

M The Lewiston First UMC essenger

...a bi-monthly newsletter publication of
the Lewiston First Methodist Church

Pastor's Path

"The Way of the Eagle"
By: Rev. Chuck Cram

It is a generally accepted law of the universe that energy can never be created or destroyed; it simply changes form. The dam on a river that transforms the energy held latent in the river allows the water to flow through turbines which then generate electricity. The new electrical energy is not created; it has been transformed from energy in a river to energy in the form of electricity.

If you allow yourself to truly ponder the significance of this law of nature you will begin to realize that the energy that is your body, your physical presence here on earth is pretty much ageless. At the atomic and even smaller levels, the particles of energy that make up your body, those tiny pieces of energy, were once something else before they were transformed into your body. Where were they? Did those particles of energy travel to earth from some distant star? Were they a witness to the dawn of creation or the dinosaurs? Did those particles of energy participate in the Big Bang? Of course we will never know, but I believe that some level of thoughtful exploration around this idea is worth pursuing. It is worthwhile because it gives us perspective and it helps keep our egos in check.

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November 2018

Weekly Events

Sundays

- Choir - 8:45am
- Adult Sunday School - 9:15am
- Bell Choir Rehearsal 9:30am
- Worship - 10:30am
- Coffee Fellowship - 11:30am

Tuesdays

- Bible Discussion - 10am

Regular Monthly Meetings

SPRC: 2nd Tuesday - 3:30pm -
Liz Chavez

Worship Committee: 1st Tuesday -
10:00am - Mary Fordyce

Salvation Army Dinner: 2nd
Wednesday - 3:00pm

Trustees: 2nd Thursday - 4:00pm -
Monte Boardman

Finance Committee: 2nd Thursday
- 9:30am - Volunteer Chair Needed

UMW - 3rd Thursday - 1:30pm -
Liz Chavez & Deb Snyder

Men's Breakfast: 3rd Saturday -
9:00am - Main Street Grill

Church Council: 4th Thursday -
3:00pm - Cottie Hood

One of the byproducts of this thought process can be the realization that perhaps the universe wasn't created just for us. Maybe the earth and all of her resources are not meant for us to simply do with them as we please. Maybe there is more going on here than we realize. Thinking about these higher levels of our origins can begin the process of unfolding a new awareness of what it means to be a part of God's creation and God's universe. We might even realize that for such a newcomer to the dance of creation we have become a true menace to the system.

A newcomer you say? Oh, yes, a newcomer to the dance of creation to be sure. Even the age of planet earth is young when compared to the rest of the universe. If the history of planet earth were condensed into a single 24-hour day, human being do not break upon the scene of existence until sometime after 11:59 PM; that's right, we have been around less than a minute of our hypothetical 24-hour day. If humanity itself has been present for less than a minute of that last hour of the 24-hour history of planet earth, then Christianity has been around for only about 15 or 20 seconds.

Can we really come to an understanding of the Divine energy and ultimate truth in 15 or 20 seconds? Probably not.

If you believe in God as creator of the universe, as I do, then it only seems logical that God has been present this entire time. It also seems logical that we can't possibly know the whole story in just 15 or 20 seconds of our awareness. It also seems logical that we take a few steps back for perspective and see what we can learn from what has been around longer than we have. It also seems logical that we should arrive at the conclusion that we are just a guest here that is visiting for a short time. How would you react if you invited someone into your home and they trashed the place in less than 20 seconds?

So the next time you hear that climate change is a hoax or we should open up our National Parks for more drilling or that the EPA isn't good for business, consider this perspective and take the time to ask the eagle who the universe has been created for.

Go in peace,
Chuck



Happy Birthday!

November

- 01 - Lisa Stoddard
- 01 - Todd Hewett
- 03 - Stan McNish
- 07 - Ray Heimgartner
- 09 - Tom Dechert
- 11 - Sue Stutzman
- 15 - Deb Snyder
- 17 - Kyle Wensman
- 18 - Michelle Stedman
- 27 - Don Lawrence
- 28 - Liz Chavez

December

- 01 - Colleen Mahoney
- 01 - Mary McNish
- 03 - Aidin Weber
- 07 - Boyd Founds
- 12 - Kailey Druffel
- 14 - Donna Weaver
- 19 - Madi Stoddard
- 21 - Marylene Statham
- 22 - David Walker
- 26 - Gary Chesnut

January

- 01 - Zoey Vogel
- 02 - Arabella Bringman
- 03 - Jill Ralstin
- 06 - Larry Nystrom
- 11 - Kendall Forge
- 13 - Susan Mahan
- 15 - Herb Hobbs
- 17 - Carley Lawrence
- 21 - Steve Combellick
- 26 - Frankie Anderson
- 28 - Doris Olin
- 30 - Rita Mills

February

- 01 - Lynn Ballantyne
- 04 - Helen Lombard
- 05 - Kelly Hillman
- 11 - Larry Ballantyne
- 17 - Douglas Crook
- 19 - Rosemary Founds
- 20 - Steve Bringman
- 21 - Tysha Bringman
- 23 - Beth Calkins
- 24 - Fred Weaver
- 25 - Jim Hood
- 28 - Lois Woelfel

A LETTER FROM CHURCH COUNCIL AND SPR

October 31, 2018

Dear Church Family,

We, Church Council and SPR (Staff Parish Relations) understand and hope in this letter to address, your concerns about Chuck leaving, when that will happen and what does the future look like going forward until the appointment of a new pastor in July of 2019.

