



F I R S T

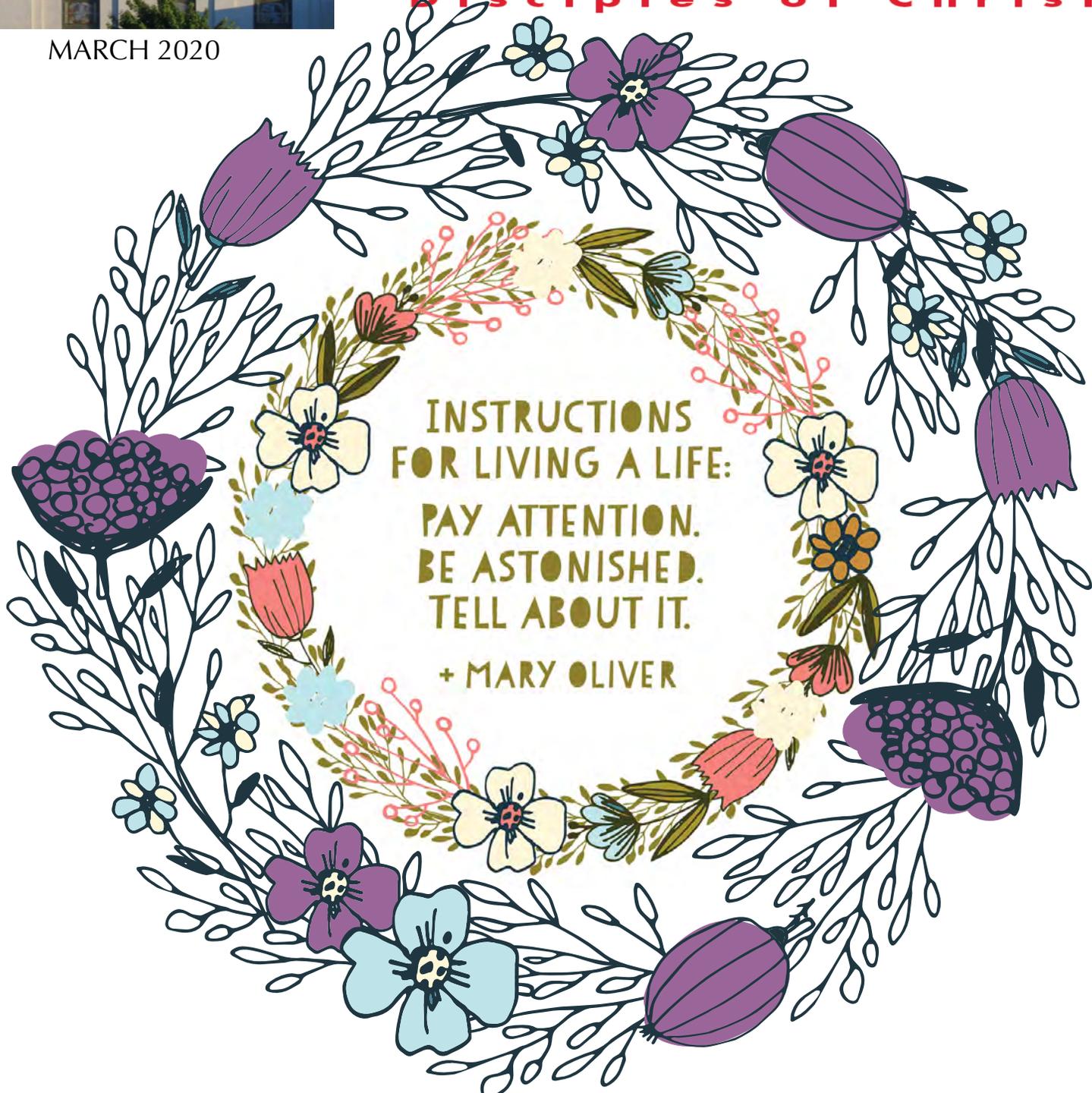
 **CHRISTIAN**

C H U R C H



*Disciples of Christ*

MARCH 2020



INSTRUCTIONS  
FOR LIVING A LIFE:  
PAY ATTENTION.  
BE ASTONISHED.  
TELL ABOUT IT.  
+ MARY OLIVER

IN THIS ISSUE

The Ministers Moment w/ Dan Bryant, Lent and Easter Services, WAY Mission Trip  
Elder Schedule, Regional Assembly 2020, Update from the Transition Team  
Announcements from the Office, Community Events, and More!

