# Moscow First Presbyterian Church

<u>Our Mission</u>: First Presbyterian Church of Moscow strives to be a welcoming, caring family of faith, called to love the Lord and our neighbors. We are growing in Jesus Christ through worship, teaching, fellowship, and service to others.

## **WEEKLY CALENDAR**

#### SUNDAY, March 17th-

9:15 A.M.- Wired Word Adult Sunday School class

10:30 A.M.- Sunday Worship and Children's Church

4:00 P.M.- Difficult Questions Lenten Study

## MONDAY, March 18th-

7:00 P.M.- Deacons

#### TUESDAY, March 19th-

12:00 P.M.- Tuesday Sisters Group

3:00 P.M.- Prayer Shawl Ministry

6:00 P.M.- Stephen Ministry

## WEDNESDAY, March 20th-

10:00 A.M.- Men's Study

12:00 p.m.- FOON

5:30 P.M.- Taizé

6:00 P.M.- Wednesday Supper Fellowship

6:00 P.M. – Youth Group

7:00 P.M.- Choir Practice

#### THURSDAY, March 21st-

10:00 A.M.- Women's Study

3:30 P.M.- Praise Team

## FRIDAY, March 22<sup>nd</sup>-

7:30 A.M.-3:30 P.M.- Moscow Garden Club Event

#### SUNDAY, March 24th-

9:15 A.M.- Wired Word Adult Sunday School class

10:30 A.M.- Sunday Worship and Children's Church

4:00 P.M.- Difficult Questions Lenten Study

For more information, contact the church office.

Office Hours: Monday: 9 a.m.-11 a.m. Tuesday-Friday: 9 a.m.- 3 p.m.

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#### Announcements for the Week of March 17th

#### Birthdays this Week:

Jodi Fisher, Carol Crimmins, Judy Savage, Evie Rudley, Dakota Wallen, Barb Olsen

#### DEACONS BENEVOLENCE OFFERING FOR MARCH

For the month of March the Deacons have chosen St. Vincent DePaul. The St. Francis of Assisi Conference of the Society of St. Vincent is a Catholic lay organization of men and women who join together to grow spiritually and offer person-to-person service to the needy and suffering in Latah County. In 2023, there were 2,023 client visits and 4,266 people helped. All donations directly assist local folks in crisis with housing, utility bills, food, clothing, and other needs. Checks should be made out to First Presbyterian Church with Deacon's March Benevolence in the Memo line.

#### THE CHOIR WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU!

The Chancel Choir meets for rehearsal every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. The choir, under the direction of our new Music Minister, Rev. Sylvester Bullock, would love to have you join in helping to lead hymns and offer special music during Sunday and Special Services. For more information, contact Sly at <a href="mailto:slybullock75@aol.com">slybullock75@aol.com</a>.

#### YOUTH GROUP

We're excited to have youth group meetings twice a month this Spring. All middle school and high school students are welcome. If you have any questions, get in touch with Julie at <a href="mailyministryjulie@gmail.com">familyministryjulie@gmail.com</a> or text 208-882-0700.

#### SMALL PITCHERS NEEDED FOR MAUNDY THURSDAY

Pastor Norman will be presiding over communion at the Maundy Thursday service to be held March 28 at the Methodist Church. Communion will be shared at each individual table, and we are looking to borrow several small pitchers, similar to the one Pastor Norman uses at our communion service, so that a pitcher of juice can be available at each table. If you have a quart-sized pitcher you would be willing to loan, please put your name on it and bring it to our church office by March 24. Contact Kathy Pendegraft for more info.

#### **MOSCOW FOOD BANK**

Food items requested at Moscow Food Bank include canned chicken, chunky soups, canned corn and green beans, tomato paste, and small packages of pasta. Paper towels and toilet paper are also in short supply. Thank you!

## Menu for March 20 Wednesday Supper

The Tuesday Sisters group that meets on Tuesdays at noon for Bible Study and prayer will be hosting a chili and corn bread dinner with salad and ice cream in the Fellowship Hall on March 20.

#### Easter Breakfast on March 31st

Easter Breakfast from 9:15 to 10:15 in the Fellowship Hall. We will be having some 9 x 13 egg dishes, pastries, coffee, and juice. It is not a potluck, just come and enjoy.

## **FAMILY PROMISE COOKOFF!**

If you would like to cook and/or serve for the Family Promise fund-raiser, please contact: Nadine Morton email: nmmorton@frontier.com or 208-882-2241. The "Comfort Food Cookoff" will be March 23 at Trinity Baptist Church, 711 Fairview Drive, Moscow. A recipe and the food will be furnished to you for cooking. Food will be cooked in crock pots, and the church has several if you need to borrow one.

## One Great Hour of Sharing

The One Great Hour of Sharing special offering will be received during the season of Lent (February 14<sup>th</sup>- March 31<sup>st</sup>). Around the world millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People- all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. Each gift helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. The Offering provides us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need. In fact, OGHS is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together each year to work for a better world.

#### SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Cookies/pastries needed for Sunday morning coffee fellowship time following the 10:30 worship service. Leave on the counter by the refrigerator - label <u>for church coffee time.</u>

Thank you.

#### **Adult Education Opportunities**

- The Wired Word is back! Starting on Sunday's at 9:15 am, we will meet in the church library to discuss current events in a Scriptural context and how we might apply God's word in our daily lives. Please send your email contact to Celeste Brown (bioinfomom@roadrunner.com) if you're interested.
- Lenten Study: On Sunday evenings we'll meet in the library to discuss a few heavy theological questions, such as, Why is the Old Testament so violent? While the New Testament is much less so? How could God care about me personally? Is John 14:6 exclusionary? A discussion guide will be provided by Pastor Norman. Please contact Celeste (bioinfomom@roadrunner.com) so we can find a time that will work for most people.

## MISSION CATALOG

Looking to make a big difference in the world with a small gift? The new Presbyterian Giving Catalog is available next to the big red chair in the lower entrance to the Chapel Room. Share your gratitude for God's grace that moves us to join in God's Mission in the world, with ministries of love and justice, reconciliation, and Peace.

## Parent Night Out Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>

Hello Families, will be hosting Parent Night Out at FPC this time. Have your kiddos join the fun from 5-8 p.m. on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. To sign up please follow the link below: <a href="https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0D4EAFAE2DABFC1-48199639-march#/">https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0D4EAFAE2DABFC1-48199639-march#/</a>

Ed Fisher's Memorial Service is at our church on Saturday, March 16, at 11:00. It will be followed by a potluck lunch in the fellowship hall. We are asking church friends of Ed to bring a potluck dish to the fellowship hall kitchen by 10:45. People on the memorial reception committee will be helping with this. Also, if you could sign up in advance as to what you will be bringing that would be most helpful. There will be a sign up sheet on the Deacon Bulletin Board outside the church office. Or email <a href="maryjovg@yahoo.com">maryjovg@yahoo.com</a> as to what you will be bringing.

## Holy Week 2024

## March 24th-Palm Sunday

**10:30 a.m. -** Worship includes a palm processional and dedication of One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. We begin Holy Week remembering Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem and the road to Jesus' passion.

## March 27th-

**5:30 p.m.-** Taizé worship in the sanctuary (NO Wednesday Supper)

## March 28th – Maundy Thursday

**6:00 p.m.**— We will join with the congregations of First United Methodist Church and the United Church for a Maundy Thursday service and soup supper to be held at the Methodist Church. FPC attendees are invited to bring a plate of sliced cheese or bread to share. This service commemorates Jesus' last supper with his disciples.

## March 29th – Good Friday

**7:00 p.m.** Tenebrae Service of Darkness, recalling the crucifixion of Jesus through a dramatic reading of scripture

## March 30th-Holy Saturday

**10-12 p.m.** Easter Egg Hunt and activities for kids **6-8 p.m.** Sanctuary open for prayer & reflection

## March 31st-Easter Sunday

7:00 a.m. Early morning worship in the hilltop chapel at Lael Retreat Center, Troy ID.

Music led by Praise Team; sermon by Pastor Norman. Breakfast to follow in the Barn.

Breakfast casseroles and coffee provided. Feel free to bring pastries, breads, or fruit to share.

9:15-10:15 a.m. Potluck Breakfast in Fellowship Hall

10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary includes flowering the cross (bring a flower from your garden if possible), a celebration of the resurrection.

# **Pastor Transition: Mission Study Team and Beyond**

The data results from our congregational survey are posted on the Mission bulletin board in the upstairs chapel room. We had 72 survey responses, thank you to our caring congregation, and your commitment to the future of our church!

In addition to the survey, the MST sent a shorter survey to folks that have recently left our church. We also conducted in depth one on one interviews with select members of our broader church community. We gleaned rich meaningful insight from these efforts. In order to maintain anonymity of participants, the highlights of these efforts will be summarized, some of which may appear in the MST report and will be shared with the Pastor Nominating Committee.

After approval by our Session, the final MST report is expected to be approved on April 9 by the Presbytery Council on Ministries. In the near future, Session will present names for congregation

approval of our Pastor Nominating Committee. Session has begun the process of selecting an interim pastor, with an expected start date in early August 2024. In June and July, the Worship committee will identify who fills the pulpit.

We ask for prayers for our congregation and church leadership as we move forward in our pastor transition process, listening for and discerning God's plan.

Matthew19:26; But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.

In Christ's Peace,

Dianne Daley Laursen, Elder and MST Chair