



SALEM **First
Christian
Church**

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

THE CHURCH SCROLL

Volume 84 Issue 12 October 2026

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



All-Church Harvest Festival Luncheon

Sunday, October 25

Immediately following 10:30 am Worship Service

Come for lunch, fun, and fellowship with your church family! Please invite your friends and their children to come, and keep watch on how you can help make this event a success!

Lunch Is Provided

WEAR Fall Harvest Attire
Bible BINGO

Children Halloween costumes, crafts and treats

~The Caring and Teaching Ministries



A Look Ahead at October & November

Saturday, October 17

Prayer Poetry Workshop

Sunday, October 18

Youth Collective EZ Orchards

Sunday, October 25

Harvest Festival Luncheon

November 5-8 (Thursday-Sunday)

Rummage Sale

Thursday, November 12

Veterans Day Observed (SFCC building closed)

November 26-27 (Thursday-Friday)

Thanksgiving Holiday (SFCC building closed)

Sunday, November 29

First Day of Advent

Dear Lord of Autumn Prayer

Provide us with strength to get through shorter days,
And see how to help one another in honorable ways.
Shifting into Autumn through red and gold leaves,
We feel the wind blow clearing out yesterday's grieves.
As the rain falls softly refresh our spirits today,
Renew us with friends and warm, cozy play.
We look forward to following new paths coming our way,
Knowing You'll always be with us, come what may.
Help us remember to follow your plan,
And provide us the motivation, courage and wisdom to stand,
To do justice, love mercy and walk humbly in your hands.
In Jesus' name, Amen



... where love leads community

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

What makes someone a Christian?

How would you answer this question?

Perhaps you might start with articulating what a Christian does: attends worship and bible study, gives to church and charity, returns a lost wallet, pays the rent on time, speaks kindly to the grocery clerk, plants a tree.

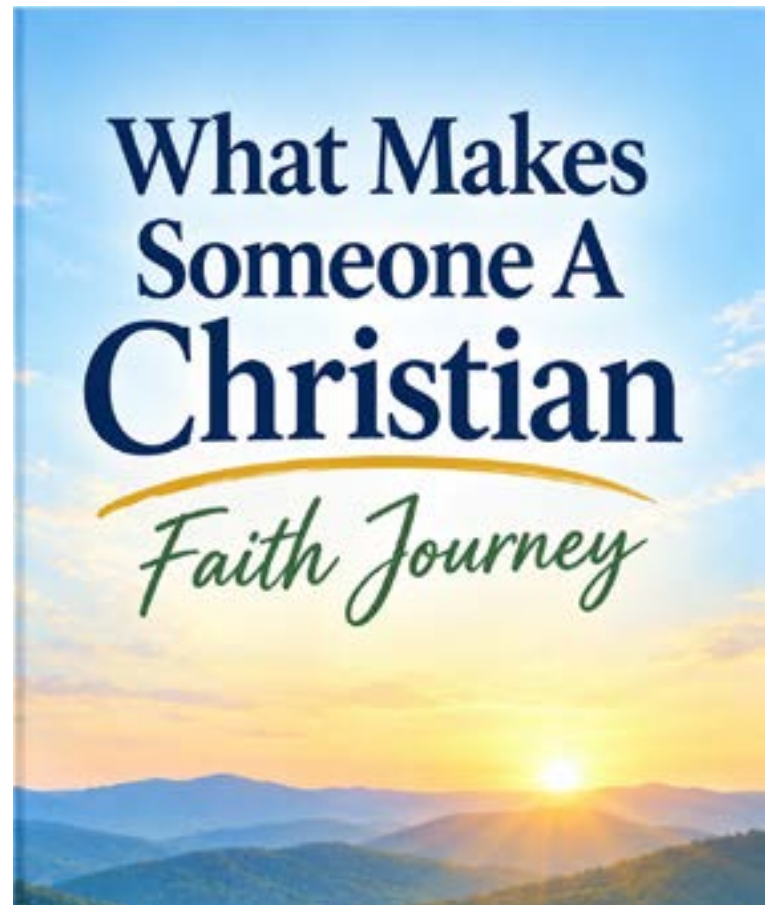


Perhaps you might then speak about your understanding of what a Christian believes: God is (YHWH); Jesus lived, ministered, died and was resurrected; all members of the Church are valued and interconnected to each other like a body; God shows no partiality and that all peoples are acceptable to God (Acts 10:34).

