



KCC Chronicle

KEIZER CHRISTIAN CHURCH

"Proclaiming Christ's Love, Building Community,
Meeting Human Need"

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OCTOBER 22, 2026

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NEWSLETTER

Previous editions are
available on the website at:

[<NEWSLETTER>](#)

Look for the next newsletter
on **November 19.**

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**



THANKSGIVING POTLUCK

We are hosting our annual Thanksgiving Dinner on **Sunday November 15th at 5:30 PM** in the Fellowship Hall. We are coordinating this event with our sister congregations of Jehova Nisi (Spanish Speaking Church) and Jesus of Nazareth (Chuukese Speaking Church).



Please sign up on the sheets in the Narthex. There are three sheets: One is for bringing food, one for how many people are attending, and a third one for signing up to help.



Pastor Erik Free

Email:

pastorfree1832@gmail.com

Cell Phone:

(503) 501-7682

Office Hours:

Tuesday – Friday

9 am to 1 pm

Afternoons by appointment

PASTOR'S MOMENT

If you read my article last month, you already know that Fall is my favorite season of the year. I love the shifting, transformational nature of this time of year; the chilling of the air in the morning contrasting with the warm afternoon sunshine. Everything seems so expectant of change. It surprises me how much I like it sometimes, because, like most humans, I'm not a huge fan of change. For the most part, I find it as uncomfortable and anxiety-producing as it is necessary and good.



This whole season functions as a metaphoric reminder of that nugget of truth, that change is, in fact, necessary and good. Our well-being and personal growth depend upon it. The shifting color of God's creation remind us that there is beauty and purpose in change and that the goodness of it can overcome our fear. We are invited by God to use our imaginations in catching God's vision for what might be next for us. Whether it is a life-changing transition or something smaller, like saying yes to a new hobby or volunteer opportunity it is up to us whether we experience it as positive or not.

But, what about those changes in life that are arguably negative in nature, like natural disaster, the end of a relationship, or someone dying? It is true, even the brightest colored leaves in our lives eventually turn brown and fade away. That tree's cycle of life is not over, however. New growth will return in the Spring. Our own cycle of life is not much different. By Christ's own promise, even the death of our earthly bodies comes with the promise of new life in the fullness of God's Kingdom.

Ecclesiastes reminds us as well, that there is an appropriate time for all things in this life. There is time for the joy and expectation of our favorite seasons (even if it isn't Fall ;)) and there is time for our grief and sadness as some things inevitably fade away. Sometimes we experience both these at once or in quick succession. God has given us a spirit that is capable of holding both in tension. With the help of God's holy Spirit we can have joy in the midst of our grief; we can celebrate the beauty of life in the wake of death. We can enjoy the colors of the leaves, knowing they are about to fall; that they will grow again.

Pastor Erik

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens." ~ Ecclesiastes 3:1

MEN'S GROUP



Men's Group will be meeting at Route 99 again this Saturday, **October 24th**. Men's Group continues to meet every other Saturday for a no-host breakfast. All men are welcome!



GIVING TOTALS



The current September total giving is \$7,160 of our \$12,115 budget. Our monthly offering has not been covering our payroll and utility bills for four out of the last six months. The overall budget for 2026 and 2027 is being severely adjusted by the Council as giving is not keeping pace with the budget.

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

KEIZER COMMUNITY DINNER

The Keizer Community Dinner is normally held on the fourth Wednesday of every month from 4:30-6:30 pm at St. Edward's Catholic Church. It is open to all and FREE. The next dinner will be held on **October 28th**. If you would like to help serve or have questions, please contact the office.



Community Meal

REGIONAL MINISTER SEARCH



The search committee is thrilled to announce that the region's profile is live and we need your help! You can find our regional profile and how to apply [HERE](#). Please share far and wide. If you know of someone who you think would be an excellent candidate, please send our information to them directly and invite them to apply. You can even include language like this,

"Dear [INSERT NAME],

I hope you're well! The Christian Church in Oregon and Southwest Idaho is actively looking for our next Regional Minister and President. After reading through the profile (which you can find [HERE](#)), I thought of you because of your gifts of [NAME THE GIFTS YOU SEE; examples could include, "careful listening," "administration," "coalition building," "wisdom and discernment"].

