



Volume 28 Issue 4

April 2012

Staff:

Dr. James Larsen, Pastor
Brad Fish, Office Manager

Elders:

Gene Stringer
Doyle Cornwell
Michael Wing

Inside this issue:

- Real Men Collaborate
- Third Way Groups
- Pre-Easter Work Day
- Old Time Movie Accolades
- Saints Alive
- Easter Sunday
- Outdoor Breakfast
- Jackson House Ministry
- Mountain View Ministry
- Rogue Riders
- 39 Plus
- Josh Cox Ministers in the Dominican Republic
- Habitat for Human-I-Tea
- Nursery Workers Needed
- Prisoner in the Third Cell
- Annual Meeting
- Celebrate Smiles Day
- Birthdays
- Anniversaries
- Calendar

THE BEAUTEOUS CROSS

A friend questioned why we love the cross so. If your brother died in a fiery auto crash, he noted, you'd give no thought to displaying the wreckage in your front yard as a piece of art, or making a replica of it to dangle from your

driven into his wrists and feet...he could have called a halt to it all. Yet the cross is the sign of Jesus extravagant love and endurance... for us.

He was not a victim. Those who

neck. So what's with all of this 'cross' stuff, he queried? Indeed, the reasons are plentiful. The cross was strictly the work of a volunteer... a sane, loving, generous, and purposeful act of the highest caliber. It is the mark of heroism like none other.

mangled his body, or gave permission for the horrid cruelty to go on, had no idea they were cooperating with God to bring about the victory of good over evil... love over hate... God over all satanic forces.

Some readers may know of cage fighting... a brutal sport which includes punching, intentional injury and harm to one's opponent. When a fighter has reached his limit he simply 'taps out'... if he is still coherent enough to do so. The tapping signals the referee that the tapper has cried 'Uncle'. The fight is immediately stopped. Jesus could have 'tapped out' at any time. He had the power to solicit the immediate help of angelic forces. With every fist slammed into his face... when the pain became seemingly unbearable... as each spike was

So we salute the cross... as a tangible, hands-on representation of the whole package: God's love, Jesus' willing sacrifice, the world-changing resurrection and the current reign of Jesus, the now whole-and-healing King of the Universe.

So is it any wonder that we delight in propping up a rough-hewn cross on Easter Sunday, and smothering it with a veneer of fresh flowers? The 'bad news' which that instrument of death was to ordinary criminals has be-

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

come a universal sign of the hope and purpose of God himself. It has become the ladder to heaven for all who trust in the glorious work performed at the killing place called Calvary.




REAL MEN COLLABORATE

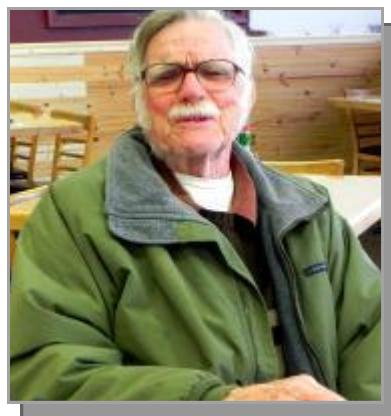
So you've read about our Third Way groups and their focus on compassionate service? Our fine cadre of Monday Morning guys are plugging into one of these loving projects. A work day has been called by a Talent Third Way bunch...a thorough backyard clean up for a single parent. On Saturday, April 14, our men will join forces with the Third Way folk. At 9 a.m. the work will commence...at 115 North Front Street in Talent. Bring rakes, leaf bags, shovels, garden rakes and such. We'll make quick work of this in time for an outdoor hamburger feed.

Call Jim for details on this...541-890-3209

Our Monday Men are eager to give a hand. In the meantime they'll keep on gathering at The Old Farm House for breakfast at 7:45. All guys of all ages are most welcome. Soon Mel Metcalf and Jerry Moore will be back in the pack...perhaps by the time you read this.