# Ministers Moment March 2020 with Rev. Daniel Bryant



Prayer breakfasts don't often make the news. Typically they are fairly benign events when religious leaders get together with various political leaders for some inspiration, good thoughts about the need for compassion and generosity, and of course, prayer for the well-being of the nation. The National Prayer Breakfast began under the Eisenhower administration with support from Billy Graham and has received the support of every President since. Speakers have included our own Senator Mark Hatfield, Mother Teresa, Ben Carson (chosen twice), prime ministers of other nations and my personal favorite, Bono (the lead singer of the British rock band U2). Typically the President of the U.S. speaks after the guest speaker.

Held on the first Thursday in February with over 3000 in attendance, this year's breakfast featured Arthur C. Brooks, a genuine compassionate conservative who has written two New York Times best sellers on the importance of free enterprise and the conservative vision for a prosperous America as the best means to achieve true happiness for the most people. Brooks writes for the Washington Post and has collaborated with the Dalai Lama. In a dialogue with President Obama he stated that "poverty is the thing I care about most." NBC news called him the "poverty guru" of the Republican party for his efforts to increase the focus on solutions to poverty. In his address at this year's breakfast, he spoke about the principle of loving our enemies, urging attendees to spread their faith by modeling unity and reconciliation in a divisive time. His spirit of goodwill was short lived.

Following Brook's comments, President Trump admitted "I don't know if I agree with Arthur," and thereupon began an attack on the faith of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and the Senator Mitt Romney, a Mormon, who cast the lone Republican vote against the President in the impeachment trial the day before. Calling his political opponents, "dishonest and corrupt people," Trump triumphantly celebrated his exoneration by the Senate and assured attendees that God was on his side. Many applauded, others shook their heads. "This event has usually been to bring Washington together," stated Princeton University historian Kevin Kruse, "and that instead he used it to further denigrate others' faith and cast doubt on their public expressions of faith is stunning." The Rev. Jim Wallis was even less kind, writing in his blog for Sojourners magazine that Trump's comments reveal that "the moral health of our public life, the very soul of our democracy, and the integrity of faith" are under attack.

Fortunately, the theme of loving one's enemies prevailed in the end. Congressman John Lewis provided the benediction by pre-recorded video due to his progressing cancer. Telling of how he was nearly beaten to death by police decades before on the "Bloody Sunday" at the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Congressman Lewis quoted Martin Luther King, Jr. who said, "I have decided to stick with love, for hate is too heavy a burden to bear." And then Lewis, who did not hear what the President had just said of his political opponents, went on to say, "But I never hated the people who beat me because I chose the way of peace, the way of love, and the way of nonviolence. For the God Almighty helped me."

And so it is, that the truth of God still is heard, even at this year's National Prayer Breakfast. May God help us all.

Rev. Dan Bryant

## Personnel News



First Christian Church is proud to introduce to you three employees who are serving in a new role. Please join us in welcoming:

Interim Organist:

**Linda Dorsey**

Linda has been stepping in for some time and we are so excited to make it official! You're the best.



Welcome Bell Choir Director:  
**Donna Snyder**



Facility Caretaker Assistant:  
**Matthew Coady**

Matthew a long time member has been assisting in this department for some time, but his tasks have expanded over the last few months and we appreciate all of his tireless efforts, skills, and knowledge.



