

Volume 27 Issue 5

May 2011

Staff:

Dr. James Larsen, Pastor
Brad Fish, Office Manager

Elders:

Gene Stringer
Doyle Cornwell
Michael Wing

Inside this issue:

- Rogue Riders –Spring Fling
- Small Groups Up and Running
- Youth visit Lava Beds
- Soul-Winning Workshop
- Dragon Slayers Evening
- Saints Alive
- Real Men
- Coco Halstead Safe at Home
- 39 Plus
- Annual Meeting
- St Mary's Concert
- Ladies Lunch Bunch
- Olive Dooms 90th Birthday Birthdays/Anniversaries
- Calendar

PROOF POSITIVE

The evidence is solid. Religions all over the world have practiced animal and human sacrifices for ages. A young man from Kenya tells of having to spend so much time appeasing the bad gods that there is no opportunity to enjoy the good ones. Sacrifices are made and homage paid to ward off the tricks and devious will of evil spirits. A recent visit to an archeological dig in South America helped me see this so vividly. When the rain refused to fall it was assumed that the rain god was unhappy. So somebody was offered as a sacrifice. If dry weather persisted there might be a string of executions.

The Old Testament is not so different. People sinned and lambs bled. It happened over and over and (it seemed) for ever and ever. And then something absolutely mind-boggling occurred. To the uneducated eye it may have seemed like just another execution outside the walls of Jerusalem. Some might have assumed it was another case of 'what goes around comes around'. But it soon became clear that the unthinkable had happened...and right under their noses.

The God of the universe had just made a sacrifice. Let me say that again... instead of God asking for yet another lamb...God, himself, brought his own son to the altar. It is a jaw dropping

thought! At the sight of this we should be falling to our knees. Instead, you'll hear how people are unhappy with God. Things in life haven't gone as expected. We have suffered loss. Life has sprouted some bad fruit. And where, somebody may demand in all seriousness, is God?

Lest we have one moment of doubt about God's intentions for us, friend, we need to look at the cross. Before this old world started spinning, God was conjuring up a plan to redeem us. Before Adam or anybody smudged their white robes, God was there with a plan to deal with our failures. And it was expensive for him. I don't expect that setting the stars in place was much of a chore for God. Designing systems within systems was right up his creative alley. What was hard was this thing called redemption. It is free to us...but murder for God.

It isn't about fairness. If it was we'd still be sacrificing. But it isn't even close to fair. It is about goodness, generosity, mercy and extreme love all wrapped up together. We call it grace. So stop the sacrifices. Stop talking about doing the best that you can. That never was enough. What is enough is Jesus. The divine answer for your wretchedness is the cross

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

where God offered up his Son to prove how precious we are to him. So get down on your knees and cry 'holy'. Get into the baptistery and make your pledge to live the rest of your life for him. And please, not one more word questioning if God really cares. The cross is proof positive.



ROGUE RIDERS TO ENJOY SPRING FLING

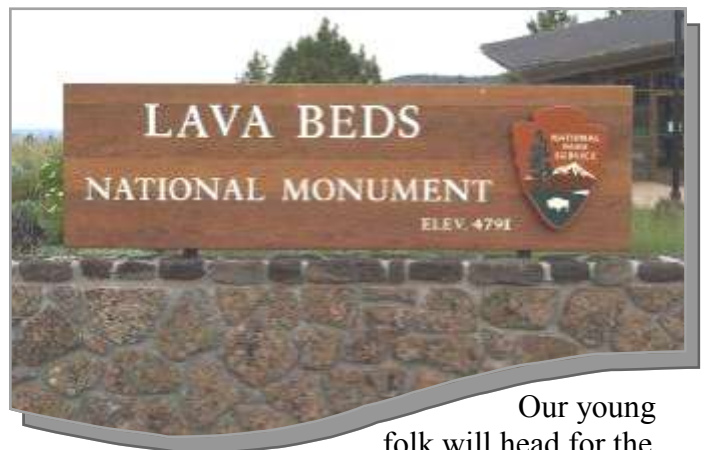
Although our Rogue Riders are making this their big event of spring, all ages are welcome. We are heading off to Gold Beach for a relaxing time at the coast on May 9-10-11. Care to join us? Some have already made reservations at Ireland's Rustic Lodges. Call them or another motel...or maybe plan to tent camp or use your camper. Interested? Register your interest on the sign-up sheet in the library so our wagon master can call you with details...or call Jim

Larsen at 541-890-3209.

