



1stPresDowntown
Since 1888
LOVE1st
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF COEUR D'ALENE

1st Pres eNews

December 16, 2020



We ask you to prayerfully consider your pledge for 2021 and return it soon so that budgets can be developed for the coming year. Pledges can be mailed to the church office, or go directly to our [Giving Portal](#) and automatically schedule your giving. Thank you!

Important Links

1stPresDowntown.org

[Church Calendar](#)

[Connect With Us](#)

[FaceBook](#)

[Giving](#)

[Prayer Requests](#)

[rightnow Media](#)

[1st Pres on YouTube](#)

Blog of the Week

Blake Miller



ADOREnaments

Celebrating the Names of Christ

Keeping Christ in Christmas is one of the most important things we as Christians can do during the holiday season. It presents new opportunities for sharing the gospel and our beliefs of what we are celebrating. The adorenments have been a part of my family's Christmas tradition since I was a young child. They have always helped remind me of ... [Read More](#)



This Week

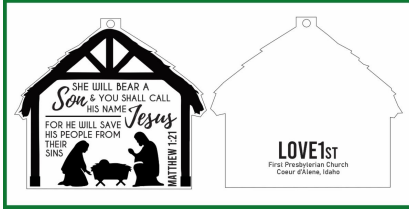


Sunday Service Update Reminder

Access our [YouTube channel here](#) to watch our services anytime.

Children and Family Christmas

Ornament Fundraiser



We are thrilled to continue our collection of locally crafted Christmas ornaments in 2020!

Brent Everson with the **Custom Den** has designed and crafted this wonderful Alderwood laser-engraved Nativity Scene. Next time you see Brent, give him a huge thank you and an air high five! He is donating the ornaments for our fundraiser again this year! The money collected from this fundraiser will go directly to support the children of our church and will be used for summer camp scholarships.

Ordering: You can order by email or phone. The office can take your order or reach out to [Carley Walker](#) or [Jeannie Logozzo](#) by e-mail or phone.

Payment: The ornaments are \$8.00 each or 4 for \$20. We will take cash (exact change please) or check at pick-up. You can also go to our [GIVING PORTAL](#).

Pick Up: We are offering curbside pick-up on Monday, December 21st from 8 am - 12 noon and on Tuesday, December 22nd from 12 noon - 4 pm. If you need additional accommodations, please [email Carley](#).

Office: 208.667-8446



The 2021 Pledge Campaign "When Hope Is Shared, Hope Is Renewed", is off to a good start and thank you to

those that have already responded. Your quick response assists the Session and the church in setting budgets and plans for the coming year. In order for our campaign to be as successful as we hope we need a high level of participation from everyone and it's not too late to join in. Now is the time to take advantage of those year end tax deductions.

Your pledges can always be mailed to the church office or you can schedule your regular giving on our giving portal at 1stpresdowntown.org.

Bob Freund
Stewardship Committee

Christmas Eve News



Needless to say, Christmas Eve will be different this year and we thought it would be a great opportunity to try something new! Pastor Craig, Carley, Kent, Blake and so many other volunteers have been planning, rehearsing and recording what we hope will be a very special Christmas Eve worship service.

The service will be available on [our YouTube channel](#) on December 24th for you to view at any point during the day, when it's convenient for your family plans. As a special treat, we're including the singing of "Silent Night" with the lighting of candles from a previous year.

Our Christmas Families



Once again our congregation has been very generous in helping the Deacons bless our Christmas Families. Additionally, this year we received calls from people visiting or living in the area that asked if they could help our Christmas Families. We ended up helping six families and are happy to report that by the end of this week they will all be receiving their Christmas gifts.

The Deacons have finished up their shopping and we are awaiting a few gifts from those outside of our church who wanted to help.

If you still want to donate to the Deacons Fund for Christmas Families it's not too late. You can either send a check to the church or go through the [online giving portal](#) on our website. Whichever way you donate, please make sure to indicate that the funds are for the Christmas Families.

The Deacons would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Healthy New Year. God Bless You All.

The Deacons

Light up the tree and a few candles, put out some hot cocoa and cookies, gather the family, and join people all over the world as they worship and celebrate the coming of Christ the Lord!

Joy to the world!



Calling All Youth!

Families with youth group aged kids we need to hear from you! If your family has a middle or high schooler not participating in confirmation but would like to be connected to our youth team please let us know. We need basic contact information. More details below in the Youth section of the Newsletter or contact [Kierstie Renninger](#) or [Tyler Renninger](#) directly.



Post-Worship Prayer & Check-in Time



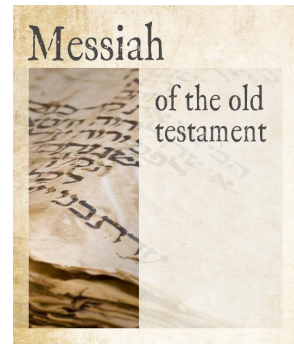
Please join Pastor Craig for a prayerful time with all your 1st Pres friends. We invite you to this live time together.

Sunday, December 20th at 10 am
(immediately following the end of our 9 am worship service)
[Post-Worship Prayer Time on Zoom](#)

Sunday's Service

Watch again or for the 1st time!

You might want to first read Daniel 7:13-14. Pastor Craig tells us that it is believed that Daniel's words were written 160-600 years before Jesus' birth! Pastor Craig continues with the story of our Messiah as told in the old testament.



[Listen to Pastor Craig's third Advent Message.](#)

Carley tells the story of the significance of bells at Christmas - a reminder of how Jesus will always find us and is always here for us. Listen to Carley's Children's message on our [YouTube channel](#) to learn more!

