

KCC Chronicle

KEIZER CHRISTIAN CHURCH

“Proclaiming Christ’s Love, Building Community,
Meeting Human Need”

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MAY 18, 2023

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WORSHIP SERVICES

Worship Services are held in-person and live on YouTube at 10 AM each Sunday. The YouTube link for each service will be sent out in the bulletin and also posted on Facebook and the KCC Website. You can always watch our worship services on our YouTube channel here:  **YouTube**



SHARING OF GIFTS



We have enjoyed special sharing time with the great chimes, choir, and member music lately. With the summer coming up, Chimes and Choir will be on hiatus. I would like to give others a chance to share. Let me know if you have a poem, prayer, or other item to share with the congregation. Please call me, talk to me after church, or email me [HERE](#) with any ideas you have. *Elizabeth*

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP TIME

Thank you to those who have signed up to bring treats for Coffee Fellowship Time. We have tried to make it easier for setup and have the Secretary prepare the tables for you. The treat provider is responsible for bringing treats, setting them out on the tables, starting the coffee pot and hot water, and all cleanup of the Fellowship Hall and Kitchen when done. Please sign up on the sheet on the Fellowship Hall door. If you have any questions, feel free to call the office.



NEWSLETTER

If you missed any previous editions of the newsletter, we have the last year available on the website at: <https://keizerchristian.org/newsletter/>
Look for the next one on **June 15th**.



Pastor Erik Free

Email:

pastorfree@keizerchristian.org

Cell Phone:

(503) 501-7682

Office Hours:

Tuesday – Friday

9 am to 1 pm

Afternoons by appointment

PASTOR'S MOMENT

At the risk of sounding mundane, I'd like to talk about our recent weather for a bit. I know, talking about the weather is the first sign that you've officially got nothing to really talk about and just need a safe topic to say something about. Well, I hope that isn't the case here and given our recent abrupt shift from chilly post-winter to full-on 90+ degree summer-feeling days I think I'll risk simply talking about the weather with you.

So, how is the weather in Oregon?

Me:



We have certainly been having a strange Spring in terms of weather, with large fluctuations in temperature and types of precipitation. The picture above is a pretty good representation of conditions lately. Spring is always looked

forward to as a welcome transition from the cold and dark of Winter, but we always seem to forget that it brings with it changeable and unpredictable weather and with the beauty of new life witnessed in the blooming of God's creation comes that dreaded harbinger of seasonal allergies; pollen. Spring is a time of transition and that means a certain level of discomfort.

Even amidst the excitement of change and welcoming new and positive things into our lives like warmer weather and the beauty of blossoming flowers we wrestle with frustration at our inability to dictate the form or magnitude of the change we experience. It is so often completely out of our hands. The only thing we completely control is how prepared we are to adapt. Do we have an umbrella and sunglasses; sunscreen and a jacket that is warm enough but not too warm and also waterproof but sufficiently breathable? When, exactly is the perfect date to switch from winter to summer tires?

Our experience of expectation and inevitable frustration with Springtime as a time of transition, of changeable conditions is a good reminder that our spiritual experience is not so different. We go through many times of transition and change throughout our journeys of faith; times of abundance and growth, times of distance and doubt, times of intimacy and closeness with God, and everything in between. While we cannot hope to be so completely prepared for all the conditions we may face along our spiritual paths in life, (any more than we can be fully prepared for any conditions of an Oregon Spring) we can, with the help of God, foster an ability to adapt and seek help when we need it. We can, as followers of Jesus, lean into trusting in God that we will be ok. It's o.k. if it begins to rain and we don't have an umbrella. It will be sunny again in half an hour anyway. It's ok if we aren't prepared for every transition that may come. Conditions are bound to change again. This is how we learn and grow; not when things stay static and never change, but when they do.

Pastor Erik

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" ~ Hebrews 13:8

BLESSINGS AND CONCERNS

To include Blessings and Concerns on the weekly email sent out on Monday, please send us an email at 1963kcc@gmail.com or call in your information to the office by Sunday evening. If you would like a printed copy of Blessings and Concerns, please contact the office.

