



First
Presbyterian
Church
MOSCOW, IDAHO

News & Views

Inside this issue:

Outreach Discussion	2
New Officers	3
Church Directory	3
News Briefs	4
Sweet Music	4
Wednesday Supper	5
Deacons' Spotlight	5
Family Promise Comfort Food Cook-off	6
Family Ministry	7-8
Scout Sunday	8
Calendar	9
CCC Speaker Series	10

A NEW & IMPROVED
CHURCH DIRECTORY IS
IN THE WORKS!



Do we have your current
contact information and
a recent photo?
See page 3.

FROM THE



PASTOR

Some months, my newsletter article is easier than others. This month as we look forward into February, I feel a bit of the struggle of entering the New Year aware of our losses. Most clear to me are the losses through the death of longtime members and friends. While celebrating these lives has been important, the loss and grief does bear down on us as well. I am reminded how important our ties are and how much our lives are shaped through our relationships. I find that the importance of having a church family, a community of faith, shines in these moments. We support one another with our prayers and our listening. In other moments we connect around our shared experiences and caring.

If our challenges were simply the grief found in these personal relationships and the losses of individuals, the weight would be more manageable. Yet, in our context today, our personal grief seems to be overlaid on a national grief. This grief strikes me in multiple ways. The very basic American optimism—that whatever difficulties are before us, we will work to overcome them—seems to be in flux. Rather than optimism, I feel like we are in a milieu of fear and anxiety. When basic facts are disputed, when morally repugnant behavior is glossed over, and there seems little concern for, and little agreement about, what is the common good, the result seems to be strife. Maybe I should not be surprised at the national spectacle considering how often our biblical narrative describes how humans turn from God and to their own devious ways. So often scripture describes the selfish and churlish way humans can act and the ways these activities can become social norms.

I don't think it is just me who is struggling with our trends and dysfunctions as a nation and a national community. I have recently talked with a number of people who feel great anxiety about these trends and dysfunctions. A recent study of college students in Washington found "4 out of 5 students report that emotional distress impacts their academic performance." And national surveys show similar results. "U.S. consumers across the sociopolitical spectrum are striving to preserve, conserve, protect, guard, perpetuate, and defend their personal values. ...Consumers are searching for their

Continued on Page 2...

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

bearings in society as the limits of social acceptability are blurring, stretching and shattering – whether this is online or in real life. Consumers have tumbled down a rabbit hole of frayed social norms.” (According to Gartner/ CEB who claim to be the world's leading information technology research and advisory company.)

For me, the question comes to me again and again: what are our norms, our values and our ideals? While we have not always lived up to them, to have them is to give us something to strive for that is more than personal privilege, power, and comfort. I cannot help but believe that as society has reduced the role of Christian faith or has come to identify the fringe or most strident voices that claim to speak for all Christians as what Christianity is all about, that we are losing an incredibly important part of our moral compass. We have never achieved the goals of faith, and the human desire for power, prestige, and pampering have interfered with the hope for fullness of life in the kingdom of God. Human life can be an adventure in creating the shalom offered in and through faith, or we can reject this adventure for the descent into a fractured and broken world that denies the very humanity of all those on this trajectory. The problem is that the choice is not just an individual one. We as communities, societies, and nations make these choices together. And the choices we make matter.

I turn again and again to scripture to help me tune into the possibilities and problems we have as a human race. I do believe that the wisdom of scripture brings the voice of God to bear on the very concerns we face today. Even in discussing scripture I know we have various takes on what it says. I cannot read scripture but through the words of Jesus as he tells us the greatest commandment is to love God with our heart, mind, soul and strength and our neighbor as ourselves. Through this lens, I must read all of scripture and hear in scripture how God would speak again into our lives. I hope we can take this journey together, for just as we need each other in times of personal grief, we need each other in times of societal turmoil as well.

Grace and peace,
Norman

Interested in Outreach?

Save the Date - February 4

Sunday, February 4, we will continue our conversation about Outreach and prioritize some of the ideas we have been discussing in recent months. All are invited to participate and contribute. We will meet after church in the Library beginning at 12 p.m., and plan to conclude by 1:15. Snacks and beverages will be provided. If you need child care, please contact the church office by noon February 2. Check in with Mary Read or Jacob Wells if you have questions.



Welcome, New Elders and Deacons!

At our annual meeting on January 28, we elected a number of new Elders and Deacons, who will be ordained and installed on February 18. Congratulations and thanks to newly elected and re-elected Deacons Ed Schaper, Sally Amador, Zareen Dossey, and Susan Billin, and Elders Bill Ward, Andy Johansen, and Steve Daley Laursen.

