



There's a story about a little boy who was very poor and needed shoes. He was standing in front of a shoe store, barefoot and shivering with cold. A woman approached him and asked him why he was standing there, looking through the window.

He told her, "Well, ma'am, I was asking God to give me a pair of shoes."

The woman took the boy into the store, washed his dirty, bare feet and put new socks and shoes on them. The boy was so touched by her compassion that he asked her, "Ma'am, are you God's wife?"

He assumed if she showed him that kind of love, she must be related to God.

This story is one of the best

examples of what it means to walk in love. And our goal as Christians is to show God's love so people see Jesus shining through us.

It starts with communion. Matthew 26:26 (AMPC) says, "Jesus took bread and, praising God, gave thanks and asked Him to bless it to their use, and when He had broken it, He gave it to the disciples and said, Take, eat; this is My body."

It's interesting to see here that Jesus blessed the bread, broke it, and then gave it to the disciples. We usually refer to this scripture when we have communion to remind us of the sacrifice He made for us. And just as He gave His life and was broken for us, we must be broken so we can live for Him.

We don't like to think about God breaking us, but it's really

a wonderful thing. See, when we're born again, the seed of God's nature — all that He is — is planted in our spirits. This means we have what it takes to be like Jesus and love others the way He loves us. But we all need God to do a work in our souls for us to be able to walk in love.

Each person is a tri-part being with a spirit, soul and body. When we accept Christ as our Savior, the Holy Spirit comes to live in our spirit.

First Peter 1:23 (AMPC) says, "You have been regenerated (born again), not from a mortal origin (seed, sperm), but from one that is immortal by the ever living and lasting Word of God." And 1 John 3:9 tells us that as believers, His nature abides in us, "His principle of life, the divine sperm, remains permanently within" us

(AMPC).

But we have to grow spiritually for our soul — mind, will and emotions — to be molded into the image of Christ. We don't need to pray for God to give us love, because we already have His love in us.

We need to pray for Him to show us how to walk in love... for God to do whatever He needs to do in our lives so His love can flow through us to others. When we do, He will deal with whatever is in us that is standing in the way: pride, unforgiveness, selfishness, insecurity, fear or any other ungodly attitude or behavior.

How brokenness works

I know what it's like to be broken and molded by God. I used to have so many problems, and I was hard to get along with and harsh. There

were a lot of things I didn't understand because I had been mistreated, and I thought it was good to be hard and not let anyone push me around. I believed everyone else had a problem, not me.

I remember praying so diligently for God to change my husband, Dave, because if he would just be the way I wanted him to be, then I would be happy. But one day God spoke to my heart so strongly and said, "Dave is not the problem."

My response was, "Well, who is? It's just me and him. What do you mean Dave is not the problem?"

It was devastating to realize I was really the problem, but it was also the beginning of a beautiful work God wanted to do in me.

Isaiah 64:8 says, "O Lord, You are our Father; we are the clay, and You our Potter, and we all are the work of Your hand" (AMPC). When I was hurting and hard to get along with, I really loved God and wanted to live for Him, but I

had to give Him control so He could mold me into His image.

I had to give Him me!

I began to pray things like, "God, do whatever You need to do in my life to change me. I'm the clay and You are the Potter. Romans 8:29 says you foreordained me to be molded into the image of Jesus, and I want to be everything You want me to be."

The journey hasn't been easy, but I can honestly say that the hardest times in my life became blessings because God used them to bring me close to Him so I could really know Him and grow spiritually. That's His plan for all of His children.

I want to encourage you today to spend time with God and search out the promises He has for you in His Word. Trust His wisdom and do what He shows you to do.

As you put your faith in God to break you, mold you and make you what He's created you to be, the Potter will make you an amazing work of His hand!

How to go from broken to beautiful

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FUUF to discuss power of gratitude Sunday

Sunday, Nov. 27, from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Rev. Ruth Miller will lead the worship service.

This week's focus will be "Transformative Gratitude."

Miller uses history and story to help people understand what Thanksgiving is all about, reminding that the first national day of Thanksgiving was declared by George Washington during the Revolutionary War, and other presidents have declared such days over the years.

Then Abraham Lincoln declared one during the War Between the States, which is the day on which the current holiday is based.

Why did they do that? What can we learn? What is the power of gratitude in this interdependent web of life of which we are a part? - she asked.

The public is invited to find out at Sunday's service.

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

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

For YouTube videos of past worship services, visit FUUF's website at florenceuuf.org.

For more information, call 541-997-2840.

See's Candy to be available from Kiwanis Club

The Kiwanis Club of Florence is once again selling See's Candy at the Sears store on Highway 101 from Dec. 2 through Dec. 21, or until the candy runs out.

The Kiwanis Club has set up a candy display in the Florence Sears showroom at Sixth Street and Highway 101, Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., or Sundays from noon to 3 p.m.

This year's candy selection

includes 1 and 2 pound boxes of assorted chocolates, nuts and chews, dark chocolates, lollipops and many other Christmas themed assortments.

The See's Candy sale is a fundraiser for the Florence Kiwanis Club and all the proceeds from the sale support local programs for children and youth.

For more information, call 541-997-3455.

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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For more information, please call 541-997-2681

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE GROUP

"God Is Truth"
Meeting Thursday at 3pm
575-313-3640

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 "People of 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

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12th and Nopal —997-9020
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10 am Wed., Women's Bible Study
Saturdays, Mens' Breakfast @ 8 a.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

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All are welcome. (541) 997-2840

FLORENCE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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2nd-5th Sundays worship at 9am and 10:30am
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Tues. Bible Study 7:00pm

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