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# September 2023 Edition

Albert Camus, the French/Algerian author, philosopher wrote *The Fall*, a story of a lawyer in Paris who stood by watching as a young woman jumps into and drowns in the river Seine. Watching her drown haunted the young man for his failure to save her. The man was on the brink of suicide when one evening he found himself on the same bridge; at the same place he witnessed that terrible loss years prior. In his pain



he speaks; "Oh, young woman, throw yourself into the river once again that I might save the both of us."

Living sometimes presents us with the need to act, and act quickly. When the horror of the World Trade Center occurred, there was one man, who was responsible for saving the lives of more than 2,000 employees in one of the collapsed buildings. He calmly directed the employees out of the burning building to safety. Though the building collapsed and took his life when he returned to help others, he acted decisively and quickly for the well-being of others.

There are many accounts in the Gospels when Jesus acted quickly for the well-being of others, for which he was criticized. The church is equally tasked with the same expectation of responding to the well-being of others in times of great need and without regard to criticism. When community, world or individual disaster is apparent, it is the responsibility of the church to take action even if our own safety must be disregarded. Individuals and congregations rise to help. Our local judicatories of the church also help. National offices of the church help as well, which is one of many reasons for financially supporting our larger church.

Such needs often present themselves suddenly. When needs appear, the difference between hesitation and action may well be the difference between life and death. Camus' character had the opportunity, a brief moment, to act quickly and decisively, but he failed to act. His later years were filled with regret for his inaction. May the Church never need to live with regret for its inaction. May the Church always place the Gospel's call to service and sacrifice above its own need for survival. Oddly enough, it is that very character of our reckless commitment for the well-being of others that breathes life into who we are as the Church and Christians. The church that focusses primarily on serving, is a living church. The church that goes beyond itself is the faithful body and lives. Camus was correct. Responding to other's needs is what will save us both. It is what Jesus taught us to do.

Amen.

Peace, Don

A Monthly Newsletter Publication from Twin Falls First Presbyterian Church

#### **Church Staff**

Pastor Rev. Don Hammond

Office Manager Susan Riswold

> Organist & Handbell Director Barb Mix

First Presbyterian Church

<u>Mailing Address:</u> P.O. Box 557 Twin Falls, ID 83303-0557

209 Fifth Avenue N. Twin Falls, ID 83301

208.733.7023

www.twinfallsfpc.org

© First Presbyterian Church, Twin Falls, Idaho

#### Church Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday 9am - 2pm

Please call the office to make an appointment with Pastor Don 208-733-7023





#### January thru June 2023

Total Member Contributions - \$79,958 Per Capita - \$960 Total Other Income - \$20,080 Volley Ball Rent - \$7,000 Total Income - \$100,038

Total Expenses - \$85,575 Administrative - \$51,234 Office - \$15,860 Per Capita - \$7,265 Facility - 18,481 Insurance - \$ Net Gain - \$14,463

Mission - \$10,710 - from outside

Please let the Church office know if we are missing your birthday, anniversary, would like to make an announcement or need to make a correction - thanks!



#### CHURCH 1917

# Session Summary No August Meeting

The next Stated Session Meeting Tuesday, Sept. 19, 2023 5:00 p.m. Fellowship Room Melanie Halsell Clerk of Session

#### Abigail Circle Facilitator Needed

Abigail Circle is looking for a facilitator to guide them through the 2023-24 Bible Study Lessons for nine months. The title of this year's study is Sacred Encounters the Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke and Acts. These studies are in book form with questions and discussions following the lessons, with a Leader Guide for each study. Studies are once a month on the third Thursday at 2:00pm, finishing at 3:30pm. We begin in September and finish in June. December is a potluck celebrating Christmas. Please give this some thought. Anyone interested, please contact: Candee Hawk – 208.961.1421 Joan Leir – 208.733.5024 or Susan Harris – 208.420.4678.

In Prayer,

Abigail Circle Members



# Sunday Worship 10:00am Adult Bible Study 8:30am

Please join us after Worship for fellowship and a light snack in the downstairs Fellowship Room.

