

Church Staff

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 Nancy Anderson, Director of Music
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 Jennifer Jost, Wedding Hostess
 Lee Ann Gutierrez, Event Attendant

Gilbert Kistler, Elder Emeritus
 Frances Hyland, Elder Emerita
 Dorothy Blood, Historian Emerita

We reserve the right to edit or rewrite submitted articles. Newsletter deadline is the 10th and 25th of each month. Church office hours are Monday through Friday, 9 AM to 4 PM

The First Christian Church Newsletter is published by the First Christian Church of Eugene for its members and friends. Dan Bryant, Editor. Patty Weller, Desktop Publisher. (541) 344-1425. FAX: (541) 338-8616. E-Mail: postmaster@heartofeugene.org Web Site: www.heartofeugene.org

Postmaster, send address changes to First Christian Church, 1166 Oak St., Eugene, OR 97401.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
1166 OAK STREET
EUGENE, OR 97401

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

First Notes:

FISH Sunday, 1st Sunday of the Month
Calling Ministry - 2nd Monday, 11:30 AM
Elder's Meeting - 2nd Monday, 7 PM
Executive Meeting - 3rd Monday, 12 PM
Administrative Ministry -
 4th Monday, 5 PM
Lunch Bunch - 4th Tuesday 12 PM



November 11 - Interfaith Prayer Service
Novemberr 11-12 Youth Media Sale
November 18 - Misty River Concert
November 24 - Thanksgiving
November 24-25 Office is Closed
November 27 - First Sunday in Advent
Hanging of the Greens
Combined Service

First News November 1, 2005

A publication of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Eugene for its families and friends

Psalms 145:1-9

"I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever. Every day I will bless you, and praise your name forever and ever. Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable. One generation shall laud your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts. On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate. The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed, and I will declare your greatness. They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness, and shall sing aloud of your righteousness."



Generations of Generosity begins with you! Our budget process is ready to begin but we need your help. If you have not sent in your estimate of giving we can use your support. Call Patty in the church office if you need an estimate of giving card (344-1425). It's never too late to support your church.

2006 ESTIMATES of GIVING Received & Projected

Received Estimates	NEW ESTIMATE CARDS	25	23,025
	INCREASED ESTIMATE	47 \$	141,868
	DECREASED ESTIMATE	7 \$	7,356
	CONTINUED ESTIMATE	18 \$	37,260
		97 \$	209,509
ESTIMATED GIVING	IDENTIFIED GIVING/NO CARD	64 \$	40,722
	UNIDENTIFIED GIVING	\$	6,000
	Total Giving units	161 \$	256,231
	2006 GOAL	\$	268,000
	NEEDED TO MEET GOAL	\$	(11,769)



Minister's Moment To applaud or not to applaud, that is the question. Or so it seems. At least once or twice every year I find myself dealing with the issue and it has come up again a couple of times in just the last few months. I've been mulling these thoughts over for some time now and am interested in how this sounds, so if this strikes a chord one way or another, speak up!

Should we or should we not applaud in worship? In some churches, applause is seen as the ultimate sin of human pride and a terrible disruption to the proper atmosphere of reverence in worship. We gather to praise God, not to please performers. In other churches applause is seen as the sure manifestation of the Spirit and shows the enthusiasm of the worshippers. We gather to make a joyful noise to the Lord, not to mourn the dead. So are we the first kind of church or the second kind? The definitive, absolute answer is, yes we are!

One might argue that our first service is more of the latter and the second service is more of the former, but that would not be entirely true. Sometimes applause is entirely appropriate in the traditional service and sometimes it is inappropriate in the New Celebration. How does one know when it is appropriate and when it is not? I have one rule of thumb and one rule of heart. The rule of thumb says let the context or mood be your guide. At the performance of *La Pasion* in this year's Bach Festival, if someone had applauded at the end I would have personally taken them out behind the Hult and flogged them. But no one in that crowd of a couple of thousand did. Instead, we sat in complete and total silence. Not because of some artificial instruction that said, "please keep your mouth shut and your hands still so some of us can meditate on this powerful music." Instead, the silence came as the natural reaction to the incredible portrayal of the gospel story in a way that spoke to all present—at least anyone who was not moved had the good sense not to spoil it for everyone else. Applause eventually came, but not until eternity filled the silence. In my opinion, that is how worship should be. Applause should fit the moment. When it does occur, it should be a spontaneous and joyful response to what one has heard as part of the praise or joyful noise one makes in worship, not as praise for the performer. In sum, should I applaud the singer, the organist or the preacher? Generally speaking, no. Should I applaud the anthem, the postlude or the sermon? If it fits the mood and you are moved by the Spirit to praise the Word sung or spoken, yes. If that is clear as mud, well then, let us muddle boldly and hope for the best.

