The LINK

Congregational Presbyterian Church

December 208

To Know CHRIST

To Become Like CHRIST

To Share CHRIST

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Food Bank Sunday

Food Bank Sunday

Sunday December 16th

December Food Bank Needs

Ready to Eat Items such as:

Meat
Fruit
Pudding
Snacks
Juices
Eating Utensils
Zip Lock Baggies

These items may be brought to Fellowship Hall and deposited in the grocery cart. Thank you!

Pastor's Letter

Dear Church Family, December, 2018

The season of Advent has been observed for centuries by Christians as a time to consider the significance of the Son of God coming into the world and to prepare for the celebration of his birth. Most people today are unaware of the meaning of Advent, assuming "preparing for Christmas" involves shopping, baking and making travel plans. This makes it all the more important that you and I give emphasis to Advent as a season of personal preparedness for the arrival of Jesus, the Christ.

The love of God that descended to Bethlehem in the form of his Son is not only a matter of glad tidings but is the all-powerful, all-loving grace of God that transforms lives. This grace reveals our sin and overcomes it, and this grace conquers darkness and brings light to the world. Such transforming grace can never be achieved by human effort but only by divine intervention.

Our four Advent Sundays, this first of which is December 2, will feature special readings and the lighting of our Christmas wreath, and the Advent Sermon Series will explore the four main themes of preparing ourselves for Christ's coming: Hope, Peace, Love, and Joy. As are available throughout the year, the sermons will be accompanied by the Daily Bible Reading Plan and Devotional. I invite you to daily reading and thoughtful meditation on God's Word during the Advent Season.

On Christmas Eve we will offer three services. The early service at 4:00pm is structured especially for families with children who want to come to church together. Special music and an expanded Young Disciples Time will help those who are younger among us enjoy this special night. The 7:00pm Christmas Eve service will feature many of our beloved Christmas Carols and music from our Bell Choir, and will include the passing of the Christ light. At 9:00pm on Christmas Eve we will celebrate with a quieter service of Special Music, Candlelight and Communion.

Lastly, let me remind you that there are some in our community who will be looking for a church to attend during the Christmas season. However, many "un-churched" people believe that church is like a club and you really shouldn't show up unless you are a member. Please invite your friends and neighbors who don't have a church home, or whose church does not offer a Christmas Eve Service, to come with you to our church. And let them know that they will be warmly welcomed!

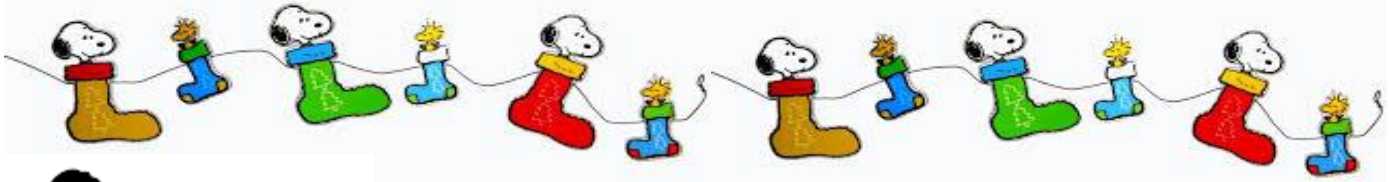
Yours in Christ,
Pastor Steve

DeceMber BirtHday's

Mark your Calendars: December 2nd

Join us monthly as we celebrate with cake during Fellowship Hour for a special "Happy Birthday Celebration" for our Friends and Members! Stop by for some cake, coffee & conversation for your special birthday month!

December Birthdays: John Baskin, Max McKarcher (1st); Addy Paynter (2nd); John Rusche (3rd); Walt Durland (5th); Marilou Dietz (6th); Jace Paynter (7th); Jerry Gossage (8th); Mike Gabby, Jim Osborn (10th); Chris Shaw, Richard Wagner (12th); Susie Ashburn (13th); Cedar Gara-Betzold (14th); Roberta Hobbs (15th); Alan Johnson, John Vornholt (16th); Josh McKarcher, Arlene Osborn, Jamie Williams (18th); Marilyn Hinman (21st); Bob Emerich (22nd); Niki Breazeal (24th); Dwain McIntosh (25th); Marianne McIntosh, Barbara Riggs, Nick Quarry (28th); Zachary Dilling (29th); Joane Griffith, Dave Williams (30th); Laureen Trail (31st)



HandicaP DeviceS AvaiLable

HANDICAPPED DEVICES AVAILABLE

The Church has an assortment of handicapped devices to lend to Church members and/or their loved ones. Please contact Kathy Johnson or Rich Goodwin at the Church office at (208) 743-4444.

What's available: Wheelchairs, walkers, tub/shower seat, portable commode, folding wheelchair ramp, crutches and walking canes are available for short or long-term use.

BLOOD DRIVE
How Can I Help??

BLOOD DRIVE

December 20th 1:30 am - 6:30pm

Blood Drive

Donate Blood: We will take 25 appointments total. The total donation process takes approximately one hour. Appointments will help reduce the wait time so you can get in and out on your busy schedule. Appointments can be scheduled by visiting www.redcrossblood.org (use sponsor code: congopres). If you need help scheduling an appointment Jim Schroeder will be available during the first fellowship hour, after Sunday Worship Services on December 2nd, 9th, and 16th to help you.

Why should I donate? Because in short, IT SAVES LIVES! One pint of donated blood can save up to 3 people's lives. In fact, every two seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood. This gift of life is the most cherished gift you could give anyone!

But I can't donate blood: We realize not everyone can donate blood but we do need a few volunteers to make cookies and pour juice for our blood donors.

Thank you

To our Friends in the Congregational Presbyterian Church:

It is with profound gratitude that we thank you for your extraordinary generosity in helping to raise the funds necessary for us to be able to participate in Toastmasters at Idaho Correctional Institute Orofino.

Toastmasters has helped us to rise above our past, and is empowering us to become better communicators, better leaders, and all-around better men. Our redeemer, our Savior, even the Master himself said, "....Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren ye have done it unto me."

It is no secret that many of us have made some grave mistakes in the past, and because of this many in society would consider us the "least of the least". For this reason we are evermore grateful that you have been willing to look beyond our past and invest in our future.

It is our genuine desire to one day return and meaningfully contribute to the community. Your generous investment in us, as people, has no doubt made this possible. May God bless you.

Sincerely Yours,
The Idaho Correctional Institute Orofino Toastmasters Members

Choir News

JOIN US!

Make a JOYFUL NOISE to the LORD!

No Choir or Chime Practice:

December 26th & 27th

January 2nd & 3rd

The CongoPres Choir would like to invite anyone interested in being a member to come help MAKE SOME JOYFUL NOISE! Please contact Beth Katzenberger via e-mail at BethK@congopres.org or by phone at (208)743-4444 for more information.

Angel Tree

The Angel Tree adorned with 2 tags per each child (with gift suggestion) will be in Fellowship Hall on December 2nd and 9th. Select an angel and then shop for your gifts. *All wrapped gifts must be returned to the church by Sunday, December 16,* to allow plenty of time for delivery before Christmas.

Please contact Larry & Tina Lantz at (719) 331-7834 or Dianne Waldemarson (208) 305-1402 with any questions.

Children's Church
Preschool through 5th Grade

Hey, Congo-Pres Kids! You're invited to **Children's Church** each Sunday morning in December! Come to the 9:00am Worship Service and right after the Young Disciples time, all kids who are in **Preschool (4 years) through Fifth Grade** are invited upstairs Pilgrim Hall for Children's Church! Each week has a Bible Lesson (God's words to you!) and fun activities! ***A note to Parents:** Children's Church concludes at 10:15am. At that time, you may come get your child and take them to the All–Church Fellowship time in Fellowship Hall or allow them to remain upstairs, with our fun child-care providers. Please pick them up by 11:00am. We will not dismiss the children to Fellowship Hall without an adult. Thanks!

CongoPres MidWeek Wednesday Evenings
KIDS CLUB

There's a place for all kids Preschool to 5th grade at Congo-Pres Mid Week Kids Club each Wednesday night in December. A family style supper begins at 5:30 followed by our super awesome Kids Club from 6-7pm! Come have fun with us as we go on Adventures in Odyssey each week! *Kids Club will not meet 12/19, 12/26 & 1/2. Merry Christmas!

