



THE GRAPEVINE

First Presbyterian Church of Sandpoint, Idaho September 2024

From the Pastor...

On Sunday, September 1, we gather for worship at 9:30 a.m. for the last of the summer schedule's earlier time slots. After Labor Day, the next Sunday is September 8 and worship begins at 10:30 a.m. for the duration of the fall, winter, and spring. We are on the cusp of a seasonal shift.

Changes in season involve just that, change. One dominant pattern gives way to another prevalent expression with some overlap back and forth as seasons ebb and flow. I've written a poem about seasons and time and have included it in this newsletter. It's also posted on <https://andykennaly.substack.com/> if you want to find it later, along with other writing.

A change in season also affects the wardrobe. Cooler weather means longer trousers, layered shirts, and jackets. Maybe the wool socks come out from their summer hiding place and the sandals get stashed until next year. I have a plastic container for the storage closet simply marked "Andy's Seasonal" and the clothing makes a rotation. When I sort through this transition, I also decide if it is time to share my gently used items with others, to replace them with new. If there are items I haven't used for a year or two, then it is likely that someone else can use them. Like Henry David Thoreau said, "Simplify, simplify."

At church, the 9:30 Worship sign will come down and it will show the 10:30 sign instead. The start of the fall is a wonderful time to reassess not only wardrobe choices, but other commitments.

Included in this newsletter is an Active Membership Roll of First Presbyterian Church. We have 59 names listed, which usually translates on a Sunday morning to 25 or 30 people in attendance. If there are people on the list that you have not seen in worship for a while, give them a call or send them a note to encourage their participation, tell them you miss them and would enjoy having them active once again in the life of the congregation because they have a presence about them and unique gifts to share with the community. If they are unable to attend, they will likely enjoy contact.

If you invite others to come to worship, encourage them to take a six-week challenge. Participate for six weeks before they make a decision in their "church shopping" because one visit doesn't give a full picture. Over six weeks a larger context is experienced for informed decisions, plus it helps build a habit of schedules and practice.

Like the Psalmist says to religious pilgrims through Psalm 84, "How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts! My soul longs, indeed it faints, for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God."

Let's celebrate the living God together.

Peace and All Good,
Pastor Andy

Four Seasons Help

Nordic routes etch
through winter's shades of gray, muted
hush muffles each ski stride, slide,
glide on tracks laced with fresh snow,
covered footprints of critters not seen.

Hiker boots balance on boulders
to miss snowmelt mud, make
way over streams to cross deeper
into emergence as spring green brilliance
wakes up what freshness is.

Bike pedals turn in summer's heat,
sweat stings eyes that watch wheels
send grasshoppers to find
refuge in meadow flowers
away from black Raven's open beak
that pants to cool.

Trees show true colors when green
yields to autumn splendor that falls
when winds whip a chill
and longer nights give owl more
time to hunt and call.

Four seasons help us remember
time is more
than linear: winter, spring, summer, fall
have styles, qualities that cycle, swirl.
Past, future, now, interwoven layers like harmonies;
rhythmic tunes invite us to notice
smile lines emerge on our faces,
while feet trace cosmic dances
on the same path of change.

Every phase comes, peaks, then makes
way for the next; overlaps,
liminal like Janus,
creativity's both/and
shouts YES!