Special thanks to outgoing elders Lee Rozen, Nadine Morton, and Jim Robinson and outgoing deacons Celeste Brown, Ellen Johansen, and Kathy Pitman. These officers have served their terms faithfully and we appreciate their excellent work, dedication, and caring hearts.



Updated Church Directory Coming Soon!

...Please Update Your Contact Information and Send Pictures!

Have you moved, disconnected your land line in favor of cell service, or changed your email address in the last year? Please be sure we have your current contact information by emailing your contact info to the church office at office@fpcmoscow.org. Or you may note the information on the form below and drop it in the offering plate or mail it to the church by February 26. We want to have correct information for the new church directory which will be coming out this month, and we hope to hear from everyone by the end of the month.

NEW THIS YEAR: PHOTOS At the recommendation of Deacons, photos of each household will be added to our church directory this year. Please send a recent photo to the church office by February 26. Ideally, a digital photo sent by email would be best, but we can also scan printed photos. If you need to have a photo taken, please contact the office to make arrangements. We can use the photos that are currently on the photo board in the narthex if you wish—just let us know.



Thank you for your input for the directory. The church directory is for members and regular attendees of First Presbyterian Church and will not be distributed outside the congregation.

Household information:

Names _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Main phone _____ Children _____

Please enter information for each adult in household as you would like it to appear in the church directory:

Name _____ Name _____

Cell phone _____ Cell Phone _____

E-mail _____ E-mail _____

I will submit a new photo Use the photo from the photo board I/We need a photo taken

News Briefs

MONTHLY OFFERING ENVELOPES are available on the Welcome table in the Narthex. If you would find these envelopes useful in helping you keep track of your pledge offerings, please feel free to pick up a box.

SAVE THE DATE! Camp Spalding mission weekend is scheduled for June 1-3.

CAROL RENFREW CIRCLE will meet Thursday, February 22, at 1:30 in the Library. Lesson 9, *Who is Jesus—According to Contemporary Culture*, is the final lesson in our current Bible study. Nadine Morton will lead the lesson. Background scripture is *Matthew 15:21-28*; and *Luke 10:38-42*. All women are invited to come for Bible study and fellowship. The next book in the Presbyterian Women's *Horizons Bible Study* series is *Cloud of Witnesses—The Community of Christ in Hebrews*. Estimated cost per book, plus shipping, is \$8.80.

A COMMUNITY GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP for adults begins next month. The group will meet for 8 weeks on Tuesday evenings beginning March 6 through April 24, 2018, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the 3rd Floor Library of Bishop Place Independent Apts., 815 SE Klemgard Street in Pullman. Gather with others in a confidential, small, and supportive setting with care, compassion, and resources to gently explore the journey through grief. This group will be facilitated by Annie Pillers and Terrie Teare. Registering in advance is greatly appreciated. Series is closed after second session. Please contact Annie Pillers at 509-332-4414 or email griefsupport@palouse.com. Sponsored by Friends of Hospice.

NEW ALZHEIMER'S/DEMENTIA CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP meets the second Thursday of each month from 1-2:30 p.m. at Trinity Baptist Church, 711 Fairview Drive in Moscow. The first meeting is February 8. Call PJ Christo at 208-666-2996 for details.

Sweet Music Benefit Dinner & Dessert Auction February 17

This annual fundraiser for the UI Campus Christian Center will be held at First Presbyterian Church on Saturday, February 17th at 5:00 p.m. The evening will include a delicious dinner, a silent dessert auction, and entertainment. Admission is by donation. Please sign up in the church office to receive a ticket. Free-will donations will be collected in a basket at the buffet table that evening.

Five to ten desserts are needed for the auction. If you would like to donate a favorite dessert, please contact Mary Jo Van Gerpen at 208-883-3768 or maryjovg@yahoo.com. Mary Jo will need to know whether your dessert contains any gluten, dairy, egg, or nuts. She does not need the recipe. Mary Jo knows our church is especially good at desserts and is eager to hear from you!



Lost and Found

This glass serving plate needs to be returned to its owner. If it is yours, you may claim it in the church office. We also have a black scarf and a pair of black gloves which were left here about Jan. 24.



