



SALEM **First
Christian
Church**

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

THE CHURCH SCROLL

Volume 83 Issue 19 September 25, 2025

Sunday Services 8:30 & 10:30 am • Children's Church 10:30 am



YMCA Block Party

SFCC hosted a booth at our neighborhood YMCA Labor Day Block Party, September 1, on Cottage Street. The theme was “Boots, Bandanas, and BBQ.” Visitors to our booth made craft bolo ties, tambourines, and dancing ribbons—and could even pan for “treasures”! Some folks took photographs



with our inflatable horse. Some SFCC volunteers squeezed in hugs with Oregon's famous Caesar, the no drama llama. Big thanks to Betty Charnholm for coordinating our booth. Volunteers from SFCC contributed to making the day a delightful success, other SFCC members came by to say hello, and over 300 neighbors enjoyed the block party!



Friday, October 31st
5:00-6:00 p.m.

*Wear your favorite costume and
join us for Tricks and Treats!*

Keizer Christian Church
6945 Wheatland Rd N
Keizer, Oregon

**Pastor's Message from Co-Senior Minister,
Michelle Harris-Gloyer**

Body Blessing

There's a lot going on in the big world around us and in the smaller circles closer to us. The environmental season is shifting, too. Some regularly scheduled activities are beginning again after a summer pause, and the weather is a little in-between sunshine and rain.



Sometimes when we get spinning in our minds, feeling intensity in our emotions, or even just trying to crank through a to-do list, it can be helpful to bring attention to our bodies. We may notice in our body where we feel stress or tension; just acknowledging a specific location (shoulders, chest, head, throat, etc.) and breathing some compassionate attention to that part of the body can help us feel a little more at ease.

The word for "breath" is the same as the word for "spirit" in scripture (both in the original Hebrew/Old Testament and Greek/New Testament). The Holy Spirit is as close as our own breath... We may have to slow down and pay attention to notice though.

In the last Church Scroll newsletter, I shared a Body Blessing as a spiritual practice. In the time since that publication, the blessing has undergone multiple iterations. The first changes were considering communicating with young children and trying to make the language accessible for them.

I encourage grace with yourself for further spiritual practice adaptations on a given day.

A BODY BLESSING

Take 3 deep breaths.

*Place one hand on your heart and the other hand on your belly. Focus on breathing Holy Spirit breaths. Let this breathing be your spiritual practice for the day.
(You may also place your hands on each Body Part as you pray.)*

GOD BLESS MY...

MIND to find calm and peace

SHOULDERS to give a friend someone to lean on

LEGS to go on in hard times

FEET to carry your good news

EYES to see beauty and goodness

EARS to know what is true

MOUTH to speak encouragement

HANDS to do good works

Take a moment and give yourself a hug.

ARMS to care for others

HEART to love you and all you have made

Amen!

You may also choose only one body part and prayer to focus on. Focus Holy Spirit breaths on that one area of your body and life.

By the way, I love how the congregation has jumped in with singing "mind, shoulders, legs, and feet" with the Children's Time (10:30 am service) to the tune of "Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes," connecting to our Body Blessing. Your participatory spirits are contagious! Wishing you a little more joy and a little more ease in your day, God's beloved!

~ Pastor Michelle

A Body Blessing



September 25 - October 8

Brian Smith.....	September 25
Nduta Nyoro-Cayton	September 26
Gene Clemens	September 27
Mark Ridings.....	September 29
Bud Pierce.....	October 3
Stella Agee	October 3

Prayers For...

Leslie Carlisle, pancreatic cancer

Allan Cleveland, healing from back surgery

Susan Crom, pancreatic cancer

Teri Garland, health concerns

Natasha de la Garza, large mass in her abdomen

Gene & Shirley Pilcher, ease of settling into Boone Ridge Senior Living Community together

Duane Setness, on hospice

Mike Stebbins, healing from hernia surgery

Ed Vawter, recovering from surgery

Candy Donations

Want to add some sugary Halloween happiness for kiddos? Individually wrapped candy donations will support the "Trunk-or-Treat" event hosted by our DOC neighbors at Keizer Christian Church. Bring the candy to the table outside the Parlor at Salem FCC on Sunday mornings or to the church office mid-week.

