

Harbinger



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

Join us for adult Sunday school at 9am from February 18th through March 25th. We will be exploring what Jesus' words and actions tell us about possessions. Through readings and conversation we will be exploring concepts like worry, abundance, scarcity and giving. Please join us!

Regional Assembly

May 18 & 19

Portland FCC

More information to come.
Mark your calendars now.



Program Council Meeting, Tuesday,
February 13, 6:00PM

Board Meeting, Tuesday, February 13, 7:00PM



LENT

- Ash Wednesday Service, Wednesday, February 14, 5:30PM
- First Sunday in Lent, February 18, worship 10:30AM
- Adult Sunday School, 9:00AM, library, February 18 - March 25
- Last day to order Easter Lilies, Sunday, February 18
- Week of Compassion Special Offering, Sundays, February 18 & 25
- Palm Sunday, March 25
- Easter Special Offering, Sundays, March 25 & April 1
- Maundy Thursday, March 29
- Good Friday, March 30
- Easter Sunday, April 1, brunch 9:15AM, worship 10:30AM, egg hunt at noon

News From Small Steps

The **Cookie Dough Fundraiser** begins Monday, February 12, and goes through Friday, March 2.

There are 5 cookie dough varieties and each one is \$16. For more information or to order speak with Sherrie Messer or Pastor Stacy.

The **Mystery Dinner** is planned for Saturday, April 28. More information to come. For now please mark your calendars!

PRAYER CORNER



CONTINUING PRAYERS

Harrison Meyer
Dan & Elizabeth Chapman
Kathy Peel
Greg Hansson
Kathleen Low
Trish Trickett



From the Pastor

In a few days we will be entering the season of Lent. In the grand scheme of things, Lent is a fairly new concept for protestant churches. Many of us grew up with Catholic friends who gave up something for Lent, or who fasted on Fridays during Lent. But I can speak for myself in saying that I never really understood how those things brought people closer to God. Most of the time it just seemed to make them uncomfortable and grumpy.

As an adult I have tried to embrace the concept of Lent at it's core. You see, we protestants have been accused of being unwilling to be uncomfortable for Christ, and while I don't think we need to participate in self flagellation, I do think we need to figure out ways to be more present to all of life's situations and conditions.

And so, I invite you to consider some things about the season of Lent. First of all, it is meant to be a time when we grow in our understanding of just how far God is willing to go to be in relationship with us. God wanted to be in relationship with us so much that Emmanuel, 'God with us,' came to experience this life. Above all else Lent is a time for us to realize that God's love is so vast that we cannot always make sense of it.

Secondly, Lent is a time for us to think about how we will respond to that love. What things are getting in the way of realizing that love? What things could we add to our lives that will help us realize it more? Think about taking away gossip, or giving up your need to right, or buying things you know you don't need. Or if you are more about addition than subtraction, think about adding five minutes of prayer a day, or one verse of scripture. Think about adding five minutes of positive conversation with a loved one, or a perfect stranger. Examine your life as it is and think about ways that you can bring yourself closer to God's love.

Finally, Lent is a time to be comfortable with the uncomfortable. Our Christian story doesn't God from birth to resurrection. A lot happens in the middle and the stories in between don't always show humanity in a positive light. Lent is a time when we can remember our Christian stories of betrayal, denial and outright persecution and then think about how those things show up in our daily lives and how we have participated in them ourselves. We don't have to fix it, but recognizing our involvement and asking for forgiveness will help us in our journey towards healing.

When taken seriously, Lent is not the easiest six weeks of your life, but it can be incredibly meaningful. I am glad to be on this journey with you, and look forward to seeing where it leads.

Peace and Blessings,

Stacy

Pray & Play Days 2018

9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Glenwood

February 17

Medford

March 3

Red Rock Boise

March 10

LaGrande

March 17

Salem First

March 24

Sponsored by

Disciples Women



Return the registration form and payment to:

Christian Church in OR and SW ID
0245 SW Bancroft St. Suite F Portland, OR 97239

Do the Math!



Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

City: _____ State: __ Zip: _____

Preferred Phone: _____

Alternate Phone: _____

Home Congregation: _____

Eugene/Glenwood _____ Medford _____ Boise Red Rock _____ LaGrande _____ Salem _____

**** Cost \$15 per person ***
(includes Program and gift)

I need childcare for _____ (how many children)

Ages _____

Please register at least one week before the event so we will have adequate supplies for all participants

February 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS 4 Dale Redding 8 Linda Hargrave-Bouchard 11 Kathy Peel 14 Pat Eisenberg				1 7PM-AA CH Community Dinner 5 - 7 PM Silverware: Ron B.	2	3
4 10:30AM Korean-CH, FH, Kit 10:30AM MFCC-Sanct, FH, Kit, Lib., Nurs 1:45PM AA-CH, FH	5 12 - 2 PM Access Food Pantry 6 PM RV Chorale FH, Sanct	6 7PM AA-CH	7 5:45 PM Bell Choir 7 PM Chancel Choir 7PM-Korean CH	8 7PM-AA CH Community Dinner 5 - 7 PM Red Chalice Chicks 11:30AM @ Amigos Silverware: Claudette M.	9	10 10 AM- 1 PM RV Chorale FH Men's Lunch 11:45AM
11 10:30AM Korean-CH, FH, Kit 10:30AM MFCC-Sanct, FH, Kit, Lib., Nurs 1:45PM AA-CH, FH	12 12 - 2 PM Access Food Pantry 6 PM RV Chorale FH, Sanct	13 7PM AA-CH Board Mtg. 7PM Program Council Mtg. 6PM	14 7PM-Korean CH Ash Wednesday Service 5:30PM	15 7PM-AA CH Community Dinner 5 - 7 PM Silverware: Ted & Kay K.	16	17
18 10:30AM Korean-CH, FH, Kit 10:30AM MFCC-Sanct, FH, Kit, Lib., Nurs 1:45PM AA-CH, FH 1st Sunday of Lent Adult Sunday School 9AM Week of Compassion Offering	19 12 - 2 PM Access Food Pantry 6 PM RV Chorale FH, Sanct Reiki Circle 1:30-3:30PM Small Steps Closed	20 7PM AA-CH	21 5:45 PM Bell Choir 7 PM Chancel Choir 7PM-Korean CH	22 7PM-AA CH Community Dinner 5 - 7 PM Silverware: Nan & Larry M.	23 Small Steps Closed	24
25 10:30AM Korean-CH, FH, Kit 10:30AM MFCC-Sanct, FH, Kit, Lib., Nurs 1:45PM AA-CH, FH 2nd Sunday of Lent Adult Sunday School 9AM Week of Compassion Offering	26 12 - 2 PM Access Food Pantry 6 PM RV Chorale FH, Sanct	27 7PM AA-CH	28 5:45 PM Bell Choir 7 PM Chancel Choir 7PM-Korean CH			

Medford First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

1900 Crater Lake Ave.
Medford, OR 97504



MFCC men enjoy fellowship and lunch the second Saturday of each month at 11:45AM. The next luncheon will be this Saturday, February 10, at Punky's Diner in the Medford Center. All men are invited to these dutch treat outings. For more information speak with Brian Ponzar or Ted Killian.

MEDFORD FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)

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

E-MAIL: mfccor@gmail.com Website: mfccor.org

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

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

- Minister**.....All the People
- Pastor**.....Reverend Stacy Shelton
- Minister of Music & Accompanist**.....Janet O'Donovan
- Song Leader**.....Kathy Williams
- Business Administrator**.....Katherine Goin
- Bookkeeper**.....Chris Peters
- Small Steps Director**.....Teresa Fiuren
- ACCESS Pantry Co-Managers**.....Denise Frelin & Buttons Cummings