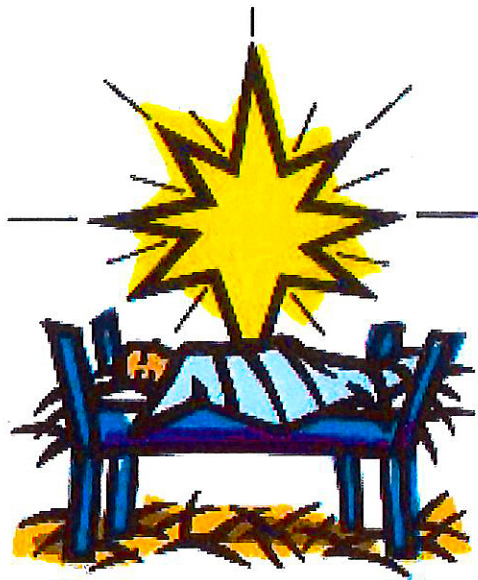


# Harbinger



A publication of Medford First Christian Church, Medford, Oregon  
*A community committed to love, acceptance & spiritual growth*

## Advent 2018



- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Sun., Dec. 16  | Church Christmas Party, following worship. All are invited. |
| Mon., Dec. 24  | Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 7:00PM                   |
| Tues., Dec. 25 | Christmas Day!  |
| Sun., Dec. 30  | Service of Carols, 10:30AM. Join us for a carol fest!       |
| Sun., Jan. 6   | Epiphany Sunday, worship at 10:30AM                         |

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### **Christmas Special Offering of the Christian Church**

*(Disciples of Christ)*

Your gifts received for the Christmas Offering will benefit the work and ministry of the Oregon Region of our denomination. A few of the ministries supported by your Christmas Offering are women's retreats, ministerial placement, support to Ecuador, leadership training, technical support and youth camps. The Christmas Offering will be received on Sundays, December 16 & 23.

## Season of Advent at MFCC

### Peace Sunday

**Second Sunday of Advent, December 9, 10:30 a.m.**

All Disciples congregations are encouraged to focus on the call from the Prince of Peace to be peacemakers.



### All Church Christmas Party

**Third Sunday of Advent, December 16, following worship in the Fellowship Hall**

This is a wonderful event to invite your friends and family to. There will be fun activities for all ages, including making cards for our Dear Hearts, caroling, and a visit from Santa Claus. Hosted by the Red Chalice Chicks. Beverages will be provided. Please bring your favorite breakfast pastry or brunch dish.

### Christmas Special Offering

**Sundays, December 16 & 23**

Your gifts go toward the work and ministry of our region.

### Christmas Sunday

**Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 23**

We will celebrate the approaching birth of baby Jesus in our 10:30 a.m. worship service.

### Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

**Monday, December 24, 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary**

Join in this beautiful service of joy, peace, and hope. Light a candle, pray, sing, and reflect on the coming of our Lord Jesus. Invite your family and friends!

### Merry Christmas

**Tuesday, December 25**

Celebrate the birth of our Savior and mentor, Jesus Christ!



### A Sunday of Carols

**Sunday, December 30, 10:30 a.m.**

Join us for a service filled with carols of the season.



### Epiphany Sunday

**January 6, 10:30 a.m.**

Epiphany celebrates the manifestation of God to the world and the journey of the magi, as well as the baptism, life and ministry of Jesus.



## Community Activities

### Willy Wonka

**Saturday, December 8, 7:30 pm**

**Sunday, December 9, 3:00 pm**

**Thursday - Friday, December 13-14, 7:30 pm**

**Saturday, December 15, 3:00 pm**

Craterian Theater Tickets: Adults \$24, Youth (12 and under) \$12

In this enchanting adaptation of Roald Dahl's tale, five children and their families walk through the doors of Willy Wonka's fantastic chocolate factory and enter into a world of pure imagination. With songs from the classic 1971 film as well as new music. You'll feel like you won the golden ticket as you enjoy this timeless story told by the Teen Musical Theater of Oregon.



### Sing-Along Messiah

Conducted by Lynn Sjolund

**Sunday, December 16, 4:00 pm**

Craterian Theater, admission is free.

## **Tomasenn Foley's A Celtic Christmas**

**Saturday, December 22, 3:00 pm & 7:30 pm**

Craterian Theater, Tickets \$22-\$38

Stories, music and dance celebrate Irish culture. Master storyteller Tomáseen Foley has been "a keeper of the flame for a priceless piece of Irish culture" for almost two decades. In *A Celtic Christmas*, Foley and award-winning Celtic musicians, singers and dancers take you on a Christmas Eve journey to a West Ireland farmhouse where neighbors converge to share "gifts of music, song, dance and story." Don't miss your chance to revel in the joyful tradition and narrative magic of the Irish Rambling House.

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## **Angel Tree**



Once again MFCC will sponsor an Angel Tree. The Angel Tree will be in the narthex, decorated with tags that have the names and ages of boys and girls in Jackson County.

Each year families come to the Salvation Army seeking assistance for Christmas. Last year Salvation Army provided new toys and clothing to over 2,000 children in Jackson County due in part to your generous support. Teenagers are now included in the program, making the need that much greater.

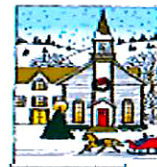
Salvation Army volunteers write the name and age of each child on a tag, then the tags are distributed to local businesses and organizations who wish to host an Angel Tree. Then those of you who desire to participate in the program, take a tag or two from the tree, write your name next to the tag number on the sign-up sheet, buy a gift for the child on your tag, and then bring the unwrapped gift with the tag taped to it, to the church office by 11:00 a.m., Thursday, December 13. Donations of Christmas wrap, tape and gift bags are also appreciated.

