



First
Presbyterian
Church
MOSCOW, IDAHO

News & Views

Inside this issue:

From the Pastor	1-2
Our New Accompanist!	2
Deacon's Benevolence and Spotlight	3
News Briefs	4
Office Hours	4
Finance Report	4
Family Ministry	5-6
Our Confession Banners	6
Peace & Global Witness Offering Stewardship	7
Family Promise	8
Calendar of Events	9



Dear Friends,

While we are fortunate to live on the Palouse and have access to the beauty of the natural world around us, we are not immune to the problems of the pandemic. As we have seen the number of Covid cases rise and the tragedy of more Covid caused deaths, we know we must take care of each other and not become part of these statistics. We do continue to have worship available in-person, yet we have not yet encouraged everyone to come. While we do mask, have distancing, and maintain good air flow, we do not want anyone to take risks with their health. We will maintain the online streaming presence on Facebook and YouTube. We do invite you participate through this online medium.

In reviewing our presence on Facebook, I know we have had some trouble getting the live stream working on Facebook in the last few weeks. We are looking into this problem. And, if any of you would like us to resume using Zoom as one of our streams let us know. It does allow for conversations afterward if any of you would like to return to that way of doing fellowship. The development of our online capabilities and our on-going use of these media platforms is something of a work-in-progress as we continue to work with, and attempt, to provide consistent and viewable services.

And, with all of that said I am still missing the opportunity to see you and have times of fellowship for us all. I hope you are all doing well. I know that while I have not been fortunate enough to see many of you due to our pandemic restrictions, I do believe that God continues to be with us. Indeed, I have been thinking about how one theme of scripture is about companionship. Early in scripture we have the description of God walking in the garden of Eden with Adam and Eve, an idyllic vision of companionship with God. Then, when Jesus invites folks to "follow" him, he is using a word that means "properly, to be in the same way with, i.e. To accompany..." according to Strong's Exhaustive Concordance. Jesus promises his disciples he will be with them always (Matthew 28:20). We are left with the idea that we are not alone, we are given the Spirit to guide, comfort, and cajole us while Jesus continues to be present with us.

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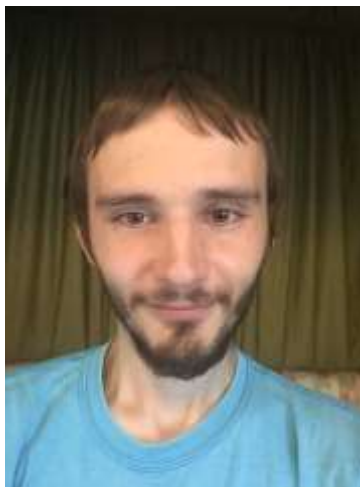
From the Pastor *...continued from Page 1*

Sometimes, Jesus seems to suggest he will be present in those we serve, as when we give water, sustenance, and relationship to those in need, or in offering hospitality to child and the vulnerable among us. So, while with us in Spirit, God is also in our relationships. This way of accompanying Jesus has been hard to do in this season of isolation. Let us pray for God's grace in leading us out of these difficult times. And let's remember we are members of the same family of faith and continue to pray and encourage one another as we can, often from afar. We have not returned to all of our previous activities, but we do have some opportunities for study and for worship. We have some Zoom and in-person Bible Project studies resuming and we now have Taizé on Wednesday nights at 5:30 p.m. May whatever is best for you in your continuing walk with Christ be evident to you and hopefully one day soon we can join in fellowship and worship free of the pandemic shadow.

Grace and Peace,
Norman

Introducing Our New Accompanist, Ian Wendt!

We are excited to have a new accompanist join our worship team this Fall! Ian Wendt has been playing the piano since age 4, and has experience accompanying his high school jazz choir as well as playing for weddings and other special events. He is an accomplished sight-reader, and performer. He truly loves playing for and with others, and is excited for this opportunity to work in a field he truly enjoys! Ian looks forward to learning more about our church. Please join the staff in welcoming Ian Wendt to our church family!



