



Volume 29 Issue 1

January 2013

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DAZZLING WE MAY BE

nobility, shining stars, splashes of color in a drab world, mirrors that reflect a beautiful God, reflect, don't hoard or hold the glory, expect to be loved and appreciated

There is a stupendous beauty about anything done as the hands, feet and mouth of Jesus. We trace Paul's life and are struck by the startling transformation that occurred once he became God's conduit of love and mercy. Likewise with Peter...shifting sand turned rock solid. And they both spoke of how lives made supple by the massaging of the Holy Spirit's oil turn ordinary beings into meteors.

You can expect that to happen to you. Allow God's power and grace to course through your veins, and good stuff...God stuff...happens. Paul said such folk are like 'stars shining in the universe'. Serious devotees to Jesus practice behaviors which would otherwise be foreign to them. Forgiveness is granted. Unrequested service (Good Samaritan style) is rendered. The quality of their mercy is not strain'd. It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven (as Shakespeare wrote). These lives, resembling that of Jesus, catch the attention of observers. Praise will come, quite involuntarily. And therein is the challenge.

Radically godly lives, such as that of Mother Teresa, get plenty of press. Those who best serve as mirrors of

God's kindness, purity and humble service soon have their hands full... full of bouquets. Deftly directing all glory to God, without getting more salutes for being so utterly humble, is required and difficult. The mirror dare not bask in the honor of reflecting the beauty queen's astounding good looks, as if contributing to that beauty. And it is not for us to gather and clutch the glory that accompanies our being splashes of stunning color in a drab landscape. It is God using us as his brushes.

God longs to do much of his loving kindness through his children. That is his plan. We cultivate the soil, plant the seed and apply water. Then he gives the increase. Can we celebrate our place in that scenario? Indeed! Celebrate for sure. Be honored to be so employed by the Creator. Keep it up. Inject his juices into your world in the form of unusual, over the top, amazing applications of true love. Watch the reactions. Enjoy the sight of other humans sensing God coming to them...through you.

Don't shrug off all congratulations. Jesus commended the faithful and

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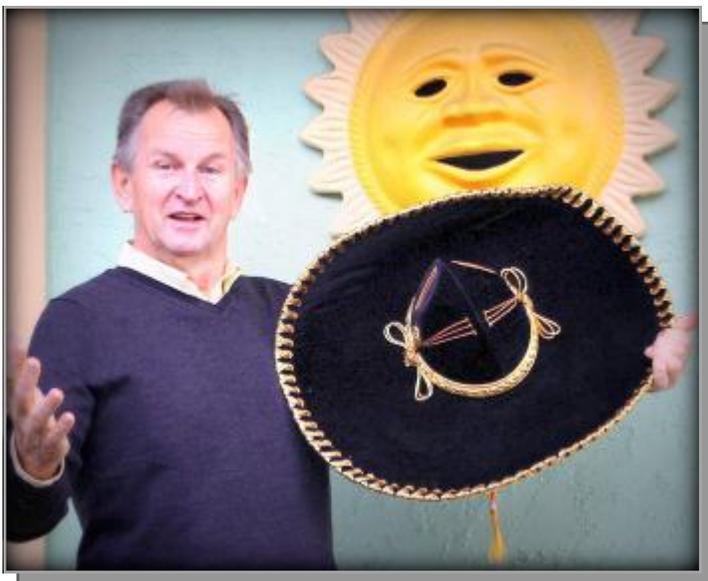
obedient. So did Paul. But our aim is not those warm words. Move forward without gathering them up and displaying them. Stay on track. We are co-laborers with Christ Jesus. His approval is immense. He calls us his light and his salt. How does that stand up in terms of great expectations? But we are planets, not stars. We don't generate the light...we merely reflect it. Devout disciples of Jesus become his face in the world...his hands. So expect some praise. And pass it on, for heaven's sake.




BIBLICAL THEMES AND PERSPECTIVES...

A NEW COURSE OFFERED BY JIM

You can expect to do some reading and homework if your sign up for this first Bible course to be offered at El Tapatio Restaurant. I'll have a textbook ready for you to purchase. Although the class begins on Sunday, February 3, at 9:15 am, you may wish to arrive early to order a bit of breakfast (they have a great \$6 Special). Once the start time arrives we'll be digging in and listening up...so eaters may wish



to be in the parking lot by 8:45 or 9. I'll buy your coffee. A number of folk have already put their name on the dotted line. It appears that when this package has run its course we'll delve into the New Testament overview.

