

# THE GRAPEVINE

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SANDPOINT, IDAHO  
September 2018

## FROM THE PASTOR...

What an amazing summer! There have been challenges, such as smoke storms and dry conditions, but there have also been many wonderful opportunities for fun, connection, and growth. There have been some new faces in worship as people connect with the ministry here at First Presbyterian Church, particularly as we focus on loving, living, learning the joy of faith in Christ and have an emphasis on contemplative faith and Earth Care. We also collaborated on Kids Alive Day Camp, which went very well, and hosted two bicycle tour organizations that are raising money and awareness through their travels. The first was in July, Bike the US for MS, and the second was in August, Bike n' Build, Pedaling for Affordable Housing. Both went very well and were well received by the cyclists, the community, and everyone involved in hosting.

Four of the men on the July trip had actually started in Florida, then rode to Maine, and across to the west coast. They will also ride to San Diego, and then cross back over to Florida. Six months is how long they will circumnavigate the continental United States. I talked with one of them and mentioned that sort of trip is on my "bucket list" as I get older. I was encouraged because he is about 10 years older than me, and had prior knee surgeries. Cycling was great for his knees, and he had just ridden 100 miles that very day.



It's inspiring to see people putting forth effort towards good causes, helping others, reaching beyond themselves to benefit the larger community. I hope we all do this in our own contexts, with our own levels of challenge or interests.

As a congregation, for example, we are still making headway on the Peace Garden and it's amazing to be outside in that space and have people walk by, stopping to discuss how they appreciate the Peace Garden and how nice it's looking. As we held the Deacon's Stars n' Stripes luncheon we hosted our neighbors, women from Sweet Magnolia just across from the church building. We invited them to use that space for rest, reflection, as a place they could find sanctuary. They said, "Oh, we already do! Thank you! It's wonderful!"

Much of this positive energy is given behind the scenes or affects people we may never meet in ways we may never know. But how we live, who we are, sharing life and love through the power of God in Christ Jesus is a gift of grace. May God continue to lead us in ways to contribute positively to the world around us in the name of Christ.

See you in church! We switch to Sunday school at 9 a.m. and Worship at 10:30 on Sunday, September 9.

Peace and All Good,

Pastor Andy

## A NOTE ABOUT BIRDS

During the summer you may have noticed during worship in the sanctuary that the birds were singing. There are two small gaps in the outdoor siding of the church, both of which have been discovered by birds who search out nesting cavities. The birds have nested in the ceiling above the pulpit and one in the back wall, and when the young birds get restless, they start chirping, especially when the parent birds show up with food. By now they have moved out, but our church helped provide them a home.

I was reminded of these birds in the church when I read Psalm 84 for Sunday, August 23. The Psalmist talks about how lovely it is to dwell with God in the courts of the LORD. Then they say,

“Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God. Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.”

As the Psalmist concludes saying, “For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere,” may the praises of bird chirping in the church walls inspire us in worship as we participate, sing praises, and celebrate the God who welcomes us in love.



## PEACE GARDEN

The peace garden continues to take shape as elements of the plan gradually get added. Thanks to a recent grant from the Presbytery of the Inland Northwest, along with a generous donation from Marge Pietsch in memory of her first husband, David Butts, along with previous funds from the Pietsch Family Trust and other wonderful donors and activities such as the Peace Market, new additions are possible this summer and fall.

In August, a landscaper was hired who installed a walking path, leveled and packed down the catering patio, finished the approach to the gazebo, and planted two pear trees along with a new bedding area. The Rotary Club of Sandpoint finished their work on the beautiful gazebo, which provides a very welcoming space for the community. Electricity will be connected to the Gazebo in the near future.

A Peace Garden Work Day is scheduled for **Saturday, September 15, beginning at 9:00 a.m.** to remove sod from around the birch tree, installing mulch to help water infiltration. The Little Free Library Box needs posts installed, then the Noah’s Ark themed box can be attached to the posts. Slate stones need relocated to the south end of the building. Bring your work gloves, and we’ll enjoy the time together, along with a sandwich lunch provided by Membership and Outreach.