Many thanks to Blake Miller, our tech coordinator, and 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



December Schedule

View all Services on our YouTube Channel

December 20th Service at 9 am

December 24th Christmas Eve all day

December 25th Office Closed

December 27th Zoom Prayer Service

December 31st Office Closed

Advent Devotional for 2020 from *Presbyterians Today*



Our Advent and Christmas devotional, [Let Us Light Candles: Matthew](#)

[25 and the work of Advent](#) is now available. This extended online devotional takes us through Epiphany, January 6th.

Love 1st in Action

Surprise Care Cash for Hospitality Workers



Do you want to put Love1st into action during this Christmas season? Please consider giving out CDAIDE Care Cash envelopes to bless individual hospitality workers with an unexpected \$20!

Encouraging Our Confirmation Students

Please continue to encourage our 1stPres Middle School and High School Students on their Confirmation Journey.



Students on the Confirmation Journey can grow in their faith by regularly participating and accomplishing home-

Envelopes and directions are available for free at **Evans Brothers Coffee**, 504 E Sherman Ave. Join CDAIDE in giving back to our community!

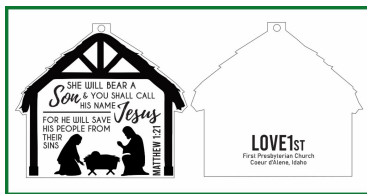
work goals. Church members can encourage them by donating \$5 or \$10 amounts to the '**Blessing Confirmation Students**' fund which will be used to purchase gift card rewards for hitting milestones along the way. Go to our [Giving Portal](#) and select 'Blessing Confirmation Students' to make a donation.



Children & Family Ministry



I hope your December is going wonderfully so far! I am thrilled to be able to announce that Brent Everson from the **Custom Den** has come through again this year and we get to add another beautiful custom ornament to our collection! Brent and Melanie are donating these amazing ornaments, so next time you see them, give them a big air high-five!



Each family will receive one ornament as a gift from the Everson's and 1st Pres. They will be sent directly to your homes (hopefully in time for Christmas!). There are additional ornaments for purchase if you'd like to buy them as gifts. See the website and/or E-News for details

on purchasing ornaments. The money raised from the sale of the ornaments will go directly towards summer camp scholarships for the students of 1st Pres!

Adventure Kids Club

Fall/Winter Focus:
The Fruits of the Spirit



Weekly Children's Devotion

Inspired by the story behind the evergreen tree, candy canes, and bells; Carley discovered that there are Christian perspectives to the charming stories behind many of our Christmas traditions.

Who: Kindergarten through 5th Grade
Time : 6 - 7:30 pm

Dates:
Wednesday, Dec 23

Visit our playlist on YouTube to easily access this and other devotions to share with your child. Here is a link to the devotion for this week: [Devotional for 12/13.](#)



December 13, 2020
Children's Devotion with Carley

I hope you all have an amazing week. I am praying for you and your children. Please reach out with specific prayer requests, questions, or concerns.

Carley

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



Youth Ministry



Middle School and High School Ministry for Fall 2020-Spring 2021

Attention Families with Youth Group Aged Kids!



Does your family have a middle or high schooler who is not participating in confirmation but would love to be connected to our youth team? If yes, please send us an email with the following information:

Name
School & Grade
Address
Email

Do You Have Time For Fun With Our Youth?

The Youth Team is looking for adult volunteers to join us in our mission supporting youth. If you would like information on how to get involved, please contact Tyler or Kierstie Renninger.

T: tylerdrenninger@gmail.com or
208-819-0090

K: ksrenninger@gmail.com or
208-651-4204

Our team is getting creative with fun ways to stay connected! Thanks!

Bi-Weekly Confirmation

- Expect an email from Pastor Craig with updates, expectations and assignments.
- Both in-person (as allowed by local health guidance and Session decisions) in Youth Room at 1stPres and/or on Zoom.
- If coming in-person, please wear a mask and enter through Lakeside entrance of church.
- If joining via Zoom, come in at 6:00 pm, have your handout downloaded and ready. Zoom meeting information was sent in a separate email from Pastor Craig.



We are excited to journey towards confirmation with any interested middle or high schooler! This will be an incredible season! Please reach out to Pastor Craig, or Tyler & Kierstie Renninger if you have any questions!



Confirmation Details

Pastor Craig has joined forces with the Youth Team to come up with a plan to offer all Middle School and High School

students an in-depth walk through what Christians say, do, and believe; which our tradition calls Confirmation. Bi-weekly Wednesday gatherings will be led by Pastor Craig and other adult volunteers. There will also be a schedule of just-for-fun hangout times. Each student will be surrounded by direct

support from adult church members and mentors as well as have direct access to Pastor Craig and the volunteers for whatever they're dealing with. Parents will be supported as well so they feel equipped to reinforce at home what's learned at church. There will be some fun incentives to keep students checked-in and up-to-date. At the end of this experience will be a weekend Spring Retreat, an all-expense-paid Summer weekend at Silverwood, and a 'rite of passage' faith experience in the Spring that is modeled after a 'prayer walk' experience.

Schedule

Sundays

Due to guidance from our Session, we are back to recording the Sunday Worship services. Produced by our Tech Coordinator, Blake Miller, the service first airs at 9:00 am Sundays. You can also watch at any convenient time, as they are recorded on our [YouTube channel](#).

Wednesdays

Youth usually meet every Wednesday, generally at the church for study with Pastor Craig and on the other week, a fun evening with Kierstie and Tyler Renninger. Watch your email for the most current schedule.



Groups & Gatherings



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. Thank you for staying positive, and please test negative!

