

# KCC Chronicle

KEIZER CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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

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NOVEMBER 22, 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 services on our YouTube channel here:  **YouTube**



## CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

**Sunday December 17th:**  
Keizer Christian Church at 10 am  
Salem First Christian Church at 6 pm



Come and celebrate Christmas with our district kids and youth. The pageant will be at Keizer in the morning and Salem in the evening. All kids and youth are invited to join in and everyone is invited to attend and sing along to the Christmas carols.

Contact Kim Free for details and YouTube link for song practice. 503-501-0336.

## NEWSLETTER

Previous editions are available on the website at: <https://keizerchristian.org/newsletter/>

Look for the next newsletter on **December 21.**



**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

Even as we sit down to our Thanksgiving meals with family and friends, remembering all those things and people for which we give thanks to God, the season of



Advent is upon us. As this is the last newsletter you’ll receive before Advent begins I wanted to start you all thinking about this Holy season of preparation and expectations in which the Light of the world breaks into our lives. In that effort, I would like to share one of my favorite poems from one of my favorite authors.

### First Coming

*He did not wait till the world was ready,  
till men and nations were at peace.  
He came when the Heavens were unsteady,  
and prisoners cried out for release.  
He did not wait for the perfect time.  
He came when the need was deep and great.  
He dined with sinners in all their grime,  
turned water into wine. He did not wait  
till hearts were pure. In joy he came  
to a tarnished world of sin and doubt.  
To a world like ours, of anguished shame  
he came, and his Light would not go out.*

*He came to a world which did not mesh,  
to heal its tangles, shield its scorn.  
In the mystery of the Word made Flesh  
the Maker of the stars was born.  
We cannot wait till the world is sane  
to raise our songs with joyful voice,  
for to share our grief, to touch our pain,  
He came with Love: Rejoice! Rejoice!*

Madeleine L’Engle, from [The Ordering of Love: The New and Collected Poems of Madeleine L’Engle](#) .

Pastor Erik

*“The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.” ~ John 1:9*

## 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.



- ♥ Update on Elsie Haverland: She is now at Avamere in Keizer for rehabilitation. No surgery, she just needs to heal from her broken hip. She really enjoys visitors.
- ♥ Thank you for your prayers for Kim Free's mom, Peggy Nunn. She is responding well to the dialysis treatments and they are hoping she can come home this week and continue treatments closer to home. Please keep her in your prayers for continued healing.
- ♥ Blessing - The RISE Homeschool group has begun meeting at KCC on Tuesday mornings. They approached us several months ago and the Council has been working on the agreement. They enjoyed the space on November 14 and look forward to meeting here each Tuesday.
- ♥ Please be in prayer for Bob McCurry as he goes in for more tests. Margy is doing better but still needs to be careful of her sore knee. She misses coming to church each week and seeing everyone.
- ♥ Continued prayers for Ed Query. He has some more tests and will have surgery upcoming soon.
- ♥ Thank you for your prayers for Pastor Erik's grandmother. She passed away peacefully Monday, October 23rd surrounded by her family.

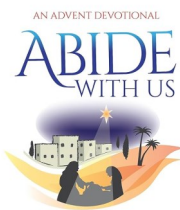
## GIVING TOTALS

The October total giving was \$9,144.30 of our \$13,178.00 budget. This month's giving will see us almost caught up to our year-to-date estimate. Thank you for your continued financial gifts.

*"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*

November to date	
General Fund Offering	
1 <sup>st</sup> week	\$ 1,395.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> week	24,462.58
3 <sup>rd</sup> week	1,207.53
4 <sup>th</sup> week	
Total for Month	\$ 27,065.11
<b>Mo Budget</b>	<b>\$ 13,178.00</b>

## ADVENT DEVOTIONALS



Advent Devotionals "Abide With Us" will be available this Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup>. Please feel free to take one.

