

Congregation and Community Profile



KEIZER
CHURCH OF CHRIST

5405 Ridge Dr NE
Keizer, OR 97303
503-393-5424
keizercc@comcast.net
keizercoc.org

The Keizer Church of Christ (KCOC) is looking for a minister and family to serve in a family-oriented, Bible-based fellowship. The Preaching Minister joins a ministry team which includes an Associate Minister, an Hispanic Minister and a part-time Church Secretary. The Preaching Minister meets weekly with the elders and under their direction, works to support the ministries led by the KCOC deacons and ministry leaders.

The Preaching Minister must exhibit a disciplined approach to his own spiritual development and in discipling his family's spiritual maturity. He must exhibit a commitment to an expository approach to preaching God's Word. He must be supportive of pursuing an integrated, multi-cultural worship assembly, an intergenerational approach to Keizer ministries and strengthening the fellowship of Restoration Movement churches in the Willamette Valley.

Our congregation is a warm and welcoming group. Rooted in God's holy Word, you'll find a devotion to God that can be seen in our love towards one another, eagerness to serve our community, prayer life, and devotion to our children's development.

For more specific details of the Keizer Church of Christ Preaching Minister's responsibilities, please refer to the Preaching Minister Position Description. To apply for this position go to keizercoc.org , click on the Preaching Minister link and submit the requested information.

If you have questions regarding the Keizer Church of Christ or the application process you may contact the church office at keizercc@comcast.net or call 503.393.5424.

Thank you for your interest in the ministry at the Keizer Church of Christ.

Minister Screening Committee

Keizer Church of Christ

Preaching Minister Position Description

The vision of the eldership for the Preaching Minister is to preach and teach, to equip and encourage members to grow in their knowledge, and to apply biblical principles in their daily walk as disciples of Christ.

Preaching: In consultation with the elders, prepare and deliver weekly Sunday assembly sermon series. When not preaching, coordinate with the elders on pulpit assignments and serve as a standing member of the Worship Committee.

Teaching: Teach primarily in the adult education program, occasionally teach in the secondary education and junior worship programs. As needed, teach seekers and new Christians in individual and small group settings, support and assist the LIFE Group ministry and serve as a standing member of the Adult Education Committee.

Administration: Facilitate the weekly ministry staff meetings, assist in the planning and coordination of short-term mission trips and assist in the planning and administration of congregational activities.

Internal Communication: Keep the church leadership and staff with current with up-to-date information and needs regarding congregational body life.

Visitation: Assist and be involved with visitors and new member visits and visit congregational members (specifically those who are infirmed and needing encouragement.)

In addition to the above listed items, a Preaching Minister will be involved with a specific Life Group, stay dedicated and current in their personal study, be a contributing part of a supportive office staff, and fulfill other duties as assigned.

Congregation

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Our mission is to guide people of all backgrounds into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

The Keizer Church of Christ is a family of believers who genuinely love one another and sincerely desire to pursue a closer relationship with God. We believe in the truth of the Bible, God's Word. We believe in Jesus, the only Son of God, sent from heaven to live a sinless life as a man, who died for the forgiveness of our sins and was raised on the third day. We believe He was exalted to the right hand of the Father, and we believe in baptism by immersion which is the participation of believers in His death, burial and resurrection. We believe in the Holy Spirit, sent by Christ to guide his church.



The body of believers at Keizer is generous, eager to do good and willing to serve. We are a multi-generational church who celebrates the presence of children and intentionally nurtures relationship between all age groups. Our church family is prayerful, patient with one another and willing to try new things.

The Sunday morning assembly at Keizer is warm and energetic. Members attend in both dress or casual attire and we balance reverence with joy during our time of worship. We participate in a cappella singing, the reading of scripture, prayer, preaching of the Word, and weekly observance of the Lord's Supper. We strive to include both traditional hymns and contemporary songs, supporting the needs of one another as we enter the presence of God. Children age 3 thru 3rd grade are excused during the sermon for an age-appropriate "Junior Worship" and rejoin their families for the Lord's Supper. On the first Sunday of each month the children remain with their families during the sermon. The service concludes with a prayer and blessing or charge to the congregation from one of the five men currently serving as elders.

GENERATIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE KEIZER CHURCH

	<i>Age</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Number</i>
<i>Youth</i>	0-18	21.7%	47
<i>Young Adults</i>	19-40	24.0%	52
<i>Professionals</i>	41-65	24.9%	54
<i>Masters</i>	66+	29.5%	64
	Total	100.0%	217

Vision for the Keizer Church of Christ

The elders of the Keizer Church of Christ have identified the following commitments for the church body in Keizer.

- A commitment to an intergenerational approach to church ministry.
- A commitment to being a multi-ethnic fellowship reflective of our social and cultural context in the Keizer, Salem and Willamette Valley region.
- A commitment to involving congregational members in short term missions and becoming partners in our congregation's local, regional and global missionary efforts.
- A commitment to strengthening the fellowship of churches associated with the Restoration Movement in the Willamette Valley region of the Pacific Northwest.



Ministries

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At Keizer Church of Christ we are intentional in fostering relationships that honor all of God's image bearers.

Hispanic Ministry: Keizer Church of Christ is committed to becoming a multi-ethnic church body reflective of our immediate social and cultural context. In September 2019, we transitioned to a new model for outreach to the Hispanic community in hopes of making a greater impact. In addition to our search for a new Preaching Minister, we are currently in the process of searching for a minister who is able to help us implement this long term vision.

Men's Ministry: Our Men's Ministry fosters spiritual growth and connectedness by coordinating and organizing our involvement in area-wide men's events. These events include Men's Days which are hosted by our sister churches in the Willamette Valley and the annual Men's Retreat at Camp Yamhill. Each Men's Day includes biblical teaching focused on men's needs and is coupled with a fellowship activity. The Keizer church hosts in May which includes a golf outing.

Ladies' Connection: Our women's ministry is designed to create opportunities for the women of our church to make friendships with and encourage each other as we serve the church body together. Throughout the year we have several activities which include our Christmas Coffee and Chocolate Exchange, a Women's' Retreat in the winter, and a Ladies' Tea in the spring. A women's Bible class is offered during the winter quarter of each year.

We serve the congregation by providing meals for families in need, organizing baby and wedding showers, teaching the majority of our children's Bible classes, and meeting dozens of other congregational needs.

The Masters Group: Our lively group of seniors meet weekly on Thursday mornings at 10am. They start their meeting with a time to share jokes, followed by Bible study and prayer. They have a potluck on the second Thursday of the month and are always looking for ways to build up and serve this church, the community and each other.



Ministries

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Youth Ministry: The goal for our Youth Ministry is to train, develop and nurture our young people into lifelong disciples of Jesus. The ministry is organized and conducted primarily by our parents, with deliberate and thoughtful connection between our youth, their families and the rest of the congregation. Our ministry is rooted deeply in congregational life and includes weekly Bible classes and devotionals, monthly teen events, summer teen mission trips, inter-congregational teen activities, summer Bible camps and Leadership Training for Christ (LTC).

Children's Education: Children in the age range from toddlers to 5th grade participate in separate age-appropriate classes on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights. Classes are interactive and include teaching, question and answer, discussion, and can also include a theme oriented game or craft activity to help reinforce the lesson. Our curriculum for preschool through 3rd grade is focused on key Bible stories from both the Old and New Testaments that provide a holistic view of how all of the stories in the Bible point to God's plan of salvation through Jesus Christ, whereas our curriculum for 4th and 5th grade is structured around more in-depth lessons and discussion about personal application.

To ensure a safe environment for children in the Education Program, the Keizer Church of Christ has adopted a Child Safety Policy. All class leaders, Education Committee members, and church leadership are screened and receive training on the Child Safety Program protocols prior to being permitted to participate in church activities involving children. The Deacon of Child Safety is responsible for ensuring that the protocols are followed.

Young Adults of Keizer (YAK): This group meets regularly for dinner and a devotional once a month. In addition, we created a book reading club to read and discuss books of interest in the group. We also often have a YAK-led Sunday morning Bible class for the purpose of a more in-depth study of Scripture. Furthermore, we utilize our individual gifts for the purpose of contributing to the larger body of faith at Keizer Church of Christ and the surrounding community.

LIFE Groups: Our LIFE Group ministry is a vital component in our effort to foster caring relationships within our church body. These small groups, usually between 12-20 folks from multiple families, meet weekly in a host family's home. LIFE Group meetings usually include Bible study and discussion, worship and prayer, often a meal or dessert, and the opportunity to know and care for one another more deeply. Our LIFE groups are organized in September of each year and run until May. In non-COVID years, about two-thirds of the congregation participates in a LIFE group. This is a great avenue to fully incorporate new members as well as introduce non-believers to the Christian faith.

Vacation Bible School: Held in the late summer, our VBS is a major event for our congregation with a growing outreach emphasis. For kindergarteners through fifth-graders we feature lots of singing, Bible classes, crafts and activities, T-shirts, a memory verse and an ice cream social to close. VBS involves most of our congregation, including canvassing several neighborhoods the week before with door-to-door invitations.

