

# KCC Chronicle

KEIZER CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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

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OCTOBER 26, 2023

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## NEWSLETTER


Previous editions are available on the website at: <https://keizerchristian.org/newsletter/>  
Look for the next newsletter on **November 22.**

## 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 services on our YouTube channel here:  **YouTube**



## TRUNK OR TREAT

**Trunk or Treat**  **Tuesday, October 31st at 5-6 PM**  
Be sure to invite all of your friends and family to come!

## THANKSGIVING DINNER

**Sunday November 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM.** We are coordinating this event with our sister congregation from Jehova-Nisi to attend as well. Please sign up on the sheets in the Narthex. There is one for bringing food, one for how many people are attending, and a third one for the help that is needed.



## STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE CARDS



Remember to turn in your pledge cards by **November 12<sup>th</sup>** so that we can have this information for our November Council meeting. The only one who sees your actual pledge card is the Financial Secretary. The Council will only be looking at the total amount of pledges.



**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

One of the best parts about living in the Northwest is our proximity to impressive examples of God's creation. We never have to look far to be reminded that God is near. With that proximity, though, often comes a certain desensitizing to just how amazing nature is sometimes, to just how much we can learn about God just by looking around. In all fairness we kind of have to turn a blind eye sometimes to the majesty of it all in order to function. If we were fully aware of God's presence surrounding us all the time, everywhere we looked, it would be overwhelming, right? So, we trick ourselves into thinking it is all sort of



mundane, it's just trees and mountains and valleys and stuff. The lives we have created don't often afford us the time to simply revel and rest in nature, to feel the presence of God near, to see it right in front of us.

Kids, though, kids haven't grown that filter yet. They haven't yet learned to turn off that view of the world. I was reminded of this recently when I took my son into the woods for some father-son time, just exploring and enjoying nature together like I remembered doing with my father and grandfather as a kid. I was excited to show him the things about nature that I enjoyed, the simple joy of the sights and smells and feel of the outdoors. I wasn't planning on it being a spiritual experience, I mean, he's not even 4 years old. I didn't expect him to connect the majesty of nature with the presence of God, so I didn't bring it up . . . . but he did.

There we were, standing on a landing a thousand feet above the canyon floor looking out over the fire-burned landscape towards Mount Hood. You could just see the gleaming white summit peaking through the surrounding ridgelines of desolate, burned out forest. I handed over my binoculars, telling him about when my dad had given them to me as a kid and he seemed excited to use them. As soon as he looked through them towards the mountain he exclaimed, "I see heaven! I can see God!" I chuckled and said, "Wow! That's awesome!" Then he asked me where God is and I said, "Everywhere." and he said, "How?" and I said, "It's a mystery." and he said, "Oh. OK." It was as simple as that. The mysteries of the universe witnessed and accepted. God keeping God's promise to always be with us. Thank you, son, for the reminder.

Pastor Erik

*"Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!" ~ Psalm 139:7-8*

## 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](mailto: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.



- ♥ Margy just found out that her sister and brother-in-law, Ruth and Carol, have been diagnosed with COVID. He is in the hospital and she is recovering at home.
- ♥ Please pray for Pastor Erik's grandmother. She's in her early 90s and is being put on comfort care. Prayers for her and for the family during this transition time.
- ♥ Pray for healing and for Ed and Dena to feel better. They have been down with COVID for over about a week and a half now.
- ♥ Continue to pray for Evelyn Hughes as she recovers from her gallbladder surgery. She is home but still sore.
- ♥ Praise God for our "new" nursery attendant, Paige (Ryan) Blair. She has come back to help us out in the nursery and is bringing her son Simon each week.
- ♥ Pray for one of our visitors, Elizabeth Killeen. She is not feeling well and was only able to attend once.
- ♥ UPDATE: Thank you for your prayers for my friend's family that were in a head-on crash. They are slowly getting better. His dad's concussion has healed and he needs to take it easy physically for his broken bones in his back. His mom has been released from the hospital to rehab in Reno. She is starting to walk a little. She should be able to go home in the next week or two. Troy Costales.
- ♥ Thanks to everyone for their prayers and the great meals brought to us. I am on the mend but still moving slow. Margy McCurry
- ♥ Here is a prayer request from our friends at the Chuukese Fellowship Church of Christ, another Disciples congregation that meets at Salem FCC downtown: Please pray for Pastor John's wife, Tociena, who recently had a bad heart attack. She has been released from the hospital and is currently recovering at a hotel to keep her isolated from any possible contagions. We welcome your prayers for her healing and recovery, especially as she is isolated away from home. Pastor Erik
- ♥ Prayers for Gary & Linda Danielson. Linda's sister was taken to the hospital in early October and wasn't doing very well. Multiple health issues. The whole family needs lots of prayers. Thanks. Ed & Dena Query
- ♥ Please pray for my coworker, Amanda, whose step-mother lost her brother early in October. It was a shock and the family is struggling with grief and feelings of loneliness during this time. Elizabeth Costales
- ♥ What a blessing to have our 60th Anniversary of KCC on October 1. Thank you to everyone who made the day extra special.





