

CHRISTIAN CONNECTIONS

Silverton First Christian Church

Note From Pastor Eric

These past weeks as I have traveled over Silverton and the surrounding areas doing my visits with many of our shut-ins and homebound many have taken time to talk with me about their friend Ginni and all the ways she touched their lives. They shared how much her regular visits encouraged and lifted their spirits and meant the world to them.

As we get ready to honor Ginni with her celebration of life this next week, I thought I would take time to honor and give thanks for my friend. Ginni was a master story teller and loved reading and telling and sending stories to others that brought encouragement or a laugh, or a smile. Ginni was one of our lead story tellers at Family Fun Nights and people always loved it when Ginni told the story. She usually had something special for the kids too afterwards. Ginni believed that stories have a way of crossing divides, a way of connecting us and that they bring us together.

Ginni loved visiting people and for as long as she was able she lived in her car traveling to visit fiends and family, those visits were holy to her, you all who she visited were beloved to her, and you knew it. So often in my visits over the years I would get to someone and they would be like Ginni was just here.

This Issue:

- 1-2 Note From Pastor Eric
- 3 Memorial Service For Ginni
- 4 Scriptures/Sermon Titles
- 5 2nd Hour Classes
- 6 February In Review
- 7 Youth Ministries
- 8-14 March Happenings
- 15-17 April Happenings
- 18 Volunteer Opportunities
- 19 Birthdays/Offering/Personnel
- 20-21 Board Meeting Summary

Contact Information

Pastor
Rev. Eric Eide

Email:
eeide98@gmail.com

Cell:
541-954-2612

*(Thursdays & Fridays
are Pastor Eric's Days Off,
contact on call elder
on those days)*

Church Office
402 N. First Street
Silverton, Oregon 97381
Phone: 503-873-6620
Monday- Thursday
(9am to 1pm)

Email:
fccsilverton@gmail.com

Website:
www.fccsilverton.com

Sunday Service- 9:10 am
Coffee Time- 10:15 am
2nd Hour Classes- 10:30 am

Note From Pastor Eric Continued

Ginni loved encouraging whether with a kind word in tough time, or one of her notes or cards. During covid and for a long time after when people were feeling disconnected Ginni sent little notes out to church members and friends that had a story, a joke, a word of wisdom, something to remind us all that we were connected together and not alone. She deeply appreciated Rod Irwin's help with all these mailings.

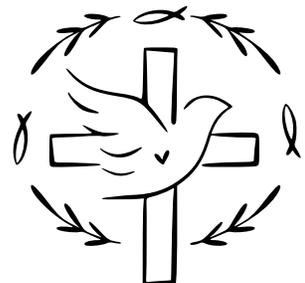
Ginni loved gathering with friends and family to play cards but more so it was the company of each of you that was most precious to her. She cherished each moment she got with you.

She was a fierce advocate for both our children and youth and fought for their programs and ministries. Ginni believed that encouraging one another is one of the greatest ways we show our love, she knew that we all need to hear we are making a difference.

On the table in my office sits a little stone plaque Ginni gave me during a time when some people in our community weren't being very nice to me or others, it says love one another and I will sort it out in the end. It was a simple kind gift when I needed it telling me to not grow weary in the work of love. It is something I go back to often on difficult days.

I know that we all miss Ginni, we miss her kindness, her smile, her wisdom, her encouraging spirit, her deep love and we indeed echo the words of my friend and colleague the Rev. Gene Hill who at the time of her death simply said this, "Well done good and faithful servant! Welcome home!" Death does not steal Ginni's love from us, nor any of those who have forever changed us, but their love is with us and beside us and around us until the day we too are called home and we shall be reunited with them and so many others.

So how do we honor Ginni today? We continue her legacy of love. We show kindness and grace to others. We encourage, encourage, and encourage one another, reminding each other each day the ways that God is working and shining in each one of us. We honor her by making time for people, visiting our shut-ins and members in need, visiting those who may not get a lot of visits and reminding them they are loved and not alone. We honor Ginni by telling our stories and listening to the stories of others. We honor her by finding ways to bring people together. Ginni reminds us that measure of our lives is in the love we live and show one another!





