



FAITH

Upcoming special events

HANDS-ONLY CPR CLASS – Saturday, Nov 7 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church hosts this community training to help save lives. At the end of the training each participant will receive CPR certification. Space is limited to 20 people. The class fee is \$25 for individuals and \$45 for couples. Scholarships are available. The church is located at 216 S. Third St. For more information call 541-767-0812.

MONTHLY GOSPEL SING-ALONG – Friday, Nov. 13 from 6:30-8 p.m.

The Old Time Gospel Fellowship Church hosts a monthly gospel sing-along on the second Friday night each month. It includes group singing and music specials. If you have an instrument to play or you want to sing a special, call Berneda McDonald at 541-942-3773 or Sandra Brown at 541-942-9129.

TAIZE COMMUNITY SERVICE – Monday, Nov. 16 from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

“Gratitude” is the theme of the next monthly Taize service in the chapel of the First Presbyterian Church Chapel, on the corner of Adams Avenue and South Third. (Use the Third St. entrance) The service uses candles, sung prayer, poetry, silence and scripture to encourage deeper reflection. All are welcome. For information call 541-942-4479.

CG FAITH CENTER HOSTS 'SURVIVING A HOLIDAY' WORKSHOP – Nov. 21, 10 a.m.-noon

The two-hour workshop is designed to share tips on how to get through the holiday season with individuals struggling with grief over the loss of a loved one. Cottage Grove Faith Center is located at 33761 Row River Rd. The event is free and open to the public. For more info or to register please call Steve and Cindy Ryberg at 541-946-1705.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN ADVENT CLASS – Begins Nov. 29

Local Presbyterians will study the scriptures featured in Handel’s Messiah during the Advent season. The class begins Sunday, Nov. 29. Anyone interested in the class should call the church office now so books can be ordered. The number is 541-942-4479.

New Presbyterian minister trades big-city life for rural one

BY CINDY WEELDREYER
Sentinel Faith Page Editor

For Karen Hill, it’s been a journey through American metropolises on her way to Small Town USA as the newest minister of Cottage Grove’s First Presbyterian Church. Born and raised in Escondido, Calif. (near San Diego), she attended college in Minneapolis/St. Paul, completed seminary in San Francisco and ministered to large congregations in Ft. Wayne, Ind. and Albuquerque before accepting the call to become the church’s first permanent pastor since 2008.

Her father was a businessman in the technology field for the NCR Corporation, and her mother worked in the real estate industry. She grew up in a Christian home with three sisters and graduated from Orange Glen High School. In 1989, she earned a degree in history from Bethel College in St. Paul, Minn. and planned to become a high school social studies teacher.

Drawn to its social justice principles, she joined a Minneapolis United Methodist Church with 3,000 members and discovered her passion for youth ministry. She helped deepen their faith by leading youth on international mission trips to countries such as Cuba, Turkey, Costa Rica and Belize.

She loves the energy and enthusiasm of youth and the fresh perspective they often provide. She received her call into full-time ministry while working with teens. Hill later returned to California and attended two quarters at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena after a friend complimented her gift for ministry and suggested she attend a seminary.

“I grew up in the Baptist General Conference, so the Methodist bishop appointment system really didn’t work for me,” Hill said. “I wanted to be called by a church and be part of a denomination that paired my intellect and spirituality with theology. That all came together for me within the Presbyterian Church.”

In 2003, Hill graduated from San Francisco Theo-

logical Seminary with a Master of Divinity degree. Her first call was serving as the Associate Pastor of Children, Youth and Family Ministry for 2 ½ years in a 1,000-member congregation in Fort Wayne, Ind. Her next call was to serve nine years as the Associate Pastor for Youth and Congregational Mission of an Albuquerque church with 800 members.

“Last year, after more than a decade serving in youth ministry, I realized that call was ending and it was time for me to make a change.”

Last February, she participated in a phone interview with local Presbyterians and was invited to make a personal visit in May to meet the congregation. Sadly, in the midst of the search process her mother’s terminal illness delayed her arrival for months.

“As a pastoral candidate, when I preached my first sermon here, it felt familiar. I loved serving weekly communion to the 100 members who regularly attended the more intimate early Sunday morning service in Albuquerque. In that moment I realized this is the congregation size I really love to serve and was delighted to receive the call.”

She added, “I soon discovered just how kind and caring my new congregation was. After meeting them only once, they sent me flowers when my Mom died and told me they were willing to wait while I took care of family matters. It proved to be the right tim-

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photo by Bruce Kelsch

Karen Hill began her new position at First Presbyterian Church on Sept. 15. She said the church needs to “figure out how to be the Body of Christ in this time and place.”

ing for the church and for me – which is how God’s timing works?”

Hill began her new position on September 15 and is enjoying opportunities to meet people and explore her new community. She is particularly impressed with the “can-do” spirit here in Cottage Grove as evidenced by the development of Bohemia Park, the high school, hospital and library.

She said her biggest challenge in this new ministry is working with the congregation to figure out how to live with the new reality that America is in the midst of a significant cultural revolution with the Church losing its status in society along with many of its members. “We need to figure out how to be the Body of Christ in this time and place.”

“The Presbyterian Church has a long progressive tradition in Cottage Grove that presents an important alternative Christian voice,” Hill noted. “We are an open and inclusive church, and we welcome everyone to join us and experience God’s love and the love of the community.”

CHURCH BRIEFS

CHURCH-SPONSORED COMMUNITY DINNERS

Mondays – United Methodist Church (second and third Mondays only) at 5 p.m.

Tuesdays – Trinity Lutheran Church at 5 p.m.

Wednesdays – Covered Bridge Church of The Nazarene at 6 p.m.

Thursdays – Trinity Lutheran Church at 5 p.m.

GRIEF RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP - Sundays from 2-4 p.m. (through Nov 15)

GriefShare is designed for those who have lost a loved one and are ready to begin a journey from mourning to joy. The two-hour long Sunday afternoon sessions are hosted at the Cottage Grove Community Center, 700 E Gibbs Ave. Cottage Grove. Led by Steve and Cindy Ryberg, the nine-week series involves topical videos, a personal study guide and small group

discussion. If you have questions, concerns or would like to join the group please call. Carroll at 541-914-8283 or Robyn at 830-613-4077.

BAHA'I FAITH TEA AND PRAYERS

Local gatherings are hosted by members of the Baha'i Faith in selected Cottage Grove sites and neighborhood homes. For additional information about the Baha'i Community call Jacqueline at 541-556-1286 or Brenda at 541-514-9607. To hear a daily recorded uplifting Baha'i verse call 541-531-8449.

WEEKDAY MORNING COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY – Monday-Tuesday at 8:30 a.m.

The Cottage Grove United Methodist Church offers a community Bible study two days a week. Drop in and enjoy coffee or tea for a 90-minute time of devotional Bible study and discussion. For more information call 541-942-3033.

AWANA CLUB MEETINGS - Wednesdays 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

AWANA is a weekly Christian edu-

cation program for ages three through high school. Hosted by the Cottage Grove Bible Church, the group meets weekly during the school year. The cost includes the purchase of handbooks and uniforms and dues are 75 cents per week. Children enjoy memorizing Scripture verses, games, Bible lessons and dressing up for special theme nights. More information can be found on the church website: www.cgibible.org.

PURPOSE-DRIVEN LIFE STUDY AT NAZARENE CHURCH – Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

Pastor Cindy Slaymaker invites community to participate in a study of “The Purpose Driven Life” by author Rick Warren starting Wednesday, Sept. 30 at the Covered Bridge Church of the Nazarene, 152 South M St. Come for the community meal at 6 p.m. and stay for the study. For more information call 541-942-4422.

CAMPUS LIFE CLUB – Mondays and Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

This Lane County Youth for Christ non-denominational youth outreach

program meets during the school year. Campus Life’s weekly club meetings blend food, music, games and a short Bible-based “talk” that ends with a prayer. Middle School students meet on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. at Riverside Community Church, 1255 S. River Rd. High School students meet on Mondays at 7 p.m. in the game room above Domino’s Pizza (next to the post office). More information available on Facebook at Cottage Grove Campus Life or by calling Director Tim Sinclair at 541-285-4812.

MOTHERS OF PRE-SCHOOLERS [MOPS] – Mondays from 6-8 p.m.

An outreach ministry designed to support mothers and help them be the best moms they can be. MOPS is for mothers with children from birth to kindergarten. MomsNext is for mothers with school age children. Both groups meet at Calvary Chapel in the Village Shopping Center, 1447 Hwy 99. For more information visit www.cottage-grovemops.org or call 541-942-6842.

Worship Directory

WORSHIP WITH US

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

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

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

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”)

Church of Christ
420 Monroe St • 541-942-8565
Sunday Service: 10:30am

Cottage Grove Bible Church
1200 East Quincy Avenue
541-942-4771
Pastor: Bob Singer
Worship 11am
Sunday School: 9:45am
AWANA age 3-8th Grade,
Wednesdays Sept-May, 6:30pm
www.cgibible.org

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

Covered Bridge Nazarene Church
152 S. M St.
541-942-4422
Pastor: Cindy Slaymaker
Sunday School: 9:30am
Worship 10:30am

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

First Baptist Church
301 S 6th St 541-942-8242
Pastor: Steve Johnson
Sunday School: 9:30am
Worship: 11:00am
Come Worship with us

First Presbyterian Church
3rd and Adams St • 541-942-4479
Pastor: Karen Hill
Worship: 10:00am
Sunday School: 10:00am
www.cgpresbynews.com

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

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”

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

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

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.

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

St. Andrews Episcopal Church
1301 W. Main • 541-767-9050
Rev. Lawrence Crumb
“Church with the flags.”
Worship: Sunday 10:30am
All Welcome

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

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
tlccg.com

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

“VICTORY” Country Church
913 S. 6th Street • 541-942-5913
Pastor: Barbara Dockery
Worship Service: 10:00am
Message: 11:00am
“WE BELIEVE IN MIRACLES”

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.