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1st Pres eNews

October 13, 2020

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Blog of the Week

Bonnie Piovesan



Spiritual Shortcuts

My father-in-law is notorious for his shortcuts. We will all be in the van with him on some trip, and the famous words are soon uttered, "I know a shortcut." We all giggle or moan, and then settle into our seats, because we know the trip just got longer.

It seems to be common knowledge that shortcuts rarely save time or energy, and I am not surprised when they actually cost me what I was trying to save.

[Read More](#)



This Week

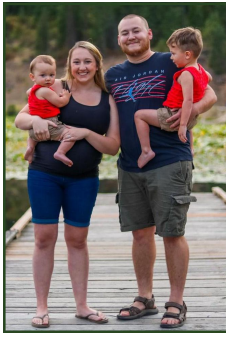


Pastor Appreciation Sunday

The Pastoral Relations Committee will highlight Pastor Appreciation Day this coming Sunday. But did you know that October is actually Pastor Appreciation Month? There are many ways we can show our appreciation: cards, a phone call, gift certificates, tickets to a Chiefs game ... the list goes on. Let's take time this month to bless our Pastor and his family by filling up their mailbox and their hearts with expressions of appreciation.

17 The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double

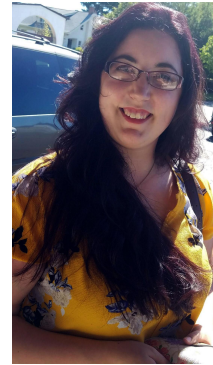
Welcome Brody Ridenour



Brody joins us this week as our new Custodian and Groundskeeper. He is excited about caring for the many aspects of the 1st Pres campus. We are extremely grateful that Brody is joining our

team to help keep up with the continued care needed to keep our campus looking good and COVID Safe.

Welcome Naomi White



Naomi joined our staff this week as a Sunday Nursery Care worker. She is mother to two-year-old Everett and as a result has real-time, right now experience. She loves children and is happy to be part of our serving the families of 1st Pres.

Tent or Treat is on!

The Community Outreach team is pleased to announce that we **will** be hosting a Halloween event this year! And, yes, it's a little different. We are joining the Downtown Association on Saturday, October 31st at their Fall Harvest Festival which runs on 5th Street from Front to Coeur d'Alene Avenue. We'll be setting up tents instead of trunks on 5th Street between Lakeside Ave and Coeur d'Alene Ave (adjacent to our gravel lot).



We do need your help with:

- Groups that would like to set-up, decorate, and staff a tent (much like trunk or treat)
- Candy donations
- Anyone who'd just like to help where needed
- Set-up and take down help (super easy because we're right next to the church)

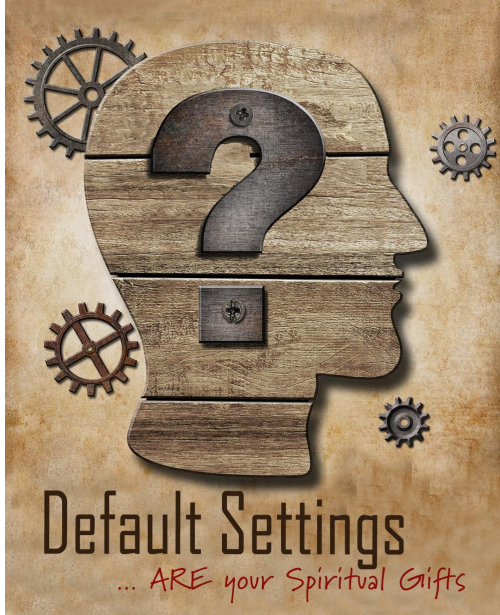
We will be practicing social distancing, using gloves, and wearing masks to keep both our member volunteers and the public as safe as possible.

Sunday's Service

Watch again or for the 1st time!

Our new sermon series, Default Setting ... ARE your spiritual gifts, began this past Sunday. Pastor Craig spoke of our uniqueness and that our uniqueness is timeless. The focus this week was on Prophecy.

Promises. We make them and sometimes we break them but God's promises can always be



trusted. Listen to Carley's devotional message on our YouTube channel. [View HERE](#)

As always, many thanks to the team that made broadcasting the service possible!

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



Church News



We Need You For a Super Secret Project



Carley has been hard at work on a surprise project for the kiddos. We have found some super-builders who will be tackling the more challenging parts of the project; but we can always use more help. Carley has all sorts of projects for willing hands and any skill level that will get this project across the finish line. Contact Carley at carley@1stpredowntown.org or call the office if you have any questions.

We have jobs for all skill levels!! Come on by if you'd like to help.

Super Secret Work Party

DATE: Thursday October 15th

TIME: 9 am - 3 pm



Knitting for Warmth Is Meeting at Church!

Our wonderful knitters are once again meetings at the church on Fridays at 10 am for fellowship while creating prayer shawls that are so lovingly provided to those who need some extra care. Please join us, masks on! Contact Carolyn Peterson or call the office if you have any



Testing Positive

We are sorry to report, the choir was potentially exposed on Thursday night to a member who was diagnosed with COVID-19 on Saturday. She is resting and doing well and our prayers are with her for a

questions.

Women's Association Today

In order to protect the health of all members, our Women's Association has decided to suspend any normally scheduled activities (e.g. Christmas Tea) until health officials deem it safe to gather. We pray that this changes early in 2021.

Connections of Care at 1st Pres

You should have received your packet describing our new Connections of Care community. You should expect to hear from your Captain this week and as a group you'll decide how to move forward, connecting through prayer.



If you did NOT receive a packet, please call the office so we can get you connected!

speedy recovery.

This exposure was limited to only those attending choir practice last Thursday night. Everyone was very helpful in responding quickly so that the church was informed before Sunday to take any necessary steps.

Choir members from the Thursday night practice were not in church on Sunday, and no one used the choir section for seating during service.

Kent has taken many precautionary steps to keep the choir safe during practices and performances, such as social distancing, face shields, temperature checks, and air purifiers. This is all in addition to our normal cleaning procedures and COVID precautions.

Choir practices and performances are on hold for now.

If you have a choir member in your Connections of Care group, be sure to reach out to them with prayer and encouragement.

What Does It Take to Keep a Church COVID Safe?

We get a lot of questions about how we keep 1st Pres looking good and safe during COVID. Last year 1st Pres went through an overhaul of our custodial practices. We introduced better tools and chemicals that are effective for our many surface types. Our regular cleaning process begins with a hospital grade sanitizer, followed by a peroxide based cleanser. This has been a proven cleaning method for many facilities that ensures surfaces are clean and safe even under heavy usage.

In the 2020 COVID era we have introduced many new ways to keep areas as safe as possible. Access to the building is limited to better care for areas and those using the building. Room usage is spaced out and scheduled so there is time to clean before the room is used again. Items that are typically passed or shared have been removed for now, to limit the number of touch points a person might encounter. Comfort items such as masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, and disinfecting wipes are available throughout the building.

The church is committed to doing all that it can to ensure 1st Pres'ers continue to have a clean and safe environment as they work and worship together.



Children & Family Ministry



Hello First Pres Families!

Children and Families will be hosting a tent for Tent or Treat on October 31st. We're going to need LOTS of help - greeting, handing out candy etc. Please let Carley know if you can assist. We're hoping to set-up shifts since it's from 10-3.

IMPORTANT NOTE: As you begin to come back to church you will find we have limited seating in the sanctuary. Because of this, we are inviting children to join us in the **Adventure Zone** before church begins. If you love having your kids sing with you in the sanctuary, you are more than welcome to make that choice for

your family. Simply bring them into the Adventure Zone during announcements. This is a temporary solution to our capacity issue while social distancing. Many have expressed a love of having their children present during the beginning of worship and we do not intend to change this in the long term.

Adventure Kids Club

Kids' Club is meeting every other Wednesday evening (kid-free evening anyone?!). The focus of our fall/winter session is The Fruits of the Spirit. Prizes and incentives along the way, with a prize for anyone with perfect attendance!



Who: Kindergarten through 5th Grade

Time : 6 - 7:30 pm

Dates:

Wednesday, Oct 14, 28

Wednesday, Nov 11, 25

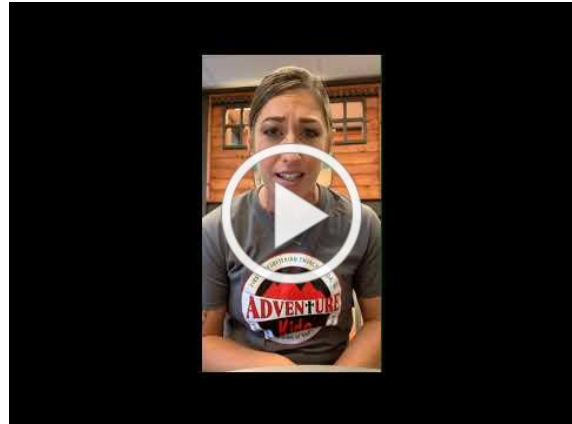
Wednesday, Dec 9, 23

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

Each week we are providing a pre-recorded devotional for children's time. 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 10/11.](#)



October 11, 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!

October 21

We're planning a **Harvest Party** at the Church but don't have all of the details ironed out yet. We do know it will be from 6-7:30 pm. More info coming soon.



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

Are you interested in ways you can be involved in supporting our awesome youth? We have many volunteer opportunities available to match your interests, and we would love to get you connected! Please contact Kierstie Renninger for more information! Thanks!

The 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. 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

Sunday services are once again in the sanctuary and online. We'd love to see you!

Wednesdays

We 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.

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!



Ministry Groups can meet at the church!

Please contact the church office to reserve a room for your Ministry group. Please remember that maintaining social distance and wearing masks is highly recommended. Emily and Chris, your amazing receptionists, will work with the Church Administrator to ensure spaces are available and cleaned properly.