



# The Messenger

First United Methodist Church of Twin Falls 360 Shoshone St E, Twin Falls, ID 83301  
(208)733-5872 tffumc@gmail.com www.tffumc.com

Pastor, the Reverend Philip J. Airhart

## September 2011

### Sunday Worship

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Fellowship 11:15 a.m.

Nursery Care Available  
Handicapped Accessible / Elevator



### Ministry Contacts & Staff

Church Administrator  
Etha C.

Lay Leader Ron J.

Nursery Attendants  
Charee S.  
Ashlee B.  
Christina M.

Sound Technician  
Greg P.

Communicator  
Eleanore B.

Coordinator of Christian Ed.  
Cathy P.

Trustee Chair Verne S.

Finance Chair Phil G.

Staff Pastor Parish Relations Chair  
Bob P.

Welcoming Rosie S.  
Carol J.

Altar Guild Lou S.  
Joyce G.

Outreach John and Colleen T.

Miriam's Circle Pat H.  
Ruth's Circle Doris R.

Scouting Sharon B.

Three Simple Rules:

Do No Harm

Do Good

Stay in Love with God

Sermon Series begins  
September 11, 2011



Join a  
**Sunday School**  
Class

**See details inside**

# Message from Pastor Phil

## **Welcome Back, September!**

There once was a time in my childhood, I confess, when I actually dreaded the return of fall. Because once that calendar page turned from August to September, it meant the end of those long, freedom-filled days of summer vacation and a return to school – back to the “old grind.” Now, I may be exaggerating just a little here, but I dare say that many of you experienced some of those same feelings yourselves!

Thankfully, my feelings about fall have mellowed considerably over the years, and I now actually look forward to what I consider to be one of the most enjoyable seasons of the year. Some of you dear readers with a more cynical bent are probably thinking that this fondness for fall has more to do with the return of football season than anything else! Well, that certainly doesn't hurt – but it's actually much more than football! And it's more than the delight of warm, sunny days followed by crisp, cool evenings as well.

September comes to us accompanied by that last holiday weekend of summer which we have come to know as the “Labor Day weekend.” The first “Labor Day” in the United States was celebrated on September 5, 1882 in New York City, as a day set aside to honor the accomplishments and contributions to the city

of ordinary working people. The waning days of the 19th century were a time of great labor unrest, strikes, and struggles for fair wages. In 1894 President Grover Cleveland proposed legislation making Labor Day a national holiday, and Congress approved it in an astonishing six days. In the 20th century, all 50 states made Labor Day a state holiday as well.

It's fitting that we have a national holiday to recognize that human activity that we refer to as “work,” for work – the ability to create, to invent, to improve, to make change, is a reflection of the divine image stamped upon each of us. When we engage in “work,” we are imitating the actions of our Creator God, whose creative work brought forth a universe, and who is still engaged in divine enterprise. All work is holy when it is offered to God, and intended to bring blessing and benefit to others. And so it is right and good that, as a nation, we celebrate the Creator's gift of “work.”

So, enjoy this last great weekend of this summer of 2011, won't you? And then “welcome back September,” and give thanks for the high privilege of being “workers together” in the divine mission of building Christ's kingdom right here in Twin Falls.

In Christ's love – and mine,

Pastor Phil

# New Member Sunday



**Become  
Part of  
Our  
Church  
Family**

Contact  
Pastor  
Phil Airhart

at 733-5872  
if you are interested in learning about membership at TFFUMC. Phil and Laurie will host a time of coffee and conversation before September 18th when new members will be welcomed at Worship.

Join us September 18th as we welcome new members during our Worship Service.

A reception will follow in the Friendship Room.



# Mission Opportunities



**September 17, 2011**

**10:00 a.m. 1st Presbyterian Church**

Walk: Sign up to walk

Work: Bring cookies to our Friendship Room by Friday Sept. 16.

Pay: Donate to CROP by sponsoring a walker or place donation in the offering plate.

Pray: Pray for the success of the CROP WALK and for world hunger.

Contact the church office for information on walking, donating, or CROP WALK.

The facts are overwhelming: experts estimate there are over 842 million people hungry in the world today, 35 million of whom are hungry in the U.S.

Don't despair! Through active participation, we can assist people to feed themselves. CROP WALK donations provide help in many tangible ways:

- \$72 Provides emergency food supplies for a family of five's needs for a month.
- \$120 Enables three women to attend a literacy class for a year and change their lives.
- \$200 Provides a struggling farm family with a draft animal to significantly increase their food production.
- \$350 Enables the eldest of a child-headed household of AIDS orphans to receive vocational training (such as tailoring) so they can support their siblings.
- \$1050 Supports community based health, Hygiene and sanitation training for an Entire community.

25% of all CROP WALK proceeds stay in Twin Falls to benefit Mustard Seed Ministries.

**Make a difference: join us!  
Walk, run or sponsor a walker.**

## Become a WESLEY HOUSE BOOSTER

Greetings from THE WESLEY HOUSE in Pocatello, Idaho home of the United Methodist Campus Ministry for Idaho State University. THE WESLEY HOUSE includes a weekly Bible discussion and a "Terrific Tuesday" meal for everyone each week during the school year. Meetings of hearts, minds and various faiths occur on a regular basis at THE WESLEY HOUSE.

We are experiencing serious needs for funding. The United Methodist OR/ID Conference is no longer guaranteeing constant funds. Now we rely more heavily on direct support and contributions from campus ministry supporters.

Please consider becoming a "WESLEY HOUSE BOOSTER!" It is something that is easy to do by donating to The Wesley Foundation at ISU. You can mail a check or donate through a local United Methodist Church. I welcome any calls and questions about our campus ministry.

Danette F.  
Campus Coordinator, Wesley Foundation at ISU

## World Communion Sunday October 2, 2011

World Communion Sunday is a time to be in communion with Christians all over the world and to enable us to "press on toward the goal" of serving God in life-changing ministries.

The World Communion Sunday offering provides scholarships for U.S. (racial- and ethnic-minority) and international students. Students who receive scholarships study in a wide variety of fields: family pastoral care, Christian-Muslim relations, clinical psychology, peace and governance, crop production, law, health, and rural development.



**Food Drive  
September 4th**

**Support  
Hispanic  
Ministries**

# Fall Frenzy Cleaning Event



Many thanks to Dawn Bunn for stripping and waxing the Pine Room floor and polishing the floor in the Fellowship Hall. The floors look beautiful and we appreciate your hard work.

Thanks to Greg Poppino, Andy Carruthers, Etha Carruthers and Sharon Bryan for their assistance with this project.

**Through September 10  
Deep Clean, Polish, Shine, Etc.**

**Help get our church ready for fall!**

Volunteer to clean a room, space, stairway, windows, or a nook and cranny.

MVRS vacuums the floors in the Sanctuary and Friendship Room and they lightly clean the restrooms each week. Other rooms and cleaning is up to us.

Contact the church office to sign up.  
Clean any time before Sept. 11th

Let's make our church building look beautiful for fall.

## Scouting Ministries

### **Attention Boys in Grades 1 to 5 Join Cub Scouts!**

Cub Scout Pack 67 will hold their first Den Meetings on September 14th at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We always have room for more boys. Tigers (1st grade), Wolves (2nd grade) Bears (3rd grade) and Webelos (4th/5th grade) meet each Wednesday during the school year for crafts, games, sports, songs, and stories.

### **Boys age 11 - 18 are encouraged to become a Boy Scout!**

Boy Scout Troop 67 meets every Monday during the year in the Fellowship Hall. Boys participate in Outdoor activities such as camping, aquatics and hiking to achieve the aims of character, citizenship and personal fitness training. Boys are invited to visit a troop meeting to see what scouting is all about.



### **Join us at the Fair Booth**

Troop 67 welcomes help at the grandstand concession booth during the Twin Falls County Fair. A bus transports volunteers to and from the fair each night. A schedule is posted on the church elevator door. Helping the troop at the fair booth is a great way to show our support for the boys.

### **Attention Girls in Grades 1 to 6 Join Girl Scouts!**

Girl Scout Troop 290 meets Mondays at 6:30 p.m. in the Girl Scout Room (upper level of the church) during the school year. The first meeting is on September 12th. Girl Scouts aims to empower girls and to help teach values such as honesty, fairness, courage, compassion, character, sisterhood, confidence and citizenship through activities including camping, community service learning first aid and acquiring other practical skills.

**Contact the church office about Scouting at TFFUMC.**

**Boys and Girls do not need to attend our church in order to belong to scouts.**

# Education Wing Roof Project

Work will soon begin on the replacement of the roof on our Education Wing. The Board of Trustees has spent several months investigating the options available for repair or replacement of this roof and have made the decision to replace it. The following list of frequently asked questions should help explain the project. If you have further questions, visit with one of the trustees.

Question: What part of the roof is being replaced?

Answer: The roof over the Education Wing.

Question: Why does it need to be replaced now?

Answer: The roof has had several leaks over the past several years. The cost to repair this roof is growing each year. Three roofing companies recommend replacing the roof.

Question: When was this roof last replaced?

Answer: 1988 - 23 years ago. It was expected to last 15 years.

Question: How large is this area of roof?

Answer: Approximately 5000 square feet.

Question: Is any other work being done?

Answer: Four skylights on the education wing are being taken out. The majority of yearly maintenance is done around the skylights. The drain area is being repaired as it is completely deteriorated.

Question: What is the cost of this project?

Answer: The cost to remove the skylights is expected to be \$2000. The bid to replace the Education Wing roof is \$28,470.

Question: How is the church going to pay for this project?

Answer: The Board of Trustees is asking church members who are interested and able for donations. Contributions of any size are welcome. The church has money available in the Greenslate Funds available to pay for the project so work can be started right away.

Question: How can I help?

Answer: Contribute to the Roof Fund.  
Pray for the safety of the workers and successful completion before winter.

## Music Ministry Notice

### Choir Begins September 11 Practice at 9 a.m. in the Choir Room

Everyone who loves to sing is welcome to join the choir.

The choir sings weekly from September through May.

Some choir members sing every week and  
some sing occasionally.

Your voice is appreciated whenever you are available.



# Christian Education



## Sunday School Begins

Sunday School begins at 9 a.m. on September 11 with classes for children and youth, preschool through senior high. Preschool and Elementary children will be doing the Live B.I.G. program again this year, with lessons covering the familiar Bible stories that make up our Christian heritage.

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Middle School and Senior High students will be exploring their faith and Bible knowledge in a variety of ways, using materials that encourage them to start thinking independently about their personal relationships with God.

Adults and youth are invited to attend the Wednesday night discussion class related to the film *The Bible Tells Me So*, starting September 14. The movie will be shown the first week, and six weeks of topical discussions will follow. Be sure to invite your friends and family to attend this film.

A preview of Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University will take place on October 6. Financial Peace University (FPU) is Dave's life-changing program that teaches you to achieve your financial goals by eliminating debt, saving for the future, and giving like never

before. More than 1 million families have attended FPU with amazing results. You will be challenged and motivated to make a plan for your money and change your family tree forever.

Further adult educational opportunities will be coming, so watch the announcements and website for more information.

Sunday School Teachers will be commissioned during worship on September 11. Please join us that morning as we celebrate and support those who will be giving of their time and talents to educate the next generation of Christians and continue to help our students of all ages grow in their faith.

## Sunday School help needed

The Sunday School program needs volunteers to help teach, substitute, or just as an extra pair of hands on Sunday mornings. There are opportunities to work with children, youth or adults. Please contact church office (733-5872, [tffumc@gmail.com](mailto:tffumc@gmail.com)) if you are interested in being a part of this important ministry of our church.

Cathy P.  
Director of Christian Education

Dave Ramsey's

# Financial Peace

UNIVERSITY

When one of our church members said "I wish our church had one of those Dave Ramsey classes, my friend took that class and it changed her life," we knew we had to do something. Seven out of 10 Americans live paycheck to paycheck and the recent recession has only made this more apparent. That's why we're going to be offering Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University class starting in October. It's one of the most practical classes available and it's the most fun you'll have learning about money. Each weekly session starts with Dave Ramsey teaching on DVD and is followed by a powerful group discussion.

You'll see that you are definitely not alone if you're struggling with finances and, even if you're one of the few who isn't struggling, you'll still benefit from this powerful material. It teaches you how to apply biblical principles to the way you handle money and how to truly start managing all the resources God has given you.

This class breaks the process down into easy steps that will help no matter where you are. We are having a free class preview on October 6th at 7 p.m. and one on October 9th at 11:30 a.m. in the church library. If you would like information now, contact the church office.





**First...**

**See the Film!**

September 14th  
7 p.m.

In the Upper Chapel

**Then...**

**Attend the Class.**

Wednesdays (6 weeks),  
starting

September 21st  
7 p.m.

Almost everyone, whether they know it or not, has either a family member or an acquaintance who is lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender. Many Christians have questions about homosexuality, and often follow up with another question, “What does the Bible really say?” Many Christians also have fears about stating their opinions – afraid of being judged for their views, afraid of being labeled “homophobic,” afraid of taking a stand, afraid of going against the Bible.