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME To worship with their families in the sanctuary. Fun bags are provided for children to use in their pew. WIGGLE ROOM FOR CHILDREN

The Family Room at the back of the sanctuary offers rocking chairs, a changing table, books and toys for the very young. Downstairs in the Fellowship Room, children's corner off to the left with toy bin containing puzzles, soft toys, and board books to keep young ones busy.



AI Smutny	9/3
Caitlyn Probasco	9/7
Kathy Price	9/8
Joanne Smutny	9/8
Mark Koffer	9/9
Jeannie Billington	9/17
Waleea Harris	9/17
Kelly Ford	9/24
Barb Hardy	9/24
David Long	9/25
Susan Waters	9/30

Harry & Dorothy Geist Phil Winn & Susan Harris Chris & Cathy Talkington

May God Bless You

on your special day!

ERSAR

9/5

9/9

9/25



Psalm 139:13–16 For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.

# First Presbyterian Church of Twin Falls

#### 2023 SESSION ELDERS

Mark Crothers (People Committee)

Phil Winn (Resources Committee)

Bob Parkinson (Resources Committee)

Judy Wright (People Committee)

Lawrence Flournoy (Property Committee)

Chris Talkington (Property Committee)

**Carol Benson** (People Committee)

Judy Pollow (Faith Committee)

Mark Koffer (Faith Committee)

#### ELECTED OFFICERS

Melanie Halsell 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

Co-Moderators Darlene Annen Susan Harris Secretary Joan Leir Treasurer Colleen Miltenberger

# **Carol Benson**

Carol has moved to the beautiful coastal town of Lincoln City Oregon, voted one of the best beaches in the United States! Sounds like a great place to move to, we wish Carol the best and will miss her!

<u>New Address</u> 115 SE Mast Ave #68 Lincoln City, OR 97367



You may be gone from my sight... But you are never gone from my heart!

> -Winnie The Pooh

#### Marjorie Gebauer Dec. 21, 1922 - July 22, 2023 Beloved member of First Presbyterian Church

Marjorie was born December 21, 1922, in Akron, Colorado, to Lois and Frank Ruhaak. Marjorie attended Golden Rod Grade School and High Prairie High School where she played on the girls' basketball team. After the school closed, she worked doing housework for a neighboring family, custom ironing for many locals, and on her family's farm.

In 1941, Marjorie met the love of her life, Wilferd Gebauer, at the roller skating rink in Rago, Colorado. They were married on

September 26, 1942, in Fort Morgan, Colorado. The couple farmed southwest of Akron until Wilferd was drafted into the Navy during World War II. After the war, they resumed farming in Colorado until 1962, when they homesteaded their farm in Paul, Idaho. They farmed together until Wilferd's death in 1998. While her preference was keeping a loving home, gardening, and raising chickens, she was also a skilled farmhand. From setting water to driving spud truck to working hogs she could do it all and without a hair out of place. Marjorie resided on the farm until 2014, when she moved to Twin Falls. Marjorie and Wilferd were the proud parents of three children: Darlene, Ellouise, and Vernon and enjoyed 56 wonderful years of marriage. In addition to working side-by-side, they enjoyed being 4-H leaders and traveling to pork producer conventions together.

Marjorie was a member of the Idaho and National Women's Pork Producer's Council, the Cowbelle's, and a 4-H leader for over 40 years. As a 4-H leader, she taught many members cooking and sewing skills ranging from beginner to advanced projects. Marjorie's love of sewing and cooking has been shared by her own children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren well beyond her years as a 4-H leader.

She herself loved to enter cooking and sewing projects at the fair which she continued until the age of 99 and won numerous awards over the years. Last but not least, Marjorie was an active member of the First Presbyterian Church in Burley and Twin Falls. Her diverse life experiences made her a perfect mix of faith, strength, courage, kindness, and plenty of spice.



Marjorie was adored by many, especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She will be greatly missed!



# SMALL GROUPS

ABIGAIL CIRCLE Thursday, September 21 at 1:30pm Fellowship Room All are welcome to join us Contact Deanna Baxter, Susan Harris, or Joan Leir.