& PARENTS DAY OUT

Sunday, December 16th during 9am Children's Church until 2pm. Kids are invited to stay from the beginning of Children's Church until 2pm. During this time we will make birthday cupcakes for Jesus and share them with the Seniors who attend the noon coffee hour, eat lunch together upstairs and then watch The Star Christmas movie. Parents, let us help you with your Christmas to-do list!! Use this time during Christmas season to shop/wrap/nap! Please sign up on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall if you plan to leave your kids with us for this fun filled Christmas Party!

WorSHip With US

9:00am Contemporary Service

This worship offers a relaxed way to praise our Lord. Our talented Song Team leads our music. Children's Church is available for kids entering Preschool thru 5th grade (kids excused after young disciples). Come as you are and worship in a casual atmosphere.

10:15am & Noon ~ All-Church Fellowship

Join us for coffee and cookies to catch-up with each other's lives. This sense of community is vital as we get to know our neighbors! Childcare available during the 10:15am fellowship hour.

11:00am Traditional Service

This worship is traditional with hymn selections, anthems sung by our choir and special music offerings. Join us for refreshments following worship.

LINK NeWS

LINK Deadline & Volunteers

Articles may be sent via email to annab@congopres.org or brought to the church office. Articles received past the deadline will not be guaranteed submission....

Of course late submissions accompanied with baked goods and/or a smile will be given priority!

If you would like to volunteer to help assemble the LINK for mailing please come to the church office on *Monday, December 31st, at 9am .*

Small Groups

- **Men's Bible Study** meets every Wednesday morning at 6:45am in Fellowship Hall. Pastor Steve leads this bible study and discussion. The group is currently reading the Gospel of Luke. Enjoy coffee and donuts, and experience great fellowship with the men of the church.
- **Wednesday in the Word** takes place every Wednesday, at 12:00pm, in the Chapel. This weekly, in-depth study and discussion is led by Pastor Steve and relates to the Sunday morning sermon text. All are welcome to join the exploration of biblical teaching and its application for Christian living.
- **Women's Sweet Hour of Prayer** will meet on Saturday, December 15th from 10-11am, in the Conference Room. All women are welcome to come. No prayers are turned away! *Please note that this group is meeting on the 3rd Saturday in December due to the holiday's.*
- **Women's Association** will hold their next meeting on Monday, December 10th at 10am in Fellowship Hall. December Hostesses are Marie Eier, Norma Bradshaw, and Barbara Riggs. Devotions will be led by Roberta Owens and Pastor Steve will be presenting the program: "Our High Priest".
- **Women's Christian Book Club** will meet again on Monday, January 7th at 10:30am in the Chapel. Be ready to discuss a recent book you have read! The book club has started meeting every-other month to allow time to read and cherish our books.
- **Monday Night Ladies Bible Study** meets on the 2nd and 4th Monday's of each month. This month they will meet December 10th at 6:45 pm in the Conference Room.. They are currently sharing a study titled *"Busyness". Please note there will be no bible study December 24th.*
- **Friday Morning Ladies Bible Study** meets weekly on Friday's, from 9:45am to 11:00am, in the Chapel . This fall they are studying the Book of Hebrews. All women are welcome. Join us for coffee and good discussion of this great book of faith. Study books will be available at class. For questions call Jean Allen at (208) 746-0557. *Please note there will be no bible study December 21st and 28th.*

"Rake 'em Up"

Fall Clean-up

On Saturday, December 1, we are planning to spruce up the church grounds. We need volunteers to supply the muscle & skill! The work will involve leaf raking & removal. We will start work at 9:00am & plan to finish by early afternoon - so, come whenever you can & stay as long as you can. We will provide some breakfast snacks & a light lunch. Please bring leaf rakes, leaf blowers, tarps, large garbage cans, gloves & pick-up trucks. Contact Rich Goodwin (509-780-3410) or richg@congopres.org with questions.

NEW MEMBER CLASS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8

8:30 – 11:30AM in FELLOWSHIP HALL

Please contact the church office (208) 743-4444 to sign up for the class & to let us know if you need child care.

Need a notary??

Look no further… Kathy Johnson, Administrator/Treasurer at CongoPres, is a notary for the State of Idaho and is available to notarize your documents at no cost. Please call the Church Office at (208) 743-4444 and talk to Kathy if you find yourself in need of this service.