- ♥ Please pray for my husband Michael, retired-disabled from a broken back, and having a hard time with basic mobility issues this past week. Thank you, Traci Pearl
- ♥ I will be praying for all blessings and concerns. I just rented an apartment in Roseburg. Thanks to everyone that has been praying for me to find a safe place to live. I will be moving this weekend. Happy mother's day to all the mothers and grandmother's in the church! May God bless all of the congregation. You are very wonderful people. I miss you all. Carol Reynolds (If you would like Carol's new address, please call the office.)
- ♥ Please pray for the Medrano family. They are having some health issues.
- ♥ Prayers requested for our friend Janice Northcott who has an appointment with Dr. Pierce this week for a medical plan for her recurring Cancer. Jane Slack and Pam Elliott
- ♥ Blessing - My mom's Medicaid intake appointment went well last week. It will still take a few weeks to finalize items but things are looking good. Thank you for all your prayers and support. Laurie Costales



GIVING TOTALS

May to date	
<u>General Fund Offering</u>	
1 st week	\$ 3,100.30
2 nd week	1,632.58
3 rd week	
4 th week	
Total for Month	\$ <u>4,732.88</u>
Mo Budget	\$ 13,178.00

The April total giving was \$9,347.54 of our \$13,178.00 budget. Just a reminder. Our monthly offering is covering our payroll and utility bills. With good financial stewardship over the past few years, KCC does have a savings account that we are using to make all of our obligations at this time. Without additional giving, the savings account will continue to dwindle.

"Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not regretfully or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7

REGIONAL NEWS

We are invited to attend the service of transition for Doug Wirt and Cathy Myers Wirt retirement on July 15th.

The regional board is working on looking for an interim Regional Minister at this time. Stay tuned for more information in the upcoming bulletins and newsletters.



Save the Date

Cathy & Doug's Service of Transition
July 15, 2023
1 p.m.
Portland First Christian Church

UNSUNG HEROES



Thanks to Paul Costales for mowing the lawn last month.

MEN'S GROUP



Men's Group will be meeting at Route 99 for our next meeting on **May 27th**. Men's Group continues to meet every other Saturday for a no-host breakfast. All men are welcome!

RECYCLING

We are still recycling cans and bottles as well as ink cartridges and toners. Drop them by the church during office hours. All money goes towards Youth Group activities and Summer Camp Scholarships.



PLEASE NOTE: Make sure your containers say **OR 10¢** on them. Protein drinks and some other items are not eligible for return and jeopardize our ability to use the bottle return service. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the office.

SUMMER YOUTH CAMPS



July 24-28, 2023: Disciples Elementary Summer Camp for those who have completed grades 1-5. For more information email Sara at revsarastaton@gmail.com.

August 7-11, 2023: Disciples Middle and High School Summer Camp for those who have completed grades 6-12. For more information email Alicia Speidel at aliciaspeidel@gmail.com

Registration for both camps will be coming soon. Both camps will be held at the Suttle Lake Methodist Camp.

BIBLE ADVENTURE FEST


August 19th from noon to 4 pm.

Our Bible Adventure Fest theme this year is "Wild Animals!" This is a one-day event that will allow families to go through the different stations learning Bible stories, participating in activities that apply to those stories, eating snacks, playing games and just having fun.


Be sure to put the date on your calendar. **We are starting to sign up volunteers.** Check out the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex or see Evelyn Hughes for more details.

Volunteers
NEEDED





Greg Starr	6-9
Bristol Campos	6-14
Vianna Lepe	6-18
Troy Costales	6-18
Ryhia Lepe	6-18
Dean Jones	6-27
Jay Puppo	6-27
Bob McCurry	6-29
Karrie Brown	6-30



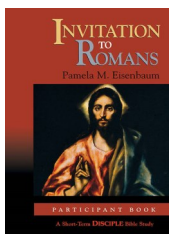
Traci & Michael
Pearl 6-5

KEIZER COMMUNITY DINNER

The next Dinner will be held on **Wednesday, May 24th from 4:30-6:30 pm.** It is held every month on the fourth Wednesday from 4:30-6:30 pm at St. Edward's Catholic Church. It is open to all and FREE. There is an opportunity to donate at the dinner. If you would like to help serve desserts, please contact Sue Day.