BOOK CLUB Thursday, September 28 at 1pm at Great Harvest Bakery

**CIRCLE FIVE** Thursday, September 21 at 10am Fellowship Room

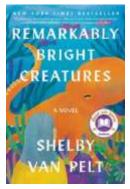
MEN'S BREAKFAST Every Wednesday at 7am at Idaho Joe's Restaurant Join us for breakfast & fellowship Contact Phil Winn

# **Book Clubbers**

September 28 at 1pm Great Harvest Bakery Book Choice: Remarkably Bright Creatures By: Shelby Van Pelt Everyone is Welcome to Join Us!

\*\*AN INSTANT NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

NAMED A BEST BOOK OF SUMMER by: Chicago Tribune \* The View \* Southern Living \* USA Today "Remarkably Bright Creatures [is] an ultimately feel-good but deceptively sensitive debut.... Memorable and tender." — Washington Post



# **Cook's Night Off** September 11 at 5:30pm

Location: Norm's Catering Dining Room

Dinner Choices Parmesan Chicken or Salmon

Email <u>IIbp@live.com</u> or call/text 208-404-1194 with dinner choice in advance and to ensure enough seating.



See <u>norm's catering in twin falls id -</u> <u>Search (bing.com)</u> which is behind Norms on same side of Main, 3<sup>rd</sup> house.

#### Upcoming Sandwich Saturdays

September 2, 16 & 30 at 10:30am Free sandwich lunches given away outside the Church entrance on 5th Ave North

#### Wireless Hearing Assistance System Now Available - Sunday Mornings

We've purchased 4 wireless receivers from Listen Technologies to help with hearing issues during worship. See usher for availability and easy directions on how to use.



# **Blessing Box**

Our Local Outreach Ministry is Working! Everyday someone from our local community is visiting our blessing box taking food or leaving some. What a blessing to be helping our local community. We are getting low on food, any donations would be appreciated. Special <u>Thank You</u> to all the volunteers that keep this ministry going!!

# CHURCH SCHOLARSHIPS



#### We are pleased to announce two recent recipients, Elias Halsell and Brendan Mix

The Scholarship Committee has been hard at work these last few months with regards to scholarships! The local church has numerous endowment funds that allow us to use the earnings on the endowments towards scholarships.

#### **Elias Halsell**

Elias received a scholarship to assist him with his <u>final</u> semester over this past Summer. He has obtained a B.A. in Communications from Boise State University, where he completed most of his classes online. He and his fiancé`, Keelie, are currently working in Twin Falls, but plan on moving to the Seattle area where Elias has submitted job applications in the Public Relations field.

#### **Brendan Mix**

Brendan graduated from Jerome High School in May and has already been taking numerous classes at the College of Southern Idaho. He plans on obtaining an associates degree in marine biology in the Fall of 2024 and then advancing on to complete his undergraduate degree at another university/college.

Both of these young men are hardworking individuals and a delight to visit with! We wish them all the best in their endeavors and much success. They have both promised to keep us apprised of their developments.

The Scholarship Committee is composed of Judy Pollow and Linda Howar. This committee is a subcommittee of the Faith Committee of Session. Should anyone have any questions about these recent scholarship recipients or the committee, please don't hesitate to contact one of us!



#### WREATHS across AMERICA

Sponsor a Veteran Wreath REMEMBER the fallen, HONOR those who serve, TEACH our children the value of freedom (WAA's mission)



Please join us in this grassroots volunteer mission to show our respect and appreciation for our veterans and their families by sponsoring wreaths.

#### December 16, 2023

Wreaths will be laid to honor our fallen veterans at

- Filer Cemetery
- West End Cemetery
- Snake River Canyon Cemetery
- Twin Falls Cemetery
- Rock Creek Cemetery

If you would like to purchase a wreath in honor of local veterans, they are \$17 each. Order forms are at the Church in the Fellowship Room or go to www.WreathsAcrossAmerica to pay online with a credit card. You do have the option of laying the wreath

vourself on December 16th.

