



Disciples Dispatch

First Christian Church of Corvallis

Disciples of Christ

April 11, 2017 vol. 18, issue 14

**Join us for Easter Sunday
Worship on April 16, at 8:00
and 10:00 a.m.**

- 6:30 a.m.-Easter Vigil 5k Run/Walk
- 8:00 a.m.-"Sunrise" Folk Service
- 9:00 a.m.-Easter Breakfast
- 10:00 a.m.-Easter Service (w/ Easter Sunday School Activities)

Called to Serve

8:00 a.m. "Sunrise" Easter Service

Elders: Christa Schmeder, Tom Garbacik

Home Communion: Teresa Shaw

Preparing Deacons: Dick Cooley, Sue Cooley

Serving Deacons: *Jim Stinson, Sue Schulz,
Jim Postell, Sandy Landis

10:00 a.m. Easter Service

Elders: Aaron Marchbanks, Kelley Marchbanks

Preparing Deacons: Dick Cooley, Sue Cooley

Serving Deacons: *Pat Malone, Charlene
Lincoln, Teanna McMahan, Tricia Martin

Coffee Cart and Snack: na

Flowers: Marion Wong

Sunday Worship Accessibility

Hearing assistance devices, large print bulletins and hymnals are available.

Stone Soup Meal Count

Tuesday, 4/4-100; Saturday, 4/8-na
Sunday, 4/9-117

Staff

Rev. Matt Gordon..... Senior Minister
 Matthew Clark.....Choir Director
 Eric Qian Pianist
 Charlene Lincoln.....Church Secretary
 Jill Shinkawa.....Communications Manager
 Kevin Weaver Paladin
 Lucas Teeter ..Disciples House Resident Advisor
 Christa Schmeder..... Director of Youth Ministry

Flowers Needed for the Cross

Check your budding tulips and flowers in your gardens! We need bunches of flowers, either fresh cut or store bought, on Easter morning to decorate the wooden cross. Plan to bring them on Easter Sunday, April 16 before the 10:00 a.m. service.



Moments from the Palm Sunday...



Matt's Minute

"I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. I looked, and the tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them..." -Ezekiel 37:7-8a

The Valley of Dry Bones

The prophet Ezekiel records a dramatic scene where he looks out a valley full of dry bones and at God's command and the words from Ezekiel, mouth the valley of bones resurrects to become a vast army. At first, they are just bodies,

but then the breath of God allows them to live. God explains the vision and metaphor as the people of Israel. The people are full of despair and all hope is gone. The Spirit of God is coming on God's people, to bring them life and abundance.

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Matt's Minute *(Continued from page 1)*

I love this metaphor because it speaks to the power of resurrection and new life. What is deader than a valley of dry bones? There are so many stories of desperation and sadness around us. The stories of death and destruction and stories of conflict and chaos are so compelling. There is an old saying in journalism, "if it bleeds, it leads." How about those stories of love and resurrection? Where are those stories? Who is telling those stories? Where are the stories of reconciliation and renewal? I think that perhaps these stories are not that compelling to our news media. They do not seem to capture the attention and time of journalists. I made a decision, though, to stop complaining about it. I realize that there are the stories we need to tell. If no one else chooses to tell stories of life and love, then we will.

If we are a resurrection people, then we must live the resurrection. We must reject narratives of death and despair and turn to stories of life and love. If we believe that God can create something out of nothing, then this must be our highest goal. Romans 12 reminds us, "In Christ, we though many, form one body, and each member belongs to each other. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to us. Live your gift and live it well!"

Can you hear it? Can you hear the music of the bones? Rattling and connecting? Can you see the sinews and flesh covering the bones? Can you feel the breath coming into the still bodies? Do you believe resurrection is possible?

I hope to see you this Easter. Bring a friend and come celebrate with us.

Pastor Matt

Relying on the spirit and story of the gospels, First Christian Church is supported primarily by donations. There is no charge for any event. We rely on freely given offerings to support our various ministries and opportunities.

