



# The Presbyterian *Messenger*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH    BURLEY, IDAHO    FEBRUARY 2023

...Love never ends.

**1 Corinthians 13:8**

## Transfiguration

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So “The Beat Goes On.” Not the song written by Sonny Bono and recorded by Sonny & Cher. But the familiar rhythm of the liturgical year. Beginning with the seasons of Advent and Christmas, it takes us through Jesus’ earthly journey. The next stop is The Transfiguration of the Lord. (February 19).

What can be said about the Transfiguration story? (Matthew 17:1-13; Mark 9:2-8; Luke 9:28-36). At least two things:

1. Jesus, the Galilean carpenter’s son, reveals to three of His followers (Peter, James, and John) that He is the glorious Son of God. Think of mild mannered reporter Clark Kent stepping into a phone booth. (What’s a phone booth?) Then stepping out as Superman.

Jesus, hikes up the mountain a carpenter/teacher. Boom! Changed from inside out. “Resplendent with light from God.” (2 Peter 1:16-18, Message paraphrase).

2. Jesus wants His followers (that’s us) to experience a spiritual transfiguration. This is a process called Sanctification. A big word that means becoming more and more like Jesus. The process starts with a faith connection with Jesus! And continues 24-7-365 until we fall asleep in the Lord.

As we journey with Jesus, yet again, let’s pray the words from an old hymn: “Oh! To be like Thee, blessed Redeemer, this is my constant longing and prayer . . .”

In Jesus’ Love,  
*Pastor John*

## Marked by love



Through the centuries [people] have displayed many different symbols to show that they are Christians. They have worn crosses in the lapels of their coats, hung chains about their necks, even had special haircuts. Of course,

there is nothing intrinsically wrong with any of this, if one feels it is [one's] calling. But there is a much better sign, a universal mark that is to last through all the ages of the church until Jesus comes back. ...

Love — and the unity it attests to — is the mark Christ gave Christians to wear before the world. Only with this mark may the world know that Christians are indeed Christians and that Jesus was sent by the Father.

—Francis Schaeffer



## Lenten signals

Why should we observe Lent? This 40-day season of repentance and reflection that begins on Ash Wednesday has three important purposes. Lent helps us STOP, LOOK and LISTEN.

We observe Lent because it tells us to STOP and rest awhile — and to stop sinning. Lent tells us to LOOK inward for an honest self-examination, to look upward to see the cross of Jesus with healing and love, and to look forward to the hope of the Resurrection. And we observe Lent because it tells us to LISTEN — to the voice of God, the words of Christ and the movement of the Holy Spirit.

STOP, LOOK and LISTEN! These commands that are so crucial for travel safety are also important for our journey through Lent.



## Amazing love

If there is one subject more than another upon which I wish ever to speak, it is the love of Christ; but if there is one which quite baffles me, and makes me go back from this platform utterly ashamed of my poor feeble words, and of the tongue which has uttered them, it is this subject. This love of Christ is the most amazing thing under heaven, if not in heaven itself.

—Charles Spurgeon



### Bible Quiz

Fill in the blanks for three qualities Paul, in 1 Corinthians 13, attributes to love:

"Love is \_\_\_\_\_; love is \_\_\_\_\_. ... it keeps no record of \_\_\_\_\_."

- A. challenging, important, the past
- B. childlike, innocent, injustice
- C. self-sacrificing, generous, finances
- D. patient, kind, wrongs

Answer: D (See 1 Corinthians 13:4-5, NIV.)

## From death to new life

After the inventor of the Frisbee died in 2002, family members honored his final wish: to have some of his ashes molded into a flying disk! The point, according to toy legend "Steady Ed" Headrick, was for his loved ones to have fun playing with him even after he had passed. "He lived for Frisbee," said his widow, and now he lives on in one.

Thankfully, the ashes used on Ash Wednesday aren't cremains. But they do have special significance. They're often made by burning branches from the previous year's Palm Sunday celebration. By tying together seasons, the practice of receiving ashes reminds us of cycles: sin, repentance and forgiveness, plus life, death and resurrection — Jesus' as well as our own.



# Session Highlights

Greetings from the Session,

Session met for its regular meeting on January 11, 2023. The meeting began at 6:30 P.M. as a budget meeting to set the 2023 budget. The formal session meeting began at 8:10 P.M. with opening prayer by John and the lighting of the Christ Candle. There was a quorum present and the docket was approved.

The Session acknowledged the death of June Stoller on Dec. 15, 2022. We mourn her passing and celebrate a life well lived. We extend sympathy to her family. There are now 58 on the active roll. Communion was served to 27 on Jan. 1, 2023. The Dec. 14 minutes were approved as read.

Pastor John reported that he had been in contact with several area churches and presbyteries to check on the availability of clergy/lay pastors that might be interested in serving our church in a part time/full time capacity. He had no success. The session will be continuing its search for a permanent pastor and following leads as they come to its attention. John signed his new contract for 6 months with terms the same as last year with the exception of mileage reimbursement. He has also scheduled vacation for 2 weeks in April.

Thank you all who participated, directed and enjoyed the Children's program, Christmas Eve service, caroling, and Christmas brunch during our season of Advent. Our Christmas celebration was wonderful.

With the entering of the new year, our plans are directed to the Lenten/Easter Season beginning February 22, Ash Wednesday. There will daily reading booklets available mid-February. The adult Sunday School will be studying the history of the hymn "Amazing Grace". This hymn is 250 years old and is known worldwide. Please come and study this beautiful, inspirational song on Sundays at 9:30 A.M. starting Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>.

There will be Lenten Lunches beginning March 1<sup>st</sup> through Mar 29. Light lunches will be served with a short meditation. A free-will offering will be collected. The proceeds go for Camp Sawtooth Scholarships for our youth camps this summer.

Election of officers will be postponed until a Called Congregational Meeting in February. There are still vacancies to fill i.e., 2 Elder seats (3year terms) and 1 Elder seat (1year term). Please say yes if you are asked to serve!!!!

All staff positions were renewed: Linda Culley – Inside Custodian, Barbra Moore- Office Admin, Paul Pugh – Music Director.

The Session voted to accept the 2023 budget in the amount of \$111,600. This was over last year's budget of \$108,385.

Actual expenditures were \$78,443 for 2022. The higher budget reflects planned expenditures for roof repairs over front door, a new lawn mower and monies for a Pastor Nominating Committee. There are also higher expenditures for day-to-day operations such as electricity and gas.

The Session approved allowing the Boy Scouts to use our church on Thursday evenings and Mt Harrison Quilters meet on 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month. If you need to use the church, please schedule by calling the office or checking with Pastor John or any Session member.

Session will meet on February 8 for its next business meeting. All members are welcome to attend Session Meetings. Call the clerk or office to get on the agenda or let us know you want to attend. The meeting adjourned at 9:20 P.M. with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Poulton, Clerk of Session

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.



## PRESBYTERY REPORT

Items of interest from the Presbytery:

There will be a called Presbytery Meeting on Feb. 11 to vote on General Assembly proposals and amendments to the Book of Order. I will not be available to attend this meeting. If you are interested in information about these amendments call me and I will send you the link to PC(USA) web site.

The next Stated Presbytery Meeting will be Feb. 25 via Zoom.

The Presbytery is pursuing an inquiry dealing with embezzlements of funds by a presbytery employee.

Church in the Tetons has hired a new temporary pastor – Steve Weber. The church is making progress in sorting out how they are to proceed after the dismissal of their pastor. Pocatello and Soda Springs have temporary lay pastors leading their congregations. Chapel in the Valley is doing well. Twin Falls hired an interim pastor. Hollister and Salmon are struggling for leadership.

The task force to combine E. Oregon, Boise, and Kendall Presbyteries met and is making progress. It will be sometime before this consolidation happens.

There will be 3 meetings this year: Feb. 25 via zoom, June 10 at Soda Springs, Oct 14 at Camp Sawtooth.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Poulton, Presbytery Commissioner



Kathy Poulton giving the Children's Message on Sunday, January 22, 2022. Thank you Kathy!

