

CHRISTIAN CONNECTIONS

Silverton First Christian Church

Note From Pastor Eric

This month is all about reminding us the importance of coming together. Coming together to build each other up as we persevere as this Family of Faith.

On October 4th we will be coming together to encourage each other, to be reminded how important it is for each of us to lift up and honor and give thanks for and help one another see and hear the differences that we each make.

On October 11th we will be honoring the incredible staff that we have here at Silverton FCC. A group of people who serve this community and God with all they've got. We will be taking time to give thanks for each of them. To give thanks for Jana, Jonathon, Brogan, Libby, Gail, Gil, Jamie, Cara, and all the youth who serve upstairs with the sound system. Not only are each one of these people incredibly talented but each of them makes our team, our church, this family of faith better and stronger.

On October 18th we will be coming together to work with Connor as he works toward his Eagle Scout and leads us in building a memorial garden in the breezeway area. We will be calling all of us to come together, young and old and everyone in the middle to help cleanup, plant, and get our hands in the dirt to build something beautiful together.

On October 25th we will be coming together to affirm our church leaders for the faithful service they do. Giving thanks for our incredible elders- Ric, Marcus, Cara, Donna, Lynn, and Karen, our faithful deacons, our board leaders- Steve, Camden, Cara, Verlene, Erin, Ric, Karen, Lynn, and others, and our incredible properties team- Anthony, Tom, Sarah, Chase, Ron, and others who all give and serve in so many beautiful ways.

I encourage all of us to keep stepping up, listening to God's spirit, and giving our time, our talents, our resources, and our love to our God, this church, this community, and one another. Together, with all of us arising we persevere!

Love,
Pastor Eric

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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

Notes and Updates on Members

Tootie Riggs Moved to St Helen's Care Facility

Tootie Riggs has been moved to a memory care facility in St. Helens, Oregon. This is closer to her daughter. She is missing her church family.

Here is the new address.

**Tootie Riggs
2400 Gable Rd #216
St. Helens, OR 97051**

Please take time to send her a card if you can.



Jonathon and Brogan Welcome a Healthy Baby Girl

On Tuesday evening at 9:39pm Jonathon and Brogan Thompson welcomed a beautiful, healthy, 8 pound baby girl,

Leighton Mae Thompson.

Mae was Ginni's middle name. Everyone is doing well. Congratulations to Jonathon and Brogan and Leighton Mae welcome to the FCC Family we can't wait to meet you!



Julie Bock Having a Difficult Time

Julie Bock has been having a really tough time and been in and out of the hospital in Montana. She is struggling with memory and other health issues. If you have time this week take time to send a card to her.

Here is the address.

**Julie Bock
PO Box 975
Boulder, MT 59632**



Jana's Birthday

Jana's birthday is Tuesday October 13, 2026 and she will be taking that day off so the church office will be closed that day. If you have church needs contact Pastor Eric



Scriptures for Worship October 2026:

October 4, 2026
**“Encouragement Brings
Perseverance”**
Acts 20:17-38

October 11, 2026
“The Power of Our Story”
Acts 21:27-40, 22:1-21

October 18, 2026
“Speaking Truth to Power”
Acts Acts 22:30, 23:1-11

October 25, 2026
“Staying True to Jesus”
Acts 24:1-27



Reflection and Direction: Join Me for a Seat in the Chair

Faithful Today, Preparing for Tomorrow

Welcome, and have a seat.

As we move into fall, I continue to be encouraged by the amount of activity happening throughout our church. Some of it is very visible on Sunday mornings, while much of it happens quietly throughout the week. In either case, it is a good reminder that First Christian Church truly is **A Family of Faith**, and that ministry happens when each of us is willing to take part. **We are Disciples at Work!**

One of the larger items we have been working through is the proposed solar project. I know there are questions, and there should be. This would be a significant long-term decision for our church, so my goal has been to gather information, ask questions, and make sure everyone has an opportunity to understand what is being considered before any final decision is made.

The current engineering design calls for a 65.56 kW solar system with 149 panels and 54 kWh of battery storage. The contractor's proposal estimates the system could produce approximately 76,274 kWh per year, or about 101% of the church's modeled annual electrical usage. The proposal lists a project cost, estimated incentives, an estimated net cost, and a modeled cost investment payback of approximately 6.19 years. These are **contractor estimates and projections, not guarantees**, and there are still details that need to be verified before moving forward.

We have also received information concerning warranties, maintenance, the roof, and what would happen if the solar contractor were no longer in business. Sunward has stated that installation-related leaks would be covered by a 10-year leak guarantee and workmanship warranty, while future removal and reinstallation of panels for normal roof replacement would be an expense to the church. These are exactly the kinds of details I believe we need to understand clearly before making a commitment.

Reflection and Direction: Join Me for a Seat in the Chair (Continued)

There is also a separate \$5,000 Energy Trust of Oregon incentive reservation for a qualifying solar feasibility report, reserved through March 1, 2027 following an initial eligibility review. That is separate documentation from the construction incentives estimated in the contractor's proposal, so I do not want us simply adding numbers together and assuming money is available until everything is confirmed.

For me, this process is about more than solar panels. It is about **stewardship**. Whether we are talking about electricity, our building, fundraising, ministry programs, or the dollars entrusted to the church, we should continually ask whether we are using our resources wisely to support the mission God has given us.

That same thinking is behind some of the less exciting work your board has been doing. We have been reviewing building-use and rental policies, looking at fees and deposits, and trying to improve the way we conduct our meetings and make decisions. The board approved an updated rental agreement in August. None of those things will probably make anyone rush to the next board meeting, but good stewardship includes taking care of the everyday details too.

As we head into a busy fall season, I want to continue encouraging participation. When you see something that needs doing, have an idea for a fundraiser or ministry, or simply have a question about something the board is considering, please speak up. Bring your ideas to a board member or come to a meeting. This church does not belong to the board—it belongs to all of us as a family of faith seeking to serve Christ together.

There is plenty of work ahead, but there is also plenty to be thankful for. Thank you to everyone who gives financially, volunteers, teaches, serves, repairs, cooks, cleans, welcomes, prays, encourages, and simply shows up when there is a need. Those individual acts of service add up to something much bigger than any one person or project.

We are Disciples at Work! And I am grateful to be working alongside you.

Until Next Month, thank you for taking a seat in the chair with me.

Stephen Hensley Chair, Church Board

September in Review

Grandparents Day Family Fun Night

We had a wonderful Grandparents Day Family Fun Night this past month.

We had 22 people attend and enjoyed a delicious meal of soups, salad, fruit, and bread. We enjoyed root beer floats for dessert. We had a great time with grandparents and making gifts for grandparents, giving thanks to God for the grandparents in our lives. We baked cookies, potted plants, decorated coffee mugs, and made personalized artwork. We also had a memorial table where we honored the grandparents who have gone to be with God. Thanks to everyone who helped and who stayed after to clean up. Our next Family Fun night will be Sunday, October 11, 2026 from 5 to 7pm and will be our Fall Festival with all sorts of Fun Fall games and crafts.



Women's Retreat



Items for sale at the
"One Fair World"



Nellie, Jana, Karen & Lynn had a wonderful time
at the women's retreat!



Our lunch catered by
Little Lois Cafe; So Good

On Saturday, September 19, Nellie, Jana, Karen & Lynn attended the Women's Retreat which was at the Dallas FCC. The theme was "Something Beautiful".

We had a wonderful worship service to start our morning.

Next was 3 workshops: Bible Study, FEDICE and a Craft.

The Bible Study talked about what our definition of beauty is and who in our lives makes us feel beautiful and how we can make others feel beautiful.

The Bible study was a favorite of ours.

We learned about FEDICE which is a non governmental organization with thirty years of service in Ecuador. The word FEDICE means "Faith Says" in Spanish.

There were items from "One Fair World" to purchase.

We had a wonderful catered lunch from Little Lois Cafe in West Salem.

After lunch, we enjoyed visiting with ladies from churches all across Oregon & SW Idaho.

We ended the day with closing worship.

There was an offering collected that was split between FEDICE and Week of Compassion

The next women's retreat will be on Saturday, March 6, 2027 at the Salem FCC.

More information to come!



Pictures of people in
Ecuador helped by FEDICE



Chuukese women of Salem singing "How Great Thou Art"
in their native language. It was so beautiful!



Lynn & Karen at breaktime

Finding God at the Movies: I Can Only Imagine 2

We had a wonderful Finding God at the Movies this past Sunday night.

