



Pet Tips 'n' Tales

by Mary Ellen "Angel Scribe"

TALE

Splish-Splash —How to avoid taking a bath with your cat!

Don't expect a miracle the first time your wiggling cat is lowered into warm water, because bathing cats is an art form. There is a delicate balance of not terrorizing the cats, or you. Be brave and bold, "Your mission, should you accept it..." is to get the cat wet, clean and dry with the end goal of minimal water soaking you or your home!

Bathing Tips

Reasons to bathe a cat:

Introducing a new pet to other pets so it smells like it belongs in your home by using your other pet's shampoo.

Just because a cat cleans itself with its pretty-pink tongue, does not mean their fur is clean. Bathing removes house dust, outside dirt, fleas and their excrement/eggs.

Cats who sit under cars who have had oil dripped on their fur.

Aging pets or Persians — it is often essential for cleaning their back ends from "accidents".

Physical and Psychological Tips Fur a Paws-itive Experience!

Trim cat's claws prior to a bath. (Once a month, we trim our cats front claws, especially their dew claws.)

Understand that it is a rare cat that enjoys a bath! Their instinct is to fly out of the sink, dripping wet, and run through your home. The younger and more often you bathe a cat, the more accustomed it becomes.

Wear something that can be soaked by a bath-hating cat! Or strip down to your 'barely' essentials. Clear objects from counter tops/window ledges protecting them from gyrating cats' waving paws, and place a towel on the floor to absorb flying water.

Cut the feet out of a pair of men's tub socks and slide them over your arms to protect them from engaged claws.

Because cats' body temperatures run a little higher than humans, they purr-fur warm, but not hot, water. They squirm more if the water's temperature is uncomfortable, and warm water relaxes them.

Cats feel vulnerable slipping on the bottom of a sink. Place a rag, wash cloth or rubber mat on the bottom of the sink and on the edge for them to hang onto. Placing a plastic wash basin in the sink allows them to hang onto its edges and not your arm.

Always! Fill the rinse and wash sinks with water prior to showing it to a cat! Cats have remarkable memories, so it is best to fill the sinks out of their hearing range if you bathe them often.

Put 1 tsp. of pet shampoo in the bath water prior to placing the cat in the sink. This way the cleaning begins when the cat goes in. I place another teaspoon of shampoo into a plastic gallon container to pour over the cat.

We always introduce our cats to their bath "backwards", never facing what is about to unfold. There is less drama when we walk them with their backs to the water, and dip them into the warm water before they can react. Once they are wet, they are resigned to the chore at hand. Encourage your cat with a kind low voice keeping them calm. Tell them, "What a good boy/girl".

Keep water and shampoo out of the cat's eyes, nose and ears! If this should happen,



Photo by Mr. AngelScribe
Mary Ellen and her Shaded Silver Persian, Whyspurr, teach how to bathe a cat without getting soaked!

immediately wipe their face dry.

Carefully pour the plastic jug of shampoo-water over them, keeping it off their faces. Consider having one person hold the cat and another scrub them. It is easiest to wash cats in a two-sink set up. After washing the cat, place them in the warm rinse water sink, then rinse with the sink nozzle. This method speeds up clearing the shampoo off the pet. NEVER leave shampoo on a cat, always rinse over thoroughly. Remember, what is on their fur will soon be in their tummy, from licking themselves dry. A good warm water rinsing prevents tummy upsets.

Once, I lifted our tiny Whyspurr into her bath with one hand. I was still holding her when someone asked a question. I looked up at them, then felt Whyspurr, still resting on my hand, swimming in the water. It was too deep for her! Adjust water levels to the cat's height!

Have four towels/microfiber cloths ready for drying your cat. Fur absorbs more water than you can fathom! Rubbing cats with a miracle micro-fiber cloth speeds up drying. Micro-fiber cloths absorb more water, faster, than towels. Placing a cat on the floor, on top of a cloth, and then rub them vigorously with two more cloths soon has them almost dry. Use the bottom cloth to

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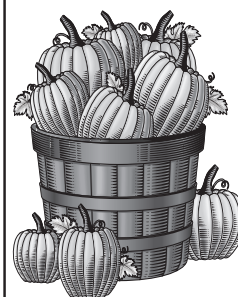
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Worship Directory

