition of the work of on the Transition Team. I was blessed to serve this congregation with the fine members of the Transition Team, working for a congregation I love. I'm pleased to report the Purpleheart wood serving tray does its job beautifully!

With gratitude,  
Nadine

## Directory pictures

We are starting the process of creating a new directory. We would like to get everyone's picture taken to include in the directory.

Les Peterson will be taking pictures after 10:10 worship on July 16, 23, and 30. He will also be at the church to take pictures on July 20 from 10:00-11:00 AM and on July 24 from 7:00-8:00 PM.

If you are not able to attend any of these dates, you can schedule an appointment with [Elysse](#) to get your picture taken by her during office hours.



## Leaving notes in the office

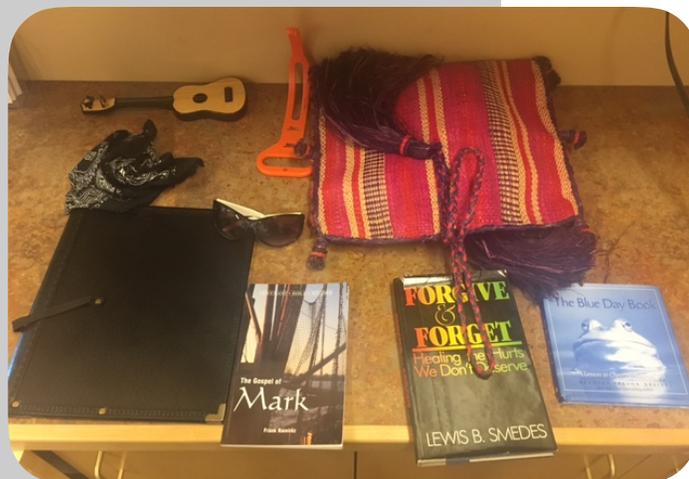
When leaving a note in the office or at Elysse's desk, please be sure to sign your name so we can contact you if we have any questions.

## Do you want to be on the prayer list?

If you would like to be on the email prayer list, please email the [church office](#) or [Debbie Burchfiel](#).

## Cleaning/Organizing Day

We will be cleaning and organizing the office soon. Anything that is left in the office after Monday, July 10 will be thrown out. To the right is a picture of some of the unclaimed items left in the office.



## Activities & Groups

### Just Keep Slimming!

On a weight-loss journey and want some support? Want to lose some weight but don't know where to start? Or maybe you have a weight-loss story or advice that you want to share. If so, join **Rachel Woitt** and **Nancy Powell** as we introduce Just Keep Slimming, a weight-loss support group open to anyone and everyone.

**When: Every Wednesday at 3:30 starting August 2nd.**

**Where: Cornerstone room FCC**

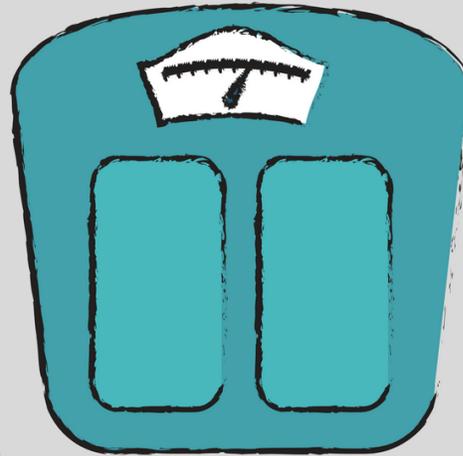
### River Float

**Tony and Maura Wilson** are planning a church river float on Saturday, August 19th. There will be more details to follow. If you are interested, please sign up on the sheet taped outside the office window, or email [Maura](#).

**BRING YOUR OWN FLOTATION DEVICE.**

If you'd like to offer an activity or group to others in the congregation, write it down on the sign up sheet outside the church office.

# JUST KEEP SLIMMING



Wednesdays  
@ 3:30

Cornerstone  
Room

starts Aug. 2



# River Float with Tony & Maura Saturday, August 19



*"Music acts like a magic key, to which the most tightly closed heart opens."*

*Maria Augusta von Trapp*

## Reiki Summer news

Our group recently enjoyed a morning of outdoor Reiki in the garden. Birds, breeze and dappled light made our time together very special. Thanks to Nancy Marshall for the beautiful setting.



