

October Happenings

2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 11:30 Carol Barry Romsdahl Memorial
3 11 Church 5 Youth Meet	4	5	6	7 3 Church Board Meeting	8	9
10 11 Church	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 11 Church 5 Youth Meet	18	19 2 Martha @ Lesson 2 at Sharon's	20	21	22	23
24 11 Church	25	26 6 Hymns & Hops at Conversion Brewery	27	28	29	30
31 11 Church						

October Birthdays

Tyna Lewelling	2
Benny Hardub	6
Rachel Gazeley	7
Kerri Godinez	11
Lauren Christie	17
Arlene Breckel	18
Barbara Tarrant	19
Patricia Saul	28
Kyle Allison	29
Richard Stevens	29

IN OUR PRAYERS:

Steven Morgan	Addy Opel	Nan Martin	Ministers, the Soup Kitchen, and our Regional Ministers.
Nancy VanVleet	Diana Johnson	Pam Nervino	
Ron VanVleet	James Lenfesty	Service People:	
Dennis Stover	Clint Evans	Sgt. Scot Noss	
Jesse LeSeur	Gary Brown	Cpt. Tory Petersen	If you know of any updates or corrections to this list, please let the office know in writing or by email.
Arlene Breckel	Shelley Alsdorf	1st Lt. Kellen Peterson	
Del Eggert	Joe Adkins	Marine Capt. Pete Brawn	
Myke Eggert	Ronita Slayden		
Betty Lou Rockwell	Gertrude DeButts		Pray for our World, our Church, our
Millie Patterson	Diana Hoover		
John Stolsig	Baby Ella		
Jerry Stolsig	Madeline		
Judy LeSeur	Wright-Burns		



Christian Caller

October 2021

Volume 259

Happy Fall church family!

It's an exciting time in our church, as we prepare to welcome the new sound equipment, we continue to work on our sacred space, and enter into a new era of worship and youth work. There are committees meeting, and excitement being generated for the upcoming holiday season. The Soup Kitchen is preparing for in-person holiday meals, and has been settling back into a re-opened dining room. Many regular guests and volunteers are returning, and re-building the community there with new faces and old. The last of the new sound and video equipment has been ordered and should arrive in the Valley next week. We're still hoping for an installation this month, and then streaming to resume immediately after the equipment is installed. We still need volunteers to learn how to work the equipment, so contact me if you're interested. We appreciate your patience as we sort the online church out.

I also wanted to update you on the current use of the church building. We now have three AA meetings a week here, Tuesday and Thursday at noon, and Friday at 6:30. A girl scout troop meets here Monday evenings, and we're still trying to find a way to support the work of local non-profit Mighty Oaks, which does physical and occupational therapy for bilingual and hard-of-hearing children. If you have a chance, walking through the upstairs classroom will help you to see how much has been cleaned up there and how close we are to

the goal of using our space for community outreach and ministries.
God Bless, and I hope you revel in the cooler weather!
Pastor Zane Ridings

October Scriptures & Sermon Titles:

October 3rd: Mark 12:18-27 "The God of the Living"
October 10th: Mark 12:28-34 "The greatest commandment"
October 17th: [Renee Windsor-White Preaching]
John 1:1-18 "The Power to Become Children of God"
October 24th: Mark 12:35-44 "Faith Experts"
October 31st: Mark 14:1-9 "The Anointed One"

YOUTH EVENTS
Sundays, October 3rd & 17th
5:00 pm
Dinner included
Led by Julie Verbeck
and Susie Phillips



CWF Martha Meeting
Tuesday, October 19
2:00 pm
At Sharon Campbell's

Worship Service
Inside Sanctuary—11:00 AM
Live on facebook—11:00 AM
youtube—12:30 PM

First Christian Church of Lebanon

170 E. Grant St.
Lebanon, OR
97355

Pastor: Zane Ridings - 503-798-7445
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:30 am-1:30 pm
Church E-Mail: lebanonfcc@comcast.net
Website: www.fcclebanon.org

Church office: 541-258-5911

A MESSAGE FROM KENNEDY BIGHAM

Kennedy spent some time with us in the summer of 2020 as a student intern and then traveled to Texas to attend Texas Christian University.

Hey Church! I hope y'all are staying safe and healthy.

I'm excited to share with you a bit about how my Spring semester wound up, what I did this summer, and what my year is going to look like.

Last Spring, I had the opportunity to preach at Monica Park Christian Church in Garland, Texas. The Pastor of the church there is Rev. Eddie Hill, a Disciples Minister, and the dad of one of my current roommates. Not only did he invite me to preach at Monica Park Christian Church but I was also asked to collaborate in the planning of the first Women's conference at the church and to be one of the three guest speakers. This opportunity truly pushed me to grow in new ways and I greatly enjoyed working with two other amazingly talented women and Pastor Eddie to put together a program on the book of Ruth that could be applicable to women of all ages.

In the Spring, I also was invited by Rev. Lea McCracken of TCU to write a devotional to put in the Lenten series devotional sent to an email list upwards of 1,000 recipients. Over the course of the Spring semester, I also kept myself busy with my involvement with Doxology Bible Church in Fort Worth, where I attend church services and college worship nights weekly and where I participated in their "Emerging Leaders" program for college students.

Aside from my many ministry involvements, I also spent my extra time working in the Robert Carr Chapel at TCU where I manage the Audio/Visual Tech for weddings and other events. Lastly, as I wrapped up my Spring semester, I made sure to stay on top of my grades despite my busy schedule and it paid off as I made the Dean's List for my College (AddRan College of Liberal Arts).

At the start of summer, I travelled just outside of Chicago to participate in a Women's conference. It was a much more *Holy Spirit-filled* and dynamic setting than I am used to, but I really got a lot out of it and it pushed me to grow my understanding of how effective ministry looks.

This summer, I returned home to see my family and friends and work in ministry in the setting of a faith-based non-profit organization called, The Salem Leadership Foundation (SLF). I had worked at this organization last year, but my internship was primarily on Zoom at that time. This year, it was a joy to get to know my co-workers and the atmosphere of the workplace more closely and in-person. Through this internship, I interviewed female pastors in the area; actively participated in in-person and Zoom meetings with community members, agencies and church leaders; compiled, organized and assessed surveys from SLF's 25th year survey project, and researched and wrote a report on the women Methodist missionaries in Early Salem History. I also toured nearly a new church in my area every Sunday to get a more complete understanding of how worship and teaching is run throughout my city. I found this to be a very insightful practice that will greatly shape what aspects of a service I choose to incorporate into my own church services someday.

Also notable about my summer, I took the opportunity of time away from school to launch my Christian Etsy shop, *One King Artistry*, where I sell hand-painted thrifted items with the goal of making God known and glorifying His name.

I began my Sophomore year in August and already have learned and grown so much. This year, I started my volunteer position on the College Leadership Team at Doxology Bible Church. This has been such a life-giving and rewarding experience so far and I just got started! This year-long commitment involves: participating in Reach Week--a three day outreach experience where we meet first years and transfer students on our campus with the goal of having spiritual discussions with

them, leading a weekly Bible study, attending college worship and church services weekly, being mentored by a church member, planning and participating in outreach events, and discipling younger students.

In addition to my volunteer work with my church and my job at the Chapel, I have also begun a campus job working in the Religion department as a TA for the Chair of the Religion Department. My Religion class this semester is a Sophomore Seminar focused on Interfaith studies and has been very insightful and



(Kennedy's letter continued)

thought provoking so far. I am also taking Greek and looking into minoring in Classics studies which is the category Greek falls under. This year, I am also looking into potentially studying abroad in Rome this May on a trip led by two Religion Department professors I am currently taking classes with. Aside from that, I am excited to see what other opportunities come my way.

Martha CWF

On September 21 the Martha Christian Women's Fellowship met in the sanctuary for its first meeting since February 2020. We had nine ladies present. A short business meeting was followed by the first lesson in our new study, "The Rock, the Road, and the Rabbi" led by Sharon Campbell. We will have six sessions in this study whose purpose is to familiarize us with "The land where it all began", the places where Jesus spent his earthly life.

Every lady in the congregation is invited and welcomed into this group. It meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 2 o'clock. The next meeting will be at Sharon Campbell's home on October 19. Following the study, we share in fellowship and dessert. Come and join us!



Week of Compassion is the relief, refugee and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada.

The past few weeks have been heavy with crises: the desperate situation in Afghanistan, which continues to unfold; the earthquake in Haiti, which killed more than 2,200 and left tens of thousands more without a home; Hurricane Ida, which caused widespread damage in Louisiana and Mississippi, and even as far north as New York and New Jersey; and wildfires that continue to spread rapidly across the western U.S.

Support for Afghanistan is reaching Week of Compassion partners with long-standing relationships in the region. They are working to meet immediate needs among those who are unable to leave the country. Meanwhile, Week of Compassion, along with Disciples Refugee and Immigration Ministries and other partners, is working to support Afghans arriving in the United States. Many Disciples congregations are stepping up to help welcome families resettling in their local communities.

Recent gifts for earthquake response are providing relief to the people of Haiti as they navigate yet another devastating event. Week of Compassion partners responded immediately, deploying volunteers to help with rescue operations and assess the damage. In the weeks since, they've been working to provide things like temporary shelters, emergency power generators, hygiene kits, food and water, as well as first aid kits. But this is only the beginning. Week of Compassion will continue to support long-term responses including construction, community-based psychosocial support and trauma recovery, as well as rebuilding of damaged water infrastructure.

Disciples congregations in Louisiana continue to assess damage from Hurricane Ida. Week of Compassion is supporting congregations as they work to serve their neighbors. Just Love Your Neighbor-Northshore Disciples are working with other local organizations to meet basic needs like food and water. Two churches in the greater Houston area have also been helping with supplies. We continue to plan for long-term recovery needs, as well as share information to help those affected navigate the process of seeking FEMA assistance. Meanwhile, your presence is also being felt to the northeast.

The need seems overwhelming at times, Church. *But so is your compassion.* The Psalmist reminds us not to fear, even when waters roar and mountains quake. Disciples have answered the call in a powerful way, acting out of love and mercy rather than fear and hopelessness. You bear witness to the power of God at work in our midst, in the holy places that remain even in places of disaster. Please continue to hold all of these people and places in prayer in the weeks and months ahead. Thank you for your important part in this work that continues to change lives around the world, around the year.