



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

1st Pres eNews

November 18, 2020



By now you should have received your pledge packet. It includes a pledge card for you as you pray and seek God's direction in this matter. Pledges can be mailed to the church office or go directly to our [Giving Portal](#) and automatically schedule your giving. The staff are always ready to answer your questions and help with your needs and prayer requests.

Important Links

1stPresDowntown.org

[Church Calendar](#)

[Connect With Us](#)

[FaceBook](#)

[Giving](#)

[Prayer Requests](#)

[rightnow Media](#)

[1st Pres on YouTube](#)

Blog of the Week

Carley Walker



A Quarantine Reflection

As I sit here reflecting on 2020 I've determined one thing, it's been a wild ride! From lockdowns and homeschooling to losing our beloved pet to fostering three additional pets, layoffs and new jobs, a switch from public to private education for my children, switching majors for my Master's program, and even contracting Covid -19, I feel like we've experienced it all over the ... [Read More](#)



This Week



Sunday Service Update

Online **ONLY** Through December 20th

Our Session met on Tuesday, November 17th and voted to return to online only worship through December 20th in an effort to keep everyone safe during the holidays. Session will meet again on December 22nd to re-evaluate the ongoing needs and concerns of the church. [Access our YouTube channel here](#) to watch our services anytime.

Turkey Fund With a Twist



You **CAN** help local families by donating to the 1stPres Turkey Fund!

1stPres will be providing the blessing of a \$50 grocery card for needy 1stPres families and individuals, community friends, school counselors and nonprofit partners this year to help defray holiday food costs. 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 office during normal hours. Please call the church office if you have any questions.

Christmas Families This Year



In response to the pandemic, we have shifted how we are collecting for our Christmas families this year.

We have a new [Christmas Families page](#) on our website that describes how you can support this worthy project. Options are direct contributions through our [Giving Portal](#) indicating **CHRISTMAS FAMILIES-DEACONS** fund. You can also donate a check or purchase gifts by coordinating with the Family Lead (Deacon). Please visit the [Christmas Families](#) page for more details.

Encouraging Our Confirmation Students

We would like to encourage our 1stPres Middle School and High School Students on their Confirmation Journey by providing them with Gift Cards.



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

Advent Begins November 29th!

We encourage you to help celebrate Advent by Lighting an Advent Candle... From Home!



Each Sunday during Advent, worship will feature a 1stPres family lighting the Advent Candles from their home, surrounded by their holiday decorations. We need volunteers!

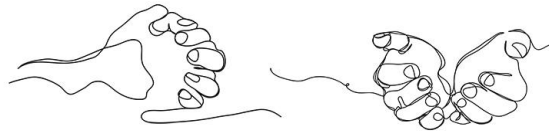
Participants will be provided a set of instructions, script and set of candles. Recording can be done on laptop, tablet or phone camera. If you'd like to provide a video for one of the Sundays or Advent or for the Christmas Eve pre-recorded service (November 29, December 6, December 13, December 20, December 24)

[Giving Portal](#) and select 'Blessing Confirmation Students' to make a donation.

please email [Pastor Craig](#)

[Advent in 2 Minutes](#)
[be sure to skip the ad]

Praying for our Educators

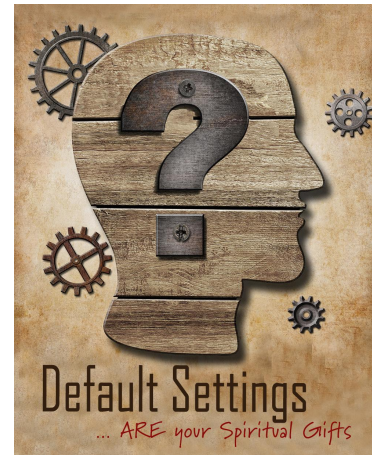


Educators were the focus of Pastor Craig's hosted conversation this past Sunday. Angela Rafferty, Megan Reagan, and Tyler Renninger were the representatives. They were all challenged by consistency, separation, and balance. They are bolstered by hope and resilience and asked for prayers for community understanding, patience, and health. Like our health care professionals, they need our love, support, and prayers. You can listen to the full interview by [viewing the November 15th service](#) available on our YouTube channel.

Sunday's Service

Watch again or for the 1st time!

Could the gift of leadership be one of your gifts? Leadership does make a difference and who is the best example? Jesus, of course! He is our role model. You don't want to miss this powerful message. Listen as Pastor Craig continues with our *Default Settings ... ARE Your Spiritual Gifts* message series. [Listen to Craig's message to learn more.](#)



Grateful again! This week Carley's children's message focuses on a story from Luke (17:11-19). If you haven't already, read the verse and think about how often we forget to thank God for the big and little things in our lives. Listen to her devotional message on our YouTube channel [View HERE](#).

As always, many thanks to Blake Miller, our tech coordinator, and the full team that made broadcasting the service possible!

[Watch this service or any of our past services on our YouTube Channel](#)



Church News



Serving Ecumenical Lunch

Thursday, December 3rd



Put it on your calendar! 1st Pres is serving lunch on Thursday, Dec. 3rd ... just two weeks from this Thursday.

We continue to 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.

1 Peter 4:10



[Find your spiritual gifts here.](#)

Winter at Lutherhaven



Lutherhaven has provided us with 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](#)

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



Children & Family Ministry



Hello First Pres Families!



Advent Begins November 29th!



If you are interested in participating in helping make Advent special this year, please let me know! Even something pre-recorded can be memorable.

Advent Readings

We will be looking for families who would like to videotape the Advent readings from home to share with the congregation. Be expecting a signup or invitation to participate! See note in 'This Week' above.



UnPageant

We have plans A, B, and C when it comes to the Unpageant. We think plan B will be the most likely plan. Plan B includes finding 10 children (or 7 children if we have a family who would like to participate as Mary, Joseph, and Baby Jesus) to make up the manger scene, there will be no lines, just hanging out on stage while Pastor Craig tells us the Christmas story. We will need 3 wise men, 3 animals, 1 Mary, 1 Joseph, 1 Star, and 1 Angel. We would make sure to take great care in making sure the scene is socially distanced and as safe as possible.

Winter at Lutherhaven

Lutherhaven has provided us with a couple of opportunities to enjoy their facility and spend time fellowshiping together as a congregation. 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](#)

Adventure Kids Club

Fall/Winter Focus: The Fruits of the Spirit

We normally meet every other Wednesday evening (kid-free evening anyone?!) and will adjust as the health landscape changes.



Who: Kindergarten through 5th Grade

Time : 6 - 7:30 pm

Dates:

Wednesday, Nov 25

Wednesday, Dec 9, 23

Guidance

- For safety, our group would need to be between 3 and 15 children
- We will operate within the same color zones as CDA School District, utilizing their guidelines.
- Masks required and a temperature check for all children before entering the building in accordance with the current color zone (this is subject to change as the District changes).
- We will heavily promote social distancing, but with the nature of children, we can not guarantee children will stay socially distanced.
- We will offer at-home activities and challenges for the subsequent Wednesday when we do not gather in person.

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 life.

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 11/15.](#)



November 15, 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.

Have a blessed week,

Carley

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



Youth Ministry



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



Fun Fall Stuff!

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

Wednesdays

Youth usually meet every Wednesday, generally at the church for study with

services. Produced by our Tech Coordinator, Blake Miller, the service first airs at 9:00 am Sundays. Or, you can watch at another convenient time, as they are recorded on our [YouTube channel](#).

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!

