



Volume 27 Issue 9

September 2011

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# BAPTISM AND ORDINATION

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It must have been mind-boggling for those early Jewish Christians. A mighty old and revered system had been replaced by a dunk in the water. Priests had been at the center of Jewish life for fifteen centuries. They came from particular families and endured rigorous training prior to serving their first stint in the temple. With the death of Jesus that entire system bit the dust. Although God had been the architect of the building, and the rites that accompanied it, it was all destined to be retired. A new system, streamlined would take its place. Did Martin Luther coin the phrase ‘priesthood of all believers’? It is an old doctrine which declares that all disciples of Jesus are priests and ministers. Furthermore, the people of God became his special dwelling, instead of a rock-walled edifice.

Regrettably, the old model of ‘some priests and some ordinary folk’ persists in many quarters. And so long as we make a distinction between clergy (professionals) and laity (ordinary Christians), we greatly reduce the work force of the church...and disappoint God. The witnesses and ambassadors of Jesus are all converts who have set foot on the Jesus Trail. If some of these followers should head off to a Bible college, the church will

probably be blessed by their new and enhanced skills and deeper understanding of the Word. Our own congregation has been blessed by the formal training of youth and music ministers. Still such folk, including pastors, stand eye to eye with all other believers at the foot of the cross. My point isn’t so much to whittle pastors down to size, but to acknowledge the wonderful role which belongs to all believers. We are all ministers. We have yet to fully appreciate this, although we’ve talked a good game for years.

One example of this is in the area of baptism. Folk are often surprised to hear that any believer can do the baptizing. I recall so well how my dear relative John was the first family member to be baptized one evening when I was visiting the Wallers in Northern Wisconsin. Within mere moments of John being immersed in the river he was assisting me in baptizing his lovely wife, Pam. The two of them, still dripping wet, teamed up to do the same to their fine son, Travis. All three of these newly ordained (baptized) disciples of Jesus placed my Aunt Dorothy, a long time Lutheran, into the watery grave and pulled her back up, ‘rising to walk in a new life’. Their own obedience to Christ in this

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holy dunking served to commission them to that priesthood of all believers. Some may have thought it all to be quite novel, but to God it is the norm.

Our own congregation recognizes this huge and vital doctrine. I'm not the only one who can preach. We love it when Michael Wing and Gene Stringer man the pulpit so competently. Others delight us with their communion and offering meditations. Mike Royer handles the scripture reading with deftness week after week. And sharing the gospel? Not only are you allowed to tell others of Jesus (and do the baptizing), it is clearly God's expectation for all believers.

Certainly this is not practiced by all churches. Many persist in operating by the two party system (clergy/laity). But make no mistake about this. Before we have towed off a convert, somebody ought to hand her a certificate to be framed and positioned on the wall...A Minister of Jesus Christ. It's not a fad or a neat invention. This has been God's plan from Day One.

God has hopes for us. His only method of winning a lost world to him is people telling people of God's extravagant love, the bloody work of Jesus and a new life where all stand at eye level at the foot of the cross.




## ROGUE RIDERS TREK TO CRATER LAKE

Join us on a day-trip to Crater Lake! The temps are cooler and the crowds smaller in September. Travelers will converge on the church parking lot at 9 a.m. or Walmart (Talent) at 9:20. We'll car pool and/or caravan to the National Park. What a delightful day it will be...spending time together as well as taking in one of the Wonders of the World. On the way back downhill the gang will meet up at Becky's Café

in Union Creek. Perhaps they'll still be serving huckleberry pie; it is the best! We ask 'riders' to remember to help 'drivers' with fuel costs.

**Wednesday, September 14**

## ASHLAND'S OLD TIME MOVIE NIGHT...AT OUR PLACE

These old flicks provide a wonderful opportunity for bringing friends and family to our old church house. Here they'll get a view of the innards of our dear facility as well as meet our folk who tend the snack bar. We are now into our 9<sup>th</sup> year of providing such splendid entertainment fun to the whole Rogue Valley. Thanks to Mike Royer, our host, for hours and hours of watching great movies of yesteryear. See you on the 17<sup>th</sup>!

## 39PLUS IS A PLUS

So you aren't old, you say? No problem. All that is needed is a little proof that you are least 39 or know and love some folk our age. Twenty somethings are quite welcome. On the first Wednesday of September (7<sup>th</sup>) we'll head to Marie Hoffman's place for some games, Bible study and a fine batch of vittles. Marie always provides the main dish, but items brought for the table are always very welcome. September 7...10 a.m....Marie Hoffman's place (61 N. Mountain Ave)...You and a friend!

