

# *The LIMIT*

*Congregational-Presbyterian Church | February 2018*

*To Know  
Christ*

*To Become  
Like Christ*

*To Share  
Christ*

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**"Put on love, which links Everything together in perfect harmony."  
~Colossians 3:14**



February 2018

THANK YOU! Words cannot express my gratitude of love and prayers I have received over the last three and a half weeks. As many of you know, an unexpected medical issue came up. January 1st I woke up to my throat closing up and my body covered in burn-like hives. A few days later (and many doctors visits with specialists), I was diagnosed with Stevens-Johnson Syndrome. Stevens-Johnson Syndrome is an incredibly rare skin condition, (about 4 people in a million), that covers the skin in burn-like hives. It's very painful and most people with this condition get admitted into burn units to recover. These burn-like hives basically burn you from the inside out. Every burn felt like burning yourself on a pan when you are cooking, and my body was covered in them. My mouth and bottoms of my feet got the worst of it with second degree burns. After speaking with my physicians,

they figured it was probably caused by a combination of many things; a sudden onset allergy to a new medication, inner immunity issues, tremendous stress, and putting 100% of myself into everything I do. My body gave up fighting.

As miserable as it sounds (and it was), I feel like my eyes have opened to a whole new outlook on life. When I thought my world was closing in, God worked in mysterious ways. I swallowed my pride and gave the situation to Him. He received it and then He provided in the ways I needed. He provided the emotional support from people I needed to get through the day. He provided the people that supported and gave rides to/from the doctor. He provided my family with the acts of service through a meal train to feed my family when I couldn't. He provided the love and support through prayers, and I felt the love, every...single...one. The constant thing here is, He provided.

Today, I am still not 100%. Upon print of this LINK, some of the side effects are still present. I still can't taste, my feet are slowly growing new layers of skin, the small burn-like hives may or may not be scars, and the internal damage is unknown. But one thing is for sure, He provided my family with our needs. And for that, we are eternally grateful for His power and for the community of hands and feet He set into motion. So from the ashes, I will rise and glorify Him!

Sarah Emerich  
~ LINK Editor~

Dear Church Family,

About 30 years ago, Richard Foster wrote a book titled *Freedom of Simplicity*. In it he offers a balanced and biblical view of money and material possessions. He helps us look beyond our everyday concerns about money and begin to see it as a tool to do the work of the Lord.

He defines *simplicity* in Christian terms as “an inward reality resulting in an outward lifestyle.” Romans 12:2 encourages us to allow God to transform us into new persons by changing the way we think. When we think inwardly about money and possessions in a new way, then we will begin to use them differently.

When we focus on God, we will embrace certain truths: that our stuff has been given to us by God, that it is not ours to hold on to, and that it is intended for the good of the larger community. That perspective results in simplicity. But if we believe that what we have has come through our own effort, and that we’ve got to hold on to it, and that there’s no compelling reason to share with others, then we live in the complexity of trying to decide what is ours and what is God’s.

The New Testament presents two major attitudes toward wealth. The first attitude is a criticism of wealth in which it is viewed as a potential idol. That perspective is found in Matthew 6, especially verse 24, where Jesus said we cannot serve both God and money.

The second attitude sees money as a way to accomplish something. We see this attitude in the Luke 16 parable of the unjust steward. Jesus’ point from that story is, “Use your worldly resources in ways that benefit others.”

So Matthew 6 says we mustn’t serve money; Luke 16 says to learn to use money wisely.

Foster does not advocate selling all our stuff and living in poverty as a way of being more spiritual. While there are some people who are called to give everything away, for the most part this is an ineffective way to live the Christian life.

Selling your stuff doesn’t make you spiritual; that’s an *external* act. Our spiritual life flows from *inside* us, from our heart’s focus.

What we have—the house we live in, the car we drive—is a touchy subject that makes many of us defensive because it deals with the center of who we are. Americans, in particular, define success in terms of affluence. We even use that term: my net worth.

We must learn, as Christians, to draw our identity from Christ, not from what we own. We do that by learning to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and our neighbors as ourselves. We learn to trust God and accept Him as the one who gives us our worth. Once we have the internal life of God, then we can live our very best life.

Yours in Christ,  
*Pastor Steve*





**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 in the Church atmosphere, as we get to know our neighbors! Childcare available during the 10:15a fellowship hour.

**11:00am Traditional Service**

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



Join us as we meet weekly to fill each other up in community and fellowship!  
We have something for everyone!

Guided Study Options for Adults:

- Book of Revelation - Led by Pastor Steve
- Parent’s Class - “Almost Christian” - 1st (Feb. 7th) & 3rd (21st) Wednesdays  
Led by Pastor McLane

Children’s Chime Choir: 5-5:30p  
Simple Supper: 5:30p  
Guided Studies: 6:00 – 7:00p

**February Simple Supper Menu:**  
(Menu is subject to change)

February 7th:	Tacos
February 14th:	No MidWeek (Join us for Ash Wednesday at 6:30p)
February 21st:	Pancake Breakfast
February 28th:	Sloppy Jos
March 7th:	Soup



Reserve your place for the  
*Annual Valentine's  
Dinner*  
*February 10th!*  
Seating begins at 5pm.  
Reservations are required and  
are filling up quickly.

This year, the menu options are:  
CONGO'S FAMOUS STEAK  
(WITH OPTIONAL BLEU CHEESE CRUMBLES)

Or

CHICKEN CORDON BLEU  
(WITH SHELLEY'S DELICIOUS SAUCE)

BOTH OPTIONS ARE SERVED WITH THE FOLLOWING:  
Twice Baked Potato, Seasoned Greens, Wedge Salad, Cheese Toast,  
and your choice of Delicious Dessert.

Call the office at 743-4444 for reservations or  
visit the Welcome Center in Fellowship Hall



Fill 52 food bags for the Reach  
Out Center by Super Bowl 52  
on

**Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>**

The Mission Committee  
challenges you to help fill 52  
grocery bags with a variety of  
ready-to-eat, single serving foods. This food will be  
taken to the R.O.C. to help them provide bags of food each  
week to people in need. Bring the items to the "Souper Bowl 52"  
sign in Fellowship Hall.

- **Men's Bible Study** - We continue to meet every Wednesday at 6:45am in Fellowship Hall with Pastor Steve, who leads our study and discussion. We are currently reading the Gospel of Mark. Enjoy coffee and donuts, and experience great fellowship with the men of the church.
- **Wednesday in the Word** - Join us every Wednesday at 12:00noon (in the Chapel) with Pastor Steve for an in-depth study and discussion related 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** - Join us on Saturday, February 24th at 10am. No prayers are turned away!
- **Women's Association** will meet on February 12th at 10am in Fellowship Hall. February's Hostesses are Jan Kautz, Sally Zimmerer, and Barbara Riggs. Devotions will be led by Marie Eier and Pastor Steve will be presenting the program "**The Fruit of the Spirit is Goodness.**"
- **Women's Book Club** has started to meet every-other month to allow time to read and cherish our books. We meet Monday, March 5th at 10:30am in the Chapel. Be ready to discuss a recent book you have read!
- **Monday Night Ladies Bible Study** will meet on February 12th & 26th at 6:45pm in the Conference Room. Our study this spring is "Prayers of the New Testament."
- **Friday Morning Ladies Bible Study** meets weekly in the Chapel from 9:45am to 11:00am. We will be studying the Book of Romans. All women are warmly welcome to join us in study and fellowship. For questions call Jean Allen at 208-746-0557.



## ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICE FEBRUARY 14, 6:30 PM In the Sanctuary

The 40-day season of Lent, which this year begins on February 14 (Ash Wednesday) and ends on March 31 (the day before Easter), is a season of preparation for the Easter Sunday celebration of the resurrection of Jesus. (For those of you who are getting out your calendars and counting the 40 days, Sundays are not included.)

We invite you to attend our Ash Wednesday Worship Service at the church. This is an opportunity to begin the 40 days of Lent with prayer, music, the proclamation of God's Word, and sharing together in Communion. (Note: *MidWeek@CongoPres* will not meet on February 14. Child care is provided for the Worship Service.)

**Diane Ashburn Wilmonen  
Scholarship  
Application Deadline:  
April 1st**



The Diane Ashburn Wilmonen Scholarship applications for this coming school year are due April 1st. If you will be a full-time college student (**new or returning**) fall of 2018, and are a member or friend of our church, you are eligible for this award.

Please stop by the Welcome Center in Fellowship Hall, or the church office, and pick up your application. The scholarship is in the amount of \$1,000 and may be received by an individual only one time. A short essay and a letter of recommendation will need to be submitted along with the application.

This scholarship is given in memory of Diane Wilmonen, a long-time member of the Congregational-Presbyterian Church.

Join us on  
**Thursday, February 8th at  
10:45am (Bus Leaves at 11am)**

as we are heading to Tomato Bros. for Lunch Bunch. Meet at the church and the bus leaves at 11am. Sign up for this activity by calling the church office: 743-4444 or in Fellowship Hall.



**Fit & Fall Proof  
(Senior Exercise)**

meets Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 9:00 am in Fellowship Hall. Now is a great time to join! We have fun and get our joints moving!



**Save the Date!  
St. Patrick's Day Lunch  
Thursday, March 15th  
11am  
in Fellowship Hall**

JESUS LOVES YOU!

# yippy and wired in February

JESUS LOVES YOU!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	This year's annual <i>Valentine's Dinner</i> is Saturday, February 10th. Don't forget to sign-up for this <b>fun</b> event to help our Youth Mission Team!			1 Thursday Lunch 11:55-12:55pm	2	3
4 YIPPY 7:00-8:00pm  Wired 5:30-6:30pm	5	6	7	8 NO Thursday Lunch	9	10 <i>Youth Mission Valentine's Dinner</i>
11 YIPPY 7:00-8:00pm  Wired 5:30-6:30pm	12	13	14 Happy Valentine's Day 	15 Thursday Lunch 11:55-12:55pm	16	17
18 YIPPY 7:00-8:00pm  Wired 5:30-6:30pm	19	20	21	22 Thursday Lunch 11:55-12:55pm	23	24
25 YIPPY 7:00-8:00pm  Wired 5:30-6:30pm	26	27	28	<b>Questions?</b> Please contact Pastor McLane Bobbi Jo Sinner, Youth Secretary in the church office at 743-4444.		



# CAMP SPALDING



Mark your 2018 summer calendar now for Camp Spalding!! Over the years, thousands of young lives have been eternally changed during summer camp experiences. Come to Camp Spalding and find out firsthand what these experiences are made of! Summer camps start in June and run through August for elementary ages, through senior high. Camp Spalding is on beautiful Davis Lake, north of Spokane. Camps for K-Grade 6 are listed below.

***Camp scholarships are available. Please contact Kelly Paynter if you need a scholarship. Online registration for Summer 2018 begins in late February at [www.campspalding.org](http://www.campspalding.org). Visit the website now for more information!***

No.	Camp	Grade in Fall	Dates
101	"Mom/Dad & Me"	K-2 & Parent	June 15-16
103	Discovery I	2-4	June 20-23
104	Junior I	5-6	June 24-30
108	Junior II	5-6	July 22-28
111	Discovery II	2-4	August 12-15
112	Family Camp	N/A	August 15-19
202	Pioneer Discovery	2-4	July 1-4
203	Pioneer Junior	5-6	July 8-14

CongoPres  
**Midweek**  
 Wednesday Evenings

## KIDS CLUB

There's a place for all kids Preschool to 5th grade at Congo-Pres Mid Week Kids Club! Join us each Wednesday night! A family style supper begins at 5:30 followed by Kids Club from 6-7pm! Come have fun with us as we will be digging into The Life of Jesus! This year kids will discover that Jesus is a real person—a real friend—who makes a difference in their lives TODAY. Wednesday nights will be full of interactive Bible lessons, games and fun! Hope to see you there! Bring a friend!!!  
*\*Kids Club will not meet 1/3/18.*



Hey, Congo-Pres Kids! You're invited to **Children's Church** each Sunday morning! 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 and fun activities! **\*A note to Parents:** Children's Church concludes at 10:15am. At that time, you may come get your child(ren) 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.

**Contact Kelly Paynter, Director of Children's Ministries, with questions, concerns or comments at [kellyp@congpres.org](mailto:kellyp@congpres.org), 743-4444 or 791-1262.**

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
				<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
				10:55 HS Lunch  6p Bell Choir	9a Sr. Exercise 9a Women's Bible Study	
<b>Communion Sunday Birthday Sunday SOUPer Bowl 52</b> <b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
9a Worship 10a Fellowship 11a Worship 12n Fellowship 5:30p Wired 6:30p Youth Dinner 7:00p YIPPY	9a Senior Exercise	9:30a Staff Mtg.	6:45a Men's Bible Study 9a Sr. Exercise 12n Wed. in the Word 5p Children's Chime Chr. 5:30p Simple Supper 6p MidWeek@Congopres (Parent's Class) 7p Choir	Senior Lunch Bunch at Tomato Bros. 10:45a	9a Sr. Exercise 9a Women's Bible Study	
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
9a Worship 10a Fellowship 11a Worship 12n Fellowship 5:30p Wired 6:30p Youth Dinner 7:00p YIPPY	10a Women's Association 12n CPC Fund Mtg  6:45p Women's Bible Study	9:30a Staff Mtg.  <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #f0e6ff; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">12n LINK Deadline</div> 6:30p Board Mtg	6:45a Men's Bible Study 9a Sr. Exercise 12n Wed. in the Word 5p Children's Chime Chr. <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #f0e6ff; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">Ash Wednesday Service ~ 6:30p</div> 7p Choir	10:55 HS Lunch  6p Bell Choir	9a Sr. Exercise 9a Women's Bible Study	Hands and Feet Service Day 8am
<b>Food Bank Sunday</b> <b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
9a Worship 10a Fellowship 11a Worship 12n Fellowship 5:30p Wired 6:30p Youth Dinner 7:00p YIPPY	Office Closed	9:30a Staff Mtg	6:45a Men's Bible Study 9a Sr. Exercise 12n Wed. in the Word 5p Children's Chime Chr. 5:30p Simple Supper 6p MidWeek@Congopres (Parent's Class) 7p Choir	10:55 HS Lunch  6p Bell Choir	9a Sr. Exercise 9a Women's Bible Study	10a Sweet Hour of Prayer
<i>Family Promise at our Church</i>						
<b>Communion Sunday</b> <b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>			
9a Worship 10a Fellowship 11a Worship 12n Fellowship 5:30p Wired 6:30p Youth Dinner 7:00p YIPPY	9a Sr. Exercise 1p Service Min. Mtg  6:45p Women's Bible Study	9:30a Staff Mtg.	6:45a Men's Bible Study 9a Sr. Exercise 10a LINK Volunteers 12n Wed. in the Word 5p Children's Chime Chr. 5:30p Simple Supper 6p MidWeek@Congopres 7p Choir			

# Newsletter DEADLINE

## LINK Deadline & Volunteers

Due to a vacation I will be taking, the deadline to submit articles for MARCH LINK is

**TUESDAY, February 13th at Noon**

Articles may be sent via email to SarahE@congopres.org or brought to the church office. Articles received past the time will not be guaranteed submission, so plan accordingly. Volunteers will meet in the Administration Building on **Wednesday, February 28th at 10am** to assemble the LINK for mailing.



**Mark your Calendars: February 4th** 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 and conversation for your special birthday month!

**February Birthdays:** Liz Rawson (2nd); Kelly Paynter (3rd); Dale Case, Marilyn Kidder (4th); Josh Hyndman (5th); Kathleen Roberts (6th); Merle Baldwin, Gayle Beck, Steve Moore, Jackie Williams (7th); Dean Jurgens, David Van Buren (8th); Lisa Kaltenbaugh (9th); John Hunt (10th); Nancy Poole (13th); Marilyn Carter, Bee Herman (14th); Russell Rudolph, Paul Stewart (15th); Jean Peer (16th); Marcia Barkley, Chris Paynter (17th); Richard Goodwin, Kathy Johnson (19th); Al Johnson (21st); Keesje Mills, Bev Williams (22nd); Gary Gibler, Claire Hanson, Randy Herman (26th); Katie Babino (27th); Cookie Crane, Nancy Gabby, Kathy McIntosh (28th)

If we missed your birthday please let Sarah in the office know (743-4444).

### Community Action Food Bank

**February 18th** has been designated as Food Bank Sunday. This month, the Food Bank has expressed a need for the following items:

- ◇ Shampoo
- ◇ Conditioner
- ◇ Bar Soap
- ◇ Dish Soap
- ◇ Laundry Soap
- ◇ Tooth Paste
- ◇ Tooth Brushes
- ◇ Razors
- ◇ Shaving Cream
- ◇ Feminine Products
- ◇ Household Cleaning
- ◇ Kleenex
- ◇ Bathroom Tissue
- ◇ Paper Towels



### Food Pantry Donations Needed

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

The Service Ministry is looking for volunteers to help deliver communion to our shut-ins. We do this once a month. We meet the last Monday of the month at 1pm. We go out in pairs so you will never have to worry about going alone. This is a such a meaningful experience so please pray about it, and consider giving it a try. For more information contact Carol Trautman at 208-816-0360 or the church office, 208-743-4444.