- Roger Elliott 11-2
- Carson Puppo 11-3
- Elsie Haverland 11-10
- Mike Ryan 11-13
- Sue Day 11-16
- LeRoy Bogue 11-27
- Kady Rodriguez 11-27
- Van Moore 11-30
- Aaron Puppo 11-30



- John & Vicki Zielinski 11-4
- Ed & Dena Query 11-8
- Don & Marsha Kaehler 11-14
- Van & Kathee Moore 11-23

## MEN'S GROUP

Men's Group will be meeting at Route 99 for our next meeting on **October 28<sup>th</sup>**. Men's Group continues to meet every other Saturday for a no-host breakfast. All men are welcome!



## RECYCLING—BOTTLE DROP GIVE



We have signed up again for the annual "Bottle Drop Give Event." That means all bottles and cans turned in in November will get an extra 20% per bag. We will be stockpiling them for now and turn them in when the promotion starts in November. Please turn them in by **November 30th!**

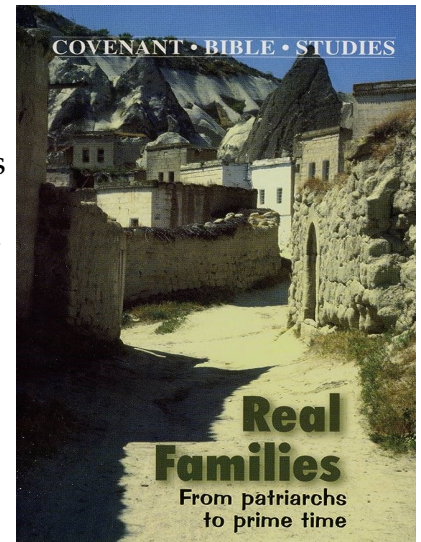


**PLEASE NOTE:** Make sure your containers say **OR 10¢** on them. Also, do **NOT** crush the bottles. They are not returnable if crushed. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the office.

## BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study is meeting each **Thursday, at 11 am**. Please join us for some lively discussion of God's Word. If you want to know the particular verses for the week to study, please call the office or Pastor Erik.

We are using the Covenant Bible Studies "Real Families. From patriarchs to prime time."



## KEIZER COMMUNITY DINNER



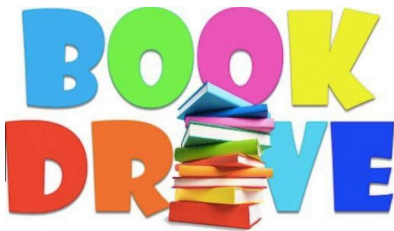
The next Dinner will be held on **Wednesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> from 4:30-6:30 pm**. It is held every month on the fourth Wednesday from 4:30-6:30 pm at St. Edward's Catholic Church. It is open to all and **FREE**. There is an opportunity to

## 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.



## D.A.R. CHILDREN'S BOOK DRIVE



Do you have any children's books that you are willing to donate? Nancy Dalrymple and Jane Slack are collecting them for a donation to Richmond Elementary School. This book

drive is for the Chemeketa Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Nancy has already taken one batch to the school and they were very appreciative.

## GIVING TOTALS

The September total giving was \$7,611.67 of our \$13,178.00 budget.

Our Year-to-Date amount is below our goal. While our monthly offering is covering most of the payroll and utility bills,

we are using savings to make up the difference. 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

October to date	
General Fund Offering	
1 <sup>st</sup> week	\$ 430.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> week	3,167.58
3 <sup>rd</sup> week	1,627.58
4 <sup>th</sup> week	2,872.63
Total for Month	\$ 8,097.79
<b>Mo Budget</b>	<b>\$ 13,178.00</b>

## KEIZER COMMUNITY FOOD BANK



Oh, what a night! On Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup> we served 100 families. Between 4:30 and 6:00 we had 85 families and the other 15 trickled in until 7:00. It was a long day with hard work and fun fellowship.

We serve the Monday before Thanksgiving, which is always very busy. Last year we served over 100 and this year we are anticipating 200. We will be giving out turkeys and turkey breasts and the fixings to go with it. Our team is the best and we can handle it!

The following are items we really need: **cereal, mac & cheese, soup, rice, and tuna.** Please help if you can.

*Pam Elliot*



## UNSUNG HEROES



Thank you to Nancy Dalrymple and Laurie Costales for thinning out the plants in the front planters. The plants look much happier now.

