



THE GRAPEVINE

First Presbyterian Church of Sandpoint, Idaho

October 2024

From the Pastor...

Greetings. Greetings. Greetings. Greetings. Yes, the greetings echo through countless newsletter articles, over 1,300 bulletins and sermons, 113 funerals, many weddings, capital campaigns, and “other duties as assigned.” October 16, 2024, is the 30th anniversary of my ordination as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). In 1994 I was 25 years old, married, and we had one child. Life has been very dynamic over these three decades in serving six churches and church camps in five different states.

A few years earlier, in 1991, Shawna and I graduated college in May in Wisconsin, got married in June in Seattle, and in July I started a summer Hebrew course at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Kentucky. It was a whirlwind

that gave us our first encounter with actual heat and humidity, southern culture, and after three years, we entered life outside of the structure and protection of academic institutions. Ministry. The journey ever since is hard to describe and even confuses me, but God is faithful, just, and true, and Love infuses it all.

Thank you for calling me to Sandpoint as Pastor. Other than growing up in Spokane, this is the longest I’ve ever lived in one place, and it certainly feels like home. I’ve got good family support and amazing neighbors, which includes all of you. Ministry here, as with the entire 30 years, has not been done independently, but shared as community. We are all in this together.

Peace and All Good,
Pastor Andy
- photos, left to right, 2011, 2017, 2024



Stewardship, Finance, Memorial

Finance Summary January 1, 2024 through August 31, 2024

- *Budgeted through August 31* \$88,000
- *Received through August 31* \$81,932
- *Expenses through August 31* \$90,829

Per Capita Received this year: \$1199 (\$2496 expended in 2024 or \$39.00 per member). For anyone wishing to make an additional gift for *per capita*, please designate this on your check, pew envelope, etc.

Budget: Early drafts of the 2025 budget are in development this fall in preparation for the annual pledge drive. At this time, we anticipate the 2025 budget will have very few changes from the current year.

Thank you for your continued financial support for the mission of the First Presbyterian Church of Sandpoint. If you have questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Judy McComish and Paula Vincent, Elders

Finance

Personnel

October is Pastor Appreciation month! Please join us on October 6th for a reception immediately following morning worship to honor Pastor Andy's service at FPC. October 16th will also mark his 30-year anniversary for Ordination as a Minister of Word and Sacrament!!!

Ken Callison provides custodial support for the church and also celebrates a birthday this month. Birthday greetings to Ken on October 30th!

The personnel committee will meet with Pastor Andy this month to review the annual Terms of Call. A draft will be prepared for Session review and presentation to the congregation as part of the yearly congregational meeting in December.

Tim Cochran, Dyno Wahl, Paula Vincent

Personnel Committee

Fellowship

Hello All!

Beginning this Sunday we will be having a donation jar on the table for the food expense. The funds will be available to reimburse for Fellowship goodies. We can all use a little help, especially with the price of groceries.

On Oct 6th at Fellowship we will be having a Pastor Appreciation for Pastor Andy. Can you believe he has been a Pastor for 30 years? Pastor Sheryl Kinder-Pyle, Executive Presbyterian of the Presbytery of Inland Northwest will also be present. Please come and celebrate those who are such an important part of our church community.

Sylvia Humes

Fellowship Elder

New Member Inquiry Reception

On Sunday, October 13, there will be a gathering in the Fireside Room after worship intended for new member inquiry. If you wish to learn more about the ministry of First Presbyterian Church, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and meet some of the ruling elders of this congregation and hear their stories, then you are invited. If you decide to continue with church membership, the Session will vote on this at their October 16 meeting. We will then pick a Sunday for a public profession of faith in which new members come up front and answer constitutional questions from the Presbyterian Book of Order. While this may sound daunting and official, it is actually a relational and friendly process. We hope to see you on October 13 after worship.

Andy Kennaly, Pastor

Contact Update

Please update your contact lists.

Chuck and Mary Bauer have a new email address: yakima1935@gmail.com.

Their old nctv address will be phased out soon.

Also, if someone you don't know asks for a copy of the church directory, it could be a scam. You can ignore them, or refer them to the church office. Remember there is another scam that seems to come and go, and Pastor Andy will never ask you for a favor, especially to buy gift cards.

September Session Highlights

The Session met on September 18, 2024, after a summer break for July and August. Present were Pastor Andy Kennaly, stated clerk Kirsten Thompson, and elders Sue Helander (via Zoom), Judy Labrie, and Paula Vincent. Excused – Mary Sturgis, Sharon Anderson, Sylvia Humes, and Judy McComish. The following are some of the activities from the meeting:

The Session approved a number of building use requests on the consent agenda, and approved the pulpit supply arrangement for September of retired pastors Paul Graves and Mike Bullard.

The church facility continues to be a community resource for musical and civic groups including the Sandpoint Youth Orchestra, Suzuki Strings, and the Bonner County Human Rights Task Force. The church currently hosts multiple recovery and support groups throughout the week. The Session approved the request by Music Matters to continue to use of the church handbells. A handbell concert set for April 13 (the afternoon of Palm Sunday) was also approved.

Session approved the friendly Food Bank Challenge with the Methodist Church to occur again this year, with the goal of topping the total pounds collected last year. A celebratory potluck supper will be hosted by the Methodist Church. Lynn Pietz and Victoria Oliver are leading this effort.

Christian Education has started up again for the fall. The first speaker was Paddy Ragen from the Rainbow kitchen hosted by FPC.

The Session received the financial report and personnel report. Receipts are currently behind budget. Annual personnel reviews have been conducted and were very positive.