CongoPres

MidWeek

Wednesday Evenings

DECEMBER SIMPLE SUPPER MENU:

(MENU IS SUBJECT TO CHANGES)

DECEMBER 5TH: TACO SOUP

DECEMBER 12TH: CHRISTMAS POTLUCK

****PLEASE BRING ANYTHING YOUR HEART DESIRES TO THE CHRISTMAS POTLUCK!!****

DECEMBER 19TH: NO MIDWEEK

DECEMBER 26TH: NO MIDWEEK

LET THE HEAVENS Rejoice and the Earth be Glad.

PSALM 96:11

Join us every Wednesday night for dinner, community & fellowship. There is a little something for everyone... we'd LOVE to see you!!

MidWeek

Youth Ministry

Yippy & Wired in December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 CAMP SPALDING High School Retreat
2 RETURNING FROM CAMP SPALDING	3	4 SH Lunch 11am	5 Youth Girls Night 6pm	6	7	8
9 Wired 5:30-6:30pm Youth Combined Dinner 6:30-7 YIPPY 7:00-8:30pm	10	11 SH Lunch 11am	12 Youth Girls Night 6pm	13	14	15
16 YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY	17	18 SH Lunch 11am	19 Youth Girls Night 6pm	20	21	22
23	24	25 Happy Birthday Jesus!	26	27	28	

Questions?

Please contact Pastor Mclane, or Bobbi Jo Sinner, Youth Secretary in the church office.

Christmas Eve Services

Monday, December 24th

You and your families are cordially invited to share in the Gift of Jesus this Christmas Eve on Monday, December 24th. We have three very special and unique services to choose from. We look forward to seeing you here to share in the Love of Jesus!

4pm Family Service

This service is uniquely structured for families with children who want to come to church together. Kids are involved in every aspect of this service from the music to the lesson. Bring the whole family as we celebrate the birth of Jesus together!

7pm Carol Service

This service will feature many of our beloved Christmas carols and will include the passing of the Christ's light, as well as a meditation.

9pm Candlelight Service

This service of reflection will celebrate Christmas with the remembrance of Jesus' birth through candlelight and communion.

Pageant & Pie

On Thursday, December 13th at 11:45a we are gathering in Fellowship Hall to make the short trek to attend the Christmas Program at Cornerstone Christian School. After the matinee performance, we will return to our church for pie and other desserts.

Please call the office at 743-4444 to sign up for this activity or sign up in Fellowship Hall.

Fit & Fall Proof

(Senior Exercise)

Join us every Monday, Wednesday, & Friday at 9am in Fellowship Hall.

Don't let the cold weather keep you inside!

A big THANK YOU to all who helped with this years Thanksgiving Dinner on November 15th. It was a delicious meal and wonderful fellowship.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Lunch at Antonio's

Thursday, January 24th

11:00am

Donate a Poinsettia in Honor of a Loved One

Poinsettias add so much beauty to the Christmas Season. If you would like to donate or lend a poinsettia to help beautify our sanctuary, please bring it to the church the week of December 16th.

To help our Worship Ministry plan, please fill out this form, detach it and bring it or mail it to the church office, or leave it in the church offering plate on Sunday. You also may call the church office (208) 743-4444 and let us know you are bringing a poinsettia to church.

Please check the boxes that apply:

____ I am enclosing $ _____ so that one can be purchased.
($12 suggested donation for each poinsettia)

____ I will bring my poinsettia

After Christmas:

____I want my poinsettia to be given to a homebound member

____I will take my poinsettia home after Christmas

I give my poinsettia in memory of:

_____

Your name & phone number:

_____

Congregational-Presbyterian Church
709 6th Street
Lewiston, Idaho 83501

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Permit #11

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Place Label Here

If you would like to be removed from our mailing list or start receiving your copy of the LINK by email, please email your request to cpc@congopres.org.

Contact US

Congregational-Presbyterian Church

709 Sixth Street, Lewiston, ID 83501
Phone (208) 743-4444; Fax (208) 798-3050
Website: **www.congopres.org**
Email: **cpc@congopres.org**

Find us on Facebook

PASTORS

Rev. Steve Wilbraham . . .. ……. Senior Pastor
SteveW@congopres.org
Rev. McLane Stone……..Associate Pastor
MclaneS@congopres.org

MINISTRY TEAM

Leslie Schrette.....……. . . . . ……..... ….. Adult Ministry
Travis Walker ……. .. . . . . …… Children's Ministry
Jana Peer……..…..... . . . . . ……. ….…... . . . . . Clerk
Peggy Fulton. . . . . ……..... .CPC Fund Ministry
Shari Rhodes……. . . . . ….... . ……... . ... Fellowship
Toni Carlyle.... . . . . …….. .Membership & Evangelism
Andrea Wagner. . . . . ….... ……... . . . . Mission
Jim Osborn……. . . . . ……..… Senior Adult Ministry
Mike Gabby….. . . . . ……... . .. ……... . . .Service
Tom Boubel….. . . . . ……. . ……... Stewardship
Deb Zenner…..... . . . . . ……... . ……. ... ……... . Worship
Becky Johnson . . . . . ……..…..... Youth Ministry

Trustees:
Chuck Gabby, Josh McKarcher, John Vornholt

STAFF

Kathy Johnson ……...Administrator/Treasurer
KathyJ@congopres.org

Beth Katzenberger…...Music Ministries Director
BethK@congopres.org

Jim McCracken…….. Senior Ministries Director
JimM@congopres.org
Clare McCracken...Assist. Sr. Ministries Director
ClareM@congopres.org

Kelly Paynter……Children's Ministries Director
KellyP@congopres.org

Bobbi Jo Sinner ……..Youth Secretary
BobbiJoS@congopres.org

Anna Bruce….. ……Secretary/Receptionist
AnnaB@congopres.org

Rich Kaiser…….…… Custodian
richkaiser@verizon.net

Rich Goodwin ……..... Facility Coordinator
richg@congopres.org

OFFICE HOURS:
M-Th: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Friday: 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

DECEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 9a Rake Em Up
Birthday Sunday 2 Angel Tree Tags Available 9a Worship 10a Fellowship 11a Worship 12n Fellowship 3p Worship @ RPCC	3 9a Sr. Exercise	4 9:30a Staff Mtg. 11a HS Lunch 7p Worship Team Mtg.	5 6:45a Men's Bible Study 9a Sr. Exercise 12n Wed. in the Word 5p Children's Chime Chr. 5:30p MidWeek Supper 6p Kids Club 6p MidWeek Studies 6p Youth Girls Night 7p Choir	6 6p Bell Choir	7 9a Sr. Exercise 9:45a Women's Bible Study	8 8:30~11:30a New Member Class
Angel Tree Tags Available 9 9a Worship 10a Fellowship 11a Worship 12n Fellowship 5:30p Wired 6:30p Youth Dinner 7:00p YIPPY	10 10a Women's Association 12:15p CPC Fund Mtg. 6:45p Women's Bible Study	11 9:30a Staff Mtg. 11a Sr. Ministry Mtg. 11 a HS Lunch 6:30p Board Mtg	12 6:45a Men's Bible Study 9a Sr. Exercise 12n Wed. in the Word 5p Children's Chime Chr. 5:30p MidWeek Supper 6p Kids Club 6p MidWeek Studies 6p Youth Girls Night 7p Choir	13 Sr. Pageant & Pie - 11:45a 6p Bell Choir	14 9a Sr. Exercise 9:45a Women's Bible Study	15 10a Sweet Hour of Prayer
Angel Tree Gifts Due 16 Kid's Christmas & Parents Day Out 9a Worship 10a Fellowship 11a Worship 12n Fellowship Youth Christmas Party	17 9a Sr. Exercise ***LINK Deadline***	18 9:30a Staff Mtg.	19 6:45a Men's Bible Study 9a Sr. Exercise 12n Wed. in the Word 5p Children's Chime Chr. 7p Choir	20 Annual Blood Drive 1:30pm 6p Bell Choir	21 9a Sr. Exercise	22
23 9a Worship 10a Fellowship 11a Worship 12n Fellowship	*Office Closed Merry Christmas!* 24 Christmas Eve Services 4pm, 7pm, & 9pm	25	26 9a Sr. Exercise	27	28 9a Sr. Exercise	29
30 9a Worship 10a Fellowship 11a Worship 12n Fellowship	31 9a Sr. Exercise 9a LINK assembly 1p Service Min. Mtg.					