



The Presbyterian Messenger

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
BURLEY, IDAHO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
APRIL 2023

“Easter Laugh”

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Prayer Corner

Spoiler alert! Every Sunday is Easter Sunday. Every Sunday is an opportunity to look into the empty tomb and hear the words: “Don’t be alarmed. You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here! See the place where they laid him.” (Mark 16:6).

Every Sunday is a powerful reminder that Jesus defeated the one who had the power of death, that is, the devil. (Read Hebrews 2:14-18). So, we (Jesus’ people) don’t need to be afraid of death—our own death and the death of our believing loved ones. So, we (Jesus’ people) can laugh in the face of death and the devil.

The early church did just that! Jesus’ first followers celebrated the Easter Season with joy, laughter, and lots of Jell-o—sorry! I meant jokes. Humor, hilarity is our response to seeing the proud lord of death slip on a banana peel.

The proud lord of death (Satan) thought he had won. But God had the last laugh. The Resurrection of Jesus turned tragedy into comedy.

Remember Joseph’s word to his jealous, conniving brothers. Joseph said, “You intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good.” (Genesis 50:20). Satan thought he had derailed God’s plan by engineering the execution of His Son. Little did he know Jesus’ death on a Roman cross and Resurrection would result in his humiliation and ultimate defeat. (Read Revelation 20:7-10).

So with the Apostle Paul we can say: “Where, O death, is your victory? Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” (1 Corinthians 15:55-57).

Christ is Risen!
He is Risen indeed!

In Jesus’ love,
Pastor John

Reflecting On Easter

Not resuscitation — resurrection!



In the early years of the U.S. space program, a small but powerful rocket was supported by a metal framework. This “escape tower” was bolted to the capsule in which astronauts awaited takeoff. If disaster occurred, the escape tower was to carry the capsule up and away from the main rocket. A parachute would then float the astronauts safely to earth.

Jesus’ resurrection is more than a great escape. If he had merely eluded death, that would be akin to resuscitation. By God’s power, Jesus didn’t merely survive death but conquered it, once and for all. On Easter, Jesus returns to life not for his own sake but for the sake of all humanity. He reassures the disciples — and us — “Peace be with you.” —adapted from *Homiletics*

How Jesus says your name

It’s been said that when someone loves you, they say your name differently. Your name is “safe” coming from their mouth.

Mary Magdalene found this to be true. Walking alone in the dark to Jesus’ tomb, she wanted nothing less than for a concerned loved one to interrupt her private grief, crooning her name in pity: “Oh, Mary, there, there.” Or worse, someone from her old life who would spit her name like a curse, not knowing that Jesus had cast out her demons. But then Mary saw the tomb open and panicked, ran to get Simon, hurried back to the garden. Angels addressed her — not by name, just “Woman ...” — and then a gardener: “Woman ...”

Except then — “Mary” — this man knew her after all, speaking her name so knowingly, tenderly, lovingly that she recognized him. “Mary.” Her name was safe in his mouth, her life safe in his care. He wasn’t the gardener. He was her teacher, her friend, her Savior.

Friend, your name also is safe in Jesus’ mouth, your life safe in his care, for he loves you deeply.
—Heidi Hyland Mann

Jesus answers our uncertainties

Thomas didn’t believe the other disciples when they said Jesus had risen. The two travelers to Emmaus despaired over Jesus’ death, uncertain what might come next.

During our life of faith, we all face questions, doubts and despair. In *Fearless*, Max Lucado says Jesus’ responses to us echo his responses to the disciples. His answer to our doubt is the same as with Thomas: “Touch my body” — which we do every time we connect with the church (the body of Christ), wounds and all. As with the Emmaus disciples, Jesus urges us to ponder his story found in Scripture — which we do through Bible reading and study. Today, just as long ago, Jesus meets his followers — in his body, in his Word — and strengthens our faith.



Death doesn’t win



In the final hours of 2021, a wildfire near Boulder, Colorado, destroyed 1,000 homes, including one belonging to Pastor Bill Stephens. His family, out of town at the time, lost all their possessions. After months of feeling buried in debris, insurance paperwork and mourning, Stephens decided that Easter 2022 would mark a fresh start.

During worship that morning, the pastor shared a photo of vibrant daffodils emerging on his charred property. Burned remnants were visible in the background, just as Easter’s backdrop includes the pain and death of Good Friday. But the empty tomb in Easter’s foreground means death won’t win, reminded Stephens. Even when earthly life “isn’t all daffodils,” we have hope and eternal life through Jesus.

Easter reveals that God will “give us the joy, and it’s going to be in the heart of pain that we go through as well,” added the pastor. “And that just makes me draw closer to God.”

Session Highlights

Greetings from the Session,

The Session met for its regular monthly meeting on March 8, 2023. All elders were in attendance. Pastor John opened the meeting with prayer. The clerk reported there were 61 on the active roll. Communion was served to 31 members and friends on March 5.

Pastor John asked for 'away time' on March 26, April 16 & 23, May 21 & 28 and June 4. Reverend Nancy Pearson will be our guest in the pulpit for Mar. 26 and Apr 16. She is recently retired from a Utah Presbytery and living in Pocatello. Paul Pugh will speak on Apr 23 and May 21. The other dates are still open.

The Deacons are in the processes of reorganizing with Linda Smith serving as their

leader. If you have needs or know of any member who could use a helping hand call Linda or the church office.

The Building and Grounds committee will be overseeing the repair of the leaky roof over the church front door as soon as weather permits. Be prepared to enter the building through other doors if repairs are extensive.

There will be no Sausage Supper this year. There is still sausage in the freezer from last year. It is free for the taking. Please help us clean out the freezer. The sausage is good and needs to be used. If you need assistance, see any elder.

Pastor John's work contract is up on June 30th. He has agreed to renew; however, volunteers need to step forward to form a steering

committee to assess how our church will proceed into the future. As of the writing of this report, First Pres cannot afford to have a full time pastor. Other avenues of leadership need to be researched and presented to the congregation. We need a group of 3-5 individuals to pursue ideas and models of worship or come up with our own. Please pray and think about being a member of this group. Our congregation needs to be moving forward and preparing for new leadership.

The next Session meeting will be April 12, 2023. There was no other business. The meeting closed with a prayer given by Pastor John at 8:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Poulton, Clerk of Session



Installation of New Officers
March 19, 2023

Dan Shockey, Sandra Clayville, Susi McCall & Valerie Frazier,
Installed by Kathy Poulton & Pastor John Ziulkowski

PERSONNEL & NOMINATING

Kathy Poulton, acting chair of the Personnel and Nominating Committee, presented the nominees for the offices of Elder and Deacon. They are as follows:

ELDERS

Class of 2023
Paul Pugh
Dan Wittman

Class of 2024
Carleen Clayville
Erika Wittman

Class of 2025
Sandra Clayville
Dan Shockey

DEACONS

Class of 2023
Tyson Germann
Susan McGee

Class of 2024
Linda Smith
Julie Germann

Class of 2025
Susi McCall
Valerie Frazier

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Sharon Napier, Gary Hollinger, Darla Holl

Thank you to these dedicated, hard working individuals. They do a great job in minding the matters of the church. They are careful stewards of church resources and work hard to keep the church property in stellar condition.

Presbytery Report

Report from Kendall Presbytery Meeting February 25, 2023 via Zoom

Moderator Mark Crothers opened the meeting with prayer at 10:00 A.M. There was a Call to Worship and roll call of churches present. Ten churches attended and each told how their congregations were observing Lent. The following are highlights of the meeting:

- Steve Weber, transitional Pastor from Driggs Church commented on the health of the church since the dismissal of their pastor and the church's reorganization. They are meeting in the Senior Center, the Session is being called and installed, things are beginning to move in a positive direction.
- Camp Sawtooth is getting ready for the 2023 season, he will visit churches to speak about camp, there are camp scholarships available through the camp ministry.
- The calendar for the year was set: June 10 Presbytery meeting in Soda Springs and October 14 meeting at Camp Sawtooth.
- The following amendments to the Book of Order were voted on:
 - 22-E to change honorably retired to retired minister. This addressed issues having to do with pension funds. (passed)
 - 22-I to give pastors a 12 week paid family leave line item in their contracts. (did not pass)
 - 22-G, K, L, P, O to require Boundary Training for inquirers, ruling elders, certified CEs and all council members. (pass)
 - 22-H requires Committee of Care to report any sex abuse allocations to be reported. (pass)
 - The entire section of Church Discipline is being rewritten. The three amendments applying to changes were passed.
- Rachel Yates from the Boise Presbytery spoke on Boundary Training; its meaning and importance when dealing with sex abuse, and sensitivity.
- All boards and committees submitted written reports.
- Nancy Martin Vincent commented on the progress of the Three Presbytery Task Group. They are becoming better acquainted and identifying areas for collaboration.
- Candie Wyckoff was thanked for stepping in the shoes of Admin. She is getting the office back into workable order while documenting claims to insurance company about employee dishonesty.