SMALL GROUPS UP AND RUNNING

Each week clusters of our people, and friends too, gather to dig into the word of God. Jim produces a short video every week for the groups' use. In that video he reflects on the previous Sunday's sermon and invites us to further investigate and 'mine' the sermon text. If you are interested in a night time meeting...or one of the daytime powwows...give Jim a call (541-890-3209). He'll help you find a group that matches up with our availability and locale.

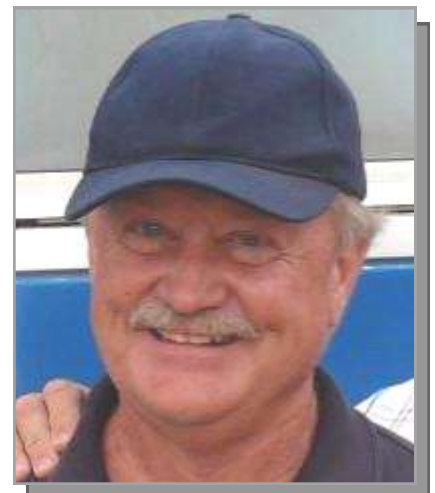
YOUTH VISIT LAVA BEDS



Our young folk will head for the Lava Beds south of Klamath Falls on Saturday, **May 14**. Bring money for lunch. Show up for Jim and Ed's Small Group where we'll work out details for transportation.

SOUL-WINNING WORKSHOP AND DRAGON SLAYERS FOR MEN

John Hendee has personally won hundreds of people to Christ and has produced an evangelism tool which has helped believers bring thousands to salvation. On Saturday morning, May 21, John will offer a ***Peace Treaty with God*** workshop for



our people and folk from our sister churches in Medford, Gold Hill, Grants Pass and Central Point invited. The workshop begins at 9, but a light breakfast will be served from 8-8:45.

DRAGON SLAYERS EVENING.

On Friday evening May 20, John will meet with men and boys to help us face the moral and spiritual challenges which war against us. Dessert will be served. Guys, this is an evening you'll not want to miss. John has helped tons of males, here in the states and in South America, come to grips with issues which all of us wrestle with. Meet at the Larsen's home at 6:30 and plan to be heading home by 8:30.

SAINTS ALIVE AND GOOFING OFF



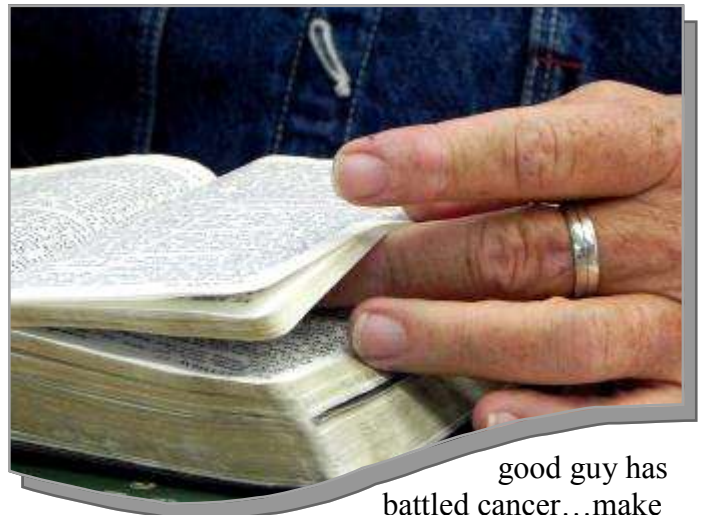
There is nothing serious about this, friend. Expect some foolishness for sure. There is enough going on in our lives to keep us on

edge...so take a break and let loose with a little laughter at the start of the month. This is not rocket science. Just show up at the Iron Skillet in Phoenix. You'll put your feet under the table with mighty fine folk. You'll enjoy some fine humor and a few groaners too. Order from the menu or graze at the ample buffet. All ages welcome. **Saturday, May 7...9 a.m.**



REAL MEN BEAR DOWN

Life is no bowl of cherries for these guys. One



good guy has battled cancer...make that two. Another copes with leukemia. All of these chaps have battled the devil. None have achieved perfection. So they count on these Monday morning gatherings for more than just eggs and bacon. If you are still a 'life in progress' this is the right place and group for you. Monday mornings, Old Farm House in Phoenix (Oregon!) at 7:45. Jerry Moore is back! He'll spring for first-timers. Must bring this ad and a letter of reference.

COCO HALSTEAD SAFE AT HOME

You'll remember that Coco, in her mid-nineties, was baptized a year ago. Although she was never able to attend our Sunday services, CCOA was her church home. She received communion, studied the Bible and prayed with those who visited her. Now she is with Jesus. She quietly took flight in calm peace. A memorial service was held for her on Saturday, April 23, with a second service in Indiana the week after Easter. Welcome home, Coco.



