

CHRISTIAN CONNECTIONS

Silverton First Christian Church

A Note From...

"Grace Period" Minister Rev. Sandy Berry

Hello Disciples!

On my first Sunday with you, in late November, our worship focused on the Advent theme of Hope. Hope is always a good place to start preparing the way for the celebration of the coming Christ child. Hope is always a good place to stand if you want to see new possibilities. This is especially true for this church, as you continue to move through a long period of transition from one settled pastor to the next.

I know how the feeling of hopefulness can often seem elusive, transitory. And I know how faithful and dedicated the pastoral search team continues to be in spite of frustration and disappointments. I know folks were hoping that by now you would be close to hiring just the right pastor. Hoping that by now you would all have a clear idea of where you were headed next.

I thought of this as I was reading Matthew's account of the transfiguration of Jesus, (17:1-8) a remarkable transition point in the Gospel. Jesus had taken along three of his Disciples – Peter, James and John to pray on the top of a nearby mountain. Surely, none of them had a clear idea about where they might be headed next.

The Disciples had been traveling with Jesus for quite a while, getting to know him well. But they were just beginning to learn what it meant to follow him. They didn't yet have a clear vision of God's future for themselves or for their community.

You might think that after the transfiguration, that the Disciples might have found hope rising, and possibility opening. You might think that after this vision of light and glory, they might have found a sense of clarity and purpose. But instead, they ended up crouched on the ground and filled with fear.

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Contact Information

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Silverton, Oregon 97381
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Website:
www.fccsilverton.com

Contemporary Service
9:15 - 10:00 a.m.

Fellowship/Refreshments
10:00 - 10:30 a.m.

Traditional Service
10:30 - 11:45 a.m.



Only when they heard the sound of Jesus' voice were they able to rise again. Only then, were they able to stand again, to begin to see new possibilities. Only when they felt the touch of his hand were they able to move forward with Jesus back down the mountain toward God's future. "Get up", Jesus said, "Come with me and do not be afraid."

May God bless you all, as we continue to move forward, through this ongoing season of Hope and transition, lifted and gifted by the grace of Jesus Christ.

Pastor Sandy

Worship Team

This earth, our temporary home, allows us to taste the glory we'll experience one day. As we grow more in love with God, as we share that love with others, as we fulfill our God-given purposes, we will feel more and more captivated by our Savior.

"All to Jesus I surrender, all to Him I freely give, I will ever love and trust Him, in His presence daily live."

Remember, worship will get you through the roughest times in your life, because it shifts your focus from the problem to the problem solver.

Have a blessed February,
Your Worship Team



Silverton First Christian Church Scholarship

Any First Christian Church regularly attending high school senior wanting to apply for the FCC scholarship needs to call or stop by the church office to pick up a scholarship application.

Application deadline is May 1.

CHURCH OFFICERS/PERSONNEL

ELDERS:

Julie Bersin, Marcus Clark
Daniel Côté, Ric Dettwyler
Jon Koenig, Lynn Koenig
Donna Laney, Tootie Marcum
Ginni Stensland, Cara Zitzelberger

CHURCH BOARD CHAIRMAN:

Elia Annen

CHURCH TREASURER:

Jennifer Clark

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR:

Cindy Schmidt

KEEPER OF THE HOUSE:

Libby Bordewich

FACILITIES DIRECTOR:

Allan Graves

LAY MINISTER TO SENIORS/HOMELESS:

Cherry Hoffman

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY:

WORSHIP MUSIC TEAM:

Gail Frassenei, Wayne Cawfield
Ryan Koenig, Erik Morgan
Lynne Koenig, Wendy King
Kate Koenig
Gil Wittman, John Meye
Raymond & Joanna Rios
Marilyn Woodward



A WORD FROM...
Board Chair

Hello Church Family,

As most of you may be aware, the board has re-hired Cindy Schmidt to fill the Office Administrator position. Cindy not only brings many years of experience and knowledge from working for our church, but also possesses all the right qualities to fill this position. In addition to her former job responsibilities, Cindy will be assuming most of the church's financial responsibilities as well. Cindy's current office hours are Monday through Thursday from 8:00am to 1:00pm. We are very happy to have her back and bring some much-needed familiarity and knowledge to this long-lasting transition period.

Join me in thanking all our volunteers who over the last five months stepped up and helped cover the church office. Those individuals are Ken Brock, Sheila Graves, Nellie Graves, Jennifer Hensley, Steve Hensley, Sonya Linn, Sue Price, Vida Shaffer, Ginni Stensland, and Marilyn Woodward. Special thanks to Nellie Graves for taking on the additional responsibility of finding coverage these last few months, and to Cara Zitzelberger for taking care of the weekly bulletins and monthly newsletters.

Elia Annen

*Splinters from
the Board*

January 10, 2022

The congregation welcomes back Cindy Schmidt as the church's office administrator. She can be contacted during regular church offices hours from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Monday-Thursday.

The Pastoral Search Committee continues to work to find the right person for our pastor.

Linda Sutter,
Board Secretary

Volunteers Needed:

COFFEE HOSTS FOR
FEBRUARY. SIGN UP
WITH A FRIEND
AND HOST
TOGETHER!!!
(sign-up in the MP room)

SUNDAY GREETERS FOR
EACH SERVICE.
CONTACT THE CHURCH
OFFICE: 503-873-6620
fccsilverton@gmail.com
if you are interested!





**And now these
three remain: faith,
hope and love. But
the greatest of
these is love.**

- 1 Cor.13:13

Week of Compassion is the relief, refugee, and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Your gifts to Week of Compassion bring hope out of despair, find blessings amid devastation, and help transform loss into new life. Your contributions bring tangible relief and change the course of lives.

When you give, you help rebuild communities recovering from disaster. You also empower farmers to grow new kinds of crops in a changing climate; you support refugees; you empower youth through education, and empower women through vocational opportunities. In so many different ways, your gifts of love have the power to transform lives.

Love is shelter. Love is a listening ear. Love is community. Love is a hopeful future. Love is a path forward. When all else seems lost, love remains. And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love. — 1 Cor. 13:13



All-Church Campout South Beach State Park June 24, 25 & 26

Reservations for South Beach State Park can now be made through Reserve America at 1-800-452-5687. We try to reserve sites in B Loop so we are close together. There are RV sites, tent sites and yurts in that area. Reservations fill up quickly so don't wait too long.

We always plan a potluck dinner for Saturday at 5:30 p.m., so if you just want to come for the day, come join us for dinner. If you are one who does not like to rough it, there are many hotels in the area so you could still come and spend time with us, play games and enjoy the beach. This weekend is always a lot of fun so come and join us at our next All Church Campout.

If you have any questions, please contact Lynn and Chuck Koenig, Ken and Karen Brock or Jon and Lynne Koenig.

We hope to see you at the Beach!!!



Regional Assembly

May 20-21, 2022

"Recalculating"

Speakers: Vy Nguyn, Dean Phelps, Blanca Puma

Registration to open February 15

In 2014, Disciples of Christ from Oregon and SW Idaho gathered together in Hood River, Oregon to form a new regional church. During our three worship experiences, we used water brought from the rivers that ran through our cities and towns where we had congregations and combined the waters in different ways and then gave people jars of "changed" water to take home. We formed 5 districts, each of them named for a different river system in our geography.

As we did 8 years ago at our beginning as a regional church, at our 2022 Regional Assembly we will continue to lean into the image of a flowing river moving us into an unknown future beyond the next turn, beyond our current sight line.

A contemporary poet said, "The stream is always revising. Water is always ready to learn...."

We seek to be learners through an experience of the Holy Spirit that unites and propels us forward, inviting us to loosen our grasp on how we have been church in the past in order to grasp the good news of what God is doing in this moment to invite us to future of transformational ministry.

We will be joined by dynamic speakers and come together for worship, workshops, and a time of looking into our future as a regional church.

Plan now to come to Salem or stream into the event.

Watch the Regional Office Website for more details as they emerge at www.oidisciples.org.



February

DONNA LANEY - 02
LINDSEY ORR - 02
ALYSSA LUEVANOS - 03
ISAIAH SMITH - 06
CORDIE BROWN - 08
MARCIE KUENZI - 08
LURLYN LONG - 11
JALYSA CLARK - 13
RIC DETTWYLER - 13
GEORGE WHITE - 21
LOWELL KUENZI - 26
JULIE BERSIN - 28

MORE GIVING OPTIONS

We greatly appreciate everyone's ongoing support and want to let you know there are two new ways to give to the church - Venmo or PayPal.

The QR codes are:



Silverton First Chrisitan Church
Christian Connections Newsletter
402 N. First Street
Silverton, Oregon 97381