Daughters of the American Revolutions does not think God will love us because we are good, but God will make us good because he loves us. C.S. Lewis

The Christian



There is but one good: that is God. Everything else is good when it looks to Him and bad when it turns from him. *C.S. Lewis* 



Are you looking for a way to volunteer, get involved, help someone? There are so many ways to volunteer and help people right here in Twin Falls!

Valley House Homeless Shelter 507 Addison Ave West



Valley House helps local homeless men, women and families change their circumstances. Right now they are in urgent need of pantry items.

Requests: Rice, dry beans, mac & cheese, chili beans, ramen noodles, broth, cream soups, spaghetti and sauce, hamburger and tuna helper.

Donation drop off: Mon-Fri 9am to Noon and 1-3pm

For more information on ways to help or to become a sponsor go to their website. www.valley-house.org

The Habitat for Humanity

669 Eastland Dr South Twin Falls (208) 735-1233

Volunteer at the Re-store, help build a home or volunteer at one of their events. Go to the Habitat for Humanity website to sign up, and help families right here in the Magic Valley!

> Twin Falls Humane Society People for Pets, 420 Victory Ave 208-736-2299

Love animals, want to help? Got some free time? Volunteers needed, come spend time helping animals. Foster homes needed for pets to young or sick to be at facility. Donations of food, supplies and cash always needed. Please see website or



call them for more information.



#### Volunteer at St. Lukes St Luke's

Every day, incredible volunteers help patients, their families and St. Luke's staff in a variety of ways. St. Luke's is looking for volunteers for:

- Gift Shop \*
- Women's Imaging
- Main Lobby \*
- Safety Checks
- **Recovery Lounge** \*
- \* Ronald McDonald Cart

For more information or to apply, contact Joni Huff, Volunteer Manager at 208-814-1119 or visit stlukesonline.org and search for "volunteer in Magic Valley".



Twin Falls Library 201 4th Ave. East Twin Falls ID, 83301 (208) 733-2964 How fun to volunteer at the library!

### **Help at Church**

Volunteer to be an Usher, Liturgist or Greeter

Help with the Blessing Box

Help at Church events



Give someone a ride to Church



**CSI Refugee Center** 1526 Highland Ave. E. Twin Falls, Idaho 83301 Phone: 208-736-2166 Household items needed, please visit their website or call for donation list.

Mustard Seed Main Street Ministries To volunteer contact Liz at 208.733.9515 or drop by store Tuesday - Thursday 10am to 3pm for opportunities.

# Shoes for School Campaign 2023

FPC Presbyterian Women's groups Abigail Circle and Circle 5 are continuing the tradition of supporting the local mission of "Shoes for School". This mission provides school shoes for needy children here in our own Twin Falls.

The number of homeless students, kindergarten through 12th grade continues to grow. Many families struggle to provide enough food let alone school shoes, clothes and supplies.

We are asking for support again this year, with your donations we will purchase \$30 gift cards from The Shoe Department. The cards will be given to the At-Risk Services Coordinator for Twin Falls School District. The Coordinator will disperse the gift cards directly to qualifying students and their families on an as needed basis.

If you would like to donate to this worthy local mission, please place donation in collection plates or baskets on tables in Fellowship Room.

- \* Donations accepted through month of September
- \* Make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church with "Shoe Project" in memo line
- \* Put cash in envelope with "Shoe Project" written on outside
- Any questions contact Darlene Annen

# Thank you for helping make a huge difference for children right her in Twin Falls!



# Meals on Wheels Delivery Driver Needed

The Twin Falls Senior Center needs your HELP! Drivers are **urgently** needed to deliver meals to home bound seniors in Twin Falls, Monday through Friday.

ROUTES take an hour or less to complete. Your commitment is based on your availability. You must be 18 years of age; have your own car; proof of liability insurance; and background check. Drivers currently receive 57.5 cents a mile fuel reimbursement.