## MOUNTAIN VIEW MINISTRY... TUESDAYS

Marie Hoffman and Sybil Laredo travel with me each Tuesday to Mountain View Senior Living on the north side of Ashland. We do a bit of singing, praying and study the Good Book. Cookies and Iced Tea are regulars on the snack table. Come on by and add your voice to our serenading God, and your ideas to our discussion time. Tuesdays...Mt View...2 pm Call Jim at 541-890-3209

## SUMMER'S OVER POTLUCK —AND YOU ARE INVITED!

Not a lot of fuss. Just bring whatever you plan to eat at noon on **Sunday, September the 18<sup>th</sup>** and put it in the refrigerator, oven, or on the counter in the kitchen. Plug-ins are available for crockpots. The ovens are set at 225° F to keep items warm. Volunteers

will leave the worship service a few minutes early to put all the food onto the serving tables. After the prayer of thanks (usually happens upstairs at the end of the worship service) everyone moves to the Fellowship Hall (basement) and lines up for the buffet service. Fill your plate, settle into any empty chair and enjoy good food, conversation, and maybe even a little laughter. Everyone is welcome to help with cleanup.

### YA'LL COME SEPTEMBER 18<sup>th</sup>

– with food, without food, or with your own special diet for yourself. Enjoy the time with your fellow and gal Christians. Janice Stringer

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 to bring hot dishes already cooked! The ovens are set to just keep food hot.*

### PERSPECTIVE

"Think about this. Wrap your minds around it. This is serious business, rebels. Take it to heart. Remember your history, your long and rich history..."  
(Isaiah 46:8)

Driving familiar routes gives one the feeling of knowing the lay of the land. Climb into an airplane and suddenly the familiar roads and pathways disappear and an entirely different view of the "familiar" emerges. That is what happens when you allow yourself to shed the fetters of comfortable existence and ascend to a higher view point. Gain this richer perspective of a precious possession, our heritage in Christ, by participating in the class, *Christian History Made Simple*. There is still one month before the course ends. We have reached the 1700's but there is still more to learn. Copies of the textbook are available in our library. You can choose to continue traveling the familiar terrestrial paths or soar like the eagles and gain a new and broader perspective, a richer understanding of the issues that divide and those that unite us in our faith. Join us in the Fellowship Hall Sunday mornings at 9:30 am.

Gene Stringer



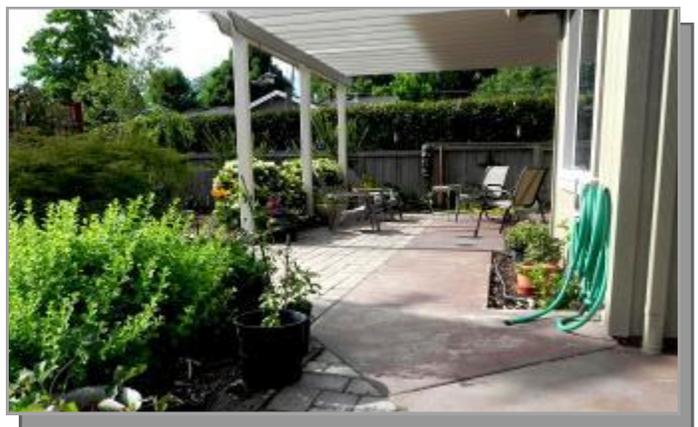
### PIECE CORPS—

#### IT'S IN THE FRAME!

We have our annual "Christmas Quilt" in the frame and have started tying it. Hopefully it will be done and hanging in the church library in early November

### BAPTISM CLASS...READY TO TAKE THE HOLY PLUNGE?

Throughout September and October I'm keeping warm water in the baptistery...for you? A number of our folk have been pondering taking the plunge for Jesus. I'll make it as easy for you to take this crucial step. Bring whatever clothes you'll need for the main event. We'll provide the towels and even a baptism robe if you'd like.



To further help you along the way I'm offering a short course on TAKING THE PLUNGE. We will do a study of the conversion stories recorded in the Book of Acts. I'll leave ample time for a question and answer period. Lunch will follow.

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Who is welcome? Those considering being baptized (parents are welcome to join their children) and anyone questioning their early-age baptism.