Who is a good candidate for this offering? About anyone...so long as you are willing to do some work. That is a requirement. I'll not make the load exceedingly heavy, but you can expect to put in time both in class and at home each week. Bring your Bible, a notebook and a willingness to learn and grow. To get a head start begin reading the book of Genesis now. Please call me for further details or if you have questions. This will provide an excellent opportunity for you to invite a friend or family member, whether they head over to the church when class is done or not. So, if you intend to participate in this exciting journey, please call me...541-890-3209. Offered with high hopes...Jim L.

REAL MEN CRY HOLY

Over the years our Monday Morning Men's Group has drawn us together...and closer to God. Each week you'll hear our guys praying around the table. Heads are bowed and sincere voices express submission and appeals for



God's clear leading. Any man wishing to start his week with a close link to other real men...and to a real God...will find this to be an oasis for the soul. The breakfast special must be ordered by 8 to get the best buy. But the plan is to arrive by 7:45 so we can get right into the lesson and the Word. The Old Farm House. Phoenix (Oregon!). Monday Mornings at 7:45. You.

OLD TIME MOVIES

Over the years a few folk have suggested that we just show one movie at our Third Saturday Night event. But that would remove the magic 10 minutes...the

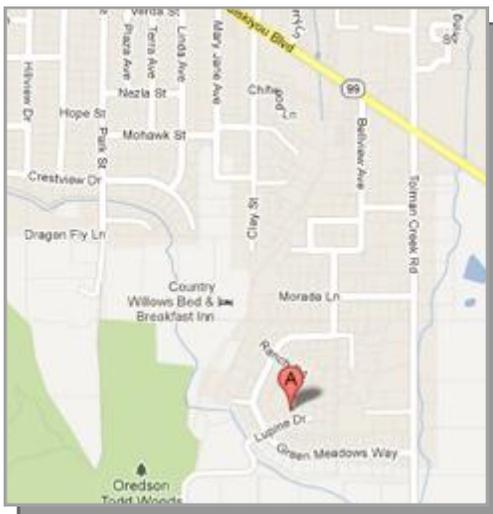
intermission. Ah, that is when people chat, make new acquaintances, and such. Regulars at our Sunday services get to rub shoulders with members of our community. A good number of our attendees have decided that this is actually a good place to hang out on a regular basis. Some of our movie-watching friends have become members of CCOA...and even deacons, an elder, deaconesses and Bible school teachers. The whole thing began with the showing and viewing of a 1940s or 50s horror movie (actually quite funny now), a venerat-ed classic or Char-lie Chan. So who knows what can happen when you provide whole-some entertain-ment and cheap treats? It can mean something long-term and marvelous. Thanks, Mike... our amazing host.



39 PLUS...STILL MEETING NEEDS

For some this First and Last Wednesday pow wow is mostly about fellowship. We all need that, don't we...chat and hugs. The card games or dominoes provide friendly competition and entertainment. Others love the Bible study, which often takes an alternate peek at last week's sermon. Then lunch... always most wonderful. Put it all together and we have a well-rounded morning for both men and women...newcomers and oldcomers.

As we start a new year we are changing the location of our first Wednesday gathering. After years of gracious hosting Marie Hoffman has passed the baton to Betty Lil-



libridge who will be our new hostess at her home located at 2315 Lupine Drive here in Ashland. 

- **January 2-** Join us at Betty's home at 10 am.
- **January 30-** We stick to the schedule mentioned above, but throw in some time for folding the newsletter. Join us in Fellowship Hall at the church. Remember this is a potluck... bring along something to share, please.

