

Backyard bird watching with Harry:

by Harry Johnson

The Bird of the Month: Tree Swallow

It's August, so let's talk about the bird of the month. I couldn't find a bald bird to celebrate my birthday month, so I wanted to write about one of my favorite summer birds. Do you hear that chattering song flying around your house? Do you wonder where it's coming from? Look high and see if you have Tree Swallows soaring overhead, or sitting up high, singing to a mate. Every spring and early summer Tree Swallows return to our place and we love listening to their chits, clicks and songs. The Tree Swallow song is one of happiness and always brings a smile to our faces. They love the nesting boxes we have around our place and spend many days entertaining us with their comings and goings with sticks and feathers as they build their nests for the year. Plus, with the year round ponds on our property, we're very happy that they're great mosquito catchers. It is always a relief to have them around, knowing they're getting their fill of bugs at our place!

Description:

Male: Upper-parts are iridescent blue, under-parts are a bright white. The upper iridescent blue may appear green in some cases. They have a small bill and its wings when folded do not project beyond a short forked tail.

Female: Similar to the male only duller in color.

Immature: Gray brown with a white belly and grayish breast band.

Nesting:

Tree Swallows nest in a natural cavity, old woodpecker hole or nest box. Their nest is made of weeds, grass, rootlets and other plant material lined with fine grass, feathers and sometimes pine needles. Fed by the male, the female incubates 4-7 white eggs for 14-15 days. The young fledge for 18-22 days. They have only one brood per year.

Recommended nest box:

Any bluebird style nest box with a 1.5" or 1-9/16" entrance hole, placed 5-10 feet above the ground on a pole.

Feeding:

They look like small hawks flying around while looking for insects, especially mosquitoes. They will fly low over land or water looking for insects. They require insects in the spring during brooding season, but unlike other swallows, they can subsist for extended periods of time on seeds and berries before the fall migration south.

Habitat:

They love to spend most of their time in open areas. Usually near woods and water, including urban lawns.

Other interesting facts:

The Tree Swallow is the first swallow species to return each spring. It is attracted to your yard with a nesting box and/or long ponds, lakes and agricultural fields. It will compete with the Western Bluebird for cavities and nest boxes. It travels great distances to find dropped feathers to line the nest. They can be little thieves; you can see them chasing other swallows for the feathers that are in their mouths. They gather in large flocks to migrate in the fall to Mexico and Central America.

If you enjoy birds and would like to talk about the birds in your backyard, come to "My Place Cafe" each Saturday morning around 8:30 a.m. and join me for some coffee and/or breakfast. I have breakfast there every week with other bird lovers and we would love to meet you. Come on by and join me.

Harry Johnson, O'Brien, you can reach me at birdwatching@frontiernet.net



Backyard Bird Watching by Harry Johnson is brought to you by

My Place Cafe

"Where Good Times, Good Folks and Good Food Come Together"



Church News

Seventh-day Adventist Church

Blessings in Revelation

This week our young enthusiastic Pastor Christian Martin gave an inspiring message from the book of Revelation. He mentioned that it is not a book to be afraid of – instead there are blessings for the readers. *Rev. 1:3* "Blessed is he that reads, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things that are written there: for the time is at hand."

Wow, the time is near! (*Rev 1:1*) What an exciting thought. Not only are the blessings of Revelation for the readers,

they are also for the hearers. "He that has an ear let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." (*Rev. 2:7, 11, 17*)

The message of Revelation is from Jesus Christ who is a faithful witness." (*Rev. 1:5*) Then joy of joys He is "coming with clouds and every eye will see Him." *Rev. 1:7*

Then John saw Jesus holding 7 stars in His right hand. (*Rev. 1:16*) Later he is told that 7 stars are the angels of the 7 churches. (*Rev. 1:20*) Jesus holds us in His strong hand. He is occupied with His church. He knows our works. (*Rev. 2:2*) He

loved us enough to give us counsel. "I have something against you, because you have left your first love." This is a major heart problem when we give little thought to our dependence on Christ. Can a person be too busy doing God's work, and neglecting our relationship with Him?

Our only hope is to keep looking at Jesus. *Hebrews 12:2* "Looking to Jesus the author and finisher of our faith." He wants to give us His Agape, other centered love. To overcome He promises fruit from the tree of life. Thank you Jesus!

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

FED BY FAITH (Matthew 14:14-14:21)

The most important lesson I gleaned from the story of the feeding of 5000 was this: It was a test!!! For the first time Jesus asked His disciples to be His PARTNERS in this miracle.

When I was looking at all the miracles Jesus had done to that point I suddenly realized what was going on. Up until that point in time... Jesus had been doing all the work. He

taught the people. He healed people. He raised people from the dead.

And the disciples pretty much went along for the ride. But then... it was test time.

He had given them an impossible situation. He had confronted them with nearly 15,000 hungry people (5000 men, plus women and children) and He told His disciples to feed them. That was the TEST QUESTION, "How are YOU going to feed them?"