Now my rule of heart. Once every four or five years I have felt compelled to take someone aside and to try to explain this muddled philosophy of churches caught somewhere in between the great applause divide, and almost always I regretted it later. When someone applauds because it is heartfelt, genuine and the way they praise God, would it not be better for us to say "Amen" and let it be at that than to dampen an enthusiastic spirit or risk hurting a tender soul? And if you don't feel so led by the Spirit, then would it not also be better to share your praise in some other form than to join in a half-hearted effort? My rule of heart says be kind and gentle to all and accept each person as they are rather than trying to make them like us. Don't know if that helps, but I hope it is food for thought. And hold the applause—unless of course, you are so moved you can't help it!



Prayer Calendar: Jana Rogers; Alice Dugan; Felma Brabham; Lee Wahlstrom; Sara Danis; Louise Hastings; Jim Copenhagen; Frances Holmes; Bonnie Roth; Ruth Bascue; Vivian Templar; Rowena Morgan; Tony R. Alexander; Beth Berge; Elezabeth Coke; George Weller; families in financial crisis and families dealing with addictions.



Good Samaritan Ministry

Our Good Samaritan Ministry operates Monday through Thursday 9AM to 2 PM. This ministry assist people in need find resources to help their emergency. As our funds allow we help with prescriptions, bus tokens, and gas vouchers. This year they have been operating on 1/2 of the income we had last year at this time but with the Good Samaritan Workers, doing twice the work. *Donations can be made to FCC Emergency Assistance Fund*



Thanks to the many of you who have prayed for and asked about Jo-Anne Flanders's mother, Cleo Tapp, and son, Bret Taylor. Cleo is recovering nicely from a blood clot in her leg. He returned to his job (supervisor of a laminating beam plant) on Oct. 19th, 7 weeks after surgery. Thanks again. *Jo-Anne Flanders*



Thank you for your prayers for Zachary Weller, born October 11 to Michael & Daphne Weller. Zachary spent his first week in NICU but is home now & doing well. *Zachary's Grandparents George & Patty Weller.*

BITS & PIECES

Medicare Part D informational Meeting

Medicare Part D is coming quickly in January 2006, and the discount drug programs are fading away. Laura Powell will give a 30 minute informational meeting on November 6th at 12:30 pm in the Dining Room on Medicare Part D. There are many changes and deadlines that Medicare beneficiaries need to be aware of. If you need financial assistance, check www.socialsecurity.gov for more information also. No sales materials will be presented.

Mix in '06 Women's Event

Indianapolis • Convention Center • June 21-25, 2006

Dream On, Sisters!

June 21-25, 2006 in Indianapolis, Indiana Mix in '06 is a one time historic gathering of the Disciples of Christ ICWF Quadrennial Assembly & The United Church of Christ National Women's Meeting!

Dream On, Sisters!

Discover Your Dreams!
Awaken to God's Dreams!
Live out those Dreams in the world!

Check out www.dreamonsisters.com/
PROGRAM FOR THE "MIX"
ANNOUNCING...
PREACHERS, SPEAKERS, MUSICIANS AND MORE
IN WORSHIP and PLENARY

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Special dates

- All Saints' Day, November 1, 2005
- World Community Day, November 4, 2005
- Veterans Day, November 11, 2005
- National Bible Week, November 20-27, 2005
- Thanksgiving Day, November 24, 2005
- First Sunday of Advent, November 27, 2005

World Community Day

9:45 a.m. Friday, November 4,
at the Unitarian Church
(447 40th Avenue Eugene)

All Christian women are invited to join us for World Community Day, an annual event that brings together Protestant, Roman Catholic, Orthodox and other Christian women in a common worship experience that focuses on issues of peace and justice. Contact Helen Riddel at 689-1606 for information.

