



SALEM **First
Christian
Church**

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

THE **CHURCH
SCROLL**

Volume 84 Issue 3 February 5, 2026

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



Winter Doldrum Breakfast

The Giving and Sharing Committee would like to thank the Caring Committee for all their work in setting up, decorating, help serving and cleaning up for the Winter Doldrums' Thank You Breakfast. We would like to especially thank JD and Arty Day for fixing another fantastic breakfast!

Finally, the Giving and Sharing Committee would like to thank everyone again for your support to Salem First Christian Church through your financial gifts, sharing of your talents, service and attendance.



**CWF
Booksale**



Friday-Saturday, February 6-7 (9 am - 3 pm)
Sunday, February 8 (9 am - 1 pm)

Ash Wednesday Service
12:00 Noon
Wednesday, February 18

Come as you are—with your doubts, your burdens, and your hopes.

Together, we will start this journey toward the cross and Easter morning—knowing that we do not walk it alone.



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

In 2025, I started a personal intention to read more, both for professional development and for fun. Sometimes the two categories overlapped, such as the case with "Undaunted Courage" that made an appearance in a couple of sermons. Some books, like the Becky Chambers novels and "My Grandmother's Hands," were selected by the North West Association for Theological Discussion (NWATD); an annual retreat for Disciples of Christ clergy in the Pacific Northwest held every February. Regarding these three books at NWATD, the conversation was robust, challenging and uplifting. A few of the authors, like Amy-Jill Levine and N.T. Wright are a cross-over of scholarly theological work written for a more general audience that have been on my shelf for a while, and I am excited to peruse them.



With a desire to blend in the simply fun page turners, I am grateful for author Clive Cussler whose "Dirk Pitt Adventures" (Inca Gold) feature heroes that are rooted in moral clarity. As 2025 came to a close, I noticed that my reading list seemed to be organically curating works delving into morality, ethics, courage, and consciousness. I sense a theme here. I wondered if it was just me, or if other people were taking the plunge into these topics. I have a sense that there may be a broader societal interest in such topics. Furthermore, I wonder what the Church might have to say. How is the Church giving voice to morality, ethics, courage and consciousness, Christianly understood? What is especially relevant to my life of faith is how the tradition of my choosing, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), may answer these deep questions that people are asking now. It is my hope that I might add some small paragraph, or even a simple sentence, to the conversation. You are invited to join me on one or more of these reading adventures.

Books I have read in 2025:

- "Undaunted Courage" by Stephen Ambrose
- "Moral Ambition: Stop Wasting Your Talent and Start Making a Difference" by Rutger Bregman
- "Abundance: How We Build A Better Future" by

Ezra Klein and Derek Thompson

- "My Grandmother's Hands: Racialized Trauma and the Pathway to Mending Our Hearts and Bodies" by Resmaa Menakem
- "A Psalm for the Wild-Built" by Becky Chambers
- "A Prayer for the Crown-Shy" by Becky Chambers
- "Inca Gold" by Clive Cussler
- "The Best American Science Fiction and Fantasy of 2024" edited by Hugh Howey

My 2026 Reading List

- "The Road to Character" by David Brooks
- "Long Story Short" by Margot Leitman
- "Jesus for Everyone" by Amy-Jill Levine
- "Simply Christian" by N.T. Wright
- "Weird Church" by Beth Ann Estock and Paul Nixon
- "Being Church in a Liminal Time" by Jeffrey Jones and David Fredrickson
- "Short Stories by Jesus" by Amy-Jill Levine
- "Buddhist Bootcamp" by Timber Hawkeye
- "The Wrecker" by Clive Cussler

~ Pastor Matt

All Because of Mercy



Salem FCC Women's Spring Retreat

Saturday, March 7 • 9:00 am - 12:30 pm

Salem FCC Fellowship Hall

Soup & Bread Luncheon

Guest Speaker is Pastor April Oristano

Registration begins February 15

\$10 (pay at the door)



February 5-18

- Ila Russell February 5
- Dennis Turner February 5
- Shirley Pilcher February 6
- Gary Frame February 8
- Leslie O'Brien February 8
- Ethan Ownby February 9
- Chris Flores February 10
- Norma Stofiel February 10
- Irene Jones February 11
- Hannah Hoopingarner February 12
- Brenda Bronson-Schroeder February 13
- Thalia Lazarus February 14

Please note that the Church Building will be closed Monday, February 16, in observance of Presidents' Day.

