



1st Pres eNews

May 20, 2020

Important Links

1stPresDowntown.org

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Blog of the Week

Carley Walker

The Most Precious Gift

Last weekend, I had the lovely opportunity to get together with my four sisters and my mom for a lunch and cousin visit. It had been such a long time since we were all together. It was precious to say the least.



[Read More](#)

This Week



April Near

Guest Speaker May 24th

April led the Kroc Center's community development program before pursuing her call to meld art with Christian ministry to vulnerable women called Sojourner's Sanctuary. An accomplished artist herself, she is currently engaged in a dynamic art ministry internship in Portland, Oregon.

We welcome April and look forward to hearing her message this coming Sunday.

MEMORIAL DAY

Monday, May 25 - OFFICE CLOSED

Blessing of the Bikes
 Re-scheduled

Welcome Kent



Based on the Session vote to reopen the sanctuary to the congregation on June 14th, Blessing of the Bikes has been delayed. Our Community Outreach team is working with our partner, Trinity Lutheran, to find a date later in the summer.



Thank You for Participating in the Survey last week.

The COVID-19 Task Force greatly appreciated all the people who responded to the survey. There were over 180 responses in a few short days!

Based on the survey results, the Task Force and Session approved the following four recommendations:

Any groups of people meeting within the church will follow the recommendations set forth by the CDC and local health professionals, to help protect our community.

Continue streaming services through June 7th. The Task Force will present to Session a detailed plan for the possibility of services to resume at the church on June 14th.

Ministry groups of 10 or less, may meet within the church building, maintaining social distancing and wearing masks is highly recommended. Groups will schedule with the church administrator who will monitor facility capacity and ensure sanitation can be completed between groups.

Clear communication encouraging people who, within the last 2 weeks, have felt ill or experienced any Covid-19 symptoms or had contact with any person who tested positive for Covid-

Kimball

Our New Director of Music
Kent Kimball joined us this week as our newest staff member. We look forward to presenting more about him in the weeks to come and learn about his vision for the future of the choir and handbell choir. Stay tuned!



You'll Want to Listen to Sunday's Service!

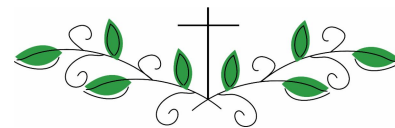
Our inspirational message this past Sunday was from Pastor Mindy Smith, Associate Director at Whitworth University's Office of Church Engagement.



The service began with the prelude moving to Praise from Ray, Shastina, Rob, and Craig. Carley reminded us of the kiddo's Zoom Connect & Learn meetings - details below - sounds fun! Our own Pastor Jennie led us in prayers.

All brought to you by our wonderful team, artfully compiled into a final production by Tech Director Connor Harris.

[Watch this service or any of our past services.](#)



Meeting Remotely

We will continue with our pre-recorded service on our YouTube channel for this Sunday, May 24th.

Graduating This Year?

We'd like to honor our 2020 graduates. If you or someone you know is graduating from high



19, to please stay home. Friendly reminders of good health practices: wash your hands.

school or college, please call the church office and give their name and information to our amazing receptionists!

Church News

Visiting the Church Office ... for now

As we slowly move toward our new normal, the office staff will continue to mainly work from home. If you need to stop by the church, please call the office to schedule an appointment so we can make sure whomever you need to visit is available.

Session Update - Next Steps

Our Session met Tuesday, May 19th to discuss the 1st Pres position on social distancing in compliance with the State of Idaho's response to the COVID-19 virus.

Next Steps

- Meet remotely with pre-recorded online streaming for Sunday, May 24th.
- Transition to live stream services from the sanctuary, with only worship leaders and needed staff in the sanctuary for May 31st and June 7th.
- Continue to offer live stream of services even after the church reopens fully.
- COVID-19 Task Force to provide Session with a detailed plan for services to possibly resume on June 14th.
- Ongoing Session re-evaluation every 2 weeks.