**Class:** Taking the Plunge  
**Date:** Saturday, September 24, 2011  
**Time:** 10:00 A.M.  
**Location:** Larsen home,  
 114 Autumn Ridge Dr., Talent  
**RSVP PLEASE...**Jim, 541-890-3209

## REAL MEN LOVE JESUS



Submitting to the headship of Jesus doesn't make a guy any less of a man. And each Monday morning we discover ways to bring our egos, plans and energy under his guidance and rule. The Bible is our main study guide. If you drop in (which we hope you will) you'll find the breakfast menu ample and the prices fair. Monday...7:45... The Old Farm House...Phoenix (Oregon!)

## SAINTS ALIVE... FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE!

This fun event has been going on for many, many years.

Mostly attendees are at least 39...but everyone is welcome. The only requirement is a sense of humor. Bring a few jokes or tall tales. We may shake our



heads at what you think to be funny...but we'll borrow your material down the road.

So come on by the Iron Skillet at the truck stop in Phoenix (Oregon!). Order from the menu or gather your breakfast from the buffet. It's all good. Saturday, September 3...9 am.

## COPIES OF TIDINGS ADS AVAILABLE TO HAND OUT

You may know that I write a little ditty for the Thursday issue of the Ashland Daily Tidings. Brad is making dozens of copies of these items (enlarging them a bit and putting them on heavier paper. I find them quite useful as a hand out. Maybe you could call this a tract ministry. Each article is short, original and small enough to tote around. It contains the name of our beloved church, worship times and our address. We'll keep the front table supplied with them. Take a few and give them out as you wish.

## A NOTE FROM LORI JO

Brian just called from Kentucky to say he arrived safely and has begun his Nurse Practitioner orientation at Frontiers University.



Cielo is curled up on the sofa, slowly sipping a tall glass of chocolate milk, his drink of choice since having his tonsils and adenoids removed 4 days ago. He is recuperating well but remains pretty wiped out since his tonsillectomy. Our prayer is that this procedure will decrease the incidences of infections that have plagued him since birth. On Thursday I too will go under "the knife" in order to have corrective eye surgery.

As I pulled out the calendar this morning in order to plan out the rest of the month, it hit me that our family will only be in church two more Sundays prior to our move to Peru.

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We are overjoyed to be returning to Peru, this time as nurses, yet we are saddened to be leaving this church family so soon. You are so good to us! It has been an honor for both of us to participate on the worship team and we will miss it terribly.

We are so grateful for the monthly support that the missions committee recently notified us will be sent to IberoAmerican Ministries (our affiliated missions organization). If you are interested in checking in with us and keeping track of the progress of the medical clinic please visit our blog: [marlia-larsen.blogspot.com](http://marlia-larsen.blogspot.com) and feel free to write to us at [lorijo.larsen@gmail.com](mailto:lorijo.larsen@gmail.com)

Lori Jo

## A LETTER FROM TCMII

One of the mission organizations supported by CCA is Training Christians for Ministry International Institute (TCMII). We recently received the following letter from them:

*Dear Friends in Ashland,*

*Her father threw her out. His daughter had become a follower of Jesus. To a Muslim father, this was completely unacceptable. So he threw her out. She was only twelve. So she went to live with her maternal grandmother when told she "no longer had a father."*

*In Central Asian cultures, this happens. Accepting Christ means you are a traitor to your Muslim culture and heritage. You are an infidel. You have brought dishonor to the family and no longer belong.*

*I asked her over lunch how she had made her way to Haus Edelweiss. She studied at the university in her country and wanted to serve Jesus somehow. She found out about our partner school in Moldova (almost all the faculty members are TCMII graduates) and studied Social Work there. Then she was able to return to her country to work for a non-governmental organization (NGO) which is legally registered even though it employs many believers. In Moldova, she learned about the opportunity to pursue graduate studies with TCMII.*

*She then told me her passion. Rescuing young girls*

*from the streets and sexual slavery. Helping give them an education and teaching them life skills so they can survive on their own without being abused and destroyed by evil people. This is her life. Giving girls who are cast away a safe place to learn and grow.*

*I was quite interested when she told me why she loved Haus Edelweiss. She remarked that it provided a wonderful place for her to get away and be refreshed while she continued learning things that help her serve our Father better.*

*As often happens during such conversations at Haus Edelweiss, we begin to talk about what matters most to our Father: that His children are given a safe place to learn and grow. We reflected together about how wonderful it is that he includes us in His work. And when we take care of His children, we feel something of His love and pleasure.*

