



The Tower

Monthly Newsletter of

Pocatello First United Methodist Church



July 2022

From Our Pastor

Dear members and friends of First UMC in Pocatello,

It is hard to believe that it has already been a full calendar year since Susannah, Loren, and I arrived in Pocatello on July 5, 2021. We arrived in the heat of high summer, choking on wildfire smoke. We watched the hills turn red and gold in the fall and then shook our heads in bewilderment when the first snowstorm hit in early October. We made it through the long, winter months and have been soaking up as much of this cool, sunny, wildflower-scented spring air as possible. All the while, we've been growing into our new vocation as parents, orienting ourselves to town, and delighting in how wonderful *you* are.



It's been a great first year. When I arrived, y'all were just opening back up from your COVID closure, and there are already many things to celebrate:

- Over five lay preachers sharing God's Word in worship;
- Four baptisms, six confirmations, and nine new members;
- A wildly successful first annual Trunk-or-Treat event for the community, in partnership with Pocatello Heights;
- Restructuring the church's Administrative Board for more effective lay leadership;
- Powerful Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, and Holy Week services;
- Above-and-beyond giving to support the United Methodist Church's disaster relief, Native American, and Peace with Justice ministries, as well as the resettlement and resourcing of Afghan refugees in our own city;
- Taking on 83% percent of the total cost to send our young people to camp;
- Supporting high-quality, affordable daycare through TLC.
- Two visits from the District Superintendent;
- And *more* - all the ways, both big and small, public and private, that you give of your time, your presence, your gifts, and your service to share the love of Christ through our congregation.

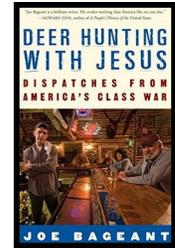
I look forward to what our second year together holds, praying that the Spirit will help us to show the just, tender, and boundary-breaking love of Christ.

Pastor Mike

Book Reviews

Deer Hunting with Jesus

By Joe Bageant, first published 2008
Book review from Skipp Rudd



The book *Deer Hunting With Jesus: Dispatches from America's Class War* by Joe Bageant is neither a theological nor a political postulation. It is satirical and at the same time humorous while filled with demographic and social insights. At a time when we ask ourselves "how can anyone believe that," *Deer Hunting With Jesus* provides relevant and worthwhile insights into our prevailing social divisions. The book kept me smiling all the way through.

As a Woman

By Paula Stone Williams, first published 2021
Reviewed by Lou Engelha



Oh goodness - this is a must read!

As a Woman by Paula Stone Williams is an eye opening, heart warming story of a male minister's life, and his coming to terms with being transgender. The insights he/she discovered when looking at the patriarchal values of the church from female eyes, and then her amazing expression of what her faith means to her. Growing beyond the limited understanding to develop a generous Christian faith that sees God's grace in all our journeys, and her honest experiences of transitioning. Her awe at the mystery and expansiveness of God is so close to how I see God. The gravitation towards a generous expression of Christianity, and faith in right practice, rather than simply right beliefs. I believe her transition is not just about sexuality, but also about growing up into becoming fully who God intends us each to be. Loving God, loving neighbor, and loving self, simple but not always easy. It takes a brave heart to leave the cocoon of conservative religion, and to take the road less traveled because you understand that religion is and always has been evolving.

To submit a book review for next month's *Tower*, email tower@pocatelloumc.org (Subject line: Book Review)

Member Spotlight

Ardith Moran has just been honored for serving 47 years as a violinist for the Idaho State Civic Symphony. Congratulations from all of us! Ardith and Henry moved to Pocatello with their three children in 1975. They both continued their professional careers with the State of Idaho here in Pocatello. They joined FUMC and soon became active members. They both loved the Eastern Idaho experience, cross country skiing at Harriman State Park and making frequent trips to their cabin on Yankee Fork. Henry passed in 2019 and is missed by all.

We Love you, Ardith!

We appreciate your continuing participation in the life of our church.

To spotlight a member in next month's *Tower*, email tower@pocatelloumc.org (Subject line: (Member Spotlight))

July Updates

◆ Jason Lee Sunday, July 10th

Come join us for the annual outdoor Jason Lee Sunday service and potluck lunch at 10:00 am under the Upper Ross Park Pavilion.

- Folding chairs will be available **OR** you can bring your own lawn chairs.
- The church will provide fried chicken and biscuits.
- You may bring a side dish to share (salad, fruit, veggies, dessert, snacks, picnic fare).
- Plates, plastic utensils, napkins, and water will be provided.



If you are able to assist with set-up at 9:00am that morning, please contact Kris Rudd at 208-252-2276.

Rev. Jason Lee (1803-1845), a Methodist, is credited with being the first Protestant missionary to the Old Oregon Territory, which includes the land we now call Idaho.

Born at Stanstead, Lower Canada (present-day Quebec), Lee was converted during a Wesleyan Methodist revival in 1826. Four years later, he accepted the recommendation of Wilbur Fisk, president of Wesleyan University, to lead a missionary journey to the Indians of the Pacific Northwest. He preached near present-day Pocatello at Fort Hall on the Snake River, on July, 27, 1834.

This information is sourced from *Biographical Dictionary of Christian Missions*, Macmillan Reference USA, copyright © 1998 Gerald H. Anderson, by permission of Macmillan Reference USA, New York, NY. All rights reserved.

◆ Financial Report

Thank you for your faithfulness in financial giving during the first half of 2022. As of this writing, we have received 46% of pledges for the year, 55% of our total anticipated income, and have paid our first six months of Conference apportionments in full. In addition, you have given above and beyond in the following ways:

- \$3,717.00 to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund (of which \$3291.04 has been dispersed);
- \$1,850.00 for UMCOR Ukraine Relief;
- \$1,400 to Aid For Friends;
- \$770.00 on UMCOR Sunday;
- \$215.00 on Peace with Justice Sunday;
- \$45.00 on Native American Ministries Sunday;
- and \$20.00 on Human Relations Sunday.

Keep it up! As a reminder, copies of the budget are always available through the Church Office, and we are always recruiting Sunday ushers and money counters.

— Emma Morton, Finance Chair

◆ Church Camp at Sawtooth 2022

Thank you to everyone who donated to our camp scholarship program. With your generous donations we are sending 11 kids to Camp Sawtooth. We have 3 kids going to elementary camp, 7 youth going to Junior Camp and 1 going to Senior Camp. This is a great experience for the youth of our church to meet new friends and commune with God in the wonderful outdoors.

Prayer Concerns

- Barb Hansen, Roger, and the rest of the family. Barb is home on hospice care.
- Mary Guyton's brother and sister-in-law, who was just diagnosed with breast cancer. She is only in her late 30s.
- Evie Dingman - she was admitted to the hospital with pneumonia.
- Svitlana Hoskin - previous church Admin - is asking for the safety for her mother, father, & brother who are in western Ukraine.
- Peggy Anderson fell & sustained serious injuries. For her successful surgery and healing.
- Skipp Rudd - heart health.
- Chris Dorsey - recovery from Covid and Pneumonia.
- For the areas of Gardner, Cooke City, Cody, and Jackson. Flood recovery.
- Peter Moore - his mother, Betty Moore passed away on Monday, June 20th.
- Dana Hoyle's daughter - biopsies and surgery.

Classifieds

From Your Congregational Care Team

- ♦ Summer is in full swing with vacations and summer break from school. We would like to take time to remind everyone to keep an eye on your church family, friends, and neighbors. If you hear of someone who needs help this summer, please remember to give the Chairs of our Congregational Care Team a call and let them know who needs to be put on the prayer chain, needs a visit, needs help with meals, if they have a family emergency, or needs to be lifted up with a card to let them know we are thinking of them.

Here are the names of the people you may contact:

Prayer Chain	Kathy Grumbein	208-251-4899	kathygrumbein@yahoo.com
Visitation	Sharon Reynolds	208-244-1469	sreynolds4u@yahoo.com
Cards	Nancy Kell	208-604-0646	
Meals	Arleigh Morton	208-251-2626	

If you can't get reach of any of these people, you may call the Team Leader:

Debbie Wheeler 208-251-4180 wheelerdebbie@yahoo.com

Congregational Care Card Writing Team

- ♦ You are invited to join us at **10:00am every Wednesday in the Fireside Room**. It is uplifting to be with friends as we write notes to other friends. Know that all are welcome to join us. Contact Nancy Kell if questions, at 208-604-0646.

Tai Chi

- ♦ **Join us on Wednesdays at 4:00pm** in the Wesley Chapel; **for an hour of Tai Chi**. Tai Chi is often described as "joyful movement". Emphasis is on moving, meditation, breathing, and physical balance. We will be learning and practicing the 19 poses. Dress in loose fitting comfy clothes. Contact Linda Fairchild if you have questions. 208-251-2586. No child care will be provided.

Health Coach

- ♦ Lana Hoskin - former Church Admin - helps people to learn new health habits and provides them with tools to continue with these new habits. Focus is: Diabetes, Auto Immune Disorders, and Stress Management. Contact Lana to set up a consultation at 208-269-6364.

To submit a classified for next month's *Tower*, email tower@pocatelloumc.org (Subject line: Classifieds)

Upcoming Events

July Birthdays

Elle Mann	5th
Ethan Dingman	6th
Rendy Bland	11th
Stacey Jenson	13th
Amy Mills	13th
Sally Jones	15th
Ellen Vanhees	18th
Virginia Baxter	19th
Anderson Peggy	24th
Andrew Bambolo	25th
Arleigh Morton	26th
Erin O'leary-Jepson	27th
Bob Autenrieth	28th
Harlan Vanhees	28th

July Anniversaries

Roger & Barbara Hanson	17th
Alex & Dakota Morrison	17th
Michael & Dawn Echanis	18th
Jeaneane & Bert Huth	19th

2022 Free Summer Meals in the Park (USDA) and Pocatello/Chubbuck School District 25:

- ◆ **June 6 - August 12th (no service July 4th), Monday through Friday, 11:30am - 12:30pm - Kids 18 yrs and younger (The cost for adults is \$4.50).**
Alameda Park, Caldwell Park, Hawthorne Park, OK Ward Park, Raymond Park, Lower Ross Park, and Stuart Park. Questions, contact 208-235-3254.

Congregational Care Visitation Committee Meeting

- ◆ We welcome all to join us on **Thursday, July 7th at 10:00am** in the church conference room. We will be reviewing visitation needs and scheduling visitation.

Pinochle

- ◆ Want to learn to play pinochle? Join us on **Saturday, July 16th, at 7:00pm** in the Fireside Room. Bring a friend, and a finger food to share. Questions, contact Stacey Jensen at 208-530-0208.

Office Hours Changing

- ◆ Beginning July 1, 2022, the office will be open **Monday-Friday - 9:15am-1:00pm.** As of July 8th, Ginny will be heading to Lewiston to be closer to her son. Debbie Wheeler has graciously agreed to cover the Administrative Assistant role.

Church Directory Updated

- ◆ Grab your updated copy of the Church Directory. Copies are in the Narthex or outside of the church office. The updated copy has two omissions, and one change.

Rendy Bland - 1552 S. 4th Ave, Pocatello, ID 83201;

Email: rendyhansey@gmail.com; Phone: 206-778-9814.

Lori Vaughn - cell - 208-281-7251

Richard Homburg - 1439 E. Lander, Pocatello, ID 83201;

Email: rah@Q.com; Phone: 208-232-4197

Upcoming Events - continued



Ecology and Faith Walking Group

- ◆ For five Monday evenings this summer, join Pastor Mike at various trails around town for a walk and discussion about the relationship between Christian faith and love of creation. Each week, Mike will share the location through the bulletin and a Signal and assign an optional reading for folks to engage with before coming. Of course, we'll also help each other notice what we're seeing and hearing out there on the trail - birds, rocks, vegetation, etc. If weather conditions prohibit a Monday night walk, the "rain check" will always be the next day (Tuesday).

Dates: Mondays, July 11, 18, 25; August 1, 8 from 7:00 - 8:30pm.

Introduction to Christian Preaching

- ◆ God's Spirit does not just speak through those of us trained to be pastors, but through all persons who have a living relationship with the Bible and who are attentive to the worlds within and around themselves. At the same time, preaching *is* an art, a craft - like woodworking or fishing or cooking - and familiarity with the tools, exposure to different traditions, and practicing with others can make a big difference in building confidence and discovering one's unique process and voice. If you've ever felt called by God to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ within the local congregation, this class is for you.