YOUTH NEWS
YOUTH MULTIMEDIA SALE
November 12 & 13
in the church basement.

Advent Workshop 25 Years (11/27)

It's time to start making plans for our Advent Workshop and we need your help to make it happen. Please let the office know if you can be part of a planning committee.

★ *Special Edition* ★

Coming November 17, a special edition Newsletter focusing on Advent and events to make your holiday season bright.

November 11 at 7:00 PM
Interfaith Prayer Service

"Interfaith Prayer, Remembrance, and Reflection" provides a special occasion to pray for peace, remember our loved ones, reflect upon the interconnectedness of all beings, and to uplift our hearts and minds. Its purpose is to bring together people from different faith communities in the spirit of harmony, peace, and growing appreciation, and to nurture confidence in the universal power of love and unity that transcends all earthly limitations.



*Interfaith
Thanksgiving
Service*
November 22,
at 7 PM

Central Presbyterian Church
"Praying Each Other's Prayers"
community choir and a pie social

The community choir will sing *"The Lord Bless You and Keep You."* (Contact Eliza Drummond for music.)

There will be a love offering. Child Care will be available. We need 10 - 12 pies from our congregation.



*Combined
Worship
Service*
November 27
at 10:30 AM



Helping Hand ministry is preparing for Christmas:

Giftng of the tree will begin in November in order to have gift bags filled prior to Christmas. Here's what to bring:
November 13, Bring hats, gloves and scarfs
November 20, Bring underwear and socks
November 27, Bring a new toy (stocking stuffer size)

On October 2 we welcomed the following to our membership.



Ronnie Carper is reactivating his membership here.

Karen Duncan is transferring from First Methodist.

John Hazen transferred from a Presbyterian Church



Choir Raises \$\$ for Carnegie Hall Trip

Choir members planning to sing at Carnegie Hall in May are selling Entertainment Books to help offset the travel cost. For only \$30 these are a great value and cheaper when you buy them here! Out of town books also available. Great Christmas gift idea! See Nancy Anderson to buy one or several.

The Eugene Gleemen's Fall Concert,



Copland & American Spirituals, will be held on Friday, November 18, 7:30, at Ebbert Memorial Methodist Church, 532 C Street, Springfield and on Sunday, November 20th, 2:00, at Central Presbyterian Church, 555 East 15th Street, Eugene.

We are proud to once a gain feature the "Young Men's Ensemble" and "The Classics" directed by Cate and Jason Cafarella from the Oregon Children's Choir. The program opens with interesting new arrangements of songs for men's voices by Aaron Copland, one of America's greatest 20th century composers, which include some well known pieces such as "Shall We Gather At the River" and "Simple Gifts". Traditional and well known Spirituals will conclude the concert. Tickets are \$10.00 and available from Gleemen members or can be purchased at the door.

For more information, contact John Jantzi, director of the Eugene Gleemen, at 345-8471.

CHI RHO SERIES - The Biblical Uision of Sabbath Economics

A weekend of study with Ched Meyers

November 11, 12, and 13th at Central Lutheran Church, Eugene, OR

The topic of economics is exceedingly difficult to discuss in our churches, more taboo than politics or even sex. Yet no aspect of our individual and social lives is more consequential, and few subjects are more frequently addressed in scripture than economics. Myers rescues the biblical traditions of Sabbath and Jubilee from the margins of contemporary theological discourse, replacing them at the center of the Christian ethos.

Friday, November 11

7:30 PM "It is a matter of equality." (2 Cor 5:15)

The Economic Implications of Paul's Theology of Grace.

Saturday, November 12

9:30 AM Morning Discussion @ St. Thomas More University Parish (1850 Emerald St.)

Relational Giving, Social Investing,

Covenant Mutual Aid: Practical Steps for Churches & Households

Saturday, November 12

7:30 PM "What is It?" (Ex 16:15)

Economic Justice in the Law and Prophets

Sunday, November 13

4:00 PM "Take + Bless + Break + Give = Enough" (Mk 6:41,14:22)

The Eucharist as Ritual of Sabbath Economics

About the Speaker: Ched Myers is an activist, writer and teacher who has been deeply involved in work for nonviolence, church renewal and radical discipleship. Based in Los Angeles with Bartimaeus Cooperative Ministries, Ched resources a broad and ecumenical range of churches, denominations and faith based activist groups across North America and abroad.