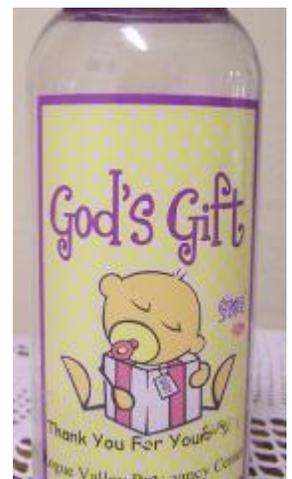
*As I write this, I feel really grateful. You and I are able to provide a place where a Central Asian woman can connect more deeply with a Father that will never, never, ever throw her out. A place where she can gain knowledge and skills to take care of His "little ones."*

*Yours gratefully in Him,  
Tony Twist  
President TCMII*

To learn more about the ministry of TCM visit their website at [www.tcmi.org](http://www.tcmi.org)  
Brad

## 2011 BABY BOTTLE DRIVE

The Rogue Valley Pregnancy Center has been blest and is now operating as an ultrasound facility. This window into the womb allows women and men the view of their child as its tiny heart beats and the child is engaged in life growing and waiting to be born. By taking home a baby bottle and filling it with change you participate



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in keeping this ministry available to women in our community at no cost. Please join with us in taking steps to bring life to the unborn and eternal life to their parents. Baby Bottles will be available on **Sunday, September 18th**. Please bring back your filled bottle on **Sunday, October 16th!**

Cyndi Bright, Director RVPRC



## FACEBOOK

I was showing my niece the church



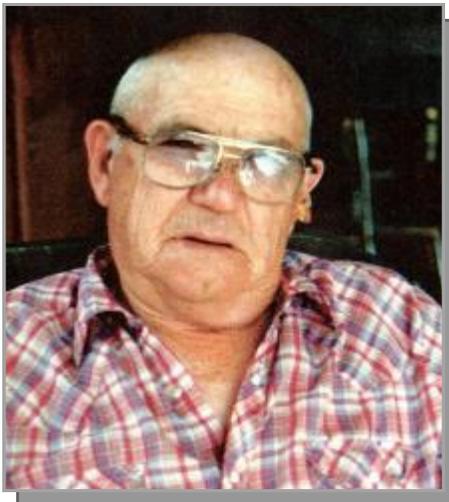
website this afternoon and she remarked "I didn't even know the church had a website" she then added "with you in the office I should have known better" I then showed her something new on the bottom of our homepage ([www.cc-ashland.org](http://www.cc-ashland.org)). It's a box that says "Find us on Facebook". Being a Facebook user she thought that was great and quickly "Liked" the Christian Church of Ashland. We are now up to 8 people. If you are a Facebook user why not join them. I thank Crystal Garcia for assisting me in the development of our new Facebook page. We have just started so there is not much there yet, but keep watching for more and feel free to interact with the others you meet there. Brad

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 3 - Jocelyn Jarrell
- 6 - Jean Vermillion
- 7 - Helen Jane Slack
- 20 - Arlene Scharich
- 25 - Jennifer Dooms
- 27 - Heathyr Wing
- 27 - Sharley Cox
- 29 - Christopher Macauley
- 29 - Steve Cox
- 29 - David Smith

## "BUCK" BUCKLES GOES HOME

Buck was born on December 15, 1917 in Pawhuskie, Oklahoma. He married Ruth Strickland in 1939 and moved to Ashland in 1945 where he and Ruth joined the Christian Church of Ashland. Buck loved to fish and work in his wood shop building



things. Ruth passed away in 1987 and his sister, Lyle Peterson passed away on March 3rd of this year. He is survived by his sister, Lola, two daughters, one granddaughter, one grandson, three great-granddaughters, and one great-grandson. He was sent with love and received with love. Brad



## SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 13 - David and Heathyr Wing
- 15 - Hal and Martha Bosworth
- 16 - Jim and Karen Larsen
- 19 - Jose and Lisa Villalobos
- 23 - Earl and Emily Rogers
- 24 - Brian and Lori Jo Marlia-Larsen

