

KCC Chronicle

KEIZER CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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

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Find us on Facebook!

FEBRUARY 22, 2024

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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**



HOLY WEEK SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

PALM SUNDAY: March 24th

Everyone is encouraged to meet in the Narthex and process in with palm frond during the prelude. We will have plenty of palm fronds available for all.



After church we will have an all-church potluck with our sister church, La Iglesia Cristiana Jehova Nisi.

MAUNDY THURSDAY: March 28th

We will be holding our Maundy Thursday service at 7 pm.

EASTER EGG HUNT: Saturday, March 30th

The annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on March 30th at 10:00 am. Be sure to invite all of your neighbors and friends. If you are able to help set up, greet folks as they arrive, or clean up please see Kim Free.

EASTER: March 31st

The spirit of Easter is all about hope, love, and joyful living. Come join us for our time of Worship on Easter Sunday at 10 am..

NEWSLETTER

Previous editions are available on the website at:

[<NEWSLETTER>](#)

Look for the next newsletter on **March 21st**



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

What is Lent? Many of us in the Protestant Christian tradition and particularly the Disciples of Christ church are somewhat unfamiliar with the season of Lent.



We tend to get a lot of our ideas about it from popular depictions and ingrained images of penitent fasting and self-denial, the purpose of which often seems ill-defined. I want to take a little space this month to share some information about Lent; what it is (and isn't), how to participate faithfully, where it came from, what it means for us as believers and what purpose it has in the Christian year.

What is Lent? Lent is the 40-day period of repentance and renewal preceding Easter. It begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes in celebration on Easter morning. The last week of Lent, called Holy Week, commemorated the last week of Jesus' life on Earth and is the final, most important part of Lent. Lent is a special time of the Christian year devoted to meditation, prayer, penitential practices, reflecting on Christ's sacrifice and resurrection, renewal of baptism vows and recommitment to the Christian life. It is deeply personal and completely voluntary if and how you choose to observe the season of Lent.

What is Lent not? Lent is not simply a season of required fasting or an excuse to give up something in order to achieve some sense of increased holiness or satisfy a religious requirement.

How can I participate?

- ◆ Penitential practice – fasting from something in order to use that time and energy to devote to prayer and increasing relationship with God,
- ◆ Repentance – reflecting on personal inadequacies, sin in our lives, personal wrongdoings and faults and how we might overcome them, seeking help from God and even other people to help us, recalling our baptismal commitments in order to reaffirm our faith and renew our spirits.
- ◆ Resolution – Remembering Christ's sacrifice was for us, that we might be reconciled to God, that we might have life everlasting, encouraging us to pursue more Christ-like habits and attitudes
- ◆ Participation– Ash Wednesday services, Lenten devotionals (on the church entry table), Bible study, Palm Sunday processional, Maundy Thursday service, devoting yourself to the traditional Lenten practices of good deeds, increased giving, prayer, scripture study, etc.

Continued on Page 3

PASTOR'S MOMENT, CONT.

What is the biblical foundation of Lent? The season is based in the 40 days of fasting and praying exemplified in scripture by Moses (Exodus 34:27-28), Elijah (1 Kings 19:1-18), and especially Jesus (Matthew 4:1-2)

All told, Lent, like all seasons of the church year with all their practices and remembrances, is a time for Christians to reflect and remember, to seek God and God's guidance for their lives, and to repent and resolve to grow closer to God and increase in faith and service. If you are still curious about Lent and want to know more, just ask me. I even have a pamphlet I can give you that lays out the basics, and yes, it is purple. ;)

Pastor Erik

"He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished."
~ Matthew 4:2

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.



- ♥ Wilma Bogue went to be with the Lord on Monday, February 5th. Please be in prayer for her husband, LeRoy; grandson, J.C.; and the rest of her family and friends. There are no services planned.
- ♥ Be in prayer for the Hughes family. Lee's brother, who was put on hospice, passed away last week. Evelyn Hughes
- ♥ Blessings—We have started a pastor's class for those several of our young ones who are interested in being baptized.