## THANK YOU



A big "Thank You" to all who have signed up to teach Children's Church this month. A great way for the children to get to know you better and you to know them. The children are enjoying learning from different teachers, and the different talents the teachers are bringing in the classroom. What a great way to minister to our children. May we all keep this up for the rest of the year and years to come!

*Evelyn Hughes*

## ALL CHURCH DECORATING PARTY



Decorating Party

**December 2 from 10 am to noon**

The Deacons are sponsoring this fun-filled time of fellowship. We will have snacks and Christmas crafts for kids of all ages. We will join our sister church, La Iglesia Cristiana Jehova Nisi to decorating our house of worship.

## CAMP ATTITUDE

As a church, a portion of our monthly offerings go to support various local ministries, including Camp Attitude. Many people in our congregation have volunteered to be at this camp and have found it a very rewarding and spiritual experience.



It is a camp designed for families that have special needs members to come and experience camping where they are accepted and loved. Each child in the family has a one-on-one "buddy" for the entire week. Many fun activities are planned with accommodations made for the abilities of the various campers and the campers are able to choose which activities they would like to participate in.

Parents are also given time to just relax and be refilled with hope, energy, and love without the 24/7 constant care for their special needs child(ren) and the siblings are able to have special attention as well.

Their director has sent a very nice letter and included a card and photo from one of the families who attended camp this last year. The thank you card reads *"Thank you for making this amazing camp experience possible for our family. There aren't any options outside of Camp Attitude where my children are accepted and welcomed, just as they are. We love it here. Thank you, the Robinsons."*

The letter and card are available on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

## CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE



The holidays are a time of giving. It's easy to get caught up in gift giving to those around you; family and friends, but it's important to all of us at Keizer Christian Church to let the spirit of the season and our abundance flow to those who are not as fortunate as we are.

This year, we will be bringing back the traditional "Giving Tree" with cards on them for you to shop for presents for local families in need. The Deacons are partnering with Liberty House to provide us with the names of the families and will have cards on the tree in mid-November. Please wrap your presents and have them back to the church by Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> *with the card on the outside of the package.*

We will also need help shopping for groceries for the families either Friday afternoon, December 22<sup>nd</sup> or Saturday morning, December 23<sup>rd</sup>. All food and presents will be delivered Saturday afternoon, December 23<sup>rd</sup>. If you are wanting to help shop for food or deliver presents, please let Laurie know ASAP.

If you would rather not shop, we will joyfully accept donations by check or electronically through the website. You can designate your donation to "Christmas Food Baskets." If you have any questions, please call the office .

## LAP QUILTS

It's that time of year when we pull out the lap quilts again. Please feel free to use one if you are chilled during the service. We do ask that you fold it up after use and place it in the center of the pew to prepare our sanctuary for the La Iglesia Cristiana Jehova Nisi church service.



Just a bit of history on these quilts: Someone from our congregation was a guest at another church and saw the beautiful lap quilts they used and how it brightened up the sanctuary. She brought the idea to our church and our group of "Scissors and Needles in Action" people worked to create all of the quilts you see. Many of those people have since passed on but it is a wonderful legacy of comfort and compassion that they have left us.

## NEW OFFICE HOURS



Beginning on October 30, the KCC office will temporarily be closed on Mondays. The KCC Secretary will be in the office from 9am to 1pm on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Pastor Erik will be available on Friday during normal business hours.

The KCC Office schedule change and reduced Secretary hours is an experiment until the end of this calendar year. The KCC Council approved the temporary change and will evaluate any impact at the beginning of the New Year.

Please be in prayer as we try out this new transition.



KEIZER CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
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## SERMON SERIES

### *Fall Series 3: The Good News About Death*

*While we speak of death often at funerals, we rarely tackle the subject head on in our Sunday routine. Yet at the core of the Christian faith is a word about death and life beyond death. If the book sales of "Heaven is for Real" and others in the genre are any indication, people are hungry for a word of life in the midst of death. This series is a wonderful opportunity to speak openly about death and the Christian hope of resurrection and perhaps clear up some of society's misguided notions at the same time.*

- November 5—Sermon: "The Other Side of the Curtain"** Revelations 7:9-17  
*We remember those who came before us, and we worship knowing death is not the end.*
- November 12—Sermon: "Grieving with Hope"** 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18  
*We grieve in the paradox between human loss and eternal life.*
- Nov 19—Sermon: "How Many Shopping Days Left"** Psalms 90:1-12  
*Life is a gift; use it wisely.*
- November 26—Sermon: "The Last Word"** Ephesians 1:15-23  
*No Matter what life (and death) bring, Christ has the last word.*