



First  
Presbyterian  
Church  
MOSCOW, IDAHO

# News & Views

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### Worship Assistance Needed

- ◆ Worship Leaders
- ◆ Ushers
- ◆ Greeters
- ◆ Couples/families to light Advent candles

Please call or email the [church office](#) for more information or to volunteer.

FROM THE



PASTOR

I can hardly believe we are beginning November. The time both flies and seems to drag, an odd combination of what I experience during this time of Covid-19. I know this is a time of anxiety and uncertainty. I write this before the election results are in and as we are having a surge in COVID cases nationally. We see again the death toll rising, and hear the concerns with the coming winter months. I feel the tensions around racism and nationalism and wonder how we will find our way. I continue to look to Jesus as the one that describes what the goal for us is. I have found returning to the lectionary, the common set of scripture lessons multiple denominations use each Sunday for worship, appropriate to our time and situation in ways I did not expect.

In the Gospel readings over the last few Sundays, we have seen the religious folk with power and authority engage Jesus in an effort to trip Jesus up and deny his authority and message. Yet, each time he has not only evaded this attempt, but he has also taught us about being faithful, and about God's view of our power trips and use of religion to bolster this power. He reminds us to put the love of God (with heart, mind, soul, and strength) first, and to love our neighbor as ourselves second. He surprises us with God's view of the poor in spirit, the beaten down, as blessed. He goes on through the beatitudes to surprise and remind us that God's compassion and intention is not to condemn the people, but to save them. We can see the things important to God, and the goal of our life together: righteousness, mercy, attuning one's heart to God, and peacemaking. We may find this at odds with the world too much of the time.

The things that God blesses seem central to what Jesus is about. He came to save us from ourselves, our way of going off on paths that do not bring abundant life. We, no matter what the world decides or is doing, are called to continually hear Jesus' teaching, follow Jesus' healing, and engage in Jesus' sacrifice for humankind. Sometimes we need the Spirit that Jesus gives us to pray with us with groans too deep for words. Sometimes we lift our thanks from a spontaneous experience of wonder, beauty, and hope. As people of faith, we are invited to make following Jesus the central and highest priority, no matter the ups and downs of the world around us.

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

We are invited in and through our faith in Jesus as Lord to look for how we can be his people, to bring the grace and goodness of God to bear on whatever situation we are in. We do this in a particular place at a particular time. Some of this we do not get to choose. The events and forces we must experience, bear, and live through today are less of our choosing than we generally would like. We must begin to see ourselves as players in the larger systems and structures of our world whether we like it or not. We have our own community with which we feel the buffeting effects of the systems in which we live. Having a community of faith is much like having a boat in which we can together face the wind and the waves, so we are not lost alone in the storms of life. We pray for Jesus to quiet our wind and the waves of our life like he did on the Sea of Galilee. And, I sometimes wonder if we don't find the calm in our time with him in prayer, worship, and fellowship, even as we bear the effects of 'weather' systems in other parts of our lives.

I continue to believe that God offering us the opportunity to be a beloved community of faith is important. In reality, the beloved community is not only a way to care for our own souls, it is one of the avenues of healing God offers in these turbulent times. So as we worship in person or online together, as we meet in our small groups mostly online, as we reach out to each other, and as we hunger for righteousness, show mercy, and become peacemakers, we become the children of God. We show the character of God, and invite our world to see God's goal, that we have abundant life through the love of God and neighbor even in a time of pandemic, racism, and division.

May we ever grow in Christ to be faithful ambassadors of God, attuned to God's will as we follow Jesus.

Grace and peace,  
Norman

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## 10 Days of Kindness

The Moscow Interfaith Association is sponsoring "10 Days of Kindness," a campaign to promote kind acts on the Palouse.

"As we approach the election," said the Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Stevens, a member of the Interfaith Association, "it seems like anxiety and divisiveness are on the rise. As people of faith, and people who love our community, we wanted to give people something concrete to do to help."

The idea is that individuals and families will commit to finding something kind to do each day from November 1 through 10. If people choose, they can report on what they've chosen to do either on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/10-Days-of-Kindness-102929454948836/>) or via email ([Palouse10daysofkindness@gmail.com](mailto:Palouse10daysofkindness@gmail.com)).

The group elected not to dictate or suggest recipients of kindnesses, however. "We're hoping to give space for things to evolve organically," said the Rev. Jodie Tooley.

Pastor Norman is inviting our family of faith to rise to this challenge and join the local faith community in offering acts of kindness each day November 1st through November 10th.

## Do You Have a Key Code Yet?

We have completed our transition to electronic locks on the outside doors of the church. Access to the building from now on will require that your PIN number be entered on the keypad next to the appropriate door.

If you need to enter the church to conduct church business, do volunteer work, pick up/drop off supplies, attend meetings, etc. you may request access by completing the form below and mailing it to the church or dropping it in the yellow collection box on the table outside the sanctuary door. On that table, you will also find a jar to deposit old keys for recycling. None of the inside locks have been changed.

Each person will make up a unique PIN. Do not share your PIN with anyone. Your PIN may be 4 to 8 digits. Choose a PIN that is not easily guessed (no phone number, birthdate, consecutive numbers, or same number repeated more than three times in a row).

### Request for Building Access

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email or phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Requested PIN: \_\_\_\_\_



## Poinsettias

Would you like to help decorate the church and honor loved ones with beautiful poinsettias during Advent? The plants will cost \$10 each, and will brighten the sanctuary for those attending services in person as well as those watching online. Please return this form with your check (payable to First Presbyterian Church, designated "poinsettia") to the church office no later than November 22.



Name \_\_\_\_\_ How Many \_\_\_\_\_ Amt. Paid \_\_\_\_\_

Dedicated to/In Memory of (circle one) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Deacons' Spotlight

### Doris Billingsley

Doris Billingsley came with her husband Bill to Moscow in 1954. She had previously lived in geographically diverse places. She was born and grew up in Chillicothe, Missouri. During WWII her mother encouraged her to join her sister, who was in civil service work and the organist at Mt. Vernon Methodist Church in Washington, D.C. Doris transferred to George Washington University in D.C. and became an active member of Mt. Vernon Place Church. Margaret Truman, daughter of President Truman, graduated from GWU the same year as Doris (1946), so President Truman gave the Commencement address for their graduating class. Doris bowled in Mt. Pleasant's bowling league with the famous Pastor Peter Marshall of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in D.C., and who later became the chaplain for Congress.



Doris met her husband, Bill, who was in the Navy and stationed at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, at her church where she sang in the choir. After their marriage in 1947 they lived in Brooklyn, New York while he finished his enlistment. Bill got his music education from Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa. He was choir director here at our church for several years not long after they got here in 1954. He taught in the School of Music at the University of Idaho. Doris remembers being good friends with the minister Harry Johns and his wife Molly and the next minister, Richard Lundy and his wife Mary Ann. Doris and Bill raised their three sons in this church. One of them is living in Moscow.

Doris was widowed in 2007. In the past, she was active as a deacon, in a circle, and as a choir member, but more recently with the Stephen Ministry and an adult Sunday School class, "The Wired Word." She, along with the rest of us, is looking forward to the end of Covid when we can resume our normal church activities.

~ Mary Jo Van Gerpen, Deacon

### Dale Everson

I have recently had the privilege of visiting with Dale Everson about his life journey and his history with First Presbyterian Church of Moscow.

Dale grew up on his parents' farm at Buhl, in the southern part of Idaho. While on the farm, his love for animals grew, leading to his decision to pursue a degree in dairy science at the University of Idaho after graduating high school. He completed his bachelor's degree in dairy science and then went on to earn his masters degree, also at the U of I.

After completing his schooling, he joined the service and spent two years in Korea during the Korean War. While in the service, he was in the quartermasters corps where all the supplies for the 8th Army were distributed. One of the advantages of the job was that his group never lacked for any items, whether in short supply or not.

After his discharge from the service, he married the love of his life, Darlene, who he had met at the University of Idaho. Darlene had also grown up on a farm near Parma, Idaho. They were

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## Deacons' Spotlight ...continued from Page 4

married for 53 years before Darlene's untimely passing. They had two daughters, two grandsons, one great granddaughter, and one great grandson. To this day, Dale owns and oversees both his and Darlene's farms, which have had record crops this year.

After getting married, Dale attended Iowa State University where he obtained his Doctorate in Animal breeding. He then went to work for the USDA and lived in Maryland for two years. At that time, a job as an instructor in statistics came open at the University of Idaho, where Dale remained until his retirement after 34 years of service.

While in Moscow, Dale and Darlene joined the First Presbyterian Church of Moscow, where Dale has been a faithful member since 1962. He and Darlene were youth leaders and took many trips with the youth group, one of which was a weeklong trip to Montana for mission work. Dale has also served as elder and clerk of session.

Over the years, Dale has enjoyed their lake cabin where he could water ski and fish. He is still able to enjoy the cabin where his grandson lives. Dale still lives at his home in Moscow and very faithfully attends church, where he sang in the choir for many years.

~ Jim Robinson, Deacon



## Deacons' November Benevolence Offering—Christmas for Kids

The Deacons encourage everyone to give to their Benevolence Fund this month. November benevolence offerings will be directed to Christmas for Kids, providing Christmas gifts of clothing and toys to area children in need in our community. The following is from a letter which was mailed to Christmas for Kids supporters:

*To say that this past year has been a struggle for many families would be an understatement. Between job losses and financial uncertainty, the stress of online schooling, and the constant risk of illness, it's been a year like no other. Last year, we helped over 500 children in 175 families. We expect to receive an even higher number of applications this year, as families struggle to give their children a meaningful Christmas. We are cautiously optimistic that we'll have enough donations, volunteers and money to get through to December 25th, but we really do need your help more than ever this year. We hope you are in a position to help us spread some joy and happiness to area children, and are willing to contribute in any way you can.*

*Thank you for your support.*

*The Christmas For Kids Elves—*

*Cretia Bunney, Jeanne Gayler, and Staci Gibler Sproull*



To give to Christmas for Kids, mail a check to First Presbyterian Church (memo: Christmas for Kids), or give to the Deacons' Fund online via Tithe.ly <https://tithe.ly/give?c=982246>

## News Briefs

**COME IN AND PRAY** The sanctuary is open for personal prayer and meditation on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Enter through the glass door into the lower chapel room. All are welcome to drop in for up to an hour of silent reflection. Masks and social distancing required. Please sign in and out, and follow posted safety protocol.

**TAIZE OFFERED ONLINE** Weekly Taizé services are being pre-recorded and made available on our YouTube Channel each Wednesday at 5 p.m. Once they are posted, you may watch them at your convenience at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCzTiJBUB4fHAgVPgn5rgag>

**WE ARE BACK IN THE SANCTUARY FOR 10:30 SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP** Plans have been put in place to allow us to gather for worship again. There are specific guidelines, including wearing masks, distancing, use of hand sanitizer, and staying home if you don't feel well. We are seating one person/couple/family per pew to allow for proper distancing. There is plenty of room, so please join us if you feel comfortable doing so. Reservations are encouraged each week to help with planning, and can be made online at <https://forms.gle/XeQYFCLaGxXPfsgP9>. For more details about guidelines visit our website: <http://fpcmoscow.org/covidworship.aspx>. This 10:30 a.m. service will also be livestreamed for those who prefer to continue to worship at a distance.

**LIBRARY/CHAPEL AREA AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT** Session is opening the Library and Chapel Room to the congregation for small church-related meetings. COVID protocols apply. Anyone wanting to use the space must make a reservation at least one day in advance by contacting Kathy at [office@fpcmoscow.org](mailto:office@fpcmoscow.org) or calling 208-882-4122 or 208-997-8837.

## In Loving Memory

### *Edwin Arthur Dowding*

Ed died September 25, at the age of 84, in Salem Oregon. Ed and his wife Peggy, along with their children, Margaret (Marty), Nicole, and Joseph were longtime, active members of Moscow First Presbyterian. Ed taught Agricultural Engineering and Agricultural Mechanics, first at the University of Wyoming, then South Dakota State University, and finally at the University of Idaho where he retired as a Professor Emeritus of Agricultural Engineering in 1999. Peggy and the children wanted to share Ed's passing with their Moscow church family. [https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/statesmanjournal/obituary.aspx?n=edwin-arthur-dowding&pid=196875781&fhid=18091&fbclid=IwAR0Myex7q7yd60bIT\\_R0Rf39L7bFXvs23c6B4rbnSSftjF3-4OuBDaZ7KN4](https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/statesmanjournal/obituary.aspx?n=edwin-arthur-dowding&pid=196875781&fhid=18091&fbclid=IwAR0Myex7q7yd60bIT_R0Rf39L7bFXvs23c6B4rbnSSftjF3-4OuBDaZ7KN4)



### *Maynard Axel Fosberg*

Maynard passed away on September 18 due to the effects of coronavirus. Maynard and his wife, Margaret, moved to Moscow in 1947, and joined Moscow First Presbyterian in 1951. Maynard worked as a Soils Professor with the University of Idaho from 1947 (intending to stay only three years) until his retirement after 42 years in 1989. During his time at the U of I, he mentored more than 40 graduate students, and developed the largest soils monolith collection in the United States. Margaret passed away in March of 2016 and his daughter Stephanie in April of 2020. His son, Mark (Karen) Fosberg of Spokane Valley survive along with his six grandchildren. <https://www.shortcutsfuneralchapel.com/obituary/Maynard-Fosberg>



# FAMILY MINISTRY

Jeremiah Nealon, Director of Family Ministry [aslanscountry@gmail.com](mailto:aslanscountry@gmail.com)



In a fall where everything looks wildly different, slightly modified familiarity can be very refreshing! On Halloween, we were able to host a Trunk or Treat in the parking lot (albeit with masks, distance and individually bagged candy). Watching kids from our church see each other face to face for the first time in months was such a joy, as was reconnecting with our families. A big "Thank You" to everyone who donated candy and hosted a trunk!

- Youth Group has continued, online, every Wednesday. This semester, we are exploring some of the big questions of faith, and an overview of the story arc of scripture.
- Sunday School (K-5th grade) has also resumed online, 9:15-9:45 on Sunday mornings. Grateful for David Roon's help with music.
- I am working on a take-home thankfulness activity for Thanksgiving. Stay tuned!

Thank you so much for all of your support. This has been a challenging fall, finding new ways to keep kids and families engaged. I appreciate all the kind words, and the ways you all step up when I need help!

*~Jeremiah*

## COMING SOON TO YOUR MAILBOX

Information about our fall stewardship pledge campaign

Watch for it!

### Finance Report



As of September 30, 2020

	<u>September</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Receipts	\$ 16,179	\$ 253,547
Disbursements	\$ 27,214	\$ 220,301
YTD Surplus/(Deficit)		\$ 33,246
Cash Balance (checking/savings)	\$ 66,683*	

\* includes prepaid pledges for 2020 @ \$2,602



*Community Connections for All's*

# Thankful November



All of Moscow, come join us in a

## Thanksgiving Feast

ALL are welcome!

Thursday, November 19, 2020

11 a.m. — 1 p.m.

### To-go meals only

Pick up your Thanksgiving meals at

**La Casa Lopez  
on Main Street in Moscow**

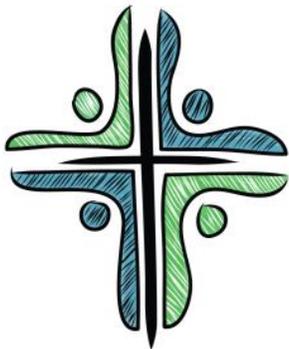
As a treat, stop by the  
Latah Recovery Center to pick up  
homemade pie for dessert.

### Donations Needed:

- Homemade pies for the Thanksgiving Feast November 19
- New or gently used items to help families and single adults in need stay warm this winter, such as warm clothing, coats, boots, and blankets of all sizes.

Together, we can  
help our community.

Contact Jackie at  
208-669-3036  
to find out how to donate  
items or how to request  
assistance during  
Thankful November.



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Web: [fpcmoscow.org](http://fpcmoscow.org)

## *First Presbyterian Church*

*"Growing in Christ"*

**Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.**

Service will be streamed online:

<https://www.facebook.com/moscowfirstpres/>

and

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCzTiJBUB4fHAgVPGn5rgag>

Staff available by appointment. Call 208-882-4122.

Pastor Norman Fowler  
[fpcpastornorman@gmail.com](mailto:fpcpastornorman@gmail.com)