<https://andykennaly.substack.com/p/four-seasons-help>

Membership 2024

ACTIVE LIST

1. Albanese, Nancy
2. Anderson, Sharon
3. Ballard, Barney
4. Ballard, Carol
5. Bauer, Charles
6. Bauer, Mary
7. Bricker, Donna
8. Casey, Anne Marie
9. Casey, Bart
10. Clark, Jane
11. Cochran, Tim
12. Curtis, Carol
13. Curtis, Kelly
14. Dalsing, Cynthia
15. de Fremery, Lexie
16. Deters, Don
17. Deters, Patti
18. Dreisbach, Deloris
19. Dustman, Jim
20. Dustman, Wesley
21. Eastwood, Cathy
22. Farmin, Ted
23. Fritz, Jane
24. Haskins, Susie
25. Helander, Don
26. Helander, Sue
27. Humes, Charles
28. Humes, Sylvia
29. Huntley, Kathleen
30. Inselman, Esther
31. Jones, Gary
32. Kennaly, Shawna
33. Labrie, Judy
34. Linendoll, Dawn
35. Love, Bill
36. McComish, Judy
37. Murphy, Dan
38. Murphy, Jill
39. Oliver, Victoria
40. Parker, Shirley
41. Pietsch, Gary
42. Pietz, Dave
43. Pietz, Lynn
44. Quinn, Margaret
45. Rinker, Millie
46. Robertson, Marilyn
47. Rockhill, Karen
48. Sandall, Richard
49. Shirrell, Jim
50. Stockman, Dana
51. Stockman, Geri
52. Sturgis, Dave
53. Sturgis, Mary
54. Taylor, Darcy
55. Thompson, Kirsten
56. Vincent, Paula
57. Wahl, Diana
58. Welle, Annie
59. Windju, Jackie

updated May 15, 2024

Worship and Music

A Word about Worship

August is winding down, and September is right around the corner. It's time to think about our schedule for September through December. Our Worship services will shift back to 10:30 a.m. beginning on September 8, a boon for those of us who like to catch a couple more winks before heading to Church. That simple schedule will soon have the addition of Adult Christian Education beginning on September 15, so don't sleep in all fall!

As Worship elder, I have had the fun of sending out calendars each week—sometimes several times—to recruit volunteers to help with ushering, livestreaming, and worship assistant. If you're not on my email list, please give me call or send an email, and I will add you on in the area of your choice. I'll be updating the job descriptions for each job soon, and they will be available at the church office if you need a little bit more information.

Many thanks to all of the wonderful worship volunteers at First Presbyterian Church in Sandpoint. Like many of you, I've been doing some traveling and vacationing and will finish the summer outside the country. See you in September!

Kirsten Thompson
503-816-6384
thompsonkj2019@gmail.com

It's Choir Time!

Choir rehearsals will be starting back up on Wednesday, September 11. We meet just about every Wednesday in the sanctuary from 11:00 a.m. to noon from September to May. This year, we will be singing on the second and fourth Sundays of each month, along with special occasions like Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, and Maundy Thursday.

We're always on the lookout for new singers, so if you like to sing, think about joining us on Wednesday mornings for rehearsal and Sundays for worship. We're a no-audition, guilt-free choir, and we have the best seats in the house!

Dana Stockman
Choir Director



**Choir Rehearsals
Resume Sept. 11**

Stewardship, Finance, Memorial

Finance Summary January 1, 2024 through July 31, 2024

Budgeted through July 31	\$77,000
Received through July 31	\$72,791
Expenses through July 31:	\$82,477

Per Capita Received: \$1121 (\$2496 expended in 2024 or \$39.00 per member)

Revenue through the first seven months of the year is lagging slightly behind the budget and expenditures are somewhat ahead of the budget.

Thank you for your continued consideration of financial support for the mission of the First Presbyterian Church of Sandpoint.

Paula Vincent

Finance

Personnel

The personnel committee held meetings with employees and contracted staff on August 14 and August 21 to conduct the annual performance reviews. Input was gathered from each individual through a brief questionnaire to provide input regarding job joys and challenges. Additionally, Pastor Andy as Head of Staff provided feedback for the committee to consider.

The personnel committee concludes that FPC has a talented and dedicated team supporting the church mission. We are so fortunate to have a highly skilled and committed group working on behalf of the church.

Please join us in expressing appreciation to Andy Kennaly-pastor, Susie Haskins-finance secretary, Dana Stockman-choir and office administrator and Annie Welle-pianist. Although behind the scenes, we also want to express our thanks for support from contracted staff Ken Callison-custodial and Natalie Miller-treasurer and accountant.