### KIDS ALIVE DAY CAMP

In July, dozens of children gathered for Kids Alive Day Camp, a combined ministry of First Presbyterian Church, First Lutheran Church, Sandpoint United Methodist Church, and Luther Park. It was a fabulous week, led by three wonderful summer staff from Camp Lutherhaven using the theme, Speak Life. Special thanks to Mary Sturgis, Barbara Rolph, Shirley Parker, Pastor Andy, Susie Haskins, and Jim Bellott for the ways they participated in this year's camp.



### Presbytery Gathering - Great Merger 2.0

**SATURDAY, September 22nd - Register to Let Us Know You'll Join Us**

You are invited! Last spring our quarterly Presbytery Gatherings merged with our missional Learning Communities, and we are continuing forward with this format. We will spend a portion of the day sharing stories about where we have noticed God in our neighborhoods and through various experiments congregations have tried. The theme we will explore together is "Call" – come and be inspired, remembering that you are called! We'll also be examining several inquirers as they seek to move to candidate process. We will spend time worshipping together and the day will include a short meeting. Anyone in a congregation is welcome and encouraged to attend to hear what God is up to throughout our region and how we are being called to partner with God. We will meet at Gonzaga's Hemmingson Center from 9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Coffee is provided, but lunch will be on your own at a nearby restaurant of your choice.

[Register on the Presbytery website](#) so we can best prepare for our day together.



## *An Autumn Pilgrimage for Your Soul*

"On most spiritual journeys, it is the road that teaches us the best way to get *there*, and the road enriches us as we walk its length."

Paulo Coelho, *The Pilgrimage*

### All Are Welcome

Join us for a Day of Reflection and Meditation  
as we Journey together on a  
Chartres-style Canvas Labyrinth

**Saturday, October 13, 2018**

8:30 am- 3:00 pm

\$35 suggested donation includes lunch

First Presbyterian Church of Sandpoint

417 N Fourth Ave

Registration Deadline: October 8th (space is limited)

To register contact Judy at [office@fpcsandpoint.org](mailto:office@fpcsandpoint.org) or 208-290-3119

Scholarships are available

Jolie Monasterio is a Labyrinth Facilitator with over 20 years of experience leading ecumenical and interfaith retreats and workshops. Combining her expertise and passion for spiritual growth, Jolie offers an unique perspective on the many uses of the labyrinth as a spiritual tool.

## Local, National, and Global Ongoing Mission Projects

With summer ending, it's time to focus again on church activities, including the mission projects below. Every little bit helps with these projects, as our contributions are combined with those of other individuals and groups.

### LOCAL

#### **Box Tops for Education.**

These are donated to local schools. Each label is worth 10 cents, and they quickly add up to dollars. Because each label has an expiration date, please don't hold on to them. Instead, drop them in the box on the table in front of the office as you collect them.

#### **Plastic grocery and produce bags and egg cartons.**

These are needed by the Food Bank. Place them with the food for the Food Bank on the pew outside of the office, or in the basket in the Narthex.

#### **Used computers, keyboards, flat screen monitors, mouse (mice?), and printers.**

The volunteer North Idaho Computer Users Group in Coeur d'Alene refurbishes these and scrubs all personal information before donating or selling at an affordable price to folks who cannot afford to buy new ones. Bring to the church office or let Anna Bates know if you'd like your donation picked up.

#### **Sweet Magnolia House**

This faith-based recovery program is our neighbor across the street from the church. The program includes life skills education and Bible study. They have said that they are always in need of toilet paper, paper towels, personal hygiene products, and financial aid. If you contribute financially by check, please make it out to First Presbyterian Church. There is a box on the pew by the office for donated items, and your financial contributions can be placed in the offering plate.

### NATIONAL

#### **Used cell phones, chargers, manuals, cases, and accessories.**

HopeLine from Verizon collects these to refurbish and provide to domestic violence victims. Please delete your personal information before donating, or include your telephone number with your donation, so someone else can delete your information.

#### **Pop Tops for Ronald McDonald House.**

These are found on everything from cereal boxes and soda cans to pet food and food cans. They are a big fundraiser for Ronald McDonald House Charity. Place them in the basket on the table by the office.

**GLOBAL****Living Waters for the World.**

This is a 20-year-old Presbyterian-originated mission supported by churches, individuals, and service clubs. It installs a system that cleans existing contaminated water using filtration, micro-filtration, and disinfection. Each system costs \$3,000.00 and can serve an entire community. If you'd like to be part of this life-saving effort, we ask that you donate \$5.00 or more per month. Just clearly mark your donation as being for Living Waters for the World and place in the offering plate. **Checks** must be made out to First Presbyterian Church.

**Used Bibles, New Testaments, and Old Testaments.**

We are a collection site for the Bible Foundation in Newberg, Oregon, which means we receive donations from our congregation, the community, and outlying areas. The Foundation takes Bibles in any condition, even parts of Bibles, and distributes them within the US and globally.

**Used eyeglasses, sunglasses, and cases.**

These are sent to EyeCare International in Ohio to be used by volunteer doctors and others who go on an annual medical mission to El Salvador to provide ophthalmology, optometry, and optical services for the underserved. Place them on the table outside the office or give to Susan Bristol in the office.

Even though we're a small congregation, over the years we've been able to make a difference to a lot of people in a lot of places. Please don't think whatever you can contribute is too small, because everything counts. Thank you for caring and contributing whatever you can.

Submitted by Dave Pietz

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL**

As the adult Sunday School ended last May, discussion concluded with a plea to learn more about talking with people who are opposed to our view. Often, our own anger interferes with being in a warm, open, and listening way.

We will be addressing this issue by reading a book published by the Center for Action and Contemplation, the Richard Rohr group, called *Oneing – Anger*. The book has about 10 essays from various people talking about anger and costs \$15. There will be a few books to lend if you are not interested in buying one.

**PHOTOS FROM THE CITY BEACH SERVICE**  
**BLESSING OF THE BICYCLES**



## IS KERMIT, THE FROG, RIGHT?

Remember he sang that it's not easy being green? Sometimes it's easy to feel discouraged, when we read that China is not accepting our recycled items, that few people look for items made from recycled products when they shop, and plastic storage bags may be almost too convenient to give up. But, there are hopeful happenings: some restaurants have responded positively to our suggestions that they only put out plastic straws when they are requested. Some cities and airlines have banned plastic straws. The Festival at Sandpoint had compostable plates, and compost and recycling bins; that was a wonderful example for the public! Personally, and as a congregation, we are in a continuing learning process about "Reuse, Repurpose, and Recycle". Individuals and the Earth Care team are learning to be advocates for the environment.

We need to remind ourselves that Earth Care is a spiritual, as well as an environmental, process. We are stewards of God's creation. Sharon Anderson recommends a book with this theme: "Order of the Sacred Earth", by Fox, Wilson, and Listug.

Marilyn & the Earth Care team





## 2018 School Supply Collection

The school year is in full swing. The students at Southside Elementary School received boxes full of supplies from First Presbyterian Church to start off the year with a bang. Everything from pencils and paper to sidewalk chalk and Christmas stickers. Here is a list of what we sent.

Crayons	39 boxes of 24
Back packs	2
Kleenex	10 boxes of 233
Map	1
Colored pencils	10 boxes of 12
Folders	14
Markers	4 boxes of 12 & 9 boxes of 10
Binders	4
Calculators	6
Highlighters	14
Pencils	304
Construction paper	720 sheets
Mechanical	68
Puzzle	500 pieces
Scissors	20
Erasers	18 wedge & 120 cap
Glue	111 sticks & 17 bottles
Ruler	2
Pencil box	4
Plastic cups	15
Sidewalk chalk	48 sticks & 2 sets of 4
Filler paper	1100 sheets (wide-ruled) & 600 sheets (college-ruled)



## **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**

PW meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Business Meeting/Sack Lunch will begin at 11:45 a.m. Program will follow the Business Meeting at 12:30 p.m. Book Study starts at 1:15 p.m. Our study will be based on the book, *“Learning to Walk in the Dark,”* by Barbara Brown Taylor. Our first meeting will be September 11, 2018 at 11:45 a.m. and program will include a general business discussion.

Fair Share donations will be accepted beginning with the September meeting. Fair Share donations are given instead of set dues and assists with our operating budget and mission.

PW – FALL RUMMAGE SALE – October 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>. Rummage Sale sign-up sheets will be available. Needed are volunteers to set up, run the cash box and take down. Again no pricing – sale will be by donation. This eases the time needed to prepare and income runs about the same. Bring items and willing hands. Household items sell better than clothes – all will be appreciated.

See you September 11th.



## PEACE MARKET

The Membership and Outreach and the Peace Garden committees have decided to host a Peace Market on the lawn next summer. Save the date for Saturday, June 23, 2019, when we will offer a similar event to last year.

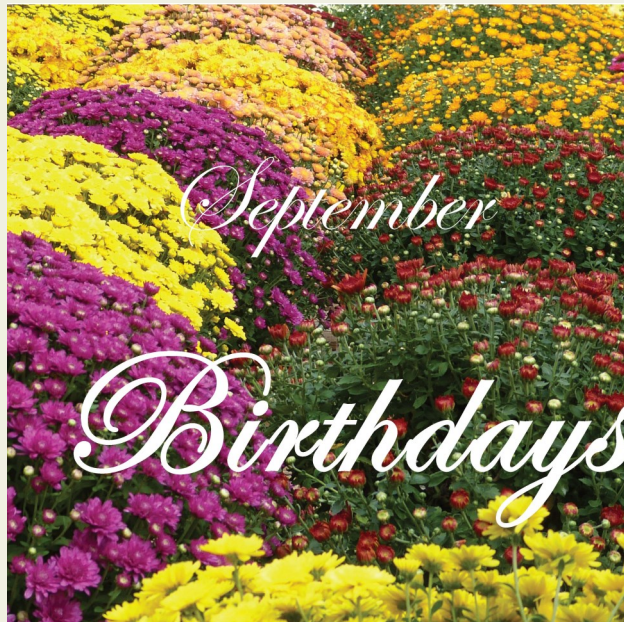
Part flea market, yard sale, fundraiser, and neighborhood mixer – we'll "rent out" 10x10 areas for people to set up their own sales booth, plus the church will have several tables with items for sale, along with coffee and snacks and perhaps BBQ burgers and dogs. The idea is to meet our neighbors and provide a service of sorts for those who want to simplify, downsize, recycle and repurpose surplus stuff.

Last year, there were 9 "vendors" including the FPCoS tables. After expenses, we collected about \$1,000 that will be used for getting some of the Peace Garden landscaping done this year. More than just a fund raiser, last year people commented on the wonderful connections made between people through this very relational experience. By offering it again in 2019, the committees will have time to promote the event and gather goods to sell. Perhaps over the winter, items for sale can be made such as fabric napkins and shopping bags. Another thought is to invite the whole neighborhood to have concurrent yard sales that day so the whole neighborhood is involved.

We are actively accepting donations for the 2019 Peace Market and setting aside labelled space in the lower level of the church to store them. This is not in competition with the PW Rummage Sale which will take place this October. Space is set aside for rummage sale donations, too.

Please contact Judy Labrie, Sharon Anderson or Pastor Andy if you have any questions about the Peace Market. Sylvia Humes and Barbara Rolph can answer your questions about the PW Rummage Sale.

Blessings on the journey,  
Judy Labrie, Ruling Elder - Membership and Outreach Team Chair



<b>1</b>	<b>Sylvia Humes</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Shane Curtis</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Marge Pietsch</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>Lynda Fleisher</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>Jeanne Marsden</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>Carol Ballard &amp; Judy Labrie</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>Karen Rockhill</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>Margareta Larson</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>Charlene Krames</b>

## Calendar Announcements

### September

- 4           Choir Practice Resuming at 5:30 p.m.
- 9           **Worship Resuming at 10:30 a.m.**
- 9           Deacons Meeting—8:00 a.m.
- 11          Presbyterian Women Meeting—Tuesday, 11:45 a.m.
- 15          Peace Garden Work Day—9:00 a.m.
- 18          Session Meeting—Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.
- 22          Presbytery Merger Event at Gonzaga

### October

- 1—7        Pastor Study Leave, St. Gertrude's Monastery
- 5—6        PW Rummage Sale
- 13         Labyrinth Retreat— 8:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

## Regular Monthly Events

**Sunday Worship**—10:30 a.m. beginning September 9, Fellowship, following service

**Adult Christian Education will begin on September 9th.** We will be reading a book published by the Center for Action and Contemplation, the Richard Rohr group, called *Oneing – Anger*

**Monday** 6:00 p.m. Al-Anon

**Tuesday** Book Study Group—1:30 p.m.

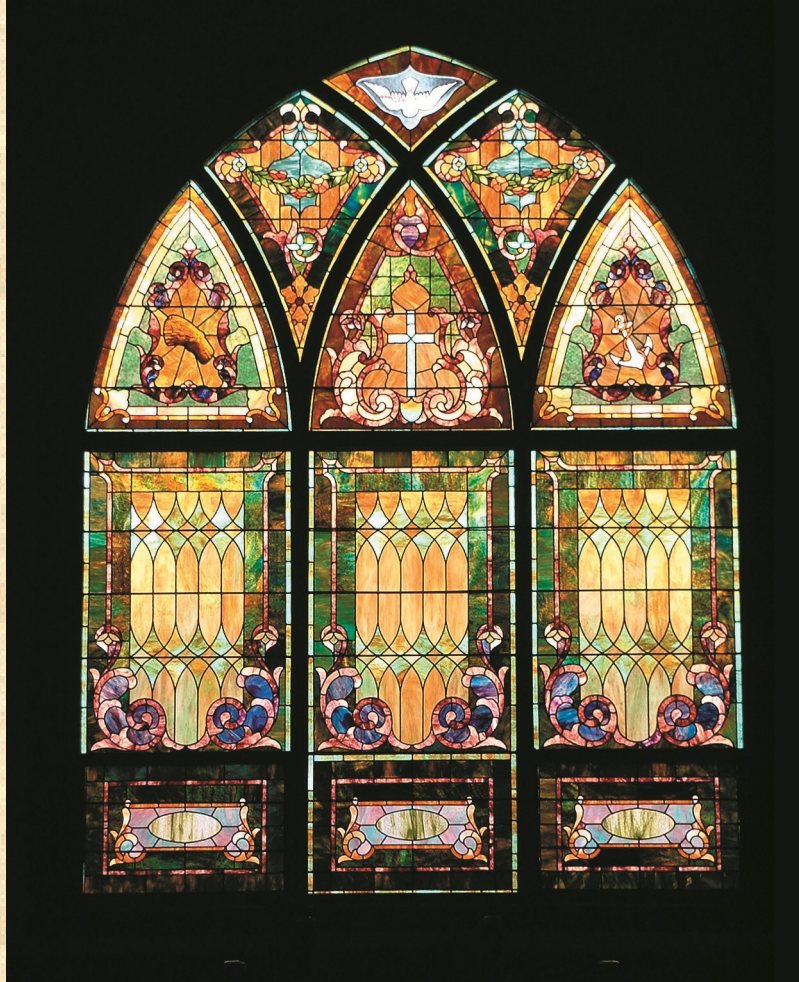
Contemplative Prayer Group—3:00 p.m.

Choir Practice—5:30 p.m.

**Wednesday** Church Breakfast— has been cancelled

**Thursday** 12:00 p.m. Al-Anon

7:00 p.m.—Alcoholics Anonymous



**First Presbyterian Church**

*Ministers: Members and Friends*

*Pastor Andy Kennaly*

*417 North Fourth Avenue, Sandpoint, Idaho 83864*

*208-263-2047 [office@fpcsandpoint.org](mailto:office@fpcsandpoint.org)*

*[pastorandy@fpcsandpoint.org](mailto:pastorandy@fpcsandpoint.org)*

*Pastor cell phone: 208-304-5488*

*[www.fpcsandpoint.org](http://www.fpcsandpoint.org)*