Pastor’s Perspective

Dear Siblings in Christ,

The season of Advent begins a new Christian year. We use it as a time to prepare for celebrating the birth of Jesus the Christ. Please find below a daily scripture reading and a practice for you to use in this time of preparation.

Sunday, December 2
Light One Candle

Monday, December 3
read: Isaiah 35:3-6
Lend A Hand

Tuesday, December 4
read: Romans 8:24,25
Be Patient

Wednesday, December 5
read: Psalms 122
Pray for Peace

Thursday, December 6:
read Matthew 6:3,4
Give in Secret

Friday, December 7:
read Isaiah 11:1-3
See Growth

Saturday, December 8:
read Hebrews 11:1
Keep Hoping

Sunday, December 9:
read Isaiah 7:14, 9:2-7
Light two Candles

Monday, December 10:
read Mark 1:1-8
Eat With Care

Tuesday, December 11
read John 1:6-8
Witness

Wednesday, December 12
read Psalm 91
Watch For Angels

Thursday, December 13
read Isaiah 9:2,3
See The Light

Friday, December 14
read Psalm 25:4-6
Choose Your Path

Saturday, December 15:
read Philippians 1:3-6
Finish Something

Sunday, December 16
Light 4 Candles

Monday, December 17
read Psalm 137:4
Remember Refugees

Tuesday, December 18
read Luke 1:26-38
Say Yes

Wednesday, December 19
read Luke 1:46-55
Rejoice

Thursday, December 20
read Isaiah 43:19
See What’s New

Friday, December 21
read Micah 5:2-4
Feel Secure

Saturday, December 22
read Luke 2:1-7
Make Room

Sunday, December 23
Light 4 Candles

Monday, December 24
read John 1:1-14
Worship at 7 and 11pm

Tuesday December 25, — Christmas Day
Celebrate. God is with us!

As our building undergoes so many changes and we continue to grow as disciples of our Lord, the preaching theme that God laid on my heart for this year is “Traveling With Jesus”. To begin this journey with Jesus, we will use the analogy of traveling through a construction zone as we worship together throughout Advent. Be on the lookout for the watchwords of Danger, Caution, Pilot Car and Bumps Ahead.

Blessings, Reverend Ruth
The Wesley Handbell Choir presents:
“A Night at the Manger”

The 33nd Annual Ring in the Season Concert
Saturday, December 1, 2018 at 3pm
Sunday, December 2, 2018 at 3pm & 7pm.
Free admission - Donations gratefully accepted
For more information: trinitybellsIF@gmail.com

First Presbyterian Church
325 Elm Street, Idaho Falls, ID

POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

It is time to order plants to prepare our sanctuary for the Christmas season. This year poinsettias are $10.00 each. Use this order form to indicate if the flowers are in memory or honor of someone, and return the form and payment to the church office by Monday, December 17, 2018. Indicate POINSETTIA in the memo portion of your check. Please note that the earliest that plants may be taken home is after the 11:00pm service Christmas Eve.

Your Name: ____________________________________________________________
Name In Memory: _______________________________________________________
Or Name In Honor of: ___________________________________________________

Trinity Meals
The Fourth Sunday Potluck Lunch will be December 23rd. Come share lunch and laughter!
There will not be a Scout brunch in December but it will be back on January 20th and Feb. 10th for Scout Sunday.

There is still time to buy Restoration Bricks
137 bricks have been ordered. We are extending the date to buy bricks until the spring, a little closer to our dedication date.

Membership Notes
Jean Winter passed away on October 24th. We held a celebration of life for her. She was a long-time member at Trinity.

Margaret Jobe passed away on November 1st. She was born in Camp Crook, South Dakota, and will be returned there to be buried next to her parents following her cremation.

Around the Church

POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

First Presbyterian Church
325 Elm Street, Idaho Falls, ID
The Troop is preparing for the upcoming cross country trip to Granite Hot Springs on Dec. 14, 15, & 16 and the annual Winteree (to be held at Krupp Scout Hollow in Lorenzo January 25, 26, & 27.

The scouts will be attending an avalanche awareness night on December 3rd where they will learn how to play in the winter outdoors safely.

The scouts practiced their lashings and Klondike sled building last Wednesday, culminating in a practice lap or two around the lawn hauling the Senior Patrol Leader. The sled actually survived several laps before disintegrating, but the boys learned what to change to keep that from happening in the real race.

They will be working on emergency first aid, knots, two-man log saw, map and compass and all the other events that will be at the Winteree. We are planning on having the Pack 6 Webelos show up and give the scouts a hand too. Speaking of the cubs, They joined the troop at the annual Green Canyon Hot Springs outing in November. We had a great time: a little snow, a lot of swimming and the scouts were even successful at making a great quesadilla.

