



First
Presbyterian
Church
MOSCOW, IDAHO

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Sunday School~
9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship~
10:30 a.m.

October 2023

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News & Views



Dear Friends,

I hope you have all received my letter letting you know that I will be retiring in May. As I noted in the letter, this was not an easy decision. And, planning this move this far in advance I hope lets us begin doing some of the groundwork to make the transition easier. As I again acknowledge this future event, I would hope to remain focused on the life our family of faith as we move into fall.

I would again encourage you to sign up for a Dinners Together group. We are inviting these groups together on the first week of each month. You can sign up to be part of group through sending an email to the office or signing on the sign-up form on the office window. On other weeks of the month, on Wednesday nights we are also able to have dinner together though in fellowship hall as various groups provide the meal. Watch the emails and bulletin inserts for announcements as often the meal will also offer opportunities to learn and/or support a mission or activity of the church. We have had several wonderful meals with great fellowship over the last several Wednesdays. I hope you will come as well.

Also, note that our fall schedule includes a new Sunday School class on Empathy led by Celeste Brown and the men's Bible Project has restarted on Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m. We also have a women's group meeting Tuesdays at noon. I would look forward to the opportunity to talk to you about other ideas you might have around fellowship, learning, or serving opportunities. And, as we think about serving opportunities, remember that our missions team is bringing to us some opportunity to serve our community each month. So, watch for these opportunities as well.

Continued on Page 2...

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

As I think about these opportunities, I am reminded of the way Genesis starts with broad strokes about the nature of creation and human's role in it and then moves to a single family, Abraham and Sarah, and their lineage. We see the role of a few individuals over and over again. We find that God works in the particular people of the story. I wonder if part of what this is telling us is that God works in our particular lives as well. That as we engage our faith through worship, fellowship, teaching, and service to others, as we say in our vision statement, that God works in ways that brings healing into our world.

As we live out our trust in God, that is as we live out our faith, we bring God's will, way, and work to life. It becomes alive among us and enters our lives as it may not otherwise. In times like ours, in times of change and transition, in times of continued technological, social, and cultural change, I feel the need of One I can trust. One whose will, way, and work I can see as valuable, healing, and life giving. I believe the Lord is such a rock. On this rock, I want to build my life, on One whom I can, we can, build our lives and One whom we can trust as we move into what sometimes seems an uncertain future.

Grace and peace,

Norman

Wednesday Supper Fellowship!

Join us on Wednesday's at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for Wednesday Supper Fellowship. Each week will be hosted by a different group within the church. Keep an eye out in the Bulletin each week for the Sponsoring group and menu. We look forward to seeing you there!



Music Ministry Has New Leadership

With gratitude and excitement, your session would like to announce that we have employed Sylvester Bullock to be our next Director of Music Ministry. Sylvester, who goes by Sly, has over 30 years of pastoral experience in the Presbyterian Church USA. He and his wife, Beverly, also an ordained retired Presbyterian pastor, have served churches mainly in southern Virginia. They move to our area about a year ago to be near a daughter and grandchildren, and started attend our church in the spring. Over the summer, they served as interim ministers in St Maries, Idaho. With that ministry coming to a close, Sly was available to use his skills in a new way. While he started his career teaching and leading high school choirs, he has generally directed bands. He was a part of the faculty at Virginia State University for many years as Assistant Band Director. He now steps forward to lead our praise team and direct our choir. He begins on October 1st and I hope you will give Sly a warm welcome.

New Patio at FPC



If you have not had the opportunity to see our new patio on the Northeast side of the church, please take a moment to take a peek the next time you are at church. We hope it will be a welcoming and enjoyable place for our church family in the years to come. There's still work to be done, such as landscaping, but it is usable for those who would like to stop and enjoy. A special thanks to the congregation for their donations for this project and a huge thanks goes out to Dan Crimmins for spearheading this project.

Deacons Benevolence Offering



Inland Oasis

Inland Oasis is a volunteer organization providing support to the LGBTQ+ Community and our Allies on the Palouse. It is here to provide support to our communities through educational, social, and health programming. These services include The West Side Food Pantry, a community center, an emergency fund for those in immediate need, a youth support group, and social activities like bingo and game nights.

Inland Oasis is currently re-purposing an existing building into a new community center and commercial kitchen. The main community space and kitchen are coming along and will soon hold a washer & dryer, a meeting and study area, space for medical testing, and a community gathering place. Volunteers are helping to create a safe space for us to work and our community to gather.

This organization is run 100% by donations and grants. Your donation helps us keep serving our community on the Palouse and beyond.

Write checks to First Presbyterian Church and in the memo line, write Inland Oasis. Our church financial secretary will be sending all the donations to Inland Oasis. Thank you so much for your support!

News Briefs

FALL FESTIVAL AT LAEL

Come out to this year's Fall Festival at the Lael Retreat Center (1181 White Pine Flats Road, near Troy), October 22nd, 1-5:00 p.m.! Enjoy an afternoon of community fun and live music by Moscow's own Frogtown, A Minor Issue, Moscow Mules, and The Chelseas!



There will be an apple cider press on site so be sure to bring a container to take some cider home with you (if you can contribute a box of apples to press, that would be much appreciated too!) There will be kids activities, a scavenger hunt on the nature trail, and hayrides for the kid in all of us!

This event is FREE for all and ALL are welcome.

If you are able, we ask that you bring either-

- 1) a Crock-Pot of your favorite chili recipe, and join in the Chili Cook-off Challenge, or
- 2) a pumpkin pie (or other pie) to share. Participants will cast their vote for their favorite recipe!

We love Lael and are excited to share it with our community! Bring a friend, spread the word, and we look forward to seeing you all there! Happy Fall!



Finance Report		
As of August, 2023		
	Month	YTD
Receipts	\$16,870	\$225,517
Disbursements	\$ 22,863	\$212,400
YTD Surplus/(Deficit)		\$13,117
Cash Balance (checking/savings)		\$63,924

FAMILY MINISTRY

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

September really got us into the swing of things for the school year. Students are all settled into school and have had ample time to fall behind on their homework. We have church kids involved in various sports and musical activities, as well as kids who took animals and exhibits to the fair in mid-September. Our first youth group and first FOON meetings are now behind us.

We welcomed the new 6th graders into our youth group, and we're updating our group bulletin board. You might enjoy taking a field trip to the church basement sometime to check it out. We have also started a prayer board where we'll be writing out prayers from A to Z. You're welcome to add yours to the board as well.

FOON is off to a great start, which fills me with gratitude. Thank you to the weekly FOON team. Thank you to everyone who signed up to bring treats. Thank you to the church mice who bring drinks. Thank you to everyone who helps pay for pizza and who thinks of ways to keep paying for pizza. Thank you to the students who show up, answer questions and are generally charming and appreciative.

Now we're going to dig into October, pick up a few more of our traditional fall activities, and see if the kids catch up on that homework. We'll be hosting the first Parent Night Out (PNO) of the school year at FPC, in partnership with our friends from UU Church, on October 20 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. On Halloween, which is a Tuesday this year, we'll be having our annual Trunk or Treat event from 4:00-6:00 p.m. Let me know if you will be available to participate. Last year, we set up tents and spread out trick or treat options, so even if you can't be in the parking lot, you could drop off treats at the church and they will be included.

As we watch the leaves turn and feel the weather begin to cool, it reminds us to lean into changes the Lord wants to make in our lives. God wants the true colors of our hearts to show in how we live each day. Sometimes there are some things in my heart that I would like to keep hidden, things that would not be vibrant, beautiful colors. The good news is that Jesus will help us to be transformed through the Holy Spirit working within us. This fall, when we admire the leaves -fiery, bright, golden, red, pink, luminous or subdued - we can remember to show the colors of kindness, compassion, gentleness, love and truth in our lives.

~Julie

Campus Christian Center

Campus Christian Center has a couple of opportunities for community members to engage with international students.

