

Fellowship to discuss community experience

On Sunday, May 22, from 10 to 11 a.m., at the Florence Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Rev. Ruth Miller will lead the worship service titled: Commitment and Community.

“Experiencing community is essential for human well-being, and our experience of community is defined by our willingness to consistently participate, support, and be supported by others, in and through the shared activities of the group,” said Miller.

“It’s an emotional and spiri-

tual developmental process. Yet, through the media, many people today are identifying with individuals and groups they never actually interact with...”

The UU Fellowship, 87738 Highway 101 at Heceta Beach Rd., 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.

Also, this afternoon, May 21, Rev. Ruth will give a seminar along these same lines at this same location from 2 to 4:30 p.m.

Donations are appreciated.

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Isaiah 54:17 gives us a wonderful promise from God. It says, “No weapon that is formed against you will succeed; and every tongue that rises against you in judgment you will condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and this is their vindication from Me,” says the Lord” (AMP).

No one likes to be judged or criticized by others, and this verse clearly says “every tongue that rises against you in judgment you will condemn.”

The question is, how do we show those who judge and criticize us unjustly that they are wrong? Do we defend ourselves? Do we get mad at them

The secret to putting your enemy in his place

and say equally bad things about them, trying to get back at them? No, none of that works and it’s not what this scripture is talking about.

Jesus is our ultimate example of how we should live, and the Bible says in 1 Peter 2:23 (NLT), “He did not retaliate when he was insulted, nor threaten revenge when he suffered. He left his case in the hands of God, who always judges fairly.”

When someone comes against us, we’re often tempted to defend ourselves.

But the way we show those who judge and criticize us that they are wrong is by behaving in a godly way instead of letting what the enemy — the devil — did through them cause us to act the same way.

It’s Spiritual Warfare

As believers in Jesus Christ, we are in a war, but it’s not a war against human beings. Ephesians 6:12 (AMP) says, “We are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.”

I realize that talking about the devil is unpleasant, and many people don’t want to do it. I attended church for years and, although I knew the devil was real, I didn’t understand that he could be a real problem in my life.

The truth is that all of the evil in this world — all of the bad things that happen — the source of it all is our enemy, the devil. It’s so important for us to really get this if we want to effectively fight and get victory in the spiritual warfare we face.

The Way It Works

Sometimes we take a verse, like Isaiah 54:17, and focus on the part that we like or want to do and expect to reap the benefits of the whole thing.

For example, we like saying, “No weapon formed against me will prosper, and everyone who says wrong things about me will be proven wrong!”

But we need to take the rest of the verse to heart to. It says, “This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord” (AMPC).

The heritage we have in Christ — His peace, righteousness, security and triumph over opposition — is experienced by those who follow the example of “the ideal Servant of the Lord,” which is Jesus Christ. This means that true faith in Christ produces a lifestyle that represents His heart... His character and His behavior.

When you have a real relationship with Jesus, His Spirit lives in you and He changes you little by little, from glory to glory (2 Corinthians 3:18). The exciting thing is, you cannot be born again and never change because Christ is living in you and you won’t be comfortable with an ungodly lifestyle as you grow closer to Him.

The Best Retaliation

So, practically speaking, what does it mean to act like Jesus in these situations?

The first thing we need to do when someone comes against us is pray for them. They need to have an understanding of how dangerous is it to treat others this way.

We need to keep our eyes on Jesus and trust Him to give us the wisdom and strength to do what He would do.

Loving God with all of your heart, soul, mind and strength is the secret to certain victory in spiritual warfare.

In Christ, no weapon that’s formed against you will prosper.

Watch
“In Search of the Lord’s Way”
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Soup’s On to discuss accepting other’s faults

On Monday, May 23, at 6:30 p.m., everyone is invited to join a group from varied spiritual paths to discuss the topic: The Faults of Others.

The Baha’i Writings say: “If we allow our attention and energy to be taken up in efforts to keep others right and remedy their faults, we are wasting precious time. ... If he looks to this side and that to see how Tom and Harry are getting on and to criticize their plowing, then his own furrow will assuredly become crooked.”

The main goal of the Baha’i Faith will always center around one ultimate aim: The peaceful unification of the entire human race.

The evening will begin with bowls of chicken noodle soup, homemade sourdough bread, fruit and vegetables.

The gathering will end at 8:30 p.m. 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

Adventists to barbecue for free tasting event

The Seventh Day Adventist Church of Florence, 4445 Highway 101, will be offering a free “Summer Tasting Event” on Thursday, May 26, beginning at 6 p.m.

demonstrations and recipes for the community.

The public is invited to enjoy healthy substitute ideas for hamburgers, hot dogs and more.

To pre-register, call 541-999-2052.

ASK THE DENTURIST.

Q What is a partial denture?

A A partial denture is a chromium cobalt metal frame with denture teeth replacing missing natural teeth. This is the most common kind of partial denture. There are several new technologies coming to aid partial denture wearers.

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