

# KCC Chronicle

KEIZER CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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

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Find us on Facebook!

DECEMBER 21, 2023

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## NEWSLETTER

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

Look for the next newsletter on **January 25, 2024.**

## 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 EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

### *Candlelight Service*



The annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be held on Sunday, **December 24th at 5 pm.** Please pick up your candle and individual communion cup in the Narthex as you arrive. This is a short service designed for the whole family to attend.

## NEW YEAR’S EVE HYMN SING

Do you ever feel that there are never enough Sundays during Advent to sing all of the old traditional Christmas Hymns? Join us on **Sunday, December 31st at 10 am** for an old fashioned Hymn-Sing with all of your old favorites and maybe some new ones.





**Pastor Erik Free**

**Email:**

[pastorfree@keizerchristian.org](mailto:pastorfree@keizerchristian.org)

**Cell Phone:**

(503) 501-7682

**Office Hours:**

Tuesday – Friday

9 am to 1 pm

Afternoons by appointment

## PASTOR'S MOMENT

Here we are in the final days of the last week of Advent, with Christmas nearly upon us. We have celebrated the Hope, Peace, and Joy of the season. This Sunday we will embrace once again the Love with which Christ entered this world. Meditating on this love of Christ, I cannot help but reflect on the many ways we give and receive love. As your pastor, I am most often concerning myself with how to offer love and guidance as well as encourage loving hearts in all of you. I don't think I'm alone in that desire to give love, to give of oneself in an attitude of love. It is equally important for us to practice receiving love and loving acts from others; something I daresay we aren't as good at.



For my part I want to say to all of you in this congregation that you have loved me and my family well and I am certain will continue to do so. In this season of welcoming the Light of the World into our midst I want to thank you all for letting that light shine in and through yourselves, for being a bright spot in a world so often consumed with darkness. I

count myself blessed to be called to be your pastor and to be part of this worshipping community. I am excited for what God is doing in and amongst us and through us. I pray we can keep our hearts and minds open to the continued work of Jesus in our midst, to what he may ask us to do as well.

God bless you all this Christmas season. With deep gratitude I pray God's abiding hope, peace, joy and love upon you all and wish you a very Merry Christmas!

Pastor Erik

*"I am bringing you good news of great joy  
for all the people"*

*~ Luke 2:10*

## 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.



- ♥ Please keep Salem For Refugees and their community in your prayers as they are grieving the loss of the death of three of their members in a plane crash last week. If you wish to help monetarily, please see Pastor Erik or the office as we have a link to their GoFundMe account.
- ♥ Please keep my family in your prayers. We lost my last grandma (My dad's mom), Louise Davis passed away the day after Thanksgiving on Friday. The funeral service is on Tuesday morning. Prayers for the safety of families and friends traveling from Eastern/Central Oregon due to the snowy weather. My dad's oldest brother Billy Davis needs prayers. He's dealing with a lot of pain and has difficulty walking and with movement. He wasn't able to do knee surgery because his heart quit twice on him. My sister Lucinda, in California needs prayers too. She was driving her school bus with students on board when a drunk driver hit the bus. She is dealing with so much pain and trouble walking. Koren Clem
- ♥ Please keep Kathryn Dodge in your prayers. She had knee replacement surgery on November 30th.

## GIVING TOTALS

The November total giving was \$27,805.32 of our \$13,178.00 budget. November's giving almost caught us up to our year-to-date estimate. Thank you for your continued financial gifts. Let's finish this year strong!

*"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*

December to date General Fund Offering	
1 <sup>st</sup> week	\$ 665.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> week	6,167.58
3 <sup>rd</sup> week	1,710.53
4 <sup>th</sup> week	
Total for Month	\$ 8,543.11
<b>Mo Budget</b>	<b>\$ 13,178.00</b>

## RECYCLING—BOTTLES, CANS, INK AND TONER



Thank you to everyone who has been turning in your bottles and cans! This year, we have made over \$1,000 for this fundraiser. The funds go towards Children's Summer Camp scholarships.

**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.



## UNSUNG HEROES



Thank you to Kim Free and her group of volunteers for making our district-wide Christmas pageant a great success.

