

WEEKLY NEWS ~~ DECEMBER 2, 2022

COVID 19 MASKING FOR WEEK BEGINNING

DECEMBER 2, 2022:

OPTIONAL

PASTOR ALYSSA ON VACATION!

Pastor Alyssa will be on vacation from December 1 through December 7. Intern Emily will be available for pastoral care in Pastor Alyssa's absence.

38TH ANNUAL GIRL SCOUT TREE OF JOY SERVICE PROJECT



The Girl Scout Tree of Joy Service Project was started in 1983 by a troop of 6th graders. It has grown over the past 39 years, with thousands of gifts having been distributed to agencies in our area. Most are given for Christmas, but some agencies save them for needs throughout the year.

Again, this year there will be a Tree of Joy annex tree in the Narthex starting Saturday November 19th. It will have tags with names and gift ideas from the Girl Scout tree Service Project in Pony Village Mall. You can still go to the mall and pick tags from the main tree, or if you prefer, for your convenience you can take tags from the annex tree, and return the presents to the church, or under the tree in the Pony Village Mall. If you are returning the gifts to the church, please have the gifts back by December 15th. If you prefer to simply make a donation and have Girl Scout elves shop for gifts, make a check out to Gloria Dei and on the memo, line write Tree of Joy and give it to Barbara in the church office. The Girl Scouts donates these gifts to many different agencies in Coos County, helping everyone from children to seniors. Any questions, contact Debbie Cox at 756-2250.

ADVENT WORSHIP

Our Advent Midweek Services are every Wednesday during Advent! Worship using the Holden Evening Prayer service begins at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary. The link for Holden Evening Prayer will be emailed out on Tuesday nights, and it is the same link we use for worship on Sunday mornings.

Choir will meet at 7 pm for the duration of Advent to provide time for Worship. There will be no choir practice on December 14.

FIREWOOD AVAILABLE!

Gloria Dei's Firewood Ministry is alive and well! There is about a cord and a half of dry firewood available. If you or someone you know is in NEED of firewood, please contact the church office. The firewood is free with free delivery.

GREETERS, READERS, USHERS, AND FLOWERS NEEDED!

Sign up sheets from October through the end of the year are available in the Narthex. We need greeters, readers, ushers, and flowers! Please sign up to help as you are able!

Like to sing? Join Choir!

Choir meets Wednesday at 6:30 pm and comes in at 9:30 am on Sunday to prepare for the service.

*Advent is a great time to try choir—come for worship, stay for choir practice
(at 7 pm during Advent)!*

NO CHOIR PRACTICE DECEMBER 14TH!

FUNDING THE INTERN - TIME TO STEP UP

At last January's Congregational meeting, we voted on the Intern budget separately because it wasn't clear we could afford them. As I recall, there were many who treasured the intern program and noted that giving had always risen to the occasion to support this program - and I was one of those voices.

This year we got a significant boost of \$15,000 from the Endowment fund to get the program restarted. But that will only carry us into December. We need \$17,000 more to complete Intern Emily's term, and we will be planning fundraisers. But with our recovery from the pandemic going slower than anticipated, and our resultant current budget crunch, it seems to me to be time for all of us who said the intern program is important enough that the money will come, to step up and increase our giving. Please.

Ken Denton,

Intern Committee member



PROGRESS REPORT:

As of the end of we have raised almost \$7,000 of the \$17,000 needed to allow Intern Emily to finish with us through June of 2023. Thank you for your generosity—let's keep up the good work!

FLORENCE COMMUNITY CHOIR CONCERTS

The Florence Community Choir is having their annual Holiday Concerts! Our own Dave Aakre directs this choir, and he and Mo sing in it, as well. The concerts are Saturday, December 10 at 7 pm and Sunday, December 11 at 2 pm. The location is the Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw, 3996 US-101, Florence, OR 97439. The concerts are free and open to the public; donations to the Florence Community Choir are welcome.

REMINDER!

As the days get cooler, please remember to turn down the heat if you turn it up! Also, please double and triple check to make sure the doors are shut properly and locked behind you when you leave the building!

KNITTERS FUNDRAISER!

Our Gloria Dei knitters have been knitting up a storm—so much so that they are out of yarn, and out of funds with which to buy more yarn! So they are selling some of what they have knitted (hats, scarves, dish cloths, etc.) to raise money for more yarn.

The sale is Sunday, December 11 during Coffee & Fellowship Time after the service. This is a great opportunity to purchase handmade gifts for those on your holiday gift list!

MEAL IN A BAG PROJECT

Gloria Dei will once again be putting together “Meal in a Bag” packs that we can share with our neighbors in need. The bags contain at least a protein, carbohydrate, fruit, drink, and a sweet snack. Meal in a Bag packing is scheduled for December 10 at 10 am, in the Sunday School hallway. There will be Girl Scouts helping, and volunteers from Gloria Dei are welcome to come help, too!

Completed bags are shared throughout the year to people who come by the church and are in need, and to those asking for help outside stores and on street corners, as people are comfortable sharing.

Donations of food items for the bags or money to help buy food are welcome. Please contact Barbara Stevenson (541-294-1499) for more information.