Gratitude

A big THANK YOU goes out to all who sent prayers, cards or food after my recent heart surgery. Bruce and I really appreciate the love and caring shown by friends at church. I'm recovering nicely and hope to get out and about soon.

Blessings, Judy Gilbertson

Worship Attendance

January 25	in-person	online
8:30.....	22	
10:30.....	90	245
February 1	in-person	online
8:30.....	19	
10:30.....	96	n/a

Condolences

Ruth Hellen, sister of Joe Resch, passed away on January 12, in Montana. Our prayers and sympathies go out to Joe and Kim and the rest of their family.

Ruth Hawkes passed away on January 17. Our sympathies and prayers go out to her family. A small service was held on January 31.

Joan Gonzales, mother of Lisa Barnes, passed away in Pennsylvania on January 21. Our prayers and sympathies go out to Lisa and her family.

Margie Talley's brother, Don, passed away on January 28. Our prayers and sympathies go out to Margie; his cousin Carol Talley; and the rest of the family.

Prayers For

Elisa Bledsoe, healing from hip replacement surgery

Leslie Carlisle, pancreatic cancer

Margaret Cleveland, broken ribs

Susan Crom, pancreatic cancer

Judy Gilbertson, healing from open heart surgery

Ruth Schnelle, thyroid biopsy

RK Foundation-Kenya, Thank You

The card recycling idea was met with an overwhelmingly positive response! Thank you to everyone who brought their used cards for the children in Kenya. A special Thank You to those who surprised me by bringing in brand new cards!

I continue to collect used Christmas and other greeting cards, as well as calendars with pictures the children can utilize. Just let me know or put them in the cardboard box in the Narthex.

Three boxes of books and stationery donations arrived the week of January 19 to the Foundation.

"Please pass our love and gratitude to the families that so generously gave towards this project as well as your church for such commitment to the Lord's work here. These books and gifts will make such a big difference in the life of the children."

~ Reuben Kigame, founder of RK Foundation

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your wonderful response to my humble call.

~Nduta Nyoro-Cayton

Serving Volunteer Opportunity!

UGM Valentine's Day Lunch February 14

Join us for a special Valentine's Day to share God's love. We will prepare and serve the UGM community a hamburger lunch with all the trimmings, including a special Valentine's Day treat for dessert.

Three jobs/shifts you can sign up for:

- 8:00 – 9:30 am: Food prep and cooks
- 11:15 am – 12:45 pm: Servers
- 11:15 am – 12:45 pm: Dining room servers



Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex on Sundays, or email Dena Turner at denaturner5@hotmail.com. Let's show God's LOVE and be the hands and feet of Christ here in Salem!

The Church Scroll Schedule Change

Beginning March 5, 2026, The Church Scroll will be published monthly rather than bi-weekly. You will continue to receive your issue as requested, via mail or email, at the end of the first full week of each month. We hope to have contributions from each ministry represented each month and a calendar of events for you to plan accordingly.



Week of Compassion is the Denomination's fund for disaster relief where we can partner with and help those in need around the world. By combining funds from many congregations our impact around the world is far greater than the sum of the numbers.

The theme for Week of Compassion's 2026 special day offering comes from Mark 2, verses 1-5, with a focus on that when traditional paths are blocked, they will find a way to help.

This year's special day offerings for Week of Compassion are February 15 and 22. We will focus on it during both worship services on the 22nd.

If there is someone in the congregation that feels strongly about Week of Compassion and would like to speak about it during worship, please let me know. Otherwise, I will be speaking, which I am happy to do.

Thank you, all!