If you have any questions, you can send them to the search chair, Rev. Allison Ruari (allison.fccalbany@gmail.com). I really hope you will prayerfully consider submitting your profile and completing the application process!

The search committee will be receiving application materials until November 15th.

Thank you for your continued prayers for the region, the search committee, and for the candidate who will ultimately say "yes" to this call!

From The Search Committee, Karyn Dix, Anselmo Garcia, Liv Gibbons, Charles McBride, Brian Nicholas, Kedher Philip, Allison Ruari (chair), Raiza Spratt

THOSE SERVING NEXT MONTH



The following people will be serving next month.

If you would like to serve, please let the office know, there are many possibilities!

	PRESIDER	USHER	DEACONS	
11/1	Dena Query	Vicki Zielinski	Peggy Young	Don Kaehler
11/8	Troy Costales	Dena Query	Dena Query	Vicki Zielinski
11/15	Nancy Dalrymple	Peggy Young	Troy Costales	Peggy Young
11/22	Ed Query	Don Kaehler	Vicki Zielinski	Don Kaehler
11/29	Troy Costales	Vicki Zielinski	Dena Query	Peggy Young

2027 OFFICERS NEEDED

At this time, we also have specific needs for the life of our congregation. We are seeking to fill four positions on our Council, and we invite you to consider how your gifts might serve the church in this way. Thank you for all the ways you serve and share. Please prayerfully consider your pledge for 2026, which we will receive and dedicate on November 22.

Council Moderator (Chairperson) –

Approximately 4 hours a month.

Primary duties are the creation of the monthly Council agenda, facilitating the monthly Council meeting, leading any Congregational Business meetings, and appointing special committees as needed.

Council Vice-Moderator (Vice-Chairperson) –

Approximately 4-5

hours a month. Primary duties are to step in for the Moderator in their absence, serving as the point person for any personnel items, and attending monthly Council meetings.

Treasurer –

Approximately 12 hours a

month. Primary duties are: tracking

spending of the churches funds,

monthly budget report for the council,

create annual budget for

congregational consideration and

approval, working with the

bookkeeper on chart of accounts, and

signing checks for the church's

checking account. This person must be

able to keep financial information

secure and confidential.

Financial Secretary –

Approximately

10 hours a month. Primary duties are

collecting, depositing, keeping a record

of all income. This person must be able

to keep financial information secure

and confidential.

RECYCLING—BOTTLES, CANS, INK, TONER



Thank you to everyone for bringing in your bottles and cans. This is a year-round fundraiser and all funds go towards Children's Summer Camp scholarships. If you have any questions, please see Laurie Costales or Dena Query.

NOTE: Please make sure that all items have OR 10¢ on them and that they are rinsed out. We don't get credit for crushed items or those missing their bar codes.

We are still turning in used ink cartridges and toners. The funds for those are used to buy craft and office supplies for special children's events like Fun in the Field.



COFFEE FELLOWSHIP TIME

We are in need of Coffee Hour Treat Providers.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Join us!



Thank you to those who have signed up to bring treats for Coffee Fellowship Time.

Since the secretary position is not being filled, we are now asking the treat providers to set up for coffee hour as well. You are welcome to come to the church

during the week to do so or early on Sunday morning. It takes approximately 20 minutes.

Coffee, drink table items, silverware, plates, and napkins are provided. The treat provider is responsible for bringing treats, setting them out on the tables, and 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.



Elsie Haverland 11-10

Sue Day 11-16

Roger Elliott 11-2

LeRoy Bogue 11-27

Kady Rodriguez 11-27



happy anniversary

John & Vicki Zielinski 11-4

Ed & Dena Query 11-8

Don & Marsha Kaehler 11-14

KEIZER COMMUNITY FOOD BANK

Shared below is a significant update from the Food Bank chairperson.

