

**Vision** from 1A

“Almost anything you can imagine is part of this vision,”

Lacer said. Spencer agreed. “We’re seeing a lot of diversity between the things that are institutionally led and the

things where people in the community said they wanted to step in, with things like local foods and the Siuslaw Youth Soccer Association,” she said. “What I like about this vision is that, at the end of the day when someone comes up to me and says, ‘I have this great idea,’ I can say, ‘Great. How can we help you do that?’”

One of those people is Greg Wood, pastor of the Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw and founder of the Florence Emergency Cold Weather Shelter, who saw a need in the community and stepped forward.

He told the story of a homeless family who asked for a replacement tent, since the family’s current one could not keep out rodents.

“Several pastors I meet with started talking about this and

came up with the idea of trying to buy cheap but serviceable travel trailers and put families in them,” he said.

Soon after, Wood and others formed First Step, which operates under the cold weather shelter’s 501(c)(3), to provide transitional housing services for families.

“A family that is struggling to stay warm and dry at night probably isn’t going to be very productive in the community,” Wood said. “Our anecdotal evidence suggests that when they are given even a travel trailer, their kids go to school more often and they are free to use some of the energy to get a job, clear up their legal records and do some things that are actually helpful and productive in Florence.”

First Step accepts donations of money or trailers to help

“house the unhoused.” It is also working with county and city regulations to legally set up areas where these trailers can stay more permanently.

Wood envisions a one-year pilot program, and seeks additional community input and partnerships.

He also presented at Florence Area Chamber of Commerce’s Noon Forum on Dec. 14.

“Something has to be done,” he said. “That’s why we’re calling it First Step, because we have no illusions about our program as a permanent solution to anything, but it is a transition. ... Life gets very much better for them.”

For more information about First Step or Florence Emergency Cold Weather Shelter, contact Wood at revgwood@yahoo.com or 541-991-8208.

“This is where you can say you have a project, and make it

happen,” Spencer said. “That is really the magical piece of our Vision. We’re at this amazing spot where we’re making differences in so many ways.”

Vision Keepers also presented on the new community calendar, available online at RiverCal.org. This website also hosts information on the entire Siuslaw Vision 2025.

In addition, people may also apply for the three Siuslaw Vision paid positions. Final proposals are due by 4 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 8, 2018.

Vision Co-Chair Jo Beaudreau ended the meeting.

“You guys are really the people who make a difference,” she said to attendees, and all the people who attended forums, joined a committee or took a survey. “Keep up the amazing work. You’re doing it today, you’re going to do it tomorrow and truly you’re making the Siuslaw region a community.”

**AND THE WINNER IS...**



Sunshine Armer was the winner of the Christmas Card contest for Shorewood Senior Living. We had our Holiday Cards printed with her art work and sent them out with our greetings.

**Congratulations Sunshine!**  
She received a \$50.00 gift card for her efforts.

**Shorewood SENIOR LIVING**

1451 Spruce Street  
Florence, OR 97439  
541.997.8202  
shorewoodsl.com



**KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS**



Sponsored by  
St. Mary Our Lady of the Dunes  
Knights of Columbus  
Assembly 3656  
Florence, Oregon



**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](http://www.churchofchristflorence.org)

*Christmas Services*

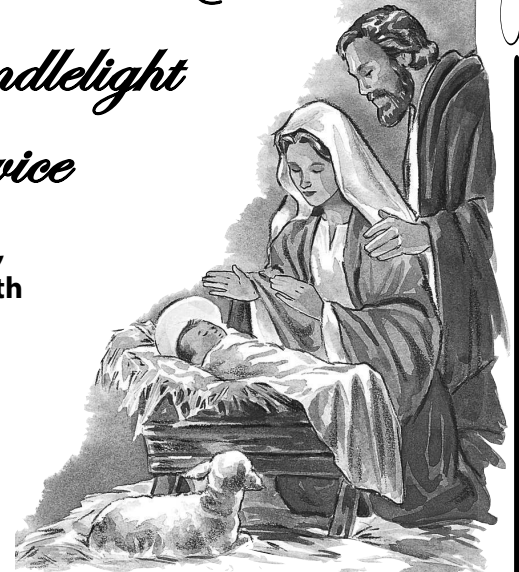
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service  
Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>  
6:00 PM

First Baptist Church, Florence  
25<sup>th</sup> and Spruce

541-997-7660

*Christmas Eve  
Candlelight  
Service*

Sunday,  
Dec. 24th  
7 PM



“She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”  
~ Matthew 1:21

Please Join Us for a Joyous Evening  
on the Eve of Our Savior’s Birth  
as We Light the Way to Christmas.

**Resurrection Lutheran Church**  
85294 Highway 101 South  
(Located about 1 mile south of bridge).

Find us on Facebook #ResurrectionLutheranChurchFlorence

**St. Mary, Our Lady of the Dunes Catholic Church**

**Come Join Us in Celebration**

**Christmas Eve.  
Dec. 24  
5:30 PM Mass**

**Christmas Day  
Dec. 25  
Florence  
11 AM Mass**

**Reedsport  
St. John the  
Apostle Church  
8:45 AM**

*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*

*John 3:16*

**THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS**

We invite you to join us as our choir testifies of the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ through word and music.

**WHEN: Sunday, December 24th at 10:00 AM**  
**WHERE: 2705 Munsel Lake Rd ~ Florence**  
(Corner of Munsel Lake Rd & North Fork Rd)