MARCH 2020 FCC SERVICE AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

		1-Mar	8-Mar	15-Mar	22-Mar	29-Mar
<b>9 am Traditional Service</b>						
<b>ELDERS</b>	<i>Offering</i>	Sonny Bettleyoun	Michael Kennedy	Cheryl Moore	Patty Osborne	Sandi Ybarra
	<b>Communion</b>	Patty Osborne	Connie Kennedy	John Moore	Rick Johnson	Judith Ivy
<b>DEACONS</b>						
	<b>CP</b>	Lori Smith	Laurie Geiger	Jamie McCornack	Conrad Tjemsland	Lori Smith
	<b>CP</b>	Bill Smith	Teffany Heffner		Delilah Smith	Bill Smith
	<b>CC</b>	Anthony Brimberry	John Metzger	John Weare	John Metzger	Laurie Geiger
	<b>CC</b>		John Weare	Rex Bradley	Jonah Metzger	Teffany Heffner
	<b>OT</b>	Delilah Smith	Lori Smith	Anthony Brimberry	Jamie McCornack	John Metzger
	<b>OT</b>	Rex Bradley	Bill Smith	Conrad Tjemsland	John Weare	
<b>11:15 am New Celebration Service</b>						
<b>ELDER</b>		Dow Cobb	John Hazen	Karen Sturms	Stephen Landale	Leitha Menegat
<b>DEACONS</b>	<b>CP</b>	Paul Blaylock	Sophie Navarro	Jeannie Hagy	Abigail Rotholz	Annie Tobin
		Avery Puhn	Hannah Oristano	Benjamin Thompson	Paul Blaylock	Hannah Oristano
<b>HOMEBOUND COMMUNION</b>						
	<b>Route 2</b>	Sonny Bettleyoun	John Hazen	Cheryl/John Moore	Rick Johnson	Leitha/Mel Menegat
	<b>Route 3</b>	Dow Cobb	Connie/Michael Kennedy	Stephen Landale	Patty Osborne	Judith Ivy



CP= Communion Prep; CC = Communion Clean Up; OT= Offering Tray pickup

**WORSHIP LEADER SCHEDULE- MARCH, APRIL, MAY 2020**



Date	
1-Mar	Richard Murray
8-Mar	Judith Ivy
15-Mar	Dick Busic
22-Mar	Beverly Henderson
29-Mar	Glen McKerrow
5-Apr	Sharon Warner
12-Apr (Easter) United Service	Dick Lauer
19-Apr	YOUTH SUNDAY
26-Apr	Molly & Delilah Smith
3-May	Michael Kennedy
10-May	Mandy Reid
17-May	April Ekstrom
24-May	Sonny Bettleyoun
31-May (Pentacost) United Service	Patty Osborne

**MARCH, APRIL AND MAY 2020 FCC ELDER SCHEDULE**

Date	TRAD. SVC. / Offering	TRAD SVC. / Communion	NC SVC	Home Bound Rt 2	Home Bound Rt 3
1-Mar	Sonny Bettleyoun	Patty Osborne	Dow Cobb	Sonny Bettleyoun	Dow Cobb
8-Mar	Michael Kennedy	Connie Kennedy	John Hazen	John Hazen	Connie/Michael Kennedy
15-Mar	Cheryl Moore	John Moore	Karen Sturms	Cheryl/John Moore	Stephen Landale
22-Mar	Patty Osborne	Rick Johnson	Stephen Landale	Rick Johnson	Patty Osborne
29-Mar	Sandi Ybarra	Judith Ivy	Leitha Menegat	Leitha/Mel Menegat	Judith Ivy
5-Apr (Palm Sunday)	John Moore	Cheryl Moore	Kathryn Ann/Kit Frisinger	Kathryn Ann/Kit Frisinger	Cheryl/John Moore
12-Apr (Easter) United Service	Dow Cobb	Rick Johnson		Stephen Landale	Dow Cobb
19-Apr	<b>YOUTH SUNDAY</b>			John Hazen	Judith Ivy
26-Apr	Connie Kennedy	Michael Kennedy	Mel Menegat	Leitha/Mel Menegat	Connie/Michael Kennedy
3-May	Judith Ivy	Sonny Bettleyoun	Karen Sturms	Sonny Bettleyoun	Judith Ivy
10-May	Rick Johnson	Sandi Ybarra	Kathryn Ann/Kit Frisinger	Rick Johnson	Kathryn Ann/Kit Frisinger
17-May	Michael Kennedy	Connie Kennedy	John Hazen	John Hazen	Connie/Michael Kennedy
24-May	Cheryl Moore	John Moore	Stephen Landale	Cheryl/John Moore	
31-May (Pentacost) United Service	Leitha Menegat	Patty Osborne		Leitha/Mel Menegat	Patty Osborne



# ON THE ROAD

## HEART OF EUGENE TRANSITION TEAM

Greetings,

Your Transition Committee has been hard at work. We created a proposed interim staffing plan, and submitted a detailed congregational profile to our Regional Minister Cathy Myers Wirt to help her find interim candidates with a suitable fit with FCC.