This opportunity to serve will be self-rewarding

"Don't forget to do good and to share what you have because God is pleased with these kinds of sacrifices." Hebrews 13:16



And life changing. Please help us serve the community one heart at a time. Contact Tina at (208)734-5084

or go to the Twin Falls Senior Center at 530 Shoshone St W.

### Salvation Army Twin Falls Kitchen Helpers Needed

Do you like to cook? Do you enjoy a chance to make new friends? Is helping others

# enjoyable for you?

If so, our kitchen is a good spot
for you!
Salvation Army
Administration Building

208-733-8720

#### 348 4th Ave. North

Twin Falls

#### Volunteer with St. Vincent DePaul 244 Main Ave. South, Twin Falls

St. Vincent de Paul of South Central Idaho is a volunteer organization. Each year we serve thousands of people in need through the efforts of hundreds of committed volunteers just like you. We have many different opportunities to fit your interests and abilities.

#### The Process of finding your role.

We ask people who are interested in volunteering to come into the store and visit. We talk about some of their life skills and work experience. Whether it be that you love to organize, enjoy intermingling with customers, fixing and cleaning items, or reading - there are areas in the store that you can help with. We find that when volunteers find a fitting niche they take ownership in what they do and become a great asset to the society. SPECIAL OFFERINGS

September 3 - October 1, 2023 Peace & Global Witness



Peace & Global Witness Offering encourages the church to cast off anxiety and fear, discord and division, and embrace our God's mission of reconciliation to those around the corner and around the world.

Confronting hopelessness, thwarting division

# Empowering congregations and individuals to become peacemakers

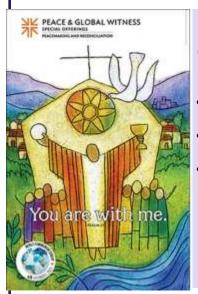
#### themselves.

Through the Peace & Global Witness Offering, congregations are encouraged and equipped to find and address the anxiety and discord that is prevalent throughout this broken and sinful world.

# <u>Your impact</u>

# Equipping Peacemakers in Congregations and Around the World.

A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this Offering to connect with the global witness of Christ's peace. Mid councils retain an additional 25% for ministries of peace and reconciliation. The remaining 50% is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence, including our own, through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness.



#### Where does our money go?

Our gifts to the Peace & Global Witness Offering are helping our neighbors in need — those who live next door, down the street, and across the globe.

- 25% of this Offering stays with our congregation to support peacemaking and reconciliation in our own community.
- 25% of this Offering goes to our mid-council to join with other congregations to support peacemaking work in our region.
- 50%of this Offering supports the work being done by Presbyterians across the globe.

Our neighbors need us. Please give what you can to the Peace & Global Witness Offering.

#### When we all do a little it adds up to a lot!

It's a Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood!

Fred Rogers was an ordained minister of word and sacrament for the PC(USA) and is a notable public figure whose work around peace and reconciliation are worth remembering.

Rogers was also a pioneer in the world of Christian education and formation of young children.

The Presbyterian Peacemaking Program and the Office of Theology and Worship have partnered with the Office of Christian Formation to provide resources for celebrating Mr. Rogers Day (March 20). Go to presbyterianministries.org to see how they have incorporated

Mr. Rogers loving perspective on Christian love and spreading the gospel.



"Frankly, there isn't anyone you couldn't learn to love once you've heard their story" Fred Rogers

# September 4th - Labor Day

Labor Day honors and celebrates the contributions and achievements of the working class. It serves as an opportunity to recognize the efforts put in by millions of workers to build a stronger economy and improve the quality of life for everyone.

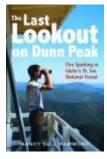
The origins of Labor Day can be traced back to the labor union
movement of the late 19th century, when industrial workers sought
better working conditions, fair wages, and reasonable hours.

The first Labor Day parade took place in New York City on September 5, 1882, organized by the Central Labor Union. This event laid the groundwork for the national celebration of Labor Day, which eventually became an official federal holiday in 1894 under President Grover Cleveland.

In America, Labor Day is observed on the first Monday in September, marking the unofficial end of summer . We American's celebrate with barbeques, picnics, family gatherings and a day off from work.



