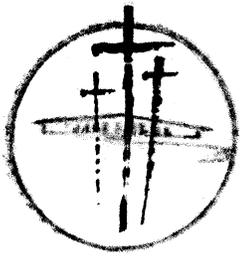


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FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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.

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### **Office Hours**

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

### **Office email:**

firstpresnampa@gmail.com

### **Website:**

www.firstpresnampa.org

Phone: (208) 466-7061

Fax: (208) 466-7176

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### **Pastor Aaron Berkowitz**

Email: alb733@gmail.com

Phone: 909-953-1011

### **Pastor's Office Hours**

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

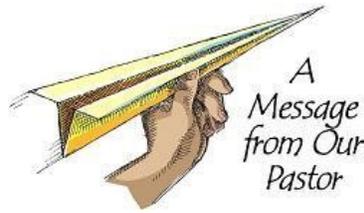
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**MID-SEPTEMBER 2018**

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## Do you desire instruction?

I often wonder why we do not feel the way the writer of this psalm feels. Do we avoid or disregard instruction because we are too busy? Because we think we already know? Because we don't want to be corrected? Perhaps because we think the work required will yield little benefit to us? Sometimes I think of the words of William Blake, "Wisdom is sold in the desolate market where none come to buy." Or, when in a light-hearted mood I think of the scene from Ferris Beuller's Day Off in which the teacher played by Ben Stein drones, "Anyone, anyone... anyone?"

As Christians, education should be our number one priority. We worship a teacher. He was called Rabbi or "teacher" by those who loved him. Matthew 11:1 says:

"When Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and preach in their cities."

One of the names Presbyterians give Pastors is "Teaching Elder". Teaching is what I am called to do. That is why I am excited about the Fall season and the start of our youth and children's programming. I am also excited to start new Bible studies, sermon series, and opportunities for us to grow in our knowledge of Jesus, the greatest Rabbi. I hope that all of you are as excited for the next year as I am. I hope that the places of learning will not be desolate markets, but regardless, the place of teaching and learning is where any disciple of Jesus is called to be.

If you are not excited to learn for your own benefit, think of the benefit to others.

1 Peter 3:15 says:

"but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect," It is important that every Christian be ready to answer anyone who asks them the reason for the hope that is in them. That is God's purpose for each of you, not just ministers or missionaries. It is the responsibility of the church to teach and

prepare all of its members to explain their faith to anyone who seeks.

Those of you who have raised children probably made them eat vegetables. Children do not want to eat vegetables, but they are good for them. If you love them, you make children eat vegetables. We adults are not so different from children. We may not want instruction, but it is good for us and we need it.

Worldly knowledge is not enough. Years ago someone told me I had "book smarts" but no "street smarts." I replied, "I don't plan to live on the streets". Worldly knowledge is good for living in the world, but hopefully you will spend more time in the Kingdom of Heaven, so it would be good to develop some heavenly smarts. It is great to learn how to make a buck. But if you want to know the reason God made you, who God is, and how to have a personal relationship with God, then you need instruction from the Bible. Today I saw a sign at the church where Jaya started preschool that said, "Get to know Jesus before you meet Him." When you face death, or just loneliness, betrayal, or cruelty, then you will need book smarts, and that book should be the Bible.

- Pastor Aaron

**Make me to know your ways, O Lord;  
teach me your paths.**

**Lead me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation;**

**Psalms 25:4-5**

## Save the Date!



**Sunday, September 16th - Fall Kickoff for our Youth Programs!!**

The older Sunday school class (6th grade - 12th grade) will resume after the Children's Sermon. After the worship service we will resume our Youth Group & Presby Kids Club. The youth and their families will have lunch and tour the newly renovated Youth Room. Then the kids will enjoy a fun craft and games while the parents participate in an information session about the plans for this year.



## PW Happenings



The Presbyterian Women's coordinating committee will be meeting **Tuesday, September 18th**, at 10:00am. All women of our church are encouraged to come.

We will meet in the Fireside room.

Presbyterian Women will enjoy a Social Gathering **Tuesday, October 2nd** at 10:00 AM with a guest speaker from Hope's Door, which advocates against family violence. Four members of PW went on a field trip to

their shelter in May. They wanted to share their ministry with more ladies in the church.

Please plan to attend and bring a friend. A potluck salad lunch will be served. Please bring a dish if you are able. The meeting is in the Fellowship Hall.

Presbyterian Women Presbytery Fall Gathering will be October 6th, at the Southminster Presbyterian Church in Boise. Please put this date on your calendar and plan to attend.

## Community Events

### Medicaid Expansion Initiative (Prop 2)

Learn about the initiative to expand Medicaid benefits for the 62,000 Idahoans living in the coverage gap. The meeting is open to everyone and will be held at:

***First United Methodist Church***

***2717 12th Ave Rd***

***Nampa, ID 83686***

Two sessions offered:

**Wednesday, September 19th from 6:45pm-8:00pm**

**Saturday, October 6th from 10:00am-11:00am**

Sponsored by: United Methodist Women.

Presented by Chelle Gulch and Tracy Olson.

They will be answering the most frequently asked questions about Medicaid and The Coverage Gap.

## Crop Walk

The Crop Hunger Walk is an annual event that raises money and awareness of hunger locally and around the world. The Canyon County CROP Hunger Walk will be held on **Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup>** beginning at 2:30pm. (Registration begins at 2:00pm).

The Walk begins at the Brandt Center on the NNU Campus in Nampa. There is no fee to participate but donations are helpful.

Last year \$560 was raised by participants from our Church. Thank you to all who walked and those who donated to the Crop Hunger Walk.

Additional information will be available in the coming weeks. Information is also available at <https://www.crophungerwalk.org>.

Thank you

Mission Committee



## Remembering September 11, 2001



**We will never forget.**

*“Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.”*

- Psalm 23:4 

It is said that for money you can have everything, but you cannot.

You can buy food, but not appetite;  
medicine, but not health;  
knowledge but not wisdom;  
glitter, but not beauty;  
fun, but not joy;

acquaintances, but not friends;  
servants, but not faithfulness;  
leisure, but not peace.

You can have the husk of everything for money, but not the kernel.

- Arne Garborg



If you have an *email address*, please sign up for electronic communications. This will help the church **save money** on postage and paper.

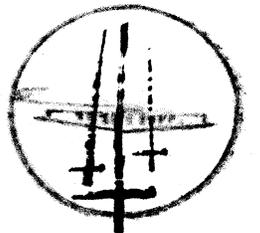
To sign up email [firstpresnampa@gmail.com](mailto:firstpresnampa@gmail.com) or call the office at 208-466-7061.

**Please update your mailing address and phone number with the church office. We have had some mail returned for the wrong address.**

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

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**FIRST UNITED  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
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