



Disciples Dispatch

First Christian Church of Corvallis Disciples of Christ

January 3, 2018 vol. 19, issue 01

*Join us for Sunday Worship on
January 7 at 10:00 a.m.*

- 9:00 a.m. - Adult study
- 10:00 a.m. - Service w/Sunday School
- 5:30 p.m. - Stone Soup Supper
(prep at 3:30)

Called to Serve

Elders: Don Yarbrough, Bud Graham

Home Communion: Michael Gordon

Preparing Deacons: Karen Griswold, Allan Doerksen

Serving Deacons: Donna Mason, Lee Mason, Aaron Marchbanks, Kelley Marchbanks*

Coffee Cart and Snack: Tom and Carol Garbacik

Flowers: na

Greeter: Lynda Shurtleff

Sunday Worship Accessibility

Large print bulletins and hymnals available.

Stone Soup Meal Count

Tuesday, 12/26 - 141

Saturday, 12/30 - 116

Sunday, 12/31 - 116

Staff

Rev. Matt Gordon..... Senior Minister

Matthew Clark.....Choir Director

Eric Qian Pianist

Jill Shinkawa.....Communications Manager

Kevin Weaver..... Paladin

Lucas Teeter ..Disciples House Resident Advisor

Christa Schmeder..... Director of Youth Ministry

Ruth Chadd..... Office Manager

The Scenes from the Christmas Pageant...



Photos: At the Christmas Pageant we had it all - adorable new babies, harking angels, wandering sheep, candlelighting, and plenty of smartphone moments. Happy New Year to all!

Matt's Minute

"The Bible is full of the most delightful organic questions to describe the path of spiritual formation. Where will you find your spiritual food? What is the source of living water? Where is your spiritual home? Who are your spiritual people? What does it mean to spiritually reproduce? What is your unique role in the spiritual ecosystem?"

-Neighbors and Wise Men, Tony Kriz

If you read the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament) from start to finish, what you find is a story of struggle. You find a story of struggle, heartache, exile, and loss. The journey from Genesis to Malachi is a cyclical story of salvation, wandering, exile, repentance, redemption, and then salvation. Over and over, over and over again. The thread that weaves the story together is a process of spiritual formation of the Hebrew people. Despite internal and external forces pushing back, the story is a spiritual evolution. The people make sense of it all by finding God in the midst of their journey. At times, the people thank God and praise God. Other times, they curse God. We hear about people setting up altars made of rocks to honor God and other times running away from God.

In this first week of a New Year, I cannot help reflecting on the spiritual formation of this church. Where were we? Where are we going? Where is God in our story? How are we moving forward? Where are we progressing? Where are we stuck? What past narratives do we need to let go? What new narratives do we need to embrace? What small and big changes do we need to make? What is going right? What needs improvement?

I imagine some of you are doing your own personal inventories right now. The New Year brings new opportuni-

ties and second chances. You are going to eat better, exercise more, read more books, spend money differently, save money, connect with friends, love your family or yourself better, and so on. In the life of the church, this is our time to consider our own inventories. In the next few months, I will be exploring spiritual formation and congregational life in my sermons. I can give you an advance warning that there will be more questions than answers. We are on this journey together and I look forward to exploring the possibilities with you.

I look forward to the journey in 2018!

*Peace and love,
Pastor Matt*

Directory Update

Lifetouch Directories sent a notice right before Christmas indicating that our books are finally finished, headed to the printers, and expected to ship on or before January 12.



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.



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.

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*

Children's Pageant!

"Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little lord Jesus lay down his sweet head."
Merry Christmas! Here is a sample of some of the wonderful scenes from the pageant this week.



The Early Candlelight Service *Photos by Pamella Doerksen*



Sharing the Light from the Traditional Service



In Our Prayers

Lynnne Evans is receiving hospice care. Prayers for her and her family

Viv Ellsworth is in the hospital

Herbert Dominguez, Rick Dominguez's dad, passed away. Prayers for his family and friends.

Carol Bailey

Charlene is recovering from knee replacement surgery

Leonard Higgins and family

Don Zobel's sister is receiving cancer treatments

Georgann Taylor

Marcene Stuart

Teanna McMahan and her family

Jim Stinson

Doris Montgomery

Prill's mother, Betty

Margaret Coon

Roger Weaver and his family

Our world, country and leaders

Corvallis Youth Collective (CYC) Events

Sunday, January 7, from 2:00-4:00 pm. - Middle and High School teens join us for a Live Action Clue Game. First United Methodist church will host the event with the Clue board game characters in role play throughout the church building. Enter the building from 11th street. Join the active fun of traveling room to room to solve the mystery! Was it Professor Plum in the library with the trophy?

Friday, February 2 (no school) - Hoo-doo sledding trip, the cost for sledding if \$15 (due by January 14 with permission slip). We plan to meet at 7:00 a.m. and be back by 4:00 p.m. Bring a sack lunch, snow gear, and boots!

Looking Ahead

January 5

- 9:00 am - Due Knots meet

January 7

- Unhanging of the Greens
- 5:00 pm - Group 4 at the Stinsons'

January 8

- 7:00 pm - Finance Cabinet

January 15

- Birthday of Martin Luther King Jr. - Church office is closed.

