

Lutherans invite everyone to 'Come As You Are'

New Life Lutheran Church continues through the Summer with its "Come As You Are" Wednesday evening Worship Services at 6 p.m.

Come enjoy the more casual setting and fellowship including discussion and sharing life stories among the group.

For more information, contact Pastor Lori Blake at 541-997-8113.

New Life Lutheran is at 21st and Spruce streets, next to Florence Food Share.

All are welcomed to be part of this midweek worship service.



In today's society, insecurity and self-rejection have reached an all-time high. More than ever before, so many people simply don't like themselves.

Sadly, Christians are no exception...

Over the years, I have met countless people who believe God is angry with them because they haven't "arrived" at the place of perfection. As a result, they live in a state of perpetual frustration — continually rejecting themselves and feeling bad every time they make a mistake.

There's one thing for sure: Jesus didn't give His life for us to walk around feeling guilty and condemned. He wants us to feel good about ourselves and

Discover the key to self acceptance

our relationship with Him. And it all starts with discovering our true identity in Christ.

Are you a believer or an achiever?

For many years, I tried to please God with my works. It seemed as if I was living on a performance treadmill — always trying to do something to feel good about myself and feel like I was in right standing with Him. In the process, I became weary, worn-out, and unhappy.

I would think, *Something is just not working.*

I was right. No matter how much we love God and choose to do what's right, we will always be frustrated if we don't learn this one valuable lesson:

Ephesians 2:8 (AMP) says, "For it is by free grace (God's unmerited favor) that you are saved (delivered from judg-

ment and made partakers of Christ's salvation) through [your] faith. And this [salvation] is not of yourselves [of your own doing, it came not through your own striving]...."

There is nothing we can do to earn our salvation or right standing with God... we have been made right with Him through our faith in Jesus Christ. A believer that is lacking this understanding is like a jumbo jet on the runway with no gasoline — he has all the equipment but is going nowhere!

In His mercy, God allowed me to see that there was absolutely nothing I could do to make Him love me any more or less than He already did. All He wanted was for me to believe in Jesus, the One Whom He sent (see John 6:29) and receive the righteousness He provided.

See yourself through God's eyes

In order for us to experience true freedom and grow in our relationship with God, we need to learn to accept ourselves right where we are and see ourselves the way God sees us. As we do, we will begin to understand that becoming like Christ is a process that takes time... and that God will be faithful to finish the good work He began.

Second Corinthians 5:21 (AMP) says, "For our sake He made Christ [virtually] to be sin Who knew no sin, so that in and through Him we might become... the righteousness of God [what we ought to be, approved and acceptable and in right relationship with Him, by His goodness]."

This is the basis of self-acceptance — knowing that God accepts us through Jesus and sees us as totally righteous.

This does not mean that we don't sin anymore or that we can dismiss it like it's no big deal.

It simply means that God loves us even while we are on our way — while we are in the process of becoming like Christ — before we have "arrived."

For example, as a two-year-

old, one of our granddaughters used to throw fits when she didn't get her way. She tossed herself on the ground and screamed uncontrollably.

Now, even though I disliked her behavior, I still loved her tremendously. I don't stop loving my grandchildren or kick them out of the family because they do wrong things.

I love them and work with them to develop the good character I know they need to succeed in life.

The same is true with God, our heavenly Father. He doesn't love our wrong behavior, but He certainly loves us.

Romans 5:8 says that He proved His love for us by sending His Son "while we were still sinners." In other words, He didn't wait until we were righteous to send Jesus — He sent Jesus because we would never be righteous without Him!

Put on your robe

Isaiah 61:10 (AMP) says, "I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul will exult in my God; for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness...."

What does this mean for us?

It means when we make mistakes, God literally has us "covered" with His robe of righteousness. So when the enemy comes against us with thoughts of guilt or condemnation, we can stand firm against his accusations.

We can stand on God's Word and say...

"I am the righteousness of God in Christ. I am clothed in His righteousness — not mine. The Bible says that if I confess my sin, God is faithful to forgive me and cleanse me from all unrighteousness. I am loved!" (See 1 John 1:9)

God is on your side, and He wants you to feel good about yourself and the progress you are making. So don't spend your time frustrated because you haven't "arrived."

God is not mad at you because you are not perfect — He is only disappointed if you quit running the race!

Garage Sale TODAY!

Household items, collectibles, appliances, clothing, shop equipment and more!

10:00 am to 4:00 pm

2166 42nd Street Florence



www.TheSiuslawNews.com



Memorial Service for Florence Lewis on Saturday, June 27th at 1:00pm.

Location:
Florence Nazarene Church
1536 12th St.
Florence.

Join Us In Worship
4 lines, approx 15 words, \$9 a week
4 week Minimum
Deadline 3 p.m. Mondays.

To be included in this directory contact the Siuslaw News at 997-3441, or drop off information at 148 Maple St., Old Town, Florence.

JOIN US IN WORSHIP

WATCH! 3 ANGELS BROADCASTING NETWORK
(3ABN) TV UHF Channel 48.

24 hour Christian TV highlights Bible studies of prophecy, inspirational music, health lectures, healthy cooking and more.

BAY BERRY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP SINGSPIRATION

You are invited to come and sing your favorite old time gospel hymns Every Friday night at 7pm • Non-denominational Bay Berry Square; 101 at Sutton Lake Dr. /milepost 185 N. For more information, please call 541-997-2681

COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH

4590 Hwy. 101, Across from Fred Meyer — 997-7418
Sunday School, 9:30a.m. — Worship, 10:45
Wed. Prayer - 6:00 p.m. — Wed. Ministries 1-8 Grade 7 p.m.

