

**Pantry** *from A1*

popular request. With demand came more networking with other local groups – and more clientele. Just before last year's wildfires sent people en masse searching for aid and shelter, Campbell recalls the group was serving 400 to 500 families per week. During that disaster, one week saw about 80,000 pounds worth of items distributed to desperate families. It was around this time the team started seriously considering taking on a more official status. As of Jan. 1, ROP has op-

erated as a second official food pantry for Cottage Grove – the other being Community Sharing. The new status has given ROP access to food from the United States Department of Agriculture and Food for Lane County. The latter, which operates as Lane County's food bank, makes a particular effort to obtain and provide food relevant to Latino culture, a line item for which ROP is finding demand. "What we have seen is that there's a huge amount of folks that are really looking for culturally relevant foods that are often very expensive or difficult to obtain in Cottage Grove,"



DAMIEN SHERWOOD/COTTAGE GROVE SENTINEL

**Volunteers prepare food in ROP's kitchen on Feb. 18. With an average of 600 families served per week, the organization is on the constant lookout for those who can volunteer time, items or skills.**

said Campbell. As well as providing culturally specific food, ROP has been able to increase its overall supply. "What it does is it allows for us to sustain the program longer term because now we don't have to purchase all of that food," said Campbell. "Ultimately, it means that we have just a higher volume of food." Previously, volunteers in the group would have to load cars or trucks full of items and rely heavily on donations and purchased items. "Now we get weekly truckloads of six to seven thousand pounds of food," Campbell said. "So that's been our commitment, is trying to make food as accessible as possible — and to make sure that we're not just like handing people

pre-made boxes with stuff that they don't actually want." Campbell said the organization is now serving an average of about 600 families a week, sometimes rising as high as 800 or 900. Public access to the pantry is low barrier, too. "We have very few limits, so folks can grab for other families if they want," Campbell said. "And we don't ask a lot of questions. It's just, 'What do you need? And what can we do to support you?' Because we don't want families coming here more often if they can avoid it." Every Tuesday and Thursday, families and individuals wait in a socially-distanced line which wraps around the building's corner onto Seventh Street. Two families at a time are let in to make their rounds through shelves and racks packed with diapers, books, shampoo, clothing and other items. A well-stocked kitchen is

part of the route, too, brimming with canned food and produce. The collaborative flavor of the operation also avails clientele to multiple opportunities as various groups may be represented within the building at any time. Campbell recalled about three dozen collaborating agencies and groups being part of the operation upon last count. "So we can kind of help triage and help them understand what different options are in the community and sometimes even just hand them right over to the person who can address the needs that they have," she said. People can also make separate appointments for special cases such as disabilities or being at high risk for COVID. In these arrangements, boxes can be readied for pickup and there is a limited ability for delivery as well. Currently, 68 volunteers keep the operation run-

ning, said Campbell, and the group is always in need of more donations and volunteers. "That's how we're able to keep this afloat," she said, "is volunteer-donated time, volunteer dollars to pay for diapers and that kind of stuff." An increase of volunteers could even lead to an expansion of services in the future. In the meantime, ROP is on the lookout for volunteers who can commit to some physical work such as heavy lifting as well as more cerebral work such as graphic design for flyers and language interpretation. Food handler's licenses are needed for volunteers looking to help with food. ROP's current donation wish list includes food such as canned fruit or veggies, soup, ramen, canned chicken and flour or masa. Needed hygiene items include toothpaste, diapers (sizes 5 and 6), baby wipes, toilet paper, paper towels, shampoo, soap and laundry detergent. The organization is also in need of survival items such as sleeping bags, tents, tarps, propane, cookstoves, coats and shoes or boots. The group asks that these items be only new or gently used, however. ROP opens to the public every Tuesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and every Thursday from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. The building can be found at 632 E Main Street in Cottage Grove. Call 541-649-1169 for more information or to ask about special arrangements.