Our ministry will offer sessions to anyone interested, on Tuesday mornings from 9am-11am in the Friendship Room. Each session lasts about 45 minutes, so receivers may arrive at either 9:00 or 10:00. This healing technique is used for stress reduction, physical and emotional healing. No questions asked, just give it a try.

If you wish to try for the first time and have questions, call Debbie Burchfiel 541-974-2012.

## Help! Are You Able to Prep, Serve, & Clean Up Communion

We need additional people to help at the 10:10 service. Agreeing to this means you will help collect the offering and, depending upon which of the four roles you sign up for prepare, clean up, or lock up. Questions? Ready to leap now? **Let Tim know by phone/email/text or in-person. (Yes, training provided.)**

### Prep+Offering

- Prepare 2 intinction trays (regular bread)
- Prepare 1 intinction tray (gluten free)
- Prepare 1 small cups & bread (gluten free)
- Cut bread 2" x 3/4" for intinction trays
- Pass offering trays

### Serve/Cleanup #1

- Cups & tray gluten-free station with other deacon
- (One clergy will do gluten-free intinction)
- Cleanup of trays
- Pass offering trays

### Serve/Cleanup #2

- Cups & tray gluten-free station with other deacon
- (One clergy will do gluten-free intinction)
- Cleanup of trays
- Pass offering trays

### Pickup/Lockup

- Pickup sanctuary
- Lock church doors
- If you need a key check one out from the office prior to Sunday
- Watch to see those who needs communion in their seats
- Pass offering trays

# General Assembly July 8-12, 2017 #DOCWeAreOne

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) meet in General Assembly every two years. This year the Assembly is in Indianapolis. Mary Dale Salston, Douglass Anne, and Tim will represent Albany First Christian. (Douglass Anne also has significant responsibilities at the Assembly. She has been involved in planning and will be working to assure the worship at the event is meaningful for those attending from all over North America.)



UNO / YOUNN / 하나 / UN  
JOHN 17: 20-21a

## A Disciples' Family Reunion

At the Nashville Assembly, my dad introduced me to the woman who was my kindergarten Sunday School teacher from our years at FCC Salem. She exclaimed, "I remember you, Timmy!" before recounting stories of my time in her class.

To be church — both locally and as a denomination — is to be in community with one another. One of my favorite parts of General Assembly is seeing old friends and gaining new friends.

The Exhibit Hall is filled with opportunities to talk with folks from the varied manifestations of the church - Pension Fund, Church Extension, Global Ministries, Family & Children's Ministries, LGBTQ+ Alliance, and more. I always come back with new ideas, resources, and contacts.

At Assembly we also do the business of the church. To be sure the reports can sometimes be somewhat dull but it's amazing to see the engagement as we discuss Sense-of-the-Assembly resolutions about social justice and other issues. We will vote on resolutions on carbon neutrality, being immigrant welcoming, removing racist language from church documents, repudiating the Christian doctrine of discovery and more. **Learn more at <http://ga.disciples.org/business/>**

This year, we will elect a new General Minister & President. The Rev. Teresa (Terri) Hord Owens is the nominee. **You can learn about her at <http://disciples.org/ogmp/meet-the-gmp-nominee/>**

At the end of the day, we gather as one family to worship because no matter the contentiousness of the business meetings or the excitement of meeting old and new friends, we remember that we are God's people gathering to be the church God dreams we can be.



### Assembly to Elect New General Minister & President

Learn more at <http://disciples.org/ogmp/meet-the-gmp-nominee/>

### Watch Worship Services via

Livestream at <http://ga.disciples.org/live/>

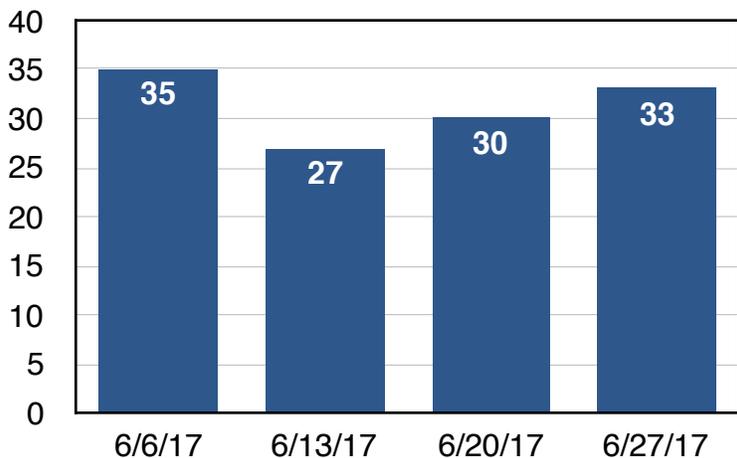
Tim will be blogging  
General Assembly at  
[timgraves.us](http://timgraves.us) & live  
tweeting at <https://twitter.com/revtimg>

