

# *THE LOOP*

COQUILLE FOURSQUARE CHURCH

MAY 2024 | VOLUME 2, ISSUE 5

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# *SPRINGTIME & HARVEST*



LUNCH AFTER CHURCH AT FRONT STREET FOOD TRUCKS



KATHY PEERSON

**E**XCITEMENT IS IN THE AIR! It is that time of year again when we have several beautiful days of warm sunshine. The thoughts of planting a garden, and getting those pots out to plant some seeds, digging holes to plant those bulbs that

you bought a month ago. The seed catalogues are earmarked and dreams of color and beauty are on your mind.

But then it rains, and all your plans are put on hold. The ground is soaked and

disappointment sets in. Will you ever get to plant that garden? When God? Why does there always seem to be a time when I have to wait? It is so hard. Finally, the sun comes back out and the ground dries. It is time to till that garden,

to fertilize it, to rake it, to plant it with loving care. It is hard work and every day you would go out and look to see if those little green things are sprouting out of the ground. What a reward when the harvest has come to fruition. It has been worth it all.

God loves gardens too! *He planted a garden eastward in Eden, and there He put the man whom He had formed. And out of the ground the Lord God made every tree grow that is pleasant in the sight and good for food.*  
Genesis 2:8,9

Jesus would go to the garden of Gethsemane to pray, which was His custom. It was a place of comfort for Him. It is a comfort to us as well.



TRIBE ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

You may think, "well, how does this encourage me and what is the point?" Below is a word that the Lord gave me some years ago and I will share it with you, as it pertains to all of us that call Jesus our Lord:

### **The Bedding Ground**

You are a bedding ground. I have tilled you and turned you

until you could stand no more. I have put the "fertilizer" of my Spirit in you and worked it deep within the hidden places. I waited and waited, but you felt dormant and forgotten. The dark night of the soul, when you thought you would never see the light. But now the time has come. See the Son rise and spread His rays of warmth upon you. Many

are the seeds I have planted in you. Now it is time for the rains to come. The soft gentle rains of My glory, of My Spirit. Lift your heads and stretch forth your arms. Reach for Me, higher and higher! This is what you were born for! This is the planting of the Lord! ■



# MAY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<b>1</b> TRIBE	<b>2</b> Celebrate Recovery	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> Church	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Mens' Bible Study	<b>8</b> TRIBE	<b>9</b> Celebrate Recovery	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Ladies Book Club
<b>12</b> Church	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Mens' Bible Study	<b>15</b> TRIBE	<b>16</b> Celebrate Recovery	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> Church	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Mens' Bible Study	<b>22</b> TRIBE	<b>23</b> Celebrate Recovery	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> Church Worship Night w Joshua Aaron	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Mens' Bible Study	<b>29</b> Coquille Class of 2024 Baccalaureate	<b>30</b> Celebrate Recovery	<b>31</b>	

**Ladies Book Club:** Saturday, May 11, 11 AM at Kaffe 101 in Coos Bay. We are reading *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt.  
For more details, see Kimberly Moore.

**Worship Night with Joshua Aaron:** Saturday, May 26, 6:30 PM in the Sanctuary. Event details and buy tickets at [pcfoursquare.org/events](http://pcfoursquare.org/events)  
For more details, see Pastor Sam Flaherty.

**Coquille Class of 2024 Baccalaureate:** Wednesday, May 29, 7 PM in the Sanctuary (See next page).  
For more details, see Pastor Sam Flaherty.

**Church Service:** Every Sunday Morning at 10:30 AM in the Sanctuary.

**Mens' Bible Study:** Every Tuesday Morning at 6:30 AM in the Sanctuary.  
For more details, see Pastor Sam Flaherty.

**TRIBE:** Jr. High and High School Group, every Wednesday Evening from 6:30 - 8:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall.  
For more details, see Pastor Victoria Flaherty.

**Celebrate Recovery:** Every Thursday Evening at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall.  
For more details, see Bill Howell.

**Save the Date! Youth Camp: August 2-5**  
**Kids Camp: August 5 - 8**



# COQUILLE

## CLASS OF Baccalaureate 2024

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 7 PM IN THE SANCTUARY



PASTOR SAM FLAHERTY

What is the Coquille Baccalaureate? Well, it for sure is a hard word to say and I have to use spell check every time I type it out.