Finance Report



As of December 31, 2017

	December	YTD
Receipts	\$ 28,577	\$ 284,060
Disbursements	\$ 21,011	\$ 294,934
YTD Surplus/(Deficit)		(\$10,874)
Cash Balance (checking/savings)		\$ 66,769*
*includes Capital Campaign funds		

Wednesday Supper Fellowship Service Project — Blessing Bags

*"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink,
I was a stranger and you welcomed me..." Matthew 25:35*

On February 7, immediately following our Wednesday Supper Fellowship, those in attendance will be filling Blessing Bags to be given to the needy. We filled over 40 Blessing Bags last January and the project was well received. Blessing Bags are a way to show our love and compassion to the homeless and those in need. Large zip lock bags will be filled with a few basic items such as hand warmers, granola bars, jerky, chap stick, warm socks or gloves, and a bottle of water along with a note of encouragement or scripture. If you would like to contribute new socks or gloves for this project, please contact Amanda Wells or leave them in the box marked Blessing Bags (by Tuesday-February 6), located in the lower chapel area, beside the grocery cart. All other items will be purchased prior to that evening. Please join us for this meaningful project.

All are welcome at Wednesday Supper Fellowship dinners each week. Supper starts at 6 p.m. Dinners are free, but donations are welcome to help cover expenses. Friends welcome!

February menus:

February 7—Helen Brown and international students will prepare supper



February 14—Ash Wednesday Pancake Supper — Our youth will serve their annual Ash Wednesday Pancake Supper as a fundraiser for a youth summer mission trip to Portland and/or Camp Spalding scholarships. Donations for those funds will be gratefully accepted.

February 21—A variety of soups and stews, with salad and dessert

February 28—Baked potato bar with salads and dessert

Deacon's Spotlight — Mr. Fix-It

Andy Johansen has been a member of Moscow First Presbyterian Church for almost 30 years. He is currently serving on Session as the Finance/Stewardship Elder. Andy was raised Presbyterian in Jerome, Idaho. His favorite faith journey memories are of attending church camp in the Sawtooth Mountains and serving as moderator of Presbytery Youth while in High School. He graduated from College of Idaho in Caldwell.

Andy served 24 years in the Air Force, serving as a pilot for most of his career. Upon retiring, he worked as a flight instructor and Real Estate Appraiser and all around fix-it guy. He has always enjoyed mastering new skills from golfing and building golf clubs, to fly fishing and building fly rods. His latest passion is wood working. He has built a variety of items for the church and also built the new kitchen cabinets for Lael. In addition, he built 24 Adirondack chairs for Camp Spalding. He and wife Ellen, have 2 daughters, Elizabeth and Lindsey, who grew up attending FPC. They also have 5 grandchildren who have stolen their hearts!

Andy's gentle and quiet manner and willingness to lend a hand makes him an invaluable friend and member of FPC and to all who know him.



Family Promise's 6th Annual Comfort Food Cook-Off!

Saturday, March 3rd—5-7:30 pm

Trinity Baptist Church, 711 Fairview Drive, Moscow

Musical Entertainment: Jon Anderson and Rand Walker

Tickets: \$10/adults—\$5/child—\$30/family of 4 or more



Come enjoy food portions "a la Costco" — a variety of delectable "comfort foods" provided by chefs from our partner congregations in Moscow/Pullman. Vote for your favorite by adding your dollars to their jar. This is a benefit for Family Promise of the Palouse, and all monies will assist homeless families in our community. Since we started in October 2013, we have hosted 53 families, and served 30,309 meals with the help of over 700 trained volunteers. Thanks to you, 77% of the families served have secured permanent housing.



Tickets may be purchased through:

- ◆ First Presbyterian Church Office
- ◆ Book People, 521 South Main St. in Moscow
- ◆ Family Promise Center, 510 West Palouse River Dr.
- ◆ At the Door

Check out the Family Promise website for more info: <http://www.familypromisepalouse.org>

FAMILY PROMISE COOK-OFF CHEFS NEEDED

Family Promise of the Palouse is currently registering cooking teams for the 6th Annual Comfort Food Cook Off on March 3, 2018. There are awards for "People's Choice" and "Chef's Choice".

Last year, First Presbyterian's team of Nadine Morton, Susan Billin, and John Farbo won the People's Choice award with their Mardi Gras Gumbo. Their efforts raised nearly \$700 for Family Promise of the Palouse and earned our church the right to keep the traveling trophy (pictured here), which is on display in the curio cabinet in the lower chapel room. Let's keep the trophy for another year!

Our church's new cooking team is forming now. If you enjoy cooking and some friendly competition, we would love to have you join our team for the cook-off!. Contact the church office by February 21 if you are interested or would like more information.



FAMILY MINISTRY

Jeremiah Nealon, Director of Family Ministry aslanscountry@gmail.com

I am not ready for Lent. It doesn't feel like enough time has passed since taking down the Christmas decorations. I am still buzzing from New Year's Resolutions and self-improvement goals. I long for more time and space before entering a season of denial and reflection.

Yet here we are.

My hope this year is to enter this season as a family. It is my prayer to journey with Donan and the kids into "fasting and abstinence" (from the Webster definition of "Lent"). I long to have our home prepare for Jesus' resurrection, to be pruned for growth.

Jeremiah

YOUTH:



Souper Bowl of Caring- Feb 4th: Since 1990, young people have been leading the charge and inspiring others to collect dollars and food around the time of the Big Game, changing the nation's largest weekend of football into the largest weekend of caring. 100% of donations we receive on Feb. 4 will go to the Moscow Food Bank. Look for a youth group member with a soup pot outside the sanctuary.

Pancake Fundraiser- Feb 14th: Summer missions and camping are essential parts of the faith development of teens. They also cost money. The youth will cook pancakes for Wednesday Supper Fellowship on February 14th as a fundraiser. Please give generously to our missions and camping!



30 Hour Famine- March 2-3: The youth are participating in World Vision's "30-Hour Famine" this year. From breakfast on March 2 through an early dinner on the 3rd, kids will refrain from eating, in solidarity with those in our world who suffer critical food crises. Together, we will study God's word, participate in awareness activities, and volunteer on empty stomachs. We hope to raise \$500 in pledges, which will go to providing basic necessities for 1 year to a hungry child. Please contact me, or even better, Katie Ward, Adelia Hopper, or Rowan Hopper if you would care to donate.

Summer Mission: I am pleased to announce that the youth are going to serve in Portland, OR from June 24-29 with Youthworks! Youthworks provides a stable, summer-long presence in some of the more challenging neighborhoods in Portland, and for one week will provide our youth the opportunity to serve alongside long-term organizations caring for the city.



Continued on Page 8...

Family Ministry *...continued from Page 7*

FAMILY:

Lenten Bean Jars: During worship on February 18th, I will hand out "Lenten Bean Jars" to all the families with kids in our congregation. These jars will come with a bag of dried lentil beans. I am inviting these families to take time each day to reflect on the moments they saw someone else sacrifice their own fun or convenience to serve someone else. Each sacrifice will be marked by adding one bean to the jar. On Easter morning, these beans will be transformed into Jelly Beans, marking the way that Jesus' sacrifice made way for new life.



Parents Night Out- Feb 17th: The Unitarian Universalist Church will host this month's Parents Night Out from 5-8 p.m. on February 17th. We have not yet filled our available space for any of these events, which means we have plenty of opportunity to invite friends who would benefit from a night off! Please consider extending an invitation to an over-extended family in your life.

YOUNG ADULTS:

The Upper Room: Our Saturday evening worship service has a name! We are now called "The Upper Room", deriving our name and inspiration from the deep community that Jesus' followers experienced in the Upper Room during the night of Jesus betrayal, his resurrected appearances and at Pentecost with impartation of the Holy Spirit. I am excited those who are attending have taken leadership of finding a name. Unfortunately, our church has many activities planned on Saturdays in February, so we won't meet again until March. I hope you will consider joining us then!



TROOP 344 - MOSCOW, ID
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

Scout Sunday & Bake Sale February 11

Boy Scout Troop 344 and Moscow First Presbyterian Church are celebrating Scout Sunday on February 11th. Scouts will be participating in worship service and hosting a bake sale before and after the service. A variety of baked goods will be available in single and larger servings for you to purchase for yourself or as a Valentine's Day gift for a friend or loved one.



Proceeds from the sale will support monthly scouting activities, award recognitions and summer camp attendance. Scouts also are working to raise an additional \$250 to complete their display case being built in Fellowship Hall to display historical memorabilia and current troop highlights.

February 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6:30a Men's Group @ Shari's 12p FOON 6:30 Praise Team	2	3
4 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship (communion) 12p Outreach conversation <i>Souper Bowl of Caring and Deacon's Benevolence Sunday offering for Sojourner's</i>	5 7p Scouts	6 5:30p Sexploitation speaker series at Campus Christian Center 6:30p Stephen Ministry training & supervision	7 1:30p Theological Study @ CCC 5:30p Taizé 6p Supper Fellowship 6:30p Youth Group 7p Choir	8 6:30a Men's Group @ Shari's 12p FOON 6p Eagle Scout Board of Review 6:30 Praise Team	9	10 9-11:30a Stephen Ministry Training
11 <i>Scout Sunday</i> 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship (Stephen Minister commissioning) <i>Scout bake sale after church</i> 2p CCC Blessing Srvc	12 5:15p Troop Committee 7p Scouts	13 5:30p Sexploitation speaker series at Campus Christian Center	14 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> 1:30p Theological Study @ CCC 5:30p Ash Wed. Taizé 6p Supper Fellowship (Youth pancake supper fundraiser) 7p Choir	15 6:30a Men's Group @ Shari's 12p FOON 5:30p Lael Board 6:30 Praise Team	16	17 5p Sweet Music Dinner Fundraiser 5p Parent's Nite Out @ UU Church
18 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship (Ordination and Installation of new officers)	19 PRESIDENTS DAY HOLIDAY—OFFICE CLOSED 7p Deacons	20 5:30p Sexploitation speaker series at Campus Christian Center 6:30p Stephen Ministers	21 1:30p Theological Study @ CCC 5:30p Taizé 6p Supper Fellowship 6:30p Youth Group 7p Choir	22 6:30a Men's Group @ Shari's 12p FOON 1:30p Circle Meeting 6:30 Praise Team	23	24 CASHMERE HIGH JAZZ BAND HERE FOR JAZZ FESTIVAL
25 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	26 6p Strategic Planning Team 7p Session 7p Scouts	27 NEWS & VIEWS DEADLINE 5:30p Sexploitation speaker series at Campus Christian Center	28 1:30p Theological Study @ CCC 5:30p Taizé 6p Supper Fellowship 6:30p Youth Group 7p Choir			



Ash Wednesday Taizé Worship
marks the beginning of the season of Lent.
Wednesday, February 14
5:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Campus Christian Center Hosts Discussion of Sexual Exploitation

The Campus Christian Center, in partnership with its supporting churches, is offering a weekly speaker series entitled "Stopping Sexploitation" at the Center, 811 Elm Street on the UI campus. The presentations take place on Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m., through February 27. This speaker series is free and open to all. For more information: Rev. Dawn Beamish, CCC Director, (208) 882-2536 or campuscc@gmail.com. The schedule for the presentations is as follows:

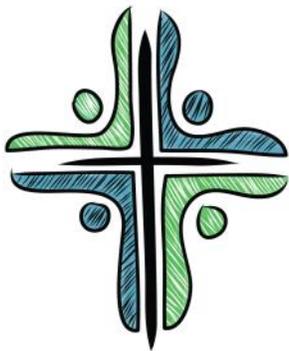
You're invited...
To a Blessing and Consecration

Feb. 11  2:00 p.m.
 822 Elm Moscow

Celebrating ministry revitalization feeding body and spirit and embracing a relationship with the Moscow Food Co-op. Reception and Annual Meeting to follow service.

Date	Presentation	Speakers
February 6 **	Recognizing and Preventing Sexual Violence	Emilie Mc Clarnan, Coordinator of Violence Prevention Programs, University of Idaho
February 13	Sexual Cyber Abuse	Vanessa Corwin, Sexual Assault Advocate & Prevention Educator, Alternatives to Violence of the Palouse
February 20	Pornography Destroys Relationships	Invitation out to Detective Eric Kjorness, Moscow Police Department
February 27	Sex Trafficking	Rev. Dawn Beamish, PhD, Campus Christian Center

**First Presbyterian is hosting the February 6th presentation. If you can supply finger foods, such as veggie or fruit tray, chips, crackers, dip, hummus, cheese, nuts, cookies, etc., please contact Mary Jo at 208-883-3768 or maryjovg@yahoo.com. We will also staff the "Bling for a Blessing" jewelry sale from 4-6 p.m. with proceeds going to Alternatives to Violence. Contact Mary Jo to volunteer your time.



First
Presbyterian
Church

405 South Van Buren Street
Moscow, Idaho 83843

Phone: 208-882-4122
 E-mail: office@fpcmoscow.org
 Facebook: Moscow FPC
 Web: fpcmoscow.org

First Presbyterian Church

"Growing in Christ"

Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

Followed by coffee fellowship

Sunday School for all ages 9:15 a.m.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
 Friday 9:00 a.m. to noon

Pastor Norman Fowler
fpcpastornorman@gmail.com