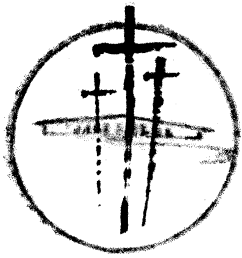


FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NAMPA, IDAHO



Half-Link



Nampa First United Presbyterian Church Purpose Statement

To bring people together to love and magnify God through worship, to minister to the needs of all His children, to fellowship in God's family, to spread the Good News, and to develop people to Christ-like maturity for their mission in the world.

Office Hours

Monday - Friday
9:00am - 1:00pm

Office email:

firstpresnampa@gmail.com

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Phone: (208) 466-7061

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Pastor Aaron Berkowitz

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Pastor's Office Hours

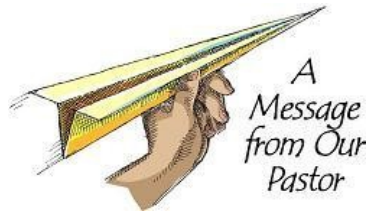
Mondays & Thursdays
10:30am - 1:00pm

MID-MARCH 2018

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What Is The Afterlife?

The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen! Matthew 13:41-43

Lucky for me I didn't make up those words. If I did, many would accuse me of overbearing preaching. But Jesus said it, not me.

Whenever Jesus talks about the afterlife, he talks about judgment. The two always go together. Our journey into eternity passes through a "winnowing", as Jesus also says. Jesus himself will separate the wheat from the chaff. The farming metaphor will not be lost on many of you. When Jesus brings the Kingdom, Jesus also separates all that is good, true, and beautiful from all that is evil, false, and destructive.

Heaven and eternity cannot be taken for granted. Different Christians interpret Jesus in different ways. Some believe that the separation is between good people and bad people. Others that it is between true believers and unbelievers. And some believe the separation is a purification of every soul itself, so that only what is pure and good in each of us will enter eternity. In Scripture, Paul speaks of a refining fire that burns away what is not holy in us.

However we interpret the Bible, one thing is clear. Wise people prepare for eternity by growing spiritually in this life. The church is God's gift to those who want to prepare. The church has been here in every age to nurture and develop the souls of men and women for the eternal life God offers them in Jesus Christ. That is why this church is here, and we will do everything we can to accomplish that purpose.

-Pastor Aaron

WHO Needs You?

WHO is looking for you? **WHO** needs your help? **WHO** wants to serve others in the community?

WHO is hoping that you are the one! **W(omen) H(elping) O(thers)** is organizing here at church to be of service to our Nampa community by:

- ♦ Finding out more about the needs of the local Nampa Family Shelter.
- ♦ Working with the Salvation Army and others to provide much needed consistent volunteer hours to homeless assistance.
- ♦ Putting Christ's mandate to help others to work in a visible way.

WHO would be interested in giving a few hours a month in this way? **WHO** invites you to sign the list on the table in the narthex if you would like to make a tour of the Nampa Family Shelter to see what great things are happening there and how you can be a part of it.

By the way, notice that in the name "**Women Helping Others**" there is also the hidden but very necessary inclusion of the word "**men.**" **WHO** needs you, too!

Save the Date

Presbyterian Women in the Boise Presbytery will have a Spring Gathering on Saturday, April 14th here at Nampa First United Presbyterian Church with co-host Southminster



Presbyterian Church. Registration will begin at 9:30 AM. The theme is "Love Makes the World Go 'Round'". Watch for more details coming soon.

Holy Week Services

Sunday, March 25—10:00 AM Palm Sunday

Thursday, March 29— 6:00 PM Maundy Thursday
Seder Meal

Friday, March 30—7:00 PM Good Friday Service

Sunday, April 1—10:00 AM Easter Sunday

Movie Night



The next movie night will be **Saturday, March 24th** at 5:30 PM. The movie is "Darkest Hour" and it is available at Redbox. Watch the movie ahead of time and then bring a potluck dish to share, your own table service and beverage and join in the discussion and fellowship.

The PEP Club

(Prayers for Exceptional People-our Teenagers) "Prayer is one of the most exciting things you will ever experience!" is what I said to the teenagers Sunday at their monthly meeting after church.

"Let me tell you where this comes from." I told them about working with an evangelist for 3 1/2 years who was raised in jails and prisons. "I couldn't figure out how to stay out of jail," he said.

Jesse Garcia went through an amazing change and eventually became an evangelist. Pastor Jesse Garcia, as he is now called, went back to the prisons to help inmates, or as he called them, "the guys." After interviewing him, his story was so unbelievable that I followed him around for 2 weeks to see if it was true. It was.

So I joined a team of 10 people helping him. As Jesse worked with these "guys," the team met with the inmates wives, wrote down their 5 greatest needs and prayed for them for 2-3 weeks to move them out of their crisis. It was the first time any of the wives had experienced this kind of support.

The Scripture I used was I Cor. 2:4 (my paraphrase) "Pretty words, good ideas and the educational systems of this world do not change the

heart of an alcoholic, drug or heroin addict. **It's when that person experiences a "powerful demonstration of the Spirit of God in their life and heart"**—that's when a person changes.

I have always loved teenagers. They are so hopeful, positive and have a great sense of humor. In 2005 I followed Bruce Swanson into the UPC. I wanted to meet with each teenager, write down his or her 5 greatest needs and have a team of 10 people pray for that teenager.

I've been doing this for the past 5 years for different teens. Now I want to do this in a more organized way so I invented **"The PEP Club" (Prayers for Exceptional People)**. Wendy Bierman has joined me. Also involved is Pastor Aaron, Brett Lolley, Rev. Marianne Paul and others. They think it's a great idea.

So I'll be calling each parent to set up a time to meet with your teenager. And please, please know that parents are always invited to any meeting we have with your teen. If you have any comments, questions or want to be involved, please call me at 208-442-7268 or email me at loni@BalloonArtistIdaho.com.

-Loni Trude, Deacon/Elder

2018 Camp Dates

We have money available to help any youth in our church attend Camp Sawtooth. Please contact Pastor Aaron to request financial aid. Registration packets are available in the narthex at the church.

5th & 6th Grade / June 24-29

3rd & 4th Grade / July 1-4

7th & 8th Grade / July 8-13

9th & 10th Grade / July 15-20

11th & 12th Grade / July 22-27

Dates for Youth Activities

Upcoming Activities for Youth Group (YG) and Presby Kids Club (PKC):

3/18/18 – swimming at Rec Center

4/1/18 – Cancel – Easter Sunday

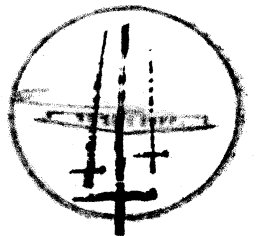
4/15/18 – Camelback Park Picnic, hike for YG & playground for PKC

5/6/18 – Ceramics outing YG & PKC

5/20/18 – End of year BBQ & games – invite congregation & do potluck



If this publication is no longer needed, please notify the church office.



**FIRST UNITED
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
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