#DOCWeAreOne

# BY THE NUMBERS

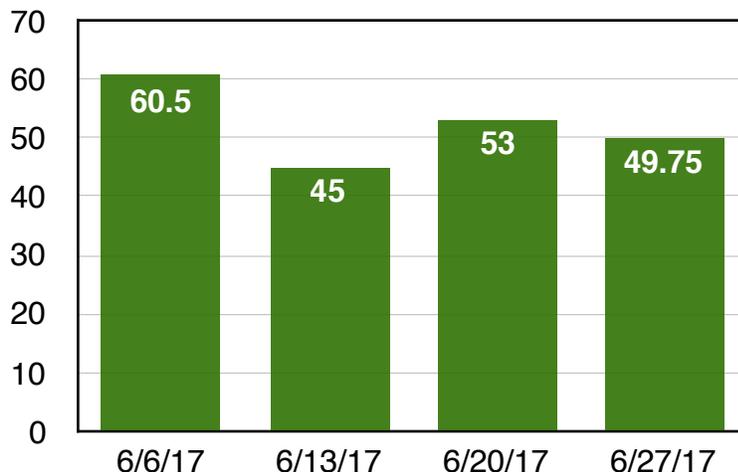
## COMMUNITY MEAL

### Number of CM Volunteers



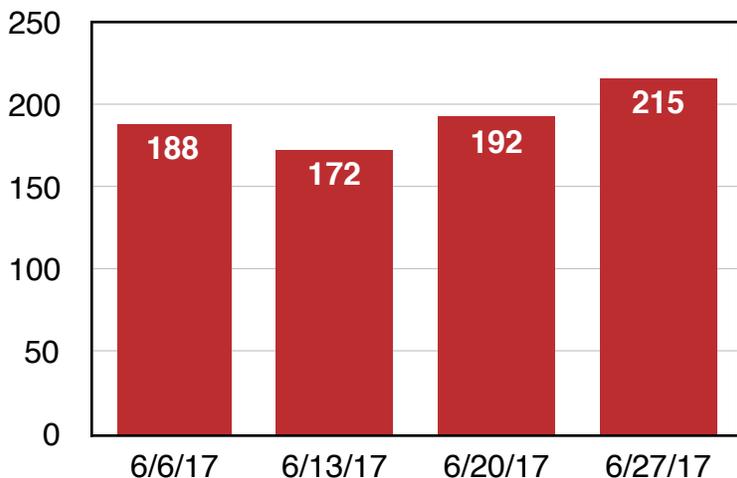
This is a bar graph showing the number of volunteers for the Community Meal for the month of June.

### Number of CM Volunteer Hours



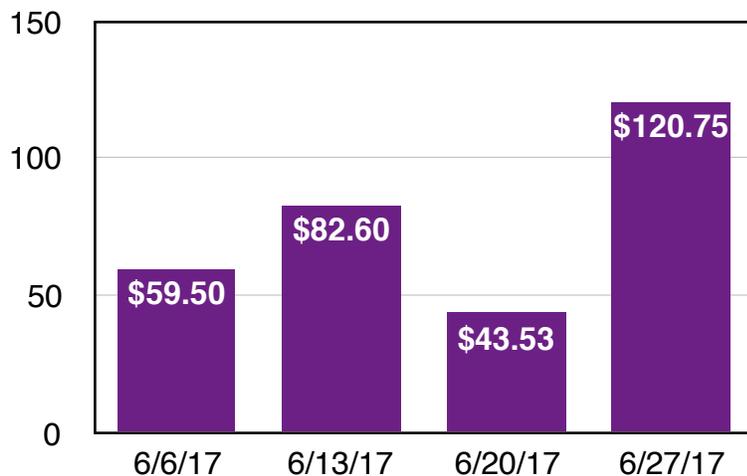
This is a bar graph showing the number of volunteer hours for the Community Meal for the month of June.

