

Announcements

- Our **Benevolence Program** continues to help both our parishioners who encounter unusual needs and others who come to us for help. Please see Dani  l if you need this help.
- The **Teen Group** needs male chaperones for a trip over the Labor Day weekend. See Kelly for details.
- **Picture Directory** information sheets are available in the lobby or on our web page. Please fill them out and return them or mail them to Kay Elliot. And family pictures are being taken after service by Gary Hunt. Please get your family picture taken in the next few weeks.
- **Mountain States Fall Food Drive** –Please have donations at the building by Saturday, September 9, 2023. Lists are on the table in the foyer.
- **NO MORE HYMNBURGERS** this year. Sorry, but we’re unable to have a final one this Thursday.

Calendar

Sunday	10:00 am	Bible Study	At the building and live stream
Sunday	11:00 am.....	Worship	At the building and live stream
Sunday	4:00 pm	Walking the 12 Steps with Jesus	At Pam & Rob’s
Wednesday	10:30 am.....	Senior Breakfast.....	At Perkins Restaurant
Wednesday	6:30 pm	Bible Study	TBA
Saturday	6:00 pm	Teen Group	At the building
Sep 10 th	Singing Sunday – 6:00 pm at the Pocatello Church of Christ, 3224 Hawthorne Rd, Pocatello, ID (2 nd Sunday)		
Sep 16 th	NO Senior Breakfast due to the Youth Rally (3 rd Saturday each month.)		
Sep 15-17 th	Idaho Falls Youth Rally. The link to the registration page is on our website.		
Sep 30 th	Annual Horse Ride – We try to hear elk bugling and sometimes we do! The cost is usually \$60/person. Numbers are limited, so please let Bob know if you’re riding this year.		
Oct 12 th -15 th	Linder Road 21st Spiritual Growth Lectureship. Flyers in the foyer, Link on website.		
Oct 28 th	Annual Chili Cookoff! Start practicing, the competition is fierce! We need cooks and we need tasters, so save the date, plan on coming, and bring some friends!		
Dec 8-10th	Winter Rendezvous in Cody Wyoming. The link to the registration page is on our website.		
Thursday PM	“It’s True!”Andy Burns	
Friday PM	“Jesus Lives”Craig Ford	
Saturday AM	“Do You Hear It?”Chris Crooks	
Saturday AM	“Who Are We?”Matt Burleson	
Saturday PM	“Now What?”Scott Laird	
Sunday AM	“They Are Surprised”Isaac McNally	
Sunday AM	“Victory!”Ed Bass	

The Church of Christ in Idaho Falls

Welcome!

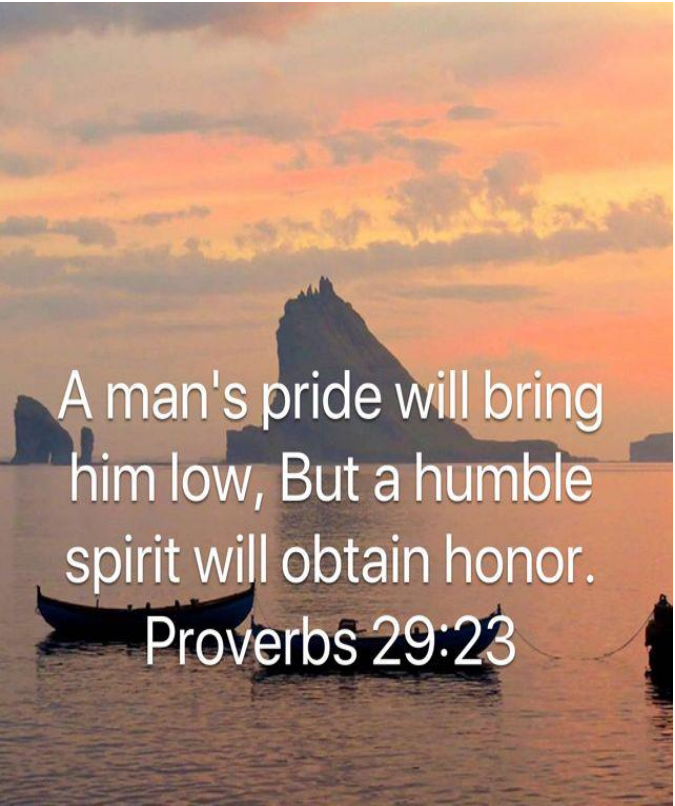
We’re a bible-based congregation of Christians meeting in Idaho Falls to praise and worship the one God and to support and encourage each other. All are welcome! Please join us in our worship services and classes.

Meditation for the Day

Meditation for the Day We seek God's presence and "they who seek shall find." It is not a question of searching so much as an inner consciousness of the Divine spirit in your heart. To realize God's presence you must surrender to His will in the small as well as in the big things of life. This makes God's guidance possible. Some things separate you from God-a false word, a fear-inspired failure, a harsh criticism, a stubborn resentment. These are the things that put a distance between your mind and God. A word of love, a selfless reconciliation, a kind act of helpfulness-these bring God closer.

Prayer for the Day

I pray that I may think and say and do the things that bring God closer to me. I pray that I may find Him in a sincere prayer, a kind word, or an unselfish deed.



Online Bulletin is available at our website <https://ifcocminister.wixsite.com/mysite>

Dangerous Self-Deception

Judges 16:1-31

We admitted that we were powerless over our problems-that our lives had become unmanageable.

When we refuse to admit our powerlessness we are only deceiving ourselves. The lies we tell ourselves and others are familiar: "I can stop any time I want to." "I'm in control; this one won't hurt anything." And all the while, we are inching closer to disaster.

Samson was one of Israel's judges. As a child, he had been dedicated to God, and God had gifted him with supernatural strength. But Samson had a lifelong weakness - the way he related to women. Samson was especially blinded to the dangers he faced in his relationship with Delilah. His enemies were paying her to discover the secret of his strength. Three times she begged Samson to tell her his secret. Each time she set him up and tried to hand him over to the enemy. Three times Samson lied to her and was able to escape. But each time he got closer to telling her the truth. Finally, Samson revealed his secret, was taken captive, and died a slave in enemy hands.

Samson's real problem can be found in the lies he told himself. By not admitting his powerlessness, he remained blind to the obvious danger that his pride and desire for beautiful foreign women were leading him into. This caused him to gradually inch his way toward an untimely death. We need to be careful not to fall into a similar trap. As we learn to acknowledge our powerlessness over our addictive/ compulsive tendencies daily, we will become more aware of behaviors that will likely lead us to destruction.

The Danger of Pride

It is so easy to think we have "arrived." The Israelites had arrived in the Promised Land, their physical destination. What did they have to worry about now? After all, they were God's chosen people. They still had to learn, however, that "pride ends in humiliation" (Proverbs 29:23). In the book of Judges, the Israelites discovered repeatedly that overconfidence leads to relapse. What was true back then is still true today. Recovery is an ongoing process that requires vigilant self-examination. To be sustained in recovery demands that we depend on God one day at a time.

Leadership

Web Page: Idahofallschurchofchrist.org

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Andy Burns, Evangelist.....	apburns8@gmail.com	208-569-9193
Doug Barber – Worship		208-589-3674
Aaron Kays – Building & Grounds.....		505-879-4624
Dani�l King – Benevolence		208-970-5078
Les & Teresa Pope – Special Programs		208-524-0238

Suffering the Consequences

God did not protect his people from the painful consequences of their actions. He allowed them to suffer the consequences so they could learn some valuable lessons. Facing the consequences of our actions can be a healthy part of the recovery process. Every time the Israelites hit bottom and admitted their helplessness, God moved in and delivered them. If they had continually depended on God and admitted their helplessness, they would have been able to break the cycle permanently. We never outgrow the early steps of recovery. We are powerless to handle the chaos in our lives, and we need to continually turn our whole life over to God.

God Uses Flawed People

A number of the heroes in Judges were most notable for their flaws. Barak refused to fight for God without the help of the prophetess, Deborah. Gideon needed numerous affirmations before he would step out in faith for God. Samson's flaws are legendary, but God still used him to fight the enemies of Israel. We do not need to be perfect in order to call upon God and receive help. We do not need to be perfect to be used by God for his glory. We simply need to see and admit our need for him. We cannot earn God's blessing; we simply receive his gifts of grace.

Prayers

- For Jean’s friend Tammi Utter, diagnosed with cancer.
- For Jonathan’s parents, living in a hotel after a house fire, and for Jonathan’s father for healing and good results of testing.
- For Bill Sirdosky, on kidney dialysis.
- For Nathan, working at Project Antioch thru mid-2024.
- For Caleb, working at AIM.
- For Briley, coping with Marfans syndrome.
- For Gary, Rob, Kyle & Andy as they lead our congregation.
- For Ryan Burns, Jordan Allbritten, and Thomas Mullinaux, serving in the armed forces.
- For our widows: Myrna, Ella, Miriam, Louise, Sallye, & Carolyn.

Contributions

Note: Many choose to contribute monthly, semi-annually, or annually

	7/23	7/30	8/6	8/13	8/20
General	\$1,611	\$1,088	\$2,677	\$1,849	\$784
Missions	\$170	\$95	\$550	\$140	\$6,170