We'll meet with Cathy March 2 to discuss specific candidates. We'll then interview candidates, and once the Committee and the candidate reach an agreement, we'll submit our decision to the FCC Board for their decision on calling.

We are still within our timeline and hope all the parts come together. Please continue praying for the success of this process.

Blessings,

The Transition Team

Dan's Retirement Celebration  
Sunday April 5 at 5:30 pm at Valley River

Dan's not retiring from all ministry but he is completing 35 years of pastoral ministry and 29 years as our pastor. It's a time of change for Dan and Judy and for FCC. So we will gather to express our thanks, our well wishes, and give special recognition for Dan and Judy's faithful and effective ministry.

Everyone in our church community, the Eugene/Springfield Community, family, friends and colleagues from around the Region are invited.

Gregg Ybarra and committee are busy planning a wonderful event. See you there!



**Cheers  
to 29 years!**

AT EUGENE FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

A RETIREMENT PARTY TO HONOR DAN BRYANT

FRIDAY  
APRIL 5

VALLEY RIVER  
INN

5:30 IN THE  
EVENING

# YOU ARE INVITED to our 4th Regional Assembly

*A Gathering of the Christian Church in Oregon and SW Idaho  
(Disciples of Christ) Congregations and Friends*



*Growing  
Into God's  
Future  
Together*

*May 15-16*

*Worship = Workshops = Music = New Congregations Received*

**Hosted by Salem First Christian Church  
Welcoming Claremont School of Theology to Oregon**



**Belva Brown Jordan**  
Moderator,  
General Assembly  
Interim President  
Disciples Seminary  
Foundation



**Sotello Long**  
President  
Disciples Home  
Missions

**For more information  
visit [www.oidisciples.org](http://www.oidisciples.org)**



## **Pray & Play Days 2020**

**9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

- February 29** Albany
- March 14** Ontario
- March 21** Medford
- March 28** Lynchwood
- April 18** LaGrande
- April 25** Eugene Area place TBA

Sponsored by  
Disciples Women OR & SW ID

*Return the registration form and payment to:*  
Christian Church in OR and SW ID  
0245 SW Bancroft St. # F, Portland, OR 97239

**A Quiet Moment...**

online  
registrations can  
be found at  
[oidisciples.org](http://oidisciples.org)

*Kickstart your Thursday*

# HAVE A CUP OF COFFEE WITH DAN!

THURSDAYS IN MARCH 9:00-10:30 AM  
DROP IN ONE LAST TIME TO SAY GOODBYE



Dan is setting aside Thursday mornings in March from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. for a time to have coffee with anyone who would like an opportunity to visit and to have any needed conversation before he leaves. Got a burning theological question or want to respond to all those bad jokes about the Ducks? Here's your chance! We'll open up Holy Grounds (our coffee shop). No appointment necessary, just come to the office on a Thursday between 9 am to 10:30 am and tell our front desk volunteer that you are here to have coffee with Dan.

## Announcements from the Office:



Don't forget- Emergency Preparedness Moment: A new sign up sheet for all church volunteers now exists. This is a new procedure for all volunteers. When you come to volunteer, *please* remember to sign in at the front office - this helps us know who is in the building in case of an emergency...



Coming Soon we will be starting our new evacuation program for First Christian Church and learning how to follow our egress protocols. This will new program will be introduced in June 2020.



New Phone Directory Coming April 2020 -- Please use the Sundays in March to make corrections to your contact information. Thank you.

