

KeizerCommunity

KEIZERTIMES.COM

Clear Lake teachers retire

Kathy Bennet got emotional at her retirement party. More than 30 years at the same school, Clear Lake Elementary, will do that to a teacher.

"It's been a good ride and I've got lots of memories," she said.

After a career as a hair dresser, Bennet came to Clear Lake 31 years ago as a kindergarten aid.

Most recently, she worked with first through third graders as an instructional assistant, teaching kids to read, working in the library and doing lunch, recess and after school duties.

"Those that were struggling, it was really nice to help them to move forward so that they could learn to read," Bennet said. "That was my passion and the library, too. I really wanted the kids to get a book and love to read."

Bennet has a trip planned to Hawaii and would also like to go to Alaska.

"I'm going to miss the staff and the kids but I'm 65. It's time," she said.

Barb Parker, who is also retiring from Clear Lake, was born to teach.

Her great grandmother, grandmother, mother and father all were teachers.

"I grew up with it," Parker said. "When I was in high school, I taught swimming lessons and did that through college and worked at summer camps. I was always around kids."

Parker started out at Swegle Elementary and has taught in the Salem-Keizer District for 37 years, including the last four at Clear Lake.



Kathy Bennet, left, and Barb Parker recently retired from teaching at Clear Lake Elementary.

KEIZERTIMES/Derek Wiley

Lessons Learned

A five part series on retiring teachers in Keizer

By DEREK WILEY
Of the Keizertimes

when she first started but has moved to fourth.

"I just like that age kid," she said. "They're

independent and yet they're fun and you can joke around with them and yet they can seriously work. I'm not big on zipping zippers and tying shoes. These kids are far beyond that. It's a good age, fun to work with.

"It's been a great career and a great place to work. I've worked with some absolutely phenomenal administrators and teachers and made super close friends, who are educators or retired educators, life long friends."

She planned to go even longer but her father passed away in March and she went on family leave to take care of her mom.

Her son is also starting college in Tacoma, Wash.

"Family calls," Parker said. "It was very sudden and unexpected leave. I'll miss the kids. I may volunteer somewhere. I may substitute. Once family obligations are taken care of, then I'll think about me again."

Parker taught fifth grade



Keizer kids takes stage at MHS

The McNary area choir and drama camps drew packed houses this week at Keizer's only high school. More than 200 choir campers turned out and drama camp had 100 kids.

A: Junior choir campers make a video for social media sharing.

B: Maddie Roberts and Alexandria Schindler make a sock puppet during choir camp.

C: Drama campers hone their teamwork.

D: Choir campers work hammer out a small group performance.

E: Carla Melo Soto takes part in a drama camp game.

KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald



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TRY THESE HELPFUL IDEAS INSTEAD:

- Use them to tie-off odorous garbage before tossing into garbage cart
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- Call the RECYCLE HOTLINE (503) 390-4000 for other possible recycling locations.
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WorshipDirectory

These Salem-Keizer houses of worship invite you to visit.
Call to list your church in our Worship Directory: (503) 390-1051

JOIN US FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP
8:30 am • 10 am • 11:30 am • 6 pm

PEOPLESCHURCH
4500 LANCASTER DR NE | SALEM
503.304.4000 • www.peopleschurch.com

SAINT EDWARD Catholic Church
393-5323
5303 River Rd. N., Keizer
Father Gary L. Zerr, Pastor
Saturday Vigil Liturgy: 5:30 p.m.
Sundays: 8:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
La Misa en Español: 12:30 p.m.

John Knox Presbyterian Church
452 Cummings Lane North • 393-0404

Rev. Dr. John Neal, Pastor
Worship - 10:30 a.m.
Education Hour - 9:15 a.m.
Nursery Care Available
www.keizerjkpres.org

Faith Lutheran Church
4505 River Rd N • 393-4507

Sunday Schedule:
9:00 a.m. Children's Church
9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study
9:30 a.m. Children's Activities
10:30 a.m. Worship with Communion

Pastor Virginia Eggert

dayspring fellowship

Celebration Services
Saturday Evening 6:00 pm
Sunday Morning 9:00 am and 10:45 am

Children's Programs, Student and Adult Ministries
1755 Lockhaven Dr. NE Keizer
503-390-3900
www.dayspringfellowship.com

Keizer Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
6945 Wheatland Rd. NE 393-6843

3 and 4 year Old Pre-School
Worship and Children's Church • 10:00 a.m.
Office Hours 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Mon. - Fri.

Jason Lee UMC
820 Jefferson St. NE
Salem OR 97301

Dr. Jon F. Langenwaller, Pastor
The church with the purple doors
503-364-2844
Worship at 9:30 am • Child Care Available

Countryside Christian Church
countrysidechristianchurch.org
Corner of Lockhaven and McLeod, KEIZER • (503) 540-1989

9:00 am & 10:30 am Sunday Worship
Classes for all ages