39PLUS

It's a full-service morning. Like fun and games...how about King's Corners at 10? But you cherish Bible study. Oh, stick around for Jim's Bible study at 11. Lunch and munch gets your attention? This is your lucky day, friend! Marie's chow is always superb...five star. That's right, we meet at Marie Hoffman's place at 61 North Mountain Avenue. Join us on **Wednesday, May 4**. Walk-ins welcome!



Later in the month...our clan will fold the monthly newsletter at 10, open our Bibles at 11 and fill our plates at noon. It's that simple and quite wonderful. Join us on **May 25** in Fellowship Hall. All ages welcome! Remember it's a potluck.

OUTDOOR BREAKFASTS BEGIN...

MAY 28



Sizzling bacon and omelets to order...how sweet it is! On Saturday, May 28, we'll launch our series of Last Saturday breakfasts at Emigrant Lake. Cookers, please arrive at about 8. Eaters expect vittles to be ready about 9. Follow the aroma of fried onions to our site just downhill from the Water Park. Bring some bucks for parking and maybe a little for the donation basket. Why not bring a friend or neighbor?

NURSERY NEEDS

We are looking for a "new to us" glider style rocking chair or two for the nursery. Please contact Karen Larsen if you have a lead on one.

POTLUCK -MAY 15TH

On May 15th we will gather again for our monthly potluck.. What a great chance to share good food and get to know old and new friends alike.

If your last name begins with **A-K, please bring a main dish and a salad**. If your last name begins with **L-Z, please bring a main dish and a dessert**. Single folks just bring one item to share.

Remember the ovens are on for keeping food warm, so please bring your food already cooked.

UPDATE FROM THE FIELD



This letter contains news that fills our family with great joy, much excitement and profound peace. Brian and I have completed the undergraduate portion of our nursing studies and have worked for almost 2 years as RN's here in the USA. We have sought out every opportunity to grow as healthcare professionals and though we still consider ourselves 'babes' in the field, we are ecstatic to finally set out to Glorify Him abroad.

5 months from now we will be relocating to Tacna, Peru where we have previously lived and served, where we have deep ties to the local community and where we are thrilled to work alongside our good friend, Ebel. Ebel is a doctor from Tacna and since

2001 we have discussed the desire to serve the materially poor of both Peru and Africa. At last it is coming to fruition! Together, undergirded by a concerted international effort, we aim to establish a Santuario, a place of healing for the weary and heavy laden. The property where the clinic is to stand is adjacent to both the existing church and the ecological park we were blessed to help establish 4 years ago. What an honor it will be to participate in a ministry that seeks to reconcile and restore each one of us in a holistic manner.

Not only do we seek to serve the poorest of the poor in Tacna, we are pleading with Him to restore us and renew us through the very process of serving others. Our expectation is that we may Glorify Him with our hands this coming year, while our hearts might be refined and enlarged. We long to know Him more intimately so that we might learn to live more harmoniously and dynamically with ourselves and our neighbors. Brian and I have been blessed beyond measure by the prayers, encouragement and love that you have consistently offered us. Over the years you have heard us mention both Egypt and Sierra Leone. The people and situations within these countries remain on our hearts and minds and we remain quite open to the possibility of serving amongst them. As for immediate future, Peru is where we feel confirmed to love, live and serve. After Brian completes his Masters in Family Nurse Practitioner we will see where He leads!

LJ

ANNUAL MEETING

Thanks to all who attended the Annual Business Meeting on April 14th. All persons on the ballot were confirmed unanimously and included:

- ◆ Elder—Gene Stringer
- ◆ Deacon—Mel Metcalf
- ◆ Deaconess—Ava Fish, Irma Potter
- ◆ Trustee—Ed Macauley
- ◆ Treasurer—Eleanor Olson

Also the amendment to allow the board more flexibility in setting the date and time Annual Meeting was approved.