# Worship Directory

<p><b>COTTAGE GROVE:</b> <b>6th &amp; Gibbs Church of Christ</b> 195 N. 6th St. • 541-942-3822 10:00am Christian Education: Pre-K through 5th Tim Baker, Senior Minister www.6thandgibbs.com</p> <p><b>Calvary Baptist Church</b> 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</p> <p><b>Church of Christ</b> 420 Monroe St • 541-942-8565 Sunday Service: 10:30am</p> <p><b>Cottage Grove Bible Church</b> 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.cgbible.org</p> <p><b>Cottage Grove Faith Center</b> 33761 Row River Rd. 541-942-4851 Lead Pastor: Kevin Prueff www.cg4.tv Full Children's Ministry available Services: 9:00am &amp; 10:45am</p> <p><b>Delight Valley</b> 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</p> <p><b>First Baptist Church</b> 301 S. 6th st • 541-942-8242 Pastor: David Chhangle Sunday School 9:30am Worship Service 10:30am Youth Wednesday 6:30pm cgfirstbaptist.com</p>	<p><b>First Presbyterian Church</b> 3rd and Adams St 541-942-4479 Rev.: Karen Hill Worship: 10:00am Sunday School: 10:00am fpcgrove.com</p> <p><b>Hope Fellowship</b> 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"</p> <p><b>Hope In The Grove Baptist Church</b> 77820 Mosby Creek Rd Pastor: Wayne Husk Worship: Sunday 10:00am Evening Bible Study: Wednesday 6:30pm 541.649.1043</p> <p><b>Living Faith Assembly</b> 467 S. 10th St. • 541-942-2612 Worship Services Sundays: 9a &amp; 11a Youth Worship Sundays: 11a (all ages welcome) Mondays: 5:30p (6th-12th grades)</p> <p><b>Non-Denominational Church of Christ</b> 1041 Pennoyer Ave 541-942-8928 Preacher: Tony Martin Sunday Bible Study: 10:00am Sunday Worship: 10:50am &amp; 5:30pm www.pennoyeravecoc.com</p> <p><b>Our Lady of Perpetual Help and St. Philip Benizi Catholic Churches</b> 1025 N. 19th St. 541-942-3420 Father John J. Boyle Holy Mass: Saturday Vigil - 5:30 pm Sunday - 10:30 am For weekday and Holy Day of Obligation schedule see website OLPHCG.net Saturdays or 4 PM to 5 PM Sundays by appointment St. Philip Benizi, Creswell</p>	<p>552 Holbrook Lane Sunday 8 am</p> <p><b>St. Andrews Episcopal Church</b> 1301 W. Main • 541-767-9050 Rev. Lawrence Crumb "Scripture, Tradition, Reason" Worship: Sunday 10:30am All Welcome</p> <p><b>Seventh-day Adventist Church</b> 820 South 10th Street 541-942-5213 Pastor: James D. Boram Bible Study: Saturday, 9:15 am Worship Service: Saturday, 10:40 Mid-week Service: Wednesday, 1:00</p> <p><b>Trinity Lutheran Church</b> 6th &amp; Quincy • 541-942-2373 Pastor: James L. Markus Sunday School &amp; Adult Education 9:15am Sunday Worship 10:30 am Comm. Kitchen Free Meal Tue &amp; Thur 5:00pm TLC Groups tlccg.com</p> <p><b>United Methodist Church</b> 334 Washington 541-942-3033 Worship 10am umcgrove.org</p> <p><b>"VICTORY" Country Church</b> 913 S. 6th Street • 541-942-5913 Pastor: Barbara Dockery Worship Service: 10:00am Message: "WE BELIEVE IN MIRACLES"</p> <p><b>CRESWELL:</b> <b>Creswell Presbyterian Church</b> 75 S 4th S • 541-895-3419 Rev. Seth Wheeler Adult Sunday School 9:15am Sunday Worship Service 10:30 am website www.creswellpres.org</p>
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