

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Willson at Babcock, P.O. Box 1150, Bozeman, Montana 59771, 406-586-9194

March 2010

Dear Fellow Montana Presbyterians,

First Presbyterian Church in Bozeman is seeking to increase our connections with Montana State University. Specifically, we wish to integrate more of those in the university-age group into our congregation, providing a "church home away from home" while also enriching the life of our church family.

We recognize that students at the university are, above all else, busy. Between class schedules, projects and exams, and part-time jobs, many students have little time for themselves. In order to achieve our objective then, we acknowledge our obligation to make involvement at FPC both materially and spiritually rewarding.

To this end we are considering offering scholarships to interested and qualified students. Ranging from \$1000 - \$1600 per year (paid one-half per semester and potentially renewable), these scholarships are intended to help students make the decision to continue involvement in church easier.

Students interested in applying for these scholarships should complete the attached form, forwarding it as noted to Nancy Giddings. Students interested in discussing this before applying could visit with either:

Pastor Dan Krebill; Phone: 406-586-9194 Email: dan@fpcbozeman.org
Nancy Giddings; Phone: 406-585-1387; Email: ngiddings@bridgeband.com

We believe it is important to encourage individual initiative, therefore student applicants will be asked to describe how they see themselves becoming a leader in outreach to university students or ways in which they actively participate in our congregation. It's entirely possible that a student will have ideas even better than those we have in mind, and we want to honor that. The application form has examples of possible activities.

In addition to the scholarship, our church can offer other opportunities and hospitality to fellow Presbyterians and others. Students may apply for camp counselor positions at our Rockhaven summer camp, which offers Christian day and overnight camp experiences just south of Bozeman at our Gallatin Canyon camp. Students who wish to pursue other specific internships or summer job opportunities can receive help to network through our congregation.

Students can, at their option, be matched with a hospitality family. How this relationship evolves would depend on the desires of the partnership, but might include dinners, football games, a quiet place to study, mentoring, and advice, assistance, or housing to parents during visits to Bozeman. We are hopeful and optimistic that these efforts to reach out to MSU students and their families represent opportunities to grow spiritually for all concerned.

A final note: Please consider yourselves welcome at First Presbyterian Church in Bozeman whether you are a college student or not, and whether you wish to pursue the scholarship possibility or not.

Sincerely,

Nancy Giddings, Representing
The Session at First Presbyterian Church Bozeman

APPLICATION FOR SCHOLARSHIP; First Presbyterian Church Bozeman

Applicant Name: _____

Applicant's Home Presbyterian Church: _____

Home Church Personal Reference (Optional) _____

Applicant Contact Information

Phone: _____

Email address: _____

Expected year of graduation from Montana State University: _____

Students are asked to prepare an application statement describing how they would propose being involved with the First Presbyterian Church Bozeman. Two or more students may propose a coordinated response. (That is, propose a project or activity that would be undertaken by more than one student.) The proposal might include references to their previous church roles and activities, or could also be ideas about things they thought could have been done based on their church experiences or taking note of other churches' projects.

The following are examples of roles and projects; students are urged to be creative and not constrained by these examples!

1. Lead a university student group at the church doing activities and projects.
2. Assume a leadership role in our Sunday School program.
3. Assume a leadership role with our youth group.
4. Participate in choir, bell choir, instrumentals, or other musical role.
5. Lead a team participating in Habitat for Humanity, fun run, and other community activities.
6. Coordinate mission projects, such as food bank, Love, Inc., or Family Promise.
7. Participate with operational activities, such as office help, assisting with worship, helping with dinners and brunches.
8. Support our website or audio visual efforts.
9. Support our newsletter publication
10. Develop ideas about how to get church members involved with MSU activities or students

Our emphasis is to increase student involvement in our church, so activities that lead directly to that end are encouraged. Students could describe additional resources desired, such as pastoral participation, member involvement, and so forth.

A short write-up (approximately one page) should be forwarded along with the identifying information listed above to: Nancy Giddings, c/o First Presbyterian Church, PO Box 1150, Bozeman, MT 59771 by April 15, 2010. ***Applications will continue to be considered into the summer months based on funds available.***