Deacons' Monthly Benevolence Offering

Thank you all for your donations to last months Deacons Benevolence Offering that went to Community Connections for All. Your support was joyfully received and is now being used to support our community members who are in need! Also a reminder that this month is the CC4A blanket drive, to donate, contact Lauren in the office or Jackie directly. Thank you!

In October the Deacons Benevolence fund offering will be going to provide masks for the children in the Moscow school district. With the continuation of high numbers of COVID-19 and delta variant cases in Moscow and in Latah county, the Moscow School District is asking for donations toward the purchase of Youth masks for their students. We would like to help reduce the number of cases seen in our younger community members, especially those who are still to young to be vaccinated. Students are very happy to be back at school with their peers and we want to make sure they can continue to be safe while being together!

*Deacon's Monthly
Benevolence Offering*



To give please visit tithe.ly website or App and select Deacons Benevolence for October, or mail to the church with an envelope labeled October Benevolence.

Deacons' Spotlight

Dan Crimmins, Gardener Extraordinaire!

For those who have enjoyed seeing our church grounds take shape and the continual improvement of various areas surrounding the church, please take a moment to thank Dan Crimmins! Dan has worked tirelessly many years, but especially the past year, organizing and scheduling the church garden crew workdays and helping to plan future improvements to our church grounds. Dan, your dedication and work is greatly appreciated. Thank you!

Thank you, Dan!



News Briefs

Brick Work Update

Thank you to all who donated to the restoration of the church's Brick work! Thanks to your contributions a large portion of the work was completed.

Parking Lot

Currently there have been several cars identified that have been misusing our parking lot, thanks to our wonderful facilities team the situation is in the process of being corrected. For parking pass needs please see Lauren in the Church office.

Elevator

The elevator has been repaired, however it will remain out of use until we are able to inspected. We thank you all for your patience as we work to make our church more accessible again.

Men's and Women's Bible Project

You are invited to join one of several groups gathering for fellowship and to study the Bible. We use the BibleProject as our entry into study. The BibleProject is a nonprofit animation studio that endeavors to make the biblical story accessible to everyone, everywhere through short, animated, explanatory videos. The BibleProject is committed to understanding the Bible in its historical context and communicating its wisdom for the modern world. Our study groups use a discussion format each week that invites participants to ask questions and look for insights. You are invited to participate with the men's zoom group led by Lee Rozen on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. or a women's group meeting in person on Thursdays at 11 a.m. at the church led by Kathy Pitman. Call or email the church office for more information.

Office Hours for October

Tuesday and Thursday

8 A.M. - 1 P.M.

and by appointment

Appointments may be made by email, directly to the pastor or the staff member, or by calling the office.

(208) 882-4122

Finance Report



As of August 4, 2021

	Month	YTD
Receipts	\$ 19,460	\$ 206,283
Disbursements	\$ 22,061	\$ 194,237
YTD Surplus/(Deficit)		\$ 12,046
Cash Balance (checking/savings)		\$ 51,011

FAMILY MINISTRY

Julie Hopper, Director of Family Ministry familyministryjulie@gmail.com

I can hardly believe we are already facing the end of September! The school year is now rolling along, and the Covid safety measures seem to be working. Kids in our community are enjoying five days of school a week.

On September 11-12, I attended a youth leader training retreat at Camp Spalding sponsored by the Presbytery's youth task force. Caleb Roose, co-author of Sticky Faith Innovations, came from the Fuller Youth Institute to train us in the use of compassion, creativity and courage as we innovate to meet the current needs of teens. Alternating teaching with individual and group practice of the content, we worked to understand the mindset of young people, attempted to reframe their needs as Jesus might, and proceeded to plan potential programs and activities that could bridge the gap between those viewpoints.

