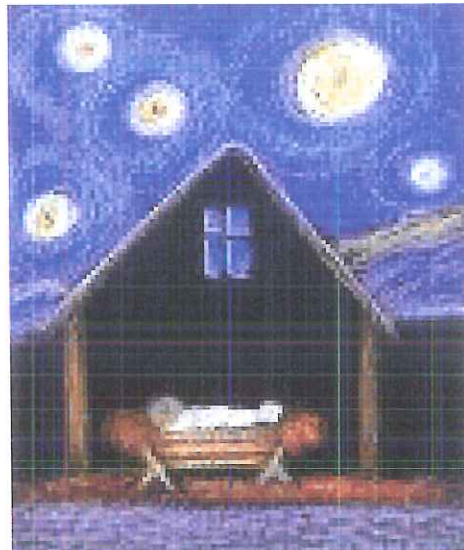


Harbinger



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

Advent 2017



- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| Sat., Dec. 2 | Prepare the Greens, meet in the narthex at 10:00 AM |
| Sat., Dec. 2 | Elders Christmas Party, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM at Brian's house, for all Elders |
| Sun., Dec. 3 | 1st Sunday of Advent, Peace Sunday, Hanging of the Greens during worship |
| Sun., Dec. 10 | 2nd Sunday of Advent, Christmas Special Offering received during worship, Church Christmas Party following worship |
| Sun., Dec 17 | 3rd Sunday of Advent, Christmas Special Offering received during worship, Kids Swim Party, 4:00 PM, all children are invited! |
| Sun., Dec. 24 | Christmas Sunday, morning worship at 10:30 AM, Candlelight Christmas Eve Service at 7:00 PM |
| Mon., Dec. 25 | Christmas Day! |
| Sun., Dec. 31 | Service of Carols, 10:30 AM |
| Sun., Jan. 7 | Epiphany Sunday |

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**We are making new Chrismons!**

We will be gathering after worship to make new Chrismons for the Chrismon tree.  
Join us during coffee hour this Sunday, December 3rd.



Dear Church Family,

I recently watched a remake of the movie "A Christmas Carol." It is one of my favorite of Dickens' stories, but as I watched with Lily I was aware of how absolutely frightening it is. In some ways it's like a Christmas horror story. I pondered that with some discomfort. The redemption of Ebenezer Scrooge at the end of the story is a powerful conversion to kindness and generosity, but it seems he was scared into it by the threat of eternal damnation.

I continue to believe that being scared into kindness is counter productive. And so, I continue to encourage myself and others to live in kindness not because of the consequences of not being kind, but because of the consequences of being kind.

When we are kind to others, nine times out of ten we find that others are kind in return. I am not a Buddhist, but I believe that there is some truth to the concept of Karma. What we put out does come back. And so as we enter into the chaos that will surround us in the coming weeks, I invite you to revel in the benefit of your kindness. Know that in your generosity and kindness you will be paid back, not in the next life but in this one.

Peace to you and may the blessings of the Christ child abound for you.

Stacy





### SILVERWARE WRAPPERS

- Dec. 7: Ron B.
- Dec. 14: Claudette M.
- Dec. 21: Ted & Kay K.
- Dec. 28: Nan & Larry M.
- Jan. 4: Ron B.

### **Hanging of the Greens**

There will be a festive procession and hanging of the evergreen wreath and boughs, placement of poinsettias, and hanging ornaments on the Chrismon tree. Invite your family and friends to this glorious decoration in preparation of our Lord's birth, this Sunday, December 3, during the 10:30 a.m. worship service

### **All Church Christmas Party**

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. Stone Soup will be served for lunch, please drop off a can of soup in the kitchen before worship that morning. Hosted by the Red Chalice Chicks.

### **Red Chalice Chicks Christmas Party**



The Red Chalice Chicks Christmas Party is planned for Thursday, December 14, 11:30 a.m. at Carolyn Haahein's house.

### **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 10 & 17.



### **Angel Tree**

Our Angel Tree is in the narthex and is decorated with tags that have the names and ages of boys and girls in Jackson County.

Those of you who desire to participate in the program can 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 2:30 p.m., Wednesday, December 13. Donations of Christmas wrap, tape and gift bags are also appreciated.

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 gifts to the parents so the gift may be placed under the family Christmas Tree.

### **Rogue Valley Chorale**

Saturday, December 2, 7:30 pm

Sunday, December 3, 3:00 pm

Craterian Theater Admission: \$10 - \$20

This holiday concert features two splendid works: John Rutter's *Gloria* with brass, organ and percussion and Daniel Pinkham's beautiful *Christmas Cantata*. Also enjoy seasonal favorites and a merry holiday sing-along with brass.

### **Christmas Eve Services, December 24th**

We will celebrate the approaching birth of baby Jesus in our 10:30 a.m. worship service. Then at 7:30 p.m. you are invited to join our beautiful candlelight service of joy, peace and hope. Light candles, pray, sing and reflect on the coming of our Lord Jesus. Invite family and friends to join you!

