



THE GRAPEVINE
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SANDPOINT, IDAHO
 June 2021

From the Pastor...

The Easter cycles has concluded, at least on the calendar. The liturgical year includes various seasons. Easter season celebrates Resurrection faith. Ascension Day, 40 days after Easter, remembers the risen Christ departing from the disciples, leaving the promise of the coming Spirit. The Holy Spirit arrived on Pentecost. We traditionally wear red that Sunday to symbolize the flames as tongues of fire rested on the apostles. Trinity Sunday is the following week, this year that is May 30th, and honors the relational aspect of God as three-in-one, one God in three persons, Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit.

We now enter "Ordinary Time," which doesn't sound very dramatic. It sounds...ordinary, plain, non-descript. It is the dominant season of the church year, interrupted by winter's Advent Season and spring's Lent, and Easter. Ordinary Time's liturgical color is green, symbolizing the growth of faith. This is ironic, because growth doesn't tend to happen when we're comfortable, when things are "ordinary." If comfort is what we seek, we will likely stay static in terms of growth. Maybe this works for us. Many people live their entire lives with a static notion of faith. But deep learning, growing, change; these happen outside of our comfort zone. It takes some stressors to get our attention.

On Sunday, June 6 we switch to worship at 9:30 a.m. for the summer schedule.

Ordinarily, summer has a different feel to it, a flow unlike the programmatic months of the fall, winter, and spring. In this area

people like to get outside in the summer and go to the lake, welcome company who come to visit, or take vacations. Summer calendars fill up and before you know it, fall is here because the weeks fly by.

I hope your summer is enjoyable and you find comfort in your life. But I also hope Resurrection Faith is more than a calendar thing, and you grow, learn, and deepen in the ways of faith as we follow Christ. No matter what the season, may God be glorified!

Peace and All Good,
 Pastor Andy Kennaly



SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

This year, on Sunday, June 6, we switch to the summer worship schedule. Sunday school takes a break, as do Session and Deacon meetings. Worship begins each week at 9:30 a.m. The annual City Beach service is on Sunday, July 25 at 9:30 a.m. at the City Beach Hut Pavilion and features a “bring your own brunch” approach for the reception time after worship. The Grapevine Newsletter has combined July/August edition, so if you have an article to contribute be sure to email it to the office by the deadline near the end of June.



PASTOR ANDY STUDY LEAVE

With a theme like the Sabbatical of 2017, Pastor Andy is using Study Leave this fall to explore the spirituality of beekeeping. He and Shawna return in September to Slovenia for a two-and-a-half-week guided tour to visit beekeepers, stay at local farms, and see some sights as part of a coordinated American tour group. While on that side of the Atlantic, they then fly to Germany to visit friends for another two and a half weeks. Yes, this includes some of the infamous German Oktoberfest. It should be fun, and a great way to reconnect with long-time friends overseas next fall. Airplane tickets have been purchased, so hopefully the global travel scene stays opened up to support this adventure in healthy ways.



THE SESSION SUMMARY
MAY 2021

Session met on April 20, 2021, using a hybrid virtual/in-person format. While most gathered social-distancing in Fellowship Hall, a couple elders joined via Zoom conferencing. This arrangement allowed Don Deters to attend the meeting while enjoying the Bavarian-themed village of Leavenworth, Washington.

We welcomed the Rev. Steve Neuder to the meeting. He recently began serving as the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry liaison to our church. Steve will moderate our September session meeting while Pastor Andy is on vacation.

Recognizing the hybrid trend of in-person/virtual Sunday worship services, Session approved purchasing equipment to enhance live-streaming of our services. While not cheap at just under \$8,000, Presbytery offers grants to assist churches with this type of upgrade. We will use the Memorial Fund to cover the remaining costs.

Thanks to finance elder Paula Vincent's efforts, we once again received a 2021 loan/grant from the Payroll Protection Funds program. Last year's grant of approximately \$9,000 offset revenue losses from loose offering, facility rental and retreats – all a direct result of pandemic restrictions.

During our monthly review of the current COVID-19 health protocols, Session agreed to reopen our facilities to outside groups. We will require them to disinfect tables and other surfaces and encourage social distancing and masks. These groups seldom interact with other church activities so there will be minimal contact with our members.

Several of these groups have been using our building for many years as they quietly and efficiently serve the community with their mission. Those who benefit from these groups have suffered from a lack of companionship and support for well over a year during this time of pandemic restrictions. We welcome them back to the sanctuary of our facility.

Dave Pietz announced that the Bike and Build tour has been cancelled for the second straight year. We regret not hosting these cyclists who advocate for affordable housing as they pedal across America.

Don't forget to wear red for Pentecost Sunday on May 23; whether you join us in person or remotely.

Bill Love, Clerk of Session

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

Now learn from the fig tree. As soon as it's twigs get tender and it's leaves come out., you know that summer is near. **Luke 21:29-32**

Adopt a Plot is an opportunity to care for a small portion of our peace garden. During the summer months you chose the month, day, and time that works for your schedule, ideally spending 1-2 hours a week during your chosen month. Care consists of weeding area, deadheading spent blossoms, and weeding. Some watering may need to be done as well, depending on the area you choose. We do have a sprinkling system. Additionally, we may gather as a group a few times through out the summer to prepare for one of our outdoor services. If this sounds like a fulfilling activity, please take the time to wander outside and choose a spot to tend. A sign up sheet will be available on the table outside of the church office, and one at the front entry to church during the rest of May. We'll call you and arrange a time to meet with you prior to starting. Thank you for time and consideration.

Building and Grounds Committee



FOOD BANK DRIVE

It's been awhile since we've had a food drive for Bonner County Food Bank. Let's take the month of June for food and other items they need. Please bring donation items to church, placing them in the basket by the front door or the box on the bench at the side door. Thanks for your participation.

Victoria

Food Bank Needs

Peanut Butter	Canned Vegetables	Fresh Garden Produce
Juice	Tuna	Canned Tomato Products
Coffee	Soup	Sugar (11lb cont.)
Breakfast Cereal	Rice	Soap
Canned Fruit	Ketchup	Diapers
Powdered Milk (qt packet)	Dry Beans	Baby Wipes
Mayo/Mustard	Macaroni & Cheese	Infant Formula
Jam or Jelly	Pasta	Deodorant
Canned Meat	Top Ramen	Toothpaste/Brushes
Canned Beans/Chilli	Spaghetti Sauce	Feminine Products

The Food Bank **CANNOT** use homemade foods, Rusty or unlabeled cans, home canned items, alcoholic beverages or open packages.

The Food Bank welcomes all donations of professional packaged foods (including game), and fresh, unprocessed produce. The items listed above are of the greatest need and/or the widest use. You will notice some non-food items listed. The Food Bank's mission is to assist persons in our community with emergency non-medical resources in a time of personal crisis, and the personal care items listed are beneficial in helping to fulfill that mission.



STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE

Susie Haskins has been working hard behind the scenes to transfer individual giving records for FPC members and friends to a new software program. The prior version could no longer be updated. Thanks to her diligent work, a mid-year report of your financial gifts to the church will be available this month.

Collectively, our combined giving through May 23rd totals \$66,544. This represents 45% of the \$147,000 budget. Expenses are averaging about \$12,000 per month and are anticipated to be near \$63,000 or 43% of the budget through the end of May.

EARTHCARE

First Presbyterian COMMUNITYGARDEN

“Inch by inch, row by row
Gonna make this garden grow.
Mulch it with a rake and a hoe
Gonna make it fertile ground.
Inch by inch, row by row
God, please bless these seeds I sow.
Please keep them safe below
Til the rain comes tumbling down.”

By Dave Mallett

We are so proud of our new Community Gardens at First Presbyterian Church! If you haven't seen them, they are raised beds to the south of the building, and under the maple tree nearby. The garden frames were built at the Bonner County Youth Detention Center under the guidance of Ken, who directs a “shop” program for juveniles. After delivery of a truckload of organic soil on Thursday, April 15, we “raked, hoed, and shoveled” that good, rich soil into the gardens. Then it was ready for our April 18 Earth Day dedication. Vegetables will be donated to the Bonner County Food Bank.

Through out this whole process, we have been eternally grateful to Michelle Murphree and Dion Heller for their work and support every step of the way. Michele and Dion have spearheaded the beginnings of Community Gardens all over Sandpoint and in some outlying areas, to benefit The Food Bank. They walked us through the purchase of lumber, and had a pickup ready to deliver it to be built into garden frames. They then delivered the frames to the church on that Thursday, with church members waiting to fill them with soil. They attended our Earth Day dedication, along with Ken and the young man who built the frames, and Debbie Love, Food Bank Director. It was a mission of love all the way!

Now we're getting in gear to plant the gardens when the watering system is installed, probably the first week in June. We'll have plant starts from Diane Green of “Greentree Naturals Organic Gardens,” tomato and marigold starts from Kathleen Huntley, and seeds. Please contact one of us. My phone # is : (208) 597-6911.

We are excited about the possibilities our new gardens will bring, and we will let you know about our planting date; please think of coming and helping plant. It is always more fun with many people!

Lynn Pietz

Earth Care Committee



JUNE



June Birthdays

9 Cynthia Daising

9 Jean Babcock

11 Dana Stockman

14 Sue Helander

19 Bart Casey

22 Jackie Windju

25 Millie Rinker

29 Sharon Anderson

Regular Monthly Events



Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. and Facebook

Monday - 6:00 p.m Al-Anon

Tuesday Book Study Group-1:30 p.m. to 3:00p.m. on Zoom

Contemplative Prayer Group-1:30 p.m. to 3:00p.m. on Zoom

Choir Practice - postponed

PFLAG - TBD

Wednesday - 6:00 p.m. Al-Anon

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

7:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous .



First Presbyterian Church

Ministers: Members and Friends

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