



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

1st Pres eNews

December 8, 2020

Pledge



2021

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

Chris Gray



How Does God See Our Choices?

What choice will we make? We constantly must choose through our daily routines as well as major life situations. We want to make the right choice, the one that will help us in our lives. But, do we consider the one that will please God? We also know that a wrong choice can sometimes have disastrous consequences... [Read More](#)



This Week



Sunday Service Update Reminder

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

Deck the Halls



Family Camp at Lutherhaven

This Friday!

Can you join with our partners at Lutherhaven Ministries

and 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!

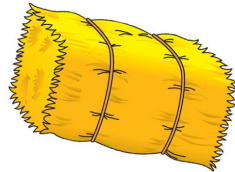
Our group will plan on attending together on Friday, December 11th through Sunday, December 13th.

[Lutherhaven Deck the Halls Family Camp](#)

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

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



Our Christmas Families

The Deacons would like to thank all y'all who donated so very generously this year!

We are no longer taking gift donations but financial contributions are always welcome - it's never too late.

We will begin to deliver gifts sometime this week and ask for your prayers as we share the love of God with these families.

You can continue to contribute directly through our [Giving Portal](#) indicating the **CHRISTMAS FAMILIES-DEACONS** fund. Checks are also gratefully accepted. Please mail or drop off any checks at the church. Visit our [Christmas Families page](#) for more details and the rest of the story.

Accepting Donations Through : Dec 31st



Love 1st in Action

Surprise Holiday Cash for Hospitality Workers



This past Sunday, Pastor Craig interviewed Bev Moss, 1st Pres member and Communication Chair for CDAIDE. She outlined this special program that helps us bless our local hospitality workers in a very special way. 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 instructions are available for free at **Evans Brothers Coffee**, 504 E Sherman Ave. Join CDAIDE in giving back to our community!

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.

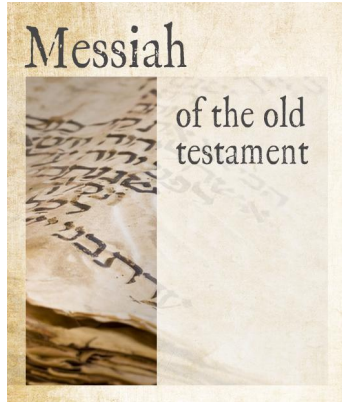


Sunday, December 13th at 10 am
(immediately following the end of our worship service)

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

Sunday's Service

Watch again or for the 1st time!



Bad News + Good News = the BEST News! This second Sunday in Advent, Pastor Craig spent time talking about the Prophets and how Jesus the Christ fits in the story. Listen to how the story of our Messiah is told in the old testament.

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

Candy canes and Christmas. There are symbols in the shape, color, and more! Listen to Carley's Children's message on our [YouTube channel](#) to learn more!

We'd like to offer a special thanks to Calla Kuhlmann and Susan Nipp for their beautiful music! It was lovely!

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



Orchard Ridge Christmas Gift Basket Ideas



Would you like to gift someone at Orchard Ridge this Christmas? The staff there 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

Advent Devotional for 2020 from *Presbyterians Today*



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

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 home-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



Great news, Adventure Kids' club is ON for this week! We still have room for more children to join us for this fun time of games, fellowship, a bible lesson (we are studying the Fruit of the Spirit), and a craft. If you'd like more information please reach out.



Unpageant Recording This Saturday!



We are recording our world-famous (ok, that may be a stretch!) UnPageant this Saturday at 9 AM in the Sanctuary. We could still use a few more children to help us act out the Christmas story for our Christmas Eve service on Youtube. This is a wonderful opportunity to share the Gospel with friends and family. They will be able to watch the UnPageant wherever they might be and see your child looking ridiculously adorable as they act out this unrehearsed story. Please reach out to me if you'd 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:

Adult \$41 per day

Teen (13-17) \$30.25 per day

Youth (4-12) \$22.75 per day

Children under 4 attend for FREE!

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 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

Inspired by the story behind the evergreen tree, Carley discovered that there are charming stories that provide a Christian perspective to the symbolism of the candy cane!

Who: Kindergarten through 5th Grade

Time : 6 - 7:30 pm

Dates:

Wednesday, Dec 9, 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 12/6.](#)



December 6, 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!