### Number of People Fed at CM



This is a bar graph showing the number of people fed at the Community Meal for the month of June.

### Amount of Donations for CM

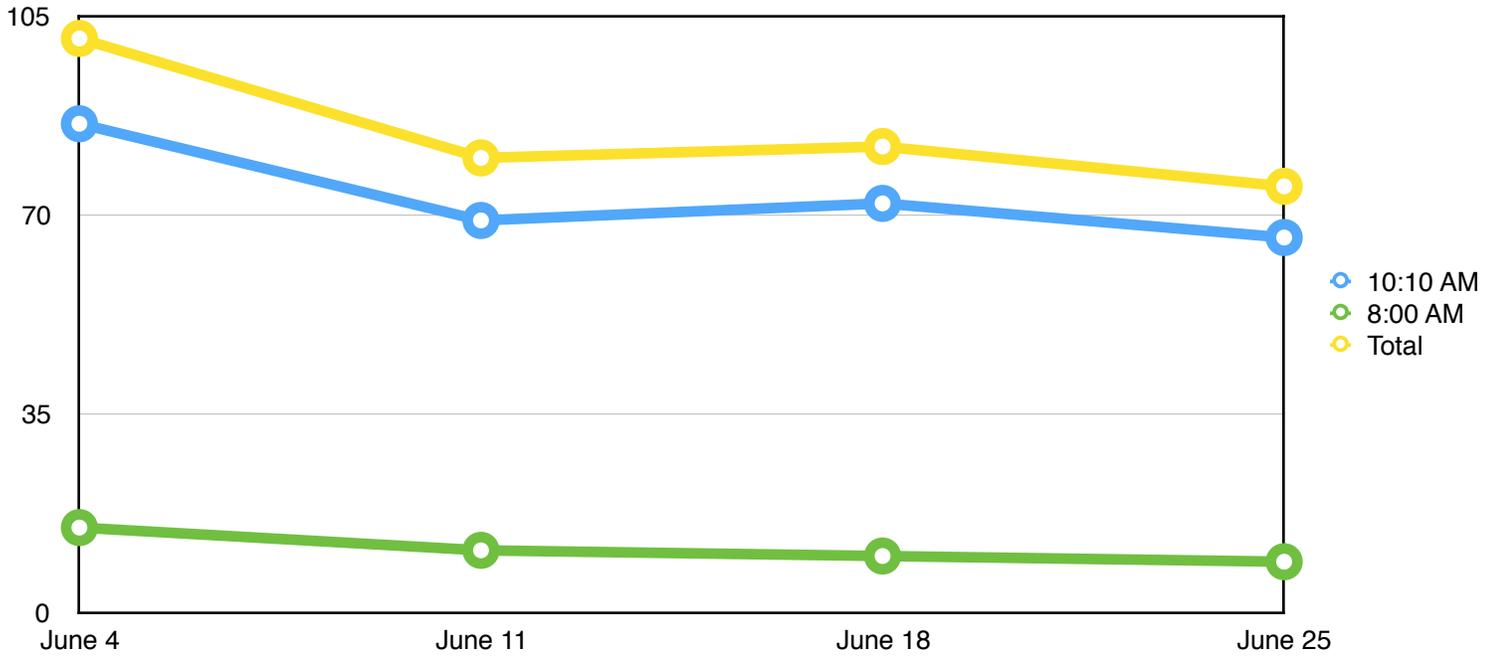


This is a bar graph showing the amount of donations given at the Community Meal for the month of June.

