### First Presbyterian Church

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### April MESSENGER 2021

#### FROM THE PASTOR

No one likes change. Actually, that is not accurate. More accurate is that some change we like and some we do not. A year ago in April, we had to make a lot of changes. We donned facemasks, limite in-person social interaction, and hunkered down. We also slowed down, created family and social bubbles, and reevaluated our lives. At church, we moved worship online, suspended Bible studies, an stopped hugging. We also began a more intentional prayer life at 11:22 AM, we reconnected over the phone, and we learned a lot.

Fast forward to April 2021 and we face changes once again. What a joy at the last session meeting to make the decision of restarting Bible studies, coffee hour, and resuming more elements in our worshi service. Other changes are more difficult. This month we say goodbye to Bree Miles, who has served faithfully as our Administrative Assistant/Financial Secretary. We are thrilled at her new opportunity as an Office Manager in Lewiston, but we hate to see her go. (Do hold in prayer our process of findin new staff.) No doubt, we may face other difficult changes this month -- such is the nature of life, eve history.

Of all the changes in human history, none surpasses the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus. fever ther was an event in history that *changed* the course of history -- if ever there was an event in history wit before and an after -- it is the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. *This* event is *the* event. Even more, the Resurrection of our Lord not only changed history in general, but it changes our personal lives in particular. It is because of the Resurrection of our Lord that we can face whatever changes life bring our way. A lot of history has happened in the 2,000-year existence of the church. Yet, regardless of how history and life-altering these events have been, the Holy Spirit has continued to proclaim throu God's people, "Christ is Risen." And we at First Presbyterian Church will continue to affirm this Trut as we seek Christ and serve others -- together.

Grace and Peace, Pastor Dave

### **Preaching Notes**

Now that Jesus rose from the dead and ascended to heaven, what is he doing? That's the question the book of Acts answers. I like to 'extend' the title from "Acts" to "The Book of the Acts of the Risen Lord Jesus." Acts continues the story of Jesus in the lives of the community who trusts in him and so is empowered by the Holy Spirit. Like us, the first Christians were particular people with particular names: Peter, Mary, James, Stephen, Tabitha. Like us, they had vocations: father, mother, tent-mak fisherman, dress maker. Like us they gathered in joyful fellowship, and like us they faced challenges and conflict. Above all, the early Christians, like us, were not spectators to God's work in the world, b participants. Studying Acts grounds us in our identity as the people of God amid a changing world.

## Summary of Session Meeting

- Session in its time of study reflected on Psalm 107 and Philippians 2. Specifically how do we look back on the past year in terms of losses and gains to the church family? Looking to future what opportunities for ministry and growth of the church are calling us? Lost opportunities include loss of community within the church family with limited availability for fellowsh before and after worship and in-person small groups. We have opportunities for the coming year to be together more fully as the church family in person and also to show the communit that the mission of our church is strong. We want to reach out to those in the church family and community who have been isolated during the past year.
- Coffee hour will resume in Hendrick Hall after worship.

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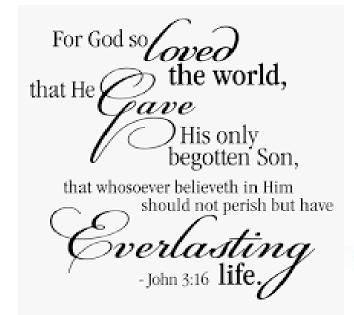
 Session will explore what it would take to livestream the Lord's Day worship service, as well as consider technology upgrades in Hendrick Hall.

### **Financials**

Finances as of February 2021									
	YTD Actual		YTD Budget						
Income	\$	83,776.36	\$	64,145.91					
Expense	\$	63,520.00	\$	64,146.11					

\$ 20,256.36 |\$

Inc./Exp.





# Who is the Union Gospel Mission?

The Union Gospel Mission is coming to the LC-Valley and your session wants to support this ministry. Their mission is to "reach the poor with the power and love of the Gospel so that they may become God dependent, contributing members of society." If you want to know more about UGM and their mission here in the Valley, we'd encourage you to attend one of their informational meetings at 6 p.m. (all in Lewiston and one that is virtual):

- \* April 08 @ First Church of the Nazarene
- \* April 16 @ Facebook Live Event at 7 p.m.
- \* May 20 @ Orchards Community Church
- \* June 24 @ River City Church





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Art Johnstone of Hollie Williams of Lois Devereaux of Lorraine Cline 11 Leo Cline 12 Erik Loseth 2 Ian Guillotte 23	HAP BIRTH	PY DAY		1 10 a.m. Social Hour 7 p.m. Maundy Thursday	8 a.m. Grumpies 8:45 Morning Stretch 7 p.m. Al Anon  Good Friday	7 a.m. 24 hour Easter Prayer Vigil
Communion  6 a.m Sunrise Service @ Myklbust Home  10 a.m. Worship & SS  Easter Sunday	5	6	4 p.m. Prayer Service	8 10 a.m. Social Hour	8 a.m. Grumpies 8:45 a.m. Morning Stretch 7 p.m. Al Anon	7 <b>a.m.</b> 2nd Sat.
10 <b>a.m</b> . Worship & SS	12	13	4 p.m. Prayer Service	15 10 a.m. Social Hour	8 a.m. Grumpies 8:45 a.m. Morning Stretch 7 p.m. Al Anon	17
18  10 a.m. Worship & SS 2 pm Session Retreat	6:30 p.m.Session Meetin 2:30 p.m. CASA	20	4 p.m. Prayer Service	10 a.m. Social Hour	8 a.m. Grumpies 8:45 a.m. Morning Stretch 7 p.m. Al Anon	24
25 10 a.m. Worship & SS	6 p.m. Deacon's Meeting	1:30 p.m. Kairos Meeting	4 p.m. Prayer Service	10 a.m. Social Hour	30 8 a.m. Grumpies 8:45 a.m. Morning Stretch 7 p.m. Al Anon	