Easter Sunday is Your Opportunity to Join the Church

We will have an opportunity for you to join the church on Sunday, April 16. We will invite you to come forward before our closing hymn to add your name to the "red book" of church members. Why would you want to join the church? I am glad you asked.

What does it mean to join the church?

Like any other organization, membership means support. You can support the church without joining, but becoming a member of the church is a kind of covenant between you and God that you will support this particular community in its vision and mission. We do not have strict membership requirements, but ask our members support the church in three ways: with their time, talents and treasure. There are two types of membership at First Christian: a regular member and an associate member. The distinction between the two types of membership has to do with those wishing to maintain their membership at another church while they are part of this one instead of transferring their membership.



Rev. Matt Gordon
Senior Minister

Church phone: 541-753.2671

Email: matt@heartofcorvallis.org

Open Office Hours:

Mondays: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Tuesdays: 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Are there privileges to joining?

I often joke about not giving out tote bags when people join the church. Seriously, members and non-members are entitled to all the same information and resources of the church. Members do not have secret knowledge. Member or not, you have a voice in all matters of church and are welcome to attend any of our meetings. However, we are congregational in our decision-

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Thank You Spring Cleaners!



Pictured here are just a few of the stalwart volunteers who showed up to spruce up the church inside and out. A big thanks to you all and to Linda who organized it.

Your contributions and gifts allow us to continue to be a radically inclusive, justice-driven community of faith every day of the week. Thank you in advance for your gifts.

Youth Education... *From Christa Schmeder*

In Preschool, with Vicki, we took Pastor Matt's Children's Moment concept and started an art project about stained glass windows. Instead of copper, solder, and glass our tools were wax paper, brightly colored tissue paper, and craft glue. Each child had the opportunity to create a beautiful work of art to capture the magic of sunshine. In 2nd - 5th grade, Leah's class made Easter preparations by decorating the bags for everyone to enjoy. This hands-on approach to service for Easter is a great way to start the conversation about how a church works. Everyone has something to offer and when we

spread out the work, everyone has more fun and feels connected to the family of faith.

In Middle and High School, with Emily and Miranda, we talked about "adulting". It was inspired by an NPR program that shared ways that various organizations are hosting classes for millennials on how to be a productive adult. Things covered in these classes range from budgeting, to cooking, to laundry, to how to sew on a button. Class decided that cooking was a good thing for us to know before we graduate from high school Sunday School.



Photo by Linda Stinson

Matt's Minute *(Continued from page 2)*

making, which means the authority of the church rests in its membership. Members do have a vote on important decisions in the life of the church. Two examples are when we hire ministers and when we make large financial decisions (like the recent decision about solar panels). Our by-laws also require certain leadership positions to be members of the church (deacons, elders, president, vice-president, treasurer to name a few).

How do I join the church?

This Easter Sunday, we will offer an invitation for people wanting to join the church to come forward to express their intent. The advantage of joining the church in this way is it provides the rest of the church an opportunity to welcome and know who you are. Sometimes, it is possible to sneak in and out of the sanctuary without

anyone noticing. By making a public your desire to be a part of the church it says to everyone, I (we) want to make a commitment to this church. This is not required, however, and if you want to become a member of the church, but are uncomfortable coming up front, give me a call.

And what about baptism?

In our church, we recognize all forms of baptism as valid (infant baptism, adult baptism, baptism by sprinkling, baptism by immersion are all okay with us). In other words, if you were baptized before you came here, we affirm that baptism. We do not often baptize people again, but can make exceptions if it important to you. We do not require baptism for membership, but it is sometimes a public sign of a new commitment. Contact me if you are interested in baptism.

In Our Prayers

Prayers for Linda and Jim

Teanna is having health problems

Bud's son-in-law, Larry is having cancer surgery

The Eide family

Mona's two brothers are very ill and her brother-in-law is receiving chemo treatments.

Margaret Coon is home now.

Charlene's former neighbor, Burt, is having heart surgery

Josh Bergh has a brain tumor

Roger Weaver and his family

Lynn Evans and family

Joyce Miller

For those who suffer from addiction and mental health issues

For our country and leaders

For the people affected by the bombings in Syria and Egypt

Corvallis Youth Collective Event

**Sunday, April 30
from 2-4 p.m.,
hosted by First
Christian Church
at one of the com-
munity gardens.**



In collaboration with the Corvallis Environmental Center, we will build a water collection station, do some planting, discuss the benefits of growing food and caring for our natural resources.

Sunday, May 21 from 5-7 p.m., hosted at First United Methodist Church.

We will play a live version of the board game, Clue. Once the players have solved the mystery, we will have dinner together in the dining room.

Looking Ahead

April 13

- 6:00 pm-Maundy Thursday

April 14

- 7:00 pm-Good Friday Service at FCC

April 16 - Easter Sunday!

- 6:30 am- Easter 5K
- 8:00 am- "Sunrise" Folk Service
- 8:30-9:30 am - Easter Breakfast
- 10:00 am- Easter Worship

April 17

- 7:00 pm-Program Cabinet

April 20

- 7:00 pm-Women meet at the Griswolds'

April 23

- After Service-Congregational Meeting

April 30

- 2:00 pm-Corvallis Youth Collective

May 5

- 9:00 am-Due Knots meet

May 7

- 5:30 pm-Group 4 at the Griswolds'

May 8

- 7:00 pm-Finance Cabinet

May 13

- 2:00 pm-Mother's Day Tea Party

May 15

- 7:00 pm-Program Cabinet

May 29

- Memorial Day-Church Office Closed

May 31

- 9:00 am- Due Knots meet

June 11

- Group 4 at the Yarbroughs'

June 12

- 7:00 pm-Finance Cabinet

June 18

- Father's Day Car Show/Chili Cook-off

June 19

- 7:00 pm-Program Cabinet

Happy Birthday!

4/8 - Leah Gordon, Lauri Morris

4/17 - Len Libbey

4/21 - Alice Kelling

4/22 - Sandra Landis, April Lewis

4/23 - Neil Reynolds

4/26 - Doris Montgomery

4/27 - Stephanie Mason Key

4/30 - Bob Young

What's Happening...

Maundy Thursday Help Needed

Clean up assistance is needed with the Maundy Thursday Seder meal on April 13. After service please stay for a bit to help out. Thanks!

Flowers Wanted for the Easter Cross

We need bunches and bunches of flowers, either fresh cut or store bought, to decorate the wooden cross on Easter Sunday. Plan to bring them on Easter Sunday, April 16 before the 10:00 a.m. service.

Holy Week and Easter Schedule

Thursday, April 13 - Maundy Thursday, Seder Meal at 6:00 p.m.

We will share a traditional Passover meal that connects us to our Hebrew story.

Friday, April 14 - 7:00 p.m., Good Friday service at First Christian

Together, with First Presbyterian Church and First Congregational Church we will remember the crucifixion of Christ on this Holy Friday.

Sunday, April 16 - Easter Celebration!

Join us for our Easter Celebration.

- 6:30 a.m. - Sunday Morning 5K walk/run
- 8:00 a.m. - Easter "Sunrise" Service with Folk Musicians
- 9:00 a.m. - Easter breakfast
- 10:00 a.m. - Easter Worship, a full morning with baptisms, special anthems from the choir and a message of resurrection and hope.

Women's Group Meets at the Griswolds'

On Thursday, April 20 the Women's Group meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. at Karen Griswold's home. Our speaker will be Susan Latham who will talk about some of her Habitat for Humanity trips and adventures around the world. Please RSVP if you plan to attend.