BIBLE STUDY



Bible Study is meeting each **Thursday, at 11 am.** Please join us for some lively discussion of God's Word. We will continue our series "Invitation to Romans."

Core Foods

Canned · Frozen Fresh · Repack

- ◆ Canned Protein ◆ Eggs
- ◆ Cold Cereal ◆ Vegetables
- ◆ Mac & Cheese ◆ Flour
- ◆ Pasta ◆ Fruit
- ◆ Shelf Stable Beans ◆ Soup
- ◆ Peanut Butter—16-18 ounce
- ◆ Tomato Products—can/jar
- ◆ Shelf Stable Dairy—
package/carton

*Be sure to check expiration dates!
Fresh Produce is always welcome!*

Above are some of the core foods that we are always in need of. Feel free to bring them in and put them in the box in the Narthex. We serve every third Monday!



KEIZER COMMUNITY FOOD BANK

I hope you all had a chance to read the article about the food bank in last week's Keizer Times. In a letter from MPPS they stated that "March was the single busiest month on record for our pantry network. There were 18,196 visits to food pantries, more than any month during the pandemic and a 32 percent increase over January and February. This message is stunning but not surprising to anyone who is working on the front lines of a food pantry. April and May numbers have continued to show elevated need."

KCFB continues to be able to purchase items to help fill in some of the gaps through generous donations, but we purchase them from local sources, making the cost higher. If you chose to give food, or a donation to KCFB, or KCC for the food bank, I will use to purchase food items.

Yesterday was another busy night, hot too! We served 68 families. There always seems to be one late comer as we are exiting for the evening, but for some reason as I fill a box with whatever we have left, to someone who really needs food and is so grateful, it reminds me that this is why we keep coming to serve.

Pam Elliot

ALL CHURCH EXCURSION

Our small group had a lovely time touring the Abbey grounds, listening to the pipe organ, and going through the Museum on Saturday, March 13th. It is such a beautiful, restful place. We stopped for lunch at the Mt. Angel Sausage Factory. We hope you enjoy these photos.





PENTECOST OFFERING

We are a Movement for Wholeness in a Fragmented World

In the beginning, every church was new. It's right there in the Book of Acts. Early disciples came together, sharing all things in common, breaking bread with glad and generous hearts. God was doing a new thing: creating a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. In the beginning, Jesus sent out disciples, two by two, not to "plant" churches, but to proclaim good news, to experience the hospitality and wisdom of neighbors all around.

At New Church Ministry, we believe God is calling the whole Church back to becoming new... back to becoming who we are: a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world.

Your gifts to the 2023 Pentecost Offering, received this year in most congregations on Sundays, May 21 and 28, help ensure our movement continues to embody the Disciples of Christ vision: to be and to share the Good News, witnessing, loving and serving from our doorsteps to the ends of the earth.

Half of your gift supports the local new church movement through your region's ministry. The other half supports New Church Ministry efforts across the United States and Canada to equip, train, and empower new leaders.

So, thank you. For participating in the new thing God is still doing — just as in the beginning. To give by check or cash, please write "Pentecost Offering" on your check or offering envelope. If you are giving online, please select "Regional Special Day Offerings" from the "Designated to:" box.





KEIZER CHRISTIAN CHURCH
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SERMON SERIES

Easter Series: Closer and Closer, cont.

May 21—Sermon: “Bearing Witness”

Acts 1:6-14

We are commanded to share the stories of what we’ve seen.

Summer Series 1: God’s Creative Connection

This series begins with the creative agency of God’s Spirit at Pentecost, when God uses the power of language to create and connect a new people. Even as God is doing a new thing, we know this same creative Spirit has been at work since the very beginning, from the creation of the world to the creative ways God works to connect with humanity.

May 28—Sermon: “The Power of Communication”

Acts 2:1-12

God Speaks in whatever language we need to hear.

June 4—Sermon: “The Cows and the Creator”

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

Creation is so very good.

June 11—Sermon: “Creative Hospitality”

Genesis 18:1-15

When we welcome guests, we welcome God.