21 STORIES...TO BE CONTINUED

We began this journey back in late September... walking through the key stories of the Bible in Sunday's sermons. Your attention and feedback have been more than I could have asked for. The Bible has a plot...a theme...a plan...an aim. Genesis is related to Revelation...it is clear to see. My hope has been that each person following along would see how God's Story is really our story. God has a long view of history...and it includes each of us. We don't stand off and merely watch the action. Now we are seeing how the lives and work of Abraham, Moses and David have all helped draw a line through time...and our very lives. So stick with me as we continue this amazing adventure to its conclusion in February. Jim L

COMPASSIONATE ACTION... WINTER VERSION

It was a summer ministry. We joined hands to do together what some folk were finding impossible to do alone. Yards were freshened up. Homes got cleaned and/or organized. And, lo and behold, the action hasn't stopped. In fact many of you have

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been asking 'what is next?' So in January we'll prioritize loving service that can be rendered in our community. Perhaps the best place to start is with weekly chores at our fine church. Now that janitorial work is completed on a volunteer basis there is a steady need for us to sign up for week-at-a-time stints...throughout the year. This includes vacuuming, tending to bathroom scrubbing and mopping and such. Our first planning meeting will be held at the Larsen home on **Thursday, January 10...from 6:30 -7:30 p.m.** Expect cookies and coffee. All do gooders welcome. Please call to express your intentions to attend. Jim: 541-890-3209

SHARON TOOKE BAPTIZED... ANGELS ARE REJOICING

This dear lady first came to meet some of our folk at a communications course taught last summer. Since then she's been a regular in attendance...and a student of the Bible. We all rejoice that Sharon was baptized on Sunday, December 16... with a dear friend from Corvallis in attendance. God bless you dear lady. Sharon has signed up for the upcoming course at El Tapatio. Hallelujah!



THANKS FROM LARSENS

We were in awe of how many of our church friends could pack into our home for our annual Open House. You brought goodies to share...and so much laughter and joy. It seemed a fitting occasion to reflect on new ones who have come to fellowship with our church during this last year...of all ages. As we move into this next year we'll pray for continued growth and even more vitality. God bless you all.

ROGUE RIDERS TREK TO THE ROADHOUSE IN JANUARY

On these wintry days we generally stick rather close to home on our monthly forays. So here is a local treat...a fine eatery. The Roadhouse Grill is located on the Jacksonville Highway on the west side of Medford. Ever been there? Peanuts shucks are all over the floor. Barbequed vittles are the main fare.

So here is the plan. Join us at the church parking lot on **Wednesday, January 16th** to carpool or caravan to the other side of the Rogue Valley (**11:00 a.m.**) or meet us at the Road House Grill at **11:30 a.m.**

Here's another opportunity to bring a friend... especially someone who lives in Medford, Jacksonville or Central Point. After our relaxed lunch we'll drive over to Harry and David to check out after-the-holidays specials. Everyone welcome...workers, join us on your lunch hour.

THANKS FROM MARLIA-LARSENS

On a very snowy evening Brian, Lori Jo, Cielo and baby Mia Jo headed for Siskiyou Pass and parts south. They have just returned from Peru and a brief respite before taking off to report to supporters in Arizona and California. There is urgency about completing this journey since Brian heads to Kentucky in early January. You know he is working on getting his certification as a nurse practitioner. The training in Kentucky kicks off his second year in this program.

As they jumped in the car, both Lori Jo and Brian asked that we please thank all who contributed to their travel fund so they could make this circuitous trip to Flagstaff, Phoenix, Tucson and Los Angeles before returning to the Rogue Valley. Your prayers and words of encouragement are priceless gifts at this time of the year. Their final words before shoving off were a request that we all prayer for traveling mercies.

SYBIL LAREDO SENDS HER GREETING

Our dear friend Sybil is not yet up to returning to Sunday services, 39Plus, Saints Alive, Rogue Riders and the Piece Corps. You know she spent some time in the hospital then an assisted living place before going home. She is doing better day by day, but is not quite ready for to return to our services. So Sybil has asked that we be sure to tell the entire flock that she dearly misses



her usual contacts with us all. And your visits, phone calls and cards...priceless! So consider yourself hugged, friend. Sybil will do that in person before long, but for now her intentions need to surround and touch you.

PAUL CREEL WALKING TALL

Our dear Paul had hip replacement surgery...at the age of 95! He sends his greetings to our bunch, with hopes to be back with us before long. He is looking younger and more pain-free. Wonderful! God bless you, fine man.