Memorial Service for Ginni Stensland

March 7, 2026

10:30 am- Service
[Sanctuary]

Reception to Follow
[Multipurpose room]

*We are a Family of Faith
We are Disciples at Work*



Scriptures for Worship March 2026:

March 1, 2026

“Listening for One Voice in the Many”

Luke 8:1-8

March 8, 2026

(Daylight Savings Time Begins)

**“When Standing Stones
Become Stumbling Blocks”**

Matthew 16:21-28

March 15, 2026

“Love’s Encouraging Power”

John 12:1-11

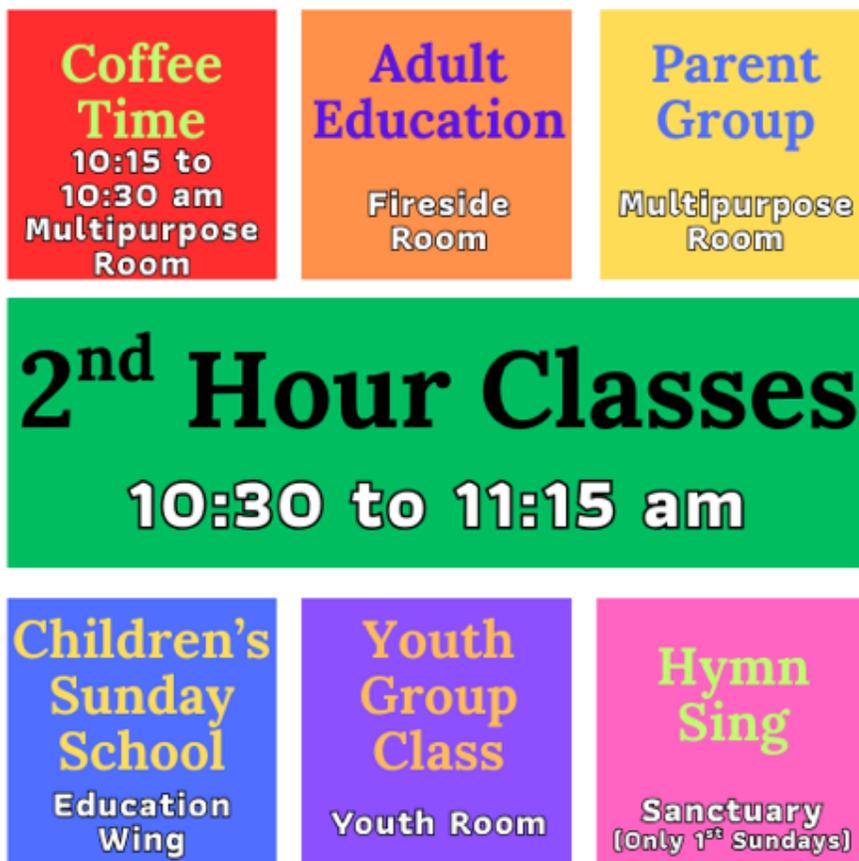
March 22, 2026

“When In Doubt”

John 11:14-16, 14:1-6, 20:24-25

March 29, 2026

**Eccumenical Palm Sunday
Starts at 10am out front FCC**



2nd Hour

After worship each Sunday people are invited to head over to the Multipurpose room for Coffee time. After coffee time we break for our 2nd Hour classes at 10:30am. During 2nd Hour we offer the following classes:

Adult Education with the Elder of the Week in the Fireside Room
(This class takes a deeper dive into the Scripture and Sermon from that Sunday)

Hymn Sing with Gil in the Sanctuary (Only on 1st Sundays of Month)
(This is a time to gather and sing your favorite hymns with Gil)

Parent Group in the Multipurpose
(This is for parents and others who want to gather and hang out and share life)

Youth Class (6th to 12th Grade) with Jonathon and Brogan in the Youth Room

Children's Sunday School (PreK to 5th Grade) with Pastor Eric & Sunday School Team in the Education Wing
(Offers Bible Story, Music, Crafts, and Mission Projects for kids)

This month there will be no 2nd Hour on Sunday, March 29, 2026 as it is the Ecumenical Palm Sunday Service. We hope you can join us for 2nd Hour!