GIVING TOTALS

| February to date | |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| <u>General Fund Offering</u> | |
| 1 st week | \$ 911.35 |
| 2 nd week | 4,868.49 |
| 3 rd week | 894.59 |
| 4 th week | |
| Total for Month | \$, 6,674.43 |
| Mo Budget | \$ 12,136.00 |

The January total giving was \$13,751.22 of our \$12,136.00 budget. Thank you to everyone who contributes and keeps our church alive. It also allows us to support the many charities and other programs in the region.

If you are unable to attend service, you can give online through the secure giving portal [<HERE>](#) or mail a check to the office "Attention: Financial Secretary."

"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

UNSUNG HEROES



◆ Thanks to Nancy Dalrymple for helping to make our Food Bank service night go better. She had the idea of putting cards on each car telling our cart drivers how many families were in each car since many cars are picking up for multiple families.

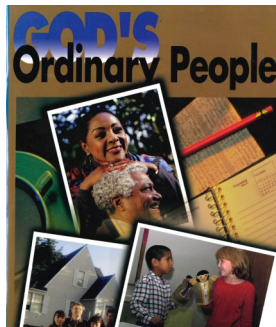
◆ Thanks to Troy Costales who fixed the sink drain in the primary room last week.

MEN'S GROUP

Men's Group will be meeting at Route 99 for our next meeting on **March 2nd**. Men's Group continues to meet every other Saturday for a no-host breakfast. All men are welcome!



BIBLE STUDY



Bible Study continues to meet each Thursday at 11 am in the library. All are welcome! We will begin a new study on "God's Ordinary People" by Michael E. Dixon. Come join us for some great discussion of God's Word.

RECYCLING—BOTTLES, CANS, INK, TONER



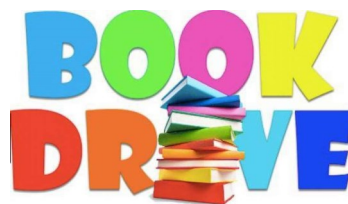
Let's bring in those cans and bottles. Last year we collected over \$1,000. Let's see if we can increase that this year! The funds go towards Children's Summer Camp scholarships.

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 children's events like the Bible Adventure Fest.



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. She plans to take another one sometime in February so now is the time to do your spring cleaning and bring those books in.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

| | |
|-----------------|------|
| Luke Puppò | 3-2 |
| Roy Biehn | 3-5 |
| Pam Elliott | 3-8 |
| Cindy Chevront | 3-9 |
| Nancy Dalrymple | 3-10 |

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.



KEIZER COMMUNITY DINNER



The next Keizer Community Dinner will be held on **Wednesday, February 28th** from 4:30-6:30 pm at St. Edward's Catholic Church.

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!

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

The ones printed in **BOLD** are the ones most needed.



KEIZER COMMUNITY FOOD BANK



On our last service night, January 29th we served 134 families. The demand remains high. The year-end total for clients/ families served was 8004, the number of pounds distributed was 613,124 and volunteer hours were 4846.

Astounding numbers!

It's been several years since we have honored our volunteers so this Saturday the 24th there is a luncheon to do just that. It will be from 12-2 p.m. at the Keizer Elks. I am looking forward to a good turnout from our KCC group. We are awesome!

Our next serving night is **March 18th**.

Pam Elliot

INDOOR PARK

KCC Indoor Park was created provide an indoor play facility for parents and caregivers and their pre-Kindergarten age children where they can practice large motor skills and socialization.

We were excited to re-open Indoor Park in Spring of 2023 and are enjoying seeing families use our space. The format has changed since COVID-19 so please click [HERE](#) to be directed to our page for more information.

Available by appointment only. You can reserve by emailing or calling the office.

The fee is \$5 per group, per day for use of KCC toys and cleaning supplies. Play time for your group is between 9 am and noon on the reserved day with up to ½ hour afterwards allotted for cleanup. Each group must clean and sanitize all toys, equipment, and tables used during their play time.



