



FAITH

Center for Spiritual Living takes root in local faith community

BY CINDY WEELDREYER
Sentinel Faith Page Editor

For Rev. Bobby Lee, the journey from being a well-known Alaskan Iditarod dog sled racer to presiding over Cottage Grove's newest church is an interesting one. Next month church members celebrate their second anniversary since beginning their Sunday afternoon services in the Community Center.

Born and raised in Alaska, Lee's early spiritual foundation was in the Episcopal faith. At an early age, he began questioning his church leaders about traditional Biblical teachings regarding God's love and eternal judgment. Not satisfied with their answers, and believing church doctrine unnecessarily separates people, he set out on a decades-long search to find those answers and along the way discovered a deeper understanding of the amazing power of God's love.

The Grove Center for Spiritual Living is one of 400 spiritual communities worldwide (10 in Oregon) founded on the 1926 book "The Science of Mind," by Dr. Ernest Holmes [1934-1964]. The book is the core teaching and philosophy that integrates spiritual truths with science and physics to embrace the unity of all life.

Church leaders teach that intentions and ideas flow through a field of consciousness, which actually affects and creates the world around us. They believe the secret to living a successful life is to consciously choose positive and productive thoughts - "as you think, so you become."

Centers for Spiritual Living (CSL) has its roots in the New Thought Movement that first appeared in America near the end of the 19th century. However, it is not affiliated with other New Thought churches such as Christian Science and Unity Church or with Scientology.

"The New Thought philosophy is not new at all," Lee said. "We incorporate the ancient wisdom of all the spiritual traditions through the ages. People of all spiritual paths — Christian, Jewish, Buddhist, Hindu, Islam, New Age and others — are all welcome in our communities. Our mission is "to inspire and awaken people to live more positive, loving and authentic lives by teaching the principles of the Science of Mind and spreading love."

The vision of the local church is "to demonstrate a united spiritual family that lives the principles of Science of Mind, while creating and sustaining a loving community that works for all by embracing the Science of Mind principles."

Science of Mind (aka Religious Science) practitioners believe the fields of religion and science are complimentary. They believe the relatively recent discovery in quantum physics (indicating the universe is made up of energy that cannot be destroyed and is infinitely intelligent) validates what mystics have said for thousands of years about the nature of God, human beings and the Universe.

"I've always been a spiritual person and drawn toward ministry. Twenty six years ago, at the age of 45, I was spiritually searching when I walked into a Religious Science church in Anchorage," Lee recalled. "The speaker's talk, about how changing your attitude from hate to love creates power, resonated with my heart. During a meditation I realized everything given to me by Beloved God. In that moment, I felt so loved. It was powerful and a turning point in my life," Lee said.

In 2008, Lee relocated to Siletz (OR) to settle his uncle's estate. While there he decided to become a practitioner and later began attending

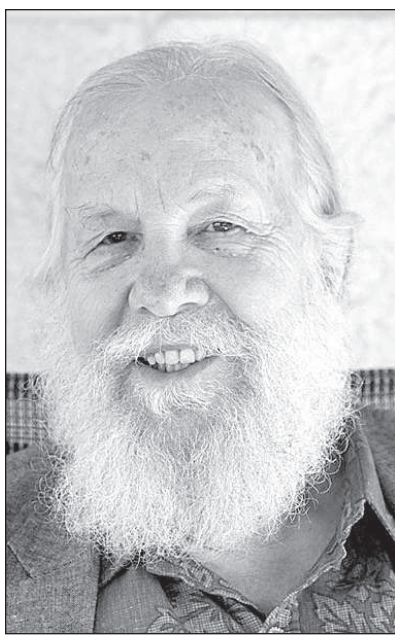


photo by Bruce Keish

Rev. Bobby Lee has led the congregation of the Center for Spiritual Living for two years.

the Eugene CSL church, led by Rev. Linda Finley, for deeper study of the Science of Mind principles.

Four years ago, as he was completing his ministry training, he was invited to give a talk at a camping retreat and several Cottage Grove participants asked him to begin a church here. The first service was held in June, 2014. Lee has two adult sons and lives with his wife, Nancy, in the coastal town of Gleneden Beach. He stays with a friend in Eugene so he can be in Cottage Grove from Sunday through Tuesday. He presides over the 3 p.m. Sunday service at the Community Center and also teaches a Monday night class.

The Sunday service includes live music and a talk emphasizing one of the Principles of God, which provides practical applications of how to embody the principle in daily life. Members meditate to provide an opportunity to develop an awareness of the Presence of Spirit. A collection is taken to offer an opportunity for those present to join in the flow of abundance and prosperity that is life.