Some things to look for in the coming weeks and months:

- The Peace and Global Witness Offering is set for October 6

- A visioning team will be formed to look at priorities in mission, facility and personnel for the next five years

- Lynn Stockman (sister of Dana) and her husband David Harper will look at creating an updated website for the church to be more streamlined and user friendly

- A meeting to greet prospective new church members has been set for October 13 after worship, held in the Fireside Room, Session members requested to attend

Other business for future meeting includes budget meetings and review of Pastor Andy's terms of call.

The Session was adjourned with prayer. Our next regular meeting is October 16, 2024, at 1:30 in the Fireside Room.

Respectfully submitted – Kirsten Thompson

Mission

On October 6, World Communion Sunday, our congregation will be joining Presbyterian congregations worldwide to support the Peace & Global Witness Special Offering. This offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world.

The funds collected are divided three ways:

- 25% is retained by our congregation to promote peace and justice efforts in our community,
- 25% goes to the peace and reconciliation efforts of our Presbytery and Synod,
- 50% goes to the Presbyterian Mission Agency of the General Assembly of the PC(USA) for efforts to promote peace and justice through collaborative education and Christian witness projects worldwide.

Here are some ways congregations and local Presbyteries have used these funds to help people struggling with oppression and injustice:

Provide peace education & training for children:

- Local educational programs to teach children how to handle angry and sad feelings
- Work with local middle or high school to create a monetary “peacemaker award” for a student in each grade. That student then donates the money to an organization they feel promotes a kinder & more compassionate way of life.

Help for families in need:

- Donate to programs that help teen mothers and single-parent families.
- Support a resource center with things that food banks don’t typically provide: diapers, personal hygiene products, etc.

Assistance for teens and young adults:

- Work with people in correctional facilities.
- Support a ministry to help young adults who have “timed out” of the foster care system but are still in college.

Community care & engagement:

- Help fund educational assistance for veterans.
- Support suicide prevention programs.
- Support law enforcement with human trafficking efforts.
- Support a Senior Companion Program that pairs senior citizens to help with light chores, errands, and transportation.

Envelopes for contributing to the Peace & Global Witness Special Offering are available in the pews and at the church office. Please give what you can.

Judy McComish, Elder, Missions

Presbyterian Women

Fall Gathering of Presbyterian Women

Saturday, October 19, 2024

Northwood Presbyterian Church
6721 Monroe Street, Spokane, WA
11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Cost of lunch: \$10

Offering taken to support PW Scholarships

RSVP: Tami Robinson at 208-661-0854 by Oct 11th

Please park in the back lot (off of W Franklin Ave)

Karri Wicka, 2021-2024 PW Synod Rep will share her experiences as a participant in the USAME 2023 (USA Mission Experience) to the Mexican Border.



A Trip Down Memory Lane

My husband and I recently visited Sandpoint for the first time. The purpose of the trip was to find the church where my parents were married in 1952. It happened to be the First Presbyterian Church. I was so happy to find it and reminisce what it must have felt like for them the day they were married there. Unfortunately the church was not open, so I was unable to see inside the Sanctuary. My dad was in the Navy at the time, so we have concluded he must have been stationed at Bayview since they were married in Sandpoint and neither family was from there. Just thought I'd share a picture of Mom and Dad in front of the Church on the steps just before she walked down the aisle and one of my parents in the Sanctuary after they were married. I also attached a copy of their wedding announcement and a photo of my husband and me on our recent trip there on those steps. It made my heart happy to see your beautiful church that was such a special place for my parents. I enjoyed the Community Peace Garden and loved the Little Library depicting Noah's Ark. Sandpoint is in a beautiful area.

Sincerely,

Kristy Anderson



Mr. and Mrs. Rhule R. Larsen
 announce the marriage of their daughter
 Jacquelyn Jean
 to
 Kenneth Clarence Buckert
 United States Navy
 on Monday, the eighth of September
 one thousand nine hundred and fifty-two
 First Presbyterian Church
 Sandpoint, Idaho

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.

It's pumpkin season, and this month's recipe is offered by Geri Stockman. She found this recipe years ago in a magazine, and it's all over the internet now, which tells you a little bit about its popularity. Dana has fond memories of eating these treats as child. It's impossible to eat just one!

Paul's Pumpkin Bars

2 cups flour	4 eggs
2 tsp baking powder	1 2/3 cups sugar
2 tsp cinnamon	1 cup cooking oil
1 tsp salt	16 oz pumpkin
1 tsp soda	

Beat together eggs, sugar, oil, and pumpkin until light and fluffy. Sift dry ingredients and add to pumpkin mixture.

Spread batter in a 10 x 15 x 1 inch ungreased pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 25-30 minutes. Cool in pan.

Frost with cream cheese icing and cut into bars.

Cream Cheese Icing

3 oz cream cheese
 1/2 cup margarine, soft
 1 tsp vanilla
 2 cups powdered sugar



UPCOMING EVENTS



- October 6** **Peace and Global Witness Offering**
- October 6** **Pastor Appreciation reception, after church**
- October 6** **Sandpoint Piano student recital, 4:00-6:30**
- October 13** **New members informational gathering, after church**
- October 19** **Fall Gathering of Presbyterian Women, 11 am—1 pm**
Northwood Presbyterian Church
6721 Monroe Street, Spokane, WA
- October 29** **November Grapevine articles due!**



10/1 Carol Curtis
10/7 Barney Ballard
10/19 Marilyn Robertson
10/20 Wesley Dustman
10/30 Ken Callison

Did we miss your birthday or get the date wrong?
Email the office and let us know!
office@fpcsandpoint.org

Regular Monthly Events



Thank you, Judy Labrie, for the church history collage wall!

Sunday

- 9:00 a.m. Adult Christian Education
- 10:30 a.m. Worship, In-Person and Livestream (<https://www.youtube.com/@firstpresbyteriansandpoint>)
- 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 in sanctuary
- 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

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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