*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
4	5 7:45 AM Real Men-Old Farm House Cafe Labor Day	6 9:30 AM Piece Corps View Small Group Jean Vermillion, B'day	7 10:00 AM 39 Plus - Marie Hoffmant's Home Helen Jane Slack, B'day	8	9	10 9:00 AM Deacommi & Deacons Work Day
11 12:30 PM Board Meeting	12 7:45 AM Real Men-Old Farm House Cafe	13 9:30 AM Piece Corps 12:00 PM Ladies Lunch Bunch - Fellowship Hall 2:00 PM Mountain View Small Group David & Heather Wing, Ann	14 9:00 AM Rogue Riders - Crater Lake - church parking lot	15 Hal & Martha Bosworth, Ann	16 Jim and Karen Larsen, Ann	17 6:30 PM Old Time Movie Night
18 12:15 PM Potluck	19 7:45 AM Real Men-Old Farm House Cafe Jose and Lisa Villalobos, Ann	20 9:30 AM Piece Corps 2:00 PM Mountain View Small Group Arlene Schurich, B'day	21	22	23 Earl and Emily Rogers, Ann	24 10:00 AM Class - Taking the Plunge - Larsen home Brian and Lori Jo Marilia-Larsen, Ann
25 Jennifer Doorns, B'day	26 7:45 AM Real Men-Old Farm House Cafe	27 9:30 AM Piece Corps 2:00 PM Mountain View Small Group Heather Wing, B'day Sharley Cox, B'day	28 10:00 AM 39 Plus - Newsletter Folding	29 Christopher Macauley, B'day David Smith, B'day Steve Cox, B'day	30	

August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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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			

October

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						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					

# SEPTEMBER 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

Non-Profit  
Organization  
US POSTAGE  
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Ashland, Oregon

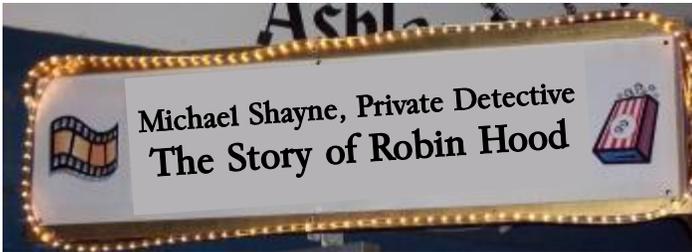
**Sunday Service Schedule**

9:30 AM Sunday School  
10:30 AM Discovery Club  
10:45 AM Worship  
  
Podcast available at:  
[podcast.cc-ashland.org](http://podcast.cc-ashland.org)

*Faithful to God, Responsive to People*



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

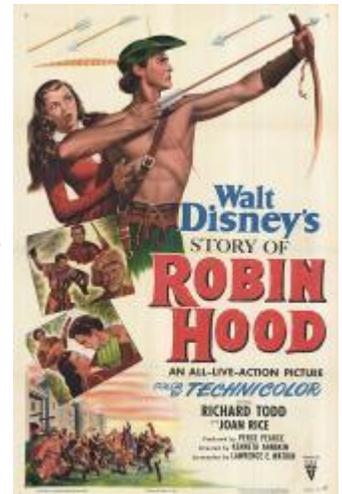


**GUMSHOE AND FOREST REBEL**  
**Saturday, September 17, 2011**

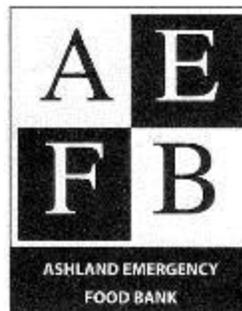
Old Time Movie Night is pleased to present one of the most successful fictional detectives who came to the silver screen late in 1940 in the first of seven entertaining additions to the mystery genre. "**MICHAEL SHAYNE, PRIVATE DETECTIVE**" finds Shayne (portrayed by Lloyd Nolan ) hired to protect an heiress from trouble. What follows is romance, two murders, racetrack crime, dumb cops and a detective story-loving old aunt trying to help Shayne solve hypothetical cases. Good comedy dialogue and enough plot interest to keep our intrepid gumshoe busy in this thrilling adventure which begins at **6:30 P.M.**



Next up is a film that the whole family will love, with one of England's most celebrated heroes. Walt Disney's 1952 rousing live-action tale of England's renowned rebel to the rich and patriot to the poor. "**THE STORY OF ROBIN HOOD**," filmed in color in England, is a classic adventure full of gallantry, romance and adventure. Robin Hood, Friar Tuck, Little John and Maid Marian are all here, in the Robin Hood film second only in popularity to the 1938 Errol Flynn classic. It stars Richard Todd, Joan Rice and Peter Finch as the corrupt Sheriff of Nottingham. Robin and his Merrie Men screen at 8:15 p.m.



Expect the usual surprise or two.  
**The doors open at 6:00 pm**  
**and movies start at 6:30 pm.**



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