From a lifestyle perspective, members demonstrate their beliefs and

Please see **CENTER**, Page 11A

Special events!

JOHNSONS RETIREMENT RECEPTION – Saturday, May 28 from 1-4 p.m.

The community is invited to a reception honoring retiring First Baptist Church Pastor Steve Johnson and his wife Mercy to commemorate their three decades of ministry here. The church is located at 301 S. 6th St.

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL PLANS MEMORIAL CEREMONY – Sunday, May 29 at 10:30 a.m.

The service includes a prayer time in the Memorial Garden next to the church that features a flowered cross to honor those whose ashes are buried there. The bell in the steeple will be tolled one time for each name that is read. The church is located on the corner of West Main and 'M' Street.

METHODIST DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT DELIVERS SUNDAY MESSAGE – May 29 at 10:30 a.m.

Local United Methodists welcome their District Superintendent Rev. Gwen Drake to preside over the Sunday service. The title of her sermon is "The Mixed Field" based on Jesus' parable of the wheat and the weeds found in Matthew 13:24-30. The church is located at 334 Washington Ave.

LIVING FAITH ASSEMBLY SUMMER HOURS BEGIN – Weekend of June 4-5

Living Faith Assembly will offer one service on Sunday morning at 10 a.m. and no Saturday night service until the fall. The church is located on the corner of 10th and Monroe. For more information call 541-942-2612.

PRESBYTERIANS HOST CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT – Sunday, June 5 at 3 p.m.

The concert features Chamber Music Amici of Eugene/Springfield, a classical chamber music ensemble with five core musicians. Reduced price tickets for the local performance are \$20 for adults and \$5 for students (elementary through college and graduate school) For additional information visit www.chambermusicamici.org.

GROVE CHORAL AND BAND CAMP RETURNS – June 28-July 21

First Presbyterian Church will again host this four-week summer program for young musicians. Tentative schedule is three mornings per week on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. The final choral concert is scheduled for Wednesday July 20 and the band concert on Thursday, July 21.

COTTAGE GROVE SUMMER COMMUNITY BAND – Begins Thursday, June 9 at 7 p.m.

All ages are welcome to join this free intergenerational community band. Rehearsals will be in the Cottage Grove High School band room each Thursday evening until the final concert (with the student band camp) on Thursday, July 21.

SDA MONTHLY PRODUCE AND MORE GIVEAWAY – Monday, June 20 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)

TRINITY LUTHERAN VBS DAY CAMP DISCOUNT REGISTRATION DEADLINE – June 22

Camp Lutherwood staff will again host TLC's Vacation Bible School at the church this summer for children entering grades 1-6. The dates are July 25-29; Monday – Thursday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Friday, 9 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. at the church on Sixth and Quincy.

The cost is \$50 per child or \$100 for 2+ children (of the same family). Trinity Sunday School children attend free. Registration fee includes snacks, Lunch [M-Th] and a T-shirt. Registration deadline is July 6. Flyers and forms can be found at www.tlccg.com. Submit registration and fee to the church office or mail to Trinity Lutheran Church, Attention: VBS Day Camp, 675 South 7th Street, Cottage Grove, OR 97424. A confirmation letter will be sent once the registration form and fee have been received. For more information call 541-729-5113 or send email to Sharon.vanhoy@gmail.com

WEEKLY EVENTS

COTTAGE GROVE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL NOW ENROLLING

Cottage Grove Christian School, a new faith-based el-

ementary/middle school (grades 1-8), continues to accept applications for the 2016-2017 school year. It will be located in the Cottage Grove Seventh-Day

Adventist Church. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call 541-206-0385 or visit its 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.

SUNDAY MORNING LIGHT WEEKLY RADIO PROGRAM

Each Sunday morning from 7-10 a.m. KNND 1400-AM provides three hours of inspi-

ration programming with a Christian world-view. All genres of Christian music are interspersed with community information, local church news, and devotional readings. 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.]

FAITH PAGE PUBLICATION NOTE

Due to the editor's responsibilities as Bohemia Mining Days festival coordinator, there will not be a Faith Page in June and July. Please submit your faith-related events to cgnews@cgsentinel.com for publication during this two-month hiatus.

Retirement party of
PASTOR STEVE JOHNSON
30 YEARS
at First Baptist Church
301 S. 6th St.
MAY 28TH 1-4PM
Community is Welcome.

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

HOPE U.M.C.
131 W "A" St. Drain, OR
541-315-1617
Pastor: Lura Kidner-Miesen
Bible Study: 10:45am
Potluck Lunch: Noon
Worship: 12:45pm

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

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.cg4.tv

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 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 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 Hollbrock 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
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.