Mark Crothers offered the closing prayer. The meeting took about 2 hours.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Poulton, Clerk of Session

IT IS TIME TO BE THINKING ABOUT SUMMER CAMP

Camp Sawtooth is an opportunity to know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior through living in a close, caring community which studies, plays and worships together, encouraging self-awareness and caring for others. Campers will enjoy a variety of activities while living and learning in a Christian environment. Each camp is unique with all campers enjoying a program specifically designed for them by our Program Staff. Activities include outdoor games and crafts, hiking and swimming, picnics, road trips and evening campfires. Each camp is special! For specific information on your camp access the following link: www.campsawtooth.org

Deadline to register for Camp Sawtooth is May 15th. Camp begins June 25th and ends July 21st. Camp Sawtooth is offering online registration, go to www.campsawtooth.org and register today!

For additional questions please go online to www.campsawtooth.org or call 208-726-1155

April Scripture Lessons *from the Lectionary*

April 2 [Palm Sunday / Communion Sunday]

Isa. 50:4-9a; *Ps* 31:9-16;
Phil. 2:5-11; Matt.26:14-27:66 or Matt. 27:11-54

April 9 [Easter Sunday / Resurrection of the Lord]

Acts 10:34-43; *Ps*. 118:1-2, 14-24;
Col. 3:1-4; Matt. 28:1-10

April 16 [2nd Sunday of Easter]

Acts 2:14a, 22-32; *Ps*. 16;
1 Pet. 1:3-9; John 20:19-31

April 23 [3rd Sunday of Easter]

Acts 2:14a, 36-41; *Ps*. 116:1-4, 12-19;
1 Pet. 1:17-23; Luke 24:13-35

April 30 [4th Sunday of Easter]

Acts 2:42-47; *Ps*. 23;
1 Pet. 2:19-25; John 10:1-10

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

We will receive the One Great Hour of Sharing
Offering on Easter Sunday, April 9th.

Committees & Chairpersons

BUILDING & GROUNDS:

Paul Pugh

FELLOWSHIP:

Sandra Clayville

FINANCE:

Carleen Clayville

MISSIONS & EVANGELISM:

Dan Wittman

PERSONNEL & NOMINATING:

Dan Shockey

WORSHIP & CHRISTIAN ED:

Erika Wittman

DEACONS:

Linda Smith, Tyson Germann,
Susan McGee, Julie Germann,
Susi McCall and Valerie Frazier



03 Kathy Rios
03 Mason & Alicia Wittman
08 Paul Wornell
14 Asher Walsh
19 Challin Raelynn Clayville
24 Mathias Fuelling

God Bless Your Special Day!

**2023 Year to Date
Tithes and Expenses**

February
Tithes \$13,184.00
Expenses \$6,176.72
YTD Totals
Tithes \$20,843.00
Expenses \$13,240.05



"Consider"

Consider the lilies of the field whose bloom is brief:
We are as they; like them we fade away, as doth a leaf.

Consider the sparrows of the air of small account:
Our God doth view whether they fall or mount,
he guards us too.

Consider the lilies that do neither spin nor toil,
Yet are most fair: What profits all this care and all this coil?

Consider the birds that have no barn nor harvest-weeks;
God gives them food:
Much more our Father seeks to do us good.

—Christina Rossetti

Blessed are those who trust in the LORD,
whose trust is the LORD.
They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.
It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

—Jeremiah 17: 7-8

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN IN THE NEWS!

UPCOMING Events

MAY

01: Scholarship Applications Available
04: National Day of Prayer
07: Communion/Cupcake Sunday
10: Session 7:00pm
14: Mother's Day Fellowship
15: Deadline to register for Camp Sawtooth
16: Election Day *we are a polling place
18: Deacon's Spring Yard Sale 18—20
21: Pulpit Supply: Paul Pugh
27: Camp Sawtooth Work Weekend (27—29)
28: Day of Pentecost
28: Pulpit Supply—TBA
28: Scholarship Presentation—TBA
29: Memorial Day

JUNE

04: Trinity Sunday
04: Pulpit Supply—TBA
04: Memorial Service of Remembrance—TBA
10: June Stoller Memorial, Paul Cemetery
10: Presbytery Meeting, Soda Springs
18: Father's Day
25: Camp Sawtooth begins (6/25—7/21)

JULY

04: Independence Day
12: Session

Our PW of Burley, Idaho is alive and well! We have returned to our regular 4-6 meetings a year! It feels so good to be getting back to what we feel is the "new normal", although not much has changed for us in Burley!

We had our Valentine meeting in February and our next meeting will be in April/May. (Apparently, I need someone to take over the photo taking at any events). Any volunteers? As you know, we are committed to several Mission projects, that are endorsed by The Presbyterian Women, Inc, (Our General headquarter PW). We very much agree with supporting women and children around the world, mainly

helping them become self-supporting to be able to take care and feed their children. We were planning our April meeting after Easter, or early in May. Our Birthday Offering will be promoted then. That is when we are invited to "be generously old, and bring an amount for each year of your age." Remember these offerings help support women and children around the world. I can't think of a more important mission for us to have. There are Grants available that can be used here in the USA, or around the world!

Thank you for all you do and stay well.

In Christ's Service
Carleen Clayville, Moderator

QUOTES TO PONDER

- "God doesn't just give us grace, he gives us Jesus, the Lord of grace."
—Joni Eareckson Tada
- "Be more concerned with your character than your reputation, because your character is what you really are, while your reputation is merely what others think you are."—John Wooden
- "Still round the corner there may wait / A new road or a secret gate."
—J.R.R. Tolkien
- "To experience genuine human love, to be part of a community of love is to experience the presence of God"
—John J. McNeill

Committee Reports



FELLOWSHIP REPORT

April 2 - Cupcake Sunday
April 6 - Maundy Thursday Meal @ 6 p.m.
April 9 - Easter Treats

Please join us in celebrating the Easter season.

Respectfully submitted,
Terrie Shockey

FINANCE REPORT

The following is from the Presbyterian Church, USA, on giving. Giving is a response to God's call and is a response that the Spirit has manifested in believers since the Acts church. Giving for the sake of those in need is an essential component of congregational vitality and Christian identity. In sharing the stories of those who have been assisted or helped through the work of Special Offerings, it is our hope that the presence of Jesus in the lives of those who have least will become visible to every Presbyterian. These real-life stories are intended to develop a relationship of kinship and solidarity, as well as illuminate the image of Jesus in those whom we meet, especially, as Matthew 25 reminds us, those who have the least! Of course, locally we need to be generous, because we have the regular expenses that we have on a day to day basis, paying salaries to those on the payroll, heating and cooling our building, and our beautiful yard, and of course paying for upkeep on our property. i.e. fixing things that break! We on the Finance Team take very seriously our responsibilities to be good stewards of the Church's money. We appreciate all that each of you do in giving of your time, talents and financial support, to keep our church viable for the next 100 years! Thank you!

In Christ's Service,
Your Finance Team

PASTOR:
Rev. John L. Ziulkowski

Pastor's office hours:
Wednesdays 9:00am—1:00pm
(also available by appointment)

Pastor's Email: lrzski@yahoo.com
Pastor's cell phone: 208-430-5359

Office Administrator: Barbra Moore
Office Hours T—F 9am—2pm
Office phone: 678-5131
Office email: 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
The Lord's Day Bulletin are published by
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Please submit your Newsletter items by the
15th of the month and Bulletin items by Wednesday.*

First Presbyterian Church (USA)
2100 Burton Avenue
Burley ID 83318

Visit us on the web at:
www.burleypres.org



For as the heavens are high above the earth, so
great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
PSALM 103:11

We offer up prayers for . . .

- 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 Turkey and Syria recovering from massive earthquake. And all involved in disasters around the world.

Prayers: *If you know of someone who is in need of our 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 312-3864*

April 2023

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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	



April

May 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
April Servers ~ We Appreciate YOU! Head Usher: The Wittman's, Head Greeter: Dale Martin Liturgist: 4/2 Dottie, 4/9 Dan S, 4/16 Gary, 4/23 Dottie, 4/30 Dan S Coffee Hour: 4/2 Fellowship, 4/9 Fellowship, 4/16 ____, 4/23 ____, 4/30 ____						1
2 Palm Sunday (Holy Week begins) 9:30 am Sunday school 10:45 am Communion & Cupcake Sunday Deadline to order Easter lilies	3	4	5	6 6:00pm THURSDAY MAUNDY SERVICE	7	8 10:30am easter egg hunt
9 Easter Sunday Resurrection of the Lord 9:30 am Sunday school 10:45 am Worship One Great Hour of Sharing Easter Treats after worship	10	11	12 7:00 pm Session	13 1:30pm Mt. Harrison Quilt Guild 7:00pm Boy Scouts	14	15 10:00am PW Meeting and Birthday Offering
16 9:30 am Sunday school 10:45 am Worship Pulpit supply: Nancy Pearson	17	18	19	20 7:00pm Boy Scouts	21	22
23 9:30 am Sunday school 10:45 am Worship Pulpit Supply: Paul Pugh	24	25	26	27 7:00pm Boy Scouts	28 4:00—5:00pm Bob Bay's Military Service Morrison Funeral Home	29
30 9:30 am Sunday school 10:45 am Worship						

SCRIPTURE TRAINING

In the late 1800s, people in different places developed similar ministry resources at the same time. The first was in Montreal, Canada, in 1877. In 1898, another concept was launched in New York City. By 1922, some five thousand of these programs were active in North America each summer.

Thus began the early history of Vacation Bible School. The passion that fueled those VBS pioneers was a desire for young people to know the Bible.

Paul had a similar passion for his young protégé Timothy, writing that “Scripture is God-breathed” and equips us “for every good work” (2 Timothy 3:16–17). But this wasn’t just the benign suggestion that “it’s good to read your Bible.” Paul’s admonition follows the dire warning that “there will be terrible times in the last days” (v. 1), with false teachers who are “never able to come to a knowledge of the truth” (v. 7). It’s essential we protect ourselves with Scripture, for it immerses us in the knowledge of our Savior, making us “wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus” (v. 15).

Studying the Bible isn’t just for kids; it’s for adults too. And it isn’t just for summer; it’s for every day. Paul wrote to Timothy, “from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures” (v. 15), but it’s never too late to begin. Whatever stage of life we’re in, the wisdom of the Bible connects us to Jesus. This is God’s VBS lesson to us all. **By Kenneth Petersen** *What are your favorite Scripture passage?*



Wind, fire & spirit

Acts 2 describes the amazing events of Pentecost, when the apostles received the Holy Spirit.

Directions: The last letter(s) of each word is the beginning letter of the next. Fill in the missing words to complete Acts 2:1-4, NIV.

1. HEAV
2. ABLE
3. AY OF PENTECOS
4. ONGUE
5. PIRI
6. OGETHE
7. ES
8. ONGUE
9. A
10. IND



"When the ³_____ came, they were all ⁶_____ in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent ¹⁰_____ came from ¹_____ and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They ⁹_____ what seemed to be ⁴_____ of fire that separated and came to ⁷_____ on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy ⁵_____ and began to speak in other ⁸_____ as the Spirit ²_____ them."

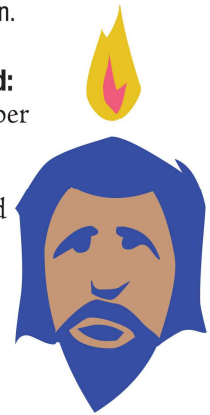
ACTS 2:1-4, NIV

Spirit SPINNER

For Pentecost, make a thaumatrope, a spinning toy that creates an optical illusion of motion.

What you need:

- White paper
- Cup
- Scissors
- Pencil and markers
- Plastic drinking straw
- Glue



What you do:

1. Using the cup's circular shape, trace two identical circles on the paper. Carefully cut them out.
2. In pencil, draw a person's head on one circle. Then place the blank circle on top and use the image beneath to guide you in drawing a flame above the head.
3. Color the two images with markers.
4. Apply glue to the backs of the circles and sandwich the top of the straw between them so it looks like a lollipop. Let dry.
5. Roll the straw quickly between your hands to view a mini motion picture.

Answer: 1. heaven, 2. enabled, 3. day of Pentecost, 4. tongues, 5. Spirit, 6. together, 7. rest, 8. tongues, 9. saw, 10. wind