

Dear Canby Alliance Family,

Hope you are all enjoying the fall weather! I've always loved this transitional time because we have the cooler nights and we still have quite a bit of nice sunnier days! This is a time when we get to enjoy the best of 2 worlds!

Well, it's been about 2 months since we wrote a letter but so much has been happening. We definitely want to get back into a regular cycle of having these Elder Newsletters again since many of you have told us that the Elder Newsletters were very helpful in keeping you informed but also in feeling like you have been a part of the process.

There are 4 things I want to update you on in this newsletter:

1. Pastor Search
2. Good Neighbor Alliance Event
3. Willamette Valley Big Band Christmas Concert
4. Small Group Ministry

PASTOR SEARCH: We had over 20 applicants for the lead pastor position. The Pastor Search Committee (PSC) meticulously went through each application and was able to unanimously narrow that down to one candidate.

Pastor Ryan Doughty is originally from the Northwest area and he is currently in Tennessee. He has over 20 years of pastoral experience. His strengths are teaching and shepherding. He is passionate about equipping people to do ministry and in discipleship. He loves engaging with his community. He loves being creative in how we interact with his community. He is trained in Soul Care and Spiritual Formation. Pastor Doughty is widowed and he has 2 sons who will be coming along when he visits. Their desire is to return back to the Pacific Northwest which they all consider to be "home." We are especially excited because he loves developing strong ministry teams whose members use their strengths and passions to become a stronger team by collaborating with each other. He is looking forward to meeting our Canby Alliance Staff to get to know them and determine if CAC is where God is leading him to be.

The PSC has asked Pastor Doughty to come to Canby to see Canby and experience Canby Alliance Church. He will be coming here from September 26, Thursday to September 30, Monday. During this time, he will be meeting with our staff and with church leadership and, of course, he will have an opportunity to meet all of you. He will be preaching on Sunday September 29, 2024 and there will be a meet and greet time after the service.

If you are receiving this newsletter or if you know anyone who is affiliated with Canby Alliance Church, please join us to meet our Lead Pastor Candidate, Pastor Ryan Doughty.

GOOD NEIGHBOR ALLIANCE EVENT: On September 8, 2024 we had our Good Neighbor Alliance Emergency Preparedness Event. The purpose of this event was to let our neighbors know that we wanted to be good neighbors and do our part as an active neighbor to be available in an emergency situation. We defined our neighbors in the area of N 4th to N 10th and N Ivy to N Locust. We invited the Canby CERT team, American Red Cross, Canby Fire Department, The Canby Center and Canby Rotary. We invited our neighbors for free hamburgers and hot dogs. Although we did not have the numbers we were hoping for, there were several positive things that are worth mentioning:

- We made many connections with our neighbors through church attendees who live in these areas.
- We let the neighbors know that Canby Alliance Church in the event of an emergency situation will have electricity through a generator that was donated to us and it will be used to recharge cell phones and other essential electronic devices.
- We will also have internet capabilities through a cooperation with Canby TeleCom.
- We will have someone on site to help with these things during the day for the duration of the emergency situation where power is lost.
- We put on a very well run event that was of high quality.
- We were able to develop some partnership/relationships with outside groups that are key players in the event of an emergency situation.
- The Red Cross will be putting on a seminar on how to be prepared in an emergency this Sunday 9/22/2024 at 1:00 pm at CAC.
- There was a neighbor of one of our church members who was invited by our church member and she came. She was able to meet Jackie Thornton and will now be getting involved with our Solo Sister ministry! That is so awesome!

WILLAMETTE VALLEY BIG BAND CHRISTMAS CONCERT: As you may remember we had a great WVBB Spring Concert where over 200 community members came to CAC to enjoy a concert by WVBB! We were able to greet, love and connect with many of these concert attendees. We provided them with cookies, lemonade and, most importantly, connections!

WVBB has asked if we would host their Christmas concert. Of course, we said absolutely. Where can we have such a unique opportunity to serve our community and during one of our most meaningful seasons of the year!

The Christmas Concert will be on December 13, 2024, Friday. In addition to providing cookies and beverages, we want to continue to have greeters and minglers in the crowd (not to mention to be able to enjoy an excellent Christmas concert)! We also want to do something above and beyond what we did the last time. We would like to provide each attendee with a high quality homemade Christmas ornament or figurine

that will be made by our church as a free gift to any concert attendees. The purpose of this gift is multifold: (a) We want to express our love to our visitors; (b) We want to say, “thank you” for coming to CAC to enjoy the concert; (c) We want to give them something to remember what the true meaning of Christmas is; and lastly (d) We want the theme of this to be HOPE. In this day and in this season, people are looking for HOPE!

We envision our church family coming together to help make these tokens of love and appreciation and make it a fun family event! Of course, it will likely be in October or November when we put these things together so we will not add more to the already busy December schedules.

Here is where you can help:

1. In your many years of Christmases, do you recall receiving or seeing a special ornament or Christmas figurine that reminded you of the true meaning of Christmas and is something that we could make as a church family? I remember once seeing this round wood base with an angel and a wire with a star at the end, positioned above the angel. It was simply made but very beautiful. Share your ideas with each other or any of the staff, elders or church leaders.
2. If you want to be a greeter or mingler again, let us know. If you didn't do it last concert, please try it especially all you extroverts!
3. If you love to bake and would like to make cookies again, that would be fantastic. You just have to make an extra dozen for your elder or administrative board meeting!
4. If you would like to help direct traffic, great! Sign up!
5. If you love praying, sign up to pray for this event.
6. If you love visiting with neighbors, sign up to distribute invitations to the concert.

We will need lots of help but I am confident that the Canby Alliance Church family can make this a successful event!

SMALL GROUPS MINISTRY: Last Fall we started our Small Group Ministry and over 110 of you were involved in a small group!! The feedback from participants was very positive! Those of you who participated felt it was a great time to connect and get to know each other better. Many of you develop deeper friendships through small groups. Some groups served together. For example, some of you made meals for our Wednesday children, junior high and senior high ministries. The small groups occur from weekly to twice a month. They occur on different days and at different times. They may discuss the sermons or go through a book or study a topic. There are many options. Small groups are meant for all, even those with infants and toddlers!

We are going to start small groups again and the sign up will be this Sunday. I know how busy we all are but each of us elders can attest to the benefit of being involved in many small groups over the decades of our being a part of Canby Alliance Church. Please prayerfully consider this.

Well, we think this may be long enough. We want to tell you how much we love each of you and how you are family to us!!

Your faithful servants,

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