



THE GRAPEVINE
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SANDPOINT, IDAHO
 October 2021

From the Pastor...

This fall, my wife, Shawna, and I will visit Germany. We will stay with friends. They invited us to come! Friends in Rotenberg, near Stuttgart, friends in Frankfurt, friends in a couple smaller villages, and friends in Switzerland too. What a difference it makes to have invitations, to be welcomed into peoples' lives and culture! One moment we stand on the outside looking in, then in response to the invitation we cross the threshold and enter their home. Inside, we are received with hospitality, welcomed by friendship's bond of love, commitment, and genuine interest to learn from and care for one another. We share stories, ask questions, and have dialogues that help us all grow in relationship's depth.

Sometimes our awareness forgets that each moment involves crossing thresholds. Divine Presences invites us into the fullness of reality held in grace. The very breath we take now has been anticipated and provided by God as spirit and matter merge. The air we breath has been billions of years in the making. The molecules inhaled have been taken up and shared by a variety of life throughout the ages, then laid down again. As we exhale, we breathe them back with our thanks.

Take a journey if you are able, and as you leave from one room to another, or step outside, pause at the threshold, inhale a deep breath, and when you feel you've been invited, take the next few steps as you say, "Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy, LORD, have mercy. Thank you."

Travel to Europe involves long airplane rides, public transportation on trains, and other forms of transport. Someone once said that we go on vacation to pay attention to that which we ignore at home. Whether we're away or in a familiar place, may God help us pay attention and notice the nearness of Divine love, the relational character of the Trinity, and the ongoing invitation to awaken to the many expressions of the Living Christ all around the world.

Peace and All Good,
 Pastor Andy Kennaly



EARTH CARE COMMITTEE

INCH BY INCH, ROW BY ROW...

Here it is September, and our Community Garden was built, irrigation put in place, seeds planted and protected from 104 degree temps and chance of frost, and so far, 18 pounds of vegetables have been donated to the Food Bank: tomatoes, green beans, peppers, lettuce, and zucchini and delicata squash.

Our first year of Community Gardening at First Presbyterian Church has been a learning experience for “us gardeners.”

Sharing the load is what it is about, from leveling the ground, purchasing the lumber, building the garden frames & filling them with soil, constructing a water system, planting the seeds, and watching them grow into foods. Then there was a heat wave, more shade from the maple tree than we had realized, and discussions of ripeness of vegetables, fertilizing them in mid-summer, and finally fear of frost.

We are now facing a time soon, of “putting the garden to bed” for this year. We will be celebrating our first summer of donations to The Food Bank, and are always there for anyone who could use something to eat. Until the next growing season...

ONGOING REMINDERS:

We should continue to find ways to cut down on using one-time use plastic, especially plastic bags, because they can rarely be recycled. The bags waste landfill space, are not biodegradable, and many harm wildlife, especially in waterways and the ocean. When you buy produce, you can put it in your own mesh bags. One way to get a supply of those is to purchase “lingerie laundry bags”, and convert them to use when shopping. Of course, you can avoid the large plastic bags at the checkout stand, by taking your own cloth bags, or other substitutes. It is more of a challenge to give up zip-lock bags for at home food storage. You can extend the life of zip-locks and bread bags by washing them for reuse. (This is not safe if raw meat had been in the bag.) There are also companies, such as Mighty Fix that sell bags made of silicone, & other “permanent” storage products that substitute for plastic.

We hope all of our members & friends are recycling all of the items that are accepted by either Waste Management in their designated bins, or Pacific Steel & Recycling. We can also be a part of the “recycle cycle” by purchasing paper products made of recycled materials. Congratulations to all of you who make efforts to fulfill one theme of Earth Care teams: “Reuse, repurpose, and Recycle.”



PRESBYTERIAN GIVING CATALOG

For those who would like to contribute to a needed cause overseas, there are some gift ideas shown in a Presbyterian giving catalog that our church has received.

Listed below are some of the gifts:

Family farm Bundle -- \$1,300

Community Farm Bundle-- \$5,000

Sewing machine--- \$50

Emergency Life Pack--- \$125

Supplies for displaced students-- \$30

Fishing Net---- \$15

Fishery Kit---- \$75

Wash Aid--- \$25/share, \$500 Full

Winter heating Fuel for Refugees... \$240

Famine Relief Food Voucher... \$ 50

Refugee Food Basket... \$50

Emergency Assistance Grants...\$100-\$2,500

Water systems related grants... various costs

Women's Empowerment Project... \$100 per participant

Family nutrition Starter Pack \$150

Livestock ... various costs

Education and Formation various costs

Agriculture.... Various costs

For complete detailed information about the above gift ideas, refer to the website, Presbyteriangifts.org .

Dave Pietz- Mission Chairman

WORLD RELIEF
of Spokane Project

Most of us remember 2017, when the children's choir from World Relief came and sang at our church, and then came back the next year to sing for us again. These were refugees from various countries, who told their stories of running for their lives in their home countries.

We're now waiting for 300 Afghans set to arrive in Spokane. As refugees, they come with very little, and will need items to help them settle into their own places. World Relief has offered us a way to be good neighbors, by providing "Welcome Kit(s)," one for kitchen items, another for bedding, and a third for back to school items. For more information, visit: www.worldrelief.org/spokane

We thought we would be welcoming neighbors by supporting one family, starting with a welcome kit of kitchen items, and move to the other kits as we fill that box.

It should be easy to do. Together, we can fill that box by each bringing one or two items, until it is filled. This is teamwork! It should not be a hardship for any of us to do.

We already have one group connected with the church, thinking of donating a box.

Other small groups might want to consider this. We're hoping to have this done by the end of October.

Look at the lists and see what you can do! (All items donated should be new.)

Thank you,

Membership, Outreach, and Missions Committee



The earth is the
LORD's, & everything
in it, the world, & all
who live in it.

P s a l m 2 4 : 1

BUILDING A KITCHEN WELCOME KIT

THANK YOU FOR BEING A NEIGHBOR

Refugees often flee their homes at a moment's notice. They arrive at our airport with few belongings and high hopes for the future. Welcome Kits provide the basic household items people need as they begin a new journey in our community. For more information, visit: www.worldrelief.org/spokane

BUILD A KIT IN THREE EASY STEPS

1. Collect the items (new items only, please).
2. Include a welcome note for a refugee family.
3. Deliver kits to World Relief Spokane's office:

1522N Washington St Suite 200, Spokane, WA 99201

Office hours are 9am-4pm weekdays except Thursdays.

KITCHEN KIT

- *4 forks, knives, & spoons
- *4 plates, bowls, & cups
- *Pots, pans, & baking sheets
- *Mixing/serving bowls
- * Cooking utensils
- *Manual can opener
- * Kitchen knife
- *Cutting board
- *Kitchen towels or sponges
- * \$25 Gift card(s) to Dollar Tree, Amazon, Walmart, Winco, or Target in a separate envelope



BUILD A HOUSEHOLD WELCOME KIT

LINEN KIT

- *Bed linens: twin or queen
- *Blankets: twin or queen
- *Comforter: twin or queen
- *(2) Pillows
- * Towel set: bath, hand, face
- * \$25 Gift card(s) to Dollar Tree, Amazon, Walmart, Winco, or Target in a separate envelope

CLEANING KIT

- *Plunger
- *Vacuum
- *Broom and dust pan
- *Toilet bowl cleaner and wand
- *All purpose cleaner
- *Hand soap



BUILD A BACK TO SCHOOL KIT

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL KIT

- *Backpack
- *Black Sharpie highlighters
- *[Earbuds/Headphones](#)
- *Spiral notebook (wide rule)
- *Composition notebook (wide rule)
- *Markers, crayons or colored pencils
- *Pointed scissors
- *Pencil sharpener with catcher
- *Black Expo markers
- * \$25 Gift card(s) to Dollar Tree, Amazon, Walmart, Winco, or Target in a separate envelope

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL KIT

- *Backpack
- *#2 pencils or non-click black pens
- *Pencil pouch (with binder holes if possible)
- *Composition and/or spiral notebook
- *2-pocket folders (horizontal)
- *[Scientific calculator](#)
- *[Academic planner/organizer](#)



*3" 3-ring binders

*Highlighters

*Graph paper

* \$25 Gift card(s) to Dollar Tree, Amazon, Walmart, Winco, or Target in a separate envelope



FALL WELCOME BACK EVENT

On October 24, 2021 Pastor Andy and Shawna will return from their vacation in Europe. We would like to welcome them home by gathering our church family and any friends who wish to join us. The Deacons will serve the (store bought) food carefully and we hope the event can be both inside and outside of the Fellowship Hall. We are finalizing our final plan shortly, but we may do a potato bar with fixings, or use the grill. We will serve the food safely so everything will be easy for you. We hope all of you mark your calendar for Sunday, October 24, 2021, at 11:30, or immediately following worship.

Warmly

The Deacons





October Birthdays

1 Carol Curtis
7 Barney Ballard
15 Barry Gage
17 Judy Farmn
19 Marilyn Robertson
20 Wesley Dustman
31 Dolly Maddox

Regular Monthly Events



Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. Live and Facebook

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

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

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

Choir Practice postponed

Second and Fourth Tuesday - 6:00 p.m. PFLAG.

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

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

7:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous



First Presbyterian Church

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