At Charge Conference, which was held at Clarkston Methodist on October 18th the following action took place regarding Chuck's departure, the plan for an interim pastor and appointment of a new pastor in July 2019. While it seems as though we may be repeating ourselves we want to make sure that everyone has the correct information and ease concerns about the future of Lewiston First UMC.

The pastor's salary for Chuck @ 1/2 time from November – December 2018 was approved unanimously.

The Salary Package for a pastor @ 3/4 time from January-December, 2019 was approved unanimously.

In accepting and approving the reduction from a full time pastor to a ¾ time pastoral appointment Lewiston First is relieved of some of the financial burden of a full time pastor regarding insurance, apportionments, other mandatory financial obligations required either by the church as a whole or the Pacific NW Conference.

While we have not had to resort to these measures in the past, we must all recognize that the direction Chuck was leading us to find and welcome those who have been oppressed, without a faith tradition or church family, any of the "others" who have or are not welcome elsewhere still has merit, but the reality is that they are not in church-yet.

Church Council and SPR have received comments, suggestions and concerns which we take seriously, have addressed and will continue to address as we have information.

Sincerely,

Liz Chavez-SPR Chair

Cottie Hood-Church Council Chair





**Every Child
Deserves a Safe
Place to Live**

**Put Feet to Your Faith!
Sign up today to help
serve during our
Family Promise Host Week!**

Our next week to host:
December 9 - 15
Still needed:
Dinner Hosts and Overnight Hosts


Family Promise
of Lewis Clark Valley

Christmas Fundraiser

This year for our Christmas Fundraiser we will be collecting donations for Homes of Hope. If you would like to donate please bring in a donation of gift cards or checks made out to "Homes of Hope" as we will be collecting gifts for teenagers who are notoriously hard to buy gifts for. If you have any questions, please contact Mary McNish or Colleen Mahoney.

Welcome to our Newest Member

We welcome Sharon Pinson who has transferred her membership from the Lapwai Presbyterian Church where she was a member for over 25 years. Sharon lived in Lapwai from 1959 until June 2012 when she moved to Lewiston. She enjoys Bible study, knitting, volunteering at the Habitat Restore twice a week and spending time with family. She has a brother & 3 sisters, 2 sons, 1 daughter, 2 step-children, 10 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

From the Lewiston Morning Tribune:

When bad things happen to healthy people

After staring down death, Army veteran determined to 'pay it forward' with dedication to blood donations

She's been a combat journalist, flown armed reconnaissance helicopters for the Army and remotely piloted aircraft for the Oregon Army National Guard.

But one of the toughest experiences of Vanessa Stedman's life came during the birth of her first child in 2013. Lena, now a 5-year-old kindergartner in Lewiston, arrived happy and healthy at the end of a routine pregnancy at Joint Base Lewis-McChord in western Washington.

Stedman, however, wasn't doing well. She began to hemorrhage because of a condition called placenta accreta, where the placenta becomes attached and grows into the uterus.

"I was suddenly rushed from the room and my husband thought he was going to be raising this tiny infant on his own," Stedman said Thursday, pantomiming Jason Stedman cradling Lena in his arms.

Emergency surgery and transfusions of five units of blood products likely saved Stedman's life. The birth of her second child, Lucille, almost two years ago also had complications. They weren't as severe, but she still required two more units of blood products. So Stedman is now a regular blood donor and will give again at a Red Cross blood drive from 2 to 7 p.m. today at the First United Methodist Church at 1906 Broadview Drive in Lewiston.

The most profound lesson Stedman took away from the whole experience is that disaster can strike at any time, and donated blood and blood products can mean the difference between life and death.

"Because I was on flight status, I had a flight physical every year, which is a very thorough physical," Stedman said. "And I took a fitness test twice a year. I was a totally healthy person."

But there are accidents or unexpected medical conditions like Stedman's. Others simply need regular transfusions because of ongoing medical issues. That's why she pledged not only to repay those who donated the blood that saved her in 2013, but to keep the cycle going by becoming a regular donor.

She'll cross the one-gallon mark at today's blood drive.

"This is something you can do that's pretty easy," Stedman said. "It doesn't cost you any money, it doesn't take that much time and you save someone's life. That's just amazing to me."

Donating blood through the Red Cross is now easier than ever thanks to the nonprofit organization's website, redcrossblood.org. Visitors can simply type in their ZIP code to find a blood drive near them, reserve a donation time and even complete paperwork to expedite the actual donation.

And those who participate in today's blood drive won't only get the usual snack. Stedman is making homemade soup and muffins to refuel donors after they're done.

"I'll be there with my kids, so if anyone needs me to entertain kids while they donate blood, I'm happy to do it."

Those who have a fear of pain or needles should still consider giving, Stedman said.

"I have had some Army medics trash my veins before, so I understand the fear," she laughed. "But the people with the Red Cross do this all the time. They're very good at what they do. It's always been a painless process for me. Just show up hydrated and make sure you've eaten, and you should be fine."

Stedman's husband, Jason Stedman, a fellow Army vet, is president of the Clarkston Rotary Club. The club helped organize the blood drive as one of its regular community service projects. Red Cross spokeswoman Natividad Lewis said the organization can use the help. She said that a recent survey indicated that public



perceptions of blood donations don't line up with actual needs.

For instance, 74 percent of respondents underestimated how often blood transfusions are necessary, believing that they only happen every 15 minutes to two hours. In reality, someone in the United States needs blood every two seconds, according to the Red Cross.

Stedman wanted to emphasize her gratitude to those who are generous and courageous enough to make a donation.

"I have a really great life, and I might not if I hadn't received those blood transfusions," she said with a tender glance at Lucille. "And I think my family appreciates it, too."

Lewiston School District's 2018-19 Teacher of the Year:

Jill Ralstin

Jill Ralstin was honored as the overall 2018-19 TEACHER OF THE YEAR for the Lewiston School District as employees gathered for a back-to-school assembly at the Lewiston High School on August 20. Employed by the district since 1989, Jill currently teaches grade 2 students at Camelot Elementary School.

The nominations supporting Mrs. Ralstin's award clearly describe a humble, beloved teacher and skilled educator. Students who were in Jill's first grade classroom last year, and are now in her second grade classroom (due to the looping model used at Camelot), state that Mrs. Ralstin makes them feel special and they look forward to coming to school each day. Parents provide evidence of the extra effort that Jill takes to connect kids to learning. Jill will call parents at home to suggest effective methods to use that reinforce learning and help children meet learning targets. And the results speak for themselves! Parents relay the joy and satisfaction that comes when their child meets learning targets for the first time.

Unassuming in her personal style, Jill has long been an admired professional among her colleagues. She can be counted on to participate in leadership groups who collaborate, and is a member of district level committees that set goals for continuous improvement. Jill is a positive and encouraging presence in the lives of those who know her and makes a lasting impression on her students.

Congratulations, Jill Ralstin, Lewiston School District's Teacher of the Year!

Lewiston Morning Tribune Prep Athlete of the Week:

Sydney Smith



She watched as her older sister, Skylar Smith, helped the Prairie Pirates win a Washington Class 1B volleyball title in 2014.

And now Sydney Smith hopes to follow in her footsteps. She's off to a good start to this season, having led the Pirates to the Pea & Lentil tournament title in Genesee recently while racking up 66 assists, eight aces, 24 digs and 13 kills.

Those numbers no doubt explain why online voters tabbed Smith the Tribune's latest Prep Athlete of the Week (in addition to her team winning the event).

"She's probably one of the most competitive people I know," Amy Smith, Pomeroy's first-year coach, said of her daughter. "So winning with her team is at the top of the list for her."

Smith has already won a state title - in track, in the 400-meter relay in 2017 - but has yet to win a team state title, though she's come close. Sydney has four Washington 1B runner-up finishes (three in volleyball and the final at basketball last winter).

Not that her mom's complaining about those second-place outcomes.

"I think that keeps her driven," Amy Smith said. "It keeps her hungry."

What's it been like for the mother-daughter pair to work together?

"It's going really well," Sydney said. "I'm just glad we can be together and have something we're both so passionate about."

Amy agreed. Her favorite part is watching her daughter and her teammates encourage each other, which makes her proud "not just as a coach, but a parent, too."

Lewiston First UMC 2018 Survey Results

Thanks to all of you who returned your surveys. Here are the results.