Although I missed a Sunday at church and a few fair-prep activities with my kids, my time at Camp Spalding was well-spent. I met youth leaders in person, and I enjoyed getting to know their high school aged leaders. Because I attended alone, I worked on group exercises with several young women from Whitworth Church. They even included me with their larger group of young people for the debrief session. It was encouraging and heartwarming to see how engaged the teens were with their faith.

I also came home with a potential plan for an interconnected series of activities around encouragement and affirmation that would provide service to our church and address the needs of our teens and young people. Our brainstorming sessions yielded other possible ideas to implement, which were fleshed out by different members in my group. The training sessions offered a format to evaluate the relative value and effort involved to implement specific ideas.

October will see a continuation of the kid activities that we have pursued over the summer. We might be driven inside more often for kids church, but I am hopeful we could still have some Sundays outdoors. I wish you could see the kids as we participate in worship together. They offer such variety. Sometimes they are so thoughtful. Then they might be ornery. I have several sibling pairs who can really get each other going. They're creative and active (it sure is great when we can meet outdoors!). They're caring and compassionate - as long as you are not their sibling! They want to care for creation and are concerned about the health of the oceans and forests. This group of kids loves their pets and is willing to look for bugs here and there in the church yard.

Together, we have acted our way through much of the Gospel of Mark this summer. The kids are frequently very creative in their representations of Jesus, and we particularly applied Levon's acting skills as we examined the story of Jesus and the Syro-Phoenician woman (Mark 7:24-30). I love to sing with the kids, even if they are not always as excited to sing as I am. It's pretty funny when this active and generally irrepressible crowd acts like doing the motions of a song will exhaust them. Thank you for providing snacks so the kids can revive before their parents come to pick them up!

Continued on Page 6...

Family Ministry Continued...

It's also time to reinstate FOON. If you can help with any aspect of this activity, please let me know. We will serve the pizza outdoors, so I will need help setting up and taking down the canopy and tables as well as picking up pizza, setting out plates and napkins, serving pizza, and providing treats. We could use a soft drink sponsor as well. I expect turnout will be variable as we get this program rolling again. What a great opportunity to express care to high schoolers in our community! God has placed us directly next door to the high school, and we want to seize this opportunity and reach out to students in this practical and tasty way. Remember you can call or text me at 208-882-0700 or email me: familyministryjulie@gmail.com. Please let me know if you can be involved in this outreach to high schoolers.

Thank you for your support of the kids in our church. Recent conversations with teens have confirmed how important your care and interest are to them. One of the things they most appreciate about our church are the older adults and the way they genuinely express interest in our young people and express joy in the accomplishments and potential of our youths.

~Julie

Our Confession Banners

The banners on the walls of the sanctuary were sewn by the Banner Workshop of the First Presbyterian Church of Moscow starting in 1986 and ending in 1993. The group included Barbara Stellmon, Kathleen Warnick and Betty Watts. The banners represent the Confessions and Catechisms which the Presbyterian Church (USA) have adopted as statements of faith. Eight of the nine banners are up in the order in which they were written starting from the back on the soundboard side and going around the sanctuary to the back on the pulpit side:

- I The Nicene Creed AD 325
- II The Apostles' Creed 6th or 7th century
- III The Scots Confession 1560
- IV The Heidelberg Catechism 1563
- V The Second Helvetic Confession 1566
- VI The Westminster Confession and the Larger and Shorter Catechisms 1646
- VII *The Theological Declaration of Barmen 1934* (Only occasionally)
- VIII The Confession of 1967
- IX A Brief Statement of Faith 1991



Peace and Global Witness Special Offering

*May the God of peace give you peace at all times and in all ways...
Thessalonians 3:16*

In the midst of great turmoil and disruption, we are called to be peace makers and bind the wounds of the afflicted. We must be witnesses of God's love by working to eliminate racial prejudice, to protect one another's health, and by welcoming the stranger. Even though these issues seem overwhelming, we can make a difference by joining other Presbyterians in giving to the Peace and Global Witness Special Offering.

Your contribution will be distributed to local, regional, and national issues.

25% will be dedicated to local peace-making issues through the Latah Human Rights Task Force.

25% will be given to regional peace-making initiatives led by our Presbyterian Synod.

50% will support global programs that are sponsored the Presbyterian Church (USA).

"Peace is Active...NOT Passive...Peace is Doing...NOT Waiting"

We will dedicate this offering on Sunday, October 3rd. Please give generously to this Special Offering. Your contribution will become an answer to someone else's prayer as you help to promote peace and share God's love with others.



Stewardship Campaign

Our yearly Stewardship campaign will be starting this month! Keep an eye out for more details in the Sunday bulletins and Friday e-mails!

Thank you!



Family Promise

I'd first like to give a big thank you to Mary Read for acting as Coordinator for Family Promise for the past several years. She has brought so much energy and organizational talent to our work with this organization, and I'm grateful for her marvelous leadership.

First Presbyterian Church is hosting Family Promise guests Oct. 31-Nov 6. We will send out a sign up invitation later in the month. Due to the high rate of COVID-19 infections on the Palouse, our service to our guests only includes delivering dinner to the Day Center on these evenings and acting as overnight hosts. We will again be working with our friends from Quail Run LDS to fulfill these tasks during this week.

If you are interested in volunteering, but haven't gone through the training, or would like to refresh your training, please contact Celeste Brown at bioinfomom@roadrunner.com. The training is available online, and I'm available to answer any questions that might arise during your training.

Looking further down the road, Family Promise of the Palouse will participate in the Avenues of Hope fundraiser in November and December, so watch for information about that wonderful opportunity to support our neighbors by supporting Family Promise.

Celeste Brown,
Family Promise Coordinator for First Presbyterian



Taizé Services

Join us on Wednesday's at 5:30P.M., as we gather together in the sanctuary for a time of quiet worship and music. Taizé worship is marked by simplicity, silence, confession, reconciliation, and prayer.

October 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	30	1	2 3pm- Food Not Bombs
3 10:30am- Sunday Worship 1:00pm- Food Not Bombs	4	5 8:00am-4:00pm- Classical conversations 6:30pm- Scouts BSA Troop 333	6 10:00am- Men's Bible Project	7 10:00am- Women's Bible Project	8	9 3pm- Food Not Bombs
10 10:30am- Sunday Worship 1:00pm- Food Not Bombs	11	12 8:00am-4:00pm- Classical conversations 6:30pm- Scouts BSA Troop 333	13 10:00am- Men's Bible Project	14 10:00am- Women's Bible Project	15	16 3pm- Food Not Bombs
17 10:30am- Sunday Worship 1:00pm- Food Not Bombs	18 7:00pm- Deacons	19 8:00am-4:00pm- Classical conversations 6:30pm- Scouts BSA Troop 333	20 10:00am- Men's Bible Project	21 10:00am- Women's Bible Project	22	23 3pm- Food Not Bombs
24 10:30am- Sunday Worship 1:00pm- Food Not Bombs	25 7:00pm- Session	26 8:00am-4:00pm- Classical conversations 6:30pm- Scouts BSA Troop 333	27 10:00am- Men's Bible Project	28 10:00am- Women's Bible Project	29	30 3pm- Food Not Bombs
31 10:30am- Sunday Worship 1:00pm- Food Not Bombs	1	2	3	4	5	6
Family Promise Host Week						
Halloween						



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Facebook: Moscow FPC
Web: fpcmoscow.org



First Presbyterian Church

“Growing in Christ”

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

Facebook Live: <https://www.facebook.com/moscowfirstpres>

YouTube: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/
UCCzTiJBUB4fHAgVPGn5rgag](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCzTiJBUB4fHAgVPGn5rgag)

Office Hours: By appointment—call 208-882-4122

Pastor Norman Fowler
fpcpastornorman@gmail.com