



SALEM **First
Christian
Church**

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

THE CHURCH SCROLL

Volume 84 Issue 11 September 2026

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



All Church Picnic

Here's to another great Church Picnic!

We had close to 80 people eating delicious food, having great conversations and smiling from ear-to-ear! Thank you JD, and son, Kenny Day, for grilling. Thank you, Arty, for shopping. Many thanks to all who brought something to the banquet table. Extreme appreciation for those who helped load and unload Joe's truck from the church and back, and who helped clean up the pavilion. And the music Brad Hirsch played on his steel drum added a great vibe for the day!

~ Summer Blessings from the Caring Team: Kim Resch and Nduta Nyoro-Cayton



A Look Ahead at September and October

August 31-September 4..... Vacation Bible Camp
Sunday, September 6..... Back-to-School Blessing
Monday, September 7 Labor Day (SFCC closed)
Sunday, September 13 "Kick-Off" Fall Bible Study
September 18-19 Regional Women's Retreat
Sunday, October 25 Harvest Festival

... where love leads community

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



Our family just took a trip to the Puget Sound in Washington. As we first approached the water, we spotted a harbor seal! But then we realized it was only a buoy. Ha ha! The next day, on our drive to a park, I thought I saw a rabbit hop off the side of the road—and then realized it was a brown paper bag blowing in the wind!



While the first wildlife sightings were tricksters, we did end up spotting some real wildlife. We saw several birds, deer, a bald eagle, porpoises,

and, eventually, some adorable harbor seals. The spiritual practice we were reminded of was that of paying attention.

Other things we paid attention to while on vacation: sea shells, card games, a puzzle, each other, ice cream, driving a little boat made in the 1920's, and Mt. Rainier playing hide-and-seek with the clouds.

Sometimes it may seem like God is playing hide-and-seek with us—but like that mountain, God is present even when we can't perceive it.

As followers of Jesus, we seek to pay attention to the treasures that God may place in our midst, and the treasures of God's kingdom that we are a part of building together. May it be so.

Holy One,

*Cultivate our capacity for paying attention—
and help us to notice you and your call. Amen.*

~Pastor Michelle



SFCC Choir Members and Bell Ringers

Do you like to sing? Come and join the FCC Choir! Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings from 6:00 to 7:30 pm. We sing at the 10:30 am service each Sunday and would love to have you join us!

FCC is looking for **Bell Ringers** to ring the “call to worship” on Sunday mornings. We have a small group that rotates each week to ring in the 10:30 am service. No experience needed; we will teach you.

If you have questions, contact Lisa Gallagher at the church, or email her at LisaG@salemfcc.org.

Let's be Good Neighbors

Howard Street Charter School is now in Session!

Remember:

- School Permit Parking Lot—parking is only allowed after 6:00 pm and on weekends
- No entrance from Church Street to parking lot and posted as “No Entrance” and “One-Way”



New Safety Team

The creation of a Safety Team was recommended by the Long Range Planning Committee and approved by the Executive Board. The team currently includes ten volunteers from our church. The purpose is to greet members and visitors on Sunday mornings when greeters are not on duty and to manage incidents involving disorderly and threatening behavior when it occurs. A safety team volunteer will be present at the Narthex and Chalice doors from 8:00 am – 12:00 noon on Sunday mornings. We thank you for your patience as our new program develops.

Blessings, Ron Nelson



Marianne DeStefano-Hill	September 1
Randy Schnelle.....	September 3
Eileen Shinn.....	September 3
Anna Russell	September 6
Mark Switzer	September 6
Judy Shuttuck	September 10
Clyde Weir	September 11
Colette Tennant	September 15
Carole Adams	September 16
Chuck Kinkaid.....	September 16
Doug Austin	September 17
Allan Cleveland	September 17
Cecilia Larson	September 17
Shari Ridings.....	September 19
Mason Agee.....	September 19
Nancy Vowell	September 20
Gaylon Bledsoe	September 21
Patience Fussner	September 22
Stephanie Fussner	September 24
Brian Smith.....	September 25
Nduta Nyoro-Cayton	September 26
Gene Clemens	September 27
Mark Ridings.....	September 29

September Flower Donations

September 6

In memory of Sharon Weir from her husband, Clyde Weir

September 13

In honor of Chuck Kinkaid's 90th birthday from the Kinkaid family



Prayers for

Leslie Carlisle, pancreatic cancer

Allan Cleveland, back and hip issues

Margaret Cleveland, carpal tunnel surgery

Susan Crom, pancreatic cancer, fall and broken arm

JD Day, pacemaker implant

Ken and Shari Kinkaid, injuries from car accident

Noel Phillips, leukemia treatment

Colette Tennant, fall and broken arm

Chris Whitehead, shoulder surgery

Condolences

Bruce Gilbertson's brother, Allen, passed away on August 15. Our sympathies and prayers go out to Bruce and Judy; his brother's wife, Karen; and the rest of the family.



