



Presbyterian *Messenger*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER of FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, BURLEY, IDAHO OCTOBER 2023

I am God, and there is
none like me.

Isaiah 46:9



Jesus Loves Me and You

Did you ever play the game “He (she) loves me...he (she) loves me not”? It’s easy to play. All you need is a daisy. As you pick a single petal off you say “He loves me.” Then, picking the next petal you say “He loves me not.” The phrase you speak on picking off the last petal supposedly represents the truth between the object of your affection loving you or not. When it comes to God’s love for us we know with absolute certainty He loves us. (Read John 3:16; 1 John 4:10-11).

Bruce Marchiano is a professional actor and Christian! Bruce played the role of the Lord Jesus in *The Visual Bible's* motion picture *The Gospel According to Matthew*. In playing the role he approached every scene as a love scene. Why? Because the Lord Jesus loves people!

**All people.
Everybody.
No exception.**

Even when people are messing up He still loves them! And that’s what makes Jesus so incredibly attractive! People know He really loves them! People know He not only loves them but likes them and wants to bring out the best in them.

He looks past the problems in their life and sees the possibilities.

Forget the daisy! Sing to Jesus with Ryan Ellis:

I’ve never known a love like Yours
So intimate, so powerful
And I’ve tasted, I’ve seen, and
nothing comes close
I’ve never known a love like Yours
(Verse 1 “Heart of the Father”)

Jesus loves us, this we know for the Bible tells us so and the indwelling Spirit of Christ confirms God’s love for us. The Lord Jesus wants to live out this kind of love through His followers—those who believe in Him and who have accepted His loving forgiveness and His loving leadership. The Lord Jesus wants to teach us how to love people and bring out the best in them!

As we move through this season in our Church’s story, “May the Lord Jesus pour on the love so it fills our lives and splashes over on everyone around us.” (1 Thess. 3:12 *The Message* paraphrased).

In Jesus’ love,
Pastor John



Joy in the Word of God



Oh! how great and glorious a thing it is to have before one the Word of God! With that we may at all times feel joyous and secure; we need never be in want of consolation, for we see before us, in all its brightness, the pure and right way. He who loses sight of the Word of God, falls into despair; the voice of heaven no longer sustains him; he follows only the disorderly tendency of his heart, and of world vanity, which lead him on to his destruction.

—The Table Talk of Martin Luther

*Surely your goodness and love will follow
me all the days of my life, and I will dwell
in the house of the LORD forever.*

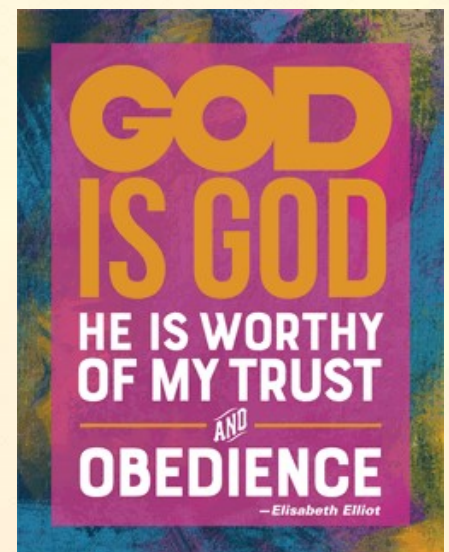
PSALM 23:6

TOTAL TRUST

Missionary and author Elisabeth Elliot says our sovereign God is worthy of unquestioning obedience in matters both large and small. Such trust yields mighty results, she adds, providing Christians with rest, peace and guidance.

“God is God,” says Elliot. “Because he is God, he is worthy of my trust and obedience. I will find rest nowhere but in his holy will that is unspeakably beyond my largest notions of what he is up to.”

About the role of obedience in prayer, Elliot asks, “Does it make sense to pray for guidance about the future if we are not obeying in the thing that lies before us today? How many momentous events in Scripture depended on one person’s seemingly small act of obedience! Rest assured: Do what God tells you to do now, and, depend upon it, you will be shown what to do next.”



Session Highlights

Greetings from the Session

The Session met for its regular monthly meeting on September 20, 2023. 5 Elders were present, 1 was excused.

Pastor John opened the meeting with prayer. The temporary clerk reported there were 59 on the active roll. Communion was served to 29 members and friends on September 3.

The pulpit supply while Pastor John was in South Dakota were Nancy Pearson on Sept. 17, Carleen filled in for Paul, who was sick on Sept. 10. She read about our Burley Presbyterian Church History from the early 1900's. Copies are available. She was assisted by Gary Hollinger and Victor Pugh!

The Deacon's are having a Yard Sale on Oct. 27-28. Donations will be taken soon.

PW women will start making noodles the week of Oct. 16, and need all the help they can get!

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 will be starting soon, be watching for information in the mail. 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



*Carleen Clayville
'Our Favorite School Girl'
September 20, 2023*



ACCEPTING GUIDANCE

*No human being can tame the tongue James 3:8
(READ James 3:2-11)*

The air smelled of leather and oats as we stood in the barn where my friend Michelle was teaching my daughter to ride a horse. Michelle's white pony opened its mouth as she demonstrated how to place the bit behind its teeth. As she pulled the bridle over its ears, Michelle explained that the bit was important because it allowed the rider to slow the horse and steer it to the left or right.

A horse's bit, like the human tongue, is small but important. Both have great influence over something big and powerful—for the bit, it's the horse. For the tongue, it's our words (James 3:3, 5).

Our words can run in different directions. "With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings" (v. 9). Unfortunately, the Bible warns that it's very hard to control our speech because words spring from our hearts (Luke 6:45). Thankfully, God's Spirit, who indwells every believer, helps us grow in patience, goodness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23). As we cooperate with the Spirit, our hearts change and so do our words. Profanity turns to praise. Lying gives way to truth. Criticism transforms into encouragement.

Taming the tongue isn't just about training ourselves to say the right things. It's about accepting the Holy Spirit's guidance so that our words generate the kindness and encouragement our world needs.

By Jennifer Benson Schuldt

REFLECT & PRAY

What inner attitudes come out through your words? How might cooperation with the Spirit influence your speech?

Dear God, please change my heart so that my words encourage others and honor You.

OCTOBER Scripture Lessons *from the Lectionary*

OCTOBER 1 [World Communion Sunday]

Ex. 17:1-7; Ps. 78:1-4;
Phil. 2:1-13; Matt. 21:23-32

OCTOBER 8

Ex. 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Ps. 19;
Phil. 3:4b-14; Matt. 21:33-46

OCTOBER 15

Ex. 32:1-4; Ps. 106:1-6, 19-23;
Phil. 4:1-9; Matt. 22:1-14



OCTOBER 22

Ex. 33:12-23; Ps. 99;
1 Thess. 1:1-10; Matt. 22:15-22

OCTOBER 29 [Reformation Sunday]

Deut. 34:1-12; Ps. 90:1-6, 13-17;
1 Thess. 2:1-8; Matt. 22:34-46

*For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword,
piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow,
and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.*

HEBREWS 4:12



Deacon's Fall Yard Sale is October 27—28. Please start bringing your donations to the church the first of October. If you need help with large items please contact a Deacon for assistance. Thank you!



OCTOBER



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,
Susi McCall and
Valerie Frazier



**2023 Year to Date
Tithes and**

August

Tithes \$5,829.00
Expenses \$6,884.83

YTD TOTALS:

Tithes \$58,166.68
Expenses \$57,028.09

01 Dan Wittman
03 Julie Germann
05 Jose Rios
06 Karl Clayville
06 Carleen Clayville
07 Victor Pugh
17 Kathleen Morgan
20 Gay Fisher
21 Karl & Sandra Clayville
25 Dan & Erika Wittman
26 Linda Culley
28 Patsy Holsinger
28 Michael McCall
28 Dottie Nester

God Bless Your Special Day!

*Please let us know if we have inadvertently left
your name off—we want to celebrate everyone!*

OCTOBER

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1

9:30 am Sunday School
10:45 am World
Communion Sunday;
Peacemaking Offering
Cupcake Sunday

2

3

4

5

7:00pm
Boy Scouts

6

7

9:30am—4:00pm
Quilt Guild Workshop

Quilt Guild Retreat (Oct. 3—4)
9:00am—4:30pm
(Setup Oct. 2)

8

9:30 am Sunday School
10:45 am Worship
Congregational Business
meeting RE: PNC team
Deacons meet

9

10

11

7:00 pm
Session

12

1:30pm
Mt. Harrison Quilt Guild
7:00pm
Boy Scouts

13

14

10:00am
Presbytery Meeting
Camp Sawtooth

Quilt Guild Workshop (Oct. 9—10)
9:00am—4:30pm

15

9:30 am Sunday School
10:45 am Worship
Pastor Appreciation
Sunday
Special Coffee Hour

16

17

18

19

20

21

Noodle Making Week—Helpers Needed! - Helpers Needed!!!

7:00pm
Boy Scouts

22

9:30 am Sunday School
10:45 am Worship

23

Yard Sale Setup

24

25

26

7:00pm
Boy Scouts

27

10:00am—6:00pm
Deacon's Fall Yard
Sale

28

9:00am—2:00pm
Deacon's Fall Yard
Sale

29

Reformation Sunday

30

31

October Servers ~ Thank You!

9:30 am Sunday School
10:45 am Worship

Head Usher: Gary Hollinger Head Greeter: The Wittman's

Liturgist: 10/1 Dan S., 10/8 Gary, 10/15 Dan S., 10/22 Gary, 10/29 Dan S.

Coffee Hour: 10/1 Fellowship, 10/8 _____, 10/15 _____, 10/22 _____, 10/29 _____

What is lament?

The spiritual discipline of lament may not come naturally, and churches rarely teach it. Because we're raised to stay silent if we can't say something nice, passionately pouring out our sorrow just doesn't seem right.

My opinion changed when I heard author Sharon Garlough Brown explain this spiritual practice from God's perspective. As parents can attest, toddlers have an innate ability to find foreign objects and put them in their mouths. Concerned parents bend down and coax the child to remove the toy, bottle top, coin or rock. "Spit it out." "Let me have it." "It's not good for you to swallow that."

As a concerned parent, God sees and knows what's troubling us. He knows that this world's woes and trials will hurt us if we keep them all inside. God, our good and gracious Father, wants us to passionately pour out our grief, so he bends down, looks us in the eyes, and says, "Spit it out." "Let me have it." "It's not good for you to swallow that."

Spend time with God, sharing your laments. God loves you and is faithful to listen well.

—Janna Firestone

Presbyterian Women in the News

August 26, 2023, the Presbyterian Women of Burley met for a time of Fellowship!

Carleen Clayville, Moderator called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone attending and gave the opening prayer. The Christ Candle was lighted, and all recited the P W Purpose. The Least Coin was collected, with a prayer given by Carleen.

For the Meditation, Carleen read a poem by Jaunita Upton, long time PW member from Twin Falls, titled "The Church Worker". The poem was very clever telling about Women in the Church, and what they do!

Brunch was served by Linda S. and Carleen. It was 2 kinds of muffins and fruit. Very yummy!

THE BUSINESS MEETING:

- The minutes of the previous meeting were read, 2nd, voted, passed with a motion by Linda S.
- The Treasurer, Sharon N. reported \$1,453.95 in checking, and a CD on deposit of approximately \$5,000.00 plus interest.
- No unfinished business.
- New business:
Noodle making will be the week of October 16. Sale date TBA. We need everyone to help if possible!
- Caring & Sharing:
Val Frazier will have surgery on Sept. 18, Hazel V. and all caregivers. Kathy Rios and all on our prayer list!
- Upcoming: Deacon's Yard Sale October 27, please volunteer if you can!

No other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Yours in Christ's Service

Carleen Clayville, Moderator and acting Secretary

Starting a ripple effect

Shortly before his death, 80-year-old farmer Hody Childress asked his daughter to continue a practice he'd quietly conducted for years: taking a \$100 bill to a local pharmacist on the first of every month. For years, Childress anonymously came to the aid of neighbors in Geraldine, Alabama, who couldn't afford medications. "Don't tell a soul where the money came from," he instructed store owner Brooke Walker. "If they ask, just tell them it's a blessing from the Lord."

Thanks to the farmer's generosity, Walker could fill prescriptions for about 24 uninsured or underinsured people each year. "I was honored he allowed me to do that," she said, "and it really encouraged me to do the same in my life."

Childress wasn't wealthy but "always gave what he could," said daughter Tania Nix. "I think he felt like he couldn't not give," she added. "Giving that way, that just got on his heart." After word spread about Childress' generosity, other people were inspired to perform stealth outreach and a fund was established in his name.

A man in Oklahoma who shares Childress' surname said a story about the farmer caught his attention. They're probably not related, he wrote, but he'd feel proud if they were. "A man like that surely tried to follow the example of Jesus," the Oklahoman wrote, and "[his] story inspires me to be a better man."

—adapted from *The Wired Word*

UNKNOWN ROUTE

*When my spirit grows faint within me,
it is you who watch over my way—PSALM 142:3*

Perhaps I shouldn't have agreed to join Brian on a run. I was in a foreign country, and I had no idea where or how far we would go or what the terrain would be like. Plus, he was a fast runner. Would I twist an ankle trying to keep up with him? What could I do but trust Brian because he knew the way? As we started, I got even more worried. The trail was rough, winding through a thick forest on uneven ground. Thankfully, Brian kept turning around to check on me and warn me of rough patches ahead.

Perhaps this was how some of the people in Bible times felt while entering unfamiliar territory—Abraham in Canaan, the Israelites in the wilderness, and Jesus' disciples on their mission to share the good news. They had no clue what the journey would be like, except that it would surely be tough. But they had Someone leading them who knew the way ahead. They had to trust that God would give them strength to cope and that He would take care of them. They could follow Him because He knew exactly what lay ahead.

This assurance comforted David when he was on the run. Despite great uncertainty, he said to God: "When my spirit grows faint within me, it is you who watch over my way" (Psalm 142:3). There will be times in life when we fear what lies ahead. But we know this: our God, who walks with us, knows the way. By: **Leslie Koh**

What worries you most in life? How can you remind yourself that God is walking with you and knows the way ahead?

HIGHLIGHTS OF THINGS TO COME:

NOVEMBER

- 05: Daylight saving time ends
- 05: Communion Sunday
- 05: Stewardship Commitment
- 05: Potato & Pie Bar after worship—TBA
- 07: Election Day 8am—8pm *we are a polling place
- 08: Session 7:00pm
- 12: Stewardship Dedication
- 13: Operation Christmas Child Nat'l Collection Week (13—20)
- 14: Deacon's Bunco Party 6:00pm
- 19: Pulpit Supply—TBA
- 19: Deadline for packed shoeboxes
- 23: Thanksgiving Day—Office Closed—*Happy Thanksgiving!*
- 26: Pulpit Supply—TBA
- 26: Poinsettias on sale now thru Dec. 17
- 26: Hanging of the Greens—TBA

DECEMBER

- 03: 1st Sunday of Advent
- 03: Communion / Cupcake Sunday
- 10: 2nd Sunday of Advent
- 10: Christmas Program during worship—TBA
- 10: Church Christmas Buffet after worship—TBA
- 13: Session 7:00pm
- 14: Mt. Harrison Quilt Guild Christmas Party 11:30am
- 16: PW Christmas Brunch and Cookie Swap 10:00am—TBA
- 17: 3rd Sunday of Advent
- 17: Christmas Caroling 3:00pm—TBA
- 24: 4th Sunday of Advent
- 21: First Day of Winter
- 24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7:00 pm—TBA
- 25: Christmas Day / Nativity of the Lord
- 25: Christmas Day—*Merry Christmas!*

Committee Reports

FINANCE REPORT

Happy October, everyone! The Stewardship Campaign is about to begin. Please start thinking about how you will pledge your tithes, time and talents in the coming year. In the next few weeks you will be receiving a letter from the finance team telling you more about Stewardship and asking you to fill out and return your pledge form. This information helps us plan financially for the coming year. Stewardship Commitment Day will be early in November, 2023. As you know, everyone on the Session volunteers their time and talents to keep our beautiful church running smoothly and efficiently. Please start thinking about how you can be of service in 2024.

In Christ's Service,
Your Finance team 2023



FELLOWSHIP REPORT

Oct. 1 - Cupcake Sunday
Oct. 15 - TBD

Please join us for coffee and fellowship each Sunday after worship.

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

Pastor's cell phone: 208-430-5359

Office Administrator: Barbra Moore

Office Hours Tue—Fri 9am—2pm

Office phone: 678-5131

Office email: burleypc@pmt.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 (USA)
2100 Burton Avenue
Burley ID 83318

Visit 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.*

Lord, you have been our dwelling
place throughout all generations.
PSALM 90:1

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

October
2023

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