

# Community News

## Calvary Chapel celebrates 20th anniversary in The Grove

By **CINDY WEELDREYER**  
For *The Sentinel*

Easter Sunday is a much anticipated day for Christians around the world. For those who worship at Cottage Grove's Calvary Chapel, the day holds an extra special meaning. On Easter Sunday 1999, Pastor Jeff Smith presided over the church's first service in the former Lane Community College Center, on the corner of Fifth Street and Washington Avenue.

In a joint celebration service held March 31, Smith led the trip down a memory lane marked with milestones revealing God's faithfulness to him and those who call Calvary Chapel their spiritual home. The service included a video made at a get-together of well-wishers just before he and his wife, Sherry, moved their young family from Medford to Cottage Grove to start a church here.

"We established Cottage Grove's Calvary Chapel with four simple values built around relationship, Bible teaching, serving and discipleship," Smith said. "We state it clearly on our website that we believe no matter what generation you find yourself in, you are important. Our purpose is to reach out and equip every generation to follow Jesus as Ephesians 3:21 tells us to do."

Planting and growing churches is a long-standing tradition for Calvary Chapel, a non-denominational Christian fellowship

founded in 1965. It has since grown into an international ministry of over 1,800 fellowships throughout the world making Calvary Chapel one of America's ten largest Protestant churches.

In the past two decades, as the local church grew in attendance it outgrew four other locations before moving into its current one in the Village Shopping Center. Continued church growth in recent years, especially in youth ministry, required more space. As the church elders prayed for a solution it came in an unexpected way.

The recent closing of King's Chinese Restaurant created an opportunity for Calvary Chapel to remodel it into "King's Court," a multi-purpose space for gatherings before and after Sunday services; for middle school students to meet; special events and celebrations; overflow seating during large gatherings in the sanctuary; and for utilizing the commercial kitchen for church potlucks and community outreach. Smith noted the Friends of the Cottage Grove Carousel will be using the sanctuary and King's Court for a series of monthly fundraising concerts starting in May.

When asked to share the church's milestones in the past 20 years, Smith said there have been many. In addition to their larger facility, he is delighted the Cottage Grove church has planted two successful Cal-



The Calvary Chapel Worship Team performs during the March 31 celebration.

vary Chapels in Oregon, in Lebanon and Burns. He has led church members on six trips to Israel with a seventh trip planned in 2020.

Smith said he is also thankful for the members who have taken this 20-year faith journey with him and for many new ones who have joined them along the way. Other milestones include annually bringing the entire church together for a monthly joint service in Coiner Park during the summer months and forming the Calvary Creek band that regularly performs at community events.

Cody and Kristina Conley are a young 20-something married couple with a one-and-a-half-year-old daughter and expecting their second child later this

year. "I love how my church stands firm on what the Bible teaches," Kristina said. "We've always had a phenomenal children's ministry and youth ministry and I feel honored to be the new Children's Ministry Director. I believe the vision for children's ministry, as a whole, is bringing the Bible to life for our kids so that they can understand what is being taught and make it applicable to their lives at home."

She noted their Vacation Bible School will be June 17-21 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. for students in grades K-5. VBS details are available at [www.calvarychapelcottagegrove.com](http://www.calvarychapelcottagegrove.com)

Richard and TeriAnn New spent several years looking

for a church when they first attended Calvary Chapel in 2016 with their seven children. Today they serve as the church's Youth Ministry Directors.

"We enjoy the warm welcoming atmosphere and the strict adherence to Biblical principles and expository teaching," Richard said. "God has confirmed in me multiple times over the past year that He wants to see the culture of Cottage Grove change and His plan is to use the youth of the community to do it. I believe that there is a revival coming to our town and we had better hold on to see what God has in store."

Smith noted that beginning in May the Sunday worship times are changing to 8:30 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.