# SPIRITUAL FORMATION

**Resurrecting Easter - March 1 to April 5**

Grace Chapel

Pastor Dan will be teaching a class during Lent (the five Sundays of March) based on the book **Resurrecting Easter: How the West Lost and the East Kept the Original Easter Vision** by John Dominic Crossan. Participants do not need to purchase the book for the course, though you may wish to do so. It can be ordered at any bookstore and online. Note: if purchasing an electronic version, make sure that it includes the illustrations and not just the text.

**W.A.Y. Class for Middle & High School Youth**

Room 310

New Year, new curriculum, new facilitators! Bring a friend. We're talking about the Book of Joshua & Judges, continuing in our Fathom series, led by Michael and Connie Kennedy.

Poor People's Campaign is uniting people across the country to challenge the evils of systemic racism, poverty, the war economy, ecological devastation and the nation's distorted morality. **Sign up today and learn more: [poorpeoplescampaign.org](http://poorpeoplescampaign.org)**



MISSION TRIP  
SEND OFF

JOIN US!  
SATURDAY  
MARCH 21

Pray, Sing, Bless  
Our Servants

as they travel to  
Redding, Chico,  
Paradise, California



GRACE CHAPEL  
9:30 AM



REDDING • CHICO • PARADISE • MARCH 21-26 2020

## WAY Mission Trip

DISASTER RELIEF AND RECOVERY SPRING BREAK 2020

REGISTRATION DEADLINE:

MARCH 1, 2020 WITH \$50 DEPOSIT

TRIP COST: \$300

FOR MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL  
YOUTH



CHAPERONES NEEDED  
TALK TO PASTOR APRIL

# COMMUNITY EVENTS



## AGE BACKWARDS!

Free intro classes to ESSETRICS®

Monday November 4th 5:30—7:00 pm

Thursday November 7th 10:00—11:30 am

First Christian Church in the Chapel room

Bring a yoga mat and wear comfortable clothes. Improve your balance, gain strength and flexibility in a gentle and fun workout for both men and women.

Contact [doe.essentrics@gmail.com](mailto:doe.essentrics@gmail.com) for more information.



## **Aspire**

Author & Speaker  
**MELISSA SPOELSTRA**



Comedy by  
**KRISTIN WEBER**



Worship with  
**MIA KOEHNE**



*1 night – 3 hours  
Just for Women  
An evening full of laughter,  
learning, stories & music*

**FRIDAY  
APRIL 24, 2020**

**FIRST CHRISTIAN  
CHURCH**  
1166 OAK ST.  
EUGENE, OR 97401

**7:00PM SHOW**  
6:30PM GA DOORS OPEN  
6:00PM VIP DOORS OPEN

**ADVANCE TICKETS**  
\$25 Gen. Admission | \$35 VIP  
\$20 Groups of 10 or more.  
Group sales call 480-812-1100

VIP ticket includes early entry for preferred seating and Q-n-A session with all the speakers and artists.

Purchase tickets at **480-812-1100**  
or online at:  
**ASPIREWOMENSEVENTS.com**

**Aspire Eugene** is a 1 night - 3 hour event just for women, featuring nationally known speakers, comedians, and worship leaders. This event is sponsored by Abingdon Press and Abingdon Women, national publishing companies that have a rich tradition in religious publishing crossing denominational boundaries. Abingdon Women offers enriching and relevant studies for women specifically.

Aspire was born out of the desire and need for women to enjoy a night out, with fellowship and spiritual growth. This is not a Disciples of Christ specific event, nor a specific program of our church, but a special rental that may appeal to you and your friends.

Tickets are on sale in our church office if you would like to purchase one or more. Or in groups of 10 with a special discount.

# FCC News Page:

## **Green Chalice by Phyllis Weare:**

Reminder: We are finally having our plastic collections so we can bring in all the #'s 2, 4, 5. Cleaned, labels removed and ready to go. March 1st and 8th you can bring them upstairs and we will get them to our recycling space. We will need to help on Monday March 9 at 10 am to sort and bag them up. Please connect with Phyllis or just show up that day!

**Spring is EARLY!** We have pansies and bushes to plant out front while removing weeds and winter damage. As of now Phyllis is here on Saturday mornings by 10 am until we get caught up. Come help enhance the beauty of our church and feel great doing it!