The noun *baccalaureate* means the same thing as a Bachelor's degree from college. It can also refer to a "baccalaureate service," which is like a farewell ceremony for graduating seniors from high school or college. You can "receive a baccalaureate" or you can "attend a baccalaureate." If you *receive*

a baccalaureate that means you have received a bachelor's degree for undergraduate studies in college. When you *attend* a baccalaureate, that means you are attending a ceremony celebrating graduating seniors.

Traditionally, a baccalaureate was a religious service held the Sunday before graduation in which the community gathers together to bless and pray over the graduating class.

Before coming to Coquille I

had never heard of or attended a Baccalaureate Service. I had the privilege of participating in the planning of my daughter's senior year baccalaureate in 2015. That year we reimagined the ceremony by involving the students in the planning of the ceremony. I and our church have been involved in the planning of the ceremony for over nine years.

This year we had 13 seniors help plan the Baccalaureate Ceremony! Our largest team ever! The 1-hour ceremony



will be filled with music, special (brief) speakers and videos followed by a reception. Over the last 8+ years we have had over 90% of the seniors attend the Baccalaureate Ceremony. I love this event and we continue to invest in all opportunities to bless and pray over our next generation.

We are excited to be hosting this year's event on Wednesday, May 29 @ 7pm. All are welcome to attend and to bless and pray over the class of 2024. ■

# CANVAS & CLAY

DOODLING THROUGH LIFE



BRANDON LAKE



WHAT IF I ASK GOD TO create something in me? Would I realize it was you, Lord? How would God masterfully create me?

- 1.) I need to be still, and I need to be willing to listen.
- 2.) I need to realize that the process, at times, can be unpleasant.
- 3.) Most Importantly, I need to lean into the word of God.

I have a will and a desire to be close to God daily. So, in saying that, my next steps are to see the changes that God slowly transforms in me and through me. What does that look like and how do my changes reflect the word?

To be made whole, is to remain in God. The changes that are revealed are through my interactions with the daily struggles of life through a Christ-like view of the world around me. It is evident that God speaks to us through the Word. In turn, my images, my creations, my art are nothing but my translations drawn on paper as I gain a heart of wisdom through my prayers and meditations of scriptures with God through time set apart with the full intent to seek God and witness what he is speaking to me daily. ■

# PLANTING THE RIGHTEOUS SEED



MATT GEORGE

AS I GROW IN MY FAITH journey, I am sometimes surprised by what comes to light. And one such surprise was when Pastor Sam declared on one certain Sunday in church that, in our walk as Christians, we are actually modern day disciples of our Lord! Does this mean we should be street preachers in Times Square? Evangelists abroad? Perhaps. But for most of us we can never know how the Lord might use us for his works.

I feel the least I can do is have a positive effect on those I encounter every day, live my life as a steward of God's blessings and message, and represent the faith in a positive way in my own life

journey to those around me, believers and non believers alike. I should endeavor to be the light as often as possible through my deeds, actions and conduct.

When I speak about Jesus with non-believers or agnostic people I sense on the fringe of the usual doubts and skepticism they harbor, I suspect that they might

not be so sure about their convictions, and there seems to be some self-doubt or curiosity as to *maybe there just might be some truth to the story of Jesus' death and resurrection*. Therein is an opportunity to plant a seed, a seed of truth gently sown as food for thought that the Holy Spirit can cultivate in the background of a skeptical mind, or a hardened heart.



REX, GREG & KEN: BREAKFAST BUDDIES!





KEN & CHANTAL AT PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sometimes a waterfall starts with a raindrop in a far off place. Maybe, in the typically mysterious way the Lord works, these people might encounter other signs soon after an encounter with one of us that they could tie together as more than an uncanny coincidence.

I find it difficult sometimes

discussing my faith with particular people (often young family members) when tough questions of the topic of Christianity/ religion are conveyed; I often feel self-pressured to have just the right bible verses or quotes from one of Jesus' sermons that will stop them in their tracks and have them reflecting in awe of my answer. But that just isn't always possible. Admittedly, I have been caught off guard a few times and vowed in my mind to be better prepared the next time! I wish I was more like Pastor Cliff Knechtle of Grace Community Church who goes to college campuses and faces passionate students with all the toughest questions pertaining to Christianity, but alas it would take a lifetime of Bible study to be that knowledgeable!