Tim Cochran, Dyno Wahl, Paula Vincent

Personnel Committee

Building and Grounds

Church Family & Friends

Since we have opened our doors for usage of our building, we have tried to complete some needed improvements. We have replaced our old sanitizer with a newer model that was removed from the Gardenia Center. It is the same size as our older one and there was no cost to us. We have also installed a smaller water heater in the corner of the kitchen, next to the sink near refrigerators. We have run out of hot water when we have larger events, which really slows down cleanup efforts. Steve Johnson helped Don Helander install the unit in June. We were originally hoping to have heat on demand, but that would have required a very expensive upgrade to our circuit board. You will notice that there is a switch on the left side of the wall next to the counter size water heater that will start water heating up for use. If we have a large dinner or event, we should turn the switch on so that the unit will be ready to supply hot water. Turning the switch off after use will save energy. If you see Steve or Don, give them a high five. We also had a security light that was installed to light the door to the Christian Ed. Building. One of the electricians who is part of a group using the building donated his labor. We had a scare in regards to the use of the women's bathroom also in early July. We discovered that someone had sabotaged our main drain clean out line, by putting a bunch of rocks in the line, which required a plumber. That was an unexpected expense but was critical to fix.

The flooring in the fellowship hall is showing wear and is also very hard to maintain and clean as it is labor intensive. We have had a flooring specialist measure and have spoken to suppliers to see what type of flooring would be appropriate for our usage and also easy to clean and maintain. There is a good possibility that we would need someone to remove flooring underneath the green tile because there most likely is asbestos in the old flooring. Pastor Andy noticed some of the roofing tiles had blown off the roof after a windy day. On further inspection we were informed that we could be looking to replace the roofing in 2-3 years. We did get a company to replace tiles, not a perfect match, but it will prevent any more damage to that area of roof. This week we will have Panic Bars installed on our sanctuary front door and the fellowship door that leads to the alley.

There are pink envelopes in the pews if anyone would like to make a donation to the building fund to help with the many projects that need to be done in our beautiful, but old, building. Just drop them in the collection plate on Sunday morning.

Grounds

A huge thanks to Dave Sturgis for mowing the lawn this summer. Our yard hasn't received the attention it needs. Our spring cleanup was cancelled as we had poor weather. I will try to get a fall clean up day scheduled, but we need some male members to be a part of an effort to remove plants that are too close to the foundation walls of the building on the east side. The best approach would be to remove the majority of plants and lay a good weed barrier and cover it with rock or bark. Adding a few low maintenance native shrubs would add some aesthetics. It has been recommended that along the roof line we create a narrow trench, with rocks to capture water runoff from the roof. We need a low maintenance approach, and keeping plants away from the foundation will help. Pruning is needed on the huge lilac bush as well as the trees that line the sidewalks.

Rainbow Kitchen

An anonymous person from our church donated some soup to the Rainbow Kitchen, and it was a very nice gesture and appreciated by all. There are four women who run the kitchen on Wednesdays. The overseers are Paddy and Caren; they have been donating their time for close to 30 years. The soups are donated by a variety of friends of the community. The crew is very nimble, and they have supplies that they can turn into a satisfying meal, if needed. There is usually a pasta salad, homemade bread and a dessert that is donated by one of the grocery stores in town. There are between 25-35 people who come in to eat; some are just elderly couples looking for a light meal and conversation. Lunch is served at 11:00 and by 1:30 most of the folks have departed. Those who receive their meals are very appreciative of those who are cooking and serving. It's wonderful to have our church being used for this purpose. If you're interested in being a volunteer randomly, as a substitute, let me know.

Sue Helander

Building and Grounds Elder

Fellowship

Hello Fellow Worker Bees!!

A big thank you to everyone who has pitched in during the summer for Fellowship Hour. Everyone appears to enjoy the opportunity of gathering for a good snack and good conversation.

As a reminder, we have no one signed up for September 22nd and only one for September 29th. If anyone could volunteer for either of those, it is greatly appreciated. Now that Autumn is upon us, hopefully as the congregation regularly increases, so will the volunteer pool.