Worship Attendance

September 14	in-person	online
8:30.....	13	
10:30	99	163
September 21	in-person	online
8:30.....	17	
10:30	104	119



Fellowship of the Towel "Thank You!"

I want to thank our Elders and my church family for honoring me and presenting me with the Fellowship of the Towel. It is truly a great honor. I must acknowledge that there are so many of you who work so hard and give so much to our church. You are equally as deserving to be honored.

I thank God for such a wonderful and loving church.

Blessings, Orin Bruton

Magazine Donations

The Praying Ministry Team is seeking image-rich magazines for an upcoming Prayer Collage Workshop. Examples include: National Geographic, home or garden magazines, and others with medium to large size photo images. (No sales catalogs, please.) Bring magazines to the church library.

More details about the workshop are forthcoming. If you are interested in supporting collage image procurement (prior to the workshop) or involvement with the Praying Ministry Team, contact Praying Ministry chairperson Joyce Frame or Pastor Michelle.

Church at the Park

The FCC Teaching Ministry will be hosting two tables at the Church at the Park's "Welcome to the Table" story-telling event Thursday, October 16, in the Spinning Room, 3rd floor of the Mission Mill.

A sign-up sheet is at the Information Center in the Narthex. You may reserve a seat at the breakfast, which opens at 7:30 am and the program begins at 8:00 am. Or, you may reserve a seat at the lunch, which opens at 11:30 am with the program beginning at 12:00 noon. You must reserve your space by October 5.

SALEM YOUTH COLLECTIVE

Named, Noticed, Known: A Framework for Belonging

Sunday, October 12, 2025 | 12:30-2:30 pm

St. Paul's Episcopal Church (across from Bush Park)

Look for the "Salem Youth Collective" banner at the south entrance facing the parking lot.

The Salem Youth Collective is putting on a workshop entitled "Belonging: Noticed, Named and Known".

This workshop features the research of Springtide Institute on the lives of young people aged 13-25.

All SFCC members are invited to attend, especially those parents, grandparents, youth group volunteers, elders, and anyone interested to learn more about the lives of young people and how you might engage with them more effectively.

[Click here to sign up.](#)



Asante Sana! Embwo Mno! Thank You Very Much!

Update on the RK Resource Center in Kenya

I was unable to carry all the stuff in my suitcases, so I only took a little of each—some books, some packets of crayons and coloring pencils, some pencils and pens. With the money some people so graciously donated, we bought some textbooks for both the high schoolers and the elementary students, and some play-dough. The children were so excited! And they haven't even seen the half of what I will be shipping to them this week. I can't wait for them to get the backpacks!

I have since received updates and pictures of what's been happening. The room is literally full of kids! They come after school to read, write and draw. They are offered a snack of tea. Apparently, there are more elementary school kids than there are high schoolers and so the need for more text books for them is greater.

I cannot thank everyone enough who has contributed to this cause. So far I have received a total of \$1,020. \$1,000 was from members of this church alone, ranging from a \$500 gift, a \$250 gift, a \$100 gift and \$20 gifts. We used the \$500 to buy the initial textbooks. Please know that any amount is very much appreciated, as it adds up. I will use some of it for shipping the items and then send the remainder to them to purchase whatever they need.

This is an ongoing project. My goal is to have those shelves filled with books until they tell me to stop! I will continue to ship packages to Kenya as they come in, and send the money as I receive it. So, please do not hesitate to donate whatever you can to these kids in rural Kenya. Their smiles say it all!

Again... in the language of these particular kids "Embwo Mno!" Thank you very much! And, as we say in Kenya: "May the pockets from whence it all came be refilled by the good Lord."

~ Overwhelmed with gratitude, Nduta





Tuesday Evening Bible Study - A Success!

