



a letter from the pastor

A dynamic church with outreach ministries and a well-developed program appropriately staffed, called an interim pastor with a one year commitment (should have been two). In that year a curious thing happened in the budget drive. A large number of persons assumed that not much would happen during the year; hence, it would be a good time to cut back on their giving, or give their gifts to other good causes. In fact, so many came to this erroneous conclusion that \$250,000 had to be cut from the budget even after emergency appeals were made. The unity, peace and progress of the church was disturbed as leaders and staff scrambled to cope. Pessimists wanted to lay-off most of the staff and make crippling cuts in the budget. Others felt they could no longer afford their outreach ministries. The staff and leaders became discouraged. A disastrous setting was created, all because a sizable percentage of parishioners decided that financial giving would not be an urgent matter for that year.

Can you imagine what it would be like if God did the same?

“My people have no urgent needs of me this year; therefore they can be on their own.”

“I don’t expect much out of these people for a year therefore I am going to cut back on listening to their prayers.”

“They could do with less forgiveness; therefore I can divvy their portion of forgiveness to other folks who have more needs.”

“I will send my blessings to others for this year.”

If God did that for one day much less for one year, it would create a big mess. The good news is that God does not behave in such a way. God is in relationship with and faithful to us always. Because of that relationship, God is steadfast and dependable even when we might think we don’t need God.

Relationships require involvement and commitment. God is doing this and we are called do the same. Now is the time when God and Jesus’ Church are in urgent need of each of us to be available and giving our best efforts of time ideas, energy and resources. The work and ministries of First Presbyterian Church have been strong and bold and our challenge is to continue that tradition in all times. Our work will continue to be strong if each of person understands our relationship with God and rises to be faithful to God and God’s work. As we journey through this year, please remember how much God is counting upon each of us. The Church must never take a break or vacation. After all, God doesn’t do that.

Church Staff

Pastor
Rev. Don Hammond

Office Manager
Susan Riswold

**Organist &
Handbell Director**
Barb Mix

**First Presbyterian
Church**
Mailing Address:
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Church,
Twin Falls, Idaho**



Session Summary for December, 2022

The Session of First Presbyterian Church of Twin Falls held its regularly scheduled meeting at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Room.

Session approved the budget for 2023.

Melanie Halsell
Clerk

January 2023

Total Member Contributions - \$8,418

Per Capita - \$364

Total Other Income - \$2,175

Volley Ball Rent - \$

Total Income - \$10,593

* Total Expenses - \$13,818

Administrative - \$8,699

Office - \$1,742

Per Capita - \$

Facility - \$3,377

Insurance - \$

Net Loss - \$3,225



BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Melissa Howar	3/1
Chris Flournoy	3/5
Howard Neibling	3/6
Molly Senkbeil	3/7
Sue Davis	3/13
Rick Kuhn	3/15
Don Coker	3/21
Wiley Youree	3/22
Rod Potthast	3/29
Gerrie Hansen	3/30
Kody Youree	3/30

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Terry & Marion Ford	3/13
David & Marilyn Jensen	3/16

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.

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, and board books.

Easter Cross Necklaces

Remember last March when some of us got together and created beautiful and unique cross necklaces for the Salvation Army to give away? The necklaces were a big hit! The Salvation Army would like us to make more for this Easter season. **We will be meeting at Bridgeview in the Great Room on Monday, March 20th at 10:00.** We are hoping some of our Bridgeview members will join us! If you have any crosses or beads you would like to donate, please bring them to the church. Please add this event to your calendar and plan to join us for some creative necklace making.



2023 SESSION ELDERS

Mark Crothers
(Worship)

Phil Winn
(Stewardship)

Bob Parkinson
(Mission)

Judy Wright
(Fellowship)

Lawrence Flournoy
(Building & Grounds)

Chris Talkington
(Fellowship)

Carol Benson
(Worship)

Judy Pollow
(Personnel)

Mark Koffer
(Worship)

ELECTED OFFICERS

Melanie Halseil, Clerk of Session

Bob Parkinson, Treasurer

GIFTS, MEMORIALS & ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

Phil Winn – Chair

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, March 16 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, March 16 at 1:00pm

In the Fellowship room.

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

BOOK CLUB

Thursday, March 23 at 1:00pm

at Great Harvest Bakery

We will be discussing The Tea Planter's Club, by
Ann Bennett

thank you

Our family is filled with gratitude that the memorial service for our husband and father, Emery Petersen, could take place in the sanctuary that had been part of his life since he was a small child. This church had always held a special place in his heart and we deeply appreciate that the lovely sanctuary was the place for a service honoring his life of 90 years.

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 blessing 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
March 4 and March 18**

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Question: Does it seem like the Blessing Box is always empty?

Answer: It's being used!

We fill the box 3-4 times every week, there is a real need in the community and those "blessings" are being used.

As we reflect on caring for "the least of these" in our midst, challenge yourself and family to add to the Blessing Box. It would be easy to bring a blessing on Sunday and leave in collection bin before Worship.

Items to Donate

Non-Perishable Food:

Pasta, soup, beans, cereal, peanut butter, canned goods, granola bars etc.

Hygiene Items:

Soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, feminine products, combs, shaving cream & razors, shampoo, hand sanitizer etc.

Other:

Socks, hats, gloves and scarves



Looking for a Local Ministry?

Volunteers needed to Drive People
to Church and Church Events

Or

Do You need rides to Church?



Here is an opportunity for people who want to participate in congregational worship and other church events, but are limited by lack of transportation.

We are recruiting people to participate in this important ministry by being available to drive someone to and from the church. If this is a ministry you can participate in, we would like to hear from you as we organize matching drivers with people in need of transportation.

If you are interested in being transported to the church for worship or other church events, please contact the church and we will seek to arrange a driver to bring you to and return you home from worship and events.

*If interested, please contact the Church's
Administrative Assistant Susan at (208) 733-7023*



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			1 7am Men's Breakfast	2	3 World Day of Prayer	4 10:30am Sandwich Saturday
5 10am Worship 2 nd Sunday of Lent	6 7-9pm NA (MPR)	7	8 7am Men's Breakfast	9	10	11
12 10am Worship 3 rd Sunday of Lent	13 7-9pm NA (MPR)	14	15 7am Men's Breakfast	16 10am Circle 5 1pm Abigail Circle (FR)	17	18 10:30am Sandwich Saturday
19 10am Worship 4 th Sunday of Lent	20 7-9pm NA (MPR)	21 5:30pm Stated Session (FR)	22 7am Men's Breakfast	23 1pm BookClub Great Harvest Bread	24	25
26 10am Worship 5 th Sunday of Lent	27 7-9pm NA (MPR)	28	29 7am Men's Breakfast	30	31	



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED