

First
Presbyterian
Church
MOSCOW, IDAHO

News & Views



As we come to another month, I wonder how to address the continued barrage of difficult news. As fires continue to rage in California, the gulf coast attempts to recover from recent hurricanes with more seeming to be on the horizon. That would be more than enough disaster without adding COVID-19. Yet, the pandemic not only has played havoc with our lives, particularly

the lives of parents with children in school, but has taken the lives of more than 200,000 persons in our own county. We cannot help but wonder how this pandemic will play out. Furthermore, we are a deeply divided country and community. We feel the tensions and often wonder how to navigate these conflicts. We can wonder what the future holds. This year, 2020, seems to continue to throw struggle after struggle at our world. Some of us have had personal struggles in the midst of this as well.

We also continue to work at what ministry, community, and worship look like in this time. We have continued to meet on the lawn Sunday evenings, and put a live service on Facebook and YouTube. Many of us long for the familiar in-person service of just months ago, although it seems it has been so much longer than that. On Page 3, you will find further information about our starting a in-person worship with precautions in mid to late October. We hope to do this safely and will watch the North Central Public Health information and risk assessments. This also goes for in-person gatherings at the church for small groups. We want to maintain the health and safety of all participants while meeting our need for the community and encouragement seeing one another provides.

I think we recognize that these are times that are different than most of us have ever experienced. Particularly, trying to fathom the amount of loss and disaster is incredibly difficult, and we cannot easily gather at one time to mourn or lament these changes. Our session reflected on a proposal to create a prayer/lament/remembrance station on the front lawn. This will be a place where we can leave notes or remembrances about those we have lost, post our prayer concerns, and lament the whole situation. We will have an option to place prayer flags as indications of the prayers we have offered and reminders of the prayers we continue to lift to our God.

We live in a particular community and care for the place and people. I find it unfortunate that our care for one another gets

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

strained, and our differences become divisive and create tensions and brokenness. I believe we must offer our community the vision we have of the way of righteousness, our understanding of what it means to be followers of Jesus. Perhaps this is particularly important when we know variants in this vision are evident. I believe we want to love our neighbors through giving out produce, through showing our concern for city workers, thorough wearing our masks, and in other real and pertinent ways.

I struggle with the way we who claim to follow Jesus sometimes find it hard to “be of the same mind” as Paul encourages us to be in Philipians. I believe this means we will be working toward the same goal: the love of God and the love of neighbor. I guess we get tangled up in what it means to do this, and how much we each think we know the right way. I do believe we need to pay attention to the fruit God expects of us, and one of the clearest expressions of this for me is the end of Galatians 5. Here we find the works of struggles (the works of the flesh) and the fruit of the Spirit. Paul identifies enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, and envy, among other foibles, as things that are contrary to the will of God, blocking us from living in the kingdom. Yet these are what I see in so many of the divisions among us, making it hard to express our view without entering into this form of broken relationship. Of course, Paul goes on to suggest the fruits of the Spirit as well, and I wonder how well we can express those despite the struggles of 2020. This seems an incredible challenge, yet one to which we are called.

I know I struggle to not let the enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, and envy in our world hijack my feelings and behaviors. I pray that we might live in the Spirit and produce the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. And I remember what Jesus said about how hard it is for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God: “But Jesus looked at them and said, ‘For mortals it is impossible, but for God all things are possible.’” (Matthew 19:26) I believe that I must trust God to make it possible for me and for us to produce the fruit God wants, even in this time of struggle and strife.

May the grace of God and the peace of Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit be yours,

Norman

Sanctuary Open for Prayer on Tuesdays and Thursdays

The sanctuary will be open for personal prayer and meditation on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. 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.

Taizé Worship Online Wednesday Evenings

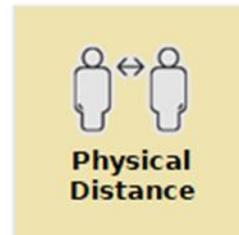
Plans are in the works to resume our online Taizé services on Wednesdays within the next week or two. The services will be recorded and made available on our Facebook page and YouTube Channel on Wednesdays by 5:30 p.m. Once they are posted, you may watch them at your convenience. Watch for details and links in bulletin announcements or Friday emails.



Moving Back Into the Sanctuary for Sunday Morning Worship

Session has approved plans to open the sanctuary to in-person worship on October 18. This option will continue if specific procedures are followed by all who attend, and as long as the virus situation in our community allows us to provide for the safety of everyone attending. This 10:30 a.m. service will also be livestreamed for those who prefer to continue to worship at a distance.

