

First
Presbyterian
Church
MOSCOW, IDAHO

News & Views

Inside this issue:

New Member Class	2
Stewardship Season	3
Family Promise News	3
Learning and Growing	4
Wednesday Suppers	5
Special Offering	5
Calendar	6

New Members Orientation
October 7
10 a.m.- 1 p.m.

See page 2 for details.

Taizé Worship

Wednesdays 5:30-6 p.m.
Chapel Room

All welcome

FROM THE



PASTOR

The vicissitudes of life can be a struggle. This seems a season in our church family when we have many folks for whom we can offer our prayers and our support as these friends confront health issues. Some of these health concerns, such as knee and hip replacements, may lead to greater mobility. Others are more serious in their long-term effects. I do hope we can keep all our friends in our prayers. And we offer what solace and help we are able to provide. Thanks for all the meals that have been prepared, delivered, and enjoyed in support of folks in need. This is our faith, our care for God's children in our midst, at work in tangible ways.

When we deal with the diseases of the body, or other physical issues, it feels like our focus changes. We live in an immediacy and sense of limitation we would often choose to ignore. I feel a rise in the importance of basic life needs. Our thoughts and feelings can be taken on a roller coaster ride of highs and lows. Our dependence and appreciation of relationships becomes more clear. Sometimes an anger that God lets such things happen can be a natural response. Yet, it is here that the love of God shows up in unexpected ways, as well. This conundrum of anger and thankfulness can be confusing but real.

I don't claim to have all the answers to this conundrum and its difficulties. I do see that the care we have developed as a family of faith in good times becomes incredibly valuable in the struggles. Some how this power of love shared, expressed in the giving of care, can be life sustaining. As with so much of our lives, the good times are times to develop the kind of life that is essential and powerful in the struggles. Yet, it is in the good times that it is hard to make the steps toward this deep living that gives strength in the hard times.

How many times have I wished I had lived a little differently earlier in my life, so that today would be different? The problem is I did not recognize what I needed to do differently then, or it seemed too hard. This inability to see and the lack of willingness to act on important priorities and do the work entailed influences the life I end up living. This is the struggle of faith. God gives us the opportunity to pay attention to the gift of grace that opens the door to the guidance of Jesus. But, in the good times, other voices seem so easy

Continued on Page 2...

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

to follow, promising the good life without the hard work of faith. Or, we make faith out to be easy – a simple assent to a belief that is an insurance policy for life hereafter.

Jesus seems to ask a bit more of his followers. Indeed, the idea of following is more than an assent to a belief; it has a sense of action involved. Over and over again, I am taken by this realization that faith is not a static belief, but a way of life—a following of Jesus, a journey, a race to be run (Hebrews 12:1-2). Each Sunday we in many ways remember the trajectory of faith. We begin with a call to worship that reasserts/reminds us of the wonder of who God is. Our initial songs generally attend to this as forms of praise. We then think again of our inadequacy on our own- how we struggle – and we confess. We admit our mistakes, our inability to see fully God's way, and how we act in ways that are not consistent with God's will. This act of confession is an act of humility that is both confident of God's forgiving and re-empowering grace and an attitude of openness to learning/hearing God's will again. We then read and think together about scripture and how it informs who we might be as children of God, citizens of God's kingdom. Then we respond with our desire to be God's emissaries to a world in need and to then go into our week as these disciples, a people with the mission of enabling God's kingdom come, God's will be done. We go forth with the hope we can reflect the love of God in our living.

Doing this takes effort. We try over and over again. Our church life offers other moments of encouragement and support as well. Some of the activities are ways we live out God's will together.

Our mission to support and participate with Family Promise is one of the ways we do this, for example. Other activities help encourage us through learning more about the guidance of scripture or support us through fellowship. And we learn to care for each other in times of need and struggle. At times, we notice the power of such care to enable life in the midst of the struggle.