The new Tuesday evening Bible study started last week on September 16th. It was a great success with 10 people in attendance! So much so, we have grown out of the Library after the first night! We are changing rooms and will be meeting in the Parlor starting September 23rd.

We are going through the book of Esther chapter by chapter. There is still time to join in, so now that we are in a bigger space, there is definitely room for you!

Two Volunteer Opportunities from the Serving and Property Teams:

All-Church Leaf Cleanup Day!

November 15th | 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Join us for a Day of Service & Fellowship! We need your help to prepare the church grounds for the fall and winter seasons. Let's come together to rake leaves, clean up, and enjoy some soup afterward!

Please Bring: A rake (if you have one), work gloves (if you need them), and your friendly, willing spirit!

We'll gather for a delicious homemade soup lunch (provided) after the cleanup to relax and fellowship.

Email Dena Turner at: denaturner5@hotmail.com to sign up.

Seasonal Monthly Weeding Team

Monthly weeding from Spring to Fall, one time per month. You pick the day and time when it's convenient to pull some weeds to help beautify the church grounds.

Email Dena Turner at: denaturner5@hotmail.com to sign up.

Let's come together to make our church grounds shine! No experience necessary—just a love for our church and a willingness to help.

Thank you for your time and care for our church!

Bakers' Brigade

Our church is creating community with our neighbors at Howard Street Charter School. Thank you to our bakers who are delivering baked goods monthly for Howard Street Middle School teachers and staff!

Bakers' Brigade Volunteers:

September 2025: Linda Olson

October 2025: Arty Day

November 2025: Faith Coleman

December 2025: Bev Ikeda

January 2026: Kathy Fleck

February 2026: Faith Janney

March 2026: Kristi Austin

April 2026: Rosealee Clemens

May 2026: Jessica Steele

June 2026: open (contact Linda Olson)



Thank you, Bakers!

2025 CWF Rummage Sale Missions Fundraiser November 6-9

It's time to clear the clutter and bring your gently used items to the Fellowship Hall for the big CWF Rummage Sale! Every dollar earned at the sale benefits local charities.

Items will be sold by the bag:

- \$10 a bag on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 6 & 7
- \$5 a bag on Saturday, Nov. 8

Special items will be priced individually for the Rummage Sale boutique section and will be marked 50% off on Sunday, Nov. 9.

If you need help carrying in your donations to the fellowship hall, please call the church office to make arrangements.

DO NOT DONATE THE FOLLOWING:

- NO Book Sale items (puzzles, books, stationery, CDs, etc.)
- NO chipped, broken, or items with missing parts—or missing instructions/information if item is unidentifiable
- NO stained, ripped, or unwashed clothes
- NO unbagged miscellaneous junk drawer stuff. Instead, group similar items in a zip lock bag.

Thank you, Church, for your generosity. It's amazing to see how our church is such a giving church!



685 Marion Street NE
Salem OR 97301-3729
(503) 363-9273

address label

Salem First Christian Church Staff

Senior Minister: Rev. Matthew Harris-Gloyer
Senior Minister: Rev. Michelle Harris-Gloyer
Office Manager: Melissa Houston
Worship Leader & Custodian: Brian Smith
Accountant: Laura Hildebrandt
Communications Director: Joyce Richter
Music Director: Lisa Gallagher
Accompanist: Melissa Davey
Handbell Choir Director: Lisa Gallagher
Nursery Coordinator: Teri Garland
Nursery Assistant: Elizabeth Krummel
Security & Custodian: Terrance Jull
Security & Member/Visitor Engagement: Shawn Hill
Sound Technicians: Chris Martin & Ricky Fuentes

We are proud members of:



oidisciples.org



emoregon.org



disciples.org

The **chalice** symbolizes the central place of communion in worship for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). The X-shaped cross of the disciple, Andrew, is a reminder of the importance of evangelism and the ministry of each person.

Salem First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

685 Marion Street NE, Salem OR 97301-3729
(503) 363-9273 | website: salemfcc.org
email: info@salemfcc.org