

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	TBD
Wednesday	10:30 am	Breakfast with the Seniors	At Perkins Restaurant
Wednesday	6:30 pm	Bible Study	At Ella Smith's - 2093 Irene Lane, Idaho Falls
Saturday	7:00 pm	Teen Group	At the building
May 18-20 th	Montana Men's Retreat: "Creating Communities of Conviction" at the C-N Camp near Augusta, MT. See Bob Queenan for help with travel.		
May 20 th	Senior Breakfast <u>CANCELLED</u> (3 rd Saturday each month.)		
June 3 rd	Family Days in the Park – 11:00 am – 7:00 pm. Bring games, sports equipment, and food is picnic style. Sunnyside Park (next to EIRMC)		
June 4 th	Family Days in the Park – 10:30 am – 5:30 pm. Worship starts at 10:30, then a potluck, then games and fun – Sunnyside Park (next to EIRMC)		
Aug 6 th	Area Singing with the Pocatello Church of Christ. Details to follow.		

PRAYERS

- For Gary Brush, being treated for cancer.
- For Briley, coping with Marfans syndrome.
- For Bobbie Knight. Bobbie Knight, IDOC # 113912, PWCC - 2 C, 1451 Fore Rd, Pocatello 83204.
- 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.

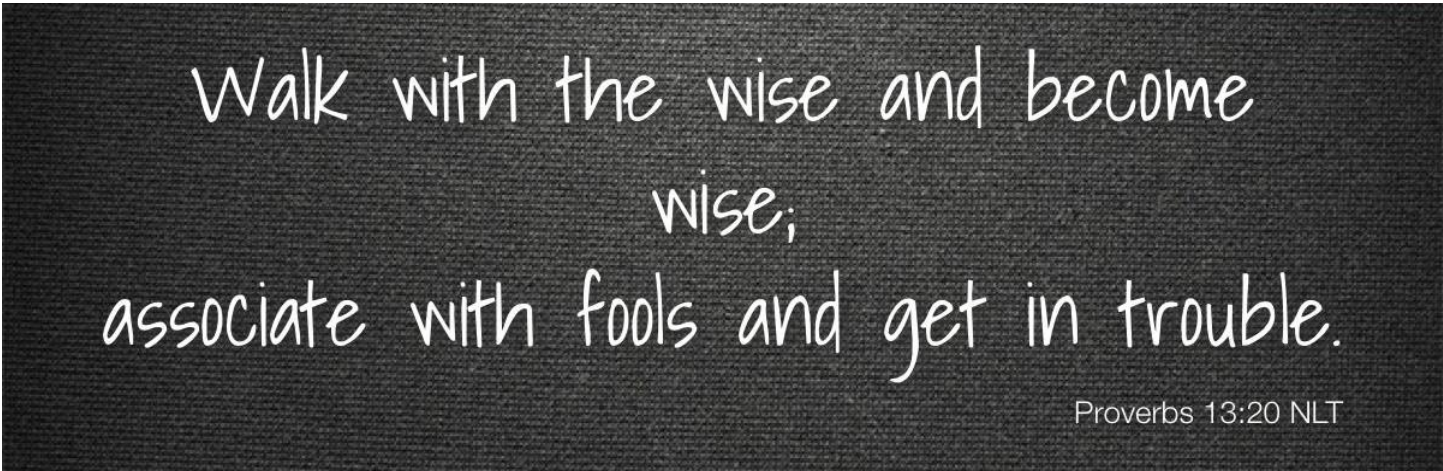
LEADERSHIP

Web Page: Idahofallschurchofchrist.org		
Kyle Allbritten, Elder	kallbritten67@gmail.com	618-638-6894
Gary Hunt, Elder	garyhunt136@gmail.com	208-351-8947
Rob Pope, Elder.....	robpope2@gmail.com	208-757-8175
Andy Burns, Evangelist.....	apburns8@gmail.com	208-569-9193
Doug Barber – Worship.....		208-589-3674
Aaron Kays – Building & Grounds		505-879-4624
Daniål King – Benevolence.....		208-970-5078
Les & Teresa Pope – Special Programs		208-524-0238

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 Today

Discipline of yourself is absolutely necessary before the power of God is given to you. When you see others manifesting the power of God, you probably have not seen the discipline that went before. They made them- selves ready. All your life is a preparation for more good to be accomplished when God knows that you are ready for it. So keep disciplining yourself in the spiritual life every day. Learn so much of the spiritual laws that your life cannot again be a failure. Others will see the outward

I pray that I may manifest God's power in my daily living. I pray that I may discipline myself so as to be ready to meet every opportunity.

