



THE GRAPEVINE

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SANDPOINT, IDAHO
June 2018

FROM THE PASTOR...

Summer has begun! In the summer, people generally do things a little differently than in the winter months. Even at church, we worship earlier because the sun comes up earlier and shines longer during the day. We don't have Sunday school, and we have volunteers hosting Fellowship time following worship rather than assigning Deacons and Ruling Elders. And we enjoy the great outdoors by getting on the bicycle more often, or walking, or enjoying time in the garden, or soaking up the sunshine on a beach.

One thing I noticed on the Sabbatical last year was how Europeans tend to walk, ride bikes, and use public transit much more than Americans. Their society is structured in ways that promote these year round, with public walking paths overland through the countryside, pedestrian only urban cores, and protected, dedicated bike lanes often separate from the main roadways. But in the USA, cars and trucks dominate our transportation system, and others, such as cyclists, are categorized as "Vulnerable Users" of the roadways.

There is a joke that says Jesus and his followers drove a Honda, because they were all in one, "Accord," but the reality is that Jesus walked. A galloping horse or a sailboat on a windy day was about the fastest experience of travel people in that day would know. Mostly, Jesus and his followers traveled at the speed of walk. Barbara Brown Taylor reflects on this:

Jesus walked a lot, and not only during the last week of his life. The four gospels are peppered with accounts of him walking into the countryside,

walking by the Sea of Galilee, walking in the Temple, and even walking on water.... This gave him time to see things. If he had been moving more quickly—even to reach more people—these things might have become a blur to him. Because he was moving slowly, they came into focus for him, just as he came into focus for them. Sometimes he had a destination, sometimes he did not. For many who followed him around, he was the destination.... While many of his present-day admirers pay close attention to what he said and did, they pay less attention to the pace at which he did it.

-Barbara Brown Taylor, An Altar in the World

This summer, be intentional about slowing down and doing things differently. Try and walk or ride a bike more, or stroll through a garden. This will slow you down, hopefully enough that you notice more things in their amazing detail, rather than speed by them in a blur. Get the perspective Jesus had as he talks about the birds of the air and the lilies of the field, or when he went up into the mountains to pray, and how he interacted with people along the way. Maybe these outings will be the first steps in walking like Jesus walked, (in more ways than mere transportation or scenery). Maybe they are steps towards a deeper awareness of God's loving grace, in Christ.

Have a great summer, share the roads, and I'll see you on the mountain, in the garden, by the lake, or in the ~~fast~~ bike lane!

PEACE GARDEN

The Rotary Club of Sandpoint is nearing completion of the Gazebo in the Peace Garden. Some of the landscaping on the south end of the garden is getting bid out to a landscaper. Grant monies will be pursued with the Presbytery of Inland Northwest to help offset of some these costs. The sprinkler system zones on that part of the yard are turned off, so if you have a desire to water plants and do some weeding, you are certainly welcome to partake in keeping the Peace Garden looking beautiful.

It was a lovely day when Tim and Angela Cochran were married on May 5, 2018. With both of them members of the Sandpoint Rotary, and Angela the current President of that club, it was fabulous to have the first official use of the Gazebo as the setting to sign their Marriage License. Congratulations!

KIDS ALIVE! Save the Date!

July 23—26, 2018

EARTH CARE

“IT’S NOT EASY BEING GREEN.”

Do you remember Kermit the Frog singing about that theme, (being green)? Green has a different meaning for us, if we are thinking of the challenges of caring for the Earth. Some basic principles of Earth Care have an easy sound to them, such as “Reuse, Repurpose, Recycle”, to conserve resources. However, understanding the scope of the problems is not always easy. One example: if we doubt the importance of cutting down the use and waste of plastics, we should read the article in the June issue of National Geographic. The effects of plastics on our environment, especially the oceans, are overwhelming! And it is not easy to change our reliance on plastic products; they are part of our lifestyle. Products that we may not have even thought of as hazardous are drinking straws; but they can be lethal to some ocean creatures. Do we really need straws? What if we always ordered beverages, with “no straw”?

The Earth Care Team extends a Thank You to all who actively responded to the “12 Ways of Earth Care” at the Earth Day Service. If you pledged to focus on one of those actions, we encourage you to follow through. Each positive action gets us closer to “being green”.



WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Remember: We will begin our summer schedule for **Sunday Worship Service** beginning at **9:30 A.M.** this Sunday, on **June 3rd**. Did I ever tell you about the Sunday that I walked up the front steps of the church, thinking that I was early, only to hear the congregation singing the closing hymn? I had forgotten that we had changed to our summer worship schedule!

Mark your calendar for Sunday, July 22nd, as we will gather for our annual **Sandpoint City Beach Worship Service**. The city raised the fee to rent the picnic shelter by 25 bucks so a special pledge drive might be needed to cover this increase.

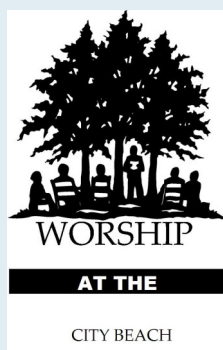
Last summer while Pastor Andy and Shawna were on Sabbatical, the Rev. Paul Graves delivered a “one train” sermon at City Beach. This precedent will challenge Pastor Andy to maintain this new tradition.

All joking aside, this special setting for a worship service reminds us, an Earth Care Congregation, of the beauty and splendor of God’s great creation. May it also remind us of our commitment to be good stewards of all natural resources and to be ever mindful for those who don’t share in this abundance.

We will add a new event to this year’s Sandpoint City Beach Worship Service – **A Blessing of the Bicycles**. This special blessing will promote the health and energy conservation benefits of cycling while emphasizing the safety for all cyclists. We will also draw attention to the transcontinental journey of the Bike and Build cyclists who are raising an awareness for affordable housing, and will be staying in our church later in the summer.

Enjoy the summer and see you on Sunday (at 0930 Hours),

Bill Love
Worship and Music Team





The PW held their concluding meeting with a potluck at Dee Dreisbach's. It was decided not to use the Horizon's Bible study for next year. Instead the PW will read Learning to Walk In the Dark, by Barbara Brown Taylor. It contains 9 chapters and is about \$11. Please let Susie Haskins at (208) 263-6593 know before June 12 if you want to order a copy.

Also start sorting your items for the **Annual Rummage Sale** which will be held October 5th and 6th. Items can be stored in the lower level of the church.

Another suggestion for reading is "Leaving Church: a Memoir of Faith" also by Barbara Brown Taylor. While PW will not be using this book many thought it was worth the read.

Summer recess is here and PW will resume in September.

DEACON'S STARS AND STRIPES BRUNCH, JULY 1ST

Please join the Deacons in an Independence Day celebration lunch on Sunday, July 1st right after the worship service. It will be an all out American celebration with hamburgers, hot dogs and all the sides! Wear your best red white and blue and come hungry and ready to sing Yankee Doodle! Donations accepted to go towards the Deacons' mission funds.

Bring your neighbors and friends to share the good times!



FELLOWSHIP UPDATE

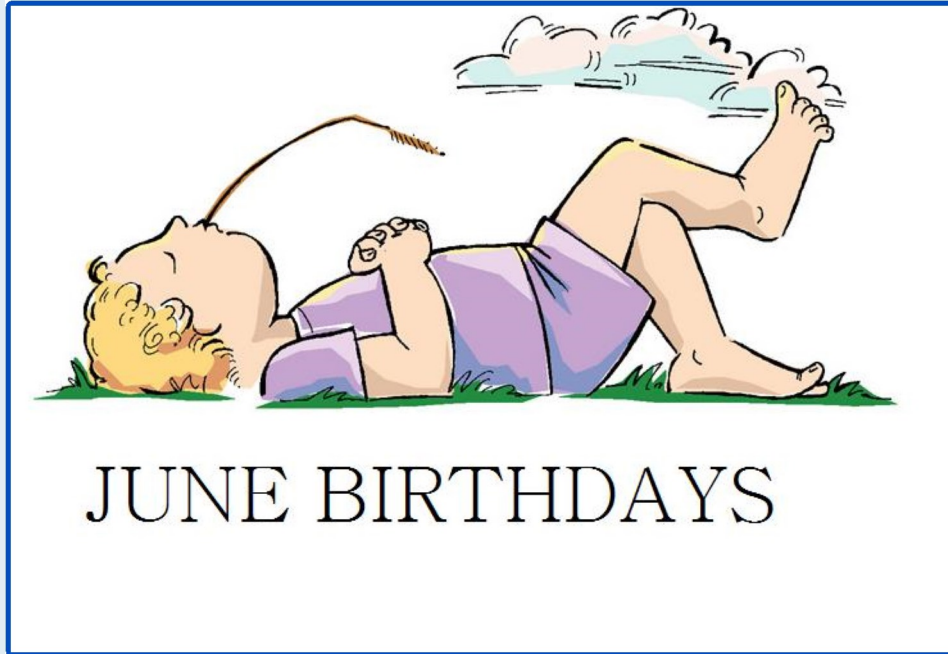
Thanks to one and all who help in the kitchen. The scheduling of Fellowship (or refreshments and kitchen clean up) is one where Deacons and Elders are "volunteered" automatically and set for several service times through the spring, fall and winter. Summer we ask members to help out. The sign up sheet is just inside the kitchen.