<p>6th & Gibbs Church of Christ 195 N. 6th St. • 541-942-3822 Pastor: Aaron Earlywine Youth & Families Pastor: Seth Bailey Services: 9am and 10:30am Christian Education Nursery for pre-k - 3rd Grade www.6thandgibbs.com</p>	<p>Cottage Grove Bible Church 1200 East Quincy Avenue 541-942-4771 Pastor: Bob Singer Worship 8:30am, 11am Sunday School: 9:45am Youth Group Mondays 6:30pm AWANA age 3-8th Grade, Wednesdays Sept-May, 6:30pm www.cgbible.org</p>	<p>First Presbyterian Church 3rd and Adams St • 541-942-4479 Pastor: Karen Hill Worship: 10:00am Sunday School: 10:00am www.cgpresbynews.com</p>	<p>Old Time Gospel Fellowship 103 S. 5th Street • 541-942-4999 Pastor: Herb Carson Sunday Service: 10:00am Sunday Bible Study: 6:00pm We sing the old time hymns.</p>	<p>United Methodist Church 334 Washington • 541-942-3033 Pastor: Lura Kidner-Miesen Worship: 10:30am Adult Sunday School: 9:30am Comm. Dinner (Adults \$5, Kids Free) 2nd & 3rd Monday 5-6:00pm cottagegroveumc.org</p>
<p>Calvary Baptist Church 77873 S 6th St • 541-942-4290 Pastor: Riley Hendricks Sunday School: 9:45am Worship: 11:00am The Journey: Sunday 5:00pm Praying Thru Life: Wednesday 6:00pm</p>	<p>Cottage Grove Faith Center 33761 Row River Rd. • 541-942-4851 Lead Pastor: Isaac Hovet www.cg4.tv 2 Sunday Services: 9am & 11am Full Children's Ministry available</p>	<p>Grove Community Church 77820 Mosby Creek Rd. Cottage Grove, OR 97424 541-942-0123 Pastor: Bryan Parsons Worship: 10:30 a.m. Nursery: Infant - Pre-K Kid's Church: K to 5th grade</p>	<p>Our Lady of Perpetual Help and St. Philip Benizi Catholic Churches 1025 N. 19th St. 541-942-3420 / 541-942-4712 Pastor: Roy L. Antunez, S.J. Euch. Liturgies; Sat. 5:30pm Sun. 10:30am St. Philip Benizi, Creswell: 552 Holbrook Lane • 541-895-8686 Sunday: 8:30am</p>	<p>"VICTORY" Country Church 913 S. 6th Street • 541-942-5913 Pastor: Barbara Dockery Worship Service: 10:00am Message: 11:00am "WE BELIEVE IN MIRACLES"</p>
<p>Calvary Chapel Cottage Grove 1447 Hwy 99 (Village Plaza) 541-942-6842 Pastor: Jeff Smith Two Services on Sun: 9am & 10:45am Wednesday Service 6:45 pm Child Care 10:45am Service Only Youth Group Bible Study: Wed. 6:45 pm & Sat. 6 pm www.cgcalvary.org</p>	<p>Covered Bridge Nazarene Church 152 S. M St. 541-942-4422 Pastor: Cindy Slaymaker Sunday School: 9:30am Worship 10:30am</p>	<p>Hope Fellowship United Pentecostal Church 100 S. Gateway Blvd. • 541-942-2061 Pastor: Dave Bragg Worship: 11:00am Sunday Bible Study: 7:00pm Wednesday www.hopefellowshippupc.com "FINDING HOPE IN YOUR LIFE"</p>	<p>St. Andrews Episcopal Church 1301 W. Main • 541-767-9050 Rev. Lawrence Crumb "Church with the flags." Worship: Sunday 10:30am All Welcome</p>	<p>“VICTORY” Country Church 913 S. 6th Street • 541-942-5913 Pastor: Barbara Dockery Worship Service: 10:00am Message: 11:00am "WE BELIEVE IN MIRACLES"</p>
<p>Center for Spiritual Living Cottage Grove 700 Gibbs Ave (Community Center) Rev. Bobby Lee Meets Sunday 3:00 p.m. Info: 541-767-0182 (Mrs. "T")</p>	<p>Delight Valley Church of Christ 33087 Saginaw Rd. East 541-942-7711 Pastor: Bob Friend Two Services: 9am - Classic in the Chapel 10:30am - Contemporary in the Auditorium</p>	<p>Living Faith Assembly 467 S. 10th St. • 541-942-2612 Pastor Rulon Combs Sunday School All Ages 9am Worship & Children's Church 10:30 am "The Bridge" Sat Evening Service 6:00pm Youth 180 Mondays 5:30-8pm Children's Breakout Class: Wed. 6:30pm</p>	<p>Seventh-day Adventist Church 820 South 10th Street 541-942-5213 Pastor: Kevin Miller Bible Study: Saturday, 9:15 am Worship Service: Saturday, 10:40 am Mid-week Service: Wednesday, 1:00 pm</p>	<p>Trinity Lutheran Church 6th & Quincy • 541-942-2373 Pastor: James L. Markus Sunday School & Adult Education 9:15am Sunday Worship 10:30 am Comm. Kitchen Free Meal Tue & Thur 5:00pm TLC Groups trinitylutherancottagegrove.com</p>
<p>Church of Christ 420 Monroe St • 541-942-8565 Sunday Service: 10:30am</p>	<p>First Baptist Church 301 S 6th St 541-942-8242 Pastor: Steve Johnson Sunday School: 9:30am Worship: 11:00am Come Worship with us</p>	<p>Non-Denominational Church of Christ 1041 Pennoyer Ave * 541-767-0447 Preachers: Tony Martin & Robert Evans Sunday Bible Study: 10:00am Sunday Worship: 10:50am & 5:30pm www.pennoyeravecoc.com</p>	<p>St. Andrews Episcopal Church 1301 W. Main • 541-767-9050 Rev. Lawrence Crumb "Church with the flags." Worship: Sunday 10:30am All Welcome</p>	<p>“VICTORY” Country Church 913 S. 6th Street • 541-942-5913 Pastor: Barbara Dockery Worship Service: 10:00am Message: 11:00am "WE BELIEVE IN MIRACLES"</p>

Our Worship Directory is a weekly feature in the newspaper. If your congregation would like to be a part of this directory, please contact the Cottage Grove Sentinel at 541-942-3325.