



FAITH

Power of prayer

Prayer unites Cottage Grove man with Jamaican woman in a new international ministry

BY CINDY WEELDREYER
Sentinel Faith Page Editor

Longtime Cottage Grove resident Harvey Birdseye is a man of prayer. Together with his late wife, Julie, the Birdseys have been actively involved in the local faith community for five decades. As an intercessory “pray-er,” he regularly walks the streets of Cottage Grove asking God to bless the homes and businesses he passes by and prays for the people he meets along the way.

After Julie died, he took a Caribbean cruise in March of 2014 and spent a day in Jamaica. He enjoyed it so much, he returned the next month for a weeklong stay. A few days before departing, during a visit with a local business owner, the topic turned to the practice of black arts. “Obea” is a form of witchcraft that is practiced in Jamaica.

“Right there the Lord commanded me to intercede for the country of Jamaica to pray for the separation of the goats from the sheep and the sifting of the sheep,” Birdseye recalled. “So I said, ‘Okay, Lord, if that is what you want, I will give the entire trip to you.’”

As the hotel’s airport shuttle passed the Turtle River Park in Ocho Rios, a popular tourist town with a population just under 10,000, Birdseye said when he saw the park God told him that was where he was to pray.

“In the park’s gazebo I had another profound spiritual experience and received the spirit of boldness,”

Birdseye recalled. “Suddenly my hands became hot and I felt the presence of The Lord in them. I wandered the streets for four days asking if people wanted a blessing from The Lord. If they said yes I gave them a “high-five” and blessed them in the Name of The Lord.”

One of those people was Marilyn Robinson, a single mother struggling to support her family by working as a security guard screening visitors to protect tourists at a nearby beach. A Christian since the age of 14, the now 42-year-old was in the midst of a crisis of faith. After 23 years of standing in the booth for long hours she had chronic pain in her feet.

“After three days of fasting and praying for God to end my misery and take my life, I was reading my Bible in my security booth and heard God tell me He was not finished with me yet,” Robinson recalled. “A few minutes later this peaceful, well-dressed white gentleman came up to me and asked me if I wanted a blessing from The Lord. I thought he was an angel so of course I said, Yes! He gave me a high-five and quoted Psalm 16:5-6.”

The next day he returned and they spent hours in the nearby Turtle River Park gazebo as her emotional dam broke. Overwhelmed, she poured out all the details of her difficult life. They exchanged contact information and he bought her a pair of comfortable shoes. When he returned home he sent her a leather-bound study Bible to re-



Harvey Birdseye met Marilyn Robinson on a trip to Jamaica, and the two are now a ministry team.

photo by Jon Stinnett

place her well-worn one.

In April 2015, Birdseye made an eight-day trip to Ocho Rio and specifically prayed blessings for Jamaica’s government, its economy and spiritual environment. He spent time teaching and praying with members of Robinson’s church. As the two of them prayed publicly as a team in Turtle River Park and in restaurants, people approached them sharing their needs and requesting prayer.

“God spent a year preparing the two of us to be a ministry team,” Birdseye said. “She is a consummate pastor who hears the needs of others and prays with them, while I pray seeking divine words of knowledge and prophecy I can share with them. We called it reverse evangelism.”

A series of miraculous events brought Robinson to the United States last August for additional ministry training in North Carolina and Oregon. Since Birdseye’s mission of intercessory prayer in April

2015, a planned weeklong Christian revival meeting in the capital city of Kingston drew 300 people the first night. As more individuals came the revival continued for additional weeks. When it concluded a month later, 25,000 individuals accepted Christ or renewed their commitment to Him.

Robinson returns to her hometown of Ocho Rios at the end of this month. Birdseye is considering a return there in March to attend four days of revival meetings at her church. After spending two months in this country, the security guard position she held for 23-years has been filled.

The uncertainty of how she will provide for her family hangs over her. Yet, her new spiritual connection to a Cottage Grove man of prayer has strengthened her faith and confidence in God’s supernatural provision to meet the needs of her family.

Special events

CENTER FOR SPIRITUAL LIVING COFFEE AND CONVERSATION – Monday, Feb. 1 at 10 a.m.