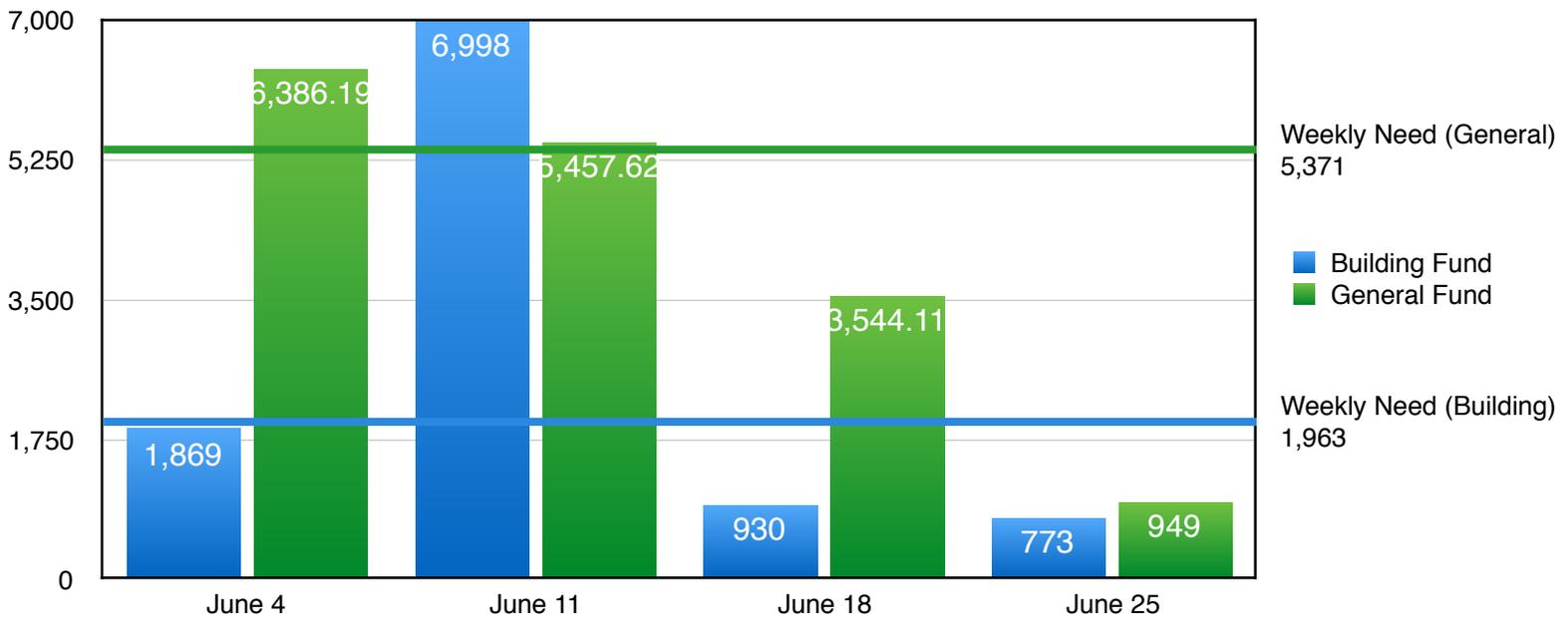
# BY THE NUMBERS

## WORSHIP ATTENDANCE & GIVING

### Worship Attendance for the Month of June



### Giving for the Month of June





# July

**Saturday, July 1:**

*Pastor Douglass Anne's Sabbath*

**Sunday, July 2:**

8:00 AM Worship in the Round  
9:00 AM Sundays @ Nine  
10:10 AM Worship  
5:30 PM Potluck Picnic at Jack and Linda Lees' house for Sundays @ Nine group

**Monday, July 3:**

10:00-12:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry

**Tuesday, July 4:**

*Pastor Douglass Anne's Sabbath*

Independence Day  
OFFICE CLOSED  
9:00-11:00 AM Reiki  
4:30-6:30 PM Community Meal

**Wednesday, July 5:**

*Pastor Tim's Sabbath*  
Douglass Anne at General Assembly (July 5-15)  
1:00-2:00 PM Kitchen- Meals on Wheels

**Thursday, July 6:**

7:45-11:30 AM Kitchen- Meal on Wheels  
3:30-4:30 PM Bible Study

**Friday, July 7:**

*Pastor Tim's Sabbath*  
Tim at General Assembly (July 7-14)  
Parent's Night Out is POSTPONED

**Saturday, July 8:**

*Pastor Douglass Anne's Sabbath*

**Sunday, July 9:**

8:00 AM Worship in the Round  
9:00 AM Sundays @ Nine  
10:10 AM Worship

**Tuesday, July 11:**

*Pastor Douglass Anne's Sabbath*  
9:00-11:00 AM Reiki  
4:30-6:30 PM Community Meal