Thank you for your participation,

Sylvia Humes

Fellowship Elder

Mission

We donated 34 pounds of food to the Bonner Community Food Bank during the month of August. There are many people in need of assistance in our community, so please consider bringing non-perishable food items to be donated. Collection baskets are in the front entry to the sanctuary and also in the Alder Street entry near the office. If you bring it, we will deliver it!



Building Use

There has been some incredible music being made in the sanctuary over the decades. On July 27 this year we particularly enjoyed a concert presented by Music Bridges Borders and the Bonner County Human Rights Task Force. The organizers invited our very own FPC choir to perform with the symphony in the finale. It was truly delightful.

Music Bridges Borders, a cultural exchange program, was founded with the aim of promoting an exchange of musicians between Sandpoint and Northern Baja, Mexico. While in the US, they participated in numerous concerts, they taught at a local summer music camp, and formed part of the Spokane Youth Symphony summer music camp.

Sincerely,

Judy Labrie, Building Use Committee



Performing “Alas (a Malala)” by Mexican composer Arturo Marquez



Family Favorites

Do you have a treasured (non-copyrighted!) family recipe that you'd like to share with the church family? Drop them off in the church office or email them to Dana at Office@fpcsandpoint.org. Please share a little info about the person who created the recipe, if you can.

This month's recipe from Jane Fritz is just in time for all those mystery zucchini that appear on your doorstep.

My Mama's simple zucchini casserole recipe that is one of my favorites! I actually used my oven for the first time all summer to bake it.

Marcia Fritz's Zucchini Casserole

1 zucchini cubed or sliced

1 onion chopped

1 box of seasoned croutons (make and season your own from stale crusts...I do!)

1 can of tomatoes (mine is seasoned with basil and garlic)

1/2 c. shredded cheddar cheese (I use sharp)

salt and pepper

Layer zucchini, onions and croutons, salt and pepper; repeat until your casserole dish is nearly full. Cover with canned tomatoes. Bake at 350 degrees F for 45 minutes (I cover my dish while baking). Uncover dish and sprinkle cheese over top and bake 15 more minutes or until melted and lightly browned. Delicioso!



UPCOMING EVENTS



- September 1** **Last day for worship at 9:30 a.m.**
- September 8** **Worship is back to 10:30 a.m.**
Paul Graves will be preaching.
- September 11** **Choir practice starts back up at 11:00 a.m.**
- September 15** **Adult Christian Education starts back up at 9:00 a.m.**
Mike Bullard will be preaching.
- September 18** **Session meeting**
- September 24** **October Grapevine articles due!**



9/1 Sylvia Humes
9/2 Judy Labrie
9/21 Carol Ballard
9/24 Karen Rockhill

Regular Monthly Events



Sunday

- 9:00 a.m. Adult Christian Education—starting September 15
- 10:30 a.m. Worship, In-Person and Livestream (<https://www.youtube.com/@firstpresbyteriansandpoint>)—starting September 8
- 7:00 p.m. AA meeting

Monday-Saturday

- 7:00 a.m. AA meeting

Monday

- 9:00 a.m. TOPS meeting (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)
- 6:00 p.m. Al-Anon meeting

Tuesday

- 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Book Study and Contemplative Prayer Group
- 7:00 p.m. AA meeting

Wednesday

- 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Choir practice—starting September 11
- 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Rainbow Soup Kitchen community meal
- 7:00 p.m. AA meeting

Thursday

- 12:00 p.m. Al-Anon meeting
- 7:00 p.m. AA meeting



First Presbyterian Church

417 North Fourth Avenue, Sandpoint, Idaho 83864

208-263-2047

office@fpcsandpoint.org

www.fpcsandpoint.org

Ministers

Members and Friends

Pastor Andy Kennaly

pastorandy@fpcsandpoint.org

Pastor cell phone: 208-304-5488

Office hours

Tuesday 9:00-12:00

Wednesday 9:00-11:00