

First
Presbyterian
Church
MOSCOW, IDAHO

News & Views

FROM THE



PASTOR

What a difference a day makes. Today is one of the hottest days of summer so far. The smoke in the air adds to a feeling of uncomfortableness. It is a bit hard in this moment to think about fall and all the changes it brings. I am aware of how much the way I feel in the present influences my perspective. Our feelings are influenced by our environment, our experiences over time, and our expectations. I suppose there are some mitigating factors like being able to think about things or our ability to reason through and see things differently despite a set of initial feelings.

I think another aspect of working through the ups and downs of our feelings as influenced by our life experiences is our faith. When we have faith in God as the one beyond the ups and downs, as the one that walks through the ups and downs with us and as the one that helps us change our lives in ways that makes life better, our faith takes some of the edge off worry and uncertainty. Faith also helps us find direction that can be hard to find. We have done a series this summer on that idea—that faith in Jesus invites us into a way of life. We noticed that early Christians were called people of the Way. Early on, the term “The Way” was used instead of “Christian” to identify the movement Jesus started. We, too, may recognize we are people of the Way—a people that do try to live in a certain way—the way Jesus teaches his followers to live. We may find ourselves a bit out of synch with the culture around us as we attempt to be disciples of Christ.

This leads me again to look toward fall. I am hardly ready for fall to come and do find it hard in this moment to imagine all that fall will bring. I am beginning to think about fall however. I wonder what opportunities for ministry we will find ourselves called to participate in this fall. I know we have changed our ministry up a bit, if for no other reason than we have new staff. Each person brings his or her own personality and calling to his or her work.

Jeremiah Nealon is digging into the opportunities for Family Ministry and how we might best minister to children, youth and their parents. We are a church family as well. As a faith family, we also work to encourage each of the members of our family and to extend

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Summer Worship
9:30 a.m.
through
September 3

From the Pastor *...continued from Page 1*

the grace of Christ to one another. Please talk to Jeremiah if you would like to be a part of the ministry he helps facilitate or if there is a way you want to participate. Your prayers and support for his efforts and this ministry of our church are invaluable.

Ericka Whittington is our new Minister of Music, and she sees music and worship leadership as areas where our church family serves and grows. The work of folks in preparing and providing music for worship is also an opportunity for building ties between family members. She is excited about working with folks, no matter their musical skill level, in providing musical leadership for Sunday mornings and at other events and times. I hope you'll take some time to get to know Erika and consider how you might encourage, support or even engage in our music ministry this year.

As we look toward fall, I would love to hear from you if you have ideas or see opportunities for us. I am looking at doing a series of sermons this fall on the Kingdom of God. This is a theme that comes up over and over again, yet is easy to pass over since we are no longer so keen on kingdoms. I do think we may find that talking about the Kingdom of God is not that different from talking about being children of God and part of a family of faith. We found this summer that Christians are people of the Way and I hope this fall that we will notice that Christians are on the Way deeper in and higher up in the Kingdom of God.

I invite you to look forward with me to the fall and think about the new opportunities we may have and how we can re-acquaint ourselves with continuing opportunities like Wednesday Supper Fellowship. The success of this ministry depends on your participation and willingness to be a part of the fellowship this meal offers. We are also noticing the value of small group sharing and study and would like to know if you are interested in being part of a small group that would read scripture and share in conversation about our lives and the challenges of living—particularly living faithfully. Fall is coming, and with it new opportunities and activities to grow and deepen our faith and our service to our Lord. I hope you will take some time to begin to think about what you want to participate in this fall.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Norman

Stephen Ministry Training Begins in September

Loving and caring for others is at the core of Jesus' teachings. God's command that we love one another is the same now as it was thousands of years ago. How are you showing God's love to others? Stephen Ministry is one way you can do that. A new training class for Stephen Ministers will begin in September, and we encourage you to consider this distinctively Christian caring ministry. More information will be available in the coming weeks and you may pick up an application packet in the church office. We have a need for more Stephen Ministers and invite you to explore and prayerfully consider this opportunity. Contact one of your Stephen Leaders to learn more and find out how you can get involved.

Bruce Pitman: 882-8847, kbpitman@roadrunner.com

Kathy Pitman: 882-8847, kbpitman@roadrunner.com

Mary Read: 301-0146, idahoreader@gmail.com

Mary Stormo: 883-3484, kstormo@moscow.com

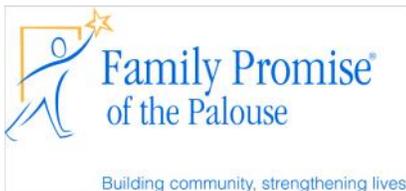


Outreach Update

In the latter part of June, a dozen or so people got together to talk about what is meaningful to them about the FPC community, how they see God at work in the broader community, and why they choose to be a follower of Christ. These are some topics we are discussing as we think about how we share information about First Presbyterian Church. We will continue the conversation once fall activities get rolling, so watch the weekly church emails and monthly newsletter for a late September/early October discussion date. All those who participated in June and anyone else who is interested in this conversation is welcome to participate. For more information, please contact Mary Read or Jacob Wells.

Family Promise Training Set for September 9!

Family Promise has become an important component in the life of our church. It was exciting to learn about its origins last June when national founder Karen Olson spoke to a large gathering in Moscow. Her resolve to "do something" to help children who are homeless developed into a nation-wide caring ministry and inspires us to discover the many ways, big and small, that each of us can help. We are fortunate to have a team of volunteers who serve as hosts to our guests four times a year.



Saturday morning, September 9, we have a good opportunity to learn more about the Palouse chapter of Family Promise and tips for providing an understanding, supportive, and caring host week. Everyone is invited – those who are new to hosting, those who have already been to a training session, and those who are simply curious about Family Promise and would like to learn more.

We are still finalizing the details, but anticipate will begin at 9am, and wrap up before noon. We will learn a bit about the history of Family Promise, watch a video about host week from the perspective of family members, and hear from Executive Director Katti Carlson.

Please "save the date" and watch for a sign up sheet soon! If you have questions, please feel free to contact Mary Read, idahoreader@gmail.com or 208.301.0146.

Mark Your Calendar! Annual Fall Barbecue September 10!

Our "Fall Welcome Back Barbecue" will be Sunday, September 10, from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. on the front lawn of our church. Having begun in 2005, this barbecue has become a tradition for our church and our community. Don't miss this great event for getting back into the swing of things and welcoming our friends and neighbors.

Meat and veggie burgers, hotdogs, beverages, and tableware will be provided. We plan to serve a lot of guests so the congregation is asked to supply a double-size potluck dish according to the first letter of your last name.

A-G — desserts

H-Z — appetizers, salads, side dishes

We will need volunteers to help grill the meat, watch the buffet table for replenishing buns and tableware, greet at the "welcome table," transport the sandwich boards and sawhorses for publicity, and help with clean up. A volunteer sign up board will be at church later in August, or you can contact Mary Jo Van Gerpen (208-883-3768, maryjovg@yahoo.com) or the church office (208-882-4122, office@fpcmoscow.org) by September 7.



News Briefs

DO YOU LIKE TO SING? Chancel Choir is a friendly and supportive group that enjoys providing musical leadership and presenting special music in worship. Rehearsals are held on Wednesday evenings from 7-8:30 p.m. Can't make it every week? We can accommodate your schedule. Want to give choir a try? Choir will be rehearsing "His Eye is on the Sparrow" on August 9 and 16 at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary. The anthem will be presented on August 20. Questions? Contact Music Minister Erika Whittington at eswhittington7@gmail.com or 715-418-4454.

PRAISE TEAM SEEKING MEMBERS If you sing or play an instrument and would like to use your gifts in worship regularly or just on occasion, please contact Music Minister Erika Whittington at eswhittington7@gmail.com or 715-418-4454. Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings beginning August 24, and the group encourages you to come see how you can add to the mix as we praise God with music.

STRATEGIC PLANNING TEAM / SESSION TO HAVE JOINT MEETING AUGUST 28 AT 6 P.M. The regular August Session meeting will follow immediately afterwards. SPT members and elders, please mark this date on your calendar and watch for meeting info in your email.

POSSIBLE MISSION TRIP TO NICARAGUA Helen Brown is interested in leading a 5-6 day mission trip to Nicaragua over Thanksgiving week or spring break. If you have interest or questions, please email Helen at hblakecity@yahoo.com or contact pastor Norman. If there is interest, we will hold an informational meeting. Planning needs to begin soon, so if you would like to participate or find out more, please contact Helen right away.

Church Photo Board Updating

Is your photo missing from our church photo board? Does your picture need refreshing since it was taken last year?

We will have a church picture day on Sunday, September 17. Jeremiah Nealon has volunteered to be available after church to take photos to add to the board or to replace outdated pictures. He hopes to be able to set his camera up outside. No appointment needed—just look for Jeremiah out on the front lawn (or in the narthex in case of rain).



Why is this important? The photo board is invaluable in helping us get to know each other. There have been many times when someone will say, "I met the nicest woman after church on Sunday, but I can't remember her name." In most cases, the photo board provides the answer.

If you need to arrange an alternate photo date, please contact the church office. To supply your own photo for the board, drop off your 4x6 print at the church office.

DID YOU KNOW...

Large-print versions of the bulletin and hymnal are available each Sunday at the back of the sanctuary. If you have trouble with the small print, ask an usher for a large-print copy.

Finance Report



As of June 30, 2017

| | June | YTD |
|---------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Receipts | \$ 18,115 | \$ 141,659 |
| Disbursements | \$ 19,146 | \$ 153,837 |
| YTD Surplus/(Deficit) | | (\$12,178) |
| Cash Balance (checking/savings) | | \$46,562* |

*includes Capital Campaign funds

What's New for Fall at the Campus Christian Center?

The Campus Christian Center, now known as "The Center," will be introducing some changes with the start of the new school year. For those of you not familiar with The Center, it is in a building on campus, but not owned by the University. It is supported by several churches in Moscow, including Emmanuel Lutheran, First Presbyterian, First United Methodist, St. Mark's Episcopal, and the United Church, plus Community Congregational United Church of Christ in Pullman. It is a place that welcomes people of any faith and no faith, but it functions out of the Christian perspective.

Julie Coyle has stepped down as The Center's director so she can devote more time to her artistic and literary pursuits. She will be missed by the Board and the students, but we wish her well on this new path.

We are excited to have Dawn Beamish as our new director. She brings warmth and enthusiasm and has been a pastor, chaplain, and a middle and high school teacher. She and her husband will be making their home in Moscow after having come from Lexington, Kentucky.

Another change will be John Pool serving as financial secretary. John has graciously volunteered for this job and has had many years of connection to The Center.

The Center will be undergoing some remodeling in order for the Moscow Food Co-op to sell sandwiches, a few other simple food items, and coffee. We believe this will be a welcome addition for students visiting The Center. We expect this new venture to become operational this fall.

Pastor Norman serves as President of the Board. Dale Everson and Mary Jo Van Gerpen are Board Members representing First Presbyterian Church. Jasper Wallen has been hired as FPC's campus intern to represent our church as a peer minister.

We are grateful for the many ways our church has supported campus ministry in the past and at present: for monetary support, hosting Sweet Music and Dessert fundraisers, supplying cookies in November and April, and supplying soup to the students on Soup Mondays. We continue to ask for volunteers from our church to supply a crock pot of soup. We serve soup to 30 to 40 students each week. Contact Mary Jo for more information.



Sanctuary, Shalom, and the Sacred

FAMILY MINISTRY

Jeremiah Nealon, Director of Family Ministry aslanscountry@gmail.com

A sweltering heat wave feels like an interesting time to have thoughts turn to Fall, yet Moscow is steadily marching towards the beginning of the new school year. My thoughts are turning to Sunday School, Youth Group, college outreach, and the opportunities and challenges that families face as children return to school.

Summer updates:

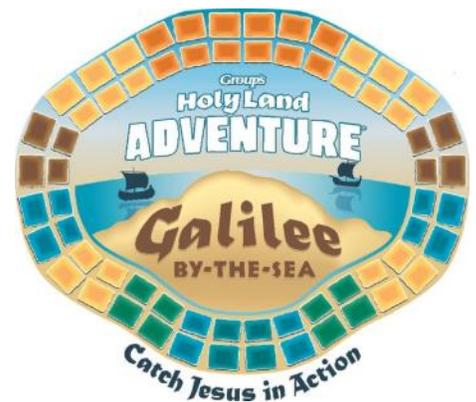
Parents Night Out: We have co-sponsored 3 Parents Night Out with the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Palouse. It has been so much fun to see children of both congregations, and community friends, develop familiarity and relationship. Parents have been grateful for time together, time to nap, and time to clean. A special thank you to Delaney Piper, Adelia and Rowan Hopper, and Leslie Mota for giving time and energy to the event. The **next Parents Night Out will be 5-8pm on August 25th** at the UU Church .

