



*a letter
from the pastor*

When I was a child and heard “old people” talking, their speech was filled with words and sentences difficult for me to understand. My grandmother spoke in such a way. Those “old folks” did not speak as we kids, our parents or other kid’s parents spoke. In my young mind I wondered, will I need to learn how to speak differently when I become old as the “old people” of that time were speaking? Eventually I figured it out. The “old folks” were immigrants from Italy, Germany, Poland, Ukraine, Russia etc. and unlike me, their first language was not English, so they spoke English with an accent from their first language and it could be difficult to understand.

As a boy, I attended Sunday school and listened to other “old people” speak about things that were equally unusual to understand. They told stories of people from long ago. They were ancient people who did strange and bazaar things like turning into salt pillars for looking the wrong way, selling a younger brother into slavery (even though I would have gladly done the same with my brother at that time) and some fringe guy named John who ate locust – grasshoppers for lunch, All of that was odd and difficult to understand, I wondered; will I need to speak oddly when I become old?”

There were “old people” who taught Sunday school and also told stories about other people from long ago. I liked the stories of Christmas and also Jesus loving little children, his care for the poor, the ill and the neglected as well as his love for the fortunate people. I heard that accent and because of it, I had my first sense of how I wanted to speak when I became “old”. I wanted my primary language to have accents of “love”. I suppose the “old folks” teaching those stories in my Sunday school classes did a breakthrough with me.

We all speak with “accents”, the option we are given as Christians is to choose the accents we will use? Jesus’ accent was strong with love. Is “love” your accent? How will you speak when you are “old”?

Love, Don

Church Staff

Pastor
Rev. Don Hammond

Office Manager
Susan Riswold

**Organist &
Handbell Director**
Barb Mix

**First Presbyterian
Church**
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Church,
Twin Falls, Idaho

selection of and contract terms for Don Hammond.

- There are 3 vacancies on Session involving Christian Nurture and Building and Grounds committees.
- It was decided that 3 ushers are adequate for Sunday morning worship. One of the three will serve as greeter. On Communion Sunday, elders and deacons are required to fill ushering positions.
- The Fellowship Committee, represented by Judy Wright and Chris Talkington, reported that Circle 5 would like to have a Potato Bar in the Fellowship Room on November 13th, following worship.
- Bob Parkinson, representing the Mission Committee, indicated that a Special Offering for Peace and Global Witness was collected in early October
- On behalf of the Personnel Committee, Terry Fletcher discussed the Mission Statement that was in place at the time of Phil Price's call, with the premise of it being updated. He recommends that having a broad representation from the congregation on a committee to complete this work would be worthwhile.
- Representing the Stewardship Committee, Phil Winn & Judy Pollow told the Session that pledge cards will be returned by congregation members.
- The next stated Session meeting will be on Tuesday, November 15, 2022, at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Room.

Melanie Halsell
Clerk of Session

January thru October 2022

Total Member Contributions - \$110,066
Per Capita - \$2,270 (**hope for \$7,526**)
Total Other Income - \$18,935
Volley Ball Rent - \$6,000
Total Income - \$129,001
Total Expenses - \$139,961
Administrative - \$88,633
Office - \$20,253
Per Capita - \$7,526
Facility - \$31,075
Insurance - \$12,016
Mission - \$20,023



BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

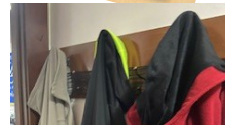
Audrey Daisher	12/4
Robin Wells	12/5
Boden Youree	12/13
Darlene Annen	12/20
Marjorie Gebauer	12/21
Jeff Geist	12/22
Brendan Mix	12/24
Cyndie Koffer	12/25
Barbara Mix	12/26
Judy Chapin	12/27
Aubree Sharp	12/28
Betty Westerhoven	12/31

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Olen & Linda Foreman	12/8
Gene & Deanna Baxter	12/20
Bob & Judy Wright	12/23
Roger & Kristin Keller	12/26
Emery & Ruby Peterson	12/26
Bob & Linda Parkinson	12/28
Ray & Shirley Harris	12/27
John & Linda Howar	12/30

This months book club meeting is Dec 22,

Thursday 1pm at the Great Harvest bakery. Our book is "Fearless Fourteen" by Janet Evanovich. There are several ways to read and listen available at the library. Take



Do any of these jackets belong to you? They have been hanging around in the coat closet in the lower narthex for

Sunday Worship services start at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary and conclude around 11:00.

