

Surfriders May meeting at 'Riverside' in Old Town

The next monthly meeting of the Surfrider Foundation will be held on Wednesday, May 17, at 7 p.m., at the Riverside Restaurant, 1340 Bay St. in Florence.

The meeting will focus on ongoing water quality efforts, new legislative initiatives and upcoming clean-up events.

Community members interested in protecting the ocean, it's wildlife and associated industries are strongly encouraged to attend this meeting. Surfrider Foundation is com-

mitted to protecting and monitoring local water quality and also organizes beach cleanups. They will also discuss monthly marine debris monitoring efforts and helps raise awareness about the Cape Perpetua Marine Reserve and holds quarterly Adopt-a-Highway Cape Perpetua cleanups.

For more information on current initiatives and for membership information check out Surfriders Siuslaw Chapter website or facebook page.



It seems that in our society today, insecurity is an epidemic, and the result is that many people don't like themselves.

This is a problem because self-rejection and self-hatred cause many relationship issues.

The Bible has a lot to say about relationships.

It teaches us how to have a personal relationship with God, as well as how to have healthy relationships with the people in our lives.

It also talks about how we need to have good relationships with ourselves.

So, how do you feel about yourself? I believe most people think about their relationships with others but they don't realize they have one with themselves.

We need to think about it because we have a more active relationship with ourselves than we do anyone else.

Think about it: You never get away from yourself; everywhere you go, there you are.

Every second of your life, you are with you, and if you don't like yourself, you're in for a miserable life.

Reasons we don't like ourselves

I spent many years of my life not liking myself. I was sexually abused by my dad through-

Be the person you were created to be

out my childhood, and it caused me to have a root of shame in my soul.

The best way to discover God's purpose and plan for your life is to give your life to Him completely, receive His love for you, and then love yourself and others the way He loves you.

I was ashamed of who I was because I didn't understand that the way he treated me was not my fault, and I thought something was wrong with me.

Shame became a poison in my soul, and it affected the way I looked at everything and everyone else in my life.

Many people have a similar story. But even if you haven't experienced abuse like this, you may struggle with insecurity or a poor self-image because of the world we live in today.

There is often the message "You just aren't quite what you ought to be."

We see models in ads and compare ourselves to them, or we feel the pressure of a success-driven society.

The bottom line is it's easy to feel like you don't measure up most of the time.

It's a mistake for us to compare ourselves with others or to try to fit in with standards that the world around us says we should live by.

God created everyone to be unique individuals, with different strengths and weaknesses.

We need to know what they are, and focus on developing our strengths with God's help.

We do need to pray for God to help us overcome moral weaknesses and attitude problems, but when it comes to fulfilling our purpose in life, we should strive to develop the talents and abilities He has given us.

Discovering God's purpose and plan

I've never felt like an "ordinary" woman, and I remember how, many years ago, I compared myself with other women I knew and tried to be like them.

For example, my neighbor was a great gardener and canned her own vegetables.

I tried to have a garden and it was a failure. She also sewed and made clothes for her family.

I tried that too and it was a disaster. Honestly, I just wanted to go out to eat and shop for my food and clothes.

It was a relief when I realized God didn't create me to be just like my neighbor, or anyone else I was comparing myself to, and I could be free to be the woman He created me to be.

God's love is the key

I want to encourage you to break out of the "box" you may have put yourself in, trying to be like someone else or measure up to the world's ideas of

success. Living this way will only frustrate you, steal your joy, and make you unfulfilled.

Ask God to give you the courage and boldness to say, "I'm not going to try and be something I am not meant to be anymore. I'm going to find out what God has for me, and I am going to do it with all of my heart."

The best way to discover God's purpose and plan for your life is to give your life to Him completely, receive His love for you, and then love yourself and others the way He loves you.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (AMP) says that anyone who accepts Christ as their Savior "is a new creature [reborn and renewed by the Holy Spirit]; the old things [the previous moral and spiritual condition] have passed away. Behold, new things have come..."

As you pursue a personal relationship with Christ and become the "new creature" you are in Him, you will experience His love for you and be able to love yourself and others.

You'll also be more free to do what He puts in your heart to do. God loves you. He made you an original and He has a unique plan just for you.

See yourself the way He sees you, and you'll have the confidence and freedom to be yourself and live with real peace and joy.

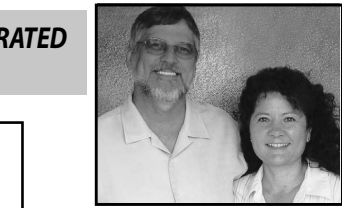
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To be included in this directory contact
the Siuslaw News at 997-3441, or drop off
information at 148 Maple St., Old Town, Florence.

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1833 Tamarack Street (2 blocks east of Hwy. 101 on 18th St.)
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www.churchofchristflorence.org

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12th and Nopal -997-9020
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
10 am Wed., Women's Bible Study
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Online Worship Service@ www.florencenaz.com

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Call for details.

FLORENCE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

4445 Hwy 101 (South of Fred Meyer) - 997-3951
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Sunday Services: 10am and 6pm
Tues. Bible Study 7:00pm

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Pastor Lori Blake
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FUUF to discuss the 'Mother' presence

On Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14 from 10 until 11 a.m., Rev. Dr. Ruth Miller will lead the Florence Unitarian Universalist worship service titled: Feeling the Connection.

"The Mother presence gives rise to all the material of life - and is alive in all of us, male and female, for the nurturance of life and wellbeing in our lives and those around us," Miller said. "Honoring the ancient and modern traditions surrounding the idea of mothering, helps us feel our connection with all of the inter-

connected web of life - past, present, and future."

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

Each service concludes with refreshments and a dialogue circle to explore the questions that come up during each service. Every Sunday evening at 5:30, Jim Tubesing leads Peaceful Meditations at the Fellowship Hall.

Also see their Facebook page and please call 541-997-2840 for more information.

Spirituali-Tea to discuss 'Motherhood'

On Monday, May 15 at 6:30 p.m., at 875 Seventh St., everyone is invited to join a group of friends from varied spiritual paths to discuss Motherhood.

"O ye loving mothers, know ye that in God's sight, the best of all ways to worship Him is to educate the children and train them in all the perfections of humankind; and no

nobler deed than this can be imagined," said Abdu'l-Baha.

Please bring your stories about Mom and Motherhood to share with the group.

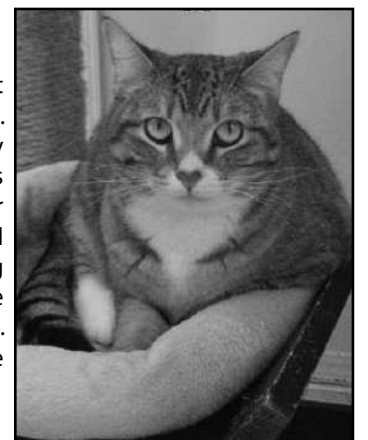
The gathering will end at 8 p.m. with prayers for the requests left in the Prayer Pole in the garden of the Florence Playhouse.

For more information call 541-590-0779.

...need a friend?

Meet Eva

Eva is a fun-loving girl that can't get enough play time. A free spirit with high energy that loves food. If she hears you shake a bag of food or crack open a can, she will come running! Loves long conversations about how she doesn't get enough attention. Needs to be an only child as she can get a little jealous.



If you would like to meet Eva or any of her friends, please visit us at:

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www.oregoncoasthumane.org
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