

CHRISTIAN CONNECTIONS

Silverton First Christian Church

From The Pastor

Another summer has sailed by, and another school year begins. And as we start this new school year, we are excited to bring back 2nd hour to our Sunday mornings. We will be continuing our one service at 9:10am and then after a brief coffee time after service we will be heading to all sorts of classes and groups for 2nd hour.

We are hopeful that this may help foster even deeper growth in our relationships together. We will be offering several exciting options during 2nd hour.

For Children (PreK to 5th grade) we will be offering Sunday School in the education wing. I am excited and looking forward to working with an amazing team of Gail, Ami, Aaron, Kathy, Lola, Vanessa, CW, Jennifer, Linda, Wynelle, Debra, Karen, and others to bring music, crafts, story time, and games to life with our kids as we learn and explore the Bible Stories together. For September we will be looking at the story of Creation, Noah and the Ark, Abraham and Sarah, and Isaac and Ishmael. Our hope is on 4th Sundays to have the kids bring one of the songs they have been learning into worship.

For Youth (6th to 12th Grade) we will be offering the Youth Class with Jonathon and Brogan in the Youth Room (Rm 4). Jonathon and Brogan have a great curriculum taking the youth deeper in faith that they are excited to explore together.

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Contact Information

Pastor, Rev. Eric Eide

402 N. First Street
Silverton, Oregon 97381
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Website:

www.fccsilverton.com

Service: 9:10am
Refreshments 10:00am
2nd Hour Classes 10:15 am

From The Pastor Continued:

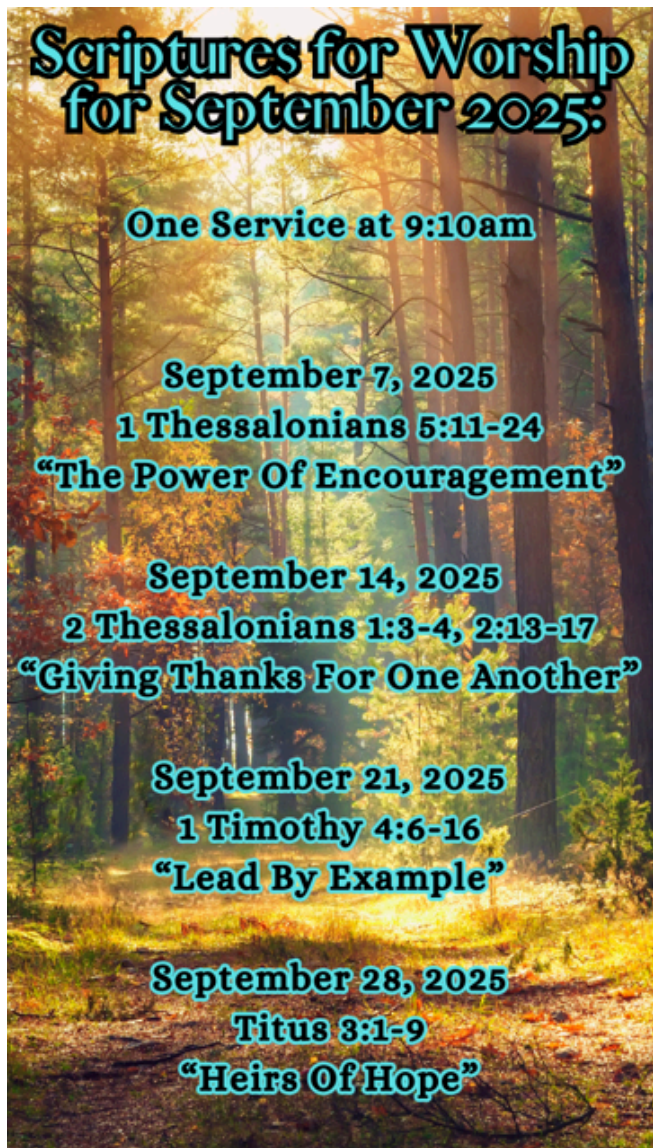
For Parents of our kids and youth we will be offering the Parent Group in the Fireside Room. This will be a time for parents to grab their coffee and gather to check in and support each other in the joys and challenges of parenting.