Please join us for Social Time each Sunday in the Fellowship Room, right after worship. Light snacks, juice, coffee and tea are served.

Kindergarten – 5th Grade Sunday School

Children's Sunday school is happening in-person in the multipurpose Christian Education Room off the Fellowship Room downstairs.

If you are unable to attend, we will mail the at-home materials each week. If you would like to be included, please contact Linda Howar at (208) 420-1990

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME to remain with their families in the sanctuary for worship. There are worship bags containing items for children to use in their pew during this time.

WIGGLE ROOM FOR CHILDREN:

There are two family-friendly spaces in the church:

The Family Room at the back of the sanctuary offers rocking chairs, a changing table and books and toys for the very young.

Downstairs in the Fellowship Room, there is a corner off to the left with a toy bin containing puzzles, soft toys, a board books.

Questions?

2022 SESSION ELDERS

Mark Crothers
(Worship)

Terry Fletcher
(Personnel)

Phil Winn
(Stewardship)

Bob Parkinson
(Mission)

Judy Wright
(Fellowship)

Lawrence Flournoy
(Building & Grounds)

Chris Talkington
(Fellowship)

Carol Benson
(Worship)

Kristin Keller
(Christian Nurture)

Judy Pollow
(Stewardship)

ELECTED OFFICERS

Melanie Halsell, Clerk of Session

Bob Parkinson, Treasurer

GIFTS, MEMORIALS & ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

Phil Winn – Chair
Deanna Baxter, Rick Horner,
John Howar

COMMISSIONED DEACONS

Darlene Annen & Candee Hawk
(Memorial Dinners)

Charlotte & Bill Eberlein
(Mission | Christmas Project)

Carol Benson
(Card Ministry)

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Darlene Annen & Susan Harris
Co-Moderators

Joan Leir – Secretary
Colleen Miltenberger –
Treasurer

MEN'S BREAKFAST

At 7:00 am every Wednesday morning
at Idaho Joe's

for breakfast & topical discussion.

Contact Phil Winn

CIRCLE FIVE

Thursday, December 15 at 10:00am

at Marjorie Gebauer's house

775 Mountain View Dr. TF

Come and join us for fun, fellowship.

Contact Darlene Annen 208-308-6681

ABIGAIL CIRCLE

Thursday, December 15 at 12:00pm

for a Christmas Potluck at Susan Harris's
home.

All are welcome to join us. If you are interested
contact Deanna Baxter, Susan Harris, or Joan Leir

LUNCH WITH GOD

Wednesdays at noon in the Fellowship room

BOOK CLUB

Thursday, December 22 at 1:00pm

at Great Harvest Bakery

We will be discussing Fearless Fourteen by Janet
Evanovich



Meet the New Office Admin...

Hello, my name is Susan Riswold and I am the
new office Administrative Assistant here at the
Church. I have lot's of experience working in an
office; I like to garden, take classes at the col-
lege, do crafts and love animals. Currently my
husband and I have 2 dogs and 4 alpacas, three of
which are going to have babies in the spring – we
are very excited! I love the Lord and meeting

Sandwich Saturday began serving
sack lunches in October 2020. We
have grown from preparing 25 sack
lunches to 108 sack lunches. Each
lunch includes 2 Smucker's peanut
butter and jelly sandwiches, an apple or an orange, 2
cookies, a bag of chips and a bottle of water. Lunches
are packed in an assembly line manner. 20 lunches are
placed on a table set up on the sidewalk in front of the
church and banners are hung inviting anyone needing
a lunch. Any left over lunches are placed in the bless-
ing box. We have reached out to the community and
learned that a number of families with children are
living in the motels on Addison Avenue West. We
now deliver 26 lunches to the Apollo Inn who in turn
distributes to families in need living in that group of
motels, as well as 18 lunches to Main Street Extended
Stay, and 18 lunches to Old Towne Lodge. We also
learned that the SureStay Hotel on Blue Lakes has a
need and deliver 26 lunches to them. 108 lunches are
now being prepared and distributed every other
Saturday. The motels and their guests often express
their appreciation.



