



FAITH

First Baptist pastor to retire after 30 years of ministry

BY CINDY WEELDREYER
Sentinel Faith Page Editor

The roots of Cottage Grove's First Baptist Church date back to 1909. On Dec. 19, 1926, Rev. H.W. Davis dedicated the congregation's first sanctuary. Damage from seasonal flooding in its early years, combined with a growing congregation, led church members to vote in 1983 to build a new sanctuary.

In 1985, Steve Johnson was called to be the church's 26th pastor as the Spotted Owl controversy began economically impacting many families in the church.

After first serving churches in Portland and Sandpoint (ID), the still fairly new pastor drove into Cottage Grove on a cold and rainy October Saturday in a fully-loaded station wagon with his wife, Mercy, and their three young children to begin what has now become 30 years of service to the First Baptist Church (FBC) and the Cottage

Grove community.

The Johnsons led the congregation with much grace through the challenging process of replacing the historic and iconic sanctuary with a larger, modern one, dedicated in September of 1993.

"It was a building built by faith," Steve said. "The laid-off men in the church provided the labor, and it was constructed without a mortgage."

In the past three decades, Steve and Mercy had two more children. All five kids attended K-12 at South Lane Christian School. They are now young professionals and starting families of their own.

The Johnsons are an effective ministry team and encourage members to look beyond the church walls and reach out to share the love and heart of Christ with others.

As community leaders, Steve served for years on the hospital's hospice board and on the LCC-Cottage Grove Advisory Committee. Mercy



photo by Bruce Kelsch

Mercy and Steve Johnson will be honored for their 30 years in ministry on Saturday, May 28.

positively impacted several generations of young mothers in Bible study groups and the MOPS program by freely shar-

ing her godly wisdom and personal experience raising five

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Special events

PRESBYTERIAN SPRING RHAPSODY IN MUSIC CONCERT – Sunday, May 1 at 4 p.m.

Local Presbyterians invite the community to enjoy an afternoon of free performances featuring World-recognized Organist Natascha Reich, Third Street Woodwind Ensemble, hand bell duets, and UO Music School students playing piano, classical guitar and euphonium. Donations accepted to support young musicians and the summer music programs. A reception to meet the artists follows the program. For details call: (541) 942 4479 or (541) 946 1041.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER – Thursday, May 5

The theme for the 65th annual National Day of Prayer is "Wake Up America", emphasizing the need for individuals, corporately and individually, to return to the God of Fathers in reverence for His Holy Name. To further highlight the theme, organizers have chosen Isaiah 58:1a as our Scripture for this year: "Shout it aloud, do not hold back. Raise your voice like a trumpet." For details visit: www.nationaldayof-prayer.org/

ASCENSION DAY JOINT SERVICE – Thursday, May 5 at 6 p.m.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church will host United Methodist and First Presbyterian churches for the Holy Eucharist on the Feast of the Ascension, Thursday, May 5. Ministers of all three churches will take part, with Ulysses Loken as organist and Larry Bottemiller as trumpeter. A Mexican-style fiesta in honor of Cinco de Mayo follows the service.

TRINITY LUTHERAN ASCENSION DAY SERVICE – Thursday, May 5 at 7 p.m.

This commemoration of Jesus bodily ascending into heaven begins with a balloon release in the parking lot followed by a service with joyful singing. A free soup supper is served at 6:15. All are welcome. The church is located at Sixth and Quincy.

MONTHLY GOSPEL SING-A-LONG – Friday, May 13 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.

SDA MONTHLY PRODUCE AND MORE GIVEAWAY – Monday, May 16 from 1-3 p.m.

Seventh-Day Adventist Community Services provides fresh fruits and vegetables as well as clothing and some household goods. The church is located at 820 S. 10th St. (Across from Harrison School)

METHODIST CHURCH FREE SPRING CONCERT – Saturday, April 23 at 1 p.m.

The concert features sacred and secular music performed by graduate students from the UO School of Music. Performers are: Alison Kaufman, Emma Rose, Cole Blume and Olga Oseth. Refreshments will follow the free concert. Donations will be accepted for the All Night Graduation Party. The church is located at 334 Washington Ave.

CHURCH BRIEFS

COTTAGE GROVE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL UPDATE

Cottage Grove Christian School organizers happily report they have received the minimum number of students to proceed with plans to open an elementary school this fall in the Seventh-Day Adventist Church. They continue to accept applications to enroll students in Grades 1-8 for the 2016-2017 school year. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call 541-206-0385 or on their Facebook page: Cottage Grove Christian School.

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 – Tuesdays at 8:30 a.m.

The Cottage Grove United Methodist Church offers a weekly community Bible study. 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.

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. High School students meet on Mondays at 7 p.m. in the game room above Domino's Pizza (next to the post office). Middle School students meet on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. at Riverside Community Church, 1255 S. River Rd. More information available on Facebook at Cottage Grove Campus Life or by calling Director Tim Sinclair at 541-285-4812.

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

SUNDAY MORNING LIGHT WEEKLY RADIO PROGRAM

Each Sunday morning from 7-10 a.m. KNND 1400-AM provides three hours of inspirational programming with a Christian world-view. Host Cindy Weeldreyer invites you to tune in and become part of KNND's Sunday Morning Light family. Listener line: 541-942-5548.

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 MAY FAITH PAGE

The deadline for the next monthly Faith Page is Thursday, May 19 at noon. Drop off information to the Sentinel office or email it to weeldreyer@aol.com.

Worship Directory

WORSHIP WITH US

DRAIN:
Gateway Family Fellowship
Church of the Nazarene
337 "C" St. Drain, OR
Sunday School 9:30am
Worship 10:45am
Living Hope Free Lunch
Wed. at 12:30pm
541-836-7051 www.drainnaz.org

COTTAGE GROVE:
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
Youth Group Bible Study
Child Care 10:45am Service Only
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.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.pennoy ravecoc.com

Old Time Gospel Fellowship
103 S. 5th St. • 541-942-4999
Pastor: Jim Edwards
Sunday Service: 10:00am
Join us in Traditional Christian Worship

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. Dinner 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.