I believe that following Jesus, even with all the work entailed, is a blessing. I appreciate the opportunity to do this work with you, the members and friends of this family of faith we call First Presbyterian Church.

Grace and peace,
Norman

Interested in Membership in First Presbyterian?

An orientation for those interested in learning more about becoming members of First Presbyterian Church will be led by Pastor Norman on **Saturday, October 7, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.** in the Chapel Room. The group's discussion will cover topics such as what it means to be Presbyterian, and what it means to be a member of FPC Moscow. Participants will have the opportunity to join the church and be received into membership on October 8. Child care can be arranged by notifying the church office before October 4. Please contact the church office at 882-4122 if you would like to participate.



Stewardship Campaign 2017

“Whoever serves me, the Father will honor” (John 12:26b.)

We think each fall about a particular way we serve Christ. We think about the resources we commit to enable the ministry and mission of First Presbyterian Church. So, in the month of October we begin to attend to the resources required to maintain and grow our ministry. We invite each of us to consider the financial resources, talent and time we might give to enable our family of faith to thrive in the new year.



More details we be provided throughout the month. In the meantime, think about, and dream about, the opportunities in ministry and mission available to our church and what it might take to support these opportunities. We will be putting together the practical means for supporting our ministry and mission—the church budget. If you have ideas for how to enhance our ministry that we should account for in the budget, let us know. Talk with your elders or Pastor Norman. Then, begin the process of prayer and discernment as you consider what you will commit to the support of our church’s ministry and mission with your financial gifts, your talents and your time. More information on our financial position and your invitation to pledge time, talent, and financial resources will be mailed to you later this month.

Celebrate Family Promise Week October 22-29

Did you know that one out of every four people who is homeless is a child? Or, that families with children make up nearly 40% of the people in this country who are homeless? Family homelessness is a national problem.

The week of October 22-29 is Family Promise Week. Our local affiliate, Family Promise of the Palouse, is one of 206 programs across the country uniting the faith community to help children and their families who are homeless. Family Promise Week will raise awareness about the issue as well as celebrate the service of our congregation and others to serve our brothers and sisters in need.

You can participate in Family Promise Week by signing up to volunteer, telling others about Family Promise of the Palouse, or visiting www.familypromisepalouse.org to learn more.



There will be a volunteer appreciation event at the Family Promise Center, 510 W. Palouse River Drive in Moscow, on Monday October 23, 2017 beginning at 6pm. There will be a dessert reception and an opportunity to mingle with other volunteers as well as Staff and Board Members.

Family Promise Flapjack Fundraiser

Saturday, November 4

Watch for details in upcoming bulletins. Tickets available from Bruce Pitman.

Family Promise Host Week at FPC

October 15-22

To volunteer, sign up on the poster in the narthex or visit <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4daaad22aaf94-familyZ>. Questions can be directed to Mary Read, 208.301.0146, idahoreader@gmail.com.

Growing in Christ Together Through the Week

Sunday School for all ages at 9:15 a.m.

Children and Youth will meet all together in Room 33 upstairs to begin Sunday School hour with a 15-minute time of worship. They will then be dismissed to age-appropriate Sunday School classes. Preschool through grade 2 will meet with Donan for Godly Play in Room 30. Grades 3-5 will meet with Helen in Room 3, and Grades 6-12 will meet with Jeremiah in Room 7, both in the in the basement.

Adults have two options on Sunday mornings:

The Wired Word is designed for all who wish to grow in their faith by applying Scripture to the current events in our world. Each week, a new lesson, drawn from that week's headlines, is sent via e-mail to class members (printed copies available in class). In class, we discuss how God's Word can inform and help us see with new eyes what is going on in our world each week and how faith matters. Church library; facilitated by Kathy Pitman.

Video/Discussion group meets in Room 35, facilitated by Julie Hopper. Our study this semester is *Love Does* by Bob Goff, a lawyer who has done work with people in need in Uganda and India. In *Love Does*, Bob Goff shares remarkable stories from his life and shows that love is a verb, not just a feeling. Living and loving to the fullest is the best way to make Jesus known in this world. The class will not meet October 8.

Going Deeper into Pastor Norman's Sermon Series—the Kingdom of God On Sunday evenings at 7:00 p.m. Pastor Norman will offer an opportunity for further discussion on the kingdom of God. We will listen to about a 15-minute portion of N. T. Wright's talk "How God Became King: Why We've All Misunderstood the Gospels." N. T. Wright is a foremost New Testament scholar and prolific writer. We will discuss his comments and the theme of that morning's sermon, addressing our thoughts and reactions to these themes. Everyone is invited to join the discussion in Room 35. The class will not meet October 29.

Wednesday Evening Bible Study At 7 p.m. following Wednesday Supper, Pastor Norman will lead a bible study/discussion on the book "We Make the Road by Walking," by Brian D, McLaren. Each week, we will look at a different scripture-based reading from the book and explore what a difference an honest, living, growing faith can make in our world today. No class Nov. 1.

Theology Discussion Group On Thursday mornings at 10:30 a.m. at the Campus Christian Center you are invited to a theology discussion group Pastor Norman will facilitate. This fall the reading will be *The New Testament and the People of God* by NT Wright. In this book, Wright describes the history, social make-up, worldview, beliefs, and hope of Palestinian Judaism placing the New Testament within its first century context, and showing how Jesus and Paul cannot be understood apart from their Jewish themes. Wright does an excellent job at weaving Judaism and Christianity together while still distinguishing their core beliefs and practices from one another. This group will read sections of the book and discuss them each week. The first meeting of the group will be October 5 and the group will be discussing Part 1, the Introduction.

Men's Breakfast Group meets every Thursday year-around for bible study, breakfast, and fellowship at 6:30 a.m. at Shari's Restaurant. All men welcome.

Carol Renfrew Circle will meet Thursday, October 26, at 1:30 in the Chapel room. Examining *Who is Jesus?* we now look through the lens of *Hebrews*. Background Scripture is the *Book of Hebrews (Hebrews 1--6; 12--13)*. Key Scripture for the lesson is *Hebrews 12:1--2*. All women are welcome for Bible study and fellowship.

College Group Our Campus Ministry Intern, Jasper Wallen, is currently putting together a group of undergrad and grad students who would be interested in getting together for conversation and fellowship at a time to be decided. If you are interested, contact Jasper at jaspwall7@gmail.com.

Youth Group for Jr/Sr High students meets Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. Come for supper at 6:00!

Wednesday Supper Fellowship

Gather up your family and friends and come for supper in Fellowship Hall on Wednesdays. Dinner is served from 6-7 p.m., and all are welcome. There is no charge for supper, but donations are always welcome. Here's what's cooking in October:



October 4

Italian Beef Dinner: Italian Beef Sandwiches and Vegetarian Option, Pasta Salad, Garden Salad, Chips

October 11

Sloppy Joes

October 18 – Family Promise Host Week – No supper

October 25

Soup Supper

PUMPKIN CARVING PARTY FOR FPC

This is not just for kids! We invite everyone in our congregation to bring their pumpkin (we will have extras on hand) for a church-wide pumpkin carving party. Save the date and come for fun!!

Date: Wednesday, October 25

Time: Following Wednesday Supper, approx. 6:45 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

Contact Jeremiah for more info.