We do Fellowship except when we have a bigger event, like the Deacon Potluck.

I so appreciate if one or two people can team up. You make coffee and hot water for tea, and pull out goodies from the freezer, and ideally bring a small contribution. Clean up consists of cleaning the cups and plates and loading them up. Many hands always make light work. Call me at 208-290-5947 for more info. Thanks, Carol Curtis

HISTORIC CHURCH PHOTOS





| | |
|-----------|--|
| 8 | Frankie Clouse |
| 9 | Buzz Boeck, Cynthia Dalsing, Jean Babcock |
| 11 | Dana Stockman |
| 14 | Sue Helander |
| 19 | Bart Casey |
| 22 | Jackie Windju |
| 25 | Millie Rinker |
| 26 | Margaret Ann Maricle |
| 29 | Sharon Anderson, Eunice Knaggs |

Calendar Announcements

June

- 3 Worship begins at 9:30 a.m. (summer hours)
- 3 Membership & Outreach Meeting after Worship
- 5 Worship & Music Meeting at 4:00 p.m.
- 6 Church Breakfast at Connies Café
- 6 Kids Alive Planning Mtg., 9:00 a.m. at First Lutheran
- 8 Music Recital by Caleb Smedra at 5:00 p.m.
- 10 Peace Garden Committee Meeting in the Gazebo after
Worship
- 19 Session at 6:00 p.m.

July

- 1 **Deacon's STARS AND STRIPES BRUNCH** after Worship
- 23-26 Kids Alive Day Camp

Regular Monthly Events

Sunday Worship—9:30 a.m. Fellowship, following service

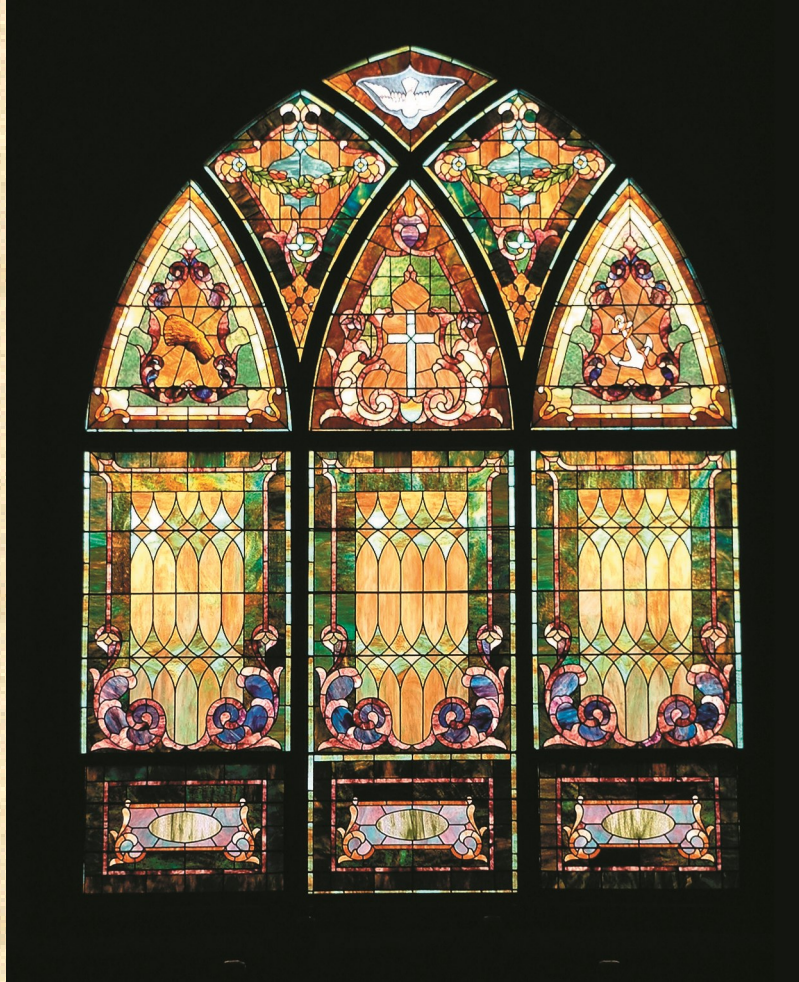
Monday 6:00 p.m. Al-Anon

Tuesday Book Study Group—1:30 p.m.
Contemplative Prayer Group—3:00 p.m.
Choir Practice will resume in September

Wednesday

Church Breakfast— 8:00 a.m. at Connies Café 1st Wednesday of the month

Thursday 12:00 p.m. Al-Anon
7:00 p.m.—Alcoholics Anonymous



First Presbyterian Church

Ministers: Members and Friends

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