Due Knots Meet

There will be no meeting in April. On Friday, May 5 at 9:00 a.m. and Wednesday, May 31 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 35. Come help us tie comforters for needy kids in Benton County and beyond. Come with a joke and stay for tea!

Gathering on the River at Belknap Hot Springs

Looking ahead to an enjoyable three nights at the Gathering on the River at Belknap Hot Springs Resort? This is an event that adds fun, connection, and relaxation with the church family. Dates: June 29 to July 2, 2017. Put this date on your calendar in red! To register, contact Linda Stinson.

Announcements

Easter Offering 2017

Easter Offering on April 9 and 16, 2017, Disciples Mission Fund - Care, inclusion, and justice for all. Find out about more than 70 ministries of wholeness supported by Disciples Mission Fund at www.disciplesmissionfund.org

Around Town...

Prescription Drug Take Back - April 29

Benton County Health is sponsoring the upcoming Prescription Drug Take Back event on Saturday, April 29 from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. at the Benton County Fairgrounds. This is an important public health event as proper disposal of leftover medications prevents children and teens from getting a hold of them in the home, as well as avoids dumping extra medications into our water system.

April/May

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9 Palm Sunday Easter Offering 9 am -Bible Study 10 am -Worship, w/Sunday School 5:30 pm -Group 4 at the Smarts' 5:30 pm -Stone Soup Supper	10 7 pm -Finance Cabinet	11 5:30 pm -Stone Soup Supper (3:30 pm prep)	12 10 am -Bible Study 7 pm -Choir practice	13 6 pm -Maundy Thursday Service	14 7:00 pm -Good Friday Service at FCC	15 10 am -Stone Soup Breakfast
 16 Easter Sunday Easter Offering 6:30 am -5K run 8 am -Sunrise Service 9 am -Breakfast 10 am -Easter Service 5:30 pm -Stone Soup Supper	17 7 pm -Program Cabinet	18 5:30 pm -Stone Soup Supper (3:30 pm prep)	19 10 am -Bible Study 7 pm -Choir practice	20	21	22 10 am -Stone Soup Breakfast
 23 9 am -Bible Study 10 am -Folk Worship, no Sunday School After Service: Congregational Meeting 5:30 pm -Stone Soup Supper	24	25 5:30 pm -Stone Soup Supper (3:30 pm prep)	26 10 am -Bible Study 7 pm -Choir practice	27	28	29 10 am -Stone Soup Breakfast
30 9 am -Bible Study 10 am -Worship, w/Sunday School 5:30 pm -Stone Soup Supper	1 May	 2 3:30 pm -FCC turn to prep/serve Stone Soup 5:30 pm -Stone Soup Supper (3:30 pm prep)	3 10 am -Bible Study 7 pm -Choir practice	4	5 9 am -Due Knots Meet	6 10 am -Stone Soup Breakfast
7 9 am -Bible Study 10 am -Worship, w/Sunday School 5:30 pm -Group 4 at the Griswolds' 5:30 pm -Stone Soup Supper	8 7 pm -Finance Cabinet	9 5:30 pm -Stone Soup Supper (3:30 pm prep)	10 10 am -Bible Study 7 pm -Choir practice	11	12	13 10 am -Stone Soup Breakfast 2 pm -Mother's Day Tea Party




First Christian

Disciples in the Heart of Corvallis

First Christian Church
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

 Please recycle this newsletter.

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Send an email to jill@heartofcorvallis.org and put "Subscribe Dispatch" as the subject. If you are not receiving the Dispatches please inform the church office.

The First Christian Church of Corvallis is a diverse inclusive community providing a living witness to the compassionate Christ. From our central location in the heart of Corvallis, we seek out, develop, and support ministries to meet the human needs for physical and spiritual wholeness. On the basis of our Disciple heritage, we embrace the ecumenical movement, develop lay leadership, and promote intellectual freedom in the pursuit of truth.
All are welcome to participate. Inclusivity is one of our most important values.

Our Vision

