

Build your relationship with the Holy Spirit



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 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 (comes to know and comprehend) 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 (Counselor, Helper, Advocate, Intercessor, Strengthened, Standby) will not come to you [into close fellowship with you]; but if I go away, I will send Him to you [to be in close fellowship with you]" (AMP).

This scripture teaches that He 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 (feelings and purposes) 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).

And He communicates to us what He hears God say. John 16:13 explains that He is "the Spirit of Truth (the Truth-giving Spirit)" and He guides us into the Truth. "For He will not speak His own message... but He will tell whatever He hears [from the Father....]"

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, polluting language; evil, unwholesome, worthless talk; bitterness, indignation, wrath, 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.

James 3 teaches that no one can "tame the tongue" and 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.

I know it's easy to be insen-

sitive and say the wrong things sometimes. The other day I was wearing a blouse that didn't fit me right, and I said to someone, "This thing is way too big for me but it would probably fit you." Afterward, I couldn't believe I said it.

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.

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Lyons of CASA to speak at FUUF Sunday

The Florence Unitarian Universalist Fellowship's (FUUF) Sunday service on Jan. 29, from 10 to 11 a.m., will be led by Robben Lyons, a Volunteer Coordinator for Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Lane County.

Lyons brings a high level of experience to create, organize, and encourage team cohesiveness. She will give an informative presentation titled: "A Powerful Voice for Abused Kids."

In 1977, a Seattle judge conceived the idea of using trained community volunteers to speak for the best interest of abused and neglected children in court.

So successful was this program that soon judges across the country began utilizing citizen advocates. In 1995, Lane County gained its own CASA organization, and has since changed the lives of more than 4,000 children.

CASA provides advocacy in court on behalf of a child in the foster care system.

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

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

For more information, call 541-997-2840.

Spirituali-Tea to discuss insights into Hinduism

On Monday, Jan 30, beginning at 6:30 p.m., everyone is invited to join a group from varied spiritual paths to discuss Hinduism.

There are an estimated 1 billion Hindus worldwide, making Hinduism the third-largest religion after Christianity and Islam.

About 80 percent of India's population regard themselves as Hindus and 30 million

more Hindus live outside of India.

Bring information you have about Hindus and their amazing religion.

The gathering will end at 8 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.

For more information call 541-590-0779.

Pre-SUPER BOWL, Feb 4th 2017

\$5,000.00

Bingo Bash

All proceeds support Siuslaw 2017 Project Graduation! Chance to win over \$5,000.00 worth of Gifts & Prizes!

Location & Time: Three Rivers Events Center, doors open at 5 p.m. First game starts at 5:30 p.m.

Price: \$25.00 includes 2 bingo cards; extra cards available to purchase! Beverages available for purchase! Dinner from Hole in the Wall BBQ only \$5. Open to all ages!

Date: Saturday, February 4th, 2017

Contact: Michelle Rose at 541-999-0401 Kay King at 541-997-2248 For details, purchase advanced tickets or reserve a special table for groups of 8 or more!!

All Sponsorships and Donations are tax deductible - EIN #93-0962789. Credit cards will be accepted, excluding the Casino Cage. In the case of multiple bingo winners on any single game a play off game will determine a single winner.

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EDITOR@THESIUSLAWNEWS.COM

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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575-313-3640

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
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COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH
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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

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1935 25th St. - 997-7660 • Pastor, Dr. Marvin Owen
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FLORENCE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
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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
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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
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Call for details.

FLORENCE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST
4445 Hwy 101 (South of Fred Meyer) - 997-3951
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Adult/Children's Sabbath School 9:15 A.M.

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Website:florence4square.com

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florencevineyardchurch.com

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1424 15th Street •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
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Pastor Lori Blake
www.lutheranchurchflorence.com

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