VETERAN’S ART & CRAFT SHOW

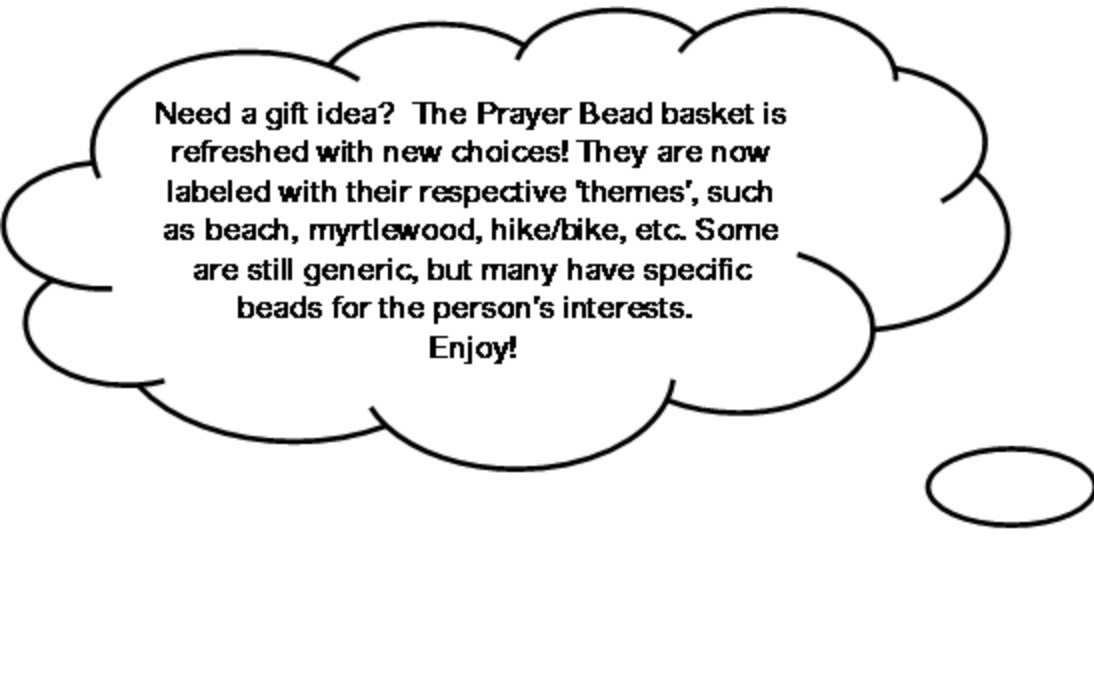
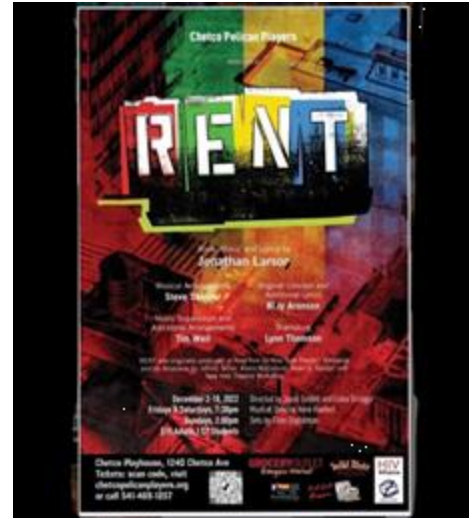
Come see a wide variety of fabulous arts and crafts made by our local veterans and their spouses. Items range from pen & ink drawings to woodworking to jewelry to knitted and sewn crafts. Stop by and visit with the Vets and see what they have created that might make good gifts for your family & friends. Part of Ian Stevenson’s uniform collection is also on display. Open 10 – 5 Mon -Sat, 11 – 5 Sun. Located in Pony Village Mall across from Ross!

HEARTS & HANDS ARTISAN & CRAFT CHRISTMAS STORE

A shop full of handmade creations by more than 20 crafters & artists! Located in Pony Village Mall across from JoAnn Fabrics; open mall hours through December 27!

CHETCO PELICAN PLAYERS PRESENT RENT

The Chetco Pelican Players present *RENT* at the Chetco Playhouse, 1240 Chetco Avenue in Brookings. December 2 –18! Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 pm, Sundays at 2:00 pm. \$15 for adults, \$7 for students. Call 541-469-1857 for tickets or more information.



**Need a gift idea? The Prayer Bead basket is refreshed with new choices! They are now labeled with their respective 'themes', such as beach, myrtlewood, hike/bike, etc. Some are still generic, but many have specific beads for the person's interests.
Enjoy!**



Public response period: social message on climate care. A draft of the ELCA's forthcoming social message on climate change and how we are called to respond has been posted, and the public comment period is open through Friday, Dec. 2. The draft will be edited in response to your feedback and brought to the ELCA Church Council for a vote this spring. To read the draft and provide your input through our online form, go to elca.org/climatecare.

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE: 44 in person, 15 online



STEWARDSHIP IS...REFLECTING!
In Advent, we reflect as we wait for our Lord!