

## Soups On to discuss spiritual aspects of music

On Monday, April 13, at 6:30 p.m., everyone is invited to join a group of Baha'is and people from diverse spiritual paths who enjoy discussing a variety of spiritual topics.

This week they will study the spiritual aspects of music.

The Baha'i Writings say: "If a heart full of good feelings and a pure voice are joined together, a great effect is produced."

The evening will begin with

bowls of Tuscan bean soup, fruit, warm homemade bread and vegetables followed by the evening's topic until 8:30 p.m.

The gathering will end 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.



Webster's Dictionary defines mercy as "kindness in excess of what might be expected or demanded of fairness."

Mercy is not fair, but it's godly. Not fair, but powerful. Not fair, but Christlike. And when we do what God leads us to do, He always brings justice into our life. To honor God in this area, we need to learn to trust Him more fully.

Every single one of us has

## Sharing the gifts of God's mercy is a blessing

opportunities to do that each day... with friends and family, coworkers and even the clerk at the grocery store.

Whenever people hurt or disappoint us, our human nature leads us to dislike them because of their shortcomings.

But God's desire for us is to love all people, including our enemies (see Matthew 5:43-48).

If they can see love in your heart...instead of anger and judgment...that shows them "kindness in excess of what might be expected."

More importantly, it gives them hard evidence that Christ is working in you!

I believe one of the greatest privileges we have in life is to follow His example, and we can do that by being generous in spirit, giving mercy to others, as they need it.

### *The wisdom of losing count*

When someone hurts or offends us, it's easy to make a list and keep count of everything they've ever done wrong.

But God is asking us to be like Him.

Lamentations 3:22-23 tells us that God's mercies are new every morning. In Isaiah 43:25 He says, "I am he who blots out your transgressions...and remembers your sins no more" (NIV).

When my husband, Dave, and I were newly married, I was pretty good at keeping score. Every time we had an argument, I would bring up every single thing he ever did to me since the day I met him.

I'll never forget one day, after I recited my list, when Dave looked at me and said, "Where in the world do you keep all that stuff?"

I've learned the best thing we can do for ourselves is to let go of the hurt — to lose count of how others have wronged us — and leave the past in the past.

*There's a "why" behind the "what."*

I always say that mercy understands the "why" behind the "what." It cares about the person, not just what they've done to us.

What if you walk into a grocery store and the checkout clerk is grouchy with you and has a sour look? You have a choice...

You can say, "I don't appreciate your attitude. I am a customer here and I don't like the way you're acting. I'm going to tell your manager."

Or you can be merciful and say, "You look like you're having a hard day. I just want to say that God loves you and really cares about you."

You can believe the best about that person and realize they are upset for a reason.

When someone hurts us, our first inclination is to think, "You're not going to treat me that way. And if you think you're going to get by with it, you have another thing coming!"

However, it helps to remember that everyone who acts badly is hurting in some way.

When I first met Dave, I had a lot of problems from the sexual and emotional abuse I endured growing up. I was wounded and hurting, and it seemed like every other day I was starting an argument or saying something I regretted. Because Dave already had a

strong relationship with the Lord, he continuously showed me mercy and loved me in spite of my behavior.

No matter how badly I acted the night before, he wasn't mad the next morning. He didn't let my behavior change his character.

*You reap what you sow*

Luke 6:36-37 says, "Be merciful just as your Father is merciful. Do not judge, and you will not be judged...Forgive, and you will be forgiven" (NIV).

We reap what we sow, and whatever we give away to others is what we'll receive in return. If you want mercy, then sow mercy.

If you need a friend, then sow friendliness. If you have financial needs, then look for ways to meet someone else's needs.

It's easy to judge. I cringe when I look back at the extremely critical and judgmental person I used to be. In fact, before I was a serious Christian, judging others was one of my favorite things to do.

I would sit at the mall and watch people walk by, sizing them up and thinking negative things about their clothes, hair, or the people around them.

But the Bible says, "Judge not" (Matthew 7:1; Luke 6:37 NKJV). I wasn't only sowing bad seed; I was making myself miserable by not walking in love and believing the best of others.

The truth is, when we sow mercy, we reap a harvest of peace, joy and healthy relationships. We also take a giant step forward spiritually.

Choosing to do what's right — even when it hurts-causes us to grow and mature in an amazing way.

So, is there anyone you can extend new mercies to today?

**Live From Nashville – Free Event!!**



**Blackwood Legacy**

www.BlackwoodLegacy.com

**MON—APR 13—7PM**

Church of the Nazarene  
1536 12<sup>th</sup> Street—Florence  
Info: 541-997-9020  
www.florencenaz.com

*Visit the Group on Facebook!!*

**Admission is free –A love offering will be received.**

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

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(3ABN) TV UHF Channel 48.  
24 hour Christian TV highlights Bible studies of prophecy, inspirational music, health lectures, healthy cooking and more.

**BAY BERRY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP SINGSPARATION**  
You are invited to come and sing your favorite old time gospel hymns  
Every Friday night at 7pm • Non-denominational  
Bay Berry Square; 101 at Sutton Lake Dr. /milepost 185 N.  
For more information , please call 541-997-2681

**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**  
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  
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.

**Join Us In Worship**  
4 lines, approx 15 words, \$9 a week  
4 week Minimum  
Deadline 3 p.m. Mondays.

**In 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.  
Pastor Lori Blake  
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  
8:30am, Tuesdays, Morning Prayer  
Sunday Services: 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. - Wed, 11 a.m.  
Everyone Welcome — Come walk our Labyrinth.

**SAINT MARY, OUR LADY OF THE DUNES CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Masses: Sat. 5:30 p.m., Sun. 11:00 a.m.  
1.5 miles south of river on Hwy 101 — 997-2312

**Join Us**

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24 hour Christian TV highlights Bible studies of prophecy, inspirational music, health lectures, healthy cooking and more.

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## UU to hear about tribal heritage this Sunday

Jesse Beers is the cultural director for the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians (the Tribe) and is a Siuslaw tribal member who lives with his family in Florence.

Sunday, April 12, from 10 to 11 a.m., at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Beers will present the history of the Tribe's rich heritage, the goal to help build cohesion and a common sense of pride among tribal members, and to ensure that those members and the world know the true story of its peoples.

Beers' department strives to

identify barriers to public cultural awareness and education and cultural expression and to remove as many financial, physical and culturally perceived roadblocks as possible in order for arts, humanities, heritage and culture to flourish and grow in local communities.

All are welcome to attend each Sunday service.

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

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

## The Shorewood... "Favorite Retirement Community"

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