



1st Pres eNews

December 7, 2021

Important Links

1stPresDowntown.org

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Blog of the Week

Chris Gray



The Legend of the Candy Cane

The legend says that there was a time in Europe when any public display of Christianity was forbidden. No crosses or Bibles were allowed. One old man, a candy maker by profession, was very upset by this. He loved God and couldn't stand to not share that love with others. He prayed for God to show him some way to make Christmas gifts for the children which would teach them the story of Christ. ... [Read More](#)

This Week

Advent @ 1st Pres

Sunday, December 19

Children's Christmas Un-Pageant

9 am Service

No auditions, no lines to memorize. All children are welcome to participate in this re-telling of the Christmas story. In the Sanctuary and online.

Friday, December 24

Christmas Eve Services

5 pm - Family Friendly

Please join us Christmas Eve for a family friendly service in the Sanctuary and online. Come early for cocoa and fun.

Christmas Families 2021 STORE Volunteers Needed



This is a wonderful opportunity for families or individuals to help be part of something new and exciting. Come share some holiday cheer and the love of Christ with our Christmas Families. Let's show these precious families what 1st Pres love looks like.

7 pm - Candlelight Communion

A beautiful service with carols, communion and candles. In the Sanctuary.

Knitting For Warmth

Meeting Update

We're changing the December meeting schedule. We will be meeting on Friday, December 10th at our usual time.

The we're taking the rest of this month off and will resume January 7th 2022.



Set-up: Thurs, December 16, 9 am - 1 pm

Christmas Store Hours

Thursday, December 16, 6-8 pm

Friday, December 17, 10 am - 12 noon

Saturday, December 18, 10 am - 2 pm*

*two shifts

Clean-up begins at 2 pm on Saturday once the store closes.

If you can help, please contact Diane Wakkinen (208) 267-8504 or Barb Proper (208) 660-3142

Meet the families and other program details can be found [here](#).

Lynn Dennis Celebration of Life



Please join the family and friends of Lynn Dennis as we celebrate her life on Tuesday, December 14th at 2 pm. There will be a cookie reception following in

Krueger Hall. All are welcome.

Family Promise

1st Pres has long supported Family Promise of North Idaho, an organization dedicated to helping families in crisis build new lives. We host families several times each year providing a safe, warm environment including meals and a bed for one week.

Our most important need is help with set-up and overnight hosts. Can you help? Please contact Judy Flieger or Teri Burch.

Get your 2021 Ornament!

Designed by Brent Everson

We took orders for this special ornament on Sunday, December 5th and we have more in case you missed the chance to order this past Sunday.



The Children and Family team want to thank you for your generous support! Without you we would not be able to serve the children of this church and the

You can place your order by calling the office. Orders can be pre-paid through our [giving portal](#). You can also pay for your order when you pick them up. The ornaments will be \$10 each or 3/\$25. We have a limited supply so get your orders in soon!

Ornaments will be available for pick up on December 12th and December 19th in Krueger Hall.

A big thank you to Brent Everson with the Custom Den who is generously designing

community! All proceeds will go towards our camp scholarship program.

and donating these awesome ornaments to add to your collection from years past.

Last chance for Let it Snow Quilt Raffle!

Joyce Liechti's stunning quilt is on display in Kruger Hall and you have a chance of winning this beauty! Tickets can be purchased on Sundays or call the office. But hurry the raffle ends this coming Sunday.

The winner will be announced on December 19th.

All proceeds benefit Women's Association student scholarships.



Sunday's Service

Watch again or for the 1st time!



Hope. Perhaps the main reason scripture emphasizes stories about young and old is because they give us hope. God is able and willing to call us at any age and use us to accomplish great things. Hope for purpose. Pray for opportunities. Read Luke 1 -

the whole chapter and don't miss this message!

[Watch for the first time or watch it again!](#)

Many thanks to our team of volunteers that make broadcasting the service possible!

[Watch this service or any of our past services on our YouTube Channel](#)

Church News

Discovery Process Final Report

Thank you to everyone who participated in this important process. Eighty-seven people participated in the Saturday event and we received follow-up surveys from a total of 90. This information is going to help our new strategic planning committee, our elders, and our Pastor Nominating Committee. [Read the full Report to Session](#)

Women's Development Track

Missions Team Update

The Women's Development Track's (WDT) mission is to help grow potential in women as they serve as examples and leaders of Christian love. The goal of this Mission partner of our church is to encourage and equip women as missionaries and church workers in a variety of roles and seasons of life.