He holds a Masters degree in New Testament from the Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, California. His book *Binding the Strong Man* is acclaimed as the finest bible commentary since Barth's *Romans*.



Spiritual Formation Opportunities

Spiritual Formation opportunities are facilitated by Rev. Elaine Andres. All classes are held at Sacred Path Ministries, 225 Oakway Mall (above Latham Luggage). Donations to the ministry are requested.

Women In Transformation

An open group for women desiring companionship as they consciously walk deeper in their relationship with the Holy One. Prayer, support and spiritual direction form the group's experience. Mondays at 10 a.m.

Creating a Space for God

A book discussion on Making Space, Prayer as Attitude, Prayer as Act, Wrestling with God, Prayer and Justice/Compassion. Wednesdays at 10 a.m. Nov. 2 to December 14. Call 543-3181 to register.

Contemplative Prayer Practices

Discover new ways to deepen your relationship with the Holy One as you explore ancient prayer practices. Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Nov. 2 to December 14. Please call 543-3181 to register.

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION AVAILABLE

We all experience the desire to find meaning beyond the moment and to move deeper in our walk with God. In Spiritual Direction you explore those desires, reflect deeply on daily experiences in life and learn to notice God's presence in those moments. For information or an appointment, contact Elaine Andres, 683-8241 or 543-3181.

LIFE FALL CLASSES

PRAYER: A Multi-Faith Journey in Spirit

You are invited to explore the contours of our rich spiritual heritage as those who walk their chosen path of spiritual expression lead you in prayer. Following the prayers is an opportunity to share. Faith traditions explored are Buddhism & Christianity (10/24), Sufi (10/31), Hindu (11/7), Muslim (11/14), Jewish (11/21) and Native American (11/28). Facilitated by Rev. Elaine Andres and Rev. Sherry Lady. 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Monday, October 24 – November 28 First Christian Church Chapel, 1166 Oak Street, Eugene Cost: \$30 (Scholarships Available). Registration is at the door.

Telling Our Spiritual Journeys

We know that sharing personal stories can bring us closer together, stretch our hearts, and help all to grow a bit more. In this six week course we will address such questions as: *How do we talk about our intimate experiences of God? What sacred tradition has led you to a deeper understanding of God?* and many others. Facilitated by Peggy Starr, 2:00 - 4:00 pm October 26-December 7 at First Christian Church. Donations accepted.



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YOUTH NEWS

CYF BIBLE STUDY
Tuesdays from 7-8:30 p.m.

**YOUTH MULTIMEDIA
SALE IS COMING!!**
November 12 & 13 in the church basement.

YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP
Join us as we experience ancient and new prayer forms for four weeks. We are meeting from 6-7 p.m. October 23 and 30 and November 13 & 20. We will meet in the Chapel, entrance off Oak Street.

On Sunday, November 6, we meet at 6:30 p.m. in the church parking lot and go to the Taize Healing Prayer Service at Unity. Please invite your friends.



It's not too late to join in the Children's Christmas Musical. Children between 4 years and 5th grade meet each Sunday at 9:30 to rehearse. Questions, Call Judith Ivy @ 914-3761.




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**Children's Worship & Wonder -
Coming to FCC Eugene**

Twenty-four people from the Oregon, Northwest, & Northern California regions participated in the Children Worship and Wonder Training event hosted by Murray Hills Christian Church September 30-October 2.

Participants from our church were: Michelle Cook, Sarah Vaughan, Betsey Brandenfels, Lois Brandenfels, Mel & Leitha Menegat, and Marilyn Reid.

The training is a workshop that presents a joyful way to worship God. It invites both children and adults to experience the wonder and mystery of God through a unique storytelling format and multi-sensory materials. Through demonstrations and lectures you will learn to present biblical stories and parables using wooden figures and other materials to create a worship environment that cultivates the imagination and invites children to fall in love with God.



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