Hiking, Barbequing and Picnicking: We have had four family gatherings this summer, two hikes and two meals. It has been fun to get out and play together as a community. I have been incredibly excited that in addition to families with children in attendance, we also have had several young couples join us as well. If you are interested in hosting any informal times for families to gather, please contact me!

Week at Fuller Theological Seminary: As many of you know, I am pursuing my Masters of Divinity at Fuller in Pasadena. While the vast majority of my studies are online, I was able to spend July 24-28 on campus for a week of intensive study. I am grateful for the support of our church as I pursue my studies and work to integrate what I am learning about God and the church into my position.

Vacation Bible School:

Please pray for *Galilee by the Sea* August 14-18. Volunteers will join me in transforming our fellowship hall into a 1st century Galilean Marketplace, abuzz with rumors of Jesus' teaching and miracles. Please pray for wonder. I long to see children caught up in the story and curious about Jesus and his time. I believe a late summer VBS can launch us into fall. We are still looking for some people to bring in snacks for children (nut-free please) and some additional help with registration Monday morning.



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Family Ministry *...continued from Page 6*

Sunday School:

Sunday School will resume this fall beginning September 17th. A couple of changes:

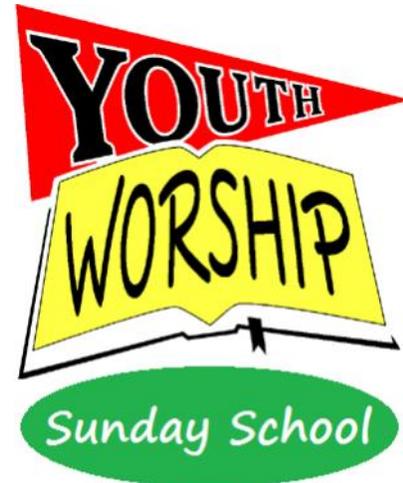
All kids, from nursery to 18, will meet in Room 33 at 9:15am for "Youth Worship". A short service including many elements of our regular Sunday service will occur, including but not limited to: call to worship, confession, communal prayer, musical worship and scripture reading.

From there, kids will go to age specific classes (nursery, Godly Play, older elementary or youth Sunday school).

The children's sermon during the main service will conclude Youth Worship. At that point, younger kids can finish service with their parents, or join us for supervised play until the conclusion of the main service.

The hope behind this change is to help kids become acclimated and involved in the elements of a worship service. Kids will hopefully be active participants in and leaders of music, prayer and scripture. Younger children and youth will have opportunity to develop relationships and model worship with each other.

If you have questions or are interested in participating in Youth Worship, please contact me.



**starting
September 17
9:15 a.m.**

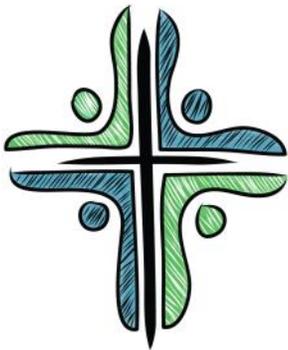


Youth Group and FOON:

Youth Group and FOON are coordinated with the Moscow School District schedule. Public School starts August 29th. That means that the first Youth Group will be Wednesday, August 30th, from 5:30-7:30pm and FOON—free pizza at noon every Thursday—will resume during high school lunch break on Thursday, August 31st. FOON is open to all high school students, so bring your friends.

August 2017

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----|
| | | 1 6:30p Stephen Ministers | 2 | 3 | 4 5:30p Parents' night out @ FPC | 5 |
| 6 9:30a Worship | 7 | 8 | 9 7:00p Choir | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 9:30a Worship | 14 | 15 | 16 7:00p Choir | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| Vacation Bible School 9—11:30 a.m. | | | | | | |
| 20 9:30a Worship | 21 7p Deacons | 22 6:30p Stephen Ministers | 23 7:00p Choir | 24 5:30p Praise Team | 25 5:30p Parents' night out @ UUCP | 26 |
| 27 9:30a Worship | 28 6:00p Strategic Planning Team and Session 7p Boy Scout Troop 344 | 29 | 30 5:30p Youth Group 7:00p Choir | 31 Noon—FOON 5:30p Praise Team | | |



First
Presbyterian
Church

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First Presbyterian Church

"Growing in Christ"

Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.

Followed by coffee fellowship

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Summer Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Closed Friday

Pastor Norman Fowler

fpcpastornorman@gmail.com