"Growing Together" our Neighborhood Garden: In the "backyard" of our campus we have built 20 raised beds that we make available both to our own members and our neighbors in the Keizer Station Apartment complex immediately to the west. We give our neighbors a convenient and pleasant place to grow fruits, vegetables and flowers while we cultivate friendships with them.

Missions

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The Keizer church is actively seeking to serve God as His hands in this world. We are open to reaching out beyond Keizer to spread the Word of God.

Mission Trips:

World Outreach Missions through World English Institute (WEI) : WEI uses the Bible to teach the English language with a goal of sharing the good news to improve a person's spiritual growth.

KCOC has partnered with WEI and recently finished a four year commitment to Yangon, Myanmar. We have sent 25 members to Myanmar helping to spread the gospel, one English lesson at a time. We are considering using this program in the local community to reach Spanish speakers. What country and mission this leads toward is thoughtfully being prayed about, and KCOC is eagerly awaiting how best to serve God through language instruction.



Summer Teen Mission Trips: Each summer our youth group goes on a short term mission. There is a three year rotation taking our teens on a local, regional and international mission. One example of a regional mission trip is Mountain States Children's Home. Located in Colorado, MSCH extends Christian services to wounded children in an effort to meet their physical needs, heal their emotional hurts, challenge their minds, and teach them moral principles, in order to reach the goals of reuniting them with their families or preparing them for independence. This is accomplished by utilizing a family model of care, strengthened by professional counselors and teachers.



Missions

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Financial Support and Partners in Local and Global Missions:

University Christian Center: The University Christian Center is the Campus Ministry of the Circle Church of Christ to the students of Oregon State University in Corvallis, OR. Located directly across the street from the northern edge of the OSU campus, this ministry reaches out to non-Christian students with friendship and the gospel and provides an avenue for Christian students to grow in their faith and service to the church. We have long supported this ministry and our congregation is blessed to have graduates from it in our body.



India: Through Keys to the Kingdom, the Keizer church offers financial support to G. Joseph Michael who teaches at the Church of Christ in Gulabhithota and Sundaraiah Nagar, Vijayawada and area cities.

Eastern European Missions: Based out of Hurst, Texas, EEM is a multi-national, non-profit organization governed by an independent Board of Directors. As followers of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, EEM shares God's Word with the people of Eastern Europe. Yearly Bible drives and prayerful support are ways KCOC serves EEM.

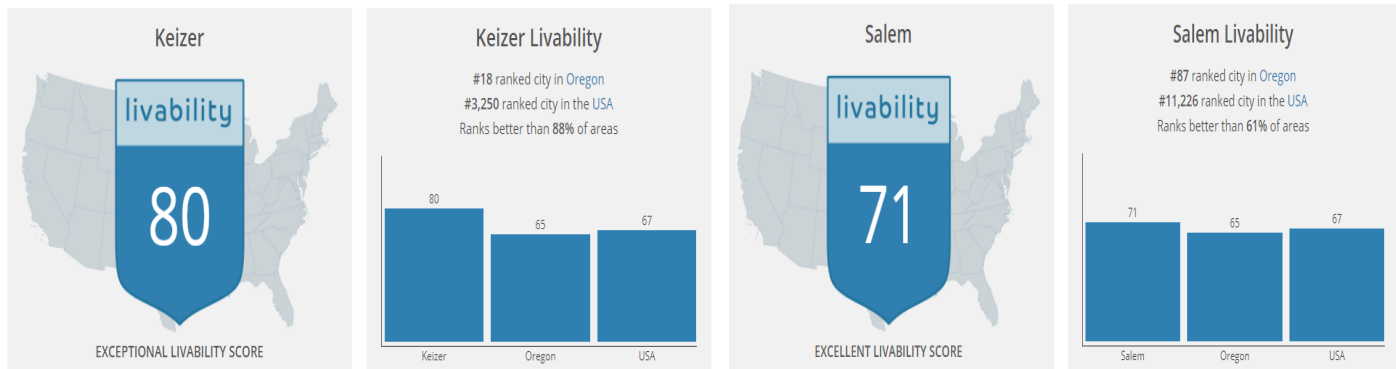
Hope Pregnancy Clinic: We are committed to partnering with Hope Pregnancy Clinic. They are a professional, medically trained resource that advocate medical care and provide options counseling for women unsure of their next steps during pregnancy. We support Hope Pregnancy Center by volunteering and participating in fund raising events.



Mountain States Children's Home: Annual fund drives are dedicated to providing financial support for their operations.

Keizer and Salem

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Keizer and Salem are the urban hubs for Marion County, Oregon. Agriculture and food processing are important to the county's economy, as are lumber, manufacturing, and education. Marion County is the leader in agricultural production among all other Oregon counties. Marion County has 10,640 acres of planted orchards. Government is the county's main employer and economic base. Having 17 state parks, and the Willamette River coursing through town, there is no lack of outdoor recreation. Public, private and local colleges allow for education at any level.

- Keizer—Salem has a population of 216,462, respectively 36,478 and 179,984
- The median housing value is \$347,000 for Marion County
- The average income for Marion County is \$56,097
- Keizer is located at the 45th Parallel, midway between the Equator and North Pole



Keizer and Salem

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It was here that many pioneers settled after a long journey on the Oregon Trail. The temperate weather and fertile valley was the reward for hard travel.

Salem was founded in 1842 and officially became the capital in 1851. Later it was dubbed the 'Cherry City' for producing so many.

Keizer was a late bloomer. As Salem expanded, Keizer felt the pressure of being annexed. It was in 1982 that Keizer became a city.

Fast forward: Keizer and Salem are located midway between Portland and Eugene on Interstate 5 (I-5). Salem is the Capital city of Oregon. Both cities are located in the Willamette Valley just west of the Cascade Mountain range.

It remains a unique area of Oregon. Agriculture surrounds the cities, while the population centers provide access to many medical facilities, schools, stores, universities and other amenities. Just outside of Keizer and Salem are smaller rural towns that remain farming communities. These communities host numerous parades, fairs, and festivals.



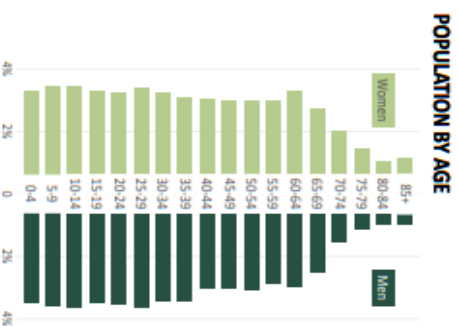
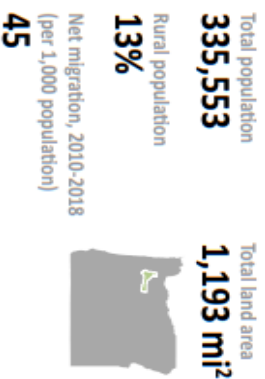
The climate is Marine West Coast. This is described as a mild climate with no 'dry season'. Although August can have temperatures in the high 90s, temperatures range 72 degrees during the hot months and 30 degrees in the cold months (depending on elevation which ranges between 120 - 800 ft above sea level).

Our location within the state makes many things about an hour away. Do you want to go water or snow skiing, visit the coast, hunt in the Cascades, shop in Portland, or go the zoo? That will take 'about an hour'. However, if you want to go kayaking, hiking, camping or fishing, those activities are located much closer.

MARION COUNTY



Definitions of indicators can be found on page 93.



48% Below Poverty level and ALICE Threshold



COMMUNITY

	MARION	OREGON	RURAL	URBAN
Food insecurity	11%	12%		
Child poverty*	21%	18%	17%	18%
Foster care rate (per 1,000 pop.)	7	9	15	8
Index crime (per 1,000 pop.)	39	28	21	29
Voter participation	66%	70%		

EDUCATION

	5 of 26	8		
Kindergarten ready (letter sounds)				
3rd grade reading	35%	47%	42%	48%
9th grade on track	83%	85%	82%	86%
5-year high school graduation rate	79%	80%	75%	82%
4-year college degree or greater	23%	33%	23%	37%

ECONOMY

	4%	4%		
Unemployment rate				
Labor force participation rate	61%	62%	55%	65%
Job growth (per 1,000 pop.)	7	8	5	9
Property tax (per person)	\$1,102	\$1,548	\$1,280	\$1,600
Rent costs (1 bedroom/1 bath)	\$668			

HEALTH

	7%	7%	7%	7%
Low weight births				
Vaccination rate, 2-year-olds	76%	73%		
Good physical health	60%	60%		
Good mental health	57%	57%		
Tobacco use	25%	26%		

INFRASTRUCTURE

	99%	94%		
Broadband access				
Child care (slots per 100 children)	13	16	16	17
Transit service	56%	52%		
Mobile homes	9%	8%	16%	6%
Vehicle miles traveled (per capita)	5,436	5,190	9,640	4,326

* Interpret with caution for small counties (population under 10,000).

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the average attendance for Sunday morning worship? (Pre-COVID and mid-COVID)

Before COVID restrictions took effect we had an average attendance of 165. With the current COVID mandates in place, we are currently averaging about 125 folks attending worship in person, and several others logging onto our livestream. We believe about 145 individuals participate in our weekly Sunday assembly.

2. Can you give a brief history of the congregation?

The individuals who launched the Keizer church met with Christians in Salem throughout the early 1900's. In 1947, a new congregation was established in Keizer, OR utilizing a structure that was relocated from Camp Adair (about 30 miles away) that provided our assembly hall. Later an educational wing was constructed to provide additional classrooms and office space. Because of limitations to access our facilities and parking, property was purchased in 1997, which is located near the Interstate 5 corridor and adjacent to a multi-family housing development, an assisted living facility and a major shopping complex. The Keizer church has enjoyed a long history of stable leadership, sound Biblical preaching and teaching and has been supportive of local, regional and global missionary efforts. In 2022, we will be celebrating our 75th anniversary as a church fellowship in Keizer.

3. How is your leadership comprised?

Having recently completed an elder selection process, the spiritual oversight of the Keizer church has been entrusted to five elders. We also currently have 8 deacons. The elders, deacons and ministry staff collaboratively work alongside other ministry leaders to coordinate the various church ministries in our congregation.

4. What is your campus like?

Our current campus was originally a private residence on 4 1/2 acres. The house has been remodeled into office space, and a smaller classroom and fellowship area. In 1999 we built a new building which houses our auditorium, several classrooms, offices and a nursery. The congregation is debt free. The grounds are large and include our Neighborhood Garden, two mature grapevines, a deck and picnic area, a large parking lot and lots of space for growth. You can log onto Google Earth for a bird's eye view of our facilities and surrounding neighborhood.

5. Who does the ministry staff include?

Our part-time secretary, Julie Boatner has served the church for 15 years with five different ministers and is an invaluable servant. Our Associate Minister, Howard Jones, has been with us since 2015 and works primarily on outreach, adult education and coordinating our youth ministry. We have a part-time Hispanic Minister, Raúl Solis, who is helping us develop an outreach to our local Hispanic community.

6. What is the “regular schedule” of the congregation?

We have resumed our regular 9:30 am Sunday morning classes for adults and children. As mentioned above, we have in person worship assembly at 10:45 am on Sundays that is live streamed as well. On Wednesday evenings we have an in-person class for our children who are participating in Leadership Training for Christ, a class for our children 3yrs-2nd grade and a concurrent adult Bible class. Teen events, young adult gatherings and other events are scheduled throughout the year.

7. How are you structuring worship, Bible classes and other events during COVID?

For our in person gatherings, adults are asked to wear masks while in our facilities and our children wear masks at their parents' discretion.

8. What are the most important annual events for the church?

Each year we have a church theme which provides the framework for our preaching and adult education program. Our “Church Year” begins the second week of September and our theme this year is “The Promise is for Us” from Acts 2:39. Major events for us each year include our Children’s Bible Class Promotion and Youth Ministry Kick-off, Life Groups, Children’s Christmas Play, Ladies Retreat, Leadership Training for Christ (LTC), Leadership Retreat, Summer Teen Mission Trip, VBS, and our all church family campout.

9. Where do you think the church fits theologically within our fellowship?

We are a mainline Church of Christ and deeply value our heritage in the Restoration Movement. In the language of our past, “We are Christians only, but not the only Christians” and “In matters of faith, unity; in matters of opinion, liberty; and in all things; charity.” We are non-sectarian in our approach to scripture, we emphasize expository preaching and teaching, and our leadership is complementarian. We try to take discipleship to Jesus seriously, without taking ourselves too seriously.

10. What circumstances led to the previous minister’s departure?

Darren Williamson was offered an opportunity with the Southwest Church of Christ in Tigard, OR to establish and direct the Northwest School of Discipleship. This is a very good fit for his giftedness and interests. He and his family left our congregation on very good terms and they are well regarded among us.

11. Does the congregation have a history of splits?

We thank God for a long history of unity. Though we have had members come and go over the years, we have not had a split of any kind in the last 50 years.

12. Are there other Churches of Christ in Salem? What is your relationship with them?

There are two other congregations in Salem and we have a positive relationship with them. We would like to deepen those relationships in the future.