January 21

- After Service - Congregational Meeting

January 22

- 7:00 pm - Program Cabinet

February 12

- 7:00 pm - Finance Cabinet

February 14

- Ash Wednesday

February 19

- Presidents Day - Church office is closed
- 7:00 pm - Program Cabinet

Happy Birthdays!

- 1/1 - Max Glenn
- 1/2 - Merritt Jensen
- 1/8 - Kasey Burns
- 1/10 - Betty Claypool, Susan Potter
- 1/11 - Kacy Born
- 1/12 - Sean Paul Mills
- 1/20 - Pat Malone, Matthias John Doerksen-Goldwater
- 1/22 - Matt Gordon
- 1/24 - Viv Ellsworth
- 1/25 - Don Baarstad
- 1/28 - Tom Garbacik, Rick Olsen, Charles Brunner
- 1/29 - Madeline Watkins
- 1/30 - Nami Choe, Caitlin Alexander
- 1/31 - Jeremiah Evans

Happy Anniversaries

- 1/15 - Kelley and Aaron Marchbanks
- 1/26 - Lisa Luthy and Ely Kimberlin

What's Happening...

Due Knots Meet

Due Knots meet on Friday, January 5, 2018 in room 35 at 9:00 a.m. Come and tie quilts for kids at risk in our community and enjoy a cup of tea with us.

Group 4 at the Stinsons'

Jim and Linda Stinson are hosting Group 4 at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 7. Linda plans to make pasties (Cornish meat pies). She would like others to bring salads and desserts to share. Everyone is welcome. Let's get to know one another from FCC.

Program Cabinet Date Change

Program Cabinet has changed the next meeting date from Monday, January 15 to Monday, January 22.

Announcements...

2018 Gathering at the River at Belknap Hot Springs

It is time to begin thinking about The Gathering At The River at Belknap Hot Springs. Save the dates June 28, 29 and 30. We will begin registration some time in February but it is not too early to be thinking about attending. We have reserved cabins, lodge rooms, tent sites and RV sites. This year we have options near the upper pool as well as the lower pool. For information contact Linda Stinson at 541 753 2714 or lindassewing66@comcast.net.

The Giving Tree Continues

Wishlist tags will be moved from the tree to a basket in the church office. You still have the opportunity to fulfill a gift tag through the middle of January. There are gift wish tags on the giving tree from Stone Soup, We Care, Corvallis Daytime Drop-In Center, West M, Hope and Wholeness Counseling, and Disciples House. Please help one or more of these partner organizations.

Gone Missing

The big red book of names is missing. Have you seen it? Did you move it somewhere? Did you take it home for research? If you know its whereabouts, contact the church office.

Liturgist Sign-Ups

A worship liturgist would be reading a call to worship, call to offering and prayer after the offering is received. To sign-up to be a liturgist, you can give me a call or sign up here: <https://goo.gl/bx51Q7>

Around Town...

Interfaith Potluck

Interfaith Potluck meets on Sunday, January 14, 2018 at 5:30-7:30 p.m. Please invite your congregation and friends. We are pleased to take this one-year-old tradition into the new year.

Corvallis Friends Meeting, 3311 NW Polk St. (There is parking on Polk St.) This will be a vegetarian potluck to accommodate more dietary preferences; bring little signs that indicate gluten or dairy content if you can. If it's easy, bring your own plate/cup/silverware. We also have some, and will have paper plates if needed. Let us create and strengthen friendships between our congregations. Let us be the peace and love we wish to see in the world, to echo Mahatma Gandhi's suggestion. For more information contact Laurie Childers 541-908-4518.

January 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 10 am -Lessons and Carols Worship, no Sunday School 5:30 pm -Stone Soup Supper	1 January 2018! Happy New Years! Church office is closed	2  3:30 pm -FCC's turn to prep/serve Stone Soup 5:30 pm -Stone Soup Supper (3:30 pm prep)	3 7 pm -Choir Rehearsal	4	5 9 am -Due Knots Meet	6 10 am -Stone Soup Breakfast
7 9 am -Bible Study 10 am -Worship, w/Sunday School, Unhanging of the Greens 5:00 pm -Group 4 at the Stinsons' 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 Rehearsal	11	12	13 10 am -Stone Soup Breakfast
14 9 am -Bible Study 10 am -Worship, w/Sunday School 5:30 pm -Stone Soup Supper	15 Birthday of Martin Luther King Jr. Church office is closed	16 5:30 pm -Stone Soup Supper (3:30 pm prep)	17 10 am -Bible Study 7 pm -Choir Rehearsal	18	19	20 10 am -Stone Soup Breakfast
21 9 am -Bible Study 10 am -Worship, w/Sunday School After service -Congregational Meeting 5:30 pm -Stone Soup Supper	22 7 pm -Program Cabinet	23 5:30 pm -Stone Soup Supper (3:30 pm prep)	24 10 am -Bible Study	25	26	27 10 am -Stone Soup Breakfast
28  9 am -Bible Study 10 am -Folk Worship, no Sunday School 5:30 pm -Stone Soup Supper	29	30 5:30 pm -Stone Soup Supper (3:30 pm prep)	31 10 am -Bible Study 7 pm -Choir Rehearsal	1 February	2	3 10 am -Stone Soup Breakfast




First Christian

Disciples in the Heart of Corvallis

First Christian Church
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Corvallis, Oregon 97333-4515

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