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### **PRAYER CORNER**



### **CONTINUING PRAYERS**

- Harrison Meyer
- Dan & Elizabeth Chapman
- Kathy Peel
- Mary Lou Campbell
- Larry Mason

# December 2017

| Sunday                                                                                                                                                                                     | Monday                                                        | Tuesday                                   | Wednesday                                                                                        | Thursday                                                                                                                                  | Friday | Saturday             |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|----------------------|
| <b>DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS</b><br>2 Elizabeth Chapman    27 Kay Killian<br>9 Judi Bennett        29 Katelyn Hartwig<br>19 Cody Bennett        30 Ron Bartlett<br>25 Stacy Shelton               |                                                               |                                           |                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                           | 1      | 2                    |
| Elders Christmas Party @ Brian's House 11 AM<br><br>Prep. the Greens Narthex 10 AM<br><br>Reception - FH, Kit all day                                                                      |                                                               |                                           |                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                           |        |                      |
| 3                                                                                                                                                                                          | 4                                                             | 5                                         | 6                                                                                                | 7                                                                                                                                         | 8      | 9                    |
| 10:30 a.m. Korean-CH, FH, Kit.<br><br>10:30 a.m. MFCC- Sanct., Lib, Nurs, FH, Kit<br><br>1:45 p.m. AA-CH, FH<br><br>1st Sunday of Advent<br>Hanging of the Greens                          | ACCESS noon - 2 PM<br><br>RV Chorale 6 PM FH                  | AA- CH 7 p.m.                             | 5:45 PM Bell Choir<br><br>7 PM Chancel Choir<br><br>Korean-CH 7 p.m.                             | AA-CH, FH 7 p.m.<br><br>Community Dinner 5 - 7 PM<br><br>Silverware-Ron B.                                                                |        | Men's Lunch 11:45 AM |
| 10                                                                                                                                                                                         | 11                                                            | 12                                        | 13                                                                                               | 14                                                                                                                                        | 15     | 16                   |
| 10:30 a.m. Korean-CH, FH, Kit.<br><br>10:30 a.m. MFCC- Sanct., Lib, Nurs, FH, Kit<br><br>1:45 p.m. AA-CH, FH<br><br>2nd Sunday of Advent<br>Church Christmas Party                         | ACCESS noon - 2 PM<br><br>RV Chorale 6 PM FH                  | AA- CH 7 p.m.                             | 5:45 PM Bell Choir<br><br>7 PM Chancel Choir<br><br>Korean-CH 7 p.m.                             | 11:30 AM Chicks Christmas Party @ Carolyn's house<br><br>AA-CH, FH 7 p.m.<br><br>Community Dinner 5 - 7 PM<br><br>Silverware-Claudette M. |        |                      |
| 17                                                                                                                                                                                         | 18                                                            | 19                                        | 20                                                                                               | 21                                                                                                                                        | 22     | 23                   |
| 10:30 a.m. Korean-CH, FH, Kit.<br><br>10:30 a.m. MFCC- Sanct., Lib, Nurs, FH, Kit<br><br>1:45 p.m. AA-CH, FH<br><br>3rd Sunday of Advent<br>Kids Swim Party @ Pastors House 4 PM           | ACCESS noon - 2 PM<br><br>RV Chorale 6 PM FH                  | AA- CH 7 p.m.                             | 5:45 PM Bell Choir<br><br>7 PM Chancel Choir<br><br>Korean-CH 7 p.m.                             | AA-CH, FH 7 p.m.<br><br>Community Dinner 5 - 7 PM<br><br>Silverware-Ted & Kay K.                                                          |        |                      |
| 24                                                                                                                                                                                         | 25                                                            | 26                                        | 27                                                                                               | 28                                                                                                                                        | 29     | 30                   |
| 10:30 a.m. Korean-CH, FH, Kit.<br><br>10:30 a.m. MFCC- Sanct., Lib, Nurs, FH, Kit<br><br>1:45 p.m. AA-CH, FH<br><br>4th Sunday of Advent<br>Christmas Eve Service 7 PM<br>Christmas Sunday | ACCESS, Small Steps Church Office Closed<br><br>Christmas Day | AA- CH 7 p.m.<br><br>Church Office Closed | 5:45 PM Bell Choir<br><br>7 PM Chancel Choir<br><br>Church Office Closed<br><br>Korean-CH 7 p.m. | AA-CH, FH 7 p.m.<br><br>Church Office Closed<br><br>Community Dinner 5 - 7 PM<br><br>Silverware-Nan & Larry M.                            |        |                      |
| 31                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                               |                                           |                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                           |        |                      |
| 10:30 a.m. Korean-CH, FH, Kit.<br><br>10:30 a.m. MFCC- Sanct., Lib, Nurs, FH, Kit<br><br>1:45 p.m. AA-CH, FH<br><br>New Years Eve<br>Service of Carols                                     |                                                               |                                           |                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                           |        |                      |



# Medford First Christian Church

*(Disciples of Christ)*

1900 Crater Lake Ave.

Medford, OR 97504



The next 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday is December 31<sup>st</sup>, at which time we will accept donations of non-food items for our Access Food Pantry

## MEDFORD FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

*(Disciples of Christ)*

1900 Crater Lake Avenue • Medford OR 97504

(541)772-8030

E-MAIL: [mfcc@qwestoffice.net](mailto:mfcc@qwestoffice.net) Website: [mfccor.org](http://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