Worship:

Favorite parts: Message (9) Music (9) Fellowship (9) Photography(2) Joys & concerns (1) Children's time (1) Information about other members (1) Everything (1)

Suggested Changes: Show people how to use microphone (3) Lord's Prayer – more often (2) Fewer verses to songs (2) Sing old music more often (1) Use fewer old fashion hymns (1) Too many people coming and going during service (1) Have some short alternative services. (1) *[These suggestions were sent to the Worship Team on Nov. 5.]*

Newsletter: Responses

Focus on several members each time – especially new members (4) Publish more often (4) Add information about committee meetings/contact information for committee chairs (3) Make a list of the different committees and their purpose (1) Add weekly events (1) Review membership vows more often (1) Mail to those without email (1) *[Please call Arrie (208)-743-2971) if you would like this opportunity to be on a team which would put the newsletter together.]*

Purpose and Activities: Responses

- Need more input and reports from committees before money spent on extras and not running church (6)
- Have a suggestion box available (5) *[A box for ideas will be placed on the table in the narthex.]*
- Need to be better informed on decisions and activities before it is too late for input (4)
- Stop Tribune ads (4) *[We're not paying for them. Requests to the Tribune to cease using them have been unsuccessful.]*
- Need finance committee and budget reports more often (3)
- Let those who don't drive at night that rides to meetings are available for them (2) and Copy of minutes to homebound with sermon (1) *[A coordinator is needed. Please call Arrie if interested.]*
- Need more information on long term plans and goals (1) *[Please let Pastor Chuck or the appropriate Team Chair know of your specific concern so that it can be addressed or come to the next meeting (dates & times are listed on p.1 of the newsletter Finance, Trustees, Worship and Council meeting are always open to everyone.)]*
- Current reports will be printed in each newsletter. They are also available from Arrie in the office.

For me the most meaningful part of being involved in church is:

- "to work with others to spread our message of love and inclusion in our community and beyond."
- "the sense of being home and the comfort of people who share your hope for a peaceful future."

What I enjoy most about attending the worship service is:

- "the sermons, the wonderful new music director's activities, seeing friends, hearing the choir and bells."
- "a sense of family worshiping together, hearing a message and music that uplifts me, soothes me and challenges me."
- "Chuck's message with something I can use during the week."

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The worship committee is working on ways we can have a smooth transitions when Pastor Chuck leaves us the end of the year. We hope to expand the role of the lay worship leadership team which includes the liturgists, ushers, greeters and communion servers'. We are planning a training session to be held on a Sunday after church during the month of December. It is our hope that all of you who currently serve in these positions and any one who would like to serve please plan to attend this important training. If you have any questions you can contact Mary Fordyce at 208-413-2607 or angelmice@msn.com

Finance Committee

November 8, 2018

Attendance: Monte Boardman, Leonard O'Brien, Cottie Hood, Lois Woelfel, Sue Driskill, Arrie Vogel

Cottie opened the meeting with prayer.

September & October Bills: Bill for September and October were read and discussed. Cottie moved to approve the bills, Monte seconded and the motion carried.

October Treasurers Report: Treasurers report was read. Leonard moved to approved the treasures report as presented. Lois seconded the motion and the motion carried.

New Business:

Pumpkin Patch - Lois moved that to have the finance committee recommend to Church Council that we send the remaining pumpkin patch profits to UMCOR after all expenses have been paid. Leonard seconded and the motion carried.

Outstanding Health & Pension bill - Leonard moved that we make the recommendation to church council to move \$14,000 from the Line of Credit to the general fund to cover the remaining debt to the Conference, with all monies to be paid in full within a years time. Monte seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Debit Card - a new debit card through Twin River Bank has been applied for and will be here soon to replace the current credit card in Chuck's name. There are 2 current bills that must be paid by card, so those will be moved to the new system as soon as the new debit card arrives.

Updates:

Gazebo Collection: \$2,600 income

\$4,400 expenses

Siding Collection: \$2,300 income

\$20,000 expected expenses.

Next Meeting - December 13th at 9:30a

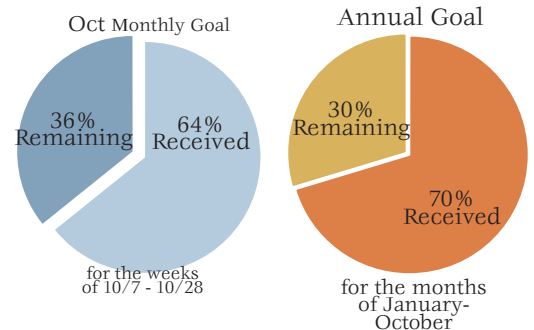
Financial SnapShot

In order to balance the FUMC budget, we need to bring in approximately \$12,500 a month or \$3,125 a week. In order to keep everyone informed, the Finance Committee will be updating this information each week and at the end of each month.

