

UU to discuss the meaning of annual Imbolc week

On Sunday, Jan. 24, from 10 to 11 a.m., at the Florence Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, the Rev. Ruth Miller's message will be about Imbolc.

"In a week it will be the first day of February, which is the midpoint between the winter solstice and the spring equinox," said Miller. "Imbolc is celebrated across the northern hemisphere in a variety of ways, one of which is our Feb. 2 Groundhog Day. We'll explore these celebrations and their meaning for our own spiritual life as Unitarian Universalists honoring the

many spiritual paths."

Miller will also be doing a seminar the previous day at the Fellowship Hall, on Saturday, Jan. 23, from 2 to 4 p.m., titled "Water: Holy, Blessed and Powerful."

All are welcome to attend. The UU Fellowship, at 87738 Highway 101, is wheelchair accessible.

Each service concludes with refreshments and dialogue circle to explore the questions that come up during each service.

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



As born-again believers in Jesus Christ, we serve a triune God-Father, Son and Holy Spirit. In Genesis 1:26 (AMP) God says, "Let Us [Father, Son, and Holy Spirit] make mankind in Our image...." This verse reveals God as the Trinity, and we need to worship and have relationship with each Person of the Godhead.

It seems more common to hear people talk about God and Jesus, but the Holy Spirit does not get enough of our attention. It's important to understand

Build your relationship with the Holy Spirit

that He is a person who has a personality, a will, knowledge, a mind, and He thinks and knows things. For example, 1 Corinthians 2:11 (AMP) tells us that "no one discerns the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God."

In John 16:7 we learn some of the facets of His personality and how we need Him to work in our lives. In this verse Jesus says, "...If I do not go away, the Comforter will not come to you; but if I go away, I will send Him to you" (AMP).

This scripture teaches that the Holy Spirit is our:

- Counselor — always go to God first for counsel and let Him speak to you His way, through the people or things He chooses.

- Advocate — He pleads our case when we're in trouble.

- Intercessor — He prays for us and through us when we don't know how to pray on our own.

- Standby — He stands by us, ready to act on our behalf when we need something.

- Strengthened — He gives us God's grace to do whatever we need to do in every situation.

He's all these things and so much more. God is literally

everything we need, and as we fellowship with the Holy Spirit, we can have "the mind of Christ... and... hold the thoughts of His heart" (1 Corinthians 2:16).

Learn the sound of His voice.

The Holy Spirit is the only One who fully knows the mind of God, so when we pray for God to give us wisdom or the knowledge we need, it's important for us to realize the Spirit is in us (1 Corinthians 2:12; 6:19).

He communicates to us what He hears God say.

John 16:13 explains that He is "the Spirit of Truth" and He guides us into the Truth. "For He will not speak His own message... but He will tell whatever He hears."

One way we learn how to hear the Holy Spirit is by understanding that He has emotions and He can be grieved.

Ephesians 4:30 (AMP) says, "Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God [do not offend or vex or sadden Him]..." Because He lives in us, when He feels grieved, we will feel it too.

Ephesians 4:29-31 (AMP) lists some behaviors that cause Him to be grieved: foul, pollut-

ing language; evil, unwholesome, worthless talk; bitterness, indignation, wrath, rage, a bad temper, resentment, anger, quarreling, contention and slander.

So when we choose to think and speak in ways that go against His nature, we will feel conviction, and the best thing we can do is confess our sin and repent immediately.

Sometimes we make mistakes and say wrong things. But we can learn from our mistakes; we can pray and ask God to help us only say things that are right and pleasing to Him.

The Bible teaches us that "no one can tame the tongue" (James 3:8).

We need to pray for God to help us hear His voice, giving us wisdom and direction in the thoughts we choose to think about and the words we speak.

As our Counselor, He wants to guide us in everything we do, and we can learn how to hear His voice. So listen for the still, small voice of the Holy Spirit speaking to your heart.

You'll hear it as you wait quietly in His presence, while you're studying His Word, in your circumstances and even through nature.