We want to provide a forum and a safe environment in which to deal with these questions and fears. Many of these questions, fears, and issues about homosexuality and Christianity will be addressed first by viewing the award-winning film *For the Bible Tells Me So*, followed by a discussion of the highlights, then in six weekly discussions that will be more in depth about topics addressed in the film. A study guide developed for this film, entitled *This I Know*, includes some material written by scholars in the film.

The film is centered around five families who learned one of their family members was gay, and how the family and the gay person have dealt with the many issues raised on their journeys through life. Commentaries by recognized religious leaders and scholars are interspersed throughout the film. Some families have changed their ideas about what the Bible says; others have not. Some have changed their ideas about homosexuality; others have not. All the families, though, explain their journey of understanding, and talk about the restorative power of God’s demands for love and justice, where they have failed, and what they have done about it. We earnestly believe that every person who watches this film, no matter what questions or thoughts they have about homosexuality and what the Bible says, will have at least a few different thoughts and questions by the end of the film.

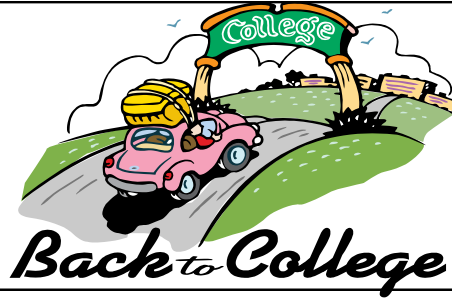
Viewing the film does not commit anyone to the weekly discussions, or even to the 45 minutes of discussion after the viewing on the first night. The six specific weekly discussions will center around:

1. Why is there such fear and emotion about homosexuality?
2. What are the methods we can use to faithfully interpret scripture?
3. What do some of the Bible texts say about homosexuality in the context of their day?
4. What is the history that created the Christian tradition that homosexuality is a sin ?
5. What obstacles lie in the path on the long and difficult journey between fear and love?
6. How does a loving Christ call us to respond to the marginalized?

The discussions will take place in a safe atmosphere for learning and discovery, with mutual respect and understanding. There is no expectation that everyone will exit having the same beliefs, understandings, or viewpoints.

# Misc. Announcements

College students or their parents are asked to notify the church office of current addresses.



Applications for spring semester scholarships are due October 1st. Contact the church office for an application.

**College Scholarship Applications are due October 1st.** Applications for spring scholarships can be requested from the church office and are to be returned to the office by October 1st.

Scholarships are awarded on a one time basis to any student seeking post high school education.

**Church Office Hours are 9 a.m. to 12 noon Monday through Friday.** Church staff will be

working other hours as needed to complete administrative tasks. Please leave a message if your call is not answered. The staff will return calls as soon as possible.

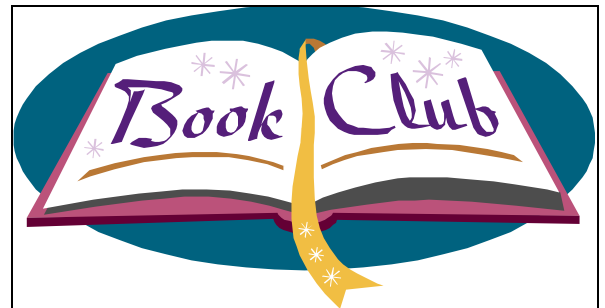
**Generally church property is not to be borrowed for personal use.** If extraordinary circumstances exist, requests to borrow are made through the church office and may require approval of the Board of Trustees.

**Deadline for Bulletin and Newsletter.** Items for the bulletin calendar, prayer requests, or weekly announcements are due in the church office each Thursday at 10:00 a.m. Items for the monthly newsletter are due in the church office by the 20th of each month.

**See Church Website for updated information.** A building use calendar and updated information is available on our website at [www.tffumc.com](http://www.tffumc.com).

## Upcoming Events...

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Sunday School Begins   | Sept. 11  |
| This I Know (film & study)   |           |
| Film - <i>For The Bible Tells Me So</i>  | Sept. 14  |
| Study - <i>This I know</i>   | Sept. 21  |
| (visit <a href="http://www.thisiknowstudy.org">www.thisiknowstudy.org</a> for information) |           |
| CROP Walk  | Sept. 17  |
| Welcoming New Members  | Sept. 18  |
| Boy Scout Popcorn Sales  | Oct. 2, 9 |
| World Communion Sunday   | Oct. 2    |
| Financial Peace University Preview   | Oct. 6, 9 |



Book Club  
September 8th  
7:30 p.m. at  
Barnes & Noble

We will be discussing our recent reads and choosing a book for October. We welcome all readers to join us.