Total Needed for Siding Project: \$20,000.00

Total Raised for Siding Project: \$2310.00

Total Raised for Gazebo Project: \$2,600



Christmas Bible Study

Do the weeks before Christmas usually mean too much busyness, overspending and overeating? Want less falderal and more "fah lah lah" in your life during the Christmas season? Then this 4-week Advent study may be for you. Beginning the first week in December, Mary Foredyce will be leading a study based on the book Christmas Is Not Your Birthday by United Methodist minister Mike Slaughter; the dates and times will be decided later. Here are a few sentences about the book's message: "Every year, we say we're going to cut back, simplify and just celebrate Christmas focused on family and the real reason for the season: Jesus's birth. But every year before we know it, Christmas is once again hijacked and exploited by advertisements which promise that we'll feel better, stronger, more beautiful, etc., etc. if we just buy this one thing. Then when the children plead or we feel too overwhelmed or too tired to resist the lure of 'shop till you drop', we just give up and spend our hard-earned money and precious time and energy to give in to whims. This book will help you reclaim the real reason for celebrating Christmas with more peace and joy than any gift or gadget can do." If this calls to you, contact Mary at 208-413-2607 or at angelmice@msn.com or call Arrie @ 208-743-2971.

MAXIMIZE YOUR IRA

You generally have to start taking withdrawals from your IRA, SIMPLE IRA, SEP IRA, or retirement plan account when you reach age 70½. Roth IRAs do not require withdrawals until after the death of the owner. Your required minimum distribution is the minimum amount you must withdraw from your account each year. This amount is taxable income, but there is a method to make that tax go away. Easy and simple, you can gift a portion or all of it to our church, which needs your help. All you do is call the firm that administers your IRA and have them send you the form "transfer to a charity" and we or your financial advisor can help you. The rules are simple; the amount to the church must be from your administrator. Any questions don't hesitate to call or e-mail me.

Gary Chesnut

First United Methodist Church - LEWISTON ID
Treasurer's Report as of November 2018

Wednesday, November 7, 2018

Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance	Annual Budget	Annual Budget Remaining	% of Annual Budget
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<i>Income</i>					
4.00.000	Beginning Cash Balance	0	5,000	5,000	0
4.10.100	TITHES & OFFERINGS	104,804	141,070	36,265	74
4.10.105	LOOSE OFFERINGS	2,266			
4.10.110	SUNDAY SCHOOL/EDUCATION	0			
4.10.120	FACILITIES USE - MONTESSORI SCHOOL	4,820	7,500	2,680	64
4.10.125	FACILITIES USE - GENERAL	2,795*	800	(1,995)	349
4.10.126	FACILITIES USE - REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT	0			
4.10.127	FACILITY USE - MEMBER USE	18			
4.10.155	BANK INTEREST	129			
4.10.156	PIFCU Bank Interest	0			
4.10.157	MEMORIAL FUND TRANSFER	2,400	3,000	600	80
4.10.160	TRANSFER IN FROM PIFCU	0			
4.10.165	Transfer In From GF PIFCU	300			
4.10.166	PIFCU From LOC to Checking Account	4,100			
4.10.170	TRANSFER FROM INVESTMENT ACCOUNT	0			
4.10.199	MISCELLANEOUS GENERAL GIVING	0	500	500	0
4.10.200	Revitalization Income PIFCU	254			
4.10.250	Property Sale Income	0			
4.10.800	FUND RAISING	910*	750	(160)	121
4.10.820	FUNDRAISING- SIDING	2,310			
4.10.850	FUNDRAISING - GAZEBO	2,118			
4.10.900	COOK BOOK INCOME	0			
4.60.121	Pumpkin Patch Field Trips	2,015			
4.60.122	Pumpkin Patch Facepainting	20			
4.60.123	Pumpkin Patch Cupcakes	102			
4.60.124	Pumpkin Patch Corn Stalks	13			
4.60.125	Pumpkin Patch Donations	114			
4.60.126	PUMPKIN PATCH INCOME	7,669	11,500	3,830	67
TOTAL INCOME		\$137,161	\$170,120	\$46,720	73

<i>Expenses</i>					
5.20.126	PUMPKIN PATCH	9,300*	8,700	(600)	107
5.80.130	FAMILY PROMISE	0			
5.80.150	INTERLINK	0			
5.80.175	SALVATION ARMY	509*	300	(209)	170
5.80.177	SNAKE RIVER COMMUNITY CLINIC	0			
5.80.185	TWINLOW CAMP	0			
Total LOCAL MISSIONS		\$9,810	\$9,000	(\$810)	109

5.60.100	ADVERTISEMENT	1,460	3,000	1,539	49
5.60.105	EDUCATION	628*	500	(128)	126
5.60.115	WORSHIP	467*	500	32	93
5.60.120	SONG LEADER	0			
Total PROGRAM EXPENSE		\$2,556	\$4,000	\$1,443	64

5.50.120	HEALTH & PENSION BENEFITS-PASTOR	13,552	28,700	15,147	47
5.50.135	PASTORS SALARY	34,020	44,000	9,980	77
5.50.140	UTILITIES & FURNISHINGS	5,000	6,000	1,000	83
5.50.150	TRAVEL EXPENSE	495	550	54	90
5.50.155	REGISTRATION EXPENSE	360	500	140	72
Total PASTOR		\$53,427	\$79,750	\$26,322	67

5.30.105	APPORTIONMENTS	0	8,240	8,240	0
Total APPORTIONMENTS		\$0	\$8,240	\$8,240	0
5.10.230	WORKMENS COMPENSATION INSURANCE	470*	480	10	98
5.10.235	FICA EMPLOYER PORTION	2,198*	1,600	(598)	137
Total PAYROLL TAX EMPLOYER		\$2,668	\$2,080	(\$588)	128
5.10.200	NURSERY CARE GIVER	0			
5.10.205	CHOIR DIRECTOR	120			
5.10.210	JANITOR	6,188*	6,000	(188)	103
5.10.215	ORGANIST	0			
5.10.216	ORGANIST SUBSTITUTE	200	500	300	40
5.10.217	MUSIC DIRECTOR	14,900*	14,400	(500)	103
5.10.218	AV TECHNICIAN	1,449*	1,400	(49)	104
5.10.220	ACCOMPANIST	0			
5.10.221	PASTOR SUBSTITUTE	300	500	200	60
5.10.225	COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR	12,264	14,000	1,736	88
Total PAYROLL EXPENSE		\$38,089	\$38,880	\$910	98
5.10.105	BANK EXPENSE	1,205*	100	(1,105)	1,205
5.10.110	OFFICE EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE	3,142	4,600	1,457	68
5.10.115	OFFICE EQUIPMENT & SOFTWARE PURCHASE	956			
5.10.120	OFFICE SUPPLIES	1,076	1,500	423	72
5.10.135	INTERNET SERVICE	1,101*	1,100	(1)	100
5.10.900	MISCELLANEOUS GENERAL EXPENSES	0	150	150	0
Total ADMINISTRATION & OFFICE EXPENSE		\$45,570	\$46,330	\$1,835	96
5.10.160	REVITALIZATION PROJECTS	0			
5.20.105	PARSONAGE BUILDING & GROUNDS MAINTENANCE	129	1,500	1,371	9
5.20.110	CHURCH BUILDING & GROUNDS MAINTENANCE	501	2,000	1,498	25
5.20.115	LIABILITY & FIRE INSURANCE	7,192*	7,000	(192)	103
5.20.120	JANITORIAL SUPPLIES	0	100	100	0
5.20.125	KITCHEN SUPPLIES	972*	1,000	27	97
5.20.130	UTILITIES- CHURCH PROPERTY				
5.20.131	GARBAGE & RECYCLING	0			
5.20.132	GAS & ELECTRIC	6,204	8,000	1,795	78
5.20.133	WATER & SEWER	3,106*	3,200	93	97
5.20.143	MISCELLANEOUS UTILITIES	0			
Total UTILITIES- CHURCH PROPERTY		\$9,310	11,200	1,889	83
Total CHURCH PROPERTY		\$18,105	\$22,800	\$4,694	79
5.10.165	TRANSFER OUT TO PIFCU	0			
5.10.166	TRANSFER OUT TO INVESTMENTS	0			
5.10.222	Revitalization Expenses	4,595			
5.10.223	LOC Payment	167			
5.20.100	Event Center Construction	226			
5.20.111	GAZEBO EXPENSES	4,432			
Total Expenses		\$138,892	\$170,120	\$41,725	75
Difference		(\$1,731)	\$0		

* = Income/Expense exceeds amount budgeted to date



Facility Use Agreement

Lewiston First United Methodist Church seeks to be in ministry and outreach to our community; this outreach includes making our facility available to community groups and individuals from all walks of life and multiple faith traditions. Any groups or individuals which represent hatred, discrimination or oppression in any form are not eligible to use our facility. The authority for a decision regarding appropriate disposition of a group or individual lies with the church Board of Trustees and the Senior Pastor.

Facility Use Hours

To be discussed with renters at time of reservation. Use outside normal hours may be approved by the pastor or official designee.

Scheduling Events

Facility use requests shall be made to church office by submitting the "Church Facility Use Agreement/Reservation" form. The event will be reserved and placed on the church calendar only when the pastor or official designee approves the use and is confirmed on payment of deposit/key monies.

Audio/Video Systems: all use of church's sound, video, and music equipment must be approved and coordinated with Church Administration. A technician, if required, is to be requested at the time of booking the facilities.

Breakages/Damages: Those using the facilities agree to assume full responsibility for any damages caused by their action or neglect. Any breakage or damage of church property should be reported to the church office and repair or replacement paid for by the respective group.

Groups agree to waive all rights to claims against Lewiston First United Methodist Church for any loss or damage to property, owned or in the custody or control of the rental group. Lewiston First United Methodist Church is not responsible for missing or stolen items.

