

## Backyard bird watching with Harry: by Harry Johnson

It's wintertime, the rains are falling, the temps are dropping, and the birds are starting their migration south until they return in spring and summer. There are several places you can go to watch this migration in its full glory of color. One of my favorite places to go is the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge. It's a good 4-5 hour drive from here, but it's worth it. Remember to take your binoculars and spotting scope. Don't forget those field guides too. It's a great place to take the children and sit back and enjoy the day.

### The Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge:

The Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge is nearly 11,000 acres of waterfowl sanctuary in the heart of the Sacramento Valley. The refuge is a flat expanse of marsh and rice

fields. It lies in one of the richest agricultural valleys on the planet. Seventy years ago our forefathers had the wisdom to begin restoring nearly 11,000 marshy acres. And now hundreds of thousands of duck and geese winter there.

If you go, you will be given a wonderful sight for your eyes, with streamers of white swirling up from the water and going up hundreds of feet in the air, catching flight and moving off to the clouds. Those streamers will be thousands of Snow and Ross's Geese. There will also be clouds of undulating black. These ducks and geese fly around by the thousands.

The music to your ears will be the calls of thousands of white feathered throats. You will hear the quaking and whistles of thousands of ducks

who winter there. The white geese population is often more than 40,000 while the duck density is several times greater. It's a wildlife spectacle the equal of any other in the United States.

Here are some additional details for you:

Habitat: Freshwater wetlands, grasslands, rice fields, vernal pools and meadows.

Terrain: Flat. You will find a 6 mile driving tour with viewing platforms. You will also find a 2 mile walking trail at the headquarters.

Birds: Winter: Snow Geese, Ross's Geese, Northern Pintail Ducks, Teal Ducks, plus other migrating geese and ducks; Woodpeckers, Phoebe, Oak Titmouse, Yellow

Billed Magpie, Red Tailed Hawks, Northern Harrier, Kites, Bald Eagles and Golden Eagles.

When to go: The greatest wintering bird populations are from late Nov. through mid Feb. Mornings are usually best, but try a day without heavy rain, fog or wind.

Amenities: They have a visitor center open daily 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Nov.-Feb. and weekdays the rest of the year. Boardwalks meander through the marsh, with raised viewing platforms along the auto route.

Access: There is a \$3 per vehicle charge for the day pass. Duck Stamp, Golden Eagle, Age and Access Passports are honored.



Backyard Bird Watching by Harry Johnson is brought to you by **Young Master Gardeners**

To join contact us at kimberlielehman@yahoo.com

## Change the world - for good: by Glenn Mollette

Recently on cable news a little boy appeared to execute two men in Syria. Beside him a thug chants something that is probably related to the Muslim religion. Days before this, men arrogantly stood in the streets in Paris France shouting Islamic religious rhetoric.

In recent months we have seen beheadings of journalists and humanitarians in Syria while their hooded captors recited words from the Koran or Islamic prayers. While this is going on militant Islamists recruit Europeans, Africans and Americans to come and join their forces.

What sane person sees and hears these barbaric acts of murder and is inspired to enlist? What allegedly inspired Christopher Lee Cornell, a young Ohio man to sympathize with ISIS, buy assault weapons and plot to attack the Capital? I am not sure anybody can really answer this question. However, it seems to me that whoever unites with a militant Muslim cause is crazy and needs serious help. They certainly do

not need to be walking the streets of Paris, New York City or Cincinnati, Ohio buying guns and material to build explosives. Cornell is in jail, which is where he apparently needs to be. The two Kouachi brothers were on the No Fly List because of their activities. Unfortunately, they were not jailed before they could carry out their attack of murder on the Paris magazine.

Notorious French comedian Dieudonné M'bala M'bala has been arrested for being an "apologist for terrorism" after suggesting on Facebook that he sympathized with one of the Paris gunmen, a judicial source has said. A France comic well known for his in your face speeches and comedy routines was recently placed in jail because of a tweet that he sent out. Paris police didn't think it was funny. France is a nation that is on edge. Some things just aren't funny.

Don't get excited. I am for free speech all the way. I am also supportive of the millions of

peace loving Muslims. However, our nation has been there and to some extent we still are. Just fly on a plane or go into a federal building and you are reminded that militant Muslims have changed our country forever. We have a kind of fear in America that we had never known before 911.

