

## "What we believe"

We are a church family that celebrates our diversity and tries to practice the understanding that God loves and welcomes all...and "All Means All!" We are varied in our approaches to faith, believing that our tapestry of beliefs weave us together to form a beautiful design for, and of, God. We seek to open our doors to the community believing that our building is God's to be shared to enhance and support non-profit outreach endeavors. Our appreciation for God builds as we experience the multiple ways in which God works among others beyond ourselves, and is not bound by our limited perceptions, agendas, or expectations.

Therefore, we provide occasional space for Shasta County Interfaith Forum, Redding Community Chorus, Shasta Brass, Western Service Workers (meeting the needs of lowest paid workers in Shasta Co.), private sliding scale therapist, peace and social justice networks, etc. We actively support programs such as People of Progress, HIV Food Bank, Rescue Mission, "Francis Court (low income apartments for transitional housing to self-sufficient seniors)," Salvation Army, One Safe Place, and Christian Church Homes (Lorenz, Tree House, & Redding Hotel for low income seniors). We run the Second Helpings Thrift Store (2636 Churn Creek Rd.) whose proceeds benefit not only our church but several of the previously mentioned programs.

Meeting the needs of children, youth, and young adults is a growing emphasis within our ministries as we build our educational program. Our Sunday School for children/youth gathers during the 9:30 worship service to learn the "Joyful Path" of God as seen through Jesus (ages 3 – 8th grade). Our JYF and Young Adult groups meet twice monthly and enjoy fellowship, faith-filled learning, games, food, and much more.

Study groups for adults help strengthen and expand our faith journey as we seek to be Disciples of Christ. From Bible to religious book studies, groups are being formed on a regular basis and all are welcome. Literary, contextual, and historical background enrich our understanding of the Bible both in small groups and in worship. Support and nurture groups add to the fellowship and compassion that is a part of our church life including our "Sharing Circle," prayer chain, and elder visitation.

Worship is where we remind ourselves who we are and whose we are while prompting us to respond with gratitude to what God has done in our lives. Recognizing our brokenness, we find hope, healing and wholeness through being in worship with a community of friends (new and old). In our tradition, the Lord's Supper is essential to our worship service as an act of thanksgiving, praise, confession, and reconciliation. All are welcome at God's Table and men, women, children and youth serve each other. Our 9:30 service is our larger gathering. It includes scripture/sermon, hymns/praise songs, liturgy, choir anthem, prayer, children's moment, and communion. Child care is available for this 75-minute service. Our 11:15 service is a more informal type of worship with praise songs, prayer, communion, participatory scripture reading, and conversational message (children often stay with parents in this 45-minute service).

Becoming a member in our community involves making a profession of Jesus as the Messiah and being baptized if you have not done so. For those who have already been baptized, it is not necessary to do it again. Simply let the Pastor know and records are transferred if available. We welcome you to visit us any time and for any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the church office.