The director of the Campus Christian Center, George Fricks, has been partnering with the U of I International Programs Office in getting people to engage with international students. He would like us to know about the following two opportunities.

- ♦ The first program is the English Conversation Partner program, connecting international students with the community to provide an hour a month as an English conversation partner. You and the student choose a location. You might consider meeting over a cup of coffee at The Center, and The Center would provide temporary parking passes for individuals to use in the Center lot. The contact email is uidaho.edu/conversationpartner.
- ♦ The second program is the Friendship Family Program. This is a once a semester commitment to spend time supporting an international student by inviting them over for dinner and being a community contact to help them navigate their time here on the Palouse. The International programs office has around 30 international students signed up for the program and only 15 hosts. This program is a little more involved as it includes a registration process, but is an excellent opportunity to bless the international students through a home cooked meal and some well needed community. The contact email is uidaho.edu/friendshipfamily.

CEPAD WEDNESDAY SUPPER FELLOWSHIP ON Oct. 11th

Dear Church family,

Please come join the Wednesday Supper Fellowship dinner, October 11th @ 6:00 p.m. at Moscow First Presbyterian Church to enjoy tasty Nicaraguan food. Helen Brown and Diane Daley-Laursen will offer a short presentation on CEPAD, a faith based organization that helps communities in Nicaragua. CEPAD's key program areas include: sustainable agriculture, economic development for women, psychosocial attention, community organization and leadership training, strengthening of pastoral leadership, exchanges between delegations and partnerships, and education from a faith-based perspective.

The Presbyterian Church has long supported CEPAD and there are two PCUSA mission partners working with CEPAD currently. Helen and Pastor Norman first learned about CEPAD through a PCUSA mission partner. The current political situation and the pandemic greatly reduced the number of delegations visiting Nicaragua, an important source of revenue for CEPAD. We are hosting this dinner to raise awareness about CEPAD and to share how people can participate in their dynamic and life enhancing work. To learn more about CEPAD, please see: <https://cepadnica.org/>

If you would like to make a **tax deductible gift** to CEPAD please go to: <https://www.cepadusa.org/> (CEPAD USA is an organization that raises funds and friends and awareness for CEPAD). (Donations can be made directly to CEPAD but they are not tax deductible).

Please invite your family and friends to the October dinner! And please pass along the good work of CEPAD to anyone you know who might be interested in learning about a group that does exceptional community development work and truly improves lives.



OCTOBER 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:15 a.m.– Sunday School 10:30 a.m.– Sunday Worship	2	3	4 12:00 p.m.– FOON 6:00 p.m.– WSF 6:30 p.m.– Youth Group	5 7:00 p.m.– Praise Team	6	7
Family Promise Host Week						
8 9:15 a.m.– Sunday School 10:30 a.m.– Sunday Worship	9 <i>Stewardship Season Begins</i>	10	11 12:00 p.m.– FOON 6:00 p.m.– WSF	12 7:00 p.m.– Praise Team	13	14
15 9:15 a.m.– Sunday School 10:30 a.m.– Sunday Worship	16 7:00 p.m.– Deacons	17	18 12:00 p.m.– FOON 6:00 p.m.– WSF 6:30 p.m.– Youth Group	19 7:00 p.m.– Praise Team	20	21
22 9:15 a.m.– Sunday School 10:30 a.m.– Sunday Worship 1-5 p.m.– Lael Fall Festival	23	24	25 12:00 p.m.– FOON 6:00 p.m.– WSF	26 7:00 p.m.– Praise Team	27	28
29 9:15 a.m.– Sunday School 10:30 a.m.– Sunday Worship	30 7:00 p.m.– Session	31 <i>Halloween</i> 4-6 p.m.– Trunk or treat	1 12:00 p.m.– FOON 6:00 p.m.– WSF 6:30 p.m.– Youth Group	2 7:00 p.m.– Praise Team	3	4



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Church

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First Presbyterian Church

"Growing in Christ"

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.

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

YouTube: [First Presbyterian Church of Moscow - YouTube](#)

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

Pastor Norman Fowler

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