THIRD WAY GROUPS MAKE SOMEONE'S WORLD A BETTER PLACE

Jesus gave us rules for the road. 'I came to serve rather than be served'. Two Third Way groups (getting their name from the behavior of the third



man in the Good Samaritan story...What is Mine is Yours) have one main agenda...**compassionate action** to bless the lives of others. Included in our plans are an April 14 workday in Talent, organizing the garage and home, painting a mobile home (thanks to Kevin Sanders' pledge to man the sprayer), volunteering to adopt a flower bed near the Talent City Hall or Library, participating in the pre-Easter work day, and such.

If you are interested in starting such a group I'd be happy to help you get going. Each twice-monthly pow wow includes a time of 1)Camaraderie 2) Character Conversation and 3)Compassionate Action reporting and planning. Perhaps you'd open your home to a group, even if you didn't care to lead it. Can we talk? Jim Larsen 541-890-3209

PRE-EASTER WORK DAY

Your deacons and deaconesses have called a day-before-Easter work day. Men, women and youth are invited to make quick work of our flower beds, mowing, pruning, raking and such. In addition there are many areas inside that need attention. Since this is also the day of the Saints Alive Breakfast we'll get started at the church about 10:30 a.m. Subway sandwiches, anybody? Bring tools and gloves, please.



OLD TIME MOVIE RECEIVES ACCOLADES

Ashland has much to say about our monthly double feature. And it is always good. Michael Royer has done a superb job of selecting treasured old flicks. March's classic's featured Laurence Olivier and Ginger Rogers. The crowd was eager to see



both movies. They were not disappointed. And how about that snack bar? Delicious 1/4 lb.+ beef Polish dogs (or 1/5 lb. plain beef dogs), soft drinks, popcorn, candy and such. Mike may not realize how his ministry is so inviting and breaks down walls for those who seldom enter a church building. Keep it up, Mike...and team.

SAINTS ALIVE AND GUFFAWING

Okay, maybe our jokes wouldn't be selected for Jay Leno's monologue...but some of them are pretty funny. Don't we need a little time of simply relaxing, laughing, eating good chow, and chatting? Life can be tough. Saturday morning, April 7 will not be. So relax, bring a joke or such to amuse or amaze others. It's a tough crowd so don't be disappointed if the applause is light. Just enjoy the time...along with your trucker's buffet at the Iron Skillet in Phoenix (Oregon!). Saturday...April 7... 9 am... You!



**EASTER SUNDAY...
LET THE CELEBRATION BEGIN**

We celebrate the Death, Burial and Resurrection every Sunday...and times in between. But on this one grand day we find many others blending their voices and hearts with us to focus on an old rugged cross and an (aren't you overjoyed!) empty tomb. Here's how you can get the most out of Easter Sunday:

Breakfast in Fellowship Hall

Waffles, Scrambled Eggs, Sausage or Bacon, Fruit (Plus Coffee, Tea, Juice, Milk, Hot Chocolate)

Serving time...9-10:15...donation basket ready for your gift

Flowering Cross

Bring cut flowers to beautify the cross... worship time
Bring extras for the guests you invite



Service of Celebration

Special Music
Praise Songs and Easter Hymns
Message of Hope

Invite Friends

Plenty of people would attend a worship service, if they were invited.
Offer to pick them up, enjoy breakfast with them, sit by them in the worship time

**OUTDOOR BREAKFAST...JUST
AROUND
THE
CORNER**

Every summer we whip up breakfast out at Emigrant Lake on the Last Saturdays of May, June, July and August. I'm hoping that this can be a large outreach ministry this year, rather than mainly just good outdoor eating for our own



(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

fine folk. This is a good time to mark May 26, June 30, July 28 and August 25 as super-important dates. I'll produce a special invitation, one which will cover all of those Saturdays. Take a handful of them and spread the word. We'll have a bit of recreation connected to each of those days.

JACKSON HOUSE MINISTRY... NOW A NEIGHBORHOOD THING



Our Third Way group is adopting Jackson House as a recipient of our compassion. When my neighbors heard of this some immediately wanted to get in on the joy of it all. Here's a picture of Andrea, from across the street. She has taken to caring for Georgiana, who is deaf and an amputee. Jackson House...Suncrest Road in Talent...Sundays...2 pm .