It reminds me of the importance of Bible study and

staying in the word more and more. But also I have found that a simple testimony about how Jesus has healed my brokenness or helped me had me astounded by the tangible reality that grace was afforded me! Non-believers can be a tough crowd.

*Accept the one who's faith is weak, without quarreling over disputable matters.*  
Romans 14:1

In this dark world we need the protections and blessings the Lord provides to cope day to day, and that is so much better than going it alone. I share that attending church has blessings of fellowship and an extended family aspect that has so added much value in my life. I look forward to seeing friends every week and charging my spiritual batteries together in time of worship, by being honest and witnessing

to people the simple truth of finding comfort and healing.

In this new spring season I hope we all have the opportunity to sow that seed of hope in someone who could benefit from hearing the truth, the truth of Jesus Christ! ■



WYATT'S BAPTISM

# SPRING TIME CROSSWORD

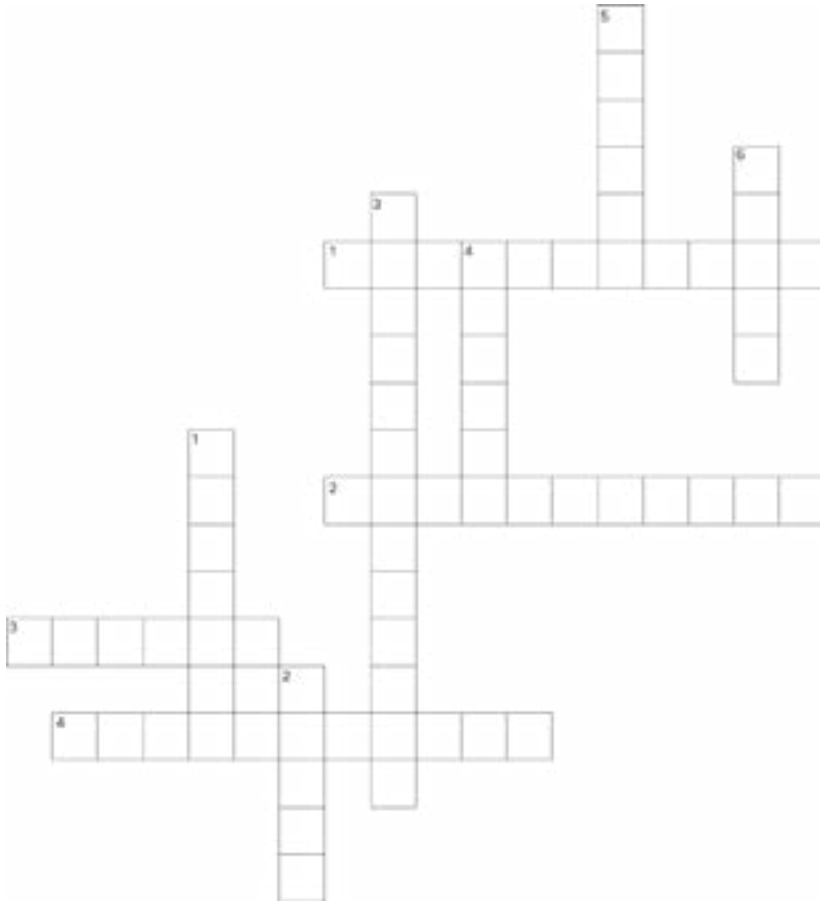
## ACROSS

1. Two ways to honor the Lord in Proverbs 3: with your possessions and with the \_\_\_\_\_ of all your increase.

2. 2 Corinthians 9 contrast for sowing and reaping sparingly: sowing and reaping \_\_\_\_\_.

3. This causes the things that are sown in it to spring forth, according to Isaiah 61.

4. The least of all seeds but greater than the herbs (Matthew 13).



## DOWN

1. "The \_\_\_\_\_ truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few." (Matthew 9)

2. This tree in Psalm 1 brings forth \_\_\_\_\_ in its [4 Down].

3. This is sown in peace by those who make peace, according to James 3.

4. This tree in Psalm 1 brings forth [1 Down] in its \_\_\_\_\_.

5. In Isaiah 40, this will fade, but the Word of our God stands forever.


6. In John 4, this will become a fountain springing up into everlasting life.

*(Clues based on NKJV.)*

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