Hi All,

This is Jim Johnson, Chair of KCFB. I have been Chair for 9 years.



KCFB has been in existence as a charity (a 501(c)3 tax exempt company) since about 2005. Prior to 2005, John Knox Presbyterian Church (JKPC) operated the food bank as part of their local mission. This began about 1988. By about 2000, the capacity limit was attained at JKPC. At that time JKPC joined with 4 other churches (Clear Lake Methodist, Keizer Christian Church, St. Edwards Catholic, and Faith Lutheran) to create KCFB. Location was moved to Faith Lutheran Church so more clients could be served.

KCFB is totally manned by volunteers. All monies donated are used to purchase food over and above the food provided to us by MPFS, as required.

KCFB is a pantry partner to Marion-Polk Food Share (MPFS) and Oregon Food Bank (OFB). All of our work is directed by USDA.

KCFB's mission is to provide food boxes to the food insecure of Marion and Polk Counties. The only qualification to receive food boxes is to meet income guidelines defined by USDA. [We qualify each client at registration. No documentation is required.]

We have seen major increases in clients using KCFB since 2017. In 2017, we were limited to serving not more than 30 clients per distribution. During the Covid pandemic we modified our distribution methods and were able to expand those served to about 85 clients. Since the end of Covid the number of clients per distribution has continued to increase and KCFB continues to adapt to serve more clients per distribution. In September, 2026, we averaged 170 clients served per distribution. On October 15, we provided 225 food boxes. More could have been served but we ran out of food.

In 2024, Faith Lutheran sold the church facilities to Crossroads Fellowship. Crossroads agreed to permit KCFB to continue to operate the food bank in our existing space.

The food needs continue to have increasing numbers. As a result the space that we operate in needs to expand to meet the need. Crossroads' ministry is expanding and they have need of the space we occupy. Crossroads suggested that we modify the garage so we can completely move into the modified garage.

This project includes modifying the building size from 24' x 24' to 24' x 54' totally dedicated to food handling. This includes full HVAC conditioning. Install a walk-in cooler and walk-in freezer to increase our storage capacity. Add a storage container to store any non food items we use. This should allow us

FOOD BANK—Core Foods Needed:

- ◆ Cold Cereal
- ◆ Mac & Cheese
- ◆ Canned fruits
- ◆ Peanut Butter—16-18 ounce
- ◆ Tomato Products—can/jar
- ◆ Soup
- ◆ Pasta
- ◆ Canned Meats

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

to serve more than 300 clients per distribution (as a conservative estimate).

The total project costs are estimated and planned to be about \$350,000. We had been given 'starter' funds from Faith Lutheran in January, 2025 of \$195,000. A fantastic contribution!!!! That means we need about \$155,000 to complete this project. This is a big ASK. We intend to be completed by June 2027.

I am appealing to the communities we serve to donate these funds. Help us continue to serve the food insecure. We will partner with you to raise the money via special events if desired.

Editor's Note: Monetary donations to KCC for support of the Food Bank allow us to provide extra tuna and peanut butter for the families we serve on our Monday. Please consider adding to your regular Food Bank contribution in support of this expansion project. Thank you for your generosity!

PROPERTY UPDATE PHOTOS

Here are some property maintenance photos from the past few months. Property chair Troy Costales invites you to come help trim bushes and trees around the property this **Saturday, October 24th at 9am!** Thanks Troy, for all your hard work!



Repair shed window and siding from vandalism damage.



Before



After

Narthex and Fellowship Carpet cleaned.



Parking lot before and after new crack sealant and striping.



Sanctuary metal roof cleaned.



Weeding and placing of barkdust.





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 1—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 8—Sermon: “Grieving with Hope”

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

We grieve in the paradox between human loss and eternal life.

November 15—Sermon: “How Many Shopping Days Left”

Psalms 90:1-12

Life is a gift; use it wisely.

November 22—Sermon: “The Last Word”

Ephesians 1:15-23

No matter what life (and death) bring, Christ has the last word.