Andrea also hosts a Monday Morning Bible study for her friends...with me as the teacher.

Jim Larsen

MOUNTAIN VIEW RETIREE MINISTRY

Every Tuesday finds Marie Hoffman, Sybil Laredo, Cindy Page and our pastor at Mountain View Retiree Center in Ashland. Our Bible study is aimed at reaching residents and staff. Mountain View has blessed us with the use of their fine Staff Dining

Room. Care to join us? Tuesdays at Two.

ROGUE RIDERS APRIL 18

The jaunt to McKee Bridge and the restaurant there was a real winner. Nobody had been there before except our wagon master. Servings were quite ample and tasty. The scenery up and down the Applegate River was easy on the eye.

In April we'll make the short trek to Rooster's in Medford on Wednesday, April 18. The plan is simple: Meet in the church parking lot at 11 a.m. with plans to be back there by 2 or 3. At least one of the caravan cars will make a stop at the Medford Library. Rooster's is a popular lunch stop, we should be in for a grand time.

39PLUS...TIGHT-KNIT BUT WIDE OPEN TO YOU

First Wednesday Gathering.

You know the routine... games (fought tooth and nail!) start about 10. Jim takes us further into his most recent sermon from 11 to noon. Then...ah, fine vittles served by Marie Hoffman, our hostess. Bring something to share if you'd like. These are grand times, for sure. And lately we've been blessed with more men in attendance. Marie Hoffman lives at 61 N. Mountain Avenue in Ashland. **Wednesday, April 4**



Newsletter folding... **Wednesday, April 25.** Here is still yet another opportunity to enjoy the company of good friends and get some needed work done. We've had several offer to purchase a folding machine...but no! We like the camaraderie of folding newsletters, reading off the names on the labels and reminiscing about our good times with these dear ones. So arrive in time to get the work done(10)... stay for Jim's Bible study from Acts...and bring a little something for the potluck at noon. What fun!

JOSH COX MINISTERS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Steve and Sharley Cox's son, Josh, was an outstanding high school and college baseball player. These days he is still involved in the sport...but for Jesus' sake. Josh recently made a presentation to our church, telling us how he works with a team of athletes using baseball as an evangelism tool in the Dominican Republic. Our folk donated a bunch of gloves to this endeavor. That's Steve, with our little treasure trove of mitts to be taken to Josh before his next excursion in the name of Jesus.



HABITAT FOR HUMAN-I-TEA

Help is still needed for the April 22 Habitat for Human-i-Tea fund raiser on **Sunday April 22nd from 4:00 to 6:00 pm**. Tickets are \$5.00. The nursery will be open and childcare provided.

- Donations needed for food (if you cannot attend but want to help this is a great way to contribute)
- Hostesses needed - invite a few friends to fill your table, be their a half an hour early to set your table (everything is provided)
- Decorators needed to make it look special
- Clean up needed to wash dishes and clean up afterwards (guys - we can use your help!!!)
- Servers are needed (again, guys - here is your chance!)

If you are looking for a Third Man project - here it is! Invite friends, neighbors etc. to support a worthy cause. Any questions? Contact Kay Killian 541-621-9192.

NURSERY WORKERS STILL NEEDED

Ava Fish and Kay Killian are working together to support our Nursery. They are still in need of more helpers to work in our nursery during Worship. They are interested in seeing that our young moms not get stuck in nursery each week, after tending to their little ones all week. If you are willing to staff the nursery one Sunday per month please contact Ava at **541-944-4831** or ava.fish@charter.net or Kay at **541-621-9192** or kaykillian@charter.net or the church office so we can distribute this vital responsibility to a number of loving ladies.

THE PRISONER IN THE THIRD CELL...A PLAY

The Shepherd's Way Foursquare Church will be presenting the play "**The Prisoner in the Third Cell**" on **Saturday, March 31st at 6:00 p.m.** *The dramatic story of John the Baptist, imprisoned by Herod and awaiting death, struggles to understand a Lord who did not live up to his expectations. His Story will bring comfort and insight into the ways of God.* Admission is free and everyone is welcome! Shepherds Way Church is located on the corner of 5th Street and East Main Street, behind Safeway in Ashland. Call 541-531-1121 for more information.

ANNUAL MEETING

On **Thursday evening April 19 at 6:30** we will have our Annual Congregational Meeting in the Fellowship Hall. Members will be voting for officers for the upcoming year and there will be a short presentation of where we stand and the vision into the rest of the year. Saint Mary's is again providing our entertainment for the evening beginning at 7:00 p.m..

- St. Mary's High School Concert Choir; and St. Mary's Chamber Choir in Concert
- Presenting a wide variety of music, including:
 - sacred and secular
 - classical, pop, and jazz
 - French, German, and Congolese
 - madrigals, spirituals, and show tunes
- Admission is free; a freewill offering will be taken.

Following the concert we will adjourn to the Fellowship hall to enjoy a time of fellowship and dessert with each other, the choir members and our guests.



CELEBRATE SMILES DAY

Hello Friends!

I thought you would want to know about a very special promotion we will be participating in with other photographers from around the country.

On April 21, 2012 we will host

“**Celebration of Smiles Day**” in Ashland, a wonderful opportunity for you to update individual

portraits of your family members and at the same time support the work of **Operation Smile**, which treats children around the world who suffer with **cleft lips, cleft palates and other facial deformities**.

Along with other participating members of Professional Photographers of America (PPA), we have pledged to **donate 100%** of each **\$24 donation** made to PPA Charities, which has chosen Operation Smile as its charitable partner. Evoking and capturing the smiles of children is our ultimate goal. That’s why we believe so strongly in the work of Operation Smile. Each year this incredible organization of more than 5,000 volunteer doctors, nurses, dentists, and special-ized health care professionals, perform free reconstructive surgeries for children suffering with cleft lips, cleft palates and other facial deformities.

Every three minutes a child somewhere in the world is born with a facial deformity. **One in ten will not survive** to see their first birthday. Those who do survive often live in isolation and pain. More than 100,000 children are born with a facial deformity each year in Operation Smile’s 26 partner countries.

I hope you will join with us in helping to make this vital work possible. As always . . . we look forward to creating some truly wonderful portraits of your children!

Warm wishes, Crystal Garcia
crystal@crystalgarcia.com



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 2 - Jim Larsen
- 5 - Cindy Page
- 7 - Doyle Cornwell
- 11 - April Macauley
- 11 - Gwen Jarrell
- 14 - Emily Rogers
- 15 - Daniel Wing
- 21 - James Christie
- 21 - Mel Metcalf
- 25 - Chris McDonald
- 26 - Olive Doods
- 28 - Doug Fenning
- 29 - Amanda Ford
- 29 - Thomas Killian



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- 5 - Brad and Ava Fish
- 16 - Nyla and Doug Fenning
- 17 - Dan and Ericha Tiller

Editor’s Note: If I have missed your birthday or anniversary please let me know so I can update my calendar and include them in the future. If I have included any that you would like removed please let me know that also. Just send corrections to the church office. Brad

"JESUS, LORD OF ALL"

"The Family of God"

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1 12:30 PM Board Meeting April Fools Day Palm Sunday</p>	<p>2 7:45 AM Real Men-Old Farm House Cafe Jim Larsen, B'day</p>	<p>3 9:30 AM Piece Corps 2:00 PM Mountain View Small Group</p>	<p>4 10:00 AM 39 Plus - Marie Hoffman's Home</p>	<p>5 Cindy Page, B'day Brad & Ava Fish, Ann</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 9:00 AM Saints Alive Breakfast - Iron Skillet 10:30 AM Pre-Easter Cleanup Doyle Cornwell, B'day</p>
<p>8 9:00 AM Easter Breakfast </p>	<p>9 7:45 AM Real Men-Old Farm House Cafe</p>	<p>10 9:30 AM Piece Corps 2:00 PM Mountain View Small Group</p>	<p>11 April Macauley, B'day Gwen Jurell, B'day</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 Emily Rogers, B'day</p>
<p>15 Daniel Wing, B'day</p>	<p>16 7:45 AM Real Men-Old Farm House Cafe Doug & Nyla Fenning, Ann</p>	<p>17 9:30 AM Piece Corps 2:00 PM Mountain View Small Group Dan & Eriela Tiller, Ann</p>	<p>18 11:00 AM Rogue Riders - Rooster's Restaurant</p>	<p>19 6:30 PM Annual Meeting 7:00 PM Saint Mary's Concert 8:00 PM Pie Social</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 6:30 PM Old Time Movie Night James Christie B'day Mel Metcalf, B'day</p>
<p>22</p>	<p>23 7:45 AM Real Men-Old Farm House Cafe</p>	<p>24 9:30 AM Piece Corps 2:00 PM Mountain View Small Group</p>	<p>25 10:00 AM 39 Plus - Newsletter Folding Chris McDonald, B'day</p>	<p>26 Olive Dooms, B'day</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 Doug Fenning, B'day</p>
<p>29 Armande Ford, B'day Thomas Killian, B'day</p>	<p>30 7:45 AM Real Men-Old Farm House Cafe</p>					

March

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

May

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

APRIL 2012

CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF ASHLAND

318 B Street
PO Box 959
Ashland, OR 97520
Jim Larsen, Minister

Phone: 541-482-1561
Fax: 541-482-1638
Email: office@cc-ashland.org
Web: www.cc-ashland.org

Non-Profit
Organization
US POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 84
Ashland, Oregon

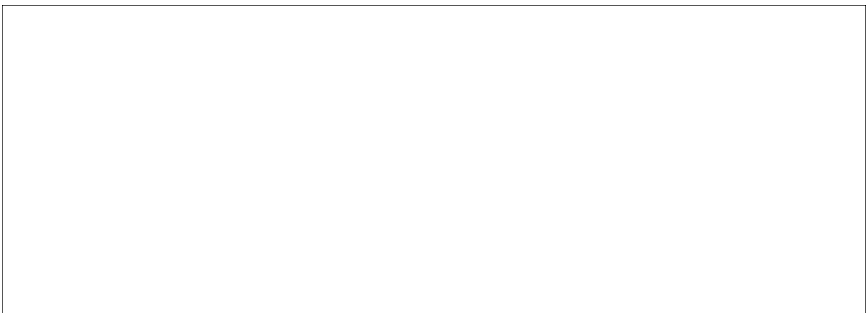
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Sunday Service Schedule

9:30 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Discovery Club
10:45 AM Worship

Podcast available at:
podcast.cc-ashland.org

Faithful to God, Responsive to People



GAWRSH...A NIGHT OF APRIL FOOLS!



Please join us for an evening of "buddy" pictures. We begin with a cinematic treasure starring Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy as daffy misfit army rookies, who surviving the Great War, try to unite the daughter of their deceased battlefield buddy with his family. **"PACK UP YOUR TROUBLES."** 1932's second full-length feature for the classic screen duo finds them with a task none to easy to complete, since their friend's name was "Smith." This fast-paced romp brims with great gags, inside jokes and even some

heart tugs. A fine cast featuring James Finlayson, Grady Sutton, Billy Gilbert and everyone's favorite "nasty" Charles "Ming The Merciless" Middleton add support in this hit comedy.

After the intermission of old drive-in snack-bar ads and vintage coming attraction previews we are proud to present the

1939 classic drama based on the novel and play by John Steinbeck. **"OF MICE AND MEN,"** stars Lon Chaney Jr. in the *best* performance of his career as feeble-minded Lennie and Burgess Meredith as his friend and protector. Steinbeck's morality tale about two migrant workers who labor on a ranch and dream of a future idyllic life remains intact in this sensitive screen version. Others in the fine cast include Betty Field, Charles Bickford, Bob Steele and Noah Beery Jr. The film's music score is by Aaron Copland. It wouldn't hurt to have some tissues handy as you may find you will need them.



Our reasonably priced snack-bar will be open most of the evening so bring a hearty appetite.



Be sure to tell your friends and neighbors about this event! You can shout it from the rooftops, even! Spread the word: The movies are **FREE**. But, donations are gladly accepted.

While you're at it, consider bringing something for the Ashland Emergency Food Bank.