

DATES AHEAD:

July

- 1st Senior Outing—Concerts in the Park
- 12th Derrick Rau’s Wedding

August

- 2nd Audrey Richardson’s Wedding
- 23rd Paul & Judy Slater Vow Renewal
- 4th—8th Explorer Camp
- 8th-12th Teen Camp
- 12th Camp Clean-up

September

- 2nd School Starts
- 3rd AWANA Starts
- 7th Missionary Visit—The Powell’s

July Birthdays

- 4 Mike Joyce
- 12 Shirley Belanger
- 15 Louise Isbell
- 16 Debbie Sosey
- 19 Jerome Guy
- 23 Charlotte Butcher
- 29 Vickie Prose

August Birthdays

- 7 Colton Leet
- 8 Johnny Ciesla
- 10 Velma Greer
- 11 Dave Burkelo
- 20 Kate Guy

September Birthdays

- 3 Emma Johnson
- 7 Mary Zimmerman
- 8 Naomi Wilant
- 11 Paul Slater
- 18 Lance Brush
- 19 Gwen Bernard
- 19 Marilyn Marsh
- 22 OB Beckham
- 23 Cameron Leet
- 24 Norm Behm
- 29 Terrie Brush
- 30 Susan Beckham



July Anniversaries

- 8 Kendon & Jessie Leet
- 8 Joe & Leta Neiderheiser
- 9 James & Sarah Doran
- 14 OB & Susan Beckham
- 27 Vane & Bonnie Jones
- 30 Gary & Chris Richardson

August Anniversaries

- 6 Bob & Beth Piete
- 7 Brian & Kelly Johnson
- 27 Paul & Judy Slater

September Anniversaries

- 8 Bob & Wendy Belanger
- 10 Rich & Sandy Reeves
- 24 Joe & Eva Clement



**CHURCH
PICNIC!**



NEWSBREAK

Applegate Community Church
 P.O. Box 3140
 Applegate, OR 97530
 (541) 846-6100

Vol. XXX

No. 297

July-August-September 2014

OUR CHURCH HISTORY – PART FOUR

If you are new to this mini-series, we have been sharing some of our early church history as recorded in two old journals containing our church meeting notes and financial reports. We are fortunate to have these documents that record our very beginning as a church family in 1932. These ledgers also tell us about our church family pioneers, and give us many details on our formation and growth. So let’s go back to 1950. Pastor Book had just told the congregation he thought his work with our church was done and he would be moving on after his final sermon on January 8, 1950. The congregation then called a young pastor from the mid-west to come and visit and give the Sunday message on January 15, 1950. That young man’s name was Thornton Gapen. Pastor Gapen had commitments at his home, and not immediately available, so the congregation hired Pastor Casper to begin on February 12, 1950. In the 1951 annual church meeting Pastor Casper did not receive a majority vote to be rehired, and in June of that year the congregation voted to offer the job of pastor to Brother Thornton Gapen. Pastor Gapen told me last fall when I talked to him about his beginning years, that his wife Mabel was pregnant at that time and soon due to deliver, so they waited until August 1951 to come to Oregon and begin work. That began Pastor Gapen’s 30 years of dedicated service and commitment to all of us here at our church. His friendship lasted until he went home to be with the Lord last December 24, 2013 at the age of 98. He and his daughter Miriam continued to come to most of our annual harvest dinners including last November, 2013. When Pastor Gapen and Mable and their family of 3 girls first got here, the congregation was meeting in what Pastor Gapen called the “cabin on the hill”. But there were no seats and the furnace did not work very well. The year before they started to dig two outdoor toilets, and a new well, but they were not finished as of 1951. The congregation had \$19.49 in a “seat fund”, but once Pastor Gapen arrived, they did not pursue bench seating and instead bought folding chairs. The congregation was about 18 to 20 people and Pastor Gapen was paid \$907.81 for his first year of work. From our very beginning our church has always supported missions and missionaries in some way, and in 1952 they gave \$29.79 to the Children’s Home Ministry, \$26.81 to Aged Minister’s Ministry, \$91.33 to World Missions, and \$78.44 to visiting missionaries. There are accounts for annual contributions to the “Cuban Bible School” in several financial reports and a note that the Cuban Bible School closed in 1963, so our \$10 per month was being transferred to the Medford Youth for Christ. Wow, remember your U.S. history about this date?? In 1955 the Gapen family moved out of the “little cabin” and began paying \$50 per month to rent the “Horn place” as the new parsonage. In the 1957 minutes there is a reference to how the congregation had grown and they began to consider the need for a larger church. That began the initial planning for the sanctuary we still enjoy today. In 1958 they surveyed the 1 acre property lines and in 1963 they bought the adjoining 6 acres for \$1300. Also in 1963, they started preparing building plans and began a memorial building fund. In 1964 Pastor Gapen reviewed and presented a new Canadian clay brick 4x8x16 inches in size. He wanted to use this beautiful red brick instead of cinder blocks. And in January of 1965 the congregation approved the new church design, without a basement, and ordered the trusses and the red Canadian clay brick.