Worship Attendance

August 9	in-person	online
8:30.....	20	
10:30	93	130
August 16	in-person	online
8:30.....	20	
10:30	65	179
August 23	in-person	online
8:30.....	19	
10:30	92	129
August 30	in-person	online
8:30.....	22	
10:30	80	438

CWF Kick-Off

Ladies of Salem First Christian Church recently enjoyed a delicious brunch and “Kick-off” to the new season of Christian Women’s Fellowship (CWF). Our new CWF officers and group leaders were installed: President, Linda Olson; Vice President, Linda Wilson; Treasurer, Dena Turner; Secretary, Faith Janney; Jayanthi Wilson group leaders, Barbara Decker and Faith Janney; Priscilla group leaders, Bambi Rux and Linda Wilson; Rosa Page Welch group leader, Dena Turner; Mary-Martha group leaders, Cheryl Clendennen and Faith Coleman.



Thalia Lazarus and Melissa Davey’s three musical medleys were beautifully performed, and the decor was lovely.

Thank you to all who attended our event. We have 65 active CWF members, and we would love to have more members join at any time!

Gratitude

Thank you for the phone calls, cards, hospital and Dallas Retirement Village visits. Your efforts made the time go faster.

~ Cathy Austin

Thank you, my Church Family for all the calls, cards, texts, e-mails and prayers following complications from my recent surgery. Your thoughtfulness meant so much to Mary Ann and me! Thankfully I am continuing to get a little stronger each and every day.

~ God Bless, Wayne Smith



2026 CWF Rummage Sale Update

The CWF Missions fundraiser sale is set for Thursday, November 5, Friday, November 6, and Saturday, November 7. Sunday, November 8 is for church members only to find last-minute bargains at half-price. Our clean-up team will load up and clean up after church on November 8.

We will sell items by-the-bag, so get ready for awesome bargain shopping! Special items in our “Twice Blessed Boutique” section will be individually priced.

Donations will be accepted beginning Sunday, September 20. Furniture cannot be accepted until just before the sale because of storage issues.

We would love to have hand-made items and foods for the “Twice Blessed Boutique” section. Please mark special donations as “boutique” and place in a box or bag in the marked area in the back corner of the Fellowship Hall beginning Sunday, September 20. Food items will be collected the day before the sale begins.

If you need help getting your donations to the church, contact Linda Olson or Joan Lloyd, and we will arrange for pick-up at your house. If you need assistance transferring your items from your vehicle to the church, please contact the office ahead of delivery.

Please DO NOT donate the following:

- NO Book Sale items (puzzles, books, stationery, CDs, DVDs, etc.)
- NO chipped, broken, or items with missing parts —or missing instructions if item is unidentifiable
- NO stained, ripped, or unwashed clothes

Group small, similar items in a zip-lock bag. Every penny earned is donated to local charities. We greatly appreciate all of our church members who agree to serve and help with the CWF Rummage Sale. Thank you!

Prayer for New Beginnings

God of New Beginnings,

Thank you for the nourishment that summer brings. Thank you for your steadfast love.

Approaching the edge of autumn, we turn our hearts to you. May your Holy Spirit move—as the rains begin, new routines start, and new connections are formed. Be with us in new studies, learnings, and interests. Remind us of your presence in challenges, longings, and guidance along the journey.

In Jesus' name, AMEN

Writing Workshop Coming this Fall

The Prayer Ministry Team is preparing to publish a book of prayers written by our church family in 2027. We want to include prayers from all ages—children, youth, adults, and grandparents. In preparation and to encourage you to write a prayer or a poem we are offering a workshop:

Creating a Life of Prayer

October 17, 10:00 am-12:00 noon

Writing Prayers and Poems

The leaders will be Dr. Colette Tennant, professor of writing and literature at Corban University, and our own pastor, Rev. Michelle Harris-Gloyer. Put this date on your calendars. You won't want to miss it!

Salem Peace Lecture

The Salem Peace Lecture is October 14, at 7:00 pm in Building 6, in the Auditorium at Chemeketa Community College. The speaker is Shane Burley, a journalist and filmmaker from Portland. The topic of this year's lecture is **"Democracy in Crisis: How did we get here and what are we going to do now?"**

Bakers Brigade

Create community with our neighbors at Howard Street Charter School. Provide cookies for teachers and staff.

- Bake or buy: 16-24 cookies, muffins, slices of bread, or any "baked" items without nuts.
- Write a note from our church and attach it to the baked goods so the teachers and staff know Salem First Christian Church cares.
- Deliver the items monthly or bimonthly to Howard Street Charter School's front office.

Optional: Take a picture of your delivery and send it to Dena Turner.

"Brave Church"

*From the publishers of
The Upper Room*

"In today's deeply divided world where discussion can quickly become heated and uncivil, churches need to learn how to talk about sensitive issues. Our society needs brave churches where people can talk about the real struggles they are experiencing without fear of being dismissed, shamed, or judged.

"Brave Church helps congregations talk about controversial topics with sensitivity to those who see the world and have experienced life differently from themselves. It guides readers to think through how they can foster conversations about such challenging topics as infertility/miscarriage, mental health, domestic violence, racism, and sexuality."

A group of Elders "road tested" this small-group study last spring, and now we want to share this experience in listening and talking with you. There are seven sessions in the book. We will have a morning group, starting Thursday, September 24, at 10:30 am, led by Elders Mindy Force and Chris Whitehead. The evening group starts Tuesday, October 6, at 6:00 pm, led by Elders Nduta Nyoro-Cayton and Irene Jones.

Sign-up sheet will be at the Narthex. If you have questions, please contact any of the leaders.



Please sign up for your preferred month on the Serving Team bulletin board as a volunteer baker.

Summer Youth Camp

First Christian Church (DOC) in the Oregon & SW Idaho Region held Summer Camp at Suttle Lake the first week of August (run by the United Methodist Church). About 35 kids across the region from elementary, middle and high schools attended. Highlights included: twice-a-day worship with enthusiastic participation by the elementary kids; small group studies on the theme of “Wilderness” with related scripture; large group games; trust falls; good food; and outdoor activities such as archery, hiking, kayaking, and swimming in the lake.

One high school teenager from SFCC attended, and a young adult from SFCC joined me as a middle school counselor.

Salem Youth Collective held their second annual summer camp August 16-19. With a home base at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Salem, 13 middle school and high school youth engaged in meaningful faith formation through a daily excursion model, returning to St. Paul's to debrief, worship and sleep.

On Monday, the group traveled to Astoria, Seaside and Tillamook for various fun events. On Tuesday the group volunteered at Marion-Polk Food Share, packaging 1,500 pounds of carrots, 600 pounds of frozen chicken, and delivering 156 pounds of corn from Hope Station Community Services to share with hungry neighbors.

The intentional ministry strategy of relationship-building, facilitated by Rev. Robin Lunn of First Congregational UCC, yielded fruitful and respectful conversations on faith, discipleship, and the uniqueness of the five denominations present among the teenagers, culminating in a lively discussion of the various baptismal practices. The daily keynotes focused on 1 Corinthians 12:12-27, “One Body with Many Members.”

One high school teenager from SFCC joined me on this experience.

~Pastor Matt





Back-to-School Blessing

Sunday, September 6, 10:30 am Worship

We will offer a blessing for all students, teachers, and school staff. No need to bring your backpack, although you are welcome to, if you like.

School Supply Drive

As we prepare for a new school year, we invite our church family to help local students start the year ready to learn. We are collecting school supplies to benefit middle school students in Salem-Keizer Public Schools.

You can help by donating any of the following items:

- Backpacks
- Spiral notebooks
- Pencils
- Pens
- Highlighters
- Colored pencils
- Colored markers
- Water bottles (reusable)

Drop-Off Location: SFCC Narthex

Drop-Off Deadline: Sunday, September 6

Every donation, big or small, can make a difference for a student and help ensure they have the supplies they need for a successful school year.

Thank you for helping our community's students start the school year prepared and encouraged!

~ Sponsored by the Serving Ministry Team

Friday Bible Study Begins September 11

We are meeting from 10:00-11:30 am in the Seekers Room, upstairs (Room 305). We are in the process of choosing our study book . . . it will be good! If you are interested in joining us, please contact Mary Ann Smith (wamasmith@comcast.net) or Joyce Frame (joyce2frame@comcast.net).

Devotional Prayer Journals

Journals will be available September 13. The content will correspond with the theme for Fall Bible Study.

Green Chalice

Check It Out!

“What if We Get It Right? Visions of Climate Futures” by Ayana Elizabeth Johnson

What if we love the future (and restoration of God's creation)? Reviewers call this book most helpful for dreamers, do-ers, and anyone concerned with Earth's rising temperatures. Ayana, a

scientist and climate expert, presents essays, poetry, and conversations that inspire hope, creativity and a call to action for all who desire a sustainable future.

Check It Out! in the Green Chalice section of our church library.

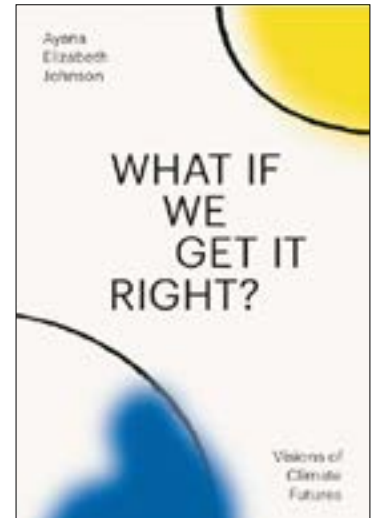
Redeemable Cans and Bottles

Great job church family for using the BottleDrop collection box! The church account at the BottleDrop currently has about **\$155!** The BottleDrop account is set up to support the FCC Youth Ministries. If you would like to donate your personal redeemable bottles and cans, please:

- Obtain a blue redeemable bag from Melissa Houston during her work hours or email her and she will set one aside to pick up.
- When your blue bag is full, take it to the BottleDrop yourself or place it by the redeemable box on the first floor near the Chalice entry.

Any questions call, text, or email me at: 503-508-483, rosealeeclemens@yahoo.com.

Rosealee Clemens, Co-Chair Green Chalice Ministry





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**Salem FCC will be closed
Monday, September 7, in
observance of Labor Day.**

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 Technician: Chris Martin

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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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