Finance Report



As of August 31, 2017

	August	YTD
Receipts	\$ 20,502	\$ 200,443
Disbursements	\$ 24,068	\$ 200,071
YTD Surplus/(Deficit)		\$ 372
Cash Balance (checking/savings)		\$ 56,809*

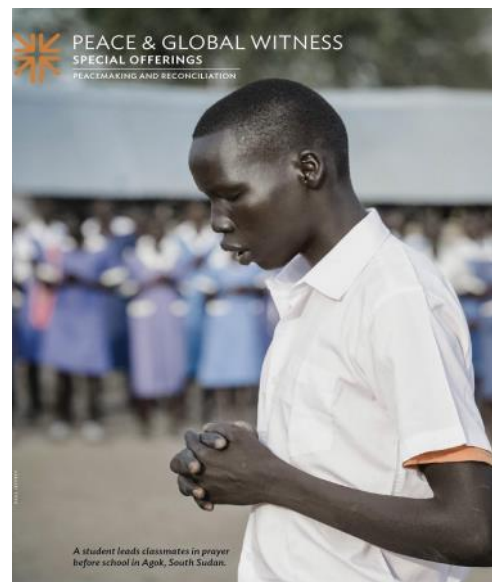
*includes Capital Campaign Funds

Proclaim Christ's Peace

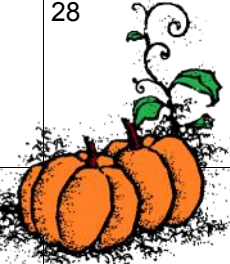

“So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near...”

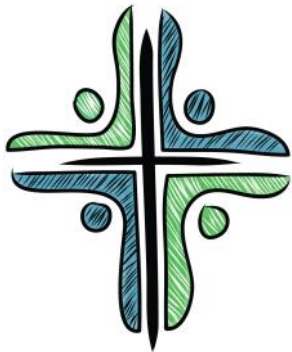
~ Ephesians 2:14-17

Your gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering can help to provide relief, shelter, and hope to families who've fled their homes in search of safety. Be part of the work to proclaim the peace of Christ with sisters and brothers around the world. This special offering will be dedicated on World Communion Sunday, October 1, but we will continue to receive offerings through the end of the month. Make checks payable to FPC with "peace offering" in the memo line. Thank you.



October 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 World Communion 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Worship 7p Kingdom Study	2 7p Boy Scouts	3 6:30p Stephen Min.	4 5:30p Taizé 6p Wed. Supper 6:30p Youth Group 7p Bible Study	5 6:30a Men at Shari's 10:30a Theology at CCC 5:30p Praise Team 7p Choir	6	7 10a Membership Class—Chapel Room
8 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Worship 7p Kingdom Study	9 5:15p T344 Cmte 7p Boy Scouts	10	11 5:30p Taizé 6p Wed. Supper 6:30p Youth Group 7p Bible Study	12 6:30a Men at Shari's 10:30a Theology at CCC Noon—FOON 5:30p Praise Team 7p Choir	13	14
15 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Worship 7p Kingdom Study	16 7p Deacons FAMILY PROMISE HOST WEEK →	17 6:30p Stephen Min.	18 5:30p Taizé 6:30p Youth Group 7p Bible Study	19 6:30a Men at Shari's 10:30a Theology at CCC 5:30p Praise Team 5:30p Lael Board 7p Choir	20 5-8p Parent's Night Out at Unitarian Church	21
22 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Worship 7p Kingdom Study	23 7p Boy Scouts 7p Session	24	25 5:30p Taizé 6p Wed. Supper 6:45p Pumpkin Party 6:30p Youth Group 7p Bible Study	26 6:30a Men at Shari's 10:30a Theology at CCC 1:30p Carol Renfrew Circle 5:30p Praise Team 7p Choir	27	28 
29 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Worship	30 7p Boy Scouts	31				



First
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Church

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Moscow, Idaho 83843

Phone: 208-882-4122
E-mail: office@fpcmoscow.org
Facebook: Moscow FPC
Web: fpcmoscow.org

First Presbyterian Church

"Growing in Christ"

Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

Followed by coffee fellowship

Sunday School for all ages 9:15 a.m.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Friday 9:00 a.m. to noon

Pastor Norman Fowler
fpcpastornorman@gmail.com