*Rick Ikeda, Chair of Serving Ministry Committee
RTIJR@Outlook.com or 971-304-6480 (call/text)*

YOU'RE INVITED TO
 EUCHEMICAL SHROVE TUESDAY
PANCAKE DINNER

Join us for delicious food and Carnival Activities!

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2026
 5:30-7:30PM

First Congregational United Church of Christ
 700 Marion St. NE, Salem

Any Donations support Salem Youth Collective



Family Promise Gratitude

We were able to send Family Promise (formerly known as "Interfaith Hospitality Network") a check for \$8,000! This came from funds specifically designated by donors for Family Promise.

T. J. Putman, Executive Director of Family Promise, sent Salem FCC a "Thank You" letter stating, "Because of your support, 439 children will wake up this holiday season in their own bed, safe and warm... Your generosity provides what every child deserves, a steady roof, a safe place to rest, and the peace that allows families to focus on healing and moving forward."

SALEM FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
770 CHEMEKETA ST NE, SALEM

**SUPER BOWL
WATCH PARTY**

FEBRUARY 8, 2026
3:15 PM UNTIL GAME IS OVER

WE WILL HAVE SNACKS!

**SALEM
YOUTH
COLLECTIVE**

BRING A CAN OF SOUP OR OTHER NON-PERISHIBLE FOOD FOR THE FOOD PANTRY



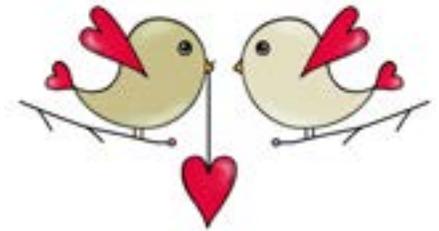
**Tackle Hunger Challenge Is Still Going!
Souper Bowl of Caring • February 8**

Thank you to everyone for all the food that has been brought in for The Souper Bowl of Caring food drive. We still have a few more days to donate if you have not had a chance yet, or you would like to bring in more.



**Green Chalice
Ministry**

*Living our faith by
Caring for God's
Creation*



Lots to LOVE! HAPPY VALENTINE's DAY!

Ocean waves, white mountain caps, soaring eagles, clear blue sky, frisky squirrels, flowing rivers, blooming fragrant flowers, rolling hills, cloud formations, starry nights, thirst-quenching pure water, fresh fruit and vegetables from the garden, cool breezes on a hot day, rows of grapes in a vineyard, pure air to breathe, buzzing bees, the chorus of bird calls... Green Chalice Ministry team LOVES them all!

Our goal is to care for God's creation so that we can preserve the beauty, health, enjoyment and sustainability of our planet for future generations! If you feel a calling to help in the care of creation, please join the Green Chalice Ministry team! We would love to have a few more members in the team.

Update 2026

After two years of leading the Green Chalice Team, Gene Clemens is stepping down. Nancy Vowell also served as a team member for two years, and took part in the formation of the Library section focusing on topics relating to creation care. She created bulletin board education for members and friends and she offered insight into all the projects completed for accreditation. Bravo to Gene and Nancy for their contributions to the church and to the care of God's creation and love for our neighbors! Moving forward, Roselee Clemens and Joyce Zook will be Co-Chairs of the team.

Mark your calendars!

The Sunday before Earth Day, April 19, is set for celebrating the accreditation of Salem First Christian Church. Last August, 2025, the Green Chalice team was awarded the title "Green Chalice Ministry," the first church in Oregon to receive this recognition. There are four other Green Chalice teams in Oregon (Portland, Hood River, Medford, and Eugene) working towards accreditation. The celebration event for SFCC is in the planning stages and we will keep you posted on the details as they evolve.

Check out the Green Chalice Bulletin Board! Our creative Linda Wilson has a display you won't want to miss!





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

SAVE THE DATE!

Lenten All-Church Sing-Along!

Wednesday, February 25, 6:30 pm

Give prayers and praise to God as we sing beloved hymns and songs on our Lenten journey.

More details in the next Scroll.

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



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.

disciples.org

Salem First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

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