**Wednesday, July 12:**

*Pastor Tim's Sabbath*  
1:00-2:00 PM Kitchen- Meals on Wheels

**Thursday, July 13:**

7:45-11:30 AM Kitchen- Meal on Wheels  
No Bible Study this week  
7:00 PM Mindfulness @ Terry Wood's

**Friday, July 14:**

*Pastor Tim's Sabbath*  
9:30-5:30 Red Cross Blood Drive

**Saturday, July 15:**

*Pastor Douglass Anne's Sabbath*  
10:00 AM Enchanted Forest w/ FCC Families

**Sunday, July 16:**

8:00 AM Worship in the Round  
9:00 AM Sundays @ Nine  
10:10 AM Worship  
11:30 AM Directory Pictures  
11:45 AM Stewardship Meeting

**Monday, July 17:**

10:00-12:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry  
4:00 PM Community Meal Steering Committee  
7:00 PM Board Meeting

**Tuesday, July 18:**

*Pastor Douglass Anne's Sabbath*  
9:00-11:00 AM Reiki  
10:30-12:00 PM Facebook 101  
4:30-6:30 PM Community Meal

**Wednesday, July 19:**

*Pastor Tim's Sabbath*  
1:00-2:00 PM Kitchen- Meals on Wheels  
6:30-8:30 Ice Cream Social

**Thursday, July 20:**

7:45-11:30 AM Kitchen- Meal on Wheels  
10:00-11:00 AM Directory Pictures  
3:30-4:30 PM Bible Study

**Friday, July 21:**

*Pastor Tim's Sabbath*

**Saturday, July 22:**

*Pastor Douglass Anne's Sabbath*

**Sunday, July 23:**

8:00 AM Worship in the Round  
9:00 AM Sundays @ Nine  
10:10 AM Worship  
11:30 AM Directory Pictures  
11:45 AM Social Justice Team Meeting

**Monday, July 24:**

6:30-8:00 PM Elder's Meeting  
7:00-8:00 PM Directory Pictures

**Tuesday, July 25:**

*Pastor Douglass Anne's Sabbath*  
9:00-11:00 AM Reiki  
4:30-6:30 PM Community Meal

**Wednesday, July 26:**

*Pastor Tim's Sabbath*  
1:00-2:00 PM Kitchen- Meals on Wheels  
6:00-7:00 PM Holy Sips

**Thursday, July 27:**

7:45-11:30 AM Kitchen- Meal on Wheels  
10:00-12:00 AM Executive Team Meeting  
3:30-4:30 PM Bible Study

**Friday, July 28:**

*Pastor Tim's Sabbath*

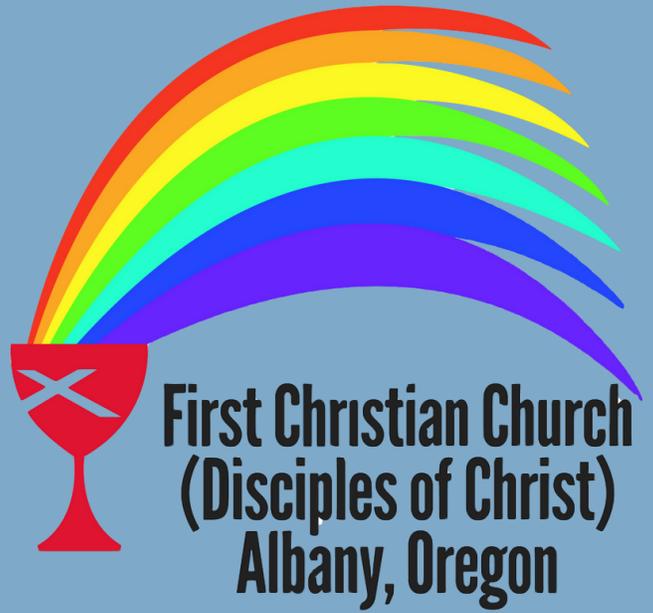
**Saturday, July 29:**

9:00 AM Booth @ Farmer's Market

**Sunday, July 30:**

8:00 AM Worship in the Round  
9:00 AM Sundays @ Nine  
10:10 AM Worship  
11:30 AM Directory Pictures  
5:00-7:30 PM Potluck and Games

**+true community**  
**+deep spirituality**  
**+passion for justice**



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Albany, OR 97321

432 Ferry St. SW

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

**GOOD NEWS**