SAINTS ALIVE...SOMETIMES LIMPING

Let's hope that we have Sybil and Paul back with us in January...for February at the latest. Anybody who misses this First Saturday feed is greatly missed. You know how it works, right? We gather at that fine eatery, the Petro Truck Stop (the Iron Skillet Restaurant) each month for a grand time together. No excuses are made for this being a fun junket. In fact we invite and urge you to bring along a tall tale, a riddle or a humdinger joke. We can all use a little laughter, right? So here is the scoop: Iron Skillet...**9 am... Saturday...January 5.** Be sure to announce to the cashier that you are a senior. AAA card holders also receive a discount. It could be a rather inexpensive Saturday morning for you.

OPPORTUNITIES TO MINISTER TO SENIOR ADULTS

Every Sunday I stop by *Jackson House* in Talent at 2 p.m. These fine residents so appreciate a little company. They would appreciate you, for sure. I teamed up with my Rotary Club to deliver fantastic collector item dolls for each of the ladies who attend my weekly session. You can see how happy this made them.

At three p.m. I'll be holding a 45 minute worship service at *Arbor Place Senior Living* each **Sunday, starting January 6.** Being the ac-



complished guitar player that I am (??), I'll lead a few songs before telling one of the 21 Stories of the Bible. I plan to tote along a few percussion items just in case you join me. The little songbook I'm compiling will have a variety of music...negro spirituals,

familiar hymns, a few more contemporary choruses and such. If you'd like to assist from time to time, just show up. Arbor Place is over in Medford at 3150 Juanipero Way...off of North Phoenix Road.



IN APPRECIATION... TO BRAD AND AVA FISH

As 2012 draws to a close, so does the employment of our faithful office manager, Brad Fish. You know that his duties and interests have covered a large spectrum of services, many of a techy sort...others related to normal day to day goings on at the church. The good news is that this good man has declared his intentions to continue on, in a volunteer role, covering many of the duties which he has been paid to do for years. You remember that Brad retired from the



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Air Force and went to work in the valley until we hired him here to replace Bedah, who was retiring to the Midwest.

Ava also came onboard and served us well in keeping the church pert, clean and ready for weekly use. Ava's employment ended some months ago...but like Brad, she has continued on, unpaid, performing many duties...not just a few of which go unnoticed. We salute the Fish people for skillfully performing their duties, in addition to much work which simply needed to be done...and they did it.

Changing times have brought many churches to this place of putting major responsibilities in the hands of a team of volunteers. No doubt it will take some time to get all of these duties assigned to competent servants. In the meantime we don't want to let this transition pass without saying a big thank you to two people whom we love and respect.

THE SLACKS ARE BACK

Oh, it is so good to see Karl and Helen Jane back with us. You know that dear Karl spent a good amount of time in the hospital to deal with kidney stones...then a rehab site...and then to an assisted living room at their retirement center. A few weeks back Karl finally moved back to their apartment. The best news is that in recent weeks this beloved couple has been making the weekly trek from Jacksonville to our church...their church for decades. Welcome home, Slacks!



PIECE CORPS - QUILT WINNERS

CONGRATULATIONS to our winners for the quilt drawing! - Kitty Ellis won the big quilt. Helen Jane Slack, Phyllis Smith and Steve Cox each won a small quilt.

THANK YOU to all who participated in the drawing! \$150 was brought in to go towards the purchase of needed supplies for future quilts. Ava Fish



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 - Helen Calhoun
- 1 - Bonnie Maulsby
- 2 - Jim Witt
- 2 - Robin Witt
- 2 - Kacey McDonald
- 3 - Terry Hayes-Sanders
- 5 - Joyce Lavelle
- 8 - Katie Anderson
- 9 - David Lockwood
- 9 - Hal Bosworth
- 10 - Donna Cornelius
- 13 - Betty Tine Metcalf
- 15 - Ed Macauley
- 18 - Joshua McDaniel
- 24 - Linda Bell



JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 23 - Karl and Helen Jane Slack