God is talking to you.

Sermon Series on Revelation

Sundays at 11:00 AM

First Baptist Church

1935 E. 25th Street

Join Us In Worship
4 lines, approx 15 words, \$10 a week
4 week Minimum
Deadline 3 p.m. Mondays.

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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All are welcome! 541-997-7268

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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.
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Sun.: 11am & 6pm, Sunday school 9:45am.

FLORENCE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
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Middle School and High School youth groups meet on Wednesday.

FLORENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST
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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
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Youth Group Wed. 7-8:30 p.m.
Online Worship Service@ www.florencenaz.com

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.

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
1st Sunday of Month Worship 10:30
All other Sundays Worship 9 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.
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1624 Highway 101 (next to A&W) — 997-6337
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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
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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.
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Pastor Lori Blake
www.lutheranchurchflorence.com

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Everyone Welcome — Come walk our Labyrinth.

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Masses: Sat. 5:30 p.m., Sun. 11:00 a.m.
1.5 miles south of river on Hwy 101 — 997-2312

Soup's On to discuss importance of trust

On Monday, Jan. 25, a group of from diverse spiritual paths who discuss a variety

of spiritual topics will gather at 6:30 p.m. and discuss truthfulness, trustworthiness and justice.

Truthfulness and trustworthiness involve much more than not telling lies; they embody the overarching capacity to discern, value and uphold truth itself.

Without these spiritual qualities, neither individual nor social progress is possible.

Justice is vital to the establishment of unity and harmony at all levels of society, as it provides the standard by which individual conduct and

collective effort are judged.

The evening will begin with bowls of tomato soup, 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.

Everyone is invited to attend.

The Heintz home is located at 875 Seventh St.

For more information, call Suzanne Mann-Heintz at 541-590-0779.

Old Testament classes begin Feb. 2 at LDS church

A 12-week class on the Old Testament begins Tuesday, Feb. 2, and runs every Tuesday through April 19, from 6:30 to 8 p.m., at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on the corner of North Fork and Munsel Lake roads.

This will be an unusual perspective of the scriptures and a Jewish/Christian interpretation of the Messiah and the purpose of not only the Bible, but the Old Testament as well.

It's the amazing story of how the Bible was obtained.

The 12 classes in order will be:

1. Origin of the Bible
2. Overview of the Old Testament's 39 books and their meaning
3. The Torah or Pentateuch (first five books of the Bible)
4. Abraham makes a Covenant
5. Jacob/Joseph and the 12 Tribes of Israel
6. The Real Story of the Exodus and the Passover
7. Significance of David/Solomon and the Jewish Nation
8. Importance of the writings called Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and the Coming of Elijah
9. Isaiah speaks to Israel
10. Isaiah writes of

Messiah, Restoration of Israel, Atonement and Second Coming

11. Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel and Zechariah

12. The Old Testament Prophets testify of Messiah's second coming

Joel Marks is the instructor and has studied the topic for 40 years, teaching religion classes for more than 20 years. He has also taught American history as an adjunct professor for Southern Oregon University (OLLI Program in Ashland) and at the Rogue Community College in Medford.

Marks has a teaching degree from Southern Illinois University in business education and a master's degree in business from City University in Seattle. He also has taught seminars on "The Origin of the Bible," "The History of the Temple" and "The Second Advent of the Messiah."

Marks has written an as-yet-unpublished book called "The Jewish Messiah Ben David," spanning 750 pages and 1,700 footnotes detailing the life of the Messiah as an observant Jew and the Jewish history concerning the Messiah.

For more information about the classes, call 541-840-0620.

Watch
"In Search of the Lord's Way"
Sunday, 7:30 AM
KMTR Channel 12

Then visit the
Florence church of Christ
1833 Tamarack
Florence, Oregon

and experience the joy and simplicity of
pre-denominational New Testament Worship. (Romans 16:16)

Bible Study: Sunday, 10:00 am
Worship: Sunday, 11:00 am

www.churchofchristflorence.org