February In Review

Valentines for Shut-Ins and Children's Fundraiser Making Candy

This past month we want to thank everyone who stepped up on Sunday February 8th after service and helped make and deliver 27 valentines for shut-ins and members in need.

The children from Sunday School also worked really hard this past month and did a Valentine Candy Fundraiser. The children made over 400 candies and raised \$340 for the Children and Family Ministries Fund which makes it possible for us to have Children's Sunday School, Family Fun Nights, and Finding God at the Movies. Thanks to all our incredible candy makers and to all who supported our kids!





**SUPPORT YOUTH
EVENTS,
ACTIVITIES AND
MISSION
PROJECTS**

FOR PICK-UP CALL
JONATHON OR BROGAN
503.400.5725 // 503.983.3870

**BLUE BAGS & TAGS
ARE AVAILABLE AT
THE CHURCH. PLEASE
TALK TO PASTOR
ERIC, JANA,
JONATHON OR
BROGAN FOR BAGS .**

The youth group had a great month working on reorganizing their youth room and tidying up things left from the Christmas season. They worked together to put away props and costumes, getting everything together for next year.

Our youth have been hard at work with their Bottle Drop fundraiser. They've been collecting cans, bagging and tagging them, and preparing them for a large drop off. In total from the past few trips, they have raised a total of \$800. Great job youth group! Thank you to everyone who supports the youth in this fundraiser, your donations make a difference. Blue bags are available in the church office. To request a pick-up, please contact Jonathon or Brogan.

In the next upcoming months, we are preparing for the Easter holiday and our upcoming Annual Easter Breakfast Fundraiser. Youth group this month will be dedicated to studying the story of Easter, and the importance of this holiday. The youth are looking forward to making the Easter breakfast special for their fellow church members and families. Keep a lookout for this upcoming event in the announcements. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

Upcoming:

- 3/1: Sunday School, Youth Group (5-7 PM)
- 3/8: Sunday School
- 3/15: Sunday School, Youth Group (5-7 PM)
- 3/22: Sunday School
- 3/29: Sunday School

March Happenings

Women's Discussion Group

Women of all ages are invited to join us for Women's Discussion Group on Tuesdays at 10 am in the Fireside room. Come enjoy a time of study and fellowship together.



Women's Discussion Group

**Tuesdays at 10 am
In the Fireside Room**



Prayer Group

**Tuesdays at 7pm on Zoom
with Pastor Eric**

Prayer Group

All are invited to join us each Tuesday evening at 7pm on Zoom for our weekly Prayer Group. Come share about your week and about the people and things on your heart and then join us as we pray together. The zoom link will be emailed out to the church on Tuesday afternoons. Hope you can join us for Prayer Group!

Daylight Savings Time

Just want to remind everyone to set their clocks forward one hour on Sunday morning, March 8, 2026 as it is the beginning of Daylight Savings Time. Hope to see everyone in worship that morning!



Family Fun Night: Easter Craft Fair

Join us Sunday, March 8, 2026 from 5 to 7pm for our next Family Fun Night. It will be our Easter Craft Fair. Join us for dinner, and all sorts of Easter crafts and games. Our Mission Project will be making Easter baskets for shut-ins and members in need. We hope you can join us for this special evening together.

Women's Game Night

Saturday, March 14, 2026

5 to 9 pm

[NO GUYS ALLOWED]



Women's Game Night

On Saturday, March 14, 2026 starting at 5:00 pm, we will be having a women's game night at the church. All women of the church are invited to come enjoy playing games with some great friends.

Please bring your favorite snack to share. We will provide drinks.

If you would like to attend, but don't like to drive after dark, please let the church office know and we will arrange a ride for you.

If you have questions, please contact Sarah Elder or Karen Brock.
We hope to see you all at the church for an evening of fun!

Prayer Shawl Ministry
 On the 3rd Monday of each month at 3pm our Prayer Shawl Group gathers in the Fireside room at church to knit and crochet prayer shawls for members in need in our church family. This past month our team has made shawls for several families after the deaths of loved ones. If you would like to join this special ministry we hope you can join us on Monday, March 16, 2026 at 3pm. For more information check in with Lynn Koenig.



Men's Group

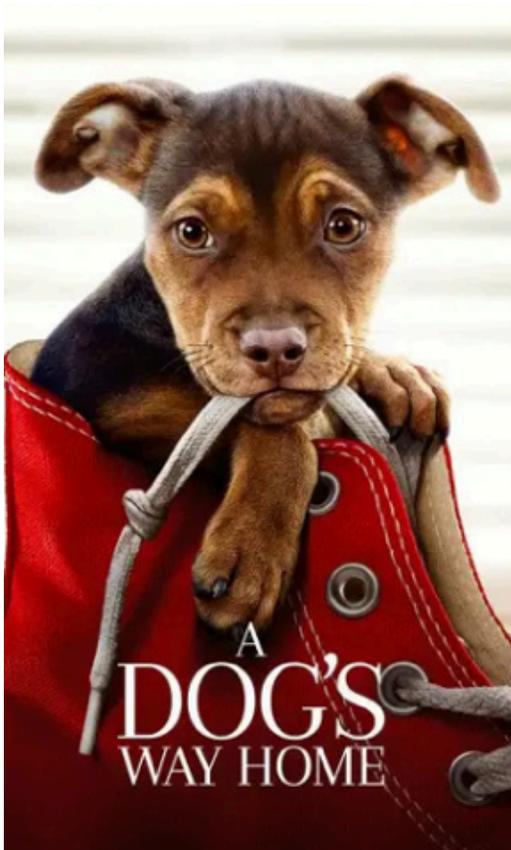
Men of all ages are welcome and invited to our monthly Men's Group on Saturday, March 21, 2026 at 8 am at Water Mountain Restaurant for a time of fellowship, devotion, and a delicious meal together. For more information check in with Ric or Clint.

Finding God at the Movies

This past month we had a wonderful Finding God at the Movies as we watched the movie “Cool Runnings”, which tells the true story of Jamaica’s first bobsled team.

Art and Cole shared that they saw God when the other teams applauded and cheered for the Jamaican team after their crash as they carried their bobsled across the finish line and showed the Jamaican team respect. Roc shared that he saw God when the dad of the Jamaican bobsledder realized his son had been called to this and showed up to support him instead of trying to make him become something else. Noah shared that he saw God in people who showed the coach grace after the mistakes the coach had made in the past and as he worked to live a different life as the coach of the Jamaican team. Serenite won the grand prize, an autographed copy of the book by the Jamaican bobsled driver. It was a great night.

This month on Sunday, March 22, 2026 all are invited to join us for our next Finding God at the Movies from 5 to 7pm. Join us for dinner, the movie, and a brief discussion about the themes of faith we saw in the movie. Our movie this month is “A Dog’s Way Home” which tells the moving story of the journey of a dog named Bella who makes a long journey home to her person Lucas. The church will provide pizza, drinks, and popcorn and we invite you all to bring something to add to the meal. Hope to see you for Finding God at the Movies.



**FCC Silverton
invites you to:**

**Finding God
at the Movies**

March 22, 2026

5 to 7 pm

**Movie:
“A Dog’s Way Home”**

**Join us for dinner,
the movie, and
a discussion of
the themes of
faith we saw
in the movie**

Ecumenical Palm Sunday. Service

We are excited to team up with our Lutheran and Methodist neighbors to once again do an Ecumenical Palm Sunday Service on Sunday, March 29, 2026. People are invited to gather in our Multipurpose room for donuts and coffee at 9:30am. Then at 10am on the dot we will start the service out front of our sanctuary with a song led by our contemporary team and blessing from Pastor Eric before we begin the procession up the hill to Immanuel Lutheran for the rest of the service. We are excited to have Mushu the donkey back to lead our procession. If there is anyone who would like to sing in the ecumenical choir please let Pastor Eric know. After the service there will be a fellowship time together with cookies, coffee, and drinks at the Lutheran church. We ask for people's help with brings lots of donations of cookies for the celebration. Please get your cookies to Immanuel by that morning. Hope you can join us for this special Sunday!