There are specific guidelines that must be followed, including wearing masks, distancing, and use of hand sanitizer. Because seating will have to be limited to allow for proper distancing between individuals/families, reservations will be required each week, with the expectation that those who are feeling ill or have a fever on Sunday morning will not attend.



A letter containing more information will be mailed to the congregation soon. You may also find more details on our website: <http://fpcmoscow.org/covidworship.aspx>.

We will monitor the spread of COVID-19 in Moscow and follow recommendations from Public Health as well as City leaders in determining whether it is safe to continue to meet in the sanctuary in the weeks ahead.

We look forward to being able to gather together again in our sanctuary for worship at 10:30 a.m. on October 18.

Earlier Time for Worship on the Lawn Sunday Evening — 5 p.m.

As long as weather permits, we invite you to join us on the front lawn of the church at 5 p.m. for about 40 minutes of music, prayers of the people, scripture, and a message. Please bring your own lawn chairs or blanket (we have a few extra chairs if you don't have one). We maintain safe social distances and wear masks to minimize virus risk. There is also the option of parking on the street in front of the church and participating from your car. If you plan to attend, please use this online reservation form: <https://forms.gle/67paJZ9EPqQHiczXA>. If you prefer, you can also let us know you are coming by calling 208-882-4122 or emailing office@fpcmoscow.org. If we have to cancel due to weather, we will contact everyone with reservations and also post a notice on Facebook.



News Briefs

GRACE IS TURNING 100!

The Deacons invite those in the church family who know and love Grace Heick, to send her a "shower of cards" with congratulations and fond memories as she celebrates her 100th birthday on October 11th. Grace was so instrumental in FPC's day school and such an active (and loved) member of our congregation for many, many years. The shower of cards from her Moscow church family would be a wonderful gift. Greetings may be sent to Grace c/o her daughter Dr. Meredith Heick, 6811 South Tomaker Ln, Spokane WA 99223.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FOR BOILER REACHES GOAL

We are humbled by our generous congregation's tremendous response to our Capital Campaign to raise funds to replace our damaged boiler. The \$20,000 goal has been surpassed, the boiler has been ordered, and the work will proceed as soon as possible. Thank you, everyone!

OUR DAILY BREAD DEVOTION BOOKLETS

The fall edition of Our Daily Bread, September through November regular print and October-December large print, are available. To have one mailed to you, please contact the office by phone 208-882-4122, text 208-997-8837, or email office@fpcmoscow.org.

CARING ANGEL NETWORK

If you become ill, contact the church so we can pray for you and, if needed, bring meals or run errands. Please contact your deacon, Deacon Moderator Susan Billin at 208-310-1151 or susan.billin@gmail.com, or the church office at 208-882-4122 or office@fpcmoscow.org. Our caring volunteers are ready to help.

DEACONS' BENEVOLENCE OFFERING FOR OCTOBER

Each month the deacons take a special offering to support needs in our community. The October offering will go toward fire relief to help people affected by wildfires in Orofino, Colfax, Malden, Pine City, and surrounding areas. To give to this cause, you may mail a check to First Presbyterian Church (memo: October Benevolence), 405 S. Van Buren, Moscow, ID 83843 or give online via Tithe.ly <https://tithe.ly/give?c=982246>



Family Promise Update

We join Quail Run LDS ward in hosting Family Promise the week of October 11-17. Our two churches will take turns providing meals for the families each night and we are excited to already have volunteers for our four nights! Due to the coronavirus, we will not house the families in our building, but I invite you to pray for them as they continue to work toward their goals to gain housing security. Watch weekly announcements to learn of any needed donations.

Mary Read, Volunteer Coordinator

Finance Report



As of August 31, 2020

	August	YTD
Receipts	\$ 67,386*	\$ 237,368
Disbursements	\$ 20,804	\$ 192,225
YTD Surplus/(Deficit)		\$44,143
Cash Balance (checking/savings)		\$64,638*

*August revenue includes prepaid pledges for 2020 @ \$2,602 and \$42,000 received as a Payroll Protection Program loan/grant

Socktober Sock Drive

In a passage from Matthew 25, Jesus tells his disciples, "When I was hungry, you fed me; naked and you clothed me.....I tell you, whenever you did this for one of the least important of these members of my family, you did it for me!" We are encouraged to be generous with our neighbors. Jackie Wallis, a member of our congregation, has taken this to heart, and we can help.

This month, we have the opportunity to join with others in our community in providing socks and shoes to individuals and families in Moscow through SOCKTOBER. Through this SOCKTOBER drive, Jackie is collecting socks and shoes for boys, girls, women, and men, and giving them away at a different location each Saturday in October.



After the first distribution on October 3, Jackie was excited to report that they gave away about 35 pairs of shoes and about 50 pairs of socks. She and her group, Community Connections for All, are accepting donations of new or gently used socks and shoes in all sizes, as well as small comfort blankets, until the last Saturday of the month of October. (There is a great need for men shoes at present).

Please take a look in your closets and storage bins. Perhaps there may be gently used shoes which are outgrown or didn't fit well. Perhaps you might see socks on sale at a store you are passing through. There is a great need during these difficult economic times.

Jackie's Back to School Backpack Drive finished up in September with 52 backpacks filled with school supplies delivered in time for the opening of our public schools. Her generous giveaways are known in this community, but they couldn't happen without donations from generous community members who want to help their neighbors.

Call Jackie at 208-669-3036 if you have donations of shoes or socks for SOCKTOBER.

Peace and Global Witness Special Offering

"Peace is Active...NOT Passive...Peace is Doing...NOT Waiting"

In the midst of great turmoil and disruption, we are called to be peacemakers and bind the wounds of the afflicted. We must be witnesses of God's love by working to eliminate racial prejudice, to protect one another's health, and by welcoming the stranger. Even though these issues seem overwhelming, we can make a difference by joining other Presbyterians in giving to the Peace and Global Witness Special Offering.

Your contribution will be distributed to help address local, regional and national issues.

- 25% will be dedicated to local peacemaking efforts through the Latah Human Rights Task Force.
- 25% will be given to regional peace-making initiatives led by our Presbyterian Synod.
- 50% will support global programs that are sponsored by the Presbyterian Church (USA).

We will dedicate this offering on Sunday, October 26th. Please give generously to this Special Offering either by check to First Presbyterian Church (memo: Peace Offering), 405 S. Van Buren, Moscow, ID 83843 or give online via [Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly/give?c=982246) <https://tithe.ly/give?c=982246>. Your contribution will become an answer to some else's prayer as you help to promote peace and share God's love with others.



Caring for Our City Officials and Staff

Following several arrests at the City Hall parking lot, our city officials and staff have received numerous calls and emails disparaging them and making life and work difficult. Particularly, this is hard for the city employees who are working to do the business of the city and have no power to create, change, or are otherwise responsible for the mask ordinance or subsequent arrests. We are fortunate to have a city that works well. Through conversations around this issue, the Moscow Interfaith Association invited member churches to show our care for our public employees with a care package to be taken to City Hall and the Police Station. Several churches involved picked a day of the week to deliver the care package. Our church had Wednesday, October 2, and through the efforts of session and deacons, we put together a care package that was substantial enough for us to deliver to City Hall, the police station, the city shop, and the sheriff's office. The packages were well received and very much appreciated. We were told the care package and notes of support and encouragement were a bright spot in these difficult times.



During the Moscow Interfaith discussion, the idea of showing further appreciation to those working at City Hall and the Mann building might include showing up to applaud them and encourage them at the end of the day. Several churches have had folks show up from 4:45 to 5:15 p.m. weekdays to let the workers know they are appreciated and to counter the disparaging messages they have received from around the country. Pastor Norman and several other members have been there to show this support and encouragement several times over the week of Sept 29-Oct 2. Dwayne and Susan Hodgins of St. Mark's Episcopal Church have made handheld signs of support and plan to continue this vigil of support until election day. Anyone wanting to support and encouragement to city workers is invited to come. The gathering is socially distanced, and masks are worn.

The Moscow Interfaith Association, in further conversation, wondered how we could be a positive presence encouraging love of neighbor and how this is expressed in wearing a mask. Moscow Interfaith Association is in the process of creating yard signs with messages such as "Masking up to love our neighbors" and "People of faith for the Palouse." Session voted to put one of these signs on the church lawn, and to make these signs available to our congregation. More information on availability should be coming soon. Contact Kathy at office@fpcmoscow.org, or at 208-997-8837 with message or text if you would like a yard sign.

Lamenting Our Losses

Session noted the numerous deaths that have occurred in our country due to COVID-19 and how some of our congregation have been personally engaged in grief and other concerns this pandemic has caused. In normal times we might gather for a vigil with prayers, silence, and music. This is not as appropriate during this pandemic.

Session discussed another approach, which consists of setting up a prayer / message / remembrance board on our lawn. This would allow anyone who might want to, to have a place to come pray; to place a poem, picture or remembrance on the board; or to tie a piece of cloth to a wire mesh commemorating a prayer and noting the continued nature of that prayer as the cloth is blown around in wind. This could be a place to lament the losses of so many lives and the loss of what was normal to us before COVID times.

We would in this way gather over time, rather than at one time. We will have a place that invites us to lament, to grieve and to pray. We will be reminded that we can share our sorrows and support and encourage one another in these difficult times.

We need to check with the city about the way we might try to do this in compliance with city ordinances. Watch for more information in upcoming bulletin announcements.

Deacons' Spotlight—Abigail Silverberg

We are so pleased to welcome Abigail Silverberg to Moscow 1st Presbyterian! Abigail (which she prefers to be called) is our new Piano/Organ Accompanist. Abigail was born into a large family in Troy, Missouri [3 girls, 3 boys] of which she is the youngest. Troy is about one hour north of St. Louis, MO, and she lived there for the first half of her childhood surrounded by family. Abigail was homeschooled until she left for college. She began playing piano at the age of 8. Her sister, Rachel, who is 5 years older than Abigail, was her teacher until Abigail was 15 years old. Abigail started playing organ her junior year of college and has some experience playing the harpsichord, too. Singing rounds out the many ways her life is lived in music.

Abigail moved with her family to Colorado Springs, CO when she was around 11 years old. Colorado is where her family began hiking, and it is one of the activities she does to relax. Abigail also loves to bake bread and is always looking for a new recipe to try. Along with her family, she started ballroom dancing in Colorado and discovered she loves to dance – it makes her SO happy! She was thrilled to discover that Moscow has a swing dance group at the University of Idaho (in non-COVID times) and is looking forward to becoming involved with it.



Abigail has worshipped in a range of Christian churches. She grew up in a Baptist church in Missouri, a non-denominational church in Colorado, was the organ Scholar-in-Residence for an Episcopalian church, and is now with us at 1st Pres. Her favorite hymn is "Be Still my Soul". A Haydn piano sonata in Eb major is the piece she most enjoys playing because it is a happy, exciting piece and brings her great joy. Happiness and being happy is a major theme running through this young scholar's life, and we look forward to the times we will share in Christian joy with her.

FAMILY MINISTRY

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

Children's Sunday School

Kids from preK through Grade 5 are meeting online at 9:15 a.m. for Sunday School each week. David Roon is joining us to lead us in music, followed by some fun and lively discussions of our Sunday School lesson. If you haven't joined us yet, give it a try! Contact me for the link.

Youth Group

You Group is also meeting online to discuss the big questions of faith. If your 6th through 12th grader would like to check it out, contact me for more information, including time and link.

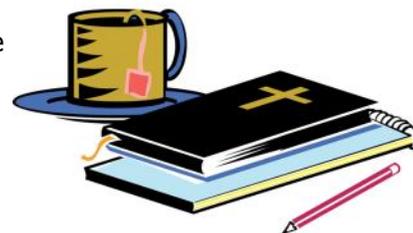
By Popular Demand—Trunk or Treat!

We are planning a socially distanced version of Trunk or Treat in the church parking lot at the end of the month. Watch for details in upcoming bulletin announcements about date and time, and how you can volunteer to help make this happen for our kids.

Small Group Studies for This Fall

Pastor Norman will facilitate **Going Deeper**, at noon on **MONDAYS**. Each session will provide time for discussion of the sermon theme from the day before. To request the Zoom link from Pastor Norman, send an email to fpcmoscowid@gmail.com.

The **Men's Bible Study** meets via Zoom at 10:30 a.m. each Wednesday to study the messages for us in the books of the Old Testament. Each week's discussion is initiated by a short explanatory video from The Bible Project (bibleproject.com/explore/). To join, email leerozen@gmail.com for weekly updates and the Zoom address.



The **Women's Bible Project** meets on Thursday mornings at 10:00 a.m. Group members will need to view the Bible Project video (bibleproject.com/explore/) each week prior to the group meeting. This group is focusing on the New Testament. Kathy Pitman is the facilitator; email kbpitman@roadrunner.com for weekly updates and the Zoom address.

The **Anti-racism Learning Circle** meets Thursdays 7:00-9:00 pm (via ZOOM). We are discussing the book *White Supremacy and Me* by Layla Saad, and other resources, in order to better understand and practice anti-racism. If you would like to join the reading group, our Facebook community page, or simply learn more, contact Delaney at delaneypiper19@gmail.com.

A five-week **Bible Study** led by Janice Capel Anderson via Zoom meets Mondays at 10:30 a.m. The title of the study is **"The Things That Make for Peace: Adult Bible Study."** You can download both leader and participant resources for free at <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/resource/season-peace-bible-study-full/>. You can see the Scriptures and themes for each session there. As the website notes, "It focuses on the inner and outer path to peace as foundational to faithful discipleship. Each session has a "dig deeper" section for study through the week." There are 3 sessions left, so if you would like to participate, please contact Janice at janicecandersonidaho@gmail.com.

A third **Bible Project Bible Study**, open to all, will be facilitated by Julie Hopper. It will begin soon, day and time to be decided. Watch for more information in Sunday bulletin announcements

Watch for information about more groups starting up soon.

Staff Available by Appointment

The staff continues to work remotely, but we are available by phone, text, email, or by appointment. If you need reach us or schedule an appointment, call 208-882-4122 and leave a message, or call or text the church cell phone at 208-997-8837. You may also email the staff member directly:

Pastor Norman: fpcpastornorman@gmail.com
 Kathy: office@fpcmoscow.org
 Jeremiah: aslanscountry@gmail.com
 Thomas: thamusikboy@gmail.com
 John: fpcfinsec@turbonet.com



New Electronic Keyless Access System Is Almost Ready

One of the goals of our ongoing Safe Church Project is to install electronic locks on the entrance doors to the church to increase safety for all who spend time in our building, and to provide more convenient access to those who need to enter the facility. We will have greater control over access, both remotely and on-site, and won't have to worry about keeping track of physical keys.

Installation has just been completed and the system will be functional soon. Keypads have been installed on the corner door in the lower chapel room, the fellowship hall entrance, and the Day School entrance. The system was not installed at this time on the front double doors, which can't support the new system due to the way they are constructed.

What does this mean for our congregation?

1. Those who need access to the building will need to request to be set up with a PIN number to punch into the keypad located next to each door. This will take the place of a traditional key.
2. Access for church-related business and events will be through the lower chapel room door or fellowship hall door. The main double doors can be unlocked from the inside if needed.
3. Our current keys will be obsolete once the new system is tested and fully functional. We expect the changeover to be complete by the end of October.

Those who would like to have access to the building to conduct church business, do volunteer work, pick up/drop off supplies, attend meetings, etc. may request access by completing the form below and mailing it to the church or calling Kathy at 208-997-8837.

Individuals will be able to choose their own PIN (4-8 digits) so that it will be easier to remember. Please be cautious by choosing a PIN that cannot be easily guessed (birthdate or phone number) and is not related to sensitive information (online banking PIN).

Request for Building Access

Name: _____

Email or phone: _____

What group are you associated with? (circle) FPC MDS T344 T333 FNB CCS MCC NSA

Other (Specify) _____

What is your position with this group? _____

Which door(s) do you need access to? (circle) Front door 5th Street Fellowship Hall

Access to the building will require that your PIN number be entered on the keypad next to the appropriate door. Each person will have a unique PIN, and the system will keep a permanent register of who enters the building. 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, etc.)

Requested PIN: _____

Lovely China Dinner Service Needs a New Home!

Castleton China, "Windermere" pattern

Classic understated cream porcelain with
wide grey border and gold trim



Early 1950's pattern, suitable for masculine and feminine tastes

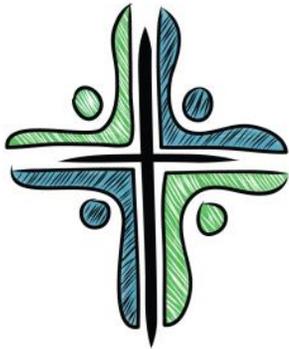
Looks great with Mexican food, lasagna,
Thanksgiving dinner, and all your festive family celebrations

8 dinner plates ▪ 8 salad plates ▪ 4 bread plates ▪ 8 cups ▪ 8 saucers
(easy to expand via online open stock shopping)

All pieces in excellent condition

I'm moving across the country and am looking for someone
who needs a new family heirloom. *Free* to a new loving home.

Call Carol at 208-883-2586



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405 South Van Buren Street
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 Online at 10:30 a.m.

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

YouTube: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/
UCCzTiJBUB4fHAgVPGn5rgag](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCzTiJBUB4fHAgVPGn5rgag)

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Staff is available by appointment.
Call or email the church office to reach us.

Pastor Norman Fowler
fpcpastornorman@gmail.com