Each tag will have several suggested gift ideas for the child listed. You may use the ideas as a guide when gift shopping or select a gift not listed, it's up to you. The gift you purchase will be given to the child listed on your tag and not placed in a gift pool. The Salvation Army will distribute your gift to the children's parents so the gift can be placed under the family Christmas Tree.

## **RON'S TURNING 90!**

The family of Ron Bartlett invite you to join in the celebration of his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday during coffee hour, Sunday, December 30.

Ron grew up in Salem, Oregon, and became a member of MFCC at the old church on Oakdale in 1955 when he moved to Medford to assume the position of band director at Hedrick Jr. High School – a career encompassing 34 years until his retirement. He soon became the church choir director, a position he held for many years, and also served as elder and property chair through the years. In 1965 he married Gloria Haggard in our present sanctuary. Together they were blessed to raise two sons, Paul and Ryan. Paul remains an active member of our congregation. Ryan gave his life in the service of his ministry to the people of Malawi, Africa December 2, 2008. Ron is the proud grandfather of Anna, Lydia, and Ella. An original Britt board member, Ron was appointed general manager in the early years with responsibilities for maintenance and grounds helping to build the original stage complete with protective tarp "roof" and creative lighting. After their marriage the Britt box office operated out of Ron and Gloria's home for a time. In December of 1969 Ron conducted the first performance of Handel's *Messiah* in our sanctuary which became an annual tradition for over 20 years – our gift to the community. Retirement allowed Ron more time to pursue his affinity for restoring '59 Ford retractables. Always ready to lend a helping hand, let's all gather to celebrate Ron!



## **Do You Enjoy Christmas Carols?**

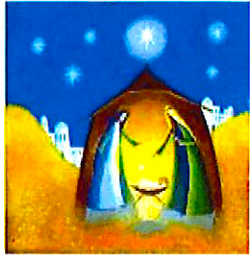
Do you enjoy to sing our Advent and Christmas hymns? If you do, then worship is the place for you throughout the Advent season! Each Sunday hymns and carols will be sung as we move through our worship services. Bring friends and family! Perhaps they would enjoy finding a place of worship and song this Christmas season.

# December 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS</b> 2 Elizabeth Chapman 9 Judi Bennett 19 Cody Bennett 23 Stacy Shelton 27 Kay Killian 29 Katelyn Hartwig 30 Ron Bartlett						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>  10:30AM Korean-CH, FH, Kit  10:30AM MFCC-Sanct, FH, Kit, Lib., Nurs  1:45PM AA-CH, FH  1st Sunday of Advent	<b>3</b>  Access noon - 2PM	<b>4</b>  7PM AA-CH	<b>5</b>  5:30 PM Bell Choir  7PM-Korean CH	<b>6</b>  7PM-AA CH  Community Dinner 5 - 7 PM  Silverware-Ron B.	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>  11:45 AM Men's Lunch
<b>9</b>  10:30AM Korean-CH, FH, Kit  10:30AM MFCC-Sanct, FH, Kit, Lib., Nurs  1:45PM AA-CH, FH  2nd Sunday of Advent Peace Sunday	<b>10</b>  6PM Chroale-FH  ACCESS noon - 2PM	<b>11</b>  7PM AA-CH	<b>12</b>  5:30 PM Bell Choir  7PM-Korean CH	<b>13</b>  7PM-AA CH  Community Dinner 5 - 7 PM  Silverware-Claudette M.	<b>14</b>  Home Study Group @ Killian's 6:30PM Ugly Sweater Night	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b>  10:30AM Korean-CH, FH, Kit  10:30AM MFCC-Sanct, FH, Kit, Lib., Nurs  1:45PM AA-CH, FH  3rd Sunday of Advent Christmas Special Offering Church Christmas Party	<b>17</b>  ACCESS noon-2PM	<b>18</b>  7PM AA-CH	<b>19</b>  5:30 PM Bell Choir  7PM-Korean CH	<b>20</b>  7PM-AA CH  Community Dinner 5 - 7 PM  Silverware-Ted K.	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b>  10:30AM Korean-CH, FH, Kit  10:30AM MFCC-Sanct, FH, Kit, Lib., Nurs  1:45PM AA-CH, FH  4th Sunday of Advent Christmas Special Offering	<b>24</b>  Access Closed Candlelight Service 7:00 PM  Christmas Eve	<b>25</b>  7PM AA-CH Christmas Day Small Steps & Church Office closed	<b>26</b>  7PM-Korean CH Church Office Closed	<b>27</b>  7PM-AA CH Church Office Closed Community Dinner 5 - 7 PM Silverware-Nan & Larry M.	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b>  10:30AM Korean-CH, FH, Kit  10:30AM MFCC-Sanct, FH, Kit, Lib., Nurs  1:45PM AA-CH, FH	<b>31</b>  Access Closed New Year's Eve  Small Steps & Church Office Closed					

Medford First Christian Church  
*(Disciples of Christ)*  
1900 Crater Lake Ave.  
Medford, OR 97504

**Advent 2018**



**MEDFORD FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

*(Disciples of Christ)*

1900 Crater Lake Avenue • Medford OR 97504  
(541)772-8030

E-MAIL: [mfccor@gmail.com](mailto:mfccor@gmail.com)

**WORSHIP SERVICE:** Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

**OFFICE HOURS:** Monday - Thursday 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

**Minister**.....All the people  
**Pastor**.....Rev. Stacy Shelton  
**Accompanist**.....Jennifer Dykstra  
**Song Leader**.....Kathy Williams  
**Business Administrator**.....Katherine Goin  
**Bookkeeper**.....Chris Peters  
**Small Steps Director**.....Teresa Fiuren  
**ACCESS Pantry Managers**.....Denise Frelin & Buttons Cummings