The photos are on pages 6-7.

## MEN'S GROUP

Men's Group will be meeting at Route 99 for our next meeting on **December 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Men's Group continues to meet every other Saturday for a no-host breakfast. All men are welcome!



## BIBLE STUDY

### Bible Study



Bible Study continues to meet each Thursday at 11 am in the library. All are welcome! We continue to enjoy our study on "Real Families—From patriarchs to prime time." Come join us for some great discussion of God's Word.

## 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.



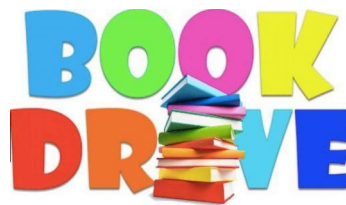
Mark Dodge	1-3
Kena Dewey	1-7
Jim Roes	1-11
Paige Blair	1-15



Roger & Pam Elliott

1-7

## 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

There is no Community Dinner in December. The next Dinner will be held on **Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-6:30 pm** at St. Edward's Catholic Church.



## DEACON MEETING



We will have our Quarterly Deacon meeting in the kitchen after church on **Sunday, January 7th.**

You will get an agenda around the end of December. There are a few upcoming events that we will plan and it's good to just get together and touch base.

If you have anything you would like to add to our discussion, please let Laurie know.

## GAME NIGHT

**DATE:** Friday, January 19th

**TIME:** 5:30-7:30 PM

**PLACE:** Salem First Christian Church, Fellowship Hall



For people of ALL ages. Find friends, fun, and fellowship! Come as you are. Popcorn, snacks, and drinks will be provided.

Below are some of the core foods that we are always in need of at **Food Bank**. Feel free to bring them in and put them in the box in the Narthex or make a donation and we will purchase them for you.

### 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!*



The pantry and produce areas were well stocked!



## KEIZER COMMUNITY FOOD BANK



What a day! We handled hundreds of pounds of food, stocking shelves, repackaging produce, sorting, making up the food boxes and bags and finally serving 120 clients. We were all very tired and in a festive spirit. One of our clients brought in a box full of homemade bread she had spent all day Sunday making as a gift to us for our hard work. What a special Christmas gift and lady!

As we come to the end of 2023, I reflect on client monthly numbers that have increased from 438 in January to 1004 in November. I will have year end totals next month. We are blessed to be able to help so many families, and have faithful donors, and community support.

Please consider a year-end donation to the Keizer Community Food Bank.

Have a Blessed Christmas.

*Pam Elliot*



# CHRISTMAS PAGEANT, KEIZER CHRISTIAN CHURCH



Yep, those sheep sure wander!





# CHRISTMAS PAGEANT, CHUUKESE CHURCH OF CHRIST





KEIZER CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
6945 Wheatland Road NE  
Keizer OR 97303

## SERMON SERIES

- December 24 (AM) – Sermon: “The Subjunctive Space”** Luke 1:26-38  
*Plot twist! Elizabeth and Mary see the possibilities of what God can do.*
- December 24 (PM) – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** See article on page 1
- December 31 – Hymn Sing!** See article on page 1

### **EPIPHANY SERIES: JESUS MAN OF MYSTERY**

*As Jesus’ public ministry begins, he remains a somewhat mysterious figure. Like a good spy, magician, or detective, Jesus plays things close to the vest and reveals things only when he is ready. Through this series, we see Jesus begin to reveal himself more and more, while at the same time insisting on keeping his identity a secret. As we explore Jesus’ mysterious identity, we may discover more about ourselves and a purpose that causes us to live with a sense of urgency.*

- January 7 – Sermon: “The Reveal”** Mark 1:4-11  
*Baptism is the beginning of Jesus’ revealing his identity.*
- January 14 – Sermon: “Now You See It, Now You Don’t”** John 1:43-51  
*Jesus invites us to come and see, but it is not always obvious what we are looking at.*
- January 21 – Sermon: “An Urgent Mission”** Mark 1:14-20  
*Immediately the disciples followed Jesus, not even knowing why.*