We appreciate all the volunteers who are
helping with the purchasing of groceries, setting up
the assembly line, filling the lunch bags, hanging the
banners, delivering the lunches, and helping with
clean-up. Thank you to all of those who have helped
and continue to help!!! We start filling the bags at
10:30 and are usually finished with that component
by 11:15. The lunches are then delivered and others
stay to help with clean-up or preparation for the next
serving date. We are completely finished by 1:00.
Most helpers are finished by no later than 12:00.

We welcome others to come and join this
ministry. Please contact Darlene Annen at
dcanen@gmail.com or call 208-308-6681.

This ministry not only helps others but provides
an opportunity for fellowship among our congregation
as well.

**If you would like to help, join us on
December 10 and December 24.**

to assist adults and children who have recently come to Twin Falls. Sixteen people have arrived in the past two weeks and more are expected throughout November and December. We hope to provide needed household goods for the families and a Christmas gift for each child.



We'll also put together and deliver small gift bags for our home-bound seniors.

For those of you who like to shop, a “Giving Tree” will be set up in the Upper Narthex on Sunday, November 13, 2022, where you may select a gift item to purchase and return to the church by Sunday, December 4. If you would prefer to give a cash donation towards the project, we'll do the shopping for you! We will collect cash donations from November 6 through December 4th. Please make your check payable to First Presbyterian Church and be sure to note “Deacon’s Christmas Project” on the memo line.

*New Sunday School Study Just in Time for Advent
With Bob Parkinson*

**“Prepare the Way for the Lord”
by best-selling author and pastor Adam Hamilton.**

**Prepare to receive Christ this Advent with the message of
John the Baptist.**



For centuries, Christians have turned to the story and message of John the Baptist in the weeks leading up to Christmas. In *Prepare the Way for the Lord: Advent and the Message of John the Baptist*, best-selling author and pastor Adam Hamilton explores the Advent themes of John’s life and ministry, and how John calls all followers of Jesus to prepare our hearts for his coming.

In each of the Gospels, the story of Jesus is intertwined with that of his cousin John, the one whom the prophets foretold would come to “prepare the way of the Lord.” When we hear the message of John the Baptist, it makes us and our world ready to receive Christ.

Chapter topics include:

1. A People Prepared for the Lord
2. God Is Gracious
3. The Fruit of Repentance
4. Witnesses Testifying to the Light

Advent begins in two weeks – November 27
Announcement to follow



is also the color of the sky just before dawn. Many Christian churches now use blue to speak of the Kingship of Christ when the occasion is joyful. At Advent we wait with anticipation and celebration for our coming Christ. Blue perfectly reflects our anticipation as we wait with hope and expectation.

Colors, paraments or coverings, and banners are some of the most important visual ways Christians have used to express their faith in worship. The objective in covering the Communion Table with cloths of various colors is to help focus the attention of worshipers on the special nature of Christ as the Perfect Sacrifice.



Many thanks to all of you who helped decorate the church after worship on November 20th. The church is beautifully decorated and ready for the first Sunday of Advent on November 27th.



“I believe in the sun even when it is not shining, I believe in love even when I cannot feel it, I believe in God even when he is silent.”

Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.

MATTHEW 17:20



to us to put in our Blessing Box. This special woman crochets and gives away so many hats that she is in constant need of yarn. If you have yarn at home that you would like to donate for the making of these hats, please bring the yarn to the church. Our generous benefactor prefers Red Heart yarn, but is willing to use other brands as well.

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

Presbyterian Women would like to thank our **generous** congregation for their donations to our mission project, "Shoes for School". We have donated 200 shoe gift cards this fall and 100 in April. We would also like to thank the mission committee, GME, and Circle 5 for their donations. The Shoe Department (a store in the mall and yes that is their name) has given us a 15% discount. We will continue to accept donations throughout the school year especially if boots are needed this winter. Becky Jaynes, the at risk coordinator, continues to send us many thank you messages and refers to us as angels and an answer to many prayers. It truly is a joy to serve our own community where there is such a great need.



Our recent potato bar was an expression of appreciation and gratitude to you for your



memorial for a loved one, you can order one or more by filling out this form and attaching your payment.

The poinsettias will be used to decorate the church sanctuary on Christmas. **Cost is \$10.00 for each**

poinsettia. Funds will support local high school Future Farmers of America (FFA).

We would be pleased to print the name of the individual(s) you are thankful for or **in memory of** your loved one(s) in the worship bulletin on Sunday, December 18th as well as the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service on December 24 th. In order to do that, **Susan**, in the Church Office must have the name(s) and payment by **December 5, 2022.**

Please place this completed order form and your payment (either cash or a check made payable to "First Presbyterian Church") in an envelope found on the table at the back of the upper foyer outside the sanctuary (envelopes are at the table) by the former "Rainbow Box" – or mail to the Presbyterian Church Office, **P.O. Box 557** Twin Falls, ID 83301.

Number of Poinsettias _____ given by _____

In **memory of**: _____

Number of Poinsettias _____ given by _____

In **thanks for**: _____

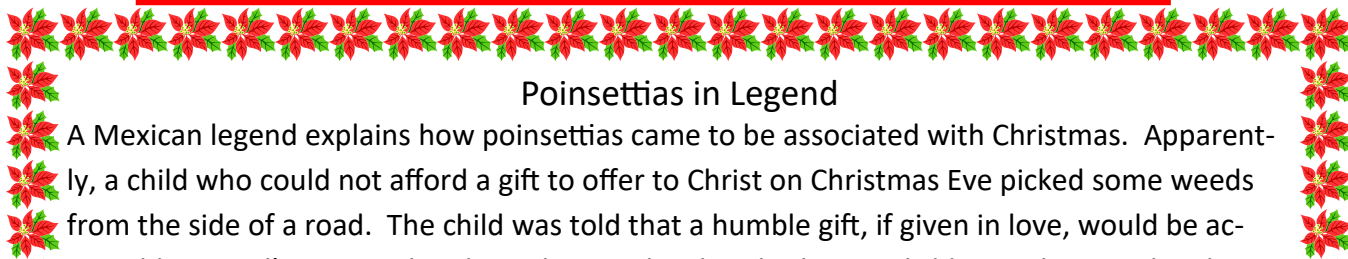
Following the Christmas Worship Service on Sunday 12/25, please pick up your poinsettias. Thank you!

Your Name: _____

Your Phone: _____

Poinsettias in Legend

A Mexican legend explains how poinsettias came to be associated with Christmas. Apparently, a child who could not afford a gift to offer to Christ on Christmas Eve picked some weeds from the side of a road. The child was told that a humble gift, if given in love, would be ac-





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6:00-11pm Adult Volleyball	2 6:00-11pm Adult Volleyball	3
4 COMMUNION SUNDAY 10:00am Worship	5 7-9pm NA (MPR) 6:00-11pm Adult Volleyball	6 6:00-11pm Adult Volleyball	7 7:00am Men's Breakfast 12n Lunch with God (FR)	8 6:00-11pm Adult Volleyball	9 6:00-11pm Adult Volleyball	10 10:30am Sandwich Saturday
11 10:00am Worship	12 10:00am Cir 5 Perkins Christ- mas party 7-9pm NA (MPR) 6:00-11pm Adult Volleyball	13 1:00pm Building & Grounds in Fellowship Room 1:00pm Mission Mtg. 6:00-11pm Adult Volleyball	14 7:00am Men's Breakfast 12n Lunch with God (FR)	15 10:00am Circle 5 12:00pm Abigail Christmas Pot- luck at Susan H. House 6:00-11pm Adult Volleyball	16 6:00-11pm Adult Volleyball	17
18 10:00am Worship	19 7-9pm NA (MPR) 6:00-11pm Adult Volleyball	20 5:30pm Stated Session (FR) 6:00-11pm Adult Volleyball	21 7:00am Men's Breakfast 12n Lunch with God (FR)	22 No Volleyball till Jan 4 2023	23	24 Christmas Eve Sandwich Saturday Box Lunch
25 Christmas Day 10:00am Worship	26 7-9pm NA (MPR)	27	28 7:00am Men's Breakfast 12n Lunch with God (FR)	29	30	31 New Years Eve



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED