



## 1st Pres eNews

May 27, 2020

### Important Links

[1stPresDowntown.org](http://1stPresDowntown.org)

[Church Calendar](#)

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[Giving](#)

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### Blog of the Week

Chris Gray

#### Memorial Day 2020

A Symbol of Remembrance & Hope

*Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friend. John 15:13*

It is bright. It is bold. It is something to behold. These resilient flowers flourished in the middle of so much chaos and destruction, growing in the thousands upon thousands. It also serves as an important symbol to our veterans, honoring those who gave the ultimate sacrifice. The red poppy.

[Read More](#)

## This Week

### Jennie Barber

Preaching this Sunday - Listen Online

Happy Birthday Church! Sunday is Pentecost, the day the Holy Spirit poured out on believers, empowering them to fulfill the mission of Jesus (Acts 2:1-21). The Spirit continues to work in our lives, including our life as a community of disciples. We're set free to pursue our LOVE1st mission with boldness and creativity because the Spirit is with us!



### Blessing of the Bikes

Re-scheduled Tentatively

The Community

Outreach Committee is working



### Summer Music

Organized by Judy Flieger!

Judy's parting gift to the congregation was to plan our music program for the

diligently to re-schedule Blessing of the Bikes. The new and VERY tentative date is June 28. Keep checking back for confirmation.

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## Task Force Update

Task force 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 in person 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-19, to please stay home. Friendly reminders of good health practices: wash your hands.

The document finalized on May 26 is available [here for viewing](#).

summer. We have a wonderful line-up of vocals and instrumental music we're all sure to enjoy. Thank you Judy!

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## Listening to Sunday's Service

Our guest speaker, April Near, delivered an inspiring message, telling her story and opening our hearts to new thinking and seeing.



Our Praise team was able to record from the Sanctuary this past week, treating us to the 'full' band. Our own Pastor Jennie led us in welcome and prayers. Rebecca Smith, CDAIDE Board President, expressed thanks to the congregation for our support of the organization.

*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.](#)

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## Meeting Remotely

We transition to live stream services from the sanctuary this Sunday, with only worship leaders and needed staff in the sanctuary. Be sure to tune into our YouTube channel on Sundays at 9:00 am for church.

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## Recognizing Our 2020 Graduates

In a special presentation, we will be recognizing our 2020 graduates this Sunday during our 9 am live-streamed service. If you haven't yet submitted a student's name,



## Church News



### We Need Your Help!

#### Serving Ecumenical Kitchen June 4

1st Pres is hosting lunch for our guests on June 4th. We will be serving sack lunches, distributed from the west side of the the church (gravel lot side).

Please call or [email Bev Rasor](mailto:Bev.Rasor@1stpres.org) for details.

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### Visiting the Church Office

It's important to remember we're limiting visits to the office. 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.

### 2020 College Scholarship Application Now Due

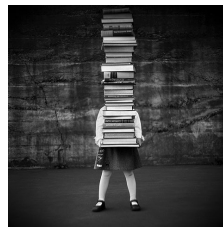
**Sunday, May 31st**



All scholarship applications need to be received no later than May 31st . Please email your application to **Stephanie Rogge** ([bookkeeperfirstprescda@gmail.com](mailto: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 hesitate to call the office: 208.667.8446



### Pastor Sumey's Summer Reading List

Craig is reading during the first part of his Sabbatical. A lot! If you want to read along, he's put together a 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.](#)

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### Session Update - Next Steps

The following outlines our Session's guidance based on the May 19th meeting. The 1st Pres position on social distancing is in compliance with the State of Idaho's response to the COVID-19 virus.

#### Next Steps

- 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.

## Youth Update

### Notes from Steve

#### Director of Youth Ministries

*Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.*

- James 1:17



#### Middle Schoolers Wednesday @ 6:30 pm

We will be meeting at the church at 6:30pm tonight to hang out, greet the incoming middle schoolers, and rejoice that we can be together again! This is for anyone going into middle school in the fall. High schoolers are welcome if they want to help out and mentor the young ones. We will be done at 8pm. Please bring a jacket!

THERE WILL BE NO ZOOM MEETING. Note: The incoming middle schoolers should arrive at 6 pm for a brief orientation.

### Schedule

#### Sundays

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

#### Wednesdays, 6:30-8pm

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.



#### Free At Last - the Camping Trip

#### Registration Extended

We have had enough registrations to

#### 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-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.

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](#)

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

Steve  
[steve@1stpresdowntown.org](mailto:steve@1stpresdowntown.org) or 208.816.8122

## Children's Ministry

Hello Families,

You may have seen the disappointing news from Lutherhaven. *"On May 13, 2020 the Board of Directors and senior management staff of Lutherhaven Ministries made the extraordinarily difficult decision to suspend until 2021 all of our traditional children's and youth camps at all of our locations — Camp Lutherhaven, Shoshone Mountain Retreat, Shoshone Creek Ranch, Lutherhaven Community Day Camps, and Idaho Servant Adventures. This breaks our hearts, as we know it does yours. We did not choose this easily, or alone. Lutherhaven is blessed with a team of health and camp experts from around the nation; many gave voice to this decision. We came to this decision because we care. We care about the well-being of kids and families."* You can read the full briefing here: <https://www.lutherhaven.com/covid-news/>.



Even with this sad news, there is an exciting opportunity. Lutherhaven has opened its grounds for small group



gatherings. Some of the activities will look a little different, but they will absolutely have the opportunity to have a summer camp experience! This is especially exciting because this can now become a whole family experience if that sounds like fun to you! We are still waiting for further direction from

Lutherhaven, but for now, continue to save the dates of August 2nd through the 7th for summer camp. Kindercamp is still a go on July 31st through August 2nd and there are currently open spots available.

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**Register by Sunday, May 31**

## 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

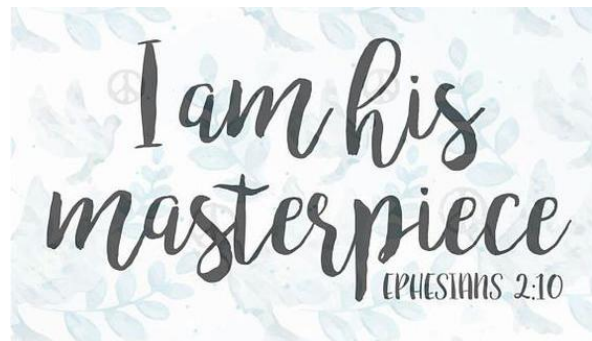
**Cost:** \$20 to cover the cost of supplies

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



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## "I am HIS Masterpiece"

### Art-themed Day Camp

This year our day camp will be art themed. We are partnering with Hands to Art to create five amazing masterpieces including a mosaic, two pottery projects, painting, and batiking.

We will begin the day at Hands to Art potter studio where the campers will complete a different art project each day. Following that, we will head back to the church for a lesson and a sack-lunch. The

Throughout the week we will be exploring what it means to be God's masterpiece and how we can all live that out in our daily lives.

### Dates and Schedule

**Date:** July 27th through July 31st

**Time:** 9:30am - 4:30pm

**Who:** 1st graders through current 5th graders

**Limit\*:** 25 (including volunteers)

**Cost\*\*:** \$100 (does NOT include lunch)

**Bring:** Sack lunch

afternoons will be filled with fun adventures like hiking and trips to the beach. We will invite families to join us for an adventure in the Silver Valley on Wednesday to explore the Crystal Gold Mines and Pulaski Tunnel Trail.

\*Attendances is limited to ensure the safety of the volunteers and the campers. We will be adhering to state and CDC guidelines.

\*\*Scholarships are available, please email [Carley@1stpresdowntown.org](mailto:Carley@1stpresdowntown.org) for information.

[Register Now](#)

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## Zoom Connect and Learn

### Preschool - 1st Grade

Time: May 27, 2020 01:30 PM

Join Zoom Meeting: [Link Here](#)

Meeting ID: 958 8594 3965

Password: 6V4RGa

### 2nd through 5th-grade Challenge:

Last week we had a technical difficulty so we will be attempting the virtual escape room again. We need all the help we can get so we are combining 2nd through 5th graders.

Time: May 27, 2020 02:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting: [Link Here](#)

Meeting ID: 931 0414 1571

Password: 6V4RGa

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## 5th Grade Transition

Incoming 6th-graders are invited to join the middle schoolers tomorrow night for youth group. 6:00 pm at the church, snacks will be provided. We will be meeting with just the incoming middle schoolers for 30 minutes prior to the start of youth group to make sure they are comfortable with joining the group.

### May 27th at 6:00 pm

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

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[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**
- Blessing of the Bikes - tentatively rescheduled for June 28
- 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](mailto:Carley@1stpresdowntown.org) or 208-215-5337

## Groups & Gatherings

### Ministry Groups can now meet at the church!

Please contact the church office to reserve a room for your Ministry 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.*

### Staying In Touch

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!




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### How We're Responding to COVID-19 : Reminder

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. [Plan Approved on May 26, 2020.](#)