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>2:00 PM Jackson House Ministry 3:00 PM Arbor Place Senior Living</p>	<p>7:45 AM Real Men-Old Farm House Cafe</p>	<p>9:30 AM Piece Corps Helen Calhoun, B'Day Bonnie Mantsby B'Day New Year's Day</p>	<p>10:00 AM 39 Plus - Betty Lillibridge's Home Jim Witt, B'day Robin Witt, B'day Kasey McDonald, B'day</p>	<p>Terry Hayes-Sanders, B'Day</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 9:00 AM Saints Alive Breakfast - Iron Skillet Joyce Lavelle, B'day</p>																																										
<p>6 2:00 PM Jackson House Ministry 3:00 PM Arbor Place Senior Living</p>	<p>7 7:45 AM Real Men-Old Farm House Cafe</p>	<p>8 9:30 AM Piece Corps Katie Anderson, B'day</p>	<p>9 David Lockwood B'day Hal Bosworth, B'day</p>	<p>10 Donna Cornelius, B'day</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>																																										
<p>13 12:30 PM Board Meeting 2:00 PM Jackson House Ministry 3:00 PM Arbor Place Senior Living <i>Henry Fine Metcalf B'day</i></p>	<p>14 7:45 AM Real Men-Old Farm House Cafe</p>	<p>15 9:30 AM Piece Corps Ed Macauley, B'day</p>	<p>16 11:00 AM Rogue Riders - Roadhouse Grill</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 Joshua McDaniel, B'Day</p>	<p>19 6:30 PM Old Time Movie Night</p>																																										
<p>20 2:00 PM Jackson House Ministry 3:00 PM Arbor Place Senior Living</p>	<p>21 7:45 AM Real Men-Old Farm House Cafe Magnum Luther King, Jr.</p>	<p>22 9:30 AM Piece Corps</p>	<p>23 Karl & Helen Jane Slack, Ann</p>	<p>24 Lynda Bell, B'day</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>																																										
<p>27 2:00 PM Jackson House Ministry 3:00 PM Arbor Place Senior Living</p>	<p>28 7:45 AM Real Men-Old Farm House Cafe</p>	<p>29 9:30 AM Piece Corps</p>	<p>30 10:00 AM 39 Plus - Newsletter Folding</p>	<p>31</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="7">February 13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>S</td> <td>M</td> <td>T</td> <td>W</td> <td>T</td> <td>F</td> <td>S</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> </tr> </table>		February 13							S	M	T	W	T	F	S		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
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JANUARY 2013

CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF ASHLAND

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RSS: www.cc-ashland.org/sermons/rss.xml
iTunes: Christian Church of Ashland



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Sunday Service Schedule
9:30 AM Adult Bible Study
10:30 AM Junior Church
10:45 AM Worship

Faithful to God, Responsive to People



STYLISH ATMOSPHERE AND ART DECO ELEGANCE



Saturday, January 19, 2013 we start the New Year off with an involving *Film Noir* mystery from 1946. "**BLACK ANGEL**" stars Dan Duryea, June Vincent, Peter Lorre and Broderick Crawford in a dilly of a taut edge-of-your-seat murder mystery in which a long suffering wife sets out to save her convicted husband from the electric chair, whom she steadfastly believes innocent, *before* he is executed. The clock is ticking, folks. Will she succeed?!

Who really done it?! This is one of the 25 most memorable noir films.

After our usual intermission of vintage drive-in snack-bar ads and coming attraction previews we are pleased to present what is perhaps the best-remembered of the 10 Astaire/Rogers musicals.

Loaded with Art Deco elegance, a whimsical storyline and one of Irving Berlin's finest film scores, it's 1935's "**TOP**

HAT." Loaded with the ideal chemistry of Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers, dancing cheek to cheek, it's a sparkling romance in which love beckons--until Ginger gets the wrong idea that Fred is a married playboy. Our stars get skilled support from great Hollywood talents like Edward Everett Horton, Helen Broderick, Erik Rhodes and Eric Blore... and you'll probably find yourself humming the great tunes on your way home. It's not for nuthin' this film was nominated for 4 Academy Awards, including Best Picture.



Our reasonably priced snack-bar will be open most of the evening, so bring a hearty appetite. Tell all your friends and neighbors about this marvelous family event. The movies are **free!** What a great way to get inside out of the weather and enjoy movies from another time that have lost none of their charm and drama. Come and see how great movies were made before CGI.



There is **NO** charge for admission, but donations are gladly accepted.

Doors and snack-bar open at 6:00 p.m. and the movies start at 6:30 p.m.

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