### WE HAVE TALENTED PEOPLE HERE AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH!



#### Hammond publishes book on lost era of fire spotting MAGIC VALLEY IN BRIEF

Kimberly's **Nancy Sule Hammond** has published a new book, "The Last Lookout at Dunn Peak: Fire Spotting in Idaho's St. Joe National Forest," about the lost era of fire lookouts across the state. Hammond's husband, Don, was the last fire spotter to work at the Dunn Peak Lookout in the Idaho's St. Joe National Forest, where the couple spent two summers in the early 1970s — first at an outpost about eight miles northwest of Avery in Shoshone County and then at the Middle Sister Peak tower, southeast of Avery, according to a news release.

"In 'The Last Lookout,' Nancy shares stories from those two exciting, magical fire seasons, along with their return as volunteers 37 years later. Interspersing her accounts with regional fire history as well as dangers and details of the work, she journeys back to the narrow catwalks and stunning panoramas — a place where storms are building, the landscape is dry, and any lightning strike could ignite a raging wildfire," the release said.

Hammond's paperback book is available at bookstores nationwide, or direct from Basalt Books at 800-354-7360 or online at basaltbooks.wsu. edu. The price is \$22.95.

Magic Valley.com August 15, 2023



#### Western Worship September 3rd

Twin Falls County Fair is Aug. 30 - Sept. 4 and in honor of our local fair and just for fun come dressed up for worship on Sunday, Sept. 3rd in western wear.

Plan to be in Church and have some fun! Don't forget to bring your camera but leave your horse at home!



Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) Chairperson - Mark Koffer Harry Geist Linda Howar Roger Keller Monica Youree

#### Your Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC) is eager to start working through the process of hiring a new Pastor for our church.

The first step that the committee is working on involves YOU! The church is made up of people and therefore, the committee needs to understand what the people of the church want and need in a Pastor.

We want your thoughts and ideas to help guide us through this process, especially as we put together the Ministry Discernment Profile that potential applicants will review.

#### Here are a few questions to spark your thoughts and input we are seeking:

- Would you prefer a full time or part time pastor?
- Should our congregation share a pastor with another congregation?
- What vision do we have for ministry?
- What expectations of duties should our pastor do? (i.e. shut ins, prepare bulletin, youth program, etc.)
- Do we expect our pastor to teach?
- What skills are important for our pastor to have?
- What needs will the pastor need to be able to deal with?
- How much experience do you expect your pastor to have?
- How long do we want the pastor to stay with our congregation?
- How important is congregation building to our church?
- Why would a pastor want to preach at the First Presbyterian Church?
- What resources in our community do we have to attract a pastor?
- How can we be creative in attracting a pastor?
- What else do we need to know as we go through the Pastor selection process?

We would like to invite you to visit with anyone on the committee. If you would rather send us an e-mail with your thoughts, please send it to <a href="mailto:mskoffer@gmail.com">mskoffer@gmail.com</a>.

Thank you to all those who have already shared your thoughts with us! Anytime you have questions about the process or what the committee is up to, please feel free to reach out to us!

Monica Youree

So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.

Ephesians 4:11-12

Then I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will lead you with knowledge and understanding.

Jeremiah 3:15

SEPTEMBER								
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
	tern Wear Sunda	will be held in	ve your horse Fellowship Roc	<b>b</b> M	1	2 Sandwich Sat		
3 Communion Sunday Worship 10am	4 Labor Day	5	6	7	8	9		
10 Worship 10am	11 Cook's Night Out	12	13	14	15	16 Sandwich Sat		
17 Worship 10am	18	19 Stated Session Mtg 5pm (FR)	20	21 Circle5 10am (FR) Abigail Circle 1:30pm (FR)	22	23 1st day of Fall		
24 Worship 10am	25	26	27	28 BookClubbers 1pm Great Harvest Bakery	29	30 Sandwich Sat		

Autumn Winds begin to blow, colored leaves fall fast and slow. Whirling, twirling all around, till at last they touch the ground.





RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED