

The Presbyterian *Messenger*

Monthly Newsletter of Burley Presbyterian Church May 2023

“Rise Up”

A visitor at a zoo noticed an attendant sitting outside the elephant habitat crying quietly. The visitor asked another attendant what the worker was crying about. He told her that an elephant had died. Moved by this display of grief, she said: “He must have cared deeply for the elephant!” The reply came back: “No, it’s not that. He’s crying because he’s the one who has to dig the grave.”

Death! Many handle it with humor! But there is a better way! Easter Sunday is God’s final word on the subject. Those who believe the Good News that Jesus Christ died for our sins and rose from the dead don’t need to be afraid of death, their own death and the death of their believing loved ones.

Someone has wisely said, “If Jesus Christ can do nothing about death, then whatever else He can do amounts to nothing.”

Paul echoes that sentiment. Paul says if it is only in this life we have any benefit from being a Christian we are to be pitied. The Christian’s hope, however, doesn’t end with death. No! Jesus has defeated death. Through our faith connection with the Risen Christ we too will be raised from death! On a signal from heaven believers (that’s us) will be rocketed out of the grave with a new body designed to last forever.

So with the apostle Paul we can say:

Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting? ... But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.
(Read 1 Corinthians 15)

Christ is Risen!
He is Risen indeed!

In Jesus’ love,
Pastor John

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:
everything old has passed away;
see, everything has become new!
2 CORINTHIANS 5:17(NRSV)

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Mothers, Sisters, Aunts, Grandmas . . . All Women . . . Happy Mother's Day!!!

Honor your mother

Anna Jarvis, the woman who first suggested a national day to honor mothers, had an incredible mother to honor. Her mom, Ann Reeves Jarvis (1832-1905), was a Sunday school teacher and activist who helped lower infant-mortality rates in Appalachia and promoted friendship among families of Civil War soldiers.

At a memorial service for her mother, Anna Jarvis distributed carnations — her mom's favorite flower — to attendees. Her idea to set apart one day each year for moms gained traction, and in 1914, President Wilson proclaimed the second Sunday of May Mother's Day. It was customary by then to wear white carnations in honor of departed mothers and red carnations to honor the living.

Of the white flowers, Jarvis said they "symbolize the truth, purity and broad-charity of mother love; its fragrance, her memory, and her prayers. The carnation does not drop its petals, but hugs them to its heart as it dies, and so, too, mothers hug their children to their hearts, their mother love never dying."

Jokes only a mother could love

Why is a computer so smart?
It listens to its motherboard.

Why did you chop the joke book in half?
Mom said to cut the comedy.

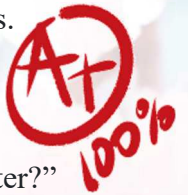
Why do mother kangaroos hate rainy days?
Because their kids have to play inside!

What did the mother rope say to her child?
"Don't be knotty."

FINAL EXAMS

A 96-year-old lady was a faithful attendant at my women's Bible studies. She came with her lessons prepared and knew all the answers. One day a tactless member asked her, "Why do you work so hard on these lessons when you're so old and it doesn't matter?" Little Bess Elkins looked up and said confidently, "I'm cramming for my finals."

—Florence Littauer,
Women's Devotional Bible



God's hands

Exactly a century ago, Irish physician Alexander Irvine published *My Lady of the Chimney Corner*, a book dedicated to his saintly mother. The protagonist, Anna, lives and ministers to others as Irvine's own mother had done.

In the story, Anna visits a neighbor who has just lost a son at sea. After talking for a while, Anna suggests they pray together. With heads bowed, she reaches to place a loving hand on the grieving mother's forehead. Afterward, the woman says, "I think I felt his touch upon my brow," referring to God.

Anna says, "God is everywhere looking for hands to use. Sometimes he takes the hand of a doctor and uses it in healing. Sometimes he takes the hand of a mother to soothe the brow of a fevered child. And sometimes he takes the hand of an old critter like me to bring a bit of help and comfort to a neighbor. But they are all God's hands, and God is everywhere looking for hands to use."

Session Highlights

Greetings from the Session

The Session met for its regular monthly meeting on April 12, 2023. Pastor John moderated; all Elders were present with one excused. The meeting opened with prayer.

The membership roll was recorded at 60 with the death of Brent Germann on March 26. He had served as Elder for 6 Years. The death of Marianne Bohon was also noted. She passed on April 8, 2023 in LaFollette, TN. She had been a member of First Pres for many years before joining her daughters in Tennessee. We mourn the deaths of these faithful servants and send sympathy to their families.

Communion was served to 27 on April 2nd. John took communion to 6 members at their homes.

The minutes for March 8th meeting and March 19th meeting of the congregation were approved as read. Prayers were said for the above families and others who are sick and hurting.

John and Linda went to visit family in Boston on April 13 – 24. They will also be gone May 28th – June 4th. They plan to also attend Their grandson's graduation in Omaha, NB the week of May 21.

Paul Pugh will be filling the pulpit on April 23 and May 21.

The annual Memorial Remembrance Service for those who have passed since last Memorial Day, will be on June 4. If you would like to light a candle for your loved one, please contact Carleen.

Barbra is working on a new directory. It should be available soon. If you have changes in address or phone number, please contact the church office.

Work has begun on updating the Policy and Procedure Manual. This project will be on going until all of the pages have been reviewed and necessary changes made.

Session was disappointed hear that the Easter Egg Hunt was not well attended. However, the 15-20 children who came were well rewarded. The event will be revisited next spring and a decision will be made as to whether or not to have one in 2024.

By the time you read this letter, work will have begun on the roof repair over the front church door. Please be prepared to use another entrance if workers are there. Thanks for your patience.

Volunteers will be needed soon to help with the annual yard cleanup, if and when it stops snowing!!

Volunteers are needed to form a committee or task force to come up with a plan for our church and its future. This group will meet and research solutions to address the following: Finding a full/part time pastor, Yoking with another church, New outreach ideas that would bring in new folks. Please pray for discernment in these areas. Your help is needed, your input is necessary. Please Volunteer!!!

The next Session Meeting will on May 10th. There was no other business. The meeting closed with prayer by Paul Pugh at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Poulton, Clerk of Session

LIFE IMMORTAL

At the end of May, Americans honor those who've died for our country — and remember all deceased loved ones. These times of reflection, often in cemeteries, can make us ponder our own mortality. Even some Christians may fear the unknown of death.

Yet because of our faith, followers of Jesus can aim to make productive use of whatever earthly time we have left. We know the grave isn't the end. Consider this poetic description of life everlasting from Henry Wadsworth Longfellow: *"Dust thou art, to dust returnest / was not spoken of the soul."*

To our death-defying, death-defeating God we pray: Eternal God, empower us to take hold of the eternal life to which Christ calls us, and to boldly testify of it to anyone who asks the reason for our hope. To the immortal King of the ages, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, to him be honor, glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

May Scripture Lessons *from the Lectionary*

May 7 [Communion Sunday]

Acts 7:55-60; Ps. 31:1-5, 15-16;
1 Pet. 2:2-10; John 14:1-14

May 14 [Mother's Day]

Acts 17:22-31; Ps. 66:8-20;
1 Pet. 3:13-22; John 14:15-21

May 21 [7th Sunday of Easter]

Acts 1:6-14; Ps. 68:1-10, 32-35;
1 Pet. 4:12-14; 5:6-11; John 17:1-11

May 28 [Day of Pentecost]

Acts 2:1-21; Ps. 104:24-34;
1 Cor. 12:3b-13; John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39

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:

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



Scholarship applications available May 1st. Deadline to submit completed application is May 15th. Applications available in church office.

Happiness is like jam. You can't spread even a little without getting some on yourself!



01 Tyson & Juliann Germann
07 Terrie Shockey
15 Henry Albert Ziulkowski
15 Mason Wittman
15 Madison Wittman
22 Richard Kicklighter
25 Walt & Gay Fisher
30 Alicia Wittman

God Bless Your Special Day!



2023 YEAR TO DATE TITHES AND EXPENSES

MARCH

TITHES

\$4,730.00

EXPENSES

\$8,972.39

YTD TITHES

\$25,473.00




YTD EXPENSES

\$22,213.44

April 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						



June 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	

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Scholarship Applications Available	2	3	4 	5	6
7 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship & Communion Cupcake Sunday	8	9	10 7:00 pm SESSION	11 1:30pm Mt. Harrison Quilt Guild 7:00pm Boy Scouts	12	13
14 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship MOTHER'S DAY <i>Celebration Coffee Hour</i> Deacons meet	15 Newsletter Articles Due Deadline to Register for Camp Sawtooth Scholarship Application Deadline	16 8:00am—8:00pm Election Day *we are a polling place 	17 5:00pm Set up for Deacon Yard Sale	18 10:00am—6:00pm Deacon Spring Yard Sale 7:00pm Boy Scouts	19 10:00am—6:00pm Deacon Spring Yard Sale	20 9:00am—2:00pm Deacon Spring Yard Sale
21 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship Pulpit Supply: Paul Pugh	22 Newsletter Article Deadline	23	24	25 7:00pm Boy Scouts	26	27 Camp Sawtooth Work Weekend (May 27—29)
28 DAY OF PENTECOST 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship Pulpit Supply—TBA	29 	30	May Servers ~ We Appreciate YOU! Head Usher: Dan Shockey Head Greeter: Linda Smith Liturgist: 5/7 Dottie, 5/14 Dan S, 5/21 Gary, 5/28 Dottie Coffee Hour: 5/7 Fellowship, 5/14 ____, 5/21 ____, 5/28 ____			

NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY...