Facility Use Guidelines

1. Alcohol Policy: No alcohol may be served in church facilities or anywhere on the church property.
2. Smoking Policy: Smoking inside the facility is prohibited. A designated smoking area is available at southeast corner of the church.
3. Groups are restricted to only those areas of the facility that the group has reserved.
4. Only beverages in containers or in cups with lids are allowed in the worship center. Food will not be allowed in the worship center without prior approval. Food and beverages will be allowed in classrooms if a request has been made.
5. Church equipment, such as tables and chairs, must be returned to original placement, unless arranged otherwise prior to the event.
6. All lights must be turned off and doors locked upon departure.
7. Clean-up: it is the responsibility of the person or group using the facility to return it as close as possible to the condition it was found in. Key/Cleaning deposit will be returned if all satisfactory.
8. Abusive or foul language, violent behavior, drug or alcohol abuse are strictly prohibited on church premises. Any person exhibiting such behavior will be required to leave the premises.
9. Any person or group must sign the "Church Facility Use Agreement" form prior to reservation of the church facilities.

Insurance

For all non-church-sponsored events, the group or person using the facilities must obtain Event Coverage in the amount of at least \$1,000,000. Insurance can be obtained through your insurance provider.



Facility Use Agreement/Reservation Form

	Full Day (3+ hrs)	Half Day (3 hrs.)	Totals
Sanctuary	\$150	\$75	_____
Fellowship Hall	\$150	\$75	_____
Wesley Room	\$50	\$35	_____
Kitchen (add on)	\$40	\$40	_____
Class Room	\$35	\$30	_____
A/V Sound Technician	\$40	\$40	_____
Key/Cleaning Refundable Deposit		\$50	_____
		Totals	_____

Rental information

Date of Event(s): _____

Time of Event(s): _____

Renter Information:

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

*I have read and understand the Facility Use Agreement Form and
agree to comply with the information therein.*

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Last Revised June 14, 2018



Facility Use Agreement/Reservation Form for Members/Constituents

cost is \$1 per person per usage

	Full Day (3+ hrs)	Half Day (3 hrs.)	Totals
Sanctuary	\$150	\$75	_____
Fellowship Hall	\$150	\$75	_____
Wesley Room	\$50	\$35	_____
Kitchen (add on)	\$40	\$40	_____
Class Room	\$35	\$30	_____
A/V Sound Technician	\$40	\$40	_____
Key/Cleaning Refundable Deposit		\$50	_____
		Totals	_____

Rental information

Date of Event(s): _____

Time of Event(s): _____

Renter Information:

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

*I have read and understand the Facility Use Agreement Form and
agree to comply with the information therein.*

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Last Revised June 14, 2018

Courage to create a politics worthy of the human spirit

By The Rev. Paul Graves

Last week, I received a column from John Pavlovitz, a pastor whose thoughts I've mentioned here before. His title is attention-getting: "An Open Letter to Those Who Still Give a Damn." His audience is people who are worn out from the political and religious dysfunctions that plague our country these days. I'm one of those people!

I'm sick and fatigued nearly to the point of despair – only nearly! – by the divides we must navigate over matters political and religious, especially when they combine into a cesspool of disrespect and dishonesty. I'm so eager to find basic alternatives to such distrusting, fear-driven chaos.

So let's take a breath and uncover our deeper human spirit that's been smothered by so much fearful dehumanizing talk and action! One place I've found some space to breathe fresher breath is Parker Palmer's newest book: *Healing the Heart of Democracy – The Courage to Create a Politics Worthy of the Human Spirit*.

Palmer is a great guide into the basics of human spirituality. This book is a wonderful example thrust into the context of politics and the search for a healthy democracy. He begins with a poignant glimpse at the spiritual power of Abraham Lincoln during the deeply depressing Civil War.

I believe our country is in another deeply depressing time. For some, depression brings out excessive anger toward others – projecting personal pain onto people not "like us." For others, depression is inwardly directed, leading to despair for self, for others, for our country.

As I read Palmer's insights about Lincoln's own fight with depression, I silently heard the plaintive sounds of John Williams' exceptional soundtrack for the very powerful movie simply called "Lincoln." Its melancholy yet strangely hopeful sounds echoed in me as I reflected on Lincoln's struggle with his own spirit and the national spirit.

Palmer quotes poet Theodore Roethke: "In a dark time, the eye begins to see." In my recent dark times, I'm driven to let my spirit's eye seek the truth-pieces I live with, deep within my heart, my soul.

I don't want to hate anybody, especially the political leaders I vehemently disagree with. Nor do I want to hate Christian leaders and followers I consider to be so wrong in their allegiances.

Yet in our current cultural climate, it's hard not to hate, isn't it. When that happens, it's time to find the courage to step into the darkness within our own hearts. It's time to sort out which beliefs we hold are true to our faith, and which ones are merely convenient to our biases and fears.

