

Soup's On to discuss purpose in life Monday

On Monday, Feb. 1, everyone is invited to meet with a group from diverse spiritual paths who discuss a variety of spiritual topics.

This week's topic will be "What is the purpose of our lives?"

The Baha'i Writings say: "We come from the earth; why were we transferred from the mineral to the vegetable kingdom — from the plant to the animal kingdom? So that we may attain perfection in each of these kingdoms ... until from the animal kingdom we step into the world of humanity and are gifted with

reason, the power of invention, and the forces of the spirit."

The evening will begin at 6:30 p.m. with bowls of chicken rice soup, 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 at 875 Seventh St.

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

Visit the Siuslaw News online at
WWW.THESIUSLAWNEWS.COM



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



If there's one thing I've realized in life, it's that we can never ask God for too much grace. And we all need it — every day, for everything we need to do in life. Because God loves us so much, He gave His only begotten Son to die for our sins so we can receive His grace, both for our salvation and then to help us walk out our life in Christ with His power.

It's so wonderful to realize that God's amazing grace is available to everyone, no matter who you are or what you've done. God has good plans for every person who accepts Christ as their Savior, and He wants us to have the abundant life Jesus died to give us.

Grace: The great equalizer

The key to this great life is living in God's great grace.

Grace is the Great Equalizer. God's grace is available to every person on this Earth, in whatever capacity they need it. There is no one who is beyond God's reach or His ability to save and restore their life. His grace is a gift — we can't earn or deserve it.

We look at others' lives, and it may look like they have it all together. But the outward appearance doesn't always tell the real story. We may see people's outward success, but can't see the inner turmoil they're experiencing, or that they have no real peace or joy in life.

I believe this is a common problem for many people and the reason there is so much strife in the world today. Strife in our hearts causes us to compare ourselves with others and

compete with them, trying to make ourselves "better" than them.

It makes people frustrated and confused, struggling with so many issues in their lives because they are trying to figure everything out and solve their problems on their own.

But John 15:5 says that apart from Jesus, "apart from me you can do nothing" (AMP). All we have to do is humble ourselves before God and ask Him to help us.

We have not because we ask not. James 4:1-3 explains in detail why so many people are frustrated, confused and living in strife.

We all have things on our "wish lists," things we want or need or would just like to have. And when we see someone else with something we want, it can stir up some strong emotions. We can become envious and begin to covet that thing.

I remember years ago, I wanted to be like my pastor's wife. She was such a sweet woman of God, so kind and soft-spoken and people really loved her. I, on the other hand, was just so outspoken and sharp with my tongue. I wanted to be quiet and sweet like her, so I tried but it didn't work. At one point, people even started asking what was wrong with me!

I felt a lot like Paul in Romans 7:15, when he said, "I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not

do, but what I hate I do" (NIV).

I just didn't understand why I couldn't change! I wanted to be sweeter and quieter but that never lasted long. And just like Paul found out in verses 24 and 25, I began to realize that I can't change myself — only God can. So I asked Him to change what needed to be changed in me.

If you're struggling to feel good about yourself or be what you think you need to be, I want to encourage you to stop trying and start asking God for grace.

God made you who you are, and He knows what you need and what needs to change in your life.

He wants you to enjoy your life while you're in the process of becoming all He created you to be.

God will give you grace for your case. That's why I call Him the Great Equalizer. We never have to settle for less than God's best in our lives when we have access to His grace — His power to do the things we can't do in our own strength — at all times. God's grace has no limit, it won't run out.

It is available to any and all who will humble themselves and receive it. Remember, we can never ask Him for too much grace. He always knows exactly what we need.

And He is always ready and willing to help us — each and every one.

Lovejoy to share life story at UU Sunday

On Sunday, Jan. 31, from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Florence Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Jeff Lovejoy will share his life story titled, "My Three Lives."

Lovejoy spent nearly seven years in a Catholic seminary. Soon after leaving seminary, he moved to New York City and began a career as a rock musician. More recently, he has been teaching college writing and literature classes.

Sunday's talk will highlight those three very different life experiences and what has been learned from all three of them.

The UU Fellowship, 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.

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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THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Located at Munsel Lake Road and North Fork Road
Worship Services 10:00 AM Sunday
All are welcome! 541-997-7268

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
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.

Church On The Rock, A Calvary Chapel Fellowship

Wednesday Evening Bible Study
6:30pm (Nursery & Kid's Classes provided)

Sunday Morning Worship and the Word
8:30am & 10:30am
(Nursery and Kid's Classes at 10:30am)

You're invited to come worship and
grow in the Lord with us!"

1750 18th Street Florence, OR
(541) 997-9117
ccflorence.com

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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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., Reverend Greg Wood
Sunday School and Nursery — Organ and Choir
All Welcome. Come as you are.
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85294 Hwy. 101 S. — 997-8038
DVD of Weekly worship service available.
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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.

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Masses: Sat. 5:30 p.m., Sun. 11:00 a.m.
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