We had 26 people attend and enjoyed the powerful movie, “I Can Only Imagine 2” which tells the powerful story behind the song, “Even If”. We enjoyed a delicious dinner and a great discussion. Cole won the grand prize of the autographed Mercy Me CD. Our next Finding God at the Movies will be Sunday, October 25, 2026 and we will be watching “Abominable”. Hope you can join us!



Children’s Sunday School

We offer Children’s Sunday School every Sunday morning at 10:30am for children PreK through 5th grade. Sunday School involves music, games, Bible Stories, and crafts.

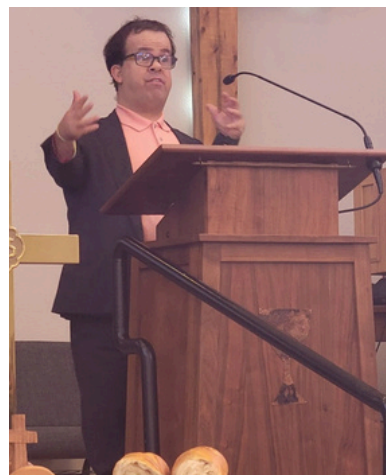
This past month we learned about Abraham and Sarah, Joseph, Moses, and Joshua and Rahab. One of the favorite songs was led by Gail and Wayne was Dolly Parton’s “Coat of Many Colors”. We also made dot art, a baby quilt for Jonathon and Brogan, Shemas for our doors our backpacks, and Shofars or jewsih ram horns as we brought the walls of Jericho tumbling down.

Huge thanks to Elia, Anthony, Kathy, Linda, Joe, Wynelle, Erin, Taryn, Gail, Wayne, Terry, Mary, Lynn, and others who have helped!





We had some wonderful worship this past month. Last Sunday we had 67 people in the service and we celebrated Aaron, Ami, and George being back with us for the first time since Aaron's surgery. Our musicians led us in beautiful spirit filled music. We had children and youth helping in service and they were awesome serving at the communion table and leading us in the Lord's Prayer. We hope you can join us for worship on Sunday mornings!



A big thank you to Stephanie for the wonderful pictures!



youth



The youth group had a wonderful month of September. We loved hearing about their back to school adventures and end of summer activities. We started the month off with a youth group filled with activities. The youth saved new and used coats, hats, and gloves from their annual yard sale event and were able to donate a large amount of items to the church mission for this month. They decided on donation amounts for the upcoming months and how they were going to disperse some of their yard sale funds throughout the rest of the year. As a group they voted to donate \$555 back to the church as their tithe from the yard sale fundraiser. They also voted on amounts they will be donating to church events like the Trunk-or-Treat and Operation Christmas Child and brainstormed ideas on how they can help out with these events. We started discussing the Christmas Pageant and the kids had some very creative ideas for this upcoming year. We look forward to seeing these ideas coming to life over the next few months and seeing them perform in December. After a busy discussion the kids ended the night with some fun and games.



Youth Group October Events

While Jonathon and Brogan are away on maternity leave Pastor Eric will be leading activities with the youth. Here is what will be happening in October:

Youth Group- October 4, 2026- 5 to 7pm

All Middle School and High School Youth are invited to Youth Group, dinner will be provided. We will be doing our shopping for the Operation Christmas child shoebox supplies scavenger hunt challenge.

Creating the Memorial Garden- October 18, 2026- 10:30 to 12pm

Connor, who is doing his Eagle Scout project will be leading us all in building the memorial garden in the breezeway. We need all youth's help with this special project. This will be our Youth Group for that day.

Trunk or Treat- October 31, 2025- 3 to 6pm

Our church is once again participating in Silverton's Goblin Walk on Saturday, October 31, 2026 from 4 to 6pm. Youth are in charge of running the hot chocolate and cider station in the MP room. Youth are encouraged to dress up in costume and be to the church by 3pm to help with setup.

October Happenings

Celebration of Life Service for Jerry and Ardene Wear

October 3, 2026 at 1pm
Reception after the Service



Celebration of Life Service for Jerry & Ardene Wear

Join us Saturday, October 3, 2026 at 1pm for a celebration of life service here at the church for Jerry and Ardene Wear. After the service there will be a reception in the Multipurpose room.

Family Fun Night: Fall Festival

Join us Sunday, October 11, 2026 from 5 to 7pm for our next Family Fun Night. It will be our annual Fall Festival. Come enjoy dinner and all sorts of fun fall crafts and games. For our mission project we will be decorating mini pumpkins for shut-ins. Bring your friends and family and come enjoy gourd bowling, donuts on the string, bobbing for apples, making cornhusk dolls, and more.