Palmer's insight into how Lincoln entered that darkness might be instructive to you, as it is for me: "... Because he knew dark and light intimately – knew them as inseparable elements of everything human – he refused to split North and South into 'good guys' and 'bad guys', a split that might have taken us closer to the national version of suicide."

We currently live in a time when nationally, and often personally, we live with closed hearts, with broken hearts. We hurt, and hurting others seems to be the only way we think we have to deal with that hurt. But that just isn't reality!

Our faith traditions teach us — the deepest values of being human teach us — about broken-open hearts. Blocking ourselves off ourselves emotionally and spiritually usually results in isolating ourselves from the deepest joys and the deepest loves we are capable of experiencing.

This is true in our searches for healthy interpersonal relationships. It's also true in our search for political health. The external search is nourished by the broken-open heart.

Lewiston First UMC Church Council

September 27, 2018

In Attendance: Deb Snyder-Stewart, Liz Chavez, Cottie Hood, Mary Fordyce, Carl Paulson, Sue Driskill, Monte Boardman, Chuck Cram; Heidi Cram

Cottie opened with scripture and prayer. Liz moved and Mary seconded a motion to accept the Aug. 23 minutes as read. Passed.

Celebrations:

Deb is to be manager of the Idaho Food Bank.

Treasurer:

Sue gave a short report on finances. Expenditures continue to go up while giving fails to keep up. The liability insurance is paid. Pension & Health will get caught up after we pull monies from the credit union and L.O.C. Liz moved and Deb seconded a motion that we submit a request in December for a reduction in 2019 apportionments. Motion passed.

Chuck presented a cost sheet showing the savings if we reduced his time by 25% to $\frac{3}{4}$ time. The reduced rate from \$3,902 to \$3,651.50/month would be \$250.50/month less salary. The church would save \$21,464 per year.

Trustees:

Monte reported that some shrubbery has been trimmed. Several lawn mower problems have been resolved.

S.P.R.

Liz reported that SPR has had conversations about reducing expenses by eliminating Janitorial services. Gayla Ballantyne has been working on a plan to have volunteer teams split up the church into 2 areas. Will it be possible to get folks in to clean after other organizations leave late at night? Gayla having a full understanding of the church's janitorial needs has retracted her proposal for in-house janitorial duties.

Lay Leader:

No report.

Worship:

Chuck reported that the committee has defined the separate aspects of worship to make it more meaningful.

Pumpkin Patch:

Deb reported that we received \$7,000 - \$9,000 in-kind advertising plus digital bulletin boards. School classes totaling 500 students are scheduled. Oct. 20 is Extravagant Saturday. At least 75 LCSC students will help unload. There will be drone coverage this year. Left-over pumpkins will be picked up by 4-H.

Pastor's Report:

Charge Conference will be Oct. 18 at 6 pm at the Clarkston United Methodist Church.

New Business:

Carl presented some promotional ideas for the church, including using a You-tube broadcast video for new people to see. He suggested we point the secretary toward advertising our church and turn some of her duties over to volunteers. No action taken because setting job duties are the responsibility of SPR. Cottie recapped D.S. Gregg Sealey's visit. Gregg pointed out that if we try to increase church attendance only to maintain our existence, we'll probably fail. He suggested we spend a lot more time in prayer about the need.

Monte, Note taker

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6 WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING - 10A	7	8 FINANCE MEETING 9:30A COUNCIL 2:00P TRUSTEES MEETING 4:00P	9	10
11	12	13 SPR MEETING 3:00P	14 SALVATION ARMY DINNER 3:00P	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 (OFFICE CLOSED)	22 THANKSGIVING (OFFICE CLOSED)	23 (OFFICE CLOSED)	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	1

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2	3	4 WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING - 10A	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 SPR MEETING 3:30P	12 SALVATION ARMY DINNER 3:00P	13 TRUSTEES MEETING 4:00P	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 FINANCE COMMITTEE 9:30A	21	22
23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE - 6P	25 CHRISTMAS DAY (OFFICE CLOSED)	26	27 CHURCH COUNCIL 3:00P	28	29
30	31	1 NEW YEARS DAY (OFFICE CLOSED)				

We welcome you to Lewiston First United Methodist Church! Our church is always open to all the children of God in all our wondrous diversity.

Our Services are lively, informative, thought provoking and relevant to the challenges of living in the 21st Century. It is our view the warmth of the Spirit will be evident every time we gather for worship, Bible discussion or a small group



Discipleship gathering. We hope the love of the Divine will bring you comfort and serenity in our sometimes stressful and chaotic lives. Thank you for taking a minute to look over this newsletter and we hope to see you again in the near future, so you can *share our view!*

Church Office Hours

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

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 Lewiston First United Methodist Church