Join us for our

ECUMENICAL PALM SUNDAY SERVICE

March 29, 2026

**9:30am- Coffee Time
(Silverton FCC)**

**10:00am- Blessing & Procession
(Silverton FCC)**

**10:30am- Palm Sunday Service
(Immanuel Lutheran)**

Do You Want To Go To A Trail Blazer Game?

The church family will be going to a Trail Blazer Game on Sunday, March 29, 2026 at 3pm at the Moda Center in Portland. We will be leaving the church at 1pm to head to the Stadium. This is one of the final games of the season and the Trail Blazers will be playing the Washington Wizards. With the help of some of our special funds we have been able to get tickets at a reduced price for all of you, just \$10 to \$15 a ticket. If cost is an issue for anyone and you want to go just let Pastor Eric know. We need to know who all wants to go ASAP so we can get tickets.

Please let Pastor Eric or the church office know by Friday, March 6, 2026.

People are asked to bring extra money for memorabilia and food.

Hope you can join us as we go cheer for our Trail Blazers!

Do You Want To Go To Trail Blazer Game?

March 29, 2026 at 3pm (Leaving Church 1pm)

**Let Pastor Eric or the Church Office
know by Friday March 6, 2026!**



April Happenings

Holy Week Activities

For Holy Week here are some of the services and activities we will be offering.

We are excited to be offering our interactive dinner and service Maundy Thursday Service on Thursday, April 2, 2026 at 6:30pm in the Multipurpose room. This service remembers all the events in that upper room as they gathered for the Passover Meal.

We will be once again offering the Good Friday Time of Prayer with stations comemorating the final events of Jesus life leading to his death. This will be offered on Friday, April 3, 2026 from 4 to 6pm.

Maundy Thursday

Let us join with Jesus and his Disciples
to remember the Last Supper



April 2, 2026
6:30pm
Multipurpose Room

Good Friday

Time of Prayer



April 3, 2026
4 to 6 pm
FCC Sanctuary

Holy Week Activities continued

On Easter Sunday people are invited to join us for Easter Worship, decorating the flower cross, Easter Breakfast, a fundraiser for our Youth, and the Easter Egg Hunt and visit from the Easter Bunny. We hope you can join us in celebrating the rising of the Son!

Easter Activities

April 5, 2026

Worship
Flower Cross
Decorating
Easter
Breakfast
Easter Bunny
and Egg Hunt



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Silverton, Oregon

Established- Easter Sunday April 1851
on the banks of the Pudding River

Invites you to our

175th Birthday

April 12, 2026

Worship at 9:10am

Luncheon Reception

Immediately Following Service

We Are A Family Of Faith

We Are Disciples At Work



**Silverton
Christian
Church-
Built 1891**

(Jersey St)

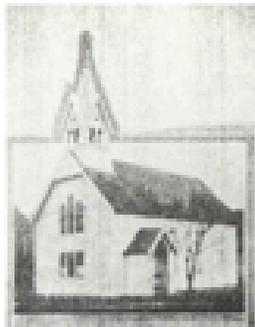


**First
Christian
Church-
Built 1963**

(402 N. First St)

**Bethany Christian
Church-
Built 1858**

**(East of Bethany
Cemetery)**



**Christian
Church-
Built 1906**

(1st & Park St)



Volunteer Opportunities



Helping With Coffee Time

Every Sunday after worship we enjoy coffee time. This is only made possible by the generosity and kindness of the members of this community.

Please look at the upcoming dates and sign up either in the MP room or contacting the church office to let Jana know you can do one of the dates. Thanks to everyone who continues to step up and do such wonderful coffee times. And a special thanks to Chuck and Lynn Koenig who fix the coffee each week. Looking forward to coffee time with all of you!

Stone Soup Meal

Are you looking for a simple way to help make difference and help those in need. Come chop veggies, stir the soup, and help us make a delicious meal each week for the Sheltering Silverton shelter. Meet in the kitchen from 4 to 6pm to make the meal and then stick around to enjoy a simple meal and time of fellowship with all those who helped. We hope you can join us on Wednesday nights. For more information contact Sue, Marilyn, Kara, or Ami.



Church Officers/Personnel

Elders:

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

Church Board Chairman:

Donna Laney

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 Cawfield,
Chris Dyer, Ami Barstad,
Aaron Barstad, George Barstad
John Meye, Gil Wittman,
Marilyn Woodward

2025-2026

Board of Directors

Slate of Officers

Board Chair - Donna Laney

Vice Chair - Steve Hensley

Treasurer - Erin Stone

Board Secretary - Betty Beard

Financial Secretary -
Verlene Beard

Trustee Chair - Allan Graves

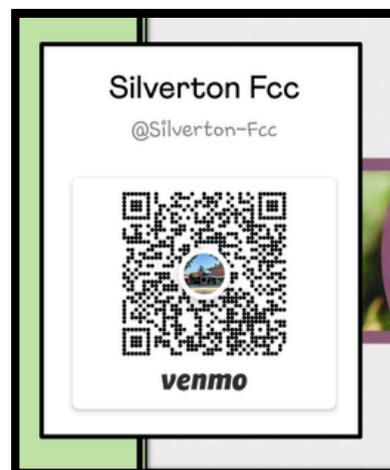
Deacon Chair - Karen Brock

CWF Chairs-

Lynn Koenig/Karen Brock



Lucas Bentz 2
Cara Zitzelberger 10
Joe Dyer 14
Korey Bordewich 22
Dylan Barcroft 23
Gail Frassenei 26
Dave Stone 28
Eddie Kuenzi 28
Clint Sanford 30
Isaiah Clark 31



February 2026 Tithing Offering Totals

February 1	\$3480.00
February 8	\$2749.00
February 15	\$2365.00
February 22	\$4015.00

Offering Total: \$12,609.00
Week of Compassion: \$492.11

Every gift helps!

Splinters from the Board

Board Meeting February 9, 2026 at 6:30pm

Attendance:

Steve Hensley- Vice-Chair, Erin Stone- Treasurer, Verlene Beard- Financial Secretary, Betty Beard- Secretary, and Karen Brock- Chair of Deacons

Absent:

Rev. Eric Eide- Pastor (On Vacation), Allan Graves- Properties Chair, Donna Laney- Board Chair, Lynn Koenig- Chair of CWF
Steve H opened meeting with a prayer

January 2026 Treasurer report

Erin Stone presented budget report – reviewed and advised financial status of church budget for the year.

January 2026 Financial report

Verlene Beard presented treasurer report - reviewed and advised treasurer report.

January 2026 Deacon report

Beth continues to wash the cups and Johnny D is recycling them
Caterer for the 175th Birthday Celebration has been booked

January 2026- Elder's report

Elders unanimously decided to keep service at 9:10 am
Elders getting ready for Lent
Still looking to recruit 2 new members

January 2026 – Pastor's report

~2nd Hour continues to be going well- Pastor Eric is seeing growth with children' Sunday School
~Children did a Valentine Fundraiser – made \$330 for Children and Family Ministries Fund
~We had a powerful Baptism Renewal Service
~Preparing for Ash Wednesday and Lent
~Working on 175th Birthday Celebration
~Working on Staff Evaluations
~Church Missions Project for February has been Week of Compassion

January 2026 – Property Report

Allan Graves – Absent – No Report at this time

Splinters from the Board Continued

January 2026 – Vice Board Chairs Report

~Steve prepared an outline of understanding how the Board and Elders Operate the Church

~Steve wants copy of Pastor Eric's Letter of Call so board can edit

New Business we discussed:

~Need to review all contracts and begin updated ones for 2027

~Need to review Insurance in April

~Need to review policy manual forms – was tabled to discuss next month

~Staff Evaluations being done- Pastor Eric does church staff and Elders do evaluation of Pastor Eric

~Need to review Board committees

~Board discusses situation recently while Pastor Eric was away of several unhoused individuals sleeping on the grounds

Next Board Meeting is **Monday, March 9, 2026 at 6:30pm** in the Fireside room

Closing prayer given by Steve Hensley

Verlene motion to adjourn, Second by Jennifer Hensley

We are a Family of Faith.

***We are a community of God's beloved children.
Growing our faith through supportive,
caring, and inclusive outreach.
Where we strive to welcome all,
as Christ welcomes us.***

We are Disciples at work!



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