Testimonial: I really enjoyed the intellectual exchange. I was challenged in my thinking and enjoyed seeing and experiencing the passion of both the

Wendy Wilson, Executive Director, is a friend to our Missions team and leads this woman-focused development organization. As such, Wendy prepares and mentors mission workers' for their mostly global destinations. She has taught classes locally for women in leadership including here women here at 1st Pres.

presenters and the participants. I was challenged personally to better participate in my sphere of influence, to read more, engage more, maybe write more, think more; BE MORE! ~Vivian, Missionary & Member Care

Learn about [Women's Development Track](#)

2022 Stewardship Campaign

Bridging to the Future



Don't forget to submit your pledge card for 2022 giving. It can be found on our website on the [giving](#) page or you can pick up a copy from the office.



Turkey Fund 2021

We continue to collect funds for the 2021 Turkey Fund.

Use the [Giving Portal](#) and select 'Turkey Fund' and donate any amount or mail or drop a check off at the church office.

Please Note

Masks are highly recommended in any group setting.

December Schedule

Sundays

7:55 am Bible Study - Lakeside Conference Room
9 am **Classic Service** in Sanctuary & Online.
10:30 am **Contemplative Service** in Sanctuary.

We encourage social distancing with masks highly recommended.

DOXA 11 am

Wednesdays

Downtown Youth - Check with Kierstie for details

Thursdays

Ecumenical Lunch Kitchen
ARMS

Fridays

Knitting for Warmth

Children & Family Ministry

Hi Families!

We had a wonderful turnout for the Neigh-tivity event. Thank you to all who took some time out of their schedules during this busy season to enjoy it!

Our next big event is the UnPageant! We will be back in person



with this beloved tradition on December 19th, during the 9 am service. If you haven't seen this event, you are in for a treat! This is an unrehearsed and unscripted reenactment of the Christmas story. Children of all ages will be invited to participate. All you need to do is arrive at church about 20 minutes early so the children can pick their roles and dress up in their costumes.

I am in need of two adults to play Mary and Joseph, again, there are no speaking parts. Your roles will be narrated and you simply follow the instructions as they are read. Please email me if you'd be willing to help me out!

I hope you all have a blessed week,

Carley

Carley@1stpresdowntown.org or 208-215-5337

Wrapping Up 2021!

December

- Un-pageant Sunday, December 19 at the 9 am service

Youth Ministry



Sign-up for the Youth Family Newsletter

Does your family have middle or high school students? Would your middle or high schooler like to get connected with fun fellowship this summer? Get connected with our family newsletter! Email Kierstie and let her know you'd like to receive the newsletters.

Youth Progressive Dinner

Saturday, December 18

Thank you to all who have volunteered their homes to host our progressive dinner on December 18th! It's sure to be a fun evening for our amazing students.

Now we need to ask the students (possibly your kiddo) to **RSVP by December 3** (this Friday).

Questions? Please contact Kierstie.

Sunday Morning Youth Study Cafe

Come as you are and join us in the



Youth Room for hot chocolate and treats while you work. We will enjoy praise music in the background of our cafe atmosphere and listen to the livestreamed sermon.

Groups & Gatherings

Saturday Men's Breakfast

@ Calypso Coffee Roasters

On the 2nd and 4th Saturday, September through May, the men of 1st Pres are invited to come together for fellowship and a bite to eat. We meet at 7:30 am at Calypso Coffee. Email [Dan Brown](#) or call 208.755.9087 for details.

Sunday Morning Bible Study

7:55 am in the Lakeside Conference Room

Our Sunday morning bible study, led by Chris and Eric Fehr meets at 7:55 am in the Lakeside Room off of Krueger Hall. Join in person or with this [Zoom link](#).



Knitting For Warmth

Please join us for fellowship and a little creative time Fridays from 10-11:30 am in the Fireside Room.

Please note we will be meeting this Friday, Dec 10th and then we will be off for the rest of the month. We will resume on Jan 7, 2022.

Please call Carolyn Peterson or the office if you have any questions.

Contemplative Worship Service

A Remedy to the Noise

Are you seeking a quiet place where your soul can find some room to breathe? The 10:30 Contemplative Service may be what you need. Spend time peacefully worshipping in a thoughtful and relaxed style.

Contemplative Service Leads

Donna Brundage: Greeting

Susan Lauer: Setup & Sanctuary Design

Matt Broadway: Music

Yvette Wyatt: Scripture & Prayer

Staying In Touch

Remember that phone contact is a good substitute for in-person contact. Be sure to keep in touch with each other. We'll keep you up-to-date in the eNews, on the church calendar, or you can call the office.