The Brunch for December will be cancelled - we just couldn’t work around the church schedule and the limited number of days in December, but we will be back in January. Thanks for supporting Troop 6. They are coming up on 100 years of scouting at Trinity.

The Snake River Radio Players are thrilled to be back for a 3rd year at the beautiful Trinity United Methodist Church performing “A Christmas Carol” as a radio drama. Our Bishop, Elaine Stenovsky, has inviting us to come with her on a year of Crossing Over to LIFE beginning December 2nd with the first Sunday in Advent. Reverend Ruth will lead the study each Sunday in December at 9am in the parlor using the book “We Make the Road by Walking” by Brian D. McLaren. Rev. Ruth has already ordered a few of these paperback books to purchase for $13 or you can download your own if you prefer a digital copy.

Sharing the bounty!

During December, the grocery cart parked near the sanctuary doors could especially use the following items: Macaroni noodles, canned meats (tuna, chicken, salmon, Spam), peanut butter, toothpaste. As always, if you see other suitable items on sale, feel free to add those to the cart as well!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Advent 1</td>
<td>9:00 Adult Bible Study</td>
<td>10:15 Worship &amp; Kids Church</td>
<td>3:00 Confirmation Class &amp; 7:00 Handbell Concert at First Presbyterian</td>
<td>7:00 Narcotics Anonymous</td>
<td>6:30 Girl Scouts Troop 112</td>
<td>7:00 Trustee Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Advent 2</td>
<td>UMW Holiday Treat Sale</td>
<td>9:00 Adult Bible Study</td>
<td>10:15 Worship &amp; Kids Church</td>
<td>3:00 Confirmation Class</td>
<td>7:00 Narcotics Anonymous</td>
<td>9:00 Adult Bible Study</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 Advent 3</td>
<td>9:00 Adult Bible Study</td>
<td>10:15 Worship &amp; Kids Church</td>
<td>3:00 Confirmation Class</td>
<td>7:00 Narcotics Anonymous</td>
<td>17 Advent 3</td>
<td>9:00 Adult Bible Study</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 Advent 4</td>
<td>Christmas Eve</td>
<td>9:00 Adult Bible Study</td>
<td>10:15 Worship &amp; Kids Church</td>
<td>11:30 Pot Luck Lunch</td>
<td>3:00 Confirmation Class</td>
<td>7:00 Narcotics Anonymous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 9:00 Adult Bible Study</td>
<td>10:15 Worship &amp; Kids Church</td>
<td>7:00 Narcotics Anonymous</td>
<td>31 Jan 1 New Years Day</td>
<td>Ruth Out of Office</td>
<td>7:00 Theology On Tap</td>
<td>7:00 Narcotics Anonymous</td>
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**December**

Please have your articles for the January newsletter submitted to: donrohde@aol.com no later than Saturday, December 15th, so we can get the newsletter out in a timely manner. Thank you!

Don Rohde-Editor
donrohde@aol.com
Trinity Restoration - Nancy Stewart

The steering committee has been monitoring our finances for the project with the following documents available for your review on request:

- **Project Cost Estimates Table** (Base Contract, Formalized Changes, Anticipated and Unanticipated changes, Payments and Cash Flow Remaining).
- **Cash Flow Model** for planning payments.
- **Project Change Notice Log** to monitor changes in scope and cost.

We are in the middle of the Robison Roofing (Parlor and Sanctuary) and Remodeling the main floor and basement with Alan Clark Construction. Alan’s subcontractors are: Bingham Mechanical (Plumbing), B&S Boiler (HVAC) and Rocky Mountain Electric.

I am pleased to report that so far we are completing Trinity Restoration within budget and scope. I want to congratulate everyone on the money we have raised to date for this project. We are an amazing congregation. We have on hand the money necessary to complete the base bid.

Unknown issues, such as a cabinet in front of the heater in the warming kitchen, the need to update the condensate piping that will be under the new concrete (to protect the tile) in the basement bathroom, having five layers of shingles on the existing roof, the need for Porta Pottys, finding more asbestos, the need to test the concrete strength for the basement emergency exit, and replacing basement lights with LED lights (for esthetic consistency) has resulted in additional expenses.

The total cost of the project (including mortar repair) is $656,000. To date, with our fundraising and our $190,000 grant we still need to raise $17,069 additional funds to cover contingency costs.

Thanks be to God for our generous congregation and community.

Trinity Trustees met on November 6; we meet the first Tuesday of each month at 7 pm. This month we discussed:

- **Terrorism Risk Insurance Act by Church Mutual** is now $307/year; we agreed to the change.
- **Cleaning the Parlor and Sanctuary carpet in late December**
- **Carpet for the Parsonage living room** has been ordered and will be installed on November 30th.
- **Money spent to date for Trinity Restoration and discussion of Change Orders to date**
- **Adding extra Porta Pottys for December events**

Confirmation Classes Start December 2nd

Rev. Ruth will be starting Confirmation classes for youth 12 years or older beginning on Sunday, December 2nd from 5pm to 4:15pm at the parsonage (1470 Scorpius Dr.). These classes would also be appropriate for slightly younger kids and adults wanting to learn more about what it means to be Methodist in a world that doesn’t know about John Wesley (our founder) or his theology based on interpreting our lives using scripture, reason, tradition and experience.

Because all study and no play makes us dull, between now and Easter, participants will play, eat, go on field trips, and have plenty of opportunities for laughter!

United Methodist Women—UMW - Mary Nagel

**“Holiday Treat Sale”**

There’s lots to look forward to in December.

Our annual Holiday Treat Sale will be December 9th. Plan on baking, buying, eating (or all the above)!!

December 13th is our Christmas unit meeting. Marilyn Taylor has a cute program planned. Next year’s officers and budget will be voted upon. Please plan to attend and bring a guest.

The Ethel Clark Circle will meet December 20th in the home of Marilyn Taylor.

Susannah Circle will not meet in December. Merry Christmas to all!!!
The Regional Council for Christian Ministry met at First Lutheran Church on Tuesday, November 13th.

**School Supplies:** FISH reported that they had helped approximately 790 students with school supplies so far this year.

**Promise Ridge Support:** FISH is providing consumables to the residents at Promise Ridge, (the new homeless family shelter next to the Presbyterian Church). The greatest need at the moment is toilet bowl cleaner. Other needs are listed on the white board at the home or in Trinity’s weekly BLAST. Feel free to drop in during the day to see what’s needed.

**Food Backpacks:** The weekend food backpack program is doing well. FISH has coordinated the volunteers to deliver approximately 100 backpacks of food each week to needy students in District 93.

**Homeless Stand Down:** Bev reported that the homeless stand down went well. There were just under 200 people counted and served that day. Thanks goes out to all the volunteers and agencies that came together to help those less fortunate in our community.

**The Community Food Basket** reported that they are coming in to their big giving season. There are several food drives coming up throughout the community. Please visit their website, [http://www.communityfoodbasketidahofalls.org](http://www.communityfoodbasketidahofalls.org) or facebook page to find more information on dates and times.

**The Soup Kitchen** plans to provide Christmas to the guests in December.

**The Black Bear diner** is sponsoring a coat drive to help with the event. Please donate coats at their location, 1610 E. 17th St. Volunteer: The Community Food Basket is also in need of volunteer gleaners Monday through Friday mornings for 2-4 hours. Talk to your friends and form a team! The vehicle is provided. Call the Food Basket for more information; 208-524-0994.

**Promise Ridge Family Shelter**

Promise Ridge, the new family shelter in our neighborhood is currently providing a safe and comfortable home to six families composed of six women and 13 children. Since our doors opened in May, we have consistently been close to full with families continually coming to us for shelter and then, with our help, moving on to more stable housing situations. We are so grateful for the kindness and generosity of our community in helping to provide this valuable service and make a difference in peoples’ lives.

If you would like to help, we have an ongoing need for consumables through FISH – right now toilet bowl cleaner, laundry soap and dryer sheets. You can drop them off at church, or call me, Bev at 208-569-6149 for pick-up. We also have a one time seasonal wish list: rakes, snow shovels, 2 artificial Christmas trees.

**December Birthdays & Anniversaries**

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<td>Ruth &amp; Mike Oar</td>
<td>12/1</td>
<td>Davis Taylor</td>
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<td>Dylan Empey</td>
<td>12/2</td>
<td>John Mullin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lynette Hanson</td>
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<td>Jo Ann Rose</td>
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<td>Pam Traughber</td>
<td>12/9</td>
<td>Aaliyah Poulter</td>
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<td>Nancy Bergman</td>
<td>12/12</td>
<td>Rhys McClure</td>
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<td>Elaine Flatland</td>
<td>12/14</td>
<td>Joanne McCray</td>
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For additions or corrections in birthdays please contact Pam in the church office 208-522-7921.

**Nativity Set Display**

This Christmas we are putting together a display of Nativity Sets. Our focus will be on different nativities and their history. We are inviting families to loan a set for display on the back counter of the sanctuary. We want some to be kid friendly or even made by kids. Please bring by Dec. 2 if possible. Please put your name on it.

**Mitten Tree** - Please place new mittens, gloves, hats, and scarves on the tree. To make the tree more festive, packages of socks and underwear could be wrapped, but you should label them for size and gender.

Items will be given to children and youth in the community where most needed.

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**Dinner & a Movie Friday December 7th - FAMILY NIGHT**


To make this family friendly we will meet in the senior high balcony room with lots of pillows and couches.

The potluck theme this month is **Comfort Food**.