Pastor Sumey's Summer Reading List

Craig has a huge reading list to start getting through during the first part of his Sabbatical. If you want to read along, he's put together a reading list of books and articles for you (don't worry, it's much, much shorter than his) so you can read and think alongside Craig. [Download the reading list.](#)



Also, watch your inbox for a weekly video blog from him, where he takes 10 minutes to share with you what he's learning, the questions he's asking, and things he's thinking.

2020 College Scholarship Application - Due Soon!

Sunday, May 31st



All scholarship applications need to be received no later than May 31st . Please email your application to **Stephanie Rogge** (bookkeeperfirstprescda@gmail.com). You can also mail applications directly to the church.

If you don't have the application, it can be found here: [Scholarship Application](#)

As always, if you have any questions, don't

Youth Update

Notes from Steve

Director of Youth Ministries



"For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases Him."

- *Philippians 2:13*

High Schoolers Meet Today!

We will be meeting at the church at 6pm today to hang out, eat pizza, and rejoice! This is for anyone going into high school in the fall. We will be done at 8pm. Please bring a jacket!

THERE WILL BE NO ZOOM MEETING TODAY.

SCHEDULE

Sundays

For the time being we will continue to offer our Zoom service for all youth, Sunday mornings at 11.

Wednesdays, 6-8pm

May 20 - High-schoolers at the church

May 27 - Middle-schoolers at the church (incoming 6th graders will also attend)

June 3 - All together at the church

June 10 - Camping trip, no youth group at the church

June 17 - All together at the church

June 24 - Youth Video game night - 6pm -8pm everybody - 8-9pm high school only

Graduation Sunday

Sunday, May 31 we will be honoring our graduates during the service.

Send-Off Sunday

Mark your calendars for Sunday, Aug 9. Our high-school graduates will be delivering the message that day. And as their church family, we will be sending them off into the world with our love, prayers, and gifts in the form of a Life-

Free At Last - the Camping Trip

- *Register Now!*

We have had enough registrations to make the trip practical. Thank you to everyone who registered by the deadline and made this possible. We can now leave registration open for a little bit longer - space permitting.

Where: Priest Lake,
Lionhead campground,
group site

When: June 8 - June 11
(assuming we are opened
back up by then)

Cost: \$50/child (with
discounts for siblings
and scholarships available)

Registration: [Link Here](#)

**Registration deadline: May
17** (we need commitments
asap!)

Survival basket for each of them. We will be getting each of them a basket and a beautiful life-time Bible that you will have the opportunity to sign or add to it a word of encouragement, and you are welcome to put anything else in their baskets you'd like.

Digging Deeper - for high schoolers!

Is your child interested in learning more about God - in a more focused and mature manner? Youth group is a lot of fun, and there are a variety of interest levels amongst the kids. I want to create an avenue for any who want to really get into the things of God at a higher level. This would be an at-your-own-pace mentored study for those who want to take this step in their Christian growth. Let me know if you think this is your child.

Camp Spalding

We have discount codes available for Camp Spalding. If you are interested in attending camp this summer let me know.

As always, I am available with any questions, concerns or prayer requests!

Steve
steve@1stpresdowntown.org or 208.816.8122

Children's Ministry

Hi Families,

New Event

Parents and Pottery for Preschool through 1st-Graders

Parents, Grandparents, Aunts, and Uncles (basically any adult) are invited to bring their special preschoolers through 1st-graders for pottery painting at [Hands to](#)

Art followed by storytime and picnic in the park (location TBD).

Date: Friday, June 12th

Time: 9:00 am

Cost: \$20 to cover the cost of supplies



We will meet at Hands to Art to paint adorable cross-shaped boxes with lids (littles always love places to hide their "treasures"!). Following the pottery painting, we will meet at the park for a storytime and picnic lunch. We ask that you bring your own sack lunch. There are a limited number of spots to ensure that social distancing protocols can be upheld.

