

## Methodists invite public to worship at Honeyman Park

Florence United Methodist Church will conduct Sunday Worship on Aug. 28 in Honeyman State Park at the Group Meeting Hall on Woahink Lake.

The service will begin at 10 a.m. and the event is open to everyone, especially campers, and will feature camp-style

songs and activities.

The Group Meeting Hall, also known as the “Yurt,” is an enclosed building located in the Woahink-West area accessible from Canary Road.

The public is also invited to the potluck lunch following the service, and no reservations are required.

## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR CARE OF CREATION SEPT. 1

The first of September was proclaimed as a day of prayer for creation by the Orthodox Church in 1989, and many other Christian churches have joined since then, such as the Anglican Church in 2012 and the Catholic Church most

recently in 2015.

All people are invited for an hour of prayer for the Care of Creation at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 85060 Highway 101 S., on Thursday, Sept. 1, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.



Do you ever get offended when something bad happens in your life? I know I have. It's an attitude that says, “Why is this happening?” or “This shouldn't be happening to me.”

While it may seem harmless, offense is actually one of Satan's greatest tools to rob us of God's blessings. He uses offense to lure us into bitterness, resentment, hatred and unforgiveness — things that stunt our spiritual growth and make our lives miserable.

When difficulties come our way, they present opportunities for offense. They challenge our faith and what we believe about God. In fact, a lot of people use the trouble in their lives as an excuse to be mad at God or not believe in Him at all. In their

## Don't be offended by trouble

minds, they can't reconcile the idea of a loving Creator allowing such pain and suffering.

If you're like me, when things aren't going well, you're tempted to think, “Why, God, why?” But we're not always going to be able to figure out why.

Sometimes other people's decisions affect us negatively, or we make unwise decisions that hurt us. Our enemy, Satan, also works hard to come against us and prevent us from walking in God's good plan.

Whatever the reason, it's important to realize that suffering is not from God. The Lord originally created a world where everything was perfect, but when Adam and Eve sinned, it changed all of that (Genesis 3; Romans 2:12).

Thankfully, through Jesus Christ, God has restored us to Himself and we can receive all

of His blessings (2 Corinthians 5:21). However, the Lord tells us that “in this world you will have trouble” (John 16:33 NIV).

So, what should we do when trials and tribulations come our way? The greatest thing we can possibly do is trust God because it's the answer to every single problem we have.

There's tremendous freedom in trusting God. When something's not going our way, instead of getting offended, we can trust that He has a plan that's better than ours and He will ultimately work out the situation for good (Romans 8:28).

We need to understand this because sometimes when we're having trouble, we can even get offended at other people who are being blessed.

I've learned that God is smarter than we are. Sometimes He puts off giving us what we want because He has a different purpose in mind — something better than what we could have imagined.

For instance, many times the Lord has allowed me to go through things the hard way. Sometimes it has been extremely difficult, especially when I watched other people receive breakthroughs in the same areas more quickly.

But when God allows me to walk this path, He wants me to experience and understand what people are going through so I can relate to their pain and help them walk through it successfully.

The Bible actually tells us that trials are good for us. James 1:2-3 (AMPC) says, “Consider it wholly joyful, my brethren, whenever you are enveloped in or encounter trials of any sort or fall into various temptations. Be assured and understand that the trial and proving of your faith brings out endurance and steadfastness and patience.”

Suffering doesn't originate from God, but He will use it to help us grow up spiritually because He knows it will eventually bring out the best in us. (See Psalm 94:12-13.)

The Lord wants us to become stable and mature, to reach the point where we're not blown over by every storm in life. He wants us to have joy and contentment in Him, even when our circumstances aren't perfect (Nehemiah 8:10).

God never promised us a trouble-free life, but we can take comfort knowing that He loves us tremendously, He has His eye on us and He is already working behind the scenes to help us (Romans 8:38-39; Psalm 33:18).

Remember, what you're going through now isn't going to last forever. So don't live your life bitter and resentful over something you can't do anything about.

Instead, choose to place your trust in God. He's the One Who loves you unconditionally and He's the One Who can turn your trials into something great.

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### THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

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### COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH

4590 Hwy. 101, Across from Fred Meyer — 997-7418  
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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 “People of the Bible.” on Wednesdays 6 p.m.  
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### 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  
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.  
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Online Worship Service@ www.florencecnaz.com

### 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  
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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.

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

### 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

Summer Worship 10:00 am.  
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### FLORENCE VINEYARD (GOD'S POWER HOUSE)

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Tues. Bible Study 7:00pm

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

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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

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## FUUF to explore core of modern distress, assumption

At the Florence Unitarian Universalist Fellowship this Sunday, Aug. 28, from 10 to 11 a.m., the Rev. Dr. Ruth Miller's talk will be titled: “Prejudging and Assuming — The Core of our Distress.”

“We all come into situations with expectations, see certain people and make assumptions and react to certain experiences with knee-jerk responses learned in our childhood. It's part of being human,” said Miller. “Yet, too often, these ways of being get in our way, making life more difficult for

ourselves and those around us. Why is this so and what can we do about it?”

In Miller's talk Sunday and in dialogue following the service, she will use her own experience and emerging neurology and cybernetic theory to help understand and begin to reverse this tendency.

The UU Fellowship, 87738 Highway 101 at Heceta Beach Road, is wheelchair accessible.

For more information, visit [www.florenceuuf.org](http://www.florenceuuf.org) or call 541-997-2840.

## Spirituali-Tea to discuss keeping religion, politics apart

On Monday, Aug. 29, at 6:30 p.m., everyone is invited to join a group from varied spiritual paths to discuss, “Religion and politics — Can we keep them apart?”

“Religion should not concern itself with political questions. Religion is concerned with things of the spirit, politics with things of the world,” said Abdu'l-Baha. “Religion has to

work with the world of thought, whilst the field of politics lies with the world of external conditions.”

The main goal of the Baha'i Faith centers on the peaceful unification of the human race.

The gathering will end at 8 p.m. 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 located at 875 Seventh St.

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

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