Sessions: Tuesdays, August 16, 23, 30; September 6, 13, 20, 27 from 7:00-8:30pm.

Please let Mike know directly if you'd like to be a part of this cohort of lay preachers **by Friday, July 15**. The class is open to persons of all ages and theological backgrounds. It will, however, be a bit rigorous, with some assigned reading and activities between sessions, so please be sure you can commit to the majority of the sessions.

To submit a event for next month's *Tower*, email tower@pocatelloumc.org (Subject line: Events)

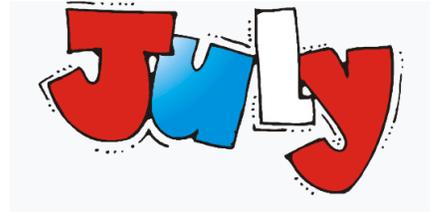


**Pocatello First
United Methodist Church**

200 N. 15th Ave.
PO Box 4015
Pocatello, ID 83205
(208)232-1353
www.pocatelloumc.org

OFFICE HOURS
Monday-Friday
9:15am-1:00pm

FR=Fireside Room
CR=Conference Rm
CH=Chapel



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 10:00am-Worship Svc Sanctuary Offering-Pastor's Discretionary Fund <u>Karen Hernandez</u> <u>Preaching</u>	4 <u>Independence Day</u> Office Closed	5 10:00am Seasoned by Grace Bible Study Fireside Room Happy Birthday Elle Mann	6 8:00am-UMM @ Butterburr's 10:00am Congrega- tional Care—card writing FR 4:00pm-Tai Chi- Chapel Happy Birthday Ethan Dingman	7 7:00am-Women's Fellowship @ Butterburr's 10:00am CC Visitation Team mtg CR	8	9
10 <u>10:00am-Jason Lee</u> <u>service-Ross Park</u>	11 7:00pm Ecology & Faith Walking Group Location TBD Happy Birthday Rendy Bland	12 10:00am Seasoned by Grace Bible study Fireside Room	13 8:00am-UMM @ Butterburr's 10:00am Congrega- tional Care—card writing FR 4:00pm-Tai Chi- Chapel Happy Birthday Stacey Jensen Amy Mills	14 7:00am-Women's Fellowship @ Butterburr's 6:30pm- Administrative Board meeting- FR	15 Happy Birthday Sally Jones	16 7:00 pm Pinochle Fireside Room
17 10:00am-Worship Svc Sanctuary Offering-Millie's Nickels Happy Anniversary Roger & Barbara Hanson Alex & Dakota Morrison	18 7:00pm Ecology & Faith Walking Group Location TBD Happy Birthday Ellen Vanhees Happy Anniversary Michael & Dawn Echanis	19 10:00am Seasoned by Grace Bible study Fireside Room Happy Birthday Virginia Baxter Happy Anniversary Jeaneane & Bert Huth	20 8:00am-UMM @ Butterburr's 10:00am Congrega- tional Care—card writing FR 4:00pm-Tai Chi- Chapel	21 7:00am-Women's Fellowship @ Butterburr's	22	23
24 10:00am-Worship Svc Sanctuary Happy Birthday Peggy Anderson	25 7:00pm Ecology & Faith Walking Group Location TBD Happy Birthday Andrew Bambolo	26 10:00am Seasoned by Grace Bible Study Fireside Room Happy Birthday Arleigh Morton	27 8:00am-UMM @ Butterburr's 10:00am Congrega- tional Care—card writing FR 4:00pm-Tai Chi- Chapel Happy Birthday Erin O'Leary-Jepsen	28 Happy Birthday Bob Autenrieth Harlan Vanhees	29	30
31 10:00am-Worship Svc Sanctuary						



Pocatello
First United
Methodist Church
PO Box 4015
Pocatello, ID 83205

Address Service Requested

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Pocatello, ID
83201

United Methodist Men

All men of the church are invited to join the United Methodist Men for breakfast and fellowship at Butterburr's every Wednesday morning at 8:00 am.

Women's Fellowship

Please come and join us for breakfast and fellowship at Butterburr's every Thursday morning at 7:00 am.

Office Hours
Monday-Friday
9:15am-1:00pm
You may contact us by phone at
(208) 232-1353
office@pocatelloumc.org