## Business Challenge submissions due May 1

The Cottage Grove Business Challenge wants to thank the South Lane community for its commitment to the growth of commerce in Cottage Grove. Attendance was high and so were spirits at the Kickoff Networking Event held March 16 at the Brewstation. The business growth focused event was held in an effort to generate more interest in the Cottage Grove Business Challenge, and it did not disappoint. Since the event, participants have been able to take part in a four-part Business Plan Accelerator course as well as a one-day seminar, brought to Cottage Grove by the Lane Small Business Development Center through Lane Community College.

Challenge Participants are due to submit their no more than four-page executive summary business plans by Wednesday, May 1. Submissions should be emailed to [contactme@cgbizplan.com](mailto:contactme@cgbizplan.com)

More information about participating and submission can be found at [www.cgbizplan.com](http://www.cgbizplan.com).

For more information, email [contactme@cgbizplan.com](mailto:contactme@cgbizplan.com) or call Brunneis, Pacific Northwest Productions, at 541-357-1930.

### SENIOR SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL NEEDS NEW MEMBERS

Are you a senior? Have a passion for working with seniors? If yes, please consider applying for the Senior & Disability Services (S&DS) Senior Services Advisory Council. S&DS serves all of Lane County with a wide range of publicly funded services for older adults and persons with disabilities. The council advises S&DS on services and advocates on senior topics. For more information please contact us at: [sdsadvisorycouncil@lco.org](mailto:sdsadvisorycouncil@lco.org) or download an application from: <http://www.lco.org/827/SSAC-Council-Membership>  
**Application deadline: April 26, 2019.**

### LCC in Cottage Grove

Mon-Thu 9-5 pm & Fri 9-2 pm  
[lanec.edu/cottagegrove](http://lanec.edu/cottagegrove)  
(541) 463-4202 - 1275 S. River Rd.

We offer more than just personal enrichment classes...

#### Credit Student Support Services

- Study Rooms
- Proctored Testing
- Computer labs
- Student lounge

#### Room Rentals

- Meeting Rooms
- Classrooms
- Computer labs
- Recording Studio

Schedules available online or at the Community Center

#### Community Education

...but we do have some great enrichment classes too. Treat yourself and bring a friend.

Lane Community College - COTTAGE GROVE

COMING SOON

### It's Junkin' Time!

Primitive, Vintage, Repurposed, salvaged, Farmhouse, Garden & Good old Rusty goodness!!!

### Rusty & Primitive Treasures Spring Vintage Market

Saginaw Vineyards  
80247 Delight Valley Rd. Cottage Grove, OR  
May 17th 4pm-8pm & May 18th 9am-4 pm  
(Friday night early picking 4pm-8pm \$5.00)

# national library week

## we ♥ our libraries!

### Cottage Grove Library

700 Gibbs, CG  
541-942-3828  
Mon & Tues 10am-7:45pm,  
Wed-Sat 10am-5:45pm

### Creswell Library

64 W Oregon Ave.  
541-895-3053  
Mon & Fri 12-6pm,  
Tues-Thur 10am-7pm,  
Sat 10am-4pm

### Brad's Cottage Grove Chevrolet

2775 Row River Rd., CG  
541-942-4415

"Little Blue Truck's Springtime"  
by Alice Schertle

Be sure to check out a LIBRARY near you!

CG Chamber  
700 E Gibbs Ave  
Cottage Grove  
(541) 942-2411

"Dragons Love Tacos"  
by Adam Rubin

Old Mill Farm Store  
327 S. River Rd. CG  
541-942-3042

"The Last Temptation of Christ"  
by Nikos Kazantzakis

Starfire Lumber  
2795 Mosby Creek Rd  
Cottage Grove  
(541) 942-0168

"This Moose Belongs to Me"  
by Olive Jeffers

Kalapuya Books  
637 Main St. CG  
541-942-6143

"Beyond the War of Invasive Species"  
by Tao Orion

Bookmine  
702 East Main St. CG  
541-942-7414

"Unsheltered"  
by Barbara Kingsolver

Grace Olson  
Cottage Grove

"The River of Doubt"  
By Theodore Roosevelt

State Farm Insurance Matt Bjornn  
1481 Gateway Blvd. CG  
541-942-2623

"Cool IT"  
by Bjorn Lomborg