**Application for Certification:** To become a certified Green Chalice Congregation we need to submit a record of all we have done, not only for our sustainable operations but for all we do to promote outreach to the community. We have done a lot and we are not through yet! Our application is nearing completion, be a part of the green team.

**Nursery Volunteers Needed!** If you would love to help welcome some of our youngest worshipers and give them a safe place to play when the demands of sitting still during service gets to be too much for them, please see April after the service or contact Tom and Jean Kozlowski at 541.554.0970 or tkozlow906@aol.com.

## **Social Opportunity:**

Tom and Jean Kozlowski will be hosting and after theater party at their home. Our own April Oristano will be starring in "Little Women" the musical at the Very Little Theater during the month March. For more details on the shindig connect with Tom or Jean via phone or email at 541.554.0970 or tkozlow906@aol.com.

## **View from a Volunteer**

*This is a new, and hopefully ongoing feature of our newsletter, and all FCC volunteers are invited to participate. Please send your stories, impressions and thoughts about volunteering here to Eliza Roaring Springs by the 20th of each month (elizarsprings@gmail.com), and she will piece together an article. It's a chance to share our experiences! All ideas are welcome, however brief or lengthy.*

So, to start us off...

I've volunteered at FCC for the last year in many different ways, and honestly, I've enjoyed them all. From cracking hundreds of eggs with Saturday morning breakfast prep, to answering the phone at the front desk, to finding a coat for someone's little girl in the Helping Hands room, every experience has enriched my life. Supposedly I'm "helping others," but really, it's helping me. The tasks vary a lot, but all have included laughter and hugs and creating new bonds of friendship—and not only with FCC members! In Good Samaritan I get to spend precious time with a huge variety of folks who come in needing help, and they become my friends too. What a joy it is to simply be with them and listen and care—offer a sandwich, an idea, a bus pass, a hug...what a joy to feel needed.

*For information on how to get involved as a FCC volunteer, please connect with Yvette in the front office to fill out a volunteer form.*

# Documentary Screening



HOSTED BY:



Sierra Club  
Three Rivers Group



Advance tickets for  
sale online at:  
[tickets.demand.film/event/9759](https://tickets.demand.film/event/9759)

**Thursday, March 12th, 6:30pm**  
**Regal Valley River Center**

**QA to follow with beekeepers, farmers and scientists**

PREMIER SPONSORS **ABELCINE, BURT'S BEES** MUSIC BY **DOUGLAS J. CUOMO**  
FILM EDITOR **MICHAEL REUTER** DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY **PETER NELSON** EXECUTIVE PRODUCER **SALLY ROY**  
PRODUCED BY **PETER NELSON, MICHAEL REUTER, SALLY ROY**  
DIRECTED BY **PETER NELSON**



1166 Oak Street  
Eugene, Oregon  
97401

### Church Staff

- The Reverend Dr. Daniel E. H. Bryant, Minister
- The Reverend April Oristano, Minister
- Yvette Diggs, Office Manager
- Melody Doll, Accounting Manager
- Nancy Anderson, Music Director
- Chris Turner, New Celebration Director
- Linda Dorsey, Interim Organist
- Ron Dalton, Church Custodian
- Larry Wahlstrom, Event Manager
- Ric Satterwhite, Audio Visual

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Email: office@heartofeugene.org  
Website: www.heartofeugene.org

The **First Christian Church Newsletter** is published by First Christian Church, Eugene for it's members and friends.

### Mission Statement

We believe in love of God for all people

We gather as a worshipping community of faith to follow Jesus Christ

We delight together in what God is doing through us to bring: healing within brokenness; unity within diversity; joy within grief; and power within weakness

Our mission is to strengthen relationships we have with God, with each other, with our families, and with our world.

We are an Open and Affirming Congregation and people of all orientations, and gender identities are welcome in the full life and ministry of our church.

We are a global ministries church and we join and with global and local partners to work for justice reconciliation and peace.

We are a Green Chalice congregation and we strive to demonstrate the fullness of God's Shalom through living out our faith by caring for God's creation.