Restoration

Luke 15:11-24

In the natural progression of sin, life degenerates. In one way or another, many of us wake up one day to realize that we are living like an animal. How true this is depends on the nature of our addictions. Some of us may be living like an animal in terms of our physical surroundings. Others of us may be a slave to our animal passions - powerful emotions that dehumanize us and others.

A young man took an early inheritance and traveled away from home. When the money was spent, the women just a memory, and the "high" long gone, he resorted to slopping pigs to earn a meager living. When he became so hungry that he eyed the pigs' slop with envy, he realized he had a problem. "When he finally came to his senses, he said to himself, 'At home even the hired servants have food enough to s spare, and here I am dying of hunger! I will go home to my father....' So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him" (Luke 15:17-18, 20).



The fact that we are able to recognize our lives as degenerate or insane proves that there is hope for a better way of life. We are reminded of times when life was good, and we long to have that goodness restored. When we turn to God, who is powerful enough to help us build something better, we will discover that his power can restore us to sanity.

A Father's Compassion

Luke 15:20-24

The father's great compassion for his returning son portrays God's response to a repentant sinner. Like the father in this story, God waits for the sinner to come to him of his own volition. Our heavenly Father does not wait for total amends or cleanup acts. (Those steps in the recovery process can wait.) The father in the story ran to his penitent son, hugged and kissed him, and threw a party-thus relieving him of all shame and guilt. In the same way, God actively seeks those of us who have strayed in our walk of faith as well as those who do not have a personal relationship with him.

Accept Repentance

Luke 15:25-30

God asks us to share his love with those who are helpless and lost and to carry the message of salvation and hope to them. The older brother's selfish attitude is shown to be sinful and self-centered. He represents the religious leadership of that time, as well as those of us who still cling to our own self-sufficiency. The father in this story demonstrates God's willingness to accept repentant sinners. God desires our restoration, whether the people around us like it or not. He also wants to use us to support, not hinder, fellow strugglers in the recovery process.

Announcements

- The Idaho Falls Youth Rally is scheduled for September 15-17. There will be an organizational meeting for the Youth Rally after service. There are many projects that need leadership from our church family. We have lots of talented people that we're asking to help in various areas. If you have questions, you can see Nathan Odle or Andy.
- Contributions Last Sunday were:
General Contributions \$2,845
General Missions.....\$5
AIM Missions.....\$135
Total..... \$3,335

Restore Us To Sanity

Restore means we will be brought back to health and strength. How wonderful! Some of us remember having had emotional well-being. Some cannot recall a time when we did not feel at odds with life. We find comfort in the idea that at some time in the past we had been healthy and can be so once again. Our lost sense of well-being can be restored to us.

The word sanity is difficult to accept for some of us. Sanity is sane thinking, common sense. The dictionary defines sanity as reasonable behavior. We need only look at our past behavior - temper tantrums, uncontrolled anger, compulsive behaviors, silence, excessive sleep, or excessive anything - to know our behavior was certainly not sane or rational. We hear others refer to insanity not as dementia or outright craziness, but as repeating the same actions or behaviors over and over again and expecting different results. After giving the matter some thought we had to admit the word sanity is appropriate.

The more fully we admit we need to be restored to sanity, the more we will seek help from God as a solution to our problems and difficulties. The more fully we believe that God can restore us to sanity, the more we will seek that help, and the more willing we will be to turn our will and lives over to our Higher Power.

Belief vs. Faith

Believing in a power greater than ourselves – Jesus - is different from having faith in God. We do not simply *wish* for more faith. To develop our faith we must use it. We show little faith if we continue to hold onto our fears and anxieties. When we recognize these are making our lives unmanageable and that we are powerless, we turn them over to Jesus. We believe Jesus will take care of us. Faith comes as we see the miracles Jesus works in our lives and in the lives of others. Miracles are not just big, grand events. We gain faith as we look at what is going on around us and begin to see each gift or simple intervention as a miracle. As we begin to recognize these and give the credit to Jesus, our understanding, belief, and faith grows. Our lives may improve without believing in Jesus, but we cannot reach the ultimate serenity without true belief in a power greater than ourselves.

