



Disciples Dispatch

First Christian Church of Corvallis

Disciples of Christ

February 6, 2018 vol. 20, issue 06

Join us for Sunday Worship on February 11 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: Bruce Cotton, Tricia Martin

Home Communion: Ann Smart

Preparing Deacons: Lisa Yarbrough

Serving Deacons: Chris Clausen, Mary Cotton, Myron McMahan, Carol Garbacik*

Coffee Cart and Snack: Shannon Chaney

Flowers: na

Greeter: Vera Rush

Sunday Worship Accessibility

Large print bulletins and hymnals available.

Stone Soup Meal Count

Tuesday, 1/30 - 120

Saturday, 2/3 - 91

Sunday, 2/4 - 98

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

Ash Wednesday Meal and Service



Join us for Ash Wednesday, February 14. Dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. in McLean Hall. Our youth will fix a soup supper for the congregation. The service of ashes starts at 6:30 p.m. The imposition of ashes marks the beginning of the season of Lent. Ash Wednesday draws on an ancient tradition of recalling our own mortality and examining our own separation from God and each other.



More Than We Can Imagine

February 18-25, 2018



Week of Compassion is the relief, refugee and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada. We seek to equip and empower disciples to alleviate the suffering of others through disaster response, humanitarian aid, sustainable development and the promotion of mission opportunities.

For many, 2017 was an apocalyptic year filled with unbelievable storms, earthquakes, fires, floods, and violence. We prayed, stood with, and gave to people and causes from next-door neighbors to global neighbors we will never meet. Even when we found it hard to envision recovery and new life, we accompanied our neighbors, strengthened by the assurance that God is working in, through, and beyond us.

The contribution we make today through the Week of Compassion offering—the seedling we help plant—



In displaced persons camps in Northern Iraq, Week of Compassion helps provide food, water, medicine, and school for children like this young girl. (photo: Week of Compassion)

has effects that ripple far beyond our imagination and spread far beyond what we can conceive. Will you accept the invitation to make a difference and see what God will do with our giving?

Matt's Minute

One of my favorite teachers in college was Dr. Yushau Sodiq, known by most of his students by his last name, Sodiq (SO-DEEK). Sodiq taught Introduction to World Religions, Islam and African Religion and, despite being one of the toughest teachers, I took all of his classes. He used to say, "There may be many correct answers, but you have to choose the answer that is most correct." I also remember him saying, "It's not enough that you regurgitate what someone else understands; you must find a way to understand it for yourself." I also remember getting a paper back with a big red "C" at the top and the only comment was in all caps: "DIG DEEPER."

I went by Sodiq's office to try to get a better understanding of his remarks (okay, honestly I was hoping he might reconsider the grade since it was worth 30% of our overall grade). He laughed in my face and read my plot to try to improve my grade. He went on to ask if I was curious about where I went wrong or if I was interested in improving my grade. I was honest and said I was interested in both. Sodiq masterfully explained that my paper was excellent grammatically. My paper, however, was nothing more than a

regurgitation of what I read. There was no original thought whatsoever, and there was no understanding of the significance of what I learned. I remembered him talking about the material as a box and how there are materials inside the box, but there are things outside the box too. The box is located in a particular place, at a particular time, within a particular social context. Its author comes to the box with an agenda usually, and it has parallels and conflicts with the other boxes around it. He then laughed at me again and ensured me that my grade would stay at "C."

During the season of Lent, I am going to attempt to make Sodiq proud. We are going to try and dig deeper. Take a few moments to look at photos from our archives. What do you notice? What is in, around, next to, on top of, and behind the box? What story do these pictures tell about our church? What is their relationship to our current context? I am going to be talking about these photos and our church history this coming Sunday and using these photos as a springboard for my message. I hope to see you Sunday.

Peace, Pastor Matt



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.

Sermons Online
<http://heartofcorvallis.org/recent-sermons/>



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.

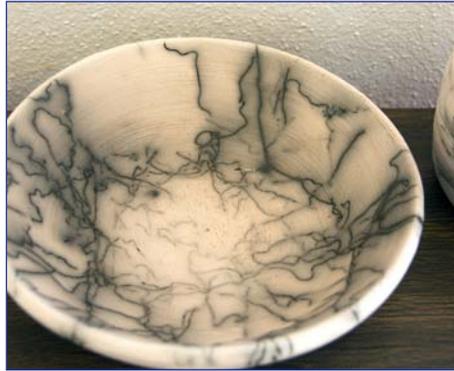
Youth Education... *From Christa Schmeder*

Raku and horsehair pottery!

The children join us in the sanctuary on Folk Service Sundays. That means we did not have Sunday School. This week during children's moment, Pastor Matt shared the history of the stole and who gets to wear them. The one he was wearing is very special because it's reversible and it was made by one of

our youth's grandma, Linda!

Also this week, the middle and high school students joined Christa in the CHS ceramics studio to learn about Raku pottery and horsehair pottery. You will get to see some of the examples in the church narthex this week! Thank you Aaron Marchbanks for the photos.



Supporting Seminary Students

For several years, First Christian had a "scholarship fund" built into our permanent fund distribution. After not using the scholarship fund for several years, we gave the balance of scholarship fund to Disciples Seminary Foundation to set up a permanent scholarship in our name for seminary students.

We got our first thank you note from Billy Strehlow, a second career seminary student attending seminary at Claremont School of Theology (CST). Billy takes advantage of CST's hybrid program allowing him to do the majority of his course work from his home in Salem. Billy is married and has two daughters and a son. He is a talented musician and leads worship at the church in Salem.

*Dear First Christian Church,
Corvallis,*

Thank you for all your support. It is greatly appreciated. I have completed five classes and am in the process of completing two other classes at the Claremont School of Theology (CST) for the 2017-18 school year. I have been very impressed with the world-class faculty and staff at CST. In addition, the team at Disciples Seminary Foundation (DSF) is stellar from top to bottom. They consistently radiate love, support and excellence in all that they do. I anticipate using much of what they model

in crafting my own team in the future. In addition, the steps DSF is taking to transition with CST from Claremont to Salem is of great excellence and I am looking forward to working with them in Salem...

I am currently serving on staff as a part-time Praise Team Leader and commissioned minister at Salem First Christian Church. It is a joy and an honor to attend CST and to serve at Salem First Christian Church. Thank you again for your support.

Sincerely, Billy Strehlow

In Our Prayers

Mary Cotton's mother, Doris, is recovering from a broken hip
Chris Clausen's friend, Bill
Lynnie Evans is receiving hospice care. Prayers for her and her family
Prill's mother, Betty
Viv Ellsworth
Carol Bailey
Charlene Lincoln
Leonard Higgins and family
Don Zobel's sister
Crystal's family
Georgann Taylor
Marcene Stuart
Teanna McMahan and her family
Doris Montgomery
Margaret Coon
Shannon's job opportunity
Roger Weaver and his family
Our nation, our leaders, and community - we have work to do.

Joys

Jim and Linda welcomed an adorable black lab puppy into their home! His name is Buddy.

Purse and Bag Drive

During the month of February, we are collecting new and gently used purses and bags in good condition. These bag and purses will be filled with hygiene supplies and donated to several organizations in town that are supporting women and women's health.

Bring your donations to church on any Sunday in February and give them to Christa. For more information, contact Christa. (christa@heartofcorvallis.org)

Looking Ahead

February 7

- 9:00 am - Due Knots Meet

February 11

- After Service - "Optimizing Brain Health"
- 5:30 pm - Group 4 gathers at the Smarts'

February 12

- 7:00 pm - Finance Cabinet

February 14

- 1:00 pm - Women's Group meets for lunch at Applebee's
- 5:30 pm - Meal
- 6:30 pm - Ash Wednesday Service

February 18

- Week of Compassion Offering

February 19

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

February 25

- Week of Compassion Offering
- After Service - "Optimizing Brain Health"

March 11

- After Service - "Optimizing Brain Health"

March 25

- Palm Sunday

March 29

- 6:00 pm - Maundy Thursday Seder Meal

March 30

- 7:00 pm - Good Friday Service at First Presbyterian Church

April 1

- Easter Sunday!

Happy Birthdays!

- 2/9 - Stephen Chenard, Eric Eide
- 2/12 - Linda Stinson
- 2/13 - Christa Schmeder
- 2/19 - Lilly Marchbanks
- 2/24 - Pamella Doerksen
- 2/26 - Emily Herb, Marjorie Jackson, Vicki Young

Happy Anniversaries

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

What's Happening...

New Adult Education Opportunity - Optimizing Brain Health

Classes continue on Sundays, February 11, 25, and March 11, after worship in room 35. We will discuss the effects of diet, exercise, social contacts, and loneliness. We will briefly discuss causes and consider strategies to fend off cognitive decline. Light snacks will be provided. Classes are led by Christy Wright.

The Smarts Host Group 4

Group 4 will be at the Smarts' on Sunday, February 11 at 5:30 p.m. We will make Cioppino and hope that you can bring salad, bread or dessert. Let us know if you can come so that we can borrow enough tables and chairs.

Women's Group Events

A women's event is planned for each month in 2018 and a "get to know you" sharing time at each. In February we are having lunch at Applebee's at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 14. Please come and share a memory about Valentine's Day from the first quarter of your life.

Announcements...

2018 Gathering at the River at Belknap Hot Springs

Register for Gathering at the River at Belknap Hot Springs - June 28, 29 and 30. Registration forms and information will be available after service. Cabins, lodge rooms, tent sites and RV sites have been reserved. This year we have options near the upper pool and lower pool. For information contact Linda Stinson at (541) 753-2714 or lindassewing66@comcast.net.

FCC 2018 Directories Available!

Hot off the presses! The 2018 First Christian Church, Corvallis directories are available for you. Drop by the church office to pick one up.

2018 Regional Women's Pray and Play Dates

Pray and Play Days are "mini-retreats" scheduled 4-5 times per year around the regional church for Disciples women and their friends to come and meet their sisters from nearby communities. Dates: Glenwood - 2/17, Medford - 3/3, Red Rock Boise - 3/10, LaGrande - 3/17, Salem First - March 24. To register go to: <https://goo.gl/ia8ABR>

Around Town...

Fourth annual March to Oak Flat with Yakama Christian Mission

The March to Oak Flat is February 15-18, 2018. This two-day march is to support the San Carlos Apache effort to protect the Oak Flat region from Resolution Copper, a subsidiary of Rio Tinto. Just east of Phoenix, AZ, YCM encourages you to join us at the Oak Flat march—for one day or all three. For more information go to: <https://yakamamission.org/march-to-oak-flat-2017/>

Marion County Community Homeless Connect

Tuesday, March 27, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at Salem First Baptist Church, 395 Marion St NE, Salem. Community Homeless Connect is a one-day resource and health fair connecting homeless and those at-risk of homelessness with much needed services and resources.

Want to volunteer? Volunteers are asked to attend an orientation the evening before, on Monday, March 26 from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. at Salem First Baptist Church.

For more information and to register go to: <https://signup.com/group/307694084080>

February/March 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 9 am -Bible Study 10 am -Worship, w/Sunday School 5:30 pm -Stone Soup Supper	5	6  3:30 pm -FCC's turn to prep/serve Stone Soup Meal 5:30 pm -Stone Soup Meal (3:30 pm prep)	7 9 am -Due Knots Meet 10 am -Bible Study 7 pm -Choir Rehearsal	8	9	10 10 am -Stone Soup Breakfast
11 9 am -Bible Study 10 am -Worship, w/Sunday School After Service - "Optimizing Brain Health" 5:30 pm -Group 4 at the Smarts' -Stone Soup Supper	12 7 pm -Finance Cabinet	13 5:30 pm -Stone Soup Meal (3:30 pm prep)	14 10 am -Bible Study 1 pm -Women's Lunch at Apple-bee's 5:30 pm -Meal 6:30 pm -Ash Wednesday Service	15	16	17 10 am -Stone Soup Breakfast
18 9 am -Bible Study Week of Compassion (WOC) Offering 10 am -Worship, w/Sunday School 5:30 pm -Stone Soup Supper	19 Presidents Day - Church office is closed 7 pm -Program Cabinet	20 5:30 pm -Stone Soup Meal (3:30 pm prep)	21 10 am -Bible Study	22	23	24 10 am -Stone Soup Breakfast
25  9 am -Bible Study WOC Offering 10 am -Folk Worship, no Sunday School After Service - "Optimizing Brain Health" 5:30 pm -Stone Soup Supper	26	27 5:30 pm -Stone Soup Meal (3:30 pm prep)	28 10 am -Bible Study 7 pm -Choir Rehearsal	1 March	2	3 10 am -Stone Soup Breakfast
4 9 am -Bible Study 10 am -Worship, w/Sunday School 5:30 pm -Stone Soup Supper	5	6  3:30 pm -FCC's turn to prep/serve Stone Soup Meal 5:30 pm -Stone Soup Meal (3:30 pm prep)	7 10 am -Bible Study 7 pm -Choir Rehearsal	8	9	10 10 am -Stone Soup Breakfast



First Christian

Disciples in the Heart of Corvallis

First Christian Church
602 SW Madison Avenue
Corvallis, Oregon 97333-4515

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

 Please recycle this newsletter.

Help us save paper, postage and money - receive the newsletter electronically.
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

