



1stPresDowntown
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1st Pres eNews

January 4, 2022

Important Links

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Blog of the Week

Janet Starkey

In a World Where You Can Be Anything, Be Kind



The first week of January seems like a good time to think about resolutions. While it's not pointless to think about resolving to do better, be better, if you do nothing, then why bother? I decided to look for some help and found some tips to help make and keep our 2022 New Year's resolutions! ... [Read More](#)

This Week

Growing as Disciples Together

Saturday, January 22
10 am - 2 pm



Do you back away from facilitating small groups because you lack confidence or you're unsure how

to engage people in good conversations? 1st Pres is offering a wonderful opportunity for anyone interested in learning skills for facilitating a group conversation that will encourage participation among all members. It helps us shift from the "teaching as telling"

Venture

1stPresDowntown

It's time to sign up for our late Winter/Spring Venture experience! Pastor Neal will be leading the only adult class we're holding '7 Weeks to Greater Positivity and Kindness'.

This class will help you reduce negativity at work, home, and community. You will be introduced to 30 micro-actions designed to improve relationships and

model to the “guide on the side”. Learn to be a better facilitator, committee member, or communicator. You’ll leave with new skills in communicating in a group! This free class will be led by Wendy Wilson on Saturday, January 22, from 10 am to 2 pm.

A half-hour lunch will be provided. Register by calling Carolyn Keefer at 208-691-9914.

Sunday School Update



As more and more families attend church regularly, we have decided that it's time to go back to our

traditional Sunday school on Sunday mornings. In order to make that happen, we are looking for four or five dedicated volunteers to teach our preschoolers and kindergartners. This would be on a rotation so you would teach or co-teach every other week. I will provide the lesson plans and all activities. If you would be interested in working with our youngest group of children please email Carley at carley@1stpresdowntown.org or call/text 208-215-5337 to learn more about this opportunity to serve the families of 1st Pres.

increase positive interactions around you. The class is interactive, utilizing small group discussion and peer coaching as well as training from Pastor Neal. We will be using Pastor Neal's book *Workplace Positivity* (\$15 due at the first class).

To learn more about the kindness training Pastor Neal does, visit [Kindness Training](#).

In addition, Kierstie will be meeting with our youth. Carley will be running her newest Adventure Kids program.

[Adventure Kids Registration](#)

The new Venture session begins Wednesday, Feb 2, and runs through May 4th (7 sessions). We'll have a sign-up sheet in Krueger Hall this Sunday or you can call the office to register.

We encourage you to use this direct registration link if possible:

[Greater Positivity & Kindness Class](#)



[Purchase Tickets and Details Here](#)

Family Promise

Hosting January 9 - 16

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 takedown. Overnight fill-in hosts are also helpful. Can you help? Please contact Judy Flieger, Teri Burch or Ann Smart.

There also volunteer applications available through the office or through the coordinators. A Family Promise volunteer training video is available: <https://familypromise.org/volunteer-training-videos/>

Sunday's Service

Watch again or for the 1st time!

This past Sunday our guest speaker, Russ Smyth, was inspired by Matthew 5:14-16. You are the light of the world! There was some audio difficulty - the message volume begins around 36:50. [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

A Quick Financial Thank-You and Update

As members of the Finance and Stewardship committees, we want to thank you for your



financial faithfulness in 2021. Each year our two committees work hard to estimate the church's giving and expenses for the coming year. The budgeting process has been difficult the past two years due to unforeseen challenges worldwide. Through it all, the members of 1st Pres came through in numerous ways. Thanks to the loyal and faithful members of our church and their financial commitments over the years, we have been able to meet all of

our current financial obligations as well as plan for our church's future financial security. Your generosity has truly humbled us.

Our giving income through November shows we are running behind about \$30,000 of our expected 2021 giving of our budgeted amount of \$575,000. We ask all of you to prayerfully consider making an additional year-end gift toward reducing our shortfall. Thank you for all you do for the church and the kingdom of God.

Bob Freund & Jon Hippler

Please Note

Masks are highly recommended in any group setting.

January Schedule

Sundays

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

Wednesdays

Downtown Youth - check with Kierstie for details

We encourage social distancing with
masks highly recommended.

DOXA 11 am

Thursdays
Ecumenical Lunch Kitchen
ARMS

Children & Family Ministry

Hi Families!

Adventure Kids' Club Registration

Adventure Kids' Club is back for our spring session! The club will be on the first and third Wednesday of the month in conjunction with the middle and high school youth group (kid-free evening anyone?!). The Club will be a social opportunity with faith formation, games, and a craft. The focus of our spring session will be all about the evidence that we can trust God with our lives and what that looks like for a young person. Any children kindergarten through 5th grade would be invited to attend. The timeframe will be from 6:00-7:30 pm beginning on Wednesday, February 2nd. All Adventure Kids' Club dates: February 2 & 16, March 2 & 16, April 6 & 20 and May 4.

[Register Now](#)

I hope you all have a blessed week, Carley



Carley Walker

Sunday School Needs You!

As more families attend church regularly, we have decided return to our traditional Sunday school on Sunday mornings. To make that happen, we need four to five dedicated volunteers to teach our preschoolers and kindergartners. Rotating, you would teach or co-teach every other week. I would provided the lesson plans and all activities. If you'd be interested in working with our youngest group of children please email Carley at carley@1stpreshdowntown.org or call/text 208-215-5337 to learn more about this opportunity to serve the families of 1st Pres.

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

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



fellowship this summer? Get connected with our family newsletter! Email [Kierstie](#) and let her know you'd like to receive the newsletters.

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. We will be resuming our normal schedule 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

Life becomes a celebration when we keep in touch, so let's celebrate by keeping in touch with each other. Phone a friend!