Perhaps you might then speak about your understanding of what a Christian believes: God is (YHWH); Jesus lived, ministered, died and was resurrected; all members of the Church are valued and interconnected to each other like a body; God shows no partiality and that all peoples are acceptable to God (Acts 10:34).

At this point, many of us will likely begin to get tripped up with various doctrines, creeds, beliefs — which ones we think are affirmed and which ones we might toss out. Let us consider then that the “Early Church’s” first confession was simply, “Jesus is Lord.” No other explanations; they kept it simple.

Maybe it has happened throughout every age, but it does seem that in recent decades there is profound confusion in many places, most especially in Europe and the United States, about what Christianity really is. Enter Anglican Bishop, N.T. Wright and his 2006 book, “Simply Christian.” He writes that “part of the Christian story is that human beings have been so seriously damaged by evil that what they need isn’t simply better self-knowledge, or better social conditions, but help, and indeed rescue, from outside themselves” (p. 25). We humans need divine intervention and we Christians see that help in Jesus Christ. Later, Wright brings to bear that some of the simplicity (yet also in varied manifestations amongst the Christian denominations) of what Christianity is, is by our continually doing five things: “We tell stories. We act out rituals. We create beauty. We work in communities. We think out beliefs” (p49). It’s true, isn’t it? Every Advent we retell the story of



Christ’s birth. Every Sunday we act out the ritual of communion and create beauty through music and communal prayers while gathering in a grand building that is itself a work of art. I recommend “Simply Christian” to anyone seeking to clarify for themselves what Christianity is and what it is not. “Christian tradition makes sense of our longing for justice, spirituality, relationship, and beauty, and indeed truth and love (p. 51).” The Disciples of Christ tradition is a tradition that I think would generally agree to the project of simplifying Christianity. Toward that end, Wright’s book is a helpful tool that might help you to form your own response to the question, “What makes someone a Christian?”

~Pastor Matt

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?”**

Happy Birthday!



October Birthdays

Bud Pierce.....	October 03
Stella Agee	October 03
Betty Patterson	October 09
Shawn Hill	October 10
Lois Kinkaid.....	October 11
Njeri Cayton.....	October 15
Robin Crom.....	October 15
Bev Lamont.....	October 15
Beth Manzo	October 15
Rosealee Clemens.....	October 17
Kate Whitehead	October 17
Sharron Streeter	October 18
Joyce Frame	October 20
Leanne Griffin.....	October 20
Elizabeth Krummel.....	October 22
Kelly Strachan	October 22
Mary Weathers	October 25
Mindy Force	October 26
Mike Stebbins.....	October 27
Suzanne Witter	October 29

October Flowers

October 25

*In memory of Susan Crom
from her family*



Prayers for

Orin Bruton, healing from a fall and broken ribs

Leslie Carlisle, pancreatic cancer

Noel Phillips, leukemia treatment

Condolences

Susan Crom passed away on September 29 surrounded by her family. Our sympathies and prayers go out to her daughter, Robin Crom, and the rest of the family.

A Celebration of Life Service will be held October 24, at 2:00 pm, in the Sanctuary.



Welcome to our Newest Member!

Please welcome Kelly Strachan who transferred her membership from First Christian Church, Disciples of Christ, in Tucson, Arizona on September 13. Kelly has deep roots in the Disciples Church and a serving heart for Jesus!

Worship Attendance

September 6	in-person	online
8:30.....	18	
10:30.....	88	206
September 13	in-person	online
8:30.....	19	
10:30.....	83	153
September 20	in-person	online
8:30.....	16	
10:30.....	87	184
September 27	in-person	online
8:30.....	22	
10:30.....	80	n/a
October 4	in-person	online
8:30.....	14	
10:30.....	85	115



Gratitude for the AMPT Worship Band

With gratitude for many years of faithful service, the lay leadership, clergy and entire congregation acknowledge the blessing of the AMPT band. Thank you, Brian Smith, Stephanie Fussner, John Goergen, and Ed Vawter for your dedication and selfless service to God and church. Even as SFCC enters a new season of worshipful music at the 10:30 am worship service, we give respect and appreciation for the long-standing ministry of AMPT, including all of its members and music over the years. In recognition of the talents of all members, opportunity will be extended to each for collaboration on future worshipful music.

Deacons Needed at 10:30 am Worship Service

It is time to prepare a roster of deacons for the coming year. Even if you've never served before, we welcome you to join the deacon team. The duties are light. Each deacon serves once a month. They greet people before the 10:30 am service and give out communion kits. (Communion kits are also made available at communion time.) At the time of the offering, the deacons pass the offering plates. If you are interested, please contact me: Barbara Decker, Deacon Chairperson (cell: 480-231-7343, landline: 503-420-4061, email: DavidLDecker@msn.com).

The 8:30 am service deacons serve under the leadership of Joan Lloyd and Faith Coleman. If you would like to help at the 8:30 am service, please contact Joan or Faith.



Problematic Projectors

Can you spot the *new-to-us* projector? Over the summer, both sanctuary projectors experienced burned out bulbs. Replacement proved difficult and resulted in other mechanical challenges. After multiple attempts, one of the projectors was deemed unfixable and used as parts to repair the other. Later, a gently used projector was purchased and installed. Gratitude to Chris Martin, Shawn Hill and Brian Smith for their diligence and good work.



Back-to-School Supply Drive

Wow! Many thanks to the congregation for your generosity in our recent school supply drive. During the first week of school we delivered an entire car packed full to the brim to Adam Stephens Middle School. They were very grateful for the extra supplies to help our students. You truly make a difference in our community!

~Your Serving Ministry Team





CWF “Gingerbread Jingle” Christmas Tea & Treasures Sale

Saturday, December 5

- Christmas Tea Treasures Sale starts at 10:30 am
- Tea, lunch and program starts at 12:00 noon in the Fellowship Hall

Tickets are \$18 and will be available on Sunday, November 15, 22 and 29 at the Information Desk in the Narthex.

Ministry Initiative

SFCC’s Long Range Planning Team is happy to announce that a Ministry Initiative Grant has been approved for Richmond Elementary. The monies will fund the startup costs for a student volleyball team at the nearby Boys & Girls Club. Ministry Initiative grants originate from SFCC’s General Operating Fund and are an expression of the entire congregation’s faithfulness to be a blessing.



Richmond Elementary is a public Title 1 elementary school where most of the students come from lower socio-economic households, and many with unstable support systems at home. Richmond is in the Leslie Middle School and South Salem High School feeder boundaries. When these students get to middle school and high school, it is rare to see them engaged in school

sports. We are trying to change that. We want to make accessibility to participation easy and free for these families so the students will have a chance of making a team at the secondary level.

This grant will provide team jerseys, game expenses and knee pads for 12 players covering 8 games for the season. Thank you, Salem FCC, for your generosity!

Building a Life of Prayer: Book of Prayers, Poetry and Art

In 2027, the Prayer Ministry Team is preparing to publish a book of prayers written by our church community. 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 for the book, the Praying Ministry Team is offering a workshop. (see below)



Prayer Poetry Workshop

Saturday, October 17

10:00 am - 12:00 pm, Fellowship Hall

The workshop leaders will be **Dr. Colette Tennant**, professor of writing and literature at Corban University, and our own pastor, **Rev. Michelle Harris-Gloyer**. We will pray poetically, tapping into our varied gifts and lives, enjoying fellowship, fun, and writing as a part of this spiritual process! Everyone will depart with at least two prayer poems. No experience necessary.

There is no cost for this workshop. Supplies and snacks provided. [Sign-up online](#) or at the church information desks. Registration is helpful, by October 15, but not required. Put this date on your calendar and invite a friend!





Kids and community sing and dance to “Father Abraham” and other songs to bring faith to movement and memory.

#KidsConnect Success and Summer Fun

2026 Vacation Bible Camp was co-sponsored by five Salem congregations, including Salem FCC. From August 31 through September 4, the five-day event was hosted at Westminster Presbyterian Church, within a little nook of woods in South Salem. There were close to 50 children present, almost double last year’s participation, with three partnering congregations. The theme was “#KidsConnect” — teaching and inspiring about connection with Jesus, family, and friends of all ages. Some of our SFCC kids said they wish that VBC went all summer long! And several kids memorized the theme scripture:

“I am the vine, and you are the branches. If you stay joined to me, and I to you, you will produce plenty of fruit. But separated from me you won’t be able to do anything.” John 15:5



Splinters from the Board

Our Salem FCC Board met on September 20, 2026. The Financial Report indicates a positive statement, with a gain of \$258,000. Budgets have been submitted by each ministry team, and a final budget will be produced in November, following the Giving Estimate Campaign led by the Giving and Sharing Ministry. The Board will offer approval at its year-end meeting on November 29.

Bruce Gilbertson, Board Vice-Chair, is preparing the slate of Board Officers and Ministry Chairs for 2027. We need a Treasurer and chairs of Teaching and Finance. Please pray for and consider yourself for these important positions; let Bruce know of your interest. Church members will vote on the slate of officers at our annual meeting, November 22, just prior to our Thanksgiving dinner.

Penny Blackwell
SFCC, Board Chair



Marion Polk Food Share

The top foods needed for the food barrel located in the Narthex are:

- High-protein foods like canned tuna and peanut butter
- Healthy foods like canned fruit and vegetables
- Staples like rice, beans, and pasta

You can donate fresh food and food that needs to be frozen or refrigerated directly at their warehouse M-F from 8:30 am – 4:30 pm.

Marion Polk Food Share

1660 Salem Industrial Drive NE, Salem
(503) 581-3855 • info@marionpolkfoodshare.org

Green Chalice

Eco-tip for October, 2026

These are sustainable businesses in food service to provide you eco-conscious dining in Salem:

- Minto Island Growers
- Taproot Lounge & Cafe
- Wild Pear Restaurant & Catering
- Archive Coffee and Bar
- Fresh Start Market & Espresso

What does “sustainable” practice mean?

1. Utilizes local farm products
2. Minimizes food waste
3. Transports minimal miles

Source: Sustainable practices are recognized through programs like Marion County's Sustainable Business Network and state green workplace initiatives.



Best wishes for delicious and peaceful dining! Thank the owners for their contributions to Creation Care through their sustainable practices!

Recycle, Repurpose, Reuse

Happy Fall Y'all! Hope all of you had a great summer. As a new school year begins,

we can now enrich our knowledge about how to be a better steward for this beautiful world the Lord has given us.

The Green Chalice Team would like to share with you that the Ridwell Company, based in Washington state, recycles even more items than the current recycle companies including:

- Multilayer plastic (chip bags, snack wrappers, pet food pouches, grocery bags). These are made into compost decking.
- Plastic film (bubble wrap, zip top bags)

These are just a few of the items they take. A full list can be found on their website, Ridwell.com.

For more information and updates, check the Green Chalice bulletin board.

Thank you for helping us get the word out...

“Living our faith by caring for God's Creation!”



CWF Missions Fundraiser Rummage Sale

Thursday, November 5— 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Friday, November 6— 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Saturday, November 7— 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Sunday, November 8— 9:00 am - 1:00 pm (for church members only at 50% off)

Items are sold by-the-bag.

Special items in our “Twice Blessed Boutique” section will be individually priced.

Last day for donations is Tuesday, October 27, by 11:30 am. Larger items should be donated on Monday, November 2, or Tuesday, November 3. We will not have room for them until then.

Hand-made items and food for the “Twice Blessed Boutique” section are welcome. Please mark special donations as “boutique” and place in the marked area in the back corner of the Fellowship Hall. 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!



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(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

Custodian: Brian Smith

Accountant: Laura Hildebrandt

Music Director: Lisa Gallagher

Communications Director: Joyce Richter

Accompanist: Melissa Davey

Nursery Coordinator: Teri Garland

Nursery Assistant: Elizabeth Krummel

Security & Custodian: Terrance Jull

Security & Member/Visitor Engagement: Shawn Hill

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)

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