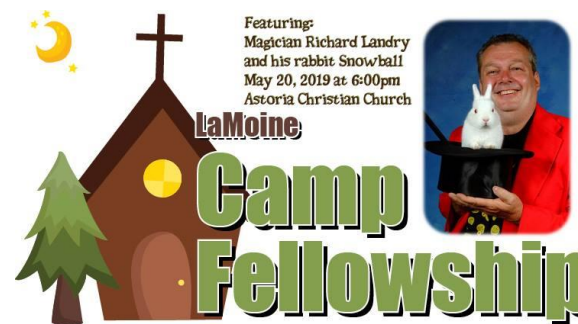


I'm not big into politics. In fact, I try to refrain from expressing my opinion about certain topics because I simply don't know enough about it or even care enough to argue over it. But one thing that continually annoys me is that politicians make many promises but keep very few. And the bigger problem is we as a culture seemed to have accepted this. We don't do anything to change the system. And I don't have an answer to fix it, but I think we all get frustrated with the deceit. But what hurts even more is when someone close to you lies. Or maybe 'just' twists the truth. Or fails to live up to a promise. When that happens, we start to question so much of what that person does and even the type of person they are. We maybe even question our relationship with them. Being lied to, especially blatantly and repeatedly, is probably the most difficult relational issue to work through and to offer forgiveness for. But if we look in the mirror, we've all needed to be forgiven for our own deceit and broken promises ourselves. But what I wonder even more, especially after a difficult struggle relationally or a painful experience with someone, is how much do we trust them? I mean after the first offense, especially if it's fairly minor, we might forgive and move on quickly. But what about the fifth or the five-hundredth? Do we continue to allow that person to hurt us and cause us pain? And I don't have an answer for each and every particular situation, because if it grows into abuse, drastic measures should be taken. But Jesus did have something to say about forgiveness, and especially when it's chronic failure. First, he said, continually forgive. Literally he said forgive, "seventy times seven",

but what he was really saying was forgive infinity times infinity. Especially if someone is seeking forgiveness, Jesus calls us to continually forgive. But just because we forgive doesn't mean we need to allow that person to continue to hurt us. We might begin to take their word with more caution. We might keep in mind the hurt without the hurt continuing to hurt us. That doesn't mean we throw the person or the relationship away. It may just mean we change our expectations. We don't allow that person access to parts of our life. We build a wall, hopefully temporarily, around ourselves that protects us but doesn't shut them out of our lives completely either. But I think the most important thing to remember when it comes to these types of hurt is to remember another thing Jesus said in Matthew 7.5, "First take the log out of your eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye." (GNT) That means, remember that you've lied to others before. That you've caused similar pain. And that we've needed forgiveness, too. And with our own sin in mind, I pray we continue to seek reconciliation with those who have lied to us. Serving Him and you, Matthew

Magician @ Camp Fellowship

Richard Landry and his rabbit Snowball will be presenting a magical Gospel message for all at our May Camp Fellowship meeting on Monday, May 20th at 6:00pm. We will begin with a meal followed by Richard's magic. Please invite friends (especially kid and youth) to this event.



Camp Kitchen Help

We are in charge of cooking for Camp LaMoine on Sunday, June 9th at 4:00pm. We need 2-3 individuals who can go help. Let Matthew know if you're interested.

Camp Baskets

LaMoine Christian Camp is requesting baskets for their camp kickoff on Saturday, June 1st. These can be any themed basket or similar items that they will use for their silent auction. Please drop them at the church by Monday, May 20th.

LaMoine Camp Registration

Camp information has gone home by now and needs to be returned by Monday, May 20th, but if you're interested in signing up earlier, you can do drop off forms anytime or go to their website app.campdoc.com/!/home/auth/login?r=lamoine. For online orders, to only pay your half of the fee now and have the church pay the other half, you'll need to use the code **ASTCC1950**. Please contact the church office with questions.

Camp Barrel - Fruit Loops

Our annual camp barrel item of 30 large boxes of Fruit Loop cereal is due Monday, May 20th.

Prayer List

Tina Althiser (Judy B's friend) – cancer treatments
 Shelly Claxton (Pam K's friend) – cancer spreading
 Roger Cox – chainsaw accident
 Charlotte Elliott - seizures
 Nathaniel Griffin – mouth surgery in May
 Todd Hamm - cancer treatments
 Miranda Hoppock – done with treatments
 Leonard Kaufman - cancer
 Kim Rogers - migraines
 Loretta Mummert – mini-stroke and fall recovery
 Bob Mummert – surgery recovery
 Garry Myers (Dusti H's coworker's dad) – late stage cancer
 Brandi Rudd – cancer treatments
 Colton Shrever (Sharon J's grandson) – burns on arm, healing well
 Timmy (Eugenia S's brother) – life issues
 Marissa – cancer (Letha Stambaugh's friend)
 Hailey (14 y/o friend of Carlocks) – cancer
 Mary Belville's friend – cancer
 Mary (Pam K's aunt) – cancer

Praises

Frankie & Sharon Jones – home doing well

Condolences

Family of Helen Wise
 Family of Bob Bowman

April Financials

	Weekly Actual	Yearly Actual	Yearly Budget
Apr 7th	\$1,480.00	\$ 17,234.10	\$ 18,638.06
Apr 14th	\$ 871.00	\$ 18,105.10	\$ 19,969.35
Apr 21st	\$1,324.00	\$ 19,429.10	\$ 21,300.64
Apr 28th	\$1,397.92	\$ 20,827.02	\$ 22,631.93
Totals	\$ 5,072.92		

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You Are Welcome At
Our Services!

Sunday

Morning Worship.....9 a.m.

Sunday School.....10:30 a.m.

Wednesday

Family Night.....6:00 p.m.

May Events:

Wed, May 1 st	9:00 a.m. Camp Clean Up Weekend
Wed, May 1 st	6:00 p.m. Family Night
Thur, May 2 nd	7:00 a.m, Noon & 7:00 p.m. National Day of Prayer
Thur, May 2 nd	9:00 a.m. Camp Clean Up Weekend
Fri, May 3 rd	9:00 a.m. Camp Clean Up Weekend
Sat, May 4 th	9:00 a.m. Camp Clean Up Weekend
Sat, May 4 th	9:00 a.m. Bader Community Fishing @ Camp Emmanuel
Sun, May 12 th	6:00 p.m. Board Meeting
Sun, May 12 th	7:00 p.m. Baccalaureate
Tues, May 14 th	6:30 p.m. Man-Up
Sun, May 19 th	4:30 p.m. Youth Committee
Mon, May 20 th	6:00 p.m. Camp Fellowship: Astoria: Magician Richard Landry



Astoria Christian Church

