



# Lewiston Church of Christ

## January 3, 2021



### Weekly Services

Sun. Bible Study 9:45 AM

Sun. Worship 10:45 AM

Sun. Day/Evening Groups

Wed Bible Study 6:30 PM

#### MINISTER

Joel Solliday: 208-743-2711

#### ELDERS

Joe Bieren: 208-305-1136

Jerry Bolm: 208-360-9186

Doyle Dawes: 208-836-5718

#### DEACONS

Education – Rick Richardson

Finance – Tom Hill

Outreach – Mark Whittaker

#### AREAS OF SERVICE

Building – Ken Vogtman

Custodian – Ron & Cindy Roberson

Fellowship – Joe & Carrie Bieren

Grounds – Cody & Doyle Dawes

Music Ministry – Ron Roberson

Secretary – Renee' Hill

Technology – Eric Kjorness

Technology – Cody Dawes

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# Today!

Are you relieved that the holidays are over? If so, be grateful. You survived! But remember that the purpose of any holiday worth celebrating runs deeper than mere survival. In fact, the purpose of life itself runs deeper than mere survival.

The Bible is full of holidays, celebrations, and feasts. Some say the gospel of John is built around Jewish feasts which Jesus celebrated religiously. They include the Passover, the Feast of Tabernacles, and the Feast of Dedication. Nevertheless, the New Testament makes it clear that observing religious days is a matter of individual Christian liberty. We respect that.

Holidays are not the only way to carry a treasured heritage, but they are one way. They can preserve our collective memory and remind us of our common identity and values. Beyond mere dates on the calendar to survive or even enjoy, holidays can serve as “heritage handles” for carrying a beloved heritage of faith and/or freedom from one generation to the next.

Our lives are enriched when we celebrate **renewal** (New Year’s Day), our **heroes** (birthdays of good leaders), **love** (Valentine’s Day), **moms, dads, veterans, liberty** (4<sup>th</sup> of July), **Jesus’ coming** (Christmas), **His going** (Good Friday), **His rising** (Easter), and more. But these gifts are meaningful to us every day of our lives. We don’t require a date to express our gratitude for them. In fact, God’s word gives us no specific dates for the birth or death of Jesus. We do know that he arose on the first day of the week, so we gather on Sundays to worship Him and celebrate our shared forgiveness. But as followers of Jesus, that celebration is also daily.

So, carry your gratitude with you wherever you go, in season and out. If a date helps, great! If not, then find other handles for carrying your gratitude with you wherever you go. Either way, don’t limit your gratitude to a date on a calendar. Celebrate today and let it show!