I've heard old people talk about walking to school and carrying a shotgun so they could go squirrel hunting after school. Not today. Twenty years ago what might have been taken as a joke or just a wisecrack is no longer acceptable. People continue to bully on the Internet, write harassing stuff about schoolmates and talk trash about other people. There is nothing good about verbally assaulting innocent people. One thing is for certain; there is no room for stupid talk when it comes to our national security. Kids of all ages and even adults need to remind anyone who we suspect might do something stupid, "Don't do anything stupid!" Don't associ-

ate with any kind of militant Muslim web site. Do not associate with militant Muslim people. Do not make any kind of statement to anybody or on social media about any kind of militant Muslim sympathy or leanings! Find something else to do with your life and time! If you need to channel your frustration, loneliness and anger then find a healthy, ethical and moral way to do it.

The good Muslims of this nation and world must stand up, march and fight back against militant Muslims. We need to see and hear the good Muslims crying out against the bad Muslims. In the meantime, if you are not a Muslim don't go looking for a militant Muslim group to join because your life is boring and pathetic. There is a world out there that needs people to utilize their lives to the fullest for good, not barbaric acts of violence against mankind. Be the person who changes the world - for good.

# Church News

## Community Bible Church

### One Foot Out of Square

"For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

*1 Corinthians 3:11*

I used to work in construction. It was wonderful work – so satisfying to see the ideas of the mind and the work of the hands take shape. Even if it was just a remodel, it was so nice to see the old and worn-out made into something new and attractive. When you build something new, you get to start from the ground up. You make sure the foundation is square and level. One time a builder I worked

for was called out to fix a concrete foundation that had been poured and was one foot out of square. His solution was to pour a slightly larger slab over the already existing foundation. It worked nicely.

Our lives are like buildings in some ways. One similarity is that we have foundations we build our lives upon. Sometimes it's wealth, or family position, athletic ability, intellect, pride, power, or something else. These things might help you in this life, but they are of little help for eternity. We all can be short-sighted as we live our lives, not taking into

consideration that there is an eternal aspect. Whether you believe in eternal life or not, you should at least examine the possibility, because to be wrong has horrible eternal consequences. Maybe it is time to look at the foundation your life is built upon, not only for this life but for eternity.

**In Christ,  
Pastor Dave**

### Ministry at CBC

\*Wednesday, Jan. 21  
A.W.A.N.A. 6:15-8:00 p.m.  
Preschool to Grade 6  
\*Sunday, Jan. 25  
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Praise and Prayer 6 p.m.  
(Enter at the back of the church)  
\*Community Christian Academy  
Preschool – 12th grade  
\*Free Senior Exercise Class  
Monday, Wednesday & Friday  
9-10 a.m. Dining Room

## Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Answering the Call (*1 Samuel 3:1-10, John 1:43-51*)

Samuel, Philip and Nathanael all heard God's call to faith. All of them decided to follow God's call. And then they made the choice to put their decision of faith into action.

When He called the fourth time, Samuel told the Lord that he would listen to what God had to say. Samuel was open to whatever God was going to ask him to do. After Philip met Jesus, he immediately asked Nathanael to come and see this Messiah which he had found. And on seeing Jesus, Nathanael made a declaration of faith, saying: "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!"

Once we accept that wonderful gift of grace that God has planted in us, once we decide to do something to allow that seed

of grace to grow in us, then we become so excited, so full of God's spirit that we will want to share it with others.

That active relationship with God allows us to live our lives differently. It allows our actions to begin to reflect the God who is in our midst.

It's not easy to always be the disciple that Jesus has called us to be, but we have to try. Sometimes we'll fail; sometimes we'll step on people's toes; sometimes in our enthusiasm about God we'll even turn people off, because in our urgency for them to find what we've found, we may challenge their complacency to the point that they become uncomfortable.

But sometimes we need to be that thorn in people's side in order to help them move forward in their faith life. That's not an easy position to be in, but in order to fulfill God's call, sometimes that's exactly where we need to be.

But we also need to challenge ourselves so that we don't become complacent in our own faith lives, but continue to grow and mature.

We need to be like the little girl who returned home from Sunday school and expressed her disappointment with the reaction of her class to that Sunday's lesson.

"We were taught to go into all the world and make disciples of all nations," she said, "but instead we just sat there."

We're called by God through Baptism. We're called by God into relationship with him. And then we're called by God to make a decision and turn that decision into action. And when we accept that call, we become disciples too.

## 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

**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

**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

**Illinois Valley Baptist Church**  
541-592-6149  
102 South Redwood Hwy (in the County Building)  
Pastor Steve Root  
Sunday Worship 10:30 AM  
Wednesday Bible Study, Prayer & Youth Program 7:00 PM  
Friday Ladies Bible Study 11:00 AM

**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

**Illinois Valley Praise Center**  
28569 Redwood Hwy. CJ  
Non-denominational  
Bible-believing Church  
Sunday school - 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Service - 10:30 a.m.  
Thursday Seekers Meeting - 7 p.m.  
Youth Group Thursday - 7 p.m.  
www.ipvpraisecenter.com

**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.

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



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