The Christmas carol "O Little Town of Bethlehem" closes the invitation "O come to us, abide with us, our God, Emmanuel" -- the hope, prayer and ultimately the knowledge that God is with us in our quiet moments, whether that's in the holy manger of Jesus' birth or the sacred moments amid a frenetic season that calls us to do just about anything other than abide with our God. Abide With Us is a daily devotional walks us through the four weeks that lead to Christmas, reflecting on what we can do to create a welcoming space for God in our hearts and our world. Each devotion contains scripture, a short reflection, and a prayer.



- Kim Free 12-15
- Abigail Brown 12-18
- Kailen Peterson 12-23
- Bry Campos 12-28
- Henry Free 12-29



- Lee & Evelyn Hughes 12-14
- Pete & Ruth Vrontakis 12-26

## MEN'S GROUP

Men's Group will be meeting at Route 99 for our next meeting on **November 25<sup>th</sup>**. Men's Group continues to meet every other Saturday for a no-host breakfast. All men are welcome!



## RECYCLING—



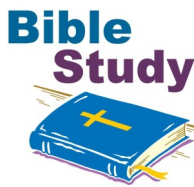
REMINDER: All bottles and cans turned by November 30<sup>th</sup> will get an extra 20% per bag.



**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.

We are still turning in used ink cartridges and toners. The funds for those are used to buy office supplies for special events like the Bible Adventure Fest.

## BIBLE STUDY



Bible Study will not meet on Thanksgiving day, November 23<sup>rd</sup>. We will resume meeting each **Thursday, at 11 am the next week**. Please join us for some lively discussion of God's Word.

## IMPORTANT: CONGREGATIONAL MEETING— DECEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup>

The next few Sundays we will publish our slate of officers and proposed budget for 2024. Please take a look. We have several open positions that we would love to have filled. If you have a question, please contact Ed Query, Council Chairperson or anyone on the Council.



ANNUAL  
CONGREGATIONAL  
**MEETING**

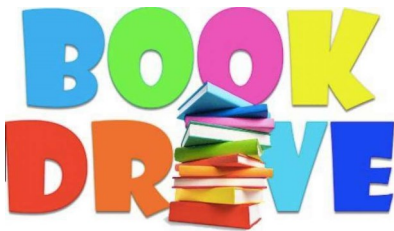
Mark your calendars for December 10th for a short meeting after service to vote on the officers and budget. If you are not able to attend in person, please contact the office and let them know if you are an "Aye" or a "Nay" vote.

## 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.

## 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 donate at the dinner. If you would like to help serve desserts, please contact Sue Day.



## THANKSGIVING DINNER



We had a lovely time at Thanksgiving Dinner on November 12th with about 50 people gathering together from both KCC and La Iglesia Cristiana Jehova Nisi to share good food and good company. Our next potluck will be hosted by La Iglesia Cristiana Jehova Nisi in February or March.

## KEIZER COMMUNITY FOOD BANK



It was a Happy Thanksgiving for 175 families who received a turkey and food box with the fixings for a holiday meal. Many hands worked a long day to make this a success. I am very thankful for such a wonderful crew.

We serve again December 18<sup>th</sup>.

*Pam Elliot*

### Core Foods Canned · Frozen Fresh · Repack

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

*Be sure to check expiration dates!*

*Fresh Produce is always welcome!*

## UNSUNG HEROES



Special thanks to Dena Query for cleaning out the back classrooms for our new homeschool group to use. **That was a lot of work!**

## THANK YOU



Thank you to all who participated in our annual Trunk or Treat on October 31st. It was a clear, crisp, fall evening of fun.

The candy donations were very appreciated along with the folks who came, decorated their cars, dressed up, and handed out the candy.

We had about 250 children attend with their families. Lots of smiles and good times.