We are in the process of producing a new church directory. Please let the office know of any changes to your contact information. Things like; address, phone number, email address, etc. We would like to see the new directory finished and ready to handout soon so your help will be greatly appreciated. You can email Barbra in the church office at burleypc@pmt.org or phone the office at 208-678-5131. Thanks for your help!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN IN THE NEWS!

“God has not called you to your life mission in spite of who you are; he has called you precisely because of who you are.”—Reggie McNeal, *Practicing Greatness*

Celebrating a Century of Giving and Receiving

Mark of generous giving. Launched in 1922 to honor the 100th anniversary of The Woman's Auxiliary in the Presbyterian Church in the United States, the Birthday Offering is an annual tradition for givers and receivers around the world. Over the last 100 years, grants funded by Presbyterian Women have impacted the ministries of more than 200 organizations and transformed the lives of countless people. From the original funds donated for the entrance gate in Montreat, North Carolina, and Miss Dowd's School for Girls in Kochi, Japan, to a classroom at Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, and a Presbyterian Bible school in Hsinchu, Taiwan, in the 1960s, to the housing and hunger projects in Farmington, Main, and Lares, Puerto Rico, today, the Birthday Offering continues to provide a message of hope in the United States and around the world. While the projects and donation amounts have changed, Presbyterian Women's commitment of improving the lives of women and children has not. Support the Birthday Offering so PW can continue funding mission projects for the next 100 years.

CAMP SAWTOOTH

Deadline to apply for camp scholarships is May 15th. Scholarship Applications are available online or you can pick up a copy at the back of the Sanctuary. Any questions, call the church office.

Give as you have been blessed, generously and as led by the Holy Spirit. Learn more about PW at: presbyterianwomen.org/birthday

If you consider yourself a Presbyterian Women, and you want to participate in the 2023 Birthday Offering, please see Carleen, Kathy or Sharon, We'd be happy to help you give!

In Christ's Service,
Carleen Clayville,
Moderator
(and Acting Secretary)

UPCOMING
Events

LOOKING AHEAD...

JUNE

04: Trinity Sunday
04: Memorial Service of Remembrance
04: Scholarship Presentation
04: Pulpit Supply—TBA
10: Presbytery Meeting, Soda Springs
10: Celebration of Life for June Stoller at Paul Cemetery 11:00am

14: Session

18: Father's Day

25: Camp Sawtooth begins (6/25—7/21)

JULY

04: Independence Day

12: Session

AUGUST

09: Session

13: Outdoor Worship—TBA

29: Election Day *we are a poling place

Committee Reports

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,



FELLOWSHIP REPORT

May 07 Cupcake Sunday
May 14 Mother's Day Celebration Coffee Hour

Respectfully submitted,
Terrie Shockey

WORSHIP & CHRISTIAN ED REPORT

The Easter Egg Hunt took place on April 8th at the church. The Stinker Gas Station sponsored the event by supplying the candy, filling, and hiding the eggs. Polecat Pete and the fire department also came. Unfortunately, it was not well attended by the community. The kids who did come left with A LOT of candy and seemed to have fun. Thanks to those who came to help.

The church is still looking for a Sunday School teacher for the older kids group. If you are interested, please let someone from the Session know.

In His love,
Erika Wittman

The power of (God's) light

Do most people truly feel happier in spring? Is the light brighter, the sky bluer? Meteorologists say yes. The shorter, blue wavelengths of sunlight scatter more efficiently than long, red ones; as the sun rises higher in spring, the light passes through less atmosphere, making the sky appear bluer. Outdoor levels of light have proven as effective as Prozac to combat depression — and May is the sunniest month!

The Bible frequently uses light as a metaphor for God: "The Lord is my light and my salvation" (Psalm 27:1); "Let us walk in the light of the Lord" (Isaiah 2:5); "The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world" (John 1:9). Darkness isn't bad; seeds sprout in dark soil, life begins in the dark womb, and darkness protected the Hebrews fleeing Pharaoh and the holy family fleeing Herod.

But light is one apt image for God because most of us know the joy, health and energy light brings. Both in spring and through faith in the God who enlightens all, may we "live as children of light" (Ephesians 5:8).

—Heidi Hyland Mann



Deacon's Spring Yard Sale is set for May 18–20. Please start bringing your donations to the church the first of May—Please **no sooner!** Items can be stored in Sunday School rooms. Any questions, or help with large items please call Linda Smith. Thank you.

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
The First Presbyterian Church of Burley, Idaho.
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

A capable wife who can find?
She is far more precious than jewels.
PROVERBS 31:10

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 natural disasters around the world. Victims and survivors of recent mass shootings.



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 208-312-3864*

May
2023

PRAYER
CORNER