

The Presbyterian *Messenger*

Monthly Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church of Burley, Idaho

November 2023

You open your hand and satisfy
the desires of every living thing.

PSALM 145:16

Blessings

The old Christian hymn invites us to: “Count (our) blessings, name them one by one.” What happens when we count our blessings? Johnson Oatman, the man who wrote the lyrics to the hymn “Count Your Blessings”, says we will “see what God hath done.”

The blessings, the gifts, the good things that are part of our earthly life are from our loving Heavenly Father. The blessings, the gifts, the good things that come into our life aren't a result of luck or good fortune. The blessings are from the One who created the Sun, the Moon, the Stars, and other celestial objects. The blessings are from the One who is the giver of “every good and perfect gift.” (James 1:17).

So as we look forward to another Thanksgiving (thank you, Jesus) let's keep reminding ourselves that anything we have in our life that is good, that brings joy, that give life is from God. And may the reading below guide us as we number our blessings.

Count your blessings instead of your crosses;
Count your gains instead of your losses.
Count your joys instead of your woes;
Count your friends instead of your foes.
Count your smiles instead of tears;
Count your courage instead of your fears.
Count your full years instead of your lean;
Count your kind deeds instead of your mean.
Count your health instead of your wealth;
Count on God instead of yourself.

Author Unknown



In Jesus' love,
Pastor John

Bounty of thanks



We thank thee, Lord, for the glory of the late days and the excellent face of thy sun. We thank thee for good news received. We thank thee for the pleasures we have enjoyed and for those we have been able to confer.

And now, when the clouds gather and the rain impends over the forest and our house, permit us not to be cast down; let us not lose the savor of past mercies and past pleasures; but, like the voice of a bird singing in the rain, let grateful memory survive in the hour of darkness. If there be in front of us any painful duty, strengthen us with the grace of courage; if any act of mercy, teach us tenderness and patience.

—Robert Louis Stevenson

DID YOU KNOW? ...

Dr. Paul Pugh

Dr. Pugh is in his twenty-first-year teaching music and his 16th year of teaching bands, choir, and orchestras at Burley.

He has a Doctor of Arts degree in Trumpet Performance/Jazz Pedagogy from the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, CO (2002). He also holds a Master (1996) and Bachelor degree (1992) in Trumpet Performance from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

Dr. Pugh has played professionally across the world. As a professional performer, he has toured Japan with a Dixieland Jazz Band and played for the Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines in their show bands. He has performed live with Maynard Ferguson, Joe Williams, Marlena Shaw, Charo, Phillis Diller, Wayne Newton, Vic Damone, Jack Jones, the Fifth Dimension, Jerry Lewis, Louis Bellson, and many others. He has recorded five CDs with top collegiate Jazz Programs as Lead and Split Lead Trumpet. Dr. Pugh has performed live for the International Trumpet Guild Conference in Indiana (1999). Dr. Pugh currently serves as Principal Trumpet for the Mini-Cassia Philharmonic Orchestra and the Mini-Cassia Brass Quintet.

He and his wife Kristi have enjoyed living and teaching in Burley and raising their two boys in the music and arts programs in Burley Schools. Taken from *The Magic Philharmonic Society Annual Brochure September 2023*

Burley First Presbyterian Church is extremely fortunate to have Dr. Paul Pugh as our Music Director!

A cornerstone of inheritance

In Matthew 21:33-46, Jesus tells a parable in which vineyard tenants plot to kill the landowner's son and thereby to "get his inheritance." Of course, that's not how life works: Unless the owner of wealth gives it away freely, the recipients aren't heirs — they're *thieves*!

We are all tenants entrusted with the cultivation and harvest of God's worldly vineyard. As such, we are to turn the fruits of the vineyard back over to God. We have no need to hoard them because the divine Landowner provides all our needs. What's more, we *already* have an inheritance of life and love, brought to us by the Son. May we not see Jesus as a threat to our way of life but welcome him among us. May we not hoard what he brings but share it. And remembering these words of Scripture — "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone" (v. 42) — may we not reject Jesus but let him be the cornerstone of our lives.

—Heidi Hyland Mann



Session Highlights

Greetings from the Session,

The Session met for its regular monthly meeting on October 11, 2023. With all members present, but 1 excused. Pastor John opened the meeting with prayer. The temporary Clerk reported there were 59 on the active roll. Communion was served to 23 members and friends on October 3rd.

The Pastor's Report: Need pulpit Supply on Nov. 19 and 26th. Paul P. will fill one of these Sundays.

The Deacon's are having a Yard Sale on Oct. 27 & 28. The Ark from the Treasure Valley would pick up the remaining items early in December. Bunco game day will be Nov. 14.

PW women will start making noodles on Oct. 16. Sale date will be Nov. 16-17. The P.W. is grateful for all the volunteers, both members and friends. We couldn't have done it without your help!!

Christian Ed & Worship: Sunday Morning Bible Study is being held at 9:30. The topic is "Reading the Bible in 365 days."

The Treasurer reported that all bills and staff are up to date. Stewardship Campaign 2024 started on October 22.

The Fellowship Committee has lots of activities in November, please check the calendar for information.

Buildings & Grounds: most of the work completed, that was started earlier. Will be doing a few Fall projects asap.

There was no other business. The meeting was closed with prayer by Pastor John at 8:15 pm.

Respectively Submitted,
Carleen Clayville, for Clerk of Session

THE CHURCH OFFICE HAS A NEW EMAIL:

office@burleypres.org Please make note of the change. Thank you!

NOODLE MAKING REPORT 2023

The Presbyterian Women held 3 noodle making sessions, which with bagging made 6 days of work by many willing hands of the congregation. The first session was held on Monday October 16th. Carleen made soup for lunch, and then we started the dough making, rolling and cutting process. We were able to do 109 dozen eggs for a total of 339 one pound bags. We alternated making dough and bagging from Monday October 16 to Saturday October 21, 2023.

The total count was 339 bags with 218 fine and 121 wide noodles. 109 dozen jumbo eggs and about 300 lbs. flour. Cost for flour was \$146.32, eggs \$253.18, Ziplock bags \$31.70. Total cost \$452.28. Selling prices will be \$7.00 per bag this year. Noodles will be for sale Nov. 16—17 from 10am—2pm, otherwise by appointment.

We had great support from the men and women of the congregation. It is a lot of work, but the fellowship and food are great too.
Thanks again to all who volunteered!

Carleen Clayville and Julie Germann chaired the committee with Linda Smith and Linda Culley on the committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Carleen Clayville, Moderator

November Scripture Lessons *from the Lectionary*

November 5 [Communion Sunday]
Josh. 3:7-17; Ps. 107:1-7, 33-37;
1 Thess. 2:9-13; Matt. 23:1-12

November 19 [Week of Thanksgiving]
Judg. 4:1-7; Ps. 123;
1 Thess. 5:1-11; Matt. 25:14-30

November 12 [Stewardship Dedication Sunday]
Josh. 24:1-3a, 14-25; Ps. 78:1-7;
1 Thess. 4:13-18; Matt. 25:1-13

November 26 [Christ the King/Reign of Christ]
Ezek. 34:11-16, 20-24; Ps. 100;
Eph. 1:15-23; Matt. 25:31-46

What's your November?

For Davey Blackburn, a pastor in Indiana, one particular month has brought "the highest of highs and the lowest of lows." He was born in November, moved to a new church in November 2011 and learned he'd be a father in November 2013. But two years later, in November 2015, Blackburn's wife and unborn second child were murdered during a home invasion.

Despite that painful tragedy, the pastor determined not to "let the enemy have a claim over November" or "steal the many beautiful memories I once held" about it. Since then, his church's worship team recorded an album one November, he proposed to his second wife another November, launched a new ministry one November and welcomed another child the following November.

That journey, Blackburn says, is evidence of God's faithfulness to replace a spirit of despair with a garment of praise (see Isaiah 61:3). And it's an important reminder for the holiday season, with all its memories and traditions. Just as God wants to heal and restore, Blackburn writes, "Your [deceased] loved one would not want your 'November' to haunt your memory forever."

Blackburn, author of the forthcoming book *Nothing Is Wasted*, says everyone has a November but can choose what to do with it. Instead of letting your November haunt, you can let God use it to heal.

—Stephanie Martin

Committee 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,
Susi McCall &
Valerie Frazier



2023 Year to Date Tithes and Expenses

September
Tithes \$3,522.30
Expenses \$8,319.96

YTD Totals:
Tithes \$61,688.98
Expenses \$65,348.05

NOVEMBER

Birthdays & Anniversaries

03 Russell Morgan
06 Paul Daniel Pugh
12 Cathy Clayville Parr
15 Earl & Carleen Clayville
30 Susan McGee

God bless your special day!

Three Thanksgiving prayers

- ◆ Dear Lord, we beg but one boon more:
peace in the hearts of all men living, peace in the whole world this Thanksgiving.
—Joseph Auslander
- ◆ For what I have received may the Lord make me truly thankful.
And more truly for what I have not received.
—Storm Jameson
- ◆ O Lord that lends me life,
lend me a heart replete with thankfulness.
—William Shakespeare

Mt. Harrison Quilting Guild would like to thank you for the use of the church for our sewing projects. Your generosity and kindness is very much appreciated. We especially would like to thank Carleen Clayville & Sandra Clayville for help with everything they did for us. We are so blessed to have a wonderful place to hold our events.

Thank you again,
Mt. Harrison Quilting Guild

Presbyterian Women in the News

Our Burley Presbyterian Women have scheduled the following report:

We started making noodles on Monday, October 16, continued noodles, on Wednesday, and Friday, with 3 packing days on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Our goal is to use 300 # of flour, and 110 dozen eggs. We made about 339 bags of noodles this year. Unfortunately, the price of flour is up, and the price of eggs have gone up, so our price per bag will have to reflect that, but we will be very thankful for those of you who come and help us! We also appreciate the ones who don't belong to our church who come and help! **THANK YOU ALL SO VERY MUCH!!!** Our noodles will sell for \$ 7.00 a one pound bag.

The current plan is to sell the noodles (date to be announced) by stopping in and picking your noodles up. The times will be 10-2pm at the church, otherwise by appointment. We will also be asking for some baked food to sell, as well, mainly cookies, rolls, breads, etc.

Harvest Luncheon and bazaar will not be held this year.

Our Annual Christmas Brunch and cookie swap will be held in December. Please add this date to your calendar as soon as it's available and remember to bring 2 dozen of your favorite cookies to swap!

Please mark your calendars and plan on participating on these calendar dates!

Thank you,
Carleen Clayville, Moderator
Presbyterian Women of Burley



Committee Reports

FINANCE REPORT

Notes from your Finance Team November, 2023

As you may know, we are into our Annual Stewardship Campaign. I recently came across this article - insight into giving and thought I'd share it with you.

The command to give a tithe (one-tenth) of one's income to God was central in ancient Israel (*Lev. 27:30; Deut. 12:5; 2 Chron. 31: 4-5*). In Israel's God-ruled government, the tithe helped to provide for the Levitical Tribe, which offered sacrifices to the Lord and assisted in temple work (*Num. 18-21*), as well as provide for the poor. Today's passage gives us stirring warning about the neglect of giving to God, calling it robbery (*Mal. 3:8-9*).

When Christ came, He fulfilled the demands of the Mosaic law (*see Gal. 3:10-13*), and there is no longer a required tithe, instead, believers are encouraged to regularly give to the Lord in proportion to their income and with an attitude of generosity (*1 Cor. 16:10-13; 2 Cor. 9:6-7*). Giving is an act of worship and generous giving can show our confidence in the God of grace.

In what ways can you worship God through your generosity?

Yours in Christ,
The Finance Team



FELLOWSHIP REPORT

Nov. 5th Cupcake Sunday
Nov. 12th Annual Potato and Pie Bar after worship. Join us in celebrating harvest and all of God's provisions.

Respectfully submitted,
Terrie Shockey



I Asked - God Gave

I asked for strength and
God gave me difficulties to make me strong.
I asked for wisdom and
God gave me problems to solve.
I asked for prosperity and
God gave me brawn and brains to work.
I asked for courage and
God gave me dangers to overcome.
I asked for patience and
God placed me in situations where I was forced to wait.
I asked for love and
God gave me troubled people to help.
I asked for favors and
God gave me opportunities.
I received nothing I wanted.
I received everything I needed.

Author unknown

UPCOMING EVENTS— MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

DECEMBER

03: 1st Sunday of Advent
03: Hanging of the Greens
10: 2nd Sunday of Advent
10: Christmas Program during worship—TBA
10: Christmas Buffet after worship—TBA
13: Session 7:00 pm
16: PW Christmas Brunch & Cookie Swap 10:00 am
17: 3rd Sunday of Advent
17: Deadline to order poinsettias
17: Christmas Caroling—TBA
22: First Day of Winter
24: 4th Sunday of Advent
24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service—TBA
25: Christmas Day—*Merry Christmas!*
31: New Year's Eve

JANUARY

01: New Year's Day—*Happy New year!*
14: Annual Budget Meeting—TBA
15: Annual Reports Due
28: Annual Congregational Meeting—TBA

PRESBYTERY REPORT

Minutes from the Presbytery of Kendall Meeting on October 14, 2023

Kendall Presbytery continues to move forward. At the Stated Meeting at Camp Sawtooth, Cathy Chisholm was elected to continue as Stated Clerk through December 31, 2024. Candie Wyckoff was confirmed as Administrative Assistant.

The "Policy for Pastoral Leadership Support" was passed. To understand it better you would need to get a copy of the "Proposal to Adopt a Policy to Provide Grants to Congregations to Support Pastoral Leadership." This is available at the church.

The per capita rate for 2024 was set @ \$40.00 per member.

The budget for 2024 was approved and if you want to see the current 2023 budget report or the 2024 budget report, it is available at the church.

It is always interesting to hear how the ranch is doing in Soda Springs. The ranch rent collect has been all positive. The portfolio has been flat due to the stock market. There is interest by two companies regarding solar projects on the 640 acres in the Bancroft area. One company is still interested and has made a down payment.

The Policy for Minimum Standard of Compensation for Pastoral Services was approved to move forward. This is one topic the session and pastoral search committee were interested in. I will pass on to the session and search committee what I have.

This was a new challenge for me. I thank the church for the opportunity. I will be better prepared for the next Presbytery Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Russell Morgan,
Peace, Love and Joy



Take time to recharge

“Then Jesus said, ‘Let’s go off by ourselves to a quiet place and rest awhile.’ He said this because there were so many people coming and going that Jesus and his apostles didn’t even have time to eat” (Mark 6:31, NLT). Can you relate? Especially during the holidays, we’re “coming and going” so much that we often run out of steam.

As an introvert, I learned an important lesson while navigating a busy graduation season for my son. I was happy to host a celebration for family and friends, but about 20 minutes into the party, fatigue clouded my spirit. My social battery was empty and desperately needed charging.

I sought out my cousin — who “gets” me — and admitted I needed a break. He kindly replied, “Then go into another room and just be. We’ve got things covered.” I was heard and assured that it was okay to press pause. Even Jesus and his disciples sought privacy and rest.

In what ways do you need a break today? Even if you’re an extrovert, how can you care for your whole self during the holiday rush? Pay attention and give yourself permission to proactively recharge your battery.

—Janna Firestone

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 Tue—Fri 9am—2pm

Office phone: 678-5131

Office email: office@burleypres.org

Clerk of Session:

Director of Music: Paul Pugh

Pianist: Susan McGee, Susi McCall, Linda Ziulkowski

Flutist: Linda Ziulkowski

Nursery Attendant:

Custodian: Linda Culley

Prayer Chain: Susan McGee 208-312-3864

Service Times:

Sunday School 9:30 am

Worship 10:45 am

First Presbyterian Church
2100 Burton Avenue
Burley ID 83318Visit us on the web at:
www.burleypres.org

*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.*

I pray that you ... [will] grasp how
wide and long and high and deep is
the love of Christ.
EPHESIANS 3:17-18

PRAYER CORNER

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
- Those facing financial uncertainties
- Wisdom for those making difficult decisions
- Our church leaders and The PNC Team
- Our military
- Our government leaders
- Our Country
- Our partnership ministries: Hope Community Food Pantry, Operation Christmas Child and Crossroads Harbor Domestic Violence Shelter



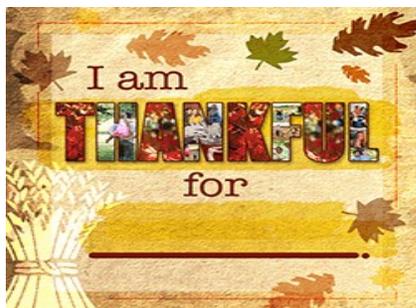
Prayers: If you know of someone who is in need of prayers, please contact the church office.

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

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5 Daylight saving time ends 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship, Communion & Cupcake Sunday Stewardship Commitment Sunday	6	7 8am—8pm Election Day <i>*we are a polling place</i> 	8 7:00 pm Session	9 1:30pm Mt. Harrison Quilt Guild 7:00pm Boy Scouts	10	11																																																																																											
12 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Stewardship Dedication Sunday Annual Potato & Pie Bar after worship	13	Operation Christmas Child National Collection Week Nov. 13—20			17	18																																																																																											
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26 Christ the King/ Reign of Christ 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Pulpit Supply: Paul Pugh Poinsettias on sale now thru Dec. 17th	27	28 Giving Tuesday	29	30 7:00pm Boy Scouts																																																																																													



NOVEMBER SERVERS ~ THANK YOU!

Head Usher: Bill & Val Frazier **Head Greeter:** Gary Hollinger
Liturgist: 11/5 Dan S., 11/12 Gary. 11/19 Dan S., 11/26 Gary
Coffee Hour: 11/5 Fellowship, 11/12 Fellowship, 11/19 _____, 11/26 ____



The old Christian hymn instructs us: "Count your blessings, name them one by one." So, that's what I'll do.

1. Pastor Appreciation Sunday fellowship time . . . finger foods, a tasty cake
2. A mystery box that exploded spreading butterfly shrapnel. Inside the box, a cupcake
3. Cards! Cards! Text messages! Yes! I'm First Presbyterian Church's "Hardcore. Devil Stomping. Ninja."
4. Gift cards (plural)
5. A gift of money
6. A dinner out
7. Peanut butter cookies
8. Reese's Miniature cups plus gift cards
9. A Longaberger basket full of goodies with fun labels
10. The blessing of serving Christ together
11. Coo . . . kies. A gift bowl filled with cookies

Love,
Pastor John and Linda

THANKSGIVING HUMOR

Need to lighten the mood at your holiday dinner table? Share some laughter with these Thanksgiving-themed jokes.

- Why did the turkey decline dessert?
Because it was stuffed.
- Why did the turkey cross the road twice?
To prove he wasn't a chicken.
- What smells the best at Thanksgiving dinner?
Your nose.
- Why didn't the chef season the turkey?
There wasn't enough thyme.
- Why did the turkey leave the band?
People were fighting over the drumsticks.