Hands to Art is taking extra precautions to comply with the CDC and State of Idaho recommendations by:

- Disinfecting and regular cleaning of all surfaces
- Soap and sanitizer will be readily available and used by staff
- Staff will be wearing protective masks
- Requiring social distancing
-

Register for the event here by May 31st. [Parents and Pottery Event](#)

New Event

"I am HIS Masterpiece" Art themed Day Camp

We are thrilled to offer a week-long art-themed day camp this summer! This camp will be available for incoming 1st-graders through current 5th-graders. The details will follow.

Tentative Dates and Schedule

Date: July 27th through July 31st

Time: 9:30am - 4:30pm

Camp will look a little different this year. We want to offer a very intentional experience aimed at building solid and meaningful relationships with each other and with Christ. Because of that, we will be strictly limiting camp attendance to less than 20 children. To begin, we will open registration to children of 1st Pres only. Mark your calendars and we will provide more information next week.

Zoom Connect and Learn

Preschool - 1st Grade

Challenge: Challenge your child to think of their favorite Bible story to share with the group. They can even draw a picture and have us guess what it is!

Preschool - 1st Grade Connect and Learn

Time: May 20, 2020 01:30 PM

5th Grade Transition

We are skipping our Zoom meeting with the incoming middle schoolers this Wednesday. Zoom fatigue is a real thing that we are all experiencing.

Instead, we will be meeting with the other middle schoolers for the youth group on **May 27th at 6:00 pm** at the church (depending on Session's decision regarding church use).

Join Zoom Meeting: [Link Here](#)

Meeting ID: 958 8594 3965

Password: 6V4RGa

Dinner will be provided. Parents are welcome to remain at the church as long as you'd like. We will **all** be wearing masks and practicing social distancing.

2nd through 5th-grade Challenge: We will be doing a virtual escape room! We need all the help we can get so we are combining 2nd through 5th graders.

Time: May 20, 2020 02:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting: [Link Here](#)

Meeting ID: 931 0414 1571

Password: 6V4RGa

Save the Date

- Every Wednesday for all ages: Zoom Meetings
- Incoming middle schoolers: Youth Group **May 27th, 6:00 pm.**
- Youth Camping Trip (incoming middle schoolers and family) **June 8th - June 11th**
- Mommy, Daddy, Grandma, Grandpa, Auntie, Uncle (any adult), and me Pottery Painting for preschoolers through 1st grader. Followed by storytime and a picnic. **June 12th, 9:00 am -12:00 pm .**
- Summer Kick off BBQ, Yard Games, and Volunteer Appreciation. **June 20th, 4:00 pm**
- I Am HIS Masterpiece Art Day-Camp. **July 27th - July 31st 9:30 am-4:30 pm .** Details and registration to come next week.

Stay well,

Carley

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

Groups & Gatherings

Ministry Groups can now meet at the church!

The Session met on May 19th and approved recommendations from the COVID-19 Task Force, please see above for full details.

Ministry Groups may meet at the church, but must contact the church office to reserve a room for your group. Emily and Chris, your amazing receptionists, will work with the Church Administrator to ensure spaces are available and cleaned properly.

The Session would like to remind each group of the following recommendation:

Ministry groups of 10 or less, may meet within the church building, maintaining social distancing and wearing masks is highly recommended. Groups will schedule with the

church administrator who will monitor facility capacity and ensure sanitation can be completed between groups.

How We're Responding to COVID-19 : Update

The Session appointed a special task force, COVID-19 Task Force, to provide research and guidance on how best to reopen the church. The Session met on May 19th to re-evaluate our response based on insight from the COVID-19 Task Force. The Session approved four immediate recommendations, please see above. The Session asked the COVID-19 Task Force to provide Session with a detailed plan for services to possibly resume on June 14th.



Remember that phone contact is a good substitute for in-person contact. Be sure to keep in touch with each other as a way to show Love 1st. 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!