



1st Pres eNews

November 30, 2021

Important Links

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Blog of the Week

Stephanie Rogge



Safe in the Storm

Two weeks ago our electricity went out. The wind blew a tree down across a power line in our neighborhood. As we sat there in the dark, we decided to make the best of the situation. It was a great time to spend time together without some of the regular distractions of that time of the day. We lit candles throughout the house, listened to music and various comedians on our mobile devices and laughed. I have to say, even ... [Read More](#)

This Week



Communion Sunday, December 5th. Please join us in the Sanctuary or come prepared with your elements if worshipping online.

Final meeting of 2021! We gather from 6:30 - 8 pm this Wednesday, December 1st.

Venture
1stPresDowntown

Get your 2021 Ornament! Designed by Brent Everson

The annual Children and Families Christmas ornament fundraiser is here! They will be just as awesome as they



Neigh-tivity 2021

THIS SATURDAY!

December 4 | 12 - 3 pm
Sherman Park (next to Pita Pit)

have been in previous years! 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 community! All proceeds will go towards our camp scholarship program.

Orders can be placed in Krueger Hall on December 5th or by calling the office. Ornaments will be available for picked up on December 12th and December 19th in Krueger Hall.

Orders can be pre-paid through our [Giving portal](#) or 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! Once we have a mock up we will make sure to share it with you.

A big thank you to Brent Everson with the Custom Den who is generously designing and donating these awesome ornaments to add to your collection from years past.

How does an afternoon of caroling, petting farm animals, hot beverages and even a photo opportunity in front of a manger scene sound? **We still need a few volunteers: costume handlers and especially clean-up!** Please contact [Donna Schwandt](#) if you can lend a hand.

Let it Snow!

The Women's Association is once again pleased to announce that Joyce Liechti has created a stunning quilt to be raffled off in December. This lovely quilt will be on display in Krueger Hall starting this Sunday, with tickets for sale. The winner will be announced on December 19th.



All proceeds benefit Women's Association student scholarships.

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](#).



Turkey Fund 2021

We continue to collect funds for the 2021 Turkey Fund. Grocery cards will be distributed to help those in need during the month of December. Go to our Giving Portal and select 'Turkey Fund' to make a donation of any amount. You can also mail or drop a check off at the church during normal office hours. Turkey Fund envelopes are available for Sunday donations.

Christmas Families 2021



We are collecting for our six families and we're NOT done! Please check out the lists

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.

in Krueger Hall to see how you can help bless one of our families. Don't forget that we're doing one thing a bit differently this year - there is no need to wrap your gift donations. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to one of the Deacons.

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

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.

7 pm - Candlelight Communion

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

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](#)

The key takeaways:

- Increase the church's intergenerational focus and increase focus on young families and young adults.
- Value the current services and music offerings.
- Increase effective communication between church leadership and the general congregation.
- Nurture the current mission programs with the local community and the community abroad.

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.

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 at 1st Pres.



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

Sunday's Service

Watch again or for the 1st time!

Christians own the words of Christmas. We celebrate them every year with our advent wreath. Love, Hope, Peace and Joy. This week Pastor Neal focused on love and how this is expressed through our faith. Read Galatians 5:5-14 and don't miss this message or watch it again!!!

[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

2022 Stewardship Campaign Bridging to the Future



Don't forget to submit your pledge card for 2022 giving.

It can be found by clicking the link below, or our website on the [Giving](#) page or you can pick up a copy from the office.

Pledge cards are available [here](#) or at the church.

Prayer Shawls Available

Our knitters and crocheters have been working their magic and both shawls and one lap robes are available. They can be found in the **Fireside Room**. Please be sure to complete the Prayer Shawl Ministry sheet so we can track who's been gifted and that prayers for them continue.

Please Note

Masks are highly recommended in any group setting.

November / 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

Venture - [see schedule](#)

Thursdays

Ecumenical Lunch Kitchen
ARMS

Fridays

Knitting for Warmth

Children & Family Ministry

Hi Families!

Adventure Kids' Club Details

Join in on this social opportunity with faith formation, games, and a craft. Our fall/winter session focuses on learning about Jesus and ourselves through a look at New Testament parables. Any child, kindergarten through 5th grade, is invited to attend.

[Register here](#)



TIME: 6:30-8:00 pm

DATE: Wednesday: December 1

Masks are strongly recommended, but not required by our Session at this time.

Fall Schedule

December

- Neightivity, Saturday, December 4th | 12 noon - 3 pm | Sherman Park : Join us for caroling, take photos in our manger scene, enjoy a hot beverage and pet some cute animals.

I am praying for you and your families!

Carley

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

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.

Sunday Morning Youth Study Cafe Starting November 14th

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 every Friday from 10-11:30 am in the Fireside Room. 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.