Center for Spiritual Living-Cottage Grove invites the community to “Coffee and Conversation with Rev. Bobby”, Monday, Feb. 1 from 10-11:30 a.m. at Backstage Bakery, Seventh and Main. Rev. Bobby Lee facilitates these gatherings 2-3 times per month to meet local residents and to lead friendly discussions on a wide range of subjects of a spiritual nature. Topic: “Spiritual Truths – How to Utilize Them to Experience a Beautiful Life”. For more info call Rev. Lee at (907) 230-5070 or visit CSLCG’s Facebook page at www.facebook.com/CSLCottageGrove.

PRESBYTERIANS SOUPER BOWL OF CARING – Sunday, Feb. 7

Before and after the 10 a.m. Sunday service canned food and cash donations will be collected for Community Sharing. A “Fat Sunday” Pancake Brunch will follow the service during the coffee hour. All are welcome. The church is located on the corner of Third and Adams.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER BENEFIT – Tuesday, Feb. 9 from 5-7 p.m.

This annual fundraising meal is jointly sponsored by St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church and Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church. Hosted in the OLPH Parish Hall, 1025 N. 19th St. The cost is \$5 per person or \$20 per family. All proceeds donated to Community Sharing.

ASH WEDNESDAY SOUP SUPPER POTLUCK – Wednesday, Feb. 10 at 6 p.m.

The community is invited to join the Methodists, Episcopalians and Presbyterians for soup supper at 6 p.m. followed by a worship service at 6:45 p.m. The event is hosted at the Presbyterian Church on Third and Adams.

MONTHLY GOSPEL SING-A-LONG – Friday, Feb. 12 from 6:30-8 p.m.

Hosted at the Old Time Gospel Fellowship Church, 103 S. Fifth St. The monthly event features group singing and music specials. If you have an instrument to play or you want to sing a special, call Berneda at 541-942-3773 or Sandra at 541-942-9129.

TAIZE COMMUNITY SERVICE – Monday, Feb. 15 from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Hosted in the First Presbyterian Church Chapel, 216 S. Third St. The service uses candles, sung prayer, poetry, silence and scripture to encourage deeper reflection. All are welcome. (Enter from Third Street) For information call 541-942-4479.

METHODISTS COMMEMORATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH – Sunday, Feb. 21 at 10:30 a.m.

Pastor Lura Kidner Meisen’s message is “Black History, Bible History” based on Zephaniah 3:9-13 and Acts 8:26-40. As part of Black History Month the sermon focuses on Black people in the Bible and several hymns written by African-American Christians. The church is located at 334 Washington Ave.

PRESBYTERIAN COVENANT BIBLE STUDY PLANNED IN FEBRUARY

All are welcome to join local Presbyterians in a 24-week in-depth group Bible study emphasizing the biblical concept of covenant as a unifying pattern throughout the entire Bible. The program covers both Testaments showing the interconnectedness of Scripture as a whole. The format involves Bible reading and discussion as group members learn how to love God – and others – better. Still working out the meeting logistics, there may be both a day and evening session. If interested in joining the study call 541-942-4479.

WEEKLY HAPPENINGS

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.

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.

SHALOM EVENING LIGHT MINISTRIES SERVICE CHANGES – Sundays at 3:30 p.m.

After a year of meeting in different locations in Cottage Grove and Roseburg, the attendees will meet every other Sunday at 3:30 p.m. at Cottage Grove City Hall, 400 East Main Street. On the other Sundays, the meetings are held in the South Roseburg area. For additional information call Pastor Jairus Sathianathan at 541-391-3901 or Dan Holt at 541-946-1445.

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.

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.cottagegrovemops.org or call 541-942-6842.

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

AWANA is a weekly Christian education 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.

WEEKLY WORSHIP DIRECTORY

The Sentinel prints a weekly worship directory to provide greater awareness of the diversity of our local faith community. If you want your specific information available to Sentinel readers each week, please call 942-3325 for more information. [If you have a listing please verify the weekly information is current.]

DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY FAITH PAGE

The deadline for the next monthly Faith Page is Thursday, Feb. 18 at noon. Drop off information to the Sentinel office or email it to weeldreyer@aol.com.

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.
(907) 230-5070
www.facebook.com/CSLCottageGrove

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.hopefellowshipupc.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.pennoyeravvecoc.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 Holbrock 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.