## A RECIPE FOR HAPPINESS

Kathy gave the girls cards with 4 Be-attitudes written on them. She encouraged the girls to tape the cards to their bathroom mirrors.

The 4 Be-attitudes are:

1. Be kind. Especially to those who are hurting.
2. Be mindful of how you think about others.
3. Be a peacemaker.
4. Be Jesus-like in your actions.

*Dear God, thank you for The 4 Be-attitudes. Please help us to follow your recipe for a happy and blessed life in Jesus's name.*



# February Scripture Lessons *from the Lectionary*

## FEBRUARY 5

[5th Sunday after Epiphany/Communion Sunday]  
Isa. 58:1-9a(9b-12); Ps. 112:1-9(10);  
1 Cor. 2:1-12(13-16); Matt. 5:13-20

## FEBRUARY 19

[Transfiguration of the Lord]  
Ex. 24:12-18; Ps. 32;  
2 Peter 1:16-21; Matt. 17:1-9

## FEBRUARY 12

[6th Sunday after Epiphany]  
Deut. 30:15-20; Ps. 119:1-8;  
1 Cor. 3:1-9; Matt. 5:21-37

## FEBRUARY 26

[1st Sunday in Lent]  
Gen. 2:15-17, 3:1-7; Ps. 32;  
Rom. 5:12-19; Matt. 4:1-11



Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper **than** any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. **Hebrews 4:12**

To all the wonderful ladies at the Presbyterian Church: Thank you for the delicious and beautifully prepared and served meal you provided in honor of Frieda. She loved her church and all of you!

God Bless,  
Galen, Pat and Jaycee Gebauer



## FEBRUARY Birthdays & Anniversaries

01 Dale Martin  
01 Alvin Temple  
03 Kathy Wetzstein  
06 Kadance Walsh  
07 Razzelle Cottom  
09 Karl & Cynthia Fuelling  
17 Gary Hollinger  
18 Linda Hollinger  
18 Jan Behr  
24 Michael McCall  
27 Julieann Germann  
28 Tyson Germann

*God Bless Your Special Day!*



### 2022 Year to Date Tithes and Expenses

December  
Tithes \$8,946.00  
Expenses \$10,060.15  
YTD Totals:  
Tithes \$91,597.00  
Expenses \$78,442.83

## Committees & Chairpersons

### BUILDING & GROUNDS:

Paul Pugh

### FELLOWSHIP:

Brent Germann

### FINANCE:

Carleen Clayville

### MISSIONS & EVANGELISM:

Dan Wittman

### PERSONNEL & NOMINATING:

Jerry Vegwert

### WORSHIP & CHRISTIAN ED:

Erika Wittman

### DEACONS:

Darla Holl, Linda Smith,  
Julie Germann, Tyson  
Germann, Gary Hollinger  
and Susan McGee





# Presbyterian Women In the News!

"A smile is the light in your window  
that tells others that there is a  
caring, sharing person inside."

—Denis Waitly

## THINK ABOUT IT...

"It is about as hard to absolve yourself of your own guilt as it is to sit in your own lap."—*Fredrick Buechner*

"Great opportunities to help others seldom come, but small ones surround us every day."—*Sally Kock*

"To love another person is to help them love God."—*Soren Kierkegaard*

"You cannot shake hands with a clenched fist."—*Indira Ghandi*



## Attention

**Burley Presbyterian Women!**

**You are invited to attend our  
Annual Valentine Brunch!**

**Sat. February 18, 2023**

**Time: 10 am**

**Please plan on attending,  
Food, Fellowship, Fun!**



# Committee Reports

## LOVE ACES THE TEST

Author Adele Calhoun describes life as "our 'open-book' test on love." How can we ace it? In *Invitations From God*, she points out that daily decisions are the make-or-break factors: "Day in and day out as we plan, work, produce, commute and relate, we make life-altering choices to either love or neglect others."

For another study guide, reflect on St. Augustine's timeless words: "What does love look like? It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of [people]. That is what love looks like."



## LOOKING TOWARDS SPRING...

### MARCH

01: Lenten Luncheons begin (3/1—3/29)  
03: World Day of Prayer  
05: 2nd Sunday in Lent  
05: Easter lilies on sale now thru April 2  
12: Daylight saving time begins  
12: 3rd Sunday in Lent  
14: Election Day \*we are a polling place  
19: 4th Sunday in Lent  
20: First Day of Spring  
26: 5th Sunday in Lent

### APRIL

02: Palm Sunday (*Holy Week begins*)  
02: Deadline to order Easter lilies  
06: Maundy Thursday Service & Meal—TBA  
08: Easter Egg Hunt—TBA  
09: Easter Sunday/Resurrection of the Lord  
09: One Great Hour of Sharing

### MAY

01: Scholarship Applications Available  
04: National Day of Prayer  
14: Mother's Day  
16: Election Day \*we are a polling place  
28: Day of Pentecost  
28: Scholarship Presentation—TBA  
29: Memorial Day

## FINANCE REPORT

**"For God loves the one who gives gladly"**  
**2 Corinthians 9: 7**

Thank you for your generosity, loving support this past year, and turning in your pledge for the coming year. Pledges are important in the budget planning for 2023. If you have not turned in your pledge forms please do so ASAP either by placing them in the offering plate or by mailing them to the Church.

Our common faith in Jesus Christ brings us together, and our deeply committed people and their constant donations of time, talent and treasure, give the church life. Your contribution to the growth of the Church is greatly appreciated.

With God's Love and Prayers,  
Your Finance Committee

"The great thing to remember is that,  
though our feelings come and go,  
His love for us does not."  
— C. S. Lewis



## FELLOWSHIP

Feb. 5th- Cupcake Sunday  
Feb. 19th " Souper " Lunch after Worship  
Plan to join us.

Respectfully submitted,  
Terrie Shockey

**PASTOR:**

Rev. John L. Ziulkowski

Pastor's office hours:

Wednesdays 9:00am—1:00pm  
(also available by appointment)

Pastor's Email: [lrzski@yahoo.com](mailto:lrzski@yahoo.com)

Pastor's cell phone: 208-430-5359

Office Administrator: Barbra Moore

Office Hours Tues—Fri 9am—2pm

Office phone: 678-5131

Office email: [burleypc@pmt.org](mailto:burleypc@pmt.org)

Clerk of Session: Kathy Poulton

Director of Music: Paul Pugh

Pianist: Susan McGee

Nursery Attendant: Bonnie Stanley

Custodian: Linda Culley

Prayer Chain: Susan McGee 208-312-3864

**Service Times:**

Sunday School 9:30 am

Worship 10:45 am

*The Presbyterian Messenger and  
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Please submit your Newsletter items by the  
15th of the month and Bulletin items by Wednesday.*

First Presbyterian Church (USA)

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Visit us on the web at:  
[www.burleypres.org](http://www.burleypres.org)



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**1 Corinthians 13:4-8**

**Prayers:** *If you know of someone who is in need of prayers, please contact the church office.*

**Prayer Chain:** *If you have an emergency prayer request, or would like to join the prayer chain, please contact Susan McGee at 208-312-3864*

## We offer up prayers for . . .

# PRAYER CORNER

- God answering prayers, big and small! Good is good—all the time!
- All who are fighting cancer and those recovering from various illnesses and injuries
- Prayers of thanksgiving for God's Son—his indescribable gift (2 Cor. 9:15).
- Prayers of support and encouragement for all our shut-ins and those in care centers
- All who have lost loved ones
- The poor, lonely, abused, or struggling with addiction
- All who have lost jobs
- Those facing financial uncertainties
- Wisdom for those making difficult decisions
- Our church leaders
- Our military
- Our government leaders
- Our partnership ministries: Hope Community Food Pantry, Operation Christmas Child and Crossroads Harbor Domestic Violence Shelter
- People of Ukraine. End to the war
- People in the path of natural disasters




**FFEBRUARY  
2023**



January 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

# FEBRUARY

March 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	 2 GROUNDHOG DAY 7:00pm Boy Scouts meet	3	4
5 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship & Communion / Cupcake Sunday	6	7	8 7:00 pm Session	9 1:30 pm Mt. Harrison Quilt Guild 7:00pm Boy Scouts meet	10	11
12 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship	13	14  HAPPY <i>Valentine's</i> DAY	15 Newsletter Articles Due	16 7:00pm Boy Scouts meet	17	18  10:00 am Presbyterian Women's Valentine Brunch
19 Transfiguration of the Lord 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship "Souper" Lunch after worship	20	21 Shrove Tuesday 	22  Ash WEDNESDAY Newsletter Article Deadline	23 7:00pm Boy Scouts meet	24	25 10:00am Presbytery Meeting Via Zoom
26 1st Sunday in Lent 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship	27	28	February Servers ~ <i>Thank You!</i> <b>Head Usher:</b> Linda Smith <b>Head Greeter:</b> Tom Clayville <b>Liturgist:</b> 2/5 Dottie, 2/12 Dan S, 2/19 Gary, 2/26 Dottie <b>Coffee Hour:</b> 2/5 Fellowship, 2/12 Kristalyn, 2/19 Fellowship, 2/26 ____			

## Let's go bananas!

When the baseball team in Savannah, Georgia, got new owners in 2016, it also received a new name and identity — the Bananas! Adding pep to what often seemed a long, boring game, Jesse and Emily Cole offered a creative new experience, full of entertainment and spectacle. Players wear all-yellow uniforms (sometimes kilts), and the mascot is a banana named Split. Cheering on the team are the Banana Nanas senior-citizen dancers and the Man-Nanas Dad Bod Cheering Squad. The entire organization sets out to bring hospitality and joy, sending people home thinking, "This was the best experience of my life!"

What if Christians, individually and as a community, fully embraced *our* new name and identity, sharing radical hospitality and profound joy with everyone? Jesus has bought us from our former owner, sin, and given us a new name: Beloved of God. This identity may seem silly to some, just as the Savannah Bananas raised eyebrows initially. But before long, the delighted fans were going bananas for them!

With the same wild abandon and big-hearted outreach, the church — with its much-greater message — can spread love and goodwill, and have fun doing it!



# The Kids' Page





## PUZZLE


### *A seasonal reminder*


Signs of spring remind us of God's promises.


*Directions: Use the picture code and clues to complete Isaiah 61:11, NIV.*


 plants grow here

 to coil and jump  
(also a season of the year)

 to expand and get bigger

 seeds are planted in this

 when watered, these make plants

 another word for seedling


For as the \_\_\_\_\_ makes the \_\_\_\_\_

come up and a \_\_\_\_\_ causes

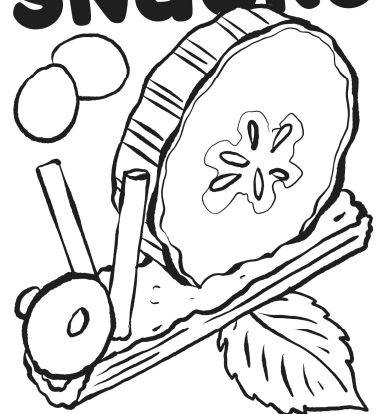
\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_, so the

Sovereign LORD will make righteousness

and praise \_\_\_\_\_ up before all nations.

  
ISAIAH 61:11, NIV

## SPRINGTIME SNACKS



Whip up a plate of these cute, healthy treats!

### What you need:

- Celery sticks
- Cherry tomatoes
- Cucumber circles
- Olives
- Cream cheese spread
- Fresh basil leaves (optional)
- Adult help

### What you do:

1. Have an adult help you wash and cut the veggies.
2. Spread cream cheese inside the celery rods.
3. Place a cucumber circle upright in the cream cheese to make a bug body.
4. Add the tomato as a head.
5. Arrange basil leaves on a plate and place the veggie bugs on them.
6. Making different-shaped veggies with your favorite veggies. Enjoy!