ST MARY'S CONCERT

For the eighth year in a row Michael Wing has shared the talented members of the St Mary's Music



program. This year we were entertained by both the Chamber Choir and the Concert Choir. We had the largest turnout ever to enjoy the music with many community members from around the rogue valley



also in attendance. Brad recorded high definition video of the concert and is currently editing the footage for an RVTV special and will also have DVD and AVCHD (high definition) disks available for any do-



(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

nation. Contact the church office at office@cc-ashland.org if you are interested in a disk and Brad will let you know when they are ready. They should be ready by mid May. Brad Fish



LADIES LUNCH BUNCH

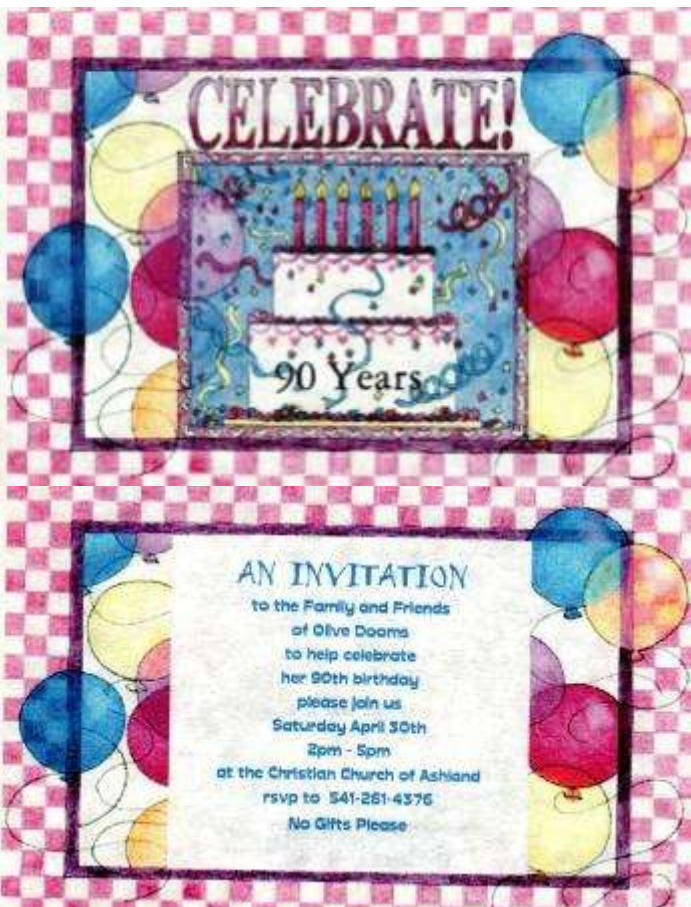
Crystal Garcia will be hosting the "Lunch Bunch" in the church Fellowship Hall on Tuesday, May 10 at 12:00 noon. They will gather to play games and eat red beans and rice. Lunch will be provided and a donation basket will be available to offset the cost. All ladies are invited to attend. What a great opportunity for any lady to bring a friend to share in the time of fun and fellowship. It is all about building relationships with others.

OLIVE DOOMS TURNS 90... AND WE'LL CELEBRATE!

The family of Olive Doms will make a day of it. A day of celebrating the life, love and longevity of this very dear lady. The party will take place in our Fellowship Hall. Here's the invitation we've received:

MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 - Austen Tiller
- 2 - Fred Kannasto
- 2 - Madge Center
- 4 - Karl Slack
- 11 - Ted Killian
- 29 - Nyla Fenning
- 29 - Andrew Blore
- 31 - April Rudy





MAY ANNIVERSARIES

- 25 - Robert & Dona Heath
- 31 - Jim & Robin Witt

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 |
|--|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| 1 | 2 7:45 AM Real Men-Old Farm House Cafe 9:00 AM Ladies Monday Morning Study Group Austin Tiller, B'day Fred Kammisto's B'day Mishel Center's B'day | 3 9:30 AM Piece Corps | 4 10:00 AM 39 Plus - Marie Hoffman's Home Karl Slack's B'day | 5  National Day of Prayer Cinco de Mayo | 6 | 7 9:00 AM Saints Alive Breakfast - Iron Skillet |
| 8  Mother's Day | 9 7:45 AM Real Men-Old Farm House Cafe 9:00 AM Ladies Monday Morning Study Group | 10 9:30 AM Piece Corps 12:00 PM Ladies Lunch Bunch - Fellowship Hall | 11 Ted Killian's B'day | 12 | 13 | 14 9:00 AM Deacons & Deacons Work Day Youth Trip - Lava Beds |
| 15 12:15 PM Potluck | 16 7:45 AM Real Men-Old Farm House Cafe 9:00 AM Ladies Monday Morning Study Group | 17 9:30 AM Piece Corps | 18 | 19 | 20 6:30 PM Dragon Slayers - Larsen Home | 21 8:00 AM Light Breakfast - Fellowship Hall 9:00 AM Peace Treaty Training 6:30 PM Old Time Movie Night Armed Forces Day  |
| 22 12:30 PM Board Meeting | 23 7:45 AM Real Men-Old Farm House Cafe 9:00 AM Ladies Monday Morning Study Group | 24 9:30 AM Piece Corps | 25 10:00 AM 39 Plus - Newsletter Folding Robert & Donna Heath, Ann | 26 | 27 | 28 9:00 AM Summer Breakfast - Emigrant Lake |
| 29 Andrew Blore's B'day Nyla Fenning's B'day | 30 7:45 AM Real Men-Old Farm House Cafe 9:00 AM Ladies Monday Morning Study Group Memorial Day - Office Closed  | 31 9:30 AM Piece Corps April Rudy's B'day Jim & Robin Witt, Ann | | | | |

June

| | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 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 | | |

April

| | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 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 | | |

MAY 2011

CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF ASHLAND

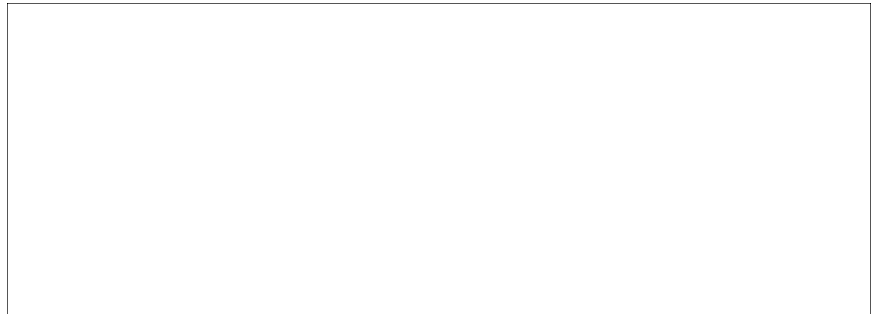
318 B Street
PO Box 959
Ashland, OR 97520
Jim Larsen, Minister
Phone: 541-482-1561
Fax: 541-482-1638
Email: office@cc-ashland.org
Web: www.cc-ashland.org



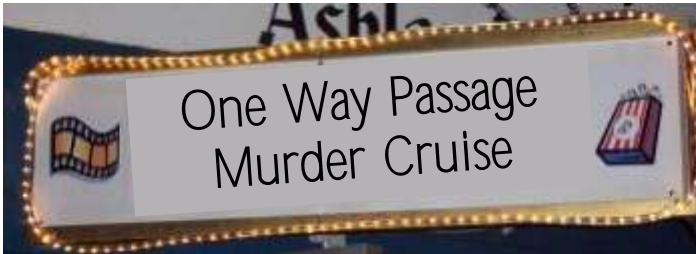
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Sunday Service Schedule

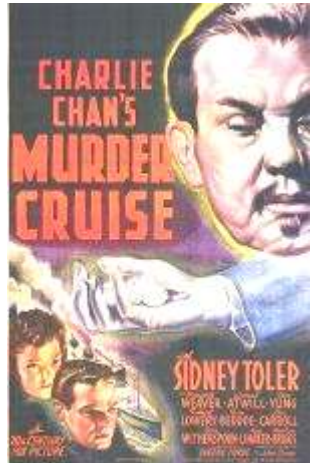
9:30 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Discovery Club
10:45 AM Worship
Podcast available at:
podcast.cc-ashland.org



Faithful to God, Responsive to People



"CHARLIE CHAN'S MURDER CRUISE." It's a voyage filled with deception, betrayal and (gulp) death. Will everyone survive to reach the next port? Match your wits and skill against the wily detective, played by Sidney Toler, and see if you can figure out "who done it."



Of course, expect the usual surprise or two, but don't be concerned...you can eat and drink as many of the goodies in our snack bar (open through intermission) as you desire with no fear. It's only the folks in our movies who run the risk of sea-sickness. Bring your friends and neighbors. It's free. But, if you can, something non-perishable for the Ashland Emergency Food Bank it would be greatly appreciated.

OLD TIME MOVIE NIGHT IS ALL AT SEA!
On **Saturday May 21**, our first feature will be 1932's **"ONE WAY PASSAGE"** starring the premiere screen couple of the 1930s, William Powell and Kay Francis. It's the story of a doomed shipboard romance aboard a luxury ocean liner sailing from the Orient to San Francisco, a four week passage of love, larceny and secrets that indeed results in a one way passage. Bring your hankies, gals. This stylish film won an Academy Award for Best Original Screenplay about a voyage you won't soon forget.



The evening's second offering features one of the screen's greatest and most humble sleuths as he investigates "ten pieces of silver" and murder on a high-society pleasure cruise ship in 1940's

Doors open at 6:00 pm and the screen lights up at 6:30 pm.

