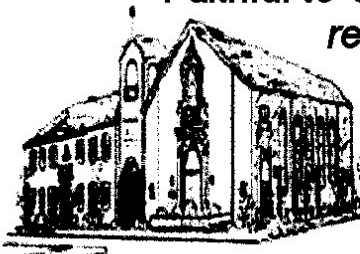


8th & Holly newsletter
First Presbyterian Church
85 South Holly Street
Medford, Oregon 97501

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. Postage paid
Medford OR 97501
Permit No. 383

Faithful to God; Grounded in Love,
responsive to the world.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
Church

8th & Holly

Our 139th year

Nurturing people in body, mind, and soul for the glory of God

The monthly newsletter of First Presbyterian Church of Medford, Oregon July 2024

Randy Scherer gathers his friends

The July 14 Jazz Vespers showcases what trumpeter Randy Scherer calls his “Reunion of Friends.” Scherer, a one-time contract musician for cruise lines, has been a Southern Oregon resident and part of the local music scene since 2006. He most recently played for our Easter Sunday worship.

Joining him in the vesper's ensemble are Michael Vannice on saxophone, Josh DiStefano on piano, Ryan Johnson on bass and Theresa McCoy on drums.

The visual art exhibit in our first-floor gallery hallway continues paintings by new Deacon Cindy Walker.



Randy Scherer

Edward Boyd returns

Singer Edward Boyd, who last appeared at First Presbyterian for the Ukrainian Benefit Concert, returns for our July 28 Classical Vespers service. Boyd began singing professionally as an eight-year-old. He studied at Penn State and travels to Europe each summer for additional music studies.

Boyd gives voice lessons locally. He's a former principal singer with Southern Oregon Repertory Singers.

Anna Christina Strelitz will accompany Boyd on the piano. Classical Vespers is at 5 p.m. Sunday, July 28 in the sanctuary.

Food bank: canned meats

When you come to worship during July, bring along a can – or one of those new plastic pouches – of meat. Our Food Bank hasn't been receiving any of this important food item through its regular sources. We need to step up and fill up the shelves. Examples of the need are canned tuna, salmon or chicken. Or Spam. Or canned hash or chili or beef stew. The West Medford Food Bank serves about 140 families a week.

And remember on the first Sunday of the month, July 7, it is time for filling up the red cart in the narthex with fresh vegetables such as a sack of potatoes, onions or carrots. Your generosity is appreciated!

From the pastor's study

By Murray Richmond



One of the cool things I get to do as a pastor is hear what other people believe. When a person is ordained as a deacon or elder, they get to write a statement of faith which is presented to the Session. Many people, when told they have to write one, balk at the requirement.

I know why. Writing is difficult for many people, and to write about what you believe is deeply personal. Some people have not done a deep dive into their own beliefs, and when they do they usually find it a rewarding process.

Ministers have to write a statement of faith every time they start work with a new congregation. This is the fourth congregation I have served, so over the last 30 or so years I have written four statements of faith. Each one was different because my own faith has grown and evolved over the years. I can see how it has deepened and matured.

What if you had to write a statement of faith? What would you say about what you believe? Imagine you had to write a statement of faith 20 years ago. What would you have said then, and how has your faith changed over the years?

In one of the more recent statements of faith the Session has received, the person actually wrote about how their faith has developed over the years. They started with a theological statement from their high school days, one that served them for a while. But then they started to really question their faith, and through that process began to grow in their faith.

The last part of their statement was a revisioning of that early statement, creating something similar, yet also very different.

This is where they are now: *I believe in God the creator, infinite in wisdom, goodness, and love and in Jesus Christ, God incarnate, my Lord and Savior, who was crucified, died, rose and lives within and among us, and in the Holy Spirit, who takes the things of Christ and reveals to us, renewing, comforting, and inspiring the souls of all.*

I encourage you to set aside some time, take up pen and paper, write “I believe...” and finish that sentence. It does not have to be long. It just has to be honest!

I believe ...

July at First

1 Monday
4:15 p.m. **Christian Ed Committee**, Library
6:30 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous women's meeting**, Fellowship Hall

2 Tuesday
10 a.m. **Staff meeting**, workroom
12:30 p.m. **Food Bank**, 950 Columbus Ave.
6:30 p.m. **Growth Committee**, Fireside Room

3 Wednesday
6:30 p.m. **"Men's Unloaded" Narcotics Anonymous**, Fireside Room

4 Thursday Independence Day



Office and Sarah Corson Center closed

5 Friday
Sarah Corson Center closed
6:30 p.m. **"It Checks Out" Narcotics Anonymous**, Fellowship Hall

6 Saturday
Noon, **"Attitude of Gratitude" Narcotics Anonymous**, Fireside Room
Noon, **Women's Fellowship Luncheon**, Silver Dragon Restaurant, 1011 Spring St.
7 p.m. **"Circle of Friends" Narcotics Anonymous**, Fireside Room

7 Sunday
8:30 a.m. **Informal worship**, Fellowship Hall
11 a.m. **Traditional Worship**, Sanctuary

8 Monday
6:30 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous women's meeting**, Fellowship Hall

9 Tuesday
10 a.m. **Staff meeting**, workroom
12:30 p.m. **Food Bank**, 950 Columbus Ave.

10 Wednesday
6:30 p.m. **"Men's Unloaded" Narcotics Anonymous**, Fireside Room

12 Friday
6:30 p.m. **"It Checks Out" Narcotics Anonymous**, Fellowship Hall

13 Saturday
Noon, **"Attitude of Gratitude" Narcotics Anonymous**, Fireside Room

7 p.m. **"Circle of Friends" Narcotics Anonymous**, Fireside Room

14 Sunday
8:30 a.m. **Informal worship**, Fellowship Hall
11 a.m. **Traditional Worship**, Sanctuary
Noon, **Worship Committee**, Library
5 p.m. **Jazz Vespers, Randy Scherer and Friends**, Sanctuary

15 Monday
6:30 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous women's meeting**, Fellowship Hall
6:30 p.m. **Fellowship Committee**, Fireside Room

16 Tuesday
10 a.m. **Staff meeting**, workroom
12:30 p.m. **Food Bank**, 950 Columbus Ave.

17 Wednesday
6:30 p.m. **"Men's Unloaded" Narcotics Anonymous**, Fireside Room

18 Thursday
9 a.m. **Personnel Committee**, Library
10 a.m. **Finance Committee**, workroom

1 p.m. **Women's Fellowship**, craft time, Fellowship Hall

20 Saturday
Noon **"Attitude of Gratitude" Narcotics Anonymous**, Fireside Room
7 p.m. **"Circle of Friends" Narcotics Anonymous**, Fireside Room

21 Sunday
8:30 a.m. **Informal worship**, Fellowship Hall
11 a.m. **Traditional Worship**, Sanctuary
12:15 p.m. **Deacons**, Fireside Room

22 Monday
6:30 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous women's meeting**, Fellowship Hall

23 Tuesday
10 a.m. **Staff meeting**, workroom
12:30 p.m. **Food Bank**, 950 Columbus Ave.

24 Wednesday
6:30 p.m. **"Men's Unloaded" Narcotics Anonymous**, Fireside Room

26 Friday
6:30 p.m. **"It Checks Out" Narcotics Anonymous**, Fellowship Hall

27 Saturday
Noon **"Attitude of Gratitude" Narcotics Anonymous**, Fireside Room
7 p.m. **"Circle of Friends" Narcotics Anonymous**, Fireside Room

28 Sunday
8:30 a.m. **Informal worship**, Fellowship Hall
11 a.m. **Traditional Worship**, Sanctuary
5 p.m. **Classical Vespers, Edward Boyd, vocalist** Sanctuary

29 Monday
6:30 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous women's meeting**, Fellowship Hall

30 Tuesday
10 a.m. **Staff meeting**, workroom
12:30 p.m. **Food Bank**, 950 Columbus Ave.

31 Wednesday
6:30 p.m. **"Men's Unloaded" Narcotics Anonymous**, Fireside Room

New members



Chunhui Billings

Chloe Sternola

Session welcomed two new members of the congregation this week. Chloe Sternola is a member of the choir and a volunteer handing out sack lunches. She's been worshiping with us since 2021. Chunhui Billings is a Purdue University student interning in Medford this summer.

July Birthdays

- 7 Cindy Walker
- 8 Dudley Peterson
- 9 Kari Diehl
- 9 Josie Metz
- 11 Kathy Waugh
- 12 Diana Kelley
- 16 Evonne Hubbard
- 17 Lenny Reierson
- 23 Vera Morrell
- 24 Monty Holst
- 27 Bill Lucas
- 30 Paula Burkhalter
- 30 Jan Grunwald

Leak report

The leak investigation in the Sarah Corson portion of the Urban Center II Building apparently found a source – drips from faulty plumbing. Bob Had-don told Session this week that a plumber made the discovery. Belfor Restoration has the contract to make repairs. .

Eat Chinese!

This month's Women's Fellowship luncheon will be at the Silver Dragon Restaurant, 1011 Spring Steet in East Medford. It will be Saturday, July 6 at noon. There's a sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthex. If you sign up and must cancel, call Evonne Hubbard at (541) 778-3501 so she can adjust the reservation.

Women's Fellowship and the Board of Deacons are making items for sale at a fall craft fair. Evonne says the date will be Saturday, November 9. Those interested in reserving table space can contact Evonne or Marilyn Hultquist. The Fellowship works on craft projects at 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall on the third Thursday of the month.



First Presbyterian Church

85 South Holly Street
Medford, Oregon 97501
Phone: (541) 779-1711
Email: fpcm@firstpresmedford.org

Office hours Mon. through Thurs.
9 a.m. to noon.

Pastor ...Rev. Murray Richmond
Congregational Care Associate
.....Mike Hubbard
Associate for Visitation and
Pastoral Care
.....Rev. Mary Wright Gillespie
Minister of Music and Media
.....Tony Chunn
Administrative & Financial
Assistant.....Elizbeth Mahan

Sarah Corson Childcare & Learning Center.....Jaime Snider

Session Committee chairs

Building & Grounds—Monty Holst
(541) 324-1630
Christian Education—Nikki Keating/
Tam Moore
(541)944-1546 (541) 608-0171
Church Growth — Dan Johnson
(541) 621-1738
Fellowship— Diana Kelley
(541) 282-3496
Finance — Cathy de Wolfe
(541) 773-7350
Personnel—Carol Holst
(541) 324-1664
Mission— Bob Frey
1-(503) 779-5558
Worship & Music—Patty Herkert
1-(503) 810-7599

www.firstpreschurchmedford.com

Your newsletter team

Paulette Avery, Cindy Walker
Barbara & Tam Moore
(541) 608-0171

Copy deadline: 4th Monday of the month
prior to publication

email: newsletter.firstpresmedford@gmail.com