WEEK OF COMPASSION

Each year in February, congregations across the United States and Canada collect a Special Offering for Week of Compassion. While many congregations choose to collect their offering during this designated week, the offering fuels Week of Compassion's work and witness throughout the whole year!

Funds received through the offering enable Disciples to respond to disaster when it occurs, because Week of Compassion works with partners to provide grants right away, addressing urgent needs, emergency supplies, water, shelter, and food.

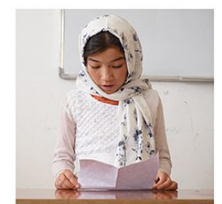
The February Special Offering is set aside for congregations to lift up and celebrate this important work that we do together - not just in domestic and international disaster response, but in refugee and immigrant response, and sustainable development funding worldwide.

KCC is collecting money all month to give to this ministry. You can take one of the coin boxes and fill it with coins (bills are accepted too!), write "Week of Compassion" on a check or offering envelope and put it in the offering plate in the Narthex, or give online at our secure giving portal [<HERE>](#)



GIFTS TO LIVE ON
SPECIAL OFFERING | February 18-25, 2024

Wesley  **FOR 80 YEARS**



ALL CHURCH POTLUCK



We will be having our quarterly potluck get-together with our sister church, La Iglesia Cristiana Jehova Nisi on Palm Sunday, **March 24th right after church.**

Plan to bring your favorite dish to share. Let us know what you are bringing on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

SPRING WOMEN'S RETREAT

Women's Retreat "FAN THE FLAMES"

Saturday, March 2 • 9:00 am - 12:30 pm
SFCC • Fellowship Hall

Put it on your calendar!
Invite a friend!

Registration begins February 15
Cost is \$5.00



Contact Kim Resch
503-507-7205
kimmiejoresch@gmail.com

NEW KEIZER K-9

From City of Keizer Police:
Through vision and collaboration from former and current employees, City Councilor Shaney Starr, Chief Andrew Copeland, and Lt. Chris Nelson, we welcome our first comfort K9. Koda is a two-year-old female boxer graciously donated to the department by the Northwest Boxer Rescue.

Lt. Nelson will be assigned as Koda's handler and will usually be at the PD Monday-Friday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. She will spend her off duty time with Lt. Nelson at his residence. You will likely see her roaming the hallways to comfort officers, meet with crime victims, and attend outreach events like Coffee with a Cop, Blast Camp, school-age department tours, etc.

On February 20th at 7pm Koda was sworn in at the Keizer City Council meeting.

~ Lt. Trevor Wenning





KEIZER CHRISTIAN CHURCH
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SERMON SERIES

Lenten Series: Covenant

Most adults have had the experience of signing a contract or other legal document. To borrow money, rent an apartment or buy a car, we are asked to sign on the dotted line. Contracts are built on distrust, protecting ourselves from liability if the other person doesn't hold up his or her end of the bargain. Yet healthy human development and relationships are built on trust. Trust becomes possible only when we willfully and lovingly yield all authority and power and ask ourselves vulnerable. The deepest and most eternal trust that undergirds our souls comes from our relationship with God.

February 25—Sermon: “Promises We Can’t Keep” Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

God’s covenant with Abram and Sarai is based not on faithfulness but need.

March 3—Sermon: “Contracts and Covenants” Exodus 20:1-17

A contract provides coverage as we meet each other half way. Covenants are all in, and God’s love covers it all.

March 10—Sermon: “Unbreakable” Ephesians 2:1-10

There’s nothing we can do to make or break God’s covenant with us—it’s all God.

March 17—Sermon: “Marriage Vows” Jeremiah 31:31-34

God’s commitment to us is deeply personal and intimate, like a covenant of marriage.

March 24 (Palm Sunday) - Sermon: “What Happens When You Assume?” Mark 11:1-11

God’s covenant through Christ defies all our assumptions and expectations.