## 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 decorate our house of worship.

## BUSHNELL UNIVERSITY

As part of our monthly giving as a church, we are supporting a number of local programs. You have heard about



Congregations Helping People and Camp Attitude in previous newsletters. Another of our programs we support is Bushnell University (formerly NW Christian College). They consistently send a thank you note each month that is usually put on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. Here is an excerpt from this month's letter:

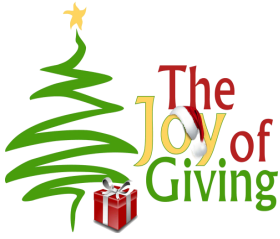
*"The Fall semester is in full swing and we are so excited to see everyone back on campus growing in faith and community. Seeing the faces of our new students and old friends is a refreshing feeling.*

*A couple of weeks ago we celebrated our yearly Embrace the Community Day. Afternoon classes were cancelled, which allows for students and staff members to go out and serve the community together in various ways. From serving at a care-giving facility to sprucing up the historic Pioneer Luper cemetery, the day is full of opportunities to serve the world outside of Bushnell's campus.*

*Those are the types of things your gift makes possible. Embrace the Community Day is a way for our students to use their God-given abilities to serve, demonstrating what it means to be a Beacon, a light in the World. **We are thankful for you** and want you to know your gift makes a direct impact on our students and helps Bushnell University grow in more ways than you can imagine.*

*With gratitude, Ali Savage, Director of Annual Giving"*

## CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE



There are still a few cards on our Tree of Giving. Please be sure to turn in all of your UNWRAPPED presents with the cards taped on them by Thursday, November 30th so that we can get them to Santa Central for the wrapping day.

**If you would like to participate in other ways, you could help at some of the following events:**

- Gift Wrapping on **Wednesday, December 6 at 4:30 PM** until all gifts are wrapped.
- Food Sorting on **Thursday, December 7 at 4:30 pm** until all the food is sorted.
- Basket Deliveries on **Saturday, December 9 at 9 am** until all the baskets are delivered.

**All events will take place at the Lion's Club (4100 Cherry Ave NE, Keizer)**

### **More information:**

The Keizer Network of Women (K.N.O.W.) coordinate and facilitate this annual Giving program. The K.N.O.W. are business owners and employees of members who participate in community projects facilitated by the Keizer Chamber of Commerce.

Keizer has 10 public schools. Five elementary, two middle, and one high school. K.N.O.W. also serves Simonka Place, Oriole House, Chemeketa Early College Program, and Keizer Head Start. The Giving Basket Committee works with staff within each school to identify students in need. Those students will each receive one gift and one item of need, up to \$60 per student.

In addition to the gift boxes, each student/family will receive a full box of non-perishable food and a bag of potatoes, onions, beans, a fruit (usually apples) and a family size ham.

They are always looking for partners to support this annual event. They have sponsors who purchase one of each of the following items: Peanut Butter, Jam/Jelly, Ham, Potatoes, Onions, Beans, Apples.

## SAVE THE DATE

Oregon and SW Idaho Regional Assembly will be held next year on **September 27-28** at First Christian Church in Portland.

The theme is "Water-Born, Spirit-Filled, Table Sent."

We are excited for our General Minister and President, Terri Hord Owens to be the keynote speaker.



More information will follow in the coming months.



KEIZER CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
6945 Wheatland Road NE  
Keizer OR 97303

## SERMON SERIES

### Advent/Christmas Series:

*The flow of Advent season plays out like a movie. We get a hint of the highlights of the Christmas story and are invited to stay tuned to what is to come. Through the life and actions of John the Baptist, the scene and life of Jesus Christ is set up and the suspense heightens in the middle of the Advent season as we witness through the lives of Elizabeth and Mary that nothing is impossible for God. All this builds up to the climax of the Christmas story, where the Christ child is born, but not in a way that we expect. The plot twists and ends in a cliffhanger that invites us to wonder how we are called to participate in the story.*

- December 3—Sermon: “Stay Tuned!”** Mark 13:24-37  
*Something big is coming—watch and wait!*
- December 10—Sermon: “Baptismal Limitations”** Mark 1:1-8  
*John the Baptist’s limitations set him up to play an important role in Jesus’ story.*
- December 17—Sermon: “John, the Spitting Image of Jesus”** John 1:6-8, 19-28  
*The juxtaposition of John and Jesus shows us who our main character really is.*
- December 24—Sermon: “The Subjunctive Space”** Luke 1:26-38  
*Plot twist! Elizabeth and Mary see the possibilities of what God can do.*