FUUF to discuss Martin Luther King Jr.

Jan. 18, from 10 to 11 a.m., at p.m., at the Florence Unitarian Florence Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, FUUF's newly contracted minister Ruth Miller will talk about the worth and dignity of Martin Luther King Jr.

Miller said, "Martin Luther King Jr. is an icon for our time. His work and willingness to sacrifice so that all people, regardless of race, color, creed, or orientation, might live as equals in our country is almost beyond belief.

"Sunday, we'll discover some of the roots of that effort."

Also, Miller will be presenting "The Healing Power of

Sunday morning service, Music" today, from 2 to 4:30 Universalist Fellowship.

This topic was chosen in alignment with the Winter Folk Festival going on this weekend at the Florence Events Center.

All are welcome to attend. There's no charge but a "love offering" is always wel-

FUUF's Fellowship Hall is at 87738 Highway 101, at Heceta Beach Road, and is wheelchair accessible.

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

MOVING UP HIGHER Joyce Meyer

I once heard a story about a little boy named Johnny who was visiting his grandparents. Johnny had just received his first slingshot and practiced in the woods nearby, but just couldn't hit a target. When he came back to his grandma's backyard, he noticed her pet

On an impulse he took aim and shot a rock. The stone hit — and killed — the duck. Of course, he panicked. His sister saw the whole thing, but said nothing.

After lunch that day, Grandma said, "Sally, let's wash dishes." But Sally said, "Johnny told me he wanted to help in the kitchen... didn't you Johnny!"

She leaned over to him and whispered, "Remember the duck."

So Johnny did dishes with Grandma.

Later that day, Grandpa

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offered to take the children fishing. But Grandma said, "I'm sorry, but I need Sally to help make supper."

Sally smiled and said, "Johnny wants to do it." Again, she whispered, "Remember the duck."

Johnny helped And Grandma prepare dinner while Sally went fishing with Grandpa.

After several days of doing both his and Sally's chores, finally he couldn't stand it anymore and confessed to Grandma that he had killed her

"I know," said Grandma, giving Johnny a big hug. "I was standing at the window and saw the whole thing. But I love you, so I forgave you. I wondered how long you would let Sally make a slave out of you."

You're Not a Slave

That may be a cute, funny little story, but it conveys a very serious truth: God's love for us is about so much more than the things we do.

DRY AND WAX!

He loves us. Period.

Nothing we do will ever change that; nothing.

Too many Christians live their lives like slaves — to the devil — because they believe his lies more than they trust God. His tactic is to deceive God's people into believing that we must do everything right in order to be accepted and have favor with God. He lures them into a legalistic view of life, making them "slaves" to their good works, because they believe this is what makes them righteous, or pleasing to God.

So, when they're doing "good" things, they feel like they're all right with God. And when they feel like they're not doing well, they believe God is angry with them. This is where the enemy becomes like Sally, Johnny's sister.

The devil knows that some people are unable to separate their "who" from their "do" or simply accept that they have been made righteous because of what Christ did - not what they do. He likes to constantly remind us of all our weaknesses, mistakes and sins, setting us up to live an endless cycle of comparison and competition with others, shame, judgment and a constant, nagging feeling of not being good enough.

On the contrary, God is not like that at all! Ephesians 1:4-5 tells us that "he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will" (NIV). Verse 7 says, "In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace."

lowship with Him, not because

of anything we do, have done, or ever will do... it is simply because He loves us.

I really want you to get this: Nothing we do will ever make God stop loving us! He sees the things we do. And when we make mistakes, all He wants is for us to realize that there is no reason to hide. Our righteousness is based on what Jesus did, nothing more or less.

We do not have to live under guilt and condemnation when God is ready and willing to forgive us when we repent of our sins. God is gracious and His mercies are new every day... we can count on that!

So no matter where you are on this journey of faith, you can say, "I'm okay and I'm on my way," because you are secure in the knowledge of who you are in Christ! Don't worry about your "arrival," or how far you have to go. Just keep living by faith, knowing that God is in control and He will lead you by His Holy Spirit, according to His purpose and plan for your life.

Learn what God's Word says about you... and believe it! Learn to live more and more in your new nature of righteousness. When you know who you are in Christ, the result is you will not live a mediocre, compromising life, but you will live without guilt and condemnation. You won't live to try to impress anyone, to prove you're good enough.

You will no longer be tormented by the lies of the enemy but you will be free to be who God created you to be: righteous by faith in Christ.

Learn to agree with God! Your past — whether it's your childhood, yesterday or just five minutes ago — is over. You don't have to live with guilt or regret. Give your failures to God and He will be able to use everything for your good and for His glory!

After a while, the devil will no longer be able to torment you because you will be able to counter each one of his lies with the truth: I am the righteousness of God in Christ!

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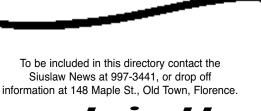




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COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH

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

1833 Tamarack Street (two blocks east of Hwy. 101 on 18th St.) Service times: Bible Study Sunday 10 a.m. Worship Sunday 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Marvin Aultman • e-mail: florenceoregonchurchofchrist@gmail.com

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.



4 week Minimum Deadline 3 p.m. Mondays. Worship

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 & Adult Sunday School 9:00 Worship & Kids Sunday School 10:30 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. office@lutheranchurchflorence.com 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

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

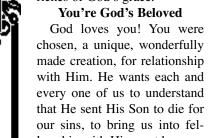
ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

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Soups On to discuss heroes of social action

p.m., everyone is invited to join a group from diverse spiritual paths who enjoy discussing a variety of spiritual topics.

This week, Soups On will begin a study of the heroes of social action, starting with Martin Luther King Jr.

Bahá'u'lláh refers to the human being "as a mine rich in gems of inestimable value," and states that the purpose of life and society is to generate creative processes which serve to release those "gems" of human potential. As individuals begin to cultivate their innate capacities, so the community around them is trans-

On Monday, Jan 19, at 6:30 formed, and impetus is given to "an ever-advancing civilization."

> bowls of fisherman's soup, fruit, home-made warm bread and vegetables followed by the evening's topic until 8:30 The gathering will end with

The evening will begin with

prayers for the requests left in the prayer pole in the garden of the Florence Playhouse and those shared by the group.

Everyone is invited to attend.

The Heintz home is at 875 Seventh St.

Call Suzanne Mann-Heintz at 541-590-0779 for more information.



Closed Tues-Wed.