And how did they answer? "We

don't have enough money." Wrong. "We ONLY have 2 fish & 5 loaves." Wrong. But, if those were the wrong answers, what was the right answer? The right answer was to give Jesus what you had and let Him deal with the solution.

Jesus took what the disciples gave Him and He multiplied it. But why did He ask the disciples to come up with the food in the first place? He didn't need their food. He didn't need the five loaves or the two fish. He was

Jesus! All He needed to do was clap His hands and the food would have fallen from the sky, complete with table service. Why then did He do it the way He did? He did it that way because He wanted His disciples to be His partners in ministry.

Hebrews 11:6 says – "... without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that HE REWARDS THOSE WHO EARNESTLY SEEK HIM."

One man once observed that if God wants seven - and you can give him three - He'll add four. If you give Him four, He'll add three. No matter what you give Him, He's capable of adding or subtracting whatever He needs, to get whatever He desires.

If we earnestly seek His involvement in our plans, even if we have nothing much to bring to the table, He fills in the gaps. His strength makes up for our weaknesses. That is the essence of faith.

Community Bible Church

Blackberry Vines

The foolishness of a man twists his way, and his heart frets against the Lord. *Proverbs 19:3*

On my Uncle Ralph's farm there was a large forested area we called the back pasture. Most of it was covered by trees, and it had several live springs that came out of the side of a gully that ran through it. The north side of the gully was covered with trees. The south side of the gully had large intermittent patches of blackberries. My cousin and I used to go back, and wander this area whenever we had

a chance. We would follow the well worn paths left by the cows; sometimes we'd take a lunch and generally have a great time of it. One of the odd things we would sometimes do would be to leave the established path and try to make our own path out of the back pasture. On a couple of occasions we chose to go through blackberry patches. If you have never done this, it probably indicates you are of sound mind. We would work our way along until we made it over and through – getting very scratched up in the process, and then wondering why we had not stayed on the path.

Don't we all do foolish, wrong-headed things at times in our lives? And we take our lumps for our foolishness. Some people never seem to figure it out and make the same mistakes over and over. There is help, there is guidance – it's found in the Bible. Maybe it's time to leave the blackberry patch and get back on the right path.

In Christ,
Pastor Dave

Ministry at CBC

Sunday, August 10

Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.

Praise and Prayer at 6 p.m.

Wednesday, August 6

Prayer 10:00 a.m.

Free Senior Exercise Class

Monday, Wednesday, & Friday

9:00-10:00 a.m.

Dining Room Community

Christian Academy Preschool – 12th grade

Now accepting applications

(school starts September 3).

Places of Worship

BRIDGEVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH
5181 Holland Loop Rd., CJ
541-592-3923
"Come Join the Worship!"
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
Pastor Sonny Moore
www.kbcc.us

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH
Pastor Dave Gordon
113 S. Caves Ave., CJ
Office: 541-592-3896
Email: cbccca@gmail.com
Sunday Worship - 10:30 a.m.
Christian Academy
Pre-K to 12th grade
Awana - Wednesdays - 6 p.m.

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
East River Street & Lewis Court, CJ
Annemarie Richardson
Lay Pastor.
Sunday School - 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship - 10 a.m.
Church Phone: 541-592-2290
www.goodshepherdlutheraniv.net

ST. MATTHIAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
25904 Redwood Hwy., CJ
541-592-2006
Rev. Bryant Bechtold
Sunday Worship
Service 10:30 a.m.

7th DAY ADVENTIST
265 S. Old Stage Rd., CJ
Sabbath School - 9:30 a.m.
Saturday Worship 11 a.m.
Pastor Christian Martin
Church (541) 592-3218
Madrone Adventist School
541-592-3330

ST. PATRICK OF THE FOREST CATHOLIC CHURCH
407 W. River St., CJ
541-592-3658
Fr. William Holtzinger, Pastor
Mass - Sunday 11 a.m..
Sacrament of Reconciliation
Sunday - 10:30 a.m.
Holy Days TBA

VALLEY EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH
498 Laurel Road, CJ
P.O. Box 1248
Pastor Marvin Porter
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service - 11 a.m.
evfree@frontiernet.net
541-592-6160

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
209 S. Junction Ave., CJ
Sacrament Meet - 10 a.m.
Sunday School - 11:20 a.m.
Priesthood, Relief Soc. - 12:10 p.m.
Bishop
Larry Hammersmith
541-592-3919

IMMANUEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
200 Watkins St., CJ
Phone 541-592-3876
Pastor Charles Chase
Sunday School - 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship - 9:15 a.m.
Child-care for small children

TAKILMA BIBLE CHURCH
10343 Takilma Road, Takilma
Pastor Dan Robinson
Bible Study / Prayer Time
9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 11 a.m
Wednesday Bible Study
7 p.m

FOUNTAIN OF LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD
451 S. Junction Ave., CJ
541-592-3956
Pastor Mark McLean
Morning Worship
9:30 & 11 a.m.
Wednesday - 7 p.m.
Adult Bible Study

First Baptist Church of Selma
18285 Redwood Hwy., Selma
541-597-4169
Pastor Monty Pope
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.
Worship - 11 a.m.



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