

# Congregation and Community Profile



**KEIZER**  
CHURCH OF CHRIST

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keizercoc.org

# Introduction

**KEIZER**  
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The Keizer Church of Christ (KCOC) is looking for a minister and family to serve long-term in a family-oriented, Bible-based fellowship. The Preaching Minister joins a ministry team which includes a part-time Associate 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.

Our 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, yet provide application on how to live a godly life in a culture that does not always honor God. 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 Minister Position Description. To apply for this position go to [keizercoc.org](http://keizercoc.org), click on the 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](mailto: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

# Position Description

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*The desire of the eldership for the minister is to equip and encourage members to grow in their knowledge and to apply biblical principles in their daily walk as disciples of Christ. It is our expectation that the minister and his family are involved and integrally connected to the body life of our church family.*

**Preaching:** The preaching in the Keizer Church of Christ is a shared responsibility among the ministry staff, formal leadership, invited speakers within our church family and those associated in our brotherhood. The majority of the sermons will be delivered by the individual who is hired for this position. It is the goal of the preaching at the Keizer church to be balanced with an expository approach to sound doctrine and encouragement with practical application for our daily walk as disciples of Jesus Christ. In consultation with the elders, the minister will prepare and deliver weekly Sunday assembly sermon series. When not preaching, the minister will coordinate with the elders on pulpit assignments and serve as a standing member of the Worship Committee.

**Teaching:** The minister will teach at least three out of four terms, rotating in the different levels in our Bible education program (i.e., Adult, teen, children, and the Masters group.) As needed, teach seekers and new Christians in individual and small group settings, support and assist with the coordination of and be a member of a Connection Group and serve as a standing member of the Adult Education Committee.

**Administration of Church Ministries:** The minister will assist in the coordination of the numerous ministries of the Keizer church. The Ministry Staff of the Keizer church meets weekly to identify and address needs which arise in the various Keizer ministries.

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

**Pastoral Responsibilities:** The minister will be involved and assist in meeting with visitors to the Keizer church, including new member visits and congregational members (specifically those who are infirmed and needing encouragement.)

*In addition to the above-listed items, our minister will stay dedicated and current in their personal study, be a contributing part and supportive of office staff, and fulfill other duties as assigned by the elders.*

# Mission

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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 relationships 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 3<sup>rd</sup> grade are excused during the sermon for an age-appropriate "Junior Worship" and rejoin their families for the Lord's Supper. The service concludes with a prayer and blessing or charge to the congregation from one of the elders.

## GENERATIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE KEIZER CHURCH

	<i>Age</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Number</i>
<i>Youth</i>	0-18	21.3%	33
<i>Young Adults</i>	19-40	13.5%	21
<i>Professionals</i>	41-65	29.7%	46
<i>Masters</i>	66+	35.5%	55
	Total	100.0%	155

# Vision

***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 the 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.
- A commitment to holding Jesus up as the standard to follow: King of Kings and Lord of Lords.



# Ministries

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

**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, and the Keizer Men's Retreat. Each Men's ministry event includes biblical teaching focused on men's needs and is coupled with a fellowship activity.

**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 monthly ladies connection events (e.g., the 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 fall quarter of each year. They serve the congregation by providing meals for families in need, organizing baby and wedding showers, teaching 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 10:30 a.m. They start their meeting with a time to share jokes, followed by Bible study and prayer. They have a monthly potluck 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 5<sup>th</sup> grade participate in separate age-appropriate classes on Sunday mornings. 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Connection Groups:** Our Connection 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. Connection 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 groups are organized in September of each year and run until May. This is a great avenue to fully incorporate new members as well as introduce non-believers to the Christian faith.

# Ministries

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**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. 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

*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. KCOCC is currently partnering with WEI to teach students in Myanmar and other countries by zoom. In the past we have sent members to Myanmar, Mexico, and Peru on short-term mission trips.

**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 (MSCH). 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

## Financial Support and Partners in Local and Global Missions

**Yangon, Myanmar:** KCoC continues to support Philip Van Biak Lian, a minister in Yangon. We first met Philip when we started sending members to Myanmar to participate in a six-week summer WEI program before the current military conflicts in that country.

**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 Christian and non-Christian students with friendship and the gospel and provides an avenue for students to grow in their faith and service to the church. We have long supported this ministry and our congregation is blessed to have many graduates from UCC in our body.

**India:** For many years KCoC supported an individual minister in India but has since moved to supporting many ministers and other programs that help support the people through Keys to the Kingdom



**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 advocates medical care and provides options counseling for women unsure of their next steps during pregnancy. We support Hope Pregnancy Center by volunteering and participating in fundraising events.



# Missions

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

**Orphans Lifeline International:** Based out of Kalispell, MT. We make a yearly special contribution for this organization to help support its efforts around the world.

**Other Missions:** We also support various individuals and families serving around the world. Right now, we're partnering with missionaries in Germany and Mexico, helping them share hope and meet needs in their communities. We've also invested in future mission workers by supporting students in the AIM training program.

# Salem-Keizer Area

***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. The 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 have a population of respectively 39,065 and 182,620
- The median housing value is \$459,900 for Marion County
- The average annual income for Marion County is \$77,351
- Keizer is located at the 45th Parallel, midway between the Equator and North Pole



# Salem-Keizer Area

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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 to the zoo? That will take 'about an hour'. However, if you want to go kayaking, hiking, camping or fishing, those activities are easily accessible and within a short driving distance from our congregation's campus.

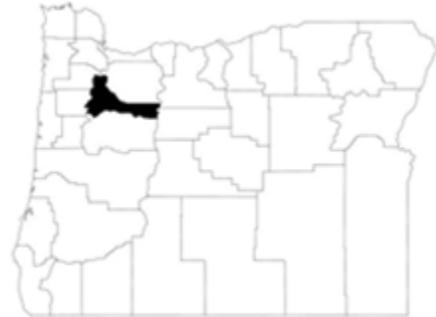


# Marion County

*Keizer and Salem are located in Marion County, Oregon.*

## Quick Facts

- **Capital:** Salem
- **Area:** 1,182.33 square miles
- **Established:** July 5, 1843
- **Population:** 352,867 (2024 estimate)\*
- **People per square mile:** 298.8
- **Cities:** 20 Incorporated Cities and 37 Unincorporated Communities
- **Elevation:** 154 feet at Salem and 131 feet at Keizer
- **Highest Elevation:** Mt. Jefferson at 10,497 feet
- **Average Temp:** Jan. 35.6 F; July 80.5 F
- **Annual Precipitation:** 40.7 inches
- **Principal Industries:** Arts, construction, education, entertainment, government, health care and social assistance, lumber, manufacturing, public administration, recreation, and retail trade



If you would like more information about Marion County, please use the links below:

- <https://co.marion.or.us/Pages/about.aspx>
- <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/marioncountyoregon/SB0020222>

\* U.S. Census Bureau, Quick Facts, Annual Estimates of resident population, July 1, 2024

## ***Frequently Asked Questions.***

### **1. 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.

### **2. What is the average attendance for Sunday morning worship?**

The average is about 115 individuals attending worship in person and several others logging onto our livestream.

### **3. How is your leadership organized?**

The spiritual oversight of the Keizer church has been entrusted to four elders. We also currently have seven 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.

## **5. Who does the ministry staff include?**

Our part-time secretary, Julie Boatner has served the church for 20 years and is an invaluable servant. Our part-time Associate Minister, Howard Jones, has been with us for more than ten years and works primarily on outreach, adult education, and coordinating our youth ministry.

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

We have regular 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning classes for adults and children. As mentioned above, we have an in-person worship assembly at 10:45 a.m. on Sundays that is live-streamed as well. On Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. we have an in-person class or devotional for all ages. Teen events, young adult gatherings and other events are scheduled throughout the year.

## **7. 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 “Love Never Fails” from I John 3:16-18. Major events for us each year include our Children’s Bible Class Promotion and Youth Ministry Kick-off, Connection Groups, Children’s Christmas Play, Men’s and Ladies Retreats, Leadership Training for Christ (LTC), Leadership Retreat, Summer Teen Mission Trip, VBS, and our All-Church Family Campout.

## **8. 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 take discipleship to Jesus seriously, without taking ourselves too seriously.

**9. What circumstances led to the previous minister's departure?**

The Church's direction and needs shifted away from the previous minister's skills and priorities. He and his family remain members of our church family.

**10. 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 over 50 years.

**11. Are there other Churches of Christ in the Salem-Keizer area and 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.