



First
Presbyterian
Church
MOSCOW, IDAHO

Summer 2024

News & Views



In May we said goodbye to Pastor Norman and Helen. We wish them well in their new adventures and will miss their leadership and friendship in our FPC community.

Announcing our Interim Pastors

The Session is very pleased to announce that Rev. Beverly Bullock and Rev. Sylvester Bullock have been hired to be our interim co-pastors starting August 1, 2024. While we have been blessed to have them worshipping with us, they were chosen after much prayer and a search that included interviews with two other pastors who had been recommended to us by Presbytery.

Bev and Sly are retired Presbyterian ministers who have vast ministry experience shepherding congregations in West Virginia and Virginia and have served as Interim Pastors in several other communities. They have had specific training in doing Interim Pastor ministry which is a particular area of ministry training. In addition, Bev has worked as a hospital chaplain and Sly has specialized in music education.

In retirement, they moved to Pullman to be with children and grandchildren. Since arriving on the Palouse, they have become members of the Inland Northwest Presbytery and have been actively involved in ministry activities. They have been interim pastors for the Community Presbyterian Church in St. Maries and Bev preaches once a month at Grace Community Church in Potlatch. In June, Sly will represent our Presbytery at the General Assembly, which will take place in Salt Lake City, Utah.

As co-pastors, Bev and Sly will each preach, serve communion and moderate Session meetings. Bev will take the lead on staff and administrative issues and Sly will continue to lead our music ministry. Each will also be available for pastoral counseling and care to our members and others. They feel deeply called to walk with us during this interim period and have committed to be in this role until we call a permanent pastor.

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Pulpit Supply for June and July

During the transition time between Pastor Norman’s departure and August 1, when our Interim Pastor Team of Revs. Sylvester and Beverly Bullock begin their ministry with us, our pulpit will be filled by some familiar and very capable people from our church family.

5/26/2024	Bruce Pitman	6/30/2024	Julie Everest
6/2/2024	Rev. Sly Bullock	7/7/2024	Rev. Beverly Bullock
6/9/2024	Bruce Pitman	7/14/2024	Bruce Pitman
6/16/2024	Rev. Beverly Bullock	7/21/2024	Rev. Sly Bullock
6/23/2024	George Fricks (CCC Director)	7/28/2024	Julie Everest

Family Promise Host Week Coming Up



Our next Family Promise Host Week is June 30-July 7. Yes, this includes the 4th of July. Please prayerfully consider signing up to help during this week. Help is needed with set up, meal preparation, evening or overnight hosting, and clean up

If you’ve ever considered serving our community in this wonderful mission, this would be an excellent time to experience the joy. Please contact Celeste Brown at bioinfomom@roadrunner.com for more information or to volunteer.

Dinners Together

NOW FORMING: DINNERS TOGETHER GROUPS

WHAT: Groups of 6-8 people come together once a month for dinner and fellowship.

WHEN: Whenever is convenient for the group.

WHERE: Wherever the group decides. You can choose to meet at a member’s home, a restaurant, a charity event, the church library or another convenient location.

WHO: YOU! Submit your name and email or phone number to the office.



Pastor Nominating Committee Update

At a called congregational meeting on May 5, the congregation voted to approve the following nominees to serve on the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC): Bruce Pitman (chair), Beth Case, Sarah Dossey, Amy Pendegraft, and Jacob Wells. The PNC is beginning the process of preparing a Ministry Discernment Profile (MDP), which will describe our church, community, and pastoral needs. Our recent Mission Study Report will serve as the basis for much of this profile. Once the MDP is completed and approved by Presbytery, it will be posted on PC(USA)'s Church Leadership Connection website where our profile will be matched with profiles of appropriate pastoral candidates.



The typical pastor search process takes about a year. As the Pastor Nominating Committee does its work, we can support them through our prayers and encouragement.

Changes in the Church Office

As of May 1, Lauren resigned as Administrative Assistant and has moved on to pursue new options. Our prayers and best wishes go with her.



Julie Everest has been transitioning into a combined position of Family Ministry Director and Administrative Assistant, dividing her time equally between the two jobs. Thank you for your patience as she becomes familiar with the office tasks and works out a weekly schedule that accommodates both positions.

Office hours are Tuesday through Friday from 10-noon. For church office business, email Julie at office@fpcmoscow.org, and for Family Ministry needs contact her at familyministryjulie@gmail.com.

Congregational Care During Transition

In order to provide continuous pastoral care and leadership throughout the summer until our interim pastors start on August 1, our Stephen Ministry Leaders are scheduling Stephen Ministers, Deacons, and Elders to be on call in June and July to provide pastoral care, help with immediate needs or emergencies, and take care of any issues that may arise. Our Stephen Ministers and church officers are ready to help, so if you need assistance or have questions, please don't hesitate to call your Deacon or contact the church office at 208-882-4122 or office@fpcmoscow.org.



Seeking Summer Worship Leaders

Would you like to lead the Call to Worship, Prayer of Confession, and read scripture in one of our services this summer? If you would like to serve as worship leader in the next few weeks, please talk to Kathy Pendegraft or email kathyp8623@twc.com to check on available dates.



Join Summer Choir!



The Mother's Day Men's Chorus did a great job and was well received. Thanks to all the men who participated! (There's a place for all of you in the choir.)

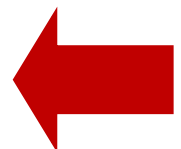
In the interest of fairness, our music minister, Sly Bullock, would like to assemble a Women's Chorus for Father's Day, June 16. All women who are interested come to rehearsal on June 12 at 6 pm.

Everyone who enjoys singing is invited to join Summer Choir. This is a great chance to give choir a try without a long-term commitment. The Choir will rehearse on June 12 at 7 pm (right after the Women's Chorus) to sing on Father's Day June 16. In July, the Choir will rehearse June 26 and July 10 at 7 pm to sing on July 14. An August date for Summer Choir will be determined later.

Questions? Contact Sly at slybullock75@aol.com.

Time to Update Your Church Directory Information

A new church directory will be coming out soon. If you would like to contribute an updated photo (especially important for those with children who grow and change almost daily), please email the photo to the church office at office@fpcmoscow.org. Also needed are updates to address, phone, or email if any of those things have changed since last June. Updates and photos are needed no later than June 25. Thanks!



COOKIES NEEDED

Cookies are needed for coffee fellowship after church services. Please leave them on the counter of the upstairs kitchen.



Finance Report



As of May 31, 2024

	Month	YTD
Receipts	\$26,292	\$153,777
Disbursements	\$25,460	\$139,377
YTD Surplus/(Deficit)		\$14,400

Cash Balance (checking/savings) \$84,669

Summer Vespers at Lael

Save the dates and plan to come out to Lael for a peaceful summer evening in the country enjoying good food, fellowship, music, and a time of worship in a beautiful natural setting. This is a family-friendly event, and a great way to introduce friends to [Lael Retreat Center](#).

June 30 – potluck supper at 5:30 p.m. followed by program TBA, with music led by David Roon.

August 11 – will involve food, singing, and program theme TBA. Watch for more information in Sunday announcements or the weekly email.

Lael Update

Lael Retreat Center now has its own website, email address, and phone number. Check it out at LaelRetreatCenter.org. Lael's email address is LaelRetreatCenter@gmail.com and the phone number is 208-997-8229. Lael is available for retreats, meetings, workshops, weddings, family events, for a few hours or a few days.

Lael is continuing fundraising efforts for the Chapel Siding Project. The goal is \$20,000 to cover materials and installation, or \$10,000 for materials to be installed with volunteer labor as we did for the Barn. Currently there is about \$5,000 in the siding fund. Fundraising will continue for the rest of this year with a goal of completing the siding after Easter (April 20, 2025) and before the end of May, 2025. To donate to the siding fund, make checks payable to Lael, Inc. with "siding fund" in the memo line and mail it to Lael, Inc., 405 S. Van Buren St., Moscow ID 83843.

Lael, Inc. is a 503(c)(3) non-profit corporation separate from First Presbyterian Church, and relies solely on donations and user fees to maintain and improve Lael Retreat Center. Your support enables us to operate Lael for all to enjoy. To make a tax-deductible donation to our general fund, send a check to Lael, Inc. at the address above.



Save the Date!

Second Annual

Lael Fall Festival

October 13, 2024

Live Music ♦ Kid's Activities

Cider Press ♦ Food ♦ Games

Furniture Needed for Oxford House

Oxford House Moscow, a peer-run sober living recovery house for men, is reopening June 15. Donations of furniture, beds and household items, like linens and small appliances are needed. Some specific needs include: refrigerators, stackable washer and dryer, lawnmower. Anything and everything will help. To help out with furnishings and supplies please contact Mike Reininger at 208-501-3138. Soon another Oxford House will be opening in Moscow for women and women with children.



Session Highlights

Session met on June 3 with Lori Loseth as our moderator. Here are some highlights of the meeting.

- Heard reports from various committees, including the Pastor Nominating Committee.
- Session approved painting and updating the pastor's study to prepare for our next pastor.
- We recently had a fire inspection. Deficiencies were addressed and emergency contacts for fire department were updated.
- Discussed the need for a coordinator for Wednesday Supper Fellowship in the fall.
- Set a date for a Session retreat in August to address Mission Study findings.
- The next stated Session meeting will be June 24.
- Ann Ulliman and Julie Everest reported on their Partners for Sacred Places cohort participation.

FAMILY MINISTRY

Julie Everest, Director of Family Ministry familyministryjulie@gmail.com

The school year is over, and now VBS is coming! We will have Seekers in Sneakers: Discovering Jesus Vacation Bible School this year. June 17-21 from 9 a.m. to noon, we will welcome kids from four years old through 5th grade to participate in our VBS.

VBS is a team effort with a combination of adult and youth volunteers. Please consider if you can be a part of VBS this year. There are many opportunities that fit different gifts and abilities. Getting everything ready for VBS is rewarding work, and actually participating is very joyful. You can encourage the youth group helpers and connect with the little kids who attend. We also have a supply list, and you can get involved by donating items for snacks, art and activities.

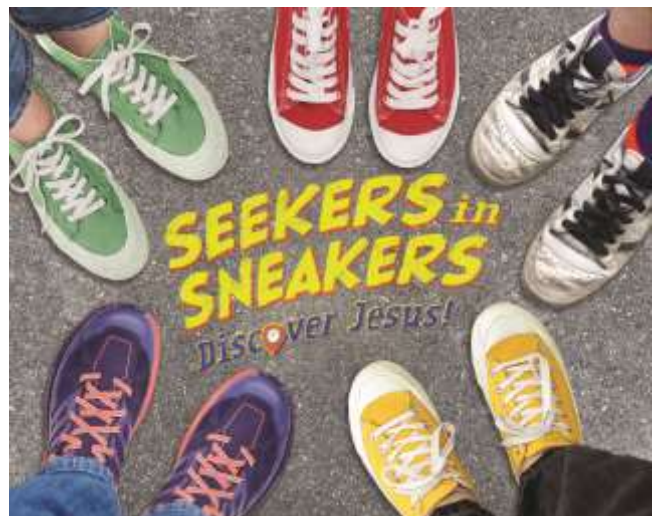
Our Seekers in Sneakers VBS will focus on stories of Jesus. Because June 19 falls in our VBS week, we also have a great opportunity to celebrate Juneteenth. We can help kids in our community learn about this holiday that might not be familiar to them. In harmony with our Juneteenth celebration, we will have a Bible story from Jesus' life to help reinforce that Jesus came to help and free us.

Starting June 9, we will begin having Stay and Play after church again this summer. This activity includes a variety of lawn games played in front of the church after summer worship. All ages and skills are welcome to join in. Because of early summer worship times, folks can play and still be home for lunch. Dinners Together groups could play together after church and still have time to go out to lunch.

There are many different lawn games available, and I am open to learning new ones. Deacons could challenge Session members to a corn hole tournament. We could work together to see how high we can build giant Jenga. Everyone is invited and the more the merrier. Last summer, Nadine amazed us all with her croquet prowess. I hope that many of you can join in.

I'd like to end my Family Ministry summer newsletter piece by talking a little bit about June's newest official holiday. Juneteenth is not a holiday that was part of my culture or upbringing, although it has been celebrated for over a hundred years in some parts of the country. It's a bittersweet holiday because it celebrates freedom, but it also reminds us that we can deny others their freedom and impose unfair laws and limits on them.

In Luke 4:14-21, we hear that Jesus came to be the antidote to this kind of wrong treatment. Quoting the prophet Isaiah, Jesus says in verse 18 that God's Spirit "anointed me to preach good news to the poor...to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed." That sounds very much like the message of Juneteenth, and we still have work to do to join him with good news for the poor, freedom for prisoners and help for the oppressed. May Jesus bring us the joy of freedom and help us not to be blind to the difficult experiences of many people in our community and beyond.





First
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Church

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Facebook: Moscow FPC
Web: fpcmoscow.org

First Presbyterian Church

“Growing in Christ”

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.

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

YouTube: [First Presbyterian Church of Moscow - YouTube](#)

Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday 10 a.m.-Noon
and by appointment — call 208-882-4122