For Adults we will be offering an opportunity to go deeper with the Scriptures and sermons in the Multipurpose room with the elders. Each week the elders will be exploring questions related to the sermon challenging us to live out our faith through further exploration of the Scripture. For the month of September, we will be looking at Encouraging One Another, Giving Thanks, Leading By Example and Bringing Hope Into All We Do.

For those missing singing Hymns more often we will be offering once month in the Sanctuary, a Hymn Sing with Gil. This will be offered the first Sunday of each month- 9/7, 10/5, 11/2, and 12/7. Join Gil in singing hymns he has picked out as well as one you get to pick too. If this class draws a good crowd, Gil is willing to offer it twice a month.

If there are those who have an idea for and adult education class or would like to help lead one or help with one of the ones we are offering, please check in with myself or the elders. We are excited for the ways we hope 2nd Hour will help us grow deeper with God and each other together. Looking forward to kicking off 2nd Hour this Sunday, September 7, 2025, at 10:15 am.

**Love,
Pastor Eric**



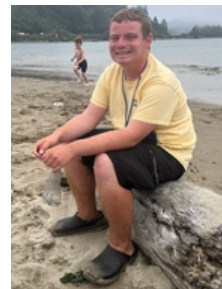
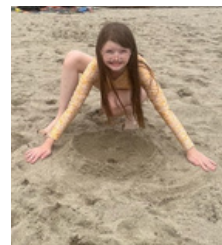


August in Review

All Church Beach Trip

We had a wonderful All Church Beach Trip this last month. We left the toasty Silverton area which was 99 degrees Sunday for the cool breezy 65 degrees of Lincoln City.

We had 17 people from church join us and we enjoyed a delicious meal at Mo's and then had some great time at the beach and shopping. It was a wonderful and relaxing afternoon together.



Wedding Shower for Ron and Sadiqua

We had a wonderful wedding shower this last month for Ron and Sadiqua. We had about 20 people attend and enjoyed Ron's special lemonade.

Thanks to

Karen Brock for all her hard work organizing the event.

If people are still wishing to get Ron and Sadiqua a gift, they are welcoming FiestaWare dishes in all colors. We celebrate Ron and Sadiqua as they step out on this journey together.



Regional Camp 2025

We sent two youth to camp this year. They both had a great time and wanted to share these notes of gratitude as well as a couple pictures.

Thank you again to all those who contribute to the youth scholarship fund that supports our youth being able to go to camp. Due to this fund and the funds our youth have raised through fundraisers neither youth family had to pay anything to go to camp this year.

Notes from Lola & Elise:

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for bringing Elise and I to church camp, it was so fun. It brought Elise and I a lot closer than we were before. We made lots of new friends too. We had so much fun doing Bible study, boating, archery, arts & crafts and so much more. I think I can say that we had an amazing time! Thank you for all the support.

*Love,
Lola Reid*

Dear Church Family,

I would like to give a huge thanks to the church for helping me get the opportunity to go to camp. Church camp at Suttle Lake was definitely one of the most amazing experiences of my life, and the people that were there made it even better.

Some of my favorite memories from my cabin are the times we would stay up late at night just talking, or during F.O.B. (flat on bunk) we would do each other's hair and talk even more.

Outside the cabin was also so much fun. Some of the best times were definitely swimming and boating, or when we woke up at 6:30 am for the polar plunge. I also loved singing around the campfire. We watched The Wild Robot for our movie night and it was so sad. Every single person was sobbing by the end.

I think my favorite memory was on the last morning when we did the closing circle. We had a piece of yarn tied around everyone's wrist as a reminder that we are connected to everyone there. The theme for the week was Crowded Table. After going to camp, I truly believe that everyone has a spot at God's table.



*Love,
Elise Barcroft*

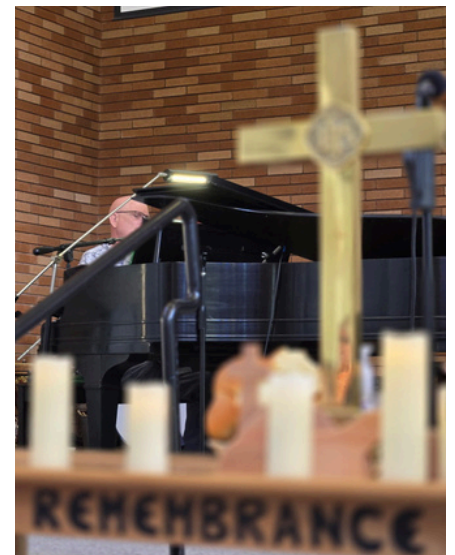




Ecumenical Blessing of the Backpacks

We had a wonderful Ecumenical Blessing of the Backpacks Service this past Sunday as 120 plus people gathered as Methodists, Lutherans, and Disciples to unite around our students, teachers, staff, and schools.

We enjoyed beautiful music from all three of our churches. We had a powerful communion led by Rev. Laura from the Methodists and the youth from all three churches under the supervision of Jonathon and Brogan did a great job deaconing. Rev. Leah from Immanuel Lutheran brought us a moving message reminding us all to be the beloved community together. We gave out mini prayer shawls- made by the prayer shawl teams at Silverton FCC and Immanuel Lutheran. Karen Brock and others put together an amazing coffee time and we raised \$744.00 for Silverton Middle School and High School and collected school supplies for our Silverton Elementary Schools.





The youth had a busy month of August and have been hard at work. They had their Community Yard Sale and thirteen of our youth showed up to help out. Over the three days we took in over \$2,600. We could not have done this without the support of the community, our fellow church members, and the church itself. Thank you to everyone who donated items and those that showed up over the weekend to say hi and shop. The remaining items were donated to our community and these ministries were so grateful for your donations. This event was so successful, the youth are considering if this will be an annual youth fundraiser/mission in the coming years.

The following weekend we had the Annual Youth Lock-In. We started the day with Prayer and Breakfast, then we headed to Wings & Waves Waterpark where the kids played for hours and got some great bonding moments in. After a picnic in the cutest little park and returning to the church in the early afternoon, we relaxed with a discussion about tithing, fundraising, and awarded our winner of the fundraising competition his prize of getting to cut Jonathon's hair. After we all had a good laugh, the youth started working on their bottle drop fundraiser. The kids bagged and stickered over 30 bags of cans and worked together as a group to get the job done. We followed up with dinner, a keynote speech, games and a movie. We had 17 youth members in attendance and 15 showed up to help in church service the following morning; after eating a delicious breakfast prepared by Jennifer Hensley.

Our theme of this year's Lock-In was "Everybody is Welcome to the Table". As youth leaders, we saw this as an opportunity to celebrate what a diverse group of kids we have in the program. Our goal was for them to be bonding with more than just their siblings and best friends; to make connections with the other kids that maybe they don't see or talk to everyday and it was beautiful to hear their thoughts and opinions about what it means to welcome everybody to the table.

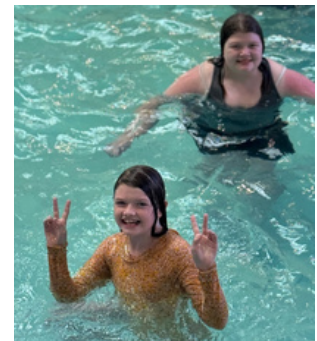
A special thank you to Jennifer Hensley and Sarah Elder for showing up to help with both events, we could not have made this happen without the both of you. A special thanks to our other Chaperones: Carson Brock, Kylie Matthews, and Evan Klaus who stepped up to help us with whatever we needed on the day/night of the Lock-In.

A special thanks to our church community for making these events happen. Your support keeps the youth group alive and it sets an amazing example for this new generation. Thank you to our church for letting us use the multi-purpose room two weekends in a row. A big thank you Pastor Eric for your continued support of the youth program and stepping up to help with both events.

Youth Group Pictures of the yard sale.



Youth Group Pictures of the lock-in.



Prayer Shawl Group

Prayer Shawl Ministry

All are welcome to join our Prayer Shawl Team on the 3rd Monday of each month in the Fireside room at 3pm.

Our meeting for **September will be the 15th**. For the summer our Prayer Shawl Team has been working hard knitting beautiful cross patterned prayer in your hand shawls for all our students, teachers, and staff at the schools.

These mini shawls are given out each year at the Ecumenical Blessing of the Backpacks Services on Labor Day Sunday. Prayer Shawl Team wants to remind all knitters and crocheters that they are welcome to join.



Men's Fellowship group



Men's Group

Men of all ages are invited to join us for our men's fellowship group breakfast on Saturday, **September 20, 2025, at 8am** at Water Mountain Restaurant.

Come enjoy some delicious food, great fellowship, and devotion for thought as we continue to explore our call to how we can love and serve in this community.
Hope you can come!

2nd Hour On Sundays Kicks Off



2nd Hour Kicks Off

Starting September 7, 2025
10:15 to 11:00 am



Starting Sunday, **September 7, 2025**, following the worship service and coffee time we will be kicking off our 2nd Hour starting at 10:15am. There will be all sorts of different groups for people to attend. There will be a hymn sing on the first Sunday of each month in the Sanctuary with Gil. There will be Adult Education in the Multipurpose Room going deeper on Pastor Eric's Sermon with the elders. There will be Parent's Group in the Fireside Room for parents of children and youth to support each other. There will be the Youth Class (6th to 12th grade) in Youth Room with Jonathon and Brogan. And there will be Children's Sunday School (PreK to 5th grade) in the Education Wing with Pastor Eric and others. Hope you can join us for 2nd Hour!

Family Fun Night: Grandparent's Day

Family Fun Nights are starting back up this month. Join us on Sunday, **September 14, 2025, from 5 to 7pm** for a special evening of as we do all sorts of activities, crafts, and games celebrating and honoring grandparents. The church will provide pizza and drinks. Bring your friends, family, and something to add to the meal and hope you can join us for this special event together as we celebrate all those who show grandparental love!



Finding God at The Movies

Join us Sunday, September 28, 2025, from 5 to 7pm for Finding God at the Movies in the Multipurpose room. Bring your family, friends, and dinner and come enjoy the movie and a discussion about the themes of faith we saw in the movie. The church will provide a few pizzas and drinks. We will be watching the movie on the big screen in the Multipurpose room. Don't be late we will be starting the movie right at 5pm. Our movie this month will be **"Finding Dory"**.

The Rotary Club of Silverton and CYAC (Collective Youth Alliance for Change)
Presents:

SHOE POP-UP & CLOTHING MARKET



First Christian Church
402 N1stSt,Silverton,
OR 97381



Friday, September 19th
2PM-5PM

In need of some new summer shoes or clothing?

Come browse our pop-up market for gently used shoes, clothing,
and household items.

WANT TO DONATE?

We're collecting new & gently used clothes, shoes, and household goods
to help stock the market.

To donate: Text or email

Dixon Bledsoe at 503-602-4320, dixon@bstre.com

or

Orion White at 503-798-7618, orionwwhite@gmail.com





CWF Grab Bag Donations

The CWF is collecting items for their grab sale.

Please bring new or gently used items to the donation bin in the Fireside room or to the office.
(Office hours are Monday through Thursday, from 9-1).

Please make sure all items are clean.



Women's Discussion Group

Women of all ages are invited to attend Women's Discussion Group. The group will be taking the month of September off before returning to the church on Tuesdays at 10am in the Fireside room for its weekly meetings starting **October 7, 2025**. We hope you can come. For more information check in with Lynn Koenig or Karen Brock.

Women's Discussion Group

Starting Back Up in October
Tuesdays at 10am in Fireside Rm



Stone Soup: Meal for the Shelter

Are you looking for a way to serve each week? Wanting to do something to help others in this community? Join us on Wednesday's as we make the Stone Soup Meal, our weekly meal for the Sheltering Silverton Shelter. Come chop veggies and help prepare a homemade meal for our neighbors in need from 4 to 5:30pm. Then at 5:30pm stick around and help us bless the meal and enjoy a simple meal and time of fellowship with those who helped make the meal. For more information on what you can do to help or items you could bring check in with Sue, Marilyn, Kara, or Ami.



Church Officers/Personnel

Elders:

Marcus Clark, Ric Dettwyler,
Lynn Koenig, Donna Laney,
Beth Negrey, Ginni Stensland,
Cara Zitzelberger

Church Board Chairman:
Steve Reid

Church Treasurer:
Erin Stone

Office Administrator:
Jana O'Connor

Keeper of the House:
Libby Bordewich

Facilities Director:
Allan Graves

Youth Leaders:
Brogan Allen-Olsen
Jonathon Thompson

Worship Music Team:
Gail Frassenei, Wayne Cawlfeld,
Chris Dyer, Ami Barstad,
Aaron Barstad, John Meye,
Gil Wittman, Marilyn Woodward

2024-2025 Board of Directors

Slate of Officers

Board Chair - Steve Reid

Vice Chair - Danika Beard

Treasurer - Erin Stone

Board Secretary - Jolene
Smoot

Financial Secretary -
Verlene Beard

Assistant Financial Secretary
- Erin Stone

Trustee Chairperson -
Allan Graves

Board Members

Elder Chair -

Cara Zitzelberger

Deacon Chair -

Karen Brock

CWF Chair-

Lynn Koenig/Karen Brock



Ragan Stensland	6
Serenitie Lee	8
Erin Stone	11
Stefanie Ulloa	12
Sydney Bersin	13
Johnny Desmarteau	14
Rev. Renee Johnson-Bridwell	18
Tootie Riggs	18
Mary Wrolstad	18
Mason Branstetter	21
Rev. Erik Free	23
Brooke Nelson	24
Vanessa Reid	24
Kelsey Hicks	27
James O'Connor	27
Tyler O'Connor	27
Margaret Aberle	30



Budget Needed for August:
\$24,174.00

August 2025 Offering Totals

August 3	\$4,330.00
August 10	\$2,920.00
August 17	\$2,275.00
August 24	\$1,250.00
August 31	\$1,115.00

Total: **\$11,890.00**

Splinters from the Board

Board Meeting Minutes, August 11, 2025

Treasures Report – Erin Stone presented the report and discussed it with the group. Rent is down due to no rent from Sunshine school. It was reported we reached out to the school; however, we haven't had any response to date. We will continue trying.

Giving/Income Report - The Board discussed the report as presented by Verlene Beard.

Facilities Report - Allan Graves

- Stove top pilots were replaced to prevent gas leaks
- Installed door closer in room 3 and replaced MPR doorstops
- The faulty condenser was replaced on the kitchen refrigerator.
- Allan and Sheila painted the education wing double doors, trimmed shrubs and removed a dead shrub.
- There was a recommendation to bring the refrigerator and freezer out annually for maintenance, to help prevent or eliminate unforeseen issues.

Elder's Report - Pastor Eric shared they met for a special elder's gathering and voted to move forward with one service in the fall, with the exception of the 5th Sunday, it will continue to be a combined service format. Service will begin at 9:10 a.m. and directly following after a short coffee time, there will be a second hour of your choice to attend, with options such as: **Parents' Group** (Led by Parents), **Youth's Sunday School** (Led by Jonathon and Brogan), **Children's Sunday School** (Led by Pastor Eric), **Music with Gil** (once a month), **Adult Education** - Unpacking the Sermon (Led by an Elder). Ideas for other suggested groups, please contact Pastor Eric or elders. Coffee time will still be offered before everyone goes off in their different groups.

Pastor's Report – Pastor Eric Eide

- **Church Summer Camp** - We had two youths attend. **Scriptures up to Advent** - Will be exploring the New Testament letters each week. **Jana and Allison** - Jana continues to train Allison. Allison will also cover while Jana is out of the office. **Youth Group Garage Sale** - Huge success. Johnathan and Brogan worked very hard, along with our youth and families. Appreciation goes out to all who supported the sale. They met and exceeded their goal of \$2500. Money is still coming in from Venmo, etc. The exact total to come. **Youth Group Lock-in** - Happening this weekend, August 16 - 17. Pastor Eric is leading the **Sunday School Team Meeting** on Tuesday August 20, 2025. **All Church Beach Trip** coming- August 24, 2025. **Ecumenical Blessing of the Backpacks Service** - Sunday, August 31, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at Silverton FCC. Will be blessing backpacks of staff and students. Offerings that are not marked for one of the churches will be given split between Silverton Middle School and Silverton High School.

CWF - Lynn Koenig & Karen Brock, working on the plan for the women's discussion group.

Board President report - Steve Reid

Financial Audit - Steve mentioned it is once again time to do financial audit with the CPA. We'll touch base with Jamie when she comes in and does the payroll to ensure we are prepared.

Extras-

Refrigerator Cleaning - The board talked about creating guidelines around items being left in the refrigerator. So that items don't end up left in the refrigerator for long periods of time and ultimately pass their expiration date, it was discussed that if you bring items for events such as coffee time, or other occasions, whatever is left over, you're asked to take it with you when you leave. This will alleviate the responsibility of one person cleaning out the refrigerator on a regular basis.

Next Board Meeting – September 8, 2025

~ Respectfully submitted by Board Secretary Jolene Smoot



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