



THE GRAPEVINE
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SANDPOINT, IDAHO
JULY AND AUGUST 2022

From the Pastor...

The third week of June, I was at St. Gertrude's Monastery in Cottonwood, Idaho, one of the leaders for the "Spirit Writing" retreat. For the entire week, people stayed in the Spirit Center, walked the grounds, and shared in meals, prayers, and worship with the Benedictine Sisters of that community. I was one of three leaders who led workshops, reflections, and conversations on "going deep" to nurture the creative center inside of us where Spirit dwells and writing finds its Source. I am thankful for the support and time to be in that role, and this ministry was a blessing to the participants and the other leaders.

On part of my workshop, I sent everyone outside to saunter. Henry David Thoreau talks about that word, saunter. It comes from the ancient practice of walking on pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Saint and Land combine, holy-landers, these words merged and eventually became saunter. Saun (saint) and ter (like tera, or terrestrial, earth, land). As writers we don't just walk, we saunter, and this raises our awareness of the holiness of all things. This artistic vocation is a calling to seek words to express the Spirit's mystery. Here is a reflection I wrote in that saunter on the Monastery grounds. (See page 5 and 6)

Peace and All Good,
 Pastor Andy Kennaly



DEACON REPORT

At the June meeting of the Deacons, they voted to donate \$300 to the Kaniksu Land Trust for help with the summer student lunch program, under the direction of Michelle Murphy. This decision was made in lieu of making the sandwiches as we felt that we could not provide 127 sandwiches per day for one week.

The Deacons are also seeking children who wish some assistance in attending summer camps, also anyone needing assistance to attend retreats. If anyone else feels they have another need for assistance, please contact one of the Deacons.

There has been some confusion about when to have the noisy offering. It was decided to again have this offering on the first Sunday of the month. We missed June so save your coins for the first Sunday in July!

SIMPLE SERVICE

July 10th will be a Simple Service, with plenty of singing and reflections. Carol Curtis and Judy Labrie will be worship leaders.

Paul Rodkey will be our guest speaker on July 17th. Pastor Rodkey, was born and raised in Spokane, and has recently retired. Come and get to know your neighbor

CITY BEACH SERVICE

Mark your calendar.....City Beach Outdoor Service-July 31st 9:30AM

Enjoy the scenery of Lake Pend Oreille during our outdoor service at the City Beach. We have the picnic shelter reserved for the morning through lunch. Bring a dish to share, lawn chair, hats and shades. Please bring your own plates and utensils. Drinks, paper plates, and napkins will be provided. Invite friends and family to commune on the lake.

TOMATOES, BEANS, & SQUASH

Our First Pres. Community Gardens are beginning to produce big time! The Earth Care Committee has been busy the last few weeks planting and adjusting the watering system, as we have dealt with much rain. Now we're seeing some of the benefits of our work. Dave Pietz's bush beans are about 2" tall now. The Early Girl tomato plants donated by high schoolers at Sandpoint High School through Michele Murphree, are doing well. We added Barbara Rolph's donation of three more tomato plants, Green Grape, Mountain Gold, and Jubilee, for a good variety. Tomatoes are already starting to form. Yum! Lexie has researched a new system for planting "The Three Sisters," corn, beans and squash. She has planted the corn in mounds; when the corn stalks are 4" high, she will surround them with climbing beans. The beans climb up the stalks, bring nitrogen to the corn, and the corn supports the beans—perfect mutual support! Marilyn's lettuces are sprouting, along with the Rozanne geraniums in the pretty easternmost gardens, under the maple tree. We gardeners, Marilyn Robertson, Lexie de Fremery, and Lynn and Dave Pietz invite you to come out for a look sometime, and a chance to join us in the fun and in growing healthy vegetables!



A Food Bank reminder to the congregation:

Please bring food cans or personal products to the church for the food bank and place in basket at front of church or in the bag on pew inside side door.

Let's see if we can increase these donations as the need in our community is growing!



COVID 19

Did you know you can order FREE at-home COVID tests? It could not be easier and they are delivered to your mailing address.

Here is the link: <https://www.covid.gov/tests>

Just click on the "Order Free At-home Tests" button and follow the instructions and click "Check Out Now". That's it!!



WANING HALF MOON SETS
 in the proud blue horizon of late
 morning on June's summer solstice
 over Monastery Hill
 on the backside of the old
 building of ancient stones
 taken onsite in the roaring
 1920's. Now

Cherry Tree matures,
 her wrinkled bark peels,
 branches unpruned grow wild and high.
 I wonder who may climb a ladder
 or make pies like so many
 summers, captured
 as rings buried in her trunk. Now

nearby iron frames and tension bolts rust,
 sun-bleached ropes sag their stretch
 where sheets and fresh linens once waved
 but knots now fray the end,
 black molds weave in fibers and rot the strength
 of past laughter. Now

a moss-capped concrete retaining wall holds
 imprinted seams from wood
 terraced forms removed one level
 at a time to make gardens to grow
 vegetables, fresh and canned
 under pressure, the rich
 soils now hide beneath mats of crabgrass and weeds.
 Sprinklers stand quiet, like dry sentinels who wait
 for their cue. Now

empty gloves lay still
 near wasps who fight and tumble
 behind ripped-out screens and cracked glass
 in the potting shed, spider webs
 layer on stacks of empty pots
 and trays that held flats of flowers tended
 by hands gone now.

Perennials, loyal to the end,
 shine big blooms. Deep red velvet
 Peonies bends down by relentless rains
 and success of her own weight,
 she reaches over crab grass invasion
 but Tansy's reinforcements muscle in
 to steal sun's rays while blood-red
 petals fade and fall. Now

tired Sisters watch through eyes that smile Love
 from windows in bed-ridden rooms
 as I pull stalks of grass from tall Lupine. Blooms

just beginning, cleared to stretch
open, honor the efforts
like song on a breeze. Now

turned soils don't lie.
Comfrey's been tended,
early blooms her gift for hummers' tongues. Main event
for bees are Mountain Ash flowers
that echo the hum high on her branches
that serve pollen, nectar for hives
worked with care somewhere in the distance
by wing on a beeline
through blue on summer's longest day
and time grows shorter as we fall towards winter, now.

VISION AND MINISTRY TASK FORCE

In the June session meeting, the Vision & Ministry Task Force (VMTF) made a report to session. VMTF members, Pastor Andy, Bill Love, Cynthia Dalsing, Judy McComish, Paula Vincent, Dyno Wahl and Judy Labrie, have met eleven times since February. The theme of the meetings has centered around how a small church with a part-time pastor can thrive. And the goal unfolding is to be a welcoming congregation that allows and nurtures people to explore their own spiritual experience and faith walk. To support a thriving congregation to take the Light and Love of Christ into the world.

The VMTF will be hosting two gatherings to review the report and answer any questions. A special meeting with Deacons will be held on Tuesday, August 2, 4:00 - 5:00 pm at the church. Then on Sunday, August 21, after worship there will be coffee and a bite with a presentation to the congregation in Fellowship Hour for an informal and informative report and discussion.

The committee members look forward to going over the process and report with all the members and friends who are interested.

Blessings,
Judy Labrie, member VMTF

BIKE & BUILD

August 17 -19, 2022

FPC Sandpoint will be hosting the Bike & Build riders this year. We have done this for several years in the past, but there was a hiatus in 2021 due to the pandemic. About 25 riders from around the United States will ride from New Hampshire to Bellingham, WA. On their way across country, they stop in small towns and volunteer for projects associated with local needs for affordable housing.

They will arrive at our church about 4 PM on August 17. On August 18, they will volunteer with Bonner Homeless Transitions all day and will hit the road again on the morning of the 19th. Our church provides overnight lodging, and dinner on their first evening in town and breakfast for the 2 mornings they stay with us. Bonner Homeless Transitions provides food on the day they work there. We also help them procure access to showers and other things such as bike repairs or health care should the need arise.

We are looking forward to having these young people in our town and in our church. We hope you will join us in welcoming and hosting them in our community and our church.

Judy McComish, Elder for Missions

MEMBERSHIP AND OUTREACH

Due to a recent covid outbreak the Stand With Ukraine Benefit Dinner was rescheduled to Friday, July 22, 2022. The tickets were sold out for the June dinner so we are carrying the current ticket holders forward. There have been some cancellations so we can add in more as we hear of changes in attendance. Contact Judy if you have dinner tickets and you can not make the July date or if you want to come to the dinner or add some people to join you. And as usual, we are always delighted to get helpers.

The fundraiser is co-sponsored by the Bonner County Human Rights Task Force and the First Presbyterian Church of Sandpoint.

This will be a rain or shine dinner. If the weather is good, we'll be dining in the church yard known as the Community Peace Garden. If there's a summer storm, we'll be setting tables in various rooms in the church. We will do our very best to provide adequate distancing. Do please, take care of yourself in the way that's most comfortable for you.

For ticket holders: if this date does not work out for you for any reason, we will be happy to reimburse your ticket purchase. Please let Judy know your wishes.

If you have something to donate for the silent auction... dessert, art or ?? please contact Judy Labrie, Cynthia Dalsing or Sue Helander. And if you would like to help with this event by serving tables, kitchen duties, set-up, clean-up please let one of the team know. Your support will be appreciated!

The direct donations that we have received will be used to purchase needed items (mostly small kitchen appliances for motel rooms) for the Ukrainian families being resettled in Spokane as a direct result of the attack on their country. The funds from the dinner will be added to those donations to be used in the same way.

We look forward to seeing you on July 22! Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Warmly,

Judy Labrie, Benefit Dinner Committee
registration@fpcsandpoint.org
208-290-3119



Ukrainian Benefit Dinner

Friday, July 22, 2022, 6:30 pm

First Presbyterian Church

417 N Fourth Ave, Sandpoint

Community Peace Garden

**Co-sponsors First Presbyterian Church and
Bonner County Human Rights Task Force
Family-style dinner featuring Ukrainian menu
Dessert auction and more!**

**\$20 per plate - \$50 family of four
Tickets must be purchased in advance
Contact Judy for a reservation**



Ukrainian Dinner July 22, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

City Beach Service July 31, 2022 at 9:30

Bike and Build August 17 to 19, 2022



July Birthdays

3 Annie Welle

9 Don Deters

21 Bob Maricle

25 Anna Bates

27 Ron Forsberg

31 Chuck Bauer



August Birthdays

2 Terrin Dustman

3 Bill Bissell

6 Dan Murphy

7 Samantha Bissell

9 Jill Murphy

10 Darcy Taylor

17 Lexie de Fremery

18 Patti Deters

22 Susie Haskins

27 Shirley Parker

30 Phyllis Meagher

Regular Monthly Events



Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. In-Person and Facebook Live starting June 5, 2022

Monday - Al-Anon 6:00 p.m. on Zoom meeting in person starting July 11, 2022

Tuesday - Book Study Group 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Contemplative Prayer Group 3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Choir Practice postponed

Second and Fourth Tuesday - 6:00 p.m. PFLAG

Wednesday - 6:00 p.m. Al-Anon on Zoom

Thursday - 12:00 p.m. Al-Anon

7:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous



First Presbyterian Church

Ministers: Members and Friends

Pastor Andy Kennaly

417 North Fourth Avenue, Sandpoint, Idaho 83864

208-263-2047 office@fpcsandpoint.org

pastorandy@fpcsandpoint.org

Pastor cell phone: 208-304-5488

www.fpcsandpoint.org