Praising God for all things,
 Mike Joyce

**Women’s
Outreach**

Plans are in
 progress for a
CRAFT FAIR!



We will rent a booth at the Josephine County Christmas Craft Fair. It will take place around the first part of November. All craft and/or hand work items from our church family will be welcomed to help with this Women’s Outreach Fundraiser. Our sale will include fresh bakery items (meaning not previously frozen). Women’s Outreach began many years ago and exists to serve our church in any way we can. We use our funds to purchase needed items for church activities (Ladies Spring Lunch, Harvest Dinner, etc.). Our monthly meetings will resume in September (1st Thursday of the month). See Jackie Hill

Summer Sunday School

We are excited about our Summer Sunday School Program! If you have children you will want to consider getting here at 9:00 a.m. so they can benefit! Kelly Johnson & Cari Dietrick will be teaching with the goal of helping the children to memorize some of the foundational elements of the Christian faith. A sweeping overview of our goals will help you to better pray for teachers, students and parents as we seek to **“bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.” (Eph. 6.4b)**

Catechism: We start with the Songs for Saplings music which puts the questions and bible verses into songs.

Memory Verse: We use music by “Seeds” which is strictly Scripture put to music.

Map: The children learn how to draw & where to find geographical places that will help to better understand the Bible.

Timeline of the Old Testament: The goal is to give the kids a sweeping overview of the Old Testament that they will have memorized so they can place the lessons they are learning into the big picture of God’s plan of redemption.

Lesson in a Sentence: We review the previous weeks Jr. Church lesson and memorize a sentence to summarize the main teaching.

Greek for the Week: This Summer we are memorizing Greek vocabulary words from John 1.

Praise God: In light of the lesson review we take time to praise God for who He is and what He has done.

For His glory,
Kelly Johnson

*
* **Family Vision Conference** *
* Cornerstone Christian Church *
* Medford *
*
* July 11th and 12th *
*
* Speaker: Dr. R.C. Sproul Jr. *
*
* Are you a 21st Century Christian *
* with a Desire to Follow God? *
*
* Ephesians 5-6 *
*
* The 5th Commandment *
*
* How the Biblical Family relates to *
* The Local Church and the *
* Rest of the World *
*
* www.FamilyVisionConference.com *

Men’s Bible Study
& Fellowship!
Saturdays at 8:00 a.m.
Serving Breakfast YUMMM!
New Study: “The Way of the Mas-
ter”
By Kirk Cameron & Ray Comfort
Led by Mark Sosey!

FACILITY MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

The elders and deacons have been evaluating our buildings and believe several maintenance and upgrade projects are becoming priorities. One set of projects will protect and repair our existing infrastructure and give extended life for long term continued use. The most expensive of these projects is a repair of soft spots and a resealing of our parking lot. Our parking lot was installed in 1997, so it has stood up well for 16 plus years. However it is aging fast and we have been told by experts if we take care of it soon we can save it. If we let it go another year or two we likely will lose its integrity and have to completely redo it at a much higher price. We also plan to install new lights at the parking lot south edge to improve winter and evening safety. Other repair projects being considered include reworking the bridge and the east end stairs. Both wooden structures are becoming safety risks, and both are secondary fire exits for people on the second floor. The other projects being considered are meant to address our cold sanctuary on Sunday mornings during the winters. We are looking at potential benefits and cost returns for new windows, new insulation, blocking cold drafts, and possible wall coverings. We will soon have an energy audit and will use those suggestions in making final decisions. As you know our winter electric bill is just below, or at \$1,000 each month, and our propane bill also is at, or near \$1,000. These winterizing projects should keep us warmer and hopefully significantly reduce our utility bills. We believe these projects could cost in the order of \$25,000. We are still trying to secure quality bids for the larger projects to help us achieve a more accurate estimate for each project. Normally we would wait until we had a completed estimate to present our plans; however, since July is now here, our paving and construction window is narrowing. We know our savings may not be sufficient to cover the parking lot project alone, thus if we used it for that, there would be no remaining funds to improve heating efficiency in the sanctuary. Nor would we have any emergency funds should our old heat pumps fail this winter. Our financial health is much weaker than in years past, due mostly to attrition, and we often just barely, or sometimes do not meet monthly expenses, and have to use some of our reserves. Thus, we have decided to begin a “Facility Maintenance Fund Drive” asking for contributions (above regular monthly giving) to pay for these projects. Our goal is to raise \$25,000 by October 2014. As plans and estimates come together we will share and provide detailed updates. Should you have any questions please don’t hesitate to talk to any elder or deacon.

Thank you and praise God for our church. Mike Joyce

*
* **LADIES BIBLE STUDY UPDATE:** *
* We have completed our study in the Gospel of Mark. *
* When we resume our meetings in September, we’re planning to *
* study the very practical and challenging book of James! *
* We’d love for you to join us!! *
* See Jackie Hill for details. *