Silverton FCC invites you to

Family Fun Night: Fall Festival

October 11, 2026, 5 to 7pm

October Happenings

Finding God at the Movies

**October 25, 2026
5 to 7pm**

**Movie:
"Abominable"**

Come enjoy dinner, movie, and discussion about the themes of faith in the movie.

Church will provide pizza, popcorn, and drinks.

All are invited to bring something to add to the meal.

We will also have a drawing for some great prizes!



Finding God at the Movies: "Abominable"

Join us this month on Sunday, October 25, 2026 from 5 to 7pm for our next Finding God at the Movies. Come enjoy dinner, the movie, and a discussion about the themes of faith we saw in the movie. Our movie this month will be "Abominable" which tells the sweet story of a group of friends who work to get their furry friend home to their family. The church will provide pizza, drinks, and popcorn. We invite you all to bring something to share to the movie. We will have a drawing for an adorable Abominable stuffed animal as our grand prize. Hope you see you at Finding God at the Movies.

Trunk or Treat

We will once again be one of the stops along the Goblin Walk here in Silverton on Halloween, October 31, 2026. We are looking for people to donate bags of individually wrapped candies (please drop these off to the church office or Pastor Eric), as well people who would dress up, decorate tables, help pass out candy and run other activities that evening. If you can help let Pastor Eric or the office know. We are excited to once again team up with the staff of the Circle of Friends Afterschool Program to do this event. All volunteers need to be at the church by 3pm.

First Christian Church invites you to:

"Trunk or Treat"

**October 31, 2026, 4 to 6pm
Multipurpose Room**





Men's Fellowship Group

October 17, 2026 at 8 am
Water Mountain Restaurant

Men's Fellowship Group

Men's Fellowship Group will be gathering for it's monthly breakfast at Water Mountain Restaurant on Saturday, October 17, 2026 at 8am. Men of all ages are welcome to come enjoy a delicious breakfast, devotion, and time of fellowship together. We hope you can come!



Women's Discussion Group

Women's Discussion Group will be resuming it 10am time every Tuesday at the church in the Fireside room starting October 13, 2026.

Women of all ages are inviting to join for this time of discussion and prayer together. Hope to see you there!

Women's Discussion Group

Resumes meeting each Tuesday morning at 10am at the church starting October 13, 2026. Women of all ages are welcome!





Prayer Shawls

Help us wrap those in need
in love and prayers



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Prayer shawl continues to work to create prayer shawls and welcomes all who are interested in joining them in wrapping those in need in love and prayer.



Help with Coffee Time

Can you bring some tasty treats and drinks and serve a Sunday's coffee time?

Please look at the sign-up sheet in the MP room and sign-up with a friend. Or let Jana in the office know you can help. We appreciate everyone who helps with coffee time.

We will be doing a potluck meal on October 18, 2026.



Help With Coffee Time
Sign Up in MP Room

HONORING *Church Staff*

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFUL SERVICE
AND DEDICATION TO OUR CHURCH FAMILY.



Honoring Our Church Staff

October 11, 2026
In Worship and at Coffee Time

Honoring Our Church Staff

Join us on Sunday, October 11, 2026 both in worship and coffee time as we honor and give thanks for all our church staff- Jana, Jonathon & Brogan, Libby, Gail, Gil, Jamie, Cara, and all our AV youth. There will be cards people can sign and cake to enjoy and special gifts for each staff. We give thanks for these faithful servants.

Honoring Our Church Leaders

Join us on Sunday, October 25, 2026 both in worship and coffee time as we honor and recognize and give thanks for all our incredible church leaders. These faithful servants step up to serve as elders, deacons, and on our board. There will be cake, cards, and special gifts for each of these incredible leaders. We give thanks for each of them.



Honoring Our Church Leaders (Elders, Deacons, and Board)

October 25, 2026
In Worship and at Coffee Time

Building the Memorial Garden

**Sunday, October 18, 2026
10:30am to 12pm**



Building the Memorial Garden

Join us Sunday, October 18, 2026 in the MP room immediately following service as our Eagle Scout Connor leads us in building the FCC Memorial Garden in the Breezeway area. There will be no 2nd Hour classes that day as we want everyone to help create this holy space at the church together. We appreciate Connor and all his hardwork with this project!

We will be having a potluck meal together!



Weekly Mission Project: Stone Soup

Join us on a Wednesday afternoon to help make a meal for the Sheltering Silverton shelter. Come from 4:00 to 5:30pm to prepare soups, salads, bread, and other delicious meals each week for our neighbors in need. Then stick around for a simple meal with all who helped.



**Come Help
Make a Meal
For Our
Local Homeless
Shelter**

**Every Wednesday
4 to 6 pm
FCC Church Kitchen**



Coming in November

Collecting Shoe Box Supplies for Operation Christmas Child

BRING DONATIONS
TO TABLE IN MULTIPURPOSE ROOM

and Jesus Said Unto Them: "Come"



Family Fun Night
Shoebox Packing Party
November 8, 2026
5 to 7pm

Shoe Box Packing Party

This month we will be collecting supplies to fill shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. We have committed to doing 200 boxes this year.

Watch for the official list coming soon and bring donations to the table in the MP room.

Our packing party will be Sunday, November 8, 2026 from 5 to 7pm. Dinner will be provided.

Finding God at the Movies

November 22, 2026 will be the last Finding God at the Movies movie for 2026. And it is going to a Christmas one as we kick off the Advent Season.

Cast your vote for the movie and join us on Sunday, November 22, 2026 from 5 to 7pm for Dinner, the movie and a discussion about the themes of faith in the movie. Hope you can come!

Finding God at the Movies

November 22,
2026
5 to 7pm

Cast your vote
for our final
Finding God at
the Movies
movie for 2026

Come enjoy
dinner, the
movie, and a
discussion about
the the themes
of faith we saw
in the movie.

"Journey to Bethlehem"
A musical adaption of
Jesus birth story



"The Christmas Candle"
A Max Lucado story
about the power of God's
light and love



"It's A Wonderful Life"
Reminding us the
difference we each make
and the power of love



Church Officers/Personnel

Elder Chair:

Ric Dettwyler

Elders:

Karen Brock, Marcus Clark,
Lynn Koenig, Donna Laney,
Cara Zitzelberger

Office Administrator:

Jana O'Connor

Keeper of the House:

Libby Bordewich

Youth Leaders:

Brogan Ann Thompson
Jonathon Thompson

Worship Music Team:

Gail Frassenei, Wayne Cawlfeld,
Chris Dyer, Ami Barstad,
Aaron Barstad, George Barstad,
Megan Lee-Herzig, John Meye,
Gil Wittman, Marilyn Woodward

2026-2027

Board of Directors

Slate of Officers

Board Chair- Steve Hensley

Vice Chair- Camden Brock

Treasurer- Erin Stone

Board Secretary- Cara Zitzelberger

Financial Secretary- Verlene Beard

Deacon Chair- Karen Brock

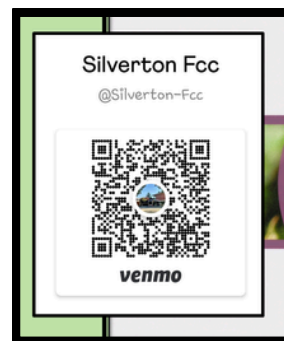
CWF Chair- Lynn Koenig

Trustee's Committee-

Anthony Pierce, Chair
Allan Graves
Sarah Elder
Ron Thomas
Chase Annen
Tom Finch



Shirley Leiper 3
Olivia O'Connor 3
Kruz Elder 4
Rachel Kirksey 4
Karl Deluca 4
Oliver Annen 5
Marcus Clark 5
Vida Shaffer 5
Kathy Stevens 5
Sophia Annen 8
Judy Duncan 8
Verlene Beard 11
Jana O'Connor 13
Jennie Reed 14
Paige King 15
Joe Kirksey 19
Sidney King 20
Kevin Pedigo 22
Kyle Pedigo 22
Norma Gomez 26
Angelo Chase 27
Juanita Grey 27
Melissa Jury 27
Raiden Pierce 30
Jeff Sanford 30
Scott Walker 30



September 2026 Tithing Offering Totals

September 6	\$4,150.00
September 13	\$2,637.00
September 20	\$1,651.00
September 27	\$1,596.00

Offering Total: \$10,034.00

Budget Needed: \$22,718.00

Every gift helps!

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