CROSS ROAD ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Corner of 10th & Maple — 997-3533
Bible Study at 9:00 A.M.
Services: Worship, 10:30 A.M.
florencecrossroad.org • office@florencecrossroad.org

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - SBC

1935 25th St. — 997-7660 • Pastor, Dr. Marvin Owen
Series "Through the Bible" on Wednesdays 6 p.m.
A friendly place to worship, vacationers welcome.
Sun.; 11am & 6pm, Sunday school 9:45am.

FLORENCE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

2nd & Ivy — 997-2961 —Non-Denominational
Worship Service: 9:00 am & 10:30 am
Middle School and High School youth groups meet on Wednesday.

FLORENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST

Pre-Denominational (Romans 16:16)
1833 Tamarack Street (2 blocks east of Hwy. 101 on 18th St.)
Bible Study: Sunday 10 a.m.; Worship: Sunday 11 a.m.
www.churchofchristflorence.org

FLORENCE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

12th and Nopal —997-9020
Sunday school for all ages 9:15 a.m. • Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Youth Group Wed. 7-8:30 p.m.
Sunday School (for all ages) 9:50 a.m.

FLORENCE EVANGELICAL CHURCH

1318 Rhododendron Dr. — 997-2523 — Worship at 11:00 AM — Sunday School at 9:30 AM — Variety of Sunday evening activities - 5 PM
Wed. Bible & Children classes at 6:00 PM
Call for details.

FLORENCE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

4445 Hwy 101 (South of Fred Meyer) — 997-3951
Worship on Saturday 10:30 A.M.
Adult/Children's Sabbath School 9:15 A.M.

FLORENCE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

N.W. Corner of Heceta Beach Road & Hwy. 101
Every Sunday at 10 a.m.
All are welcome. (541) 997-2840

FLORENCE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship & Kids Sunday School 10:00
located at 2nd & Kingwood (541) 997-6025
"Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors"

FOURSQUARE CHURCH

1624 Highway 101 (next to A&W) — 997-6337
Pastor George Pagel — Something for the entire family.
Sun. Services: 10:45 a.m., Wed. Bible Study 7 p.m. — Youth Group: Sat., 6 p.m.
Website: florence4square.com

FLORENCE VINEYARD (GOD'S POWER HOUSE)

2610 Kingwood, Florence • 541-268-2025
Sunday Worship @ 10:00 a.m., experience the Power of the Holy Spirit
Pastors: George & Beverly Sisemore
Intercessory Prayer & Worship, Thursday night @ 5:00 pm
florencevineyardchurch.com

NEW LIFE CHURCH-UPC

1525 12th St., Suite 24 •541-991-9398
Sunday Services: 10am and 6pm
Tues. Bible Study 7:00pm

NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH, E.L.C.A.

21st & Spruce Street — 997-8113
Adult Forum 9 a.m. — Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Worship services: Sun. 10:30am & Wed. 6pm.
Pastor Lori Blake
www.lutheranchurchflorence.com

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE SIUSLAW

Traditional Worship Service 10:00 a.m., Pastor Steve Knowles
Sunday School and Nursery — Organ and Choir
All Welcome. Come as you are.
3996 N Hwy 101 997-7136

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

"War is still not the answer." FCNL
We worship in homes at 11am Sundays
Call 997-4237 or 902-9511 for locations.

RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH, L.C.M.S.

Every Sun., Bible Class 9 a.m., Worship Service 10 a.m.
85294 Hwy. 101 S. — 997-8038
DVD of Weekly worship service available.
Dan Wurster, Pastor

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

2135 19th St. — 997-6600
The Rev. Georgia C. DuBose, Vicar
8:30am, Tuesdays, Morning Prayer
Sunday Services: 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. — Wed, 11 a.m.
Everyone Welcome — Come walk our Labyrinth.

SAINT MARY, OUR LADY OF THE DUNES CATHOLIC CHURCH

Masses: Sat. 5:30 p.m., Sun. 11:00 a.m.
1.5 miles south of river on Hwy 101 — 997-2312

Soup's On to discuss dealing with fear

On Monday, June 22, at 6:30 p.m., everyone is invited to join Soup's On, a group with diverse paths who enjoy discussing a variety of spiritual topics.

This week, the subject will be "Fear."

The Baha'i teachings tell us that God is always there to help, even though it seems to take time. Fear won't let you wait. It demands that you get well now or get back down under it.

Don't give up because the battle takes too long; keep reminding yourself: "He, veri-

ly, rewardeth beyond measure them that endure with patience."

The evening will begin with bowls of seafood chowder, fruit, homemade bread and vegetables, followed by the evening's topic until 8:30 p.m.

The gathering will end with prayers for the requests left in the Prayer Pole in the garden of the Florence Playhouse and those shared by the group.

The Heintz home is at 875 Seventh St.

For more information, call Suzanne Mann-Heintz at 541-590-0779.

UU to discuss meaning of metaphors in life

The program for Sunday's worship service at the Florence Unitarian Universalist Fellowship tomorrow, June 21, from 10 to 11 a.m., is titled: "Metaphors We Live By."

Guest speaker Frances Downing believes that "Metaphors not only make our thoughts more vivid and interesting but they actually structure our perceptions and understanding." Downing said.

Downing will be referring to the co-authored book by George Lakoff and Mark Johnson, "Metaphors We Live By," which has led many readers to a new recognition of

how profoundly metaphors not only shape our view of life in the present, but set up the expectations that determine what life will be for us in the future.

All are welcome to attend each Sunday worship service.

The UU Fellowship Hall is at 87738 Highway 101 at Heceta Beach Road.

FUUF is wheelchair accessible.

Each service concludes with refreshments and a dialogue circle to explore the questions that come up during each service.

For more information, visit www.florenceuu.org or call 541-997-2840.

Voice Your Opinion! Write to:
EDITOR@THESIUSLAWNEWS.COM