



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

1st Pres eNews

December 1, 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

Emily Rogers

My New Journey to Mizpah

A couple weeks ago, our Children & Family Director Carley Walker, told the story of the prophet Samuel and how he prayed for protection for the Israelites who were under attack from the Philistines. In 1 Samuel 7:12, it is told how Samuel set a rock between Mizpah and Shen and called it Ebenezer. The rock symbolized God's promise to rescue the Israelites and a return to ... [Read More](#)



This Week



Sunday Service Update Reminder

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

We Are Celebrating Communion This Sunday

Christmas Families This Year



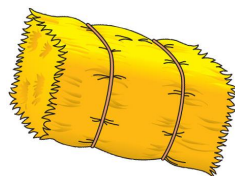
T'is the season! Christmas Families has been a very successful Deacon mission in year's past - gifting needy families in the downtown Coeur d'Alene area with boxes full of love. Each family is interviewed to determine their needs and how we can best help them at Christmas. Please join us as we share the love of God with these families.

You can contribute directly through our [Giving Portal](#) indicating **CHRISTMAS FAMILIES-DEACONS** fund. You can also donate a check or purchase gifts by coordinating with the Deacon Lead for the family. Visit our [Christmas Families page](#) for more details and the rest of the story.

Shopping & Giving Deadline: Dec 12, 2020

Hay Bales Needed!

We would like to **borrow** 2-3 bales of hay for our UnPageant scene. Can you help? Bonus points if you can deliver too! We need them by December 11th.



Please contact Carley 208-215-5337

Love 1st in Action

Surprise Care Cash for Hospitality Workers

Serving Ecumenical Lunch

This Thursday, December 3rd



We provide lunch for the Ecumenical Kitchen this week on Thursday!

We will provide sack lunches and hope you can help by providing a few. These lunches usually contain: a sandwich, fruit/veggies and a dessert.

Please contact Bev Rasor at 208-765-3410 and let her know how you can help.

Turkey Fund 2020

You can make a difference and help local families by donating to the 1stPres Turkey Fund!



\$50 grocery cards will be purchased for needy 1stPres families and individuals, community friends, school counselors, and nonprofit partners this year to help with holiday food costs.

Visit 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 office during normal hours.

Deck the Halls Family Camp at Lutherhaven

We have another opportunity to join with our partners at Lutherhaven Ministries to have a fun-filled Family Camp! See the link for





all the details. Invite your extended family members or friends to join in on the fun!

Our group will plan on attending together on Friday, December 11th through Sunday, December 13th.

[Lutherhaven Deck the Halls Family Camp](#)

Register here: [Digital Sign-up](#)

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!

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

Moving Post-Worship Time to Zoom



Pastor Craig is missing the personal, visual contact with people so he has moved the post-worship to ZOOM this Sunday. Please join us for this live time together.

Sunday, December 6th at 10 am

(immediately following the end of our worship service)

[Post-Worship Prayer Time on Zoom](#)

Praying for our Business Leaders



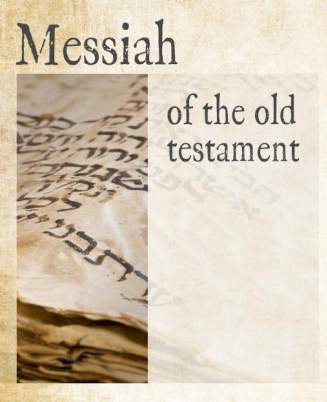
This past week Pastor Craig met with local community leaders - Derrell Hartwick from the Chamber of Commerce, Emily Boyd from the Downtown Association, and our own Chris Fillios Kootenai County Commissioner. As with the other conversations Craig has hosted, we found that these local leader are challenged on many fronts. They all asked for prayers for compassion and understanding from the general public, for God's presence in everything we do and for wisdom and tolerance. You can listen to the full interview by [viewing the November 29th service](#) available on our YouTube channel.

Sunday's Service

Watch again or for the 1st time!

November 29th was the first Sunday of Advent! For the next

four Sundays Pastor Craig will be exploring how the story of our Messiah is told in the old testament.



[Listen to the first of Pastor Craig's Advent Messages.](#)

Did you know that the evergreen tree is a symbol of God's everlasting love 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



Advent Devotional for 2020 from *Presbyterians Today*



Let us light candles

Presbyterians Today's Advent and Christmas devotional, [Let Us Light Candles: Matthew 25 and the work of Advent](#) is now available. This extended online devotional – taking us not just through Advent but through Christmastide and ending with Epiphany, Jan. 6 – brings to you the inspiring words in Howard Thurman's poem "I Will Light Candles This Christmas."

Encouraging Our Confirmation Students

Can you help 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 homework goals. Church members can encourage them by donating \$5 or \$10 amounts to the **'Blessing Confirmation**

Orchard Ridge Christmas Gift Basket Ideas

Orchard Ridge has provided us with a list of gift basket ideas. These baskets are distributed to residents and should be returned to Orchard Ridge no later than December 15th. If you have questions, call Holly at 664-8119 or email her at



hjohnson@theorchardcda.org

Winter at Lutherhaven

Lutherhaven has provided us with

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.



opportunities to enjoy their facility and spend time fellowshiping together as a congregation in the coming months. Are you interested in sending your child to Winter Camp or perhaps even renting a cabin with your family/friends next month? Fill out the survey below and let us know!

[Lutherhaven Camp Interest Survey](#)



Children & Family Ministry



I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving week filled with yummy food and a lot of family time! We are preparing for a pre-recorded version of the UnPageant, we could use a couple more children to act out the Christmas story for our congregation.



The video will be featured on Christmas Eve on our YouTube channel. Please reach out if your children would like to participate!

Deck the Halls Family Camp

We have another opportunity to join with our partners at Lutherhaven Ministries to have a fun-filled Family Camp! See the link below for all the details. Invite your extended family members or friends to join in on the fun!



Our group will plan on attending together
December 11th - December 13th.

[Lutherhaven Deck the Halls Family Camp](#)

Register here: [Digital Sign-up](#)

Cost breakdown:

Cabin/Room \$50.00 per night (sleeps up to 10 people).

Meals:

You will register and pay Lutherhaven directly for your stay. Please do let me know if you will be attending, though, as I have some surprises in store for those who come!

**Lutherhaven is making every effort to

Adult \$41 per day
Teen (13-17) \$30.25 per day
Youth (4-12) \$22.75 per day
Children under 4 attend for FREE!

remain safe by requiring masks when in common areas, eating with your small cohort group, and scheduling times for activities to avoid large gatherings.

Adventure Kids Club

Fall/Winter Focus:
The Fruits of the Spirit



Weekly Children's Devotion

Grateful again! Carley retells the story found in Luke 17:11-19. She explores the blessings of gratitude and challenges us to think about how often we forget to thank God for the big and little things in our lives.

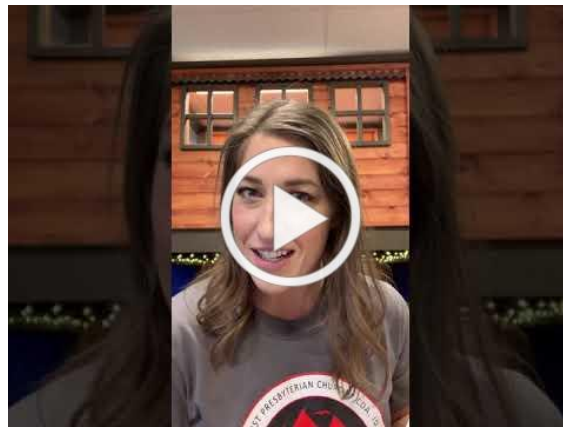
Who: Kindergarten through 5th Grade

Time : 6 - 7:30 pm

Dates:

Wednesday, Dec 9, 23

We have created a playlist on YouTube so you can easily access the devotion to share with your child. Here is a link to the devotion for this week: [Devotional for 11/29.](#)



November 29, 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

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

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!

