



PresbEnews

January 5, 2011

A mid-week newsletter of First Presbyterian Church - Jody McDevitt & Dan Krebill, co-pastors
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*Happy
New
Year!*

May your 2011 be joyful, peaceful, spiritual, and full of God's love.

Weekly Schedule

Wednesday

Jan 5, 7:00p—Choir Practice

Thursday

Jan 6, 7:30a—Women's Book Study
7:00p—Deacons

Sunday

Jan 9, 8:30a—Jazz Worship
9:30a—Sunday School
10:30a—Traditional Worship
10:45a—Sunday School, K-4



Sunday School begins this Sunday!

Beginning this Sunday, January 9th, Sunday School programs at First Presbyterian Church will resume.

Our **Adult Sunday School** class will renew their studies of other religions, with a focus on non-Christian World religions, using lessons from *The Thoughtful Christian*.

We have utilized *Thoughtful Christian* materials several times in a number of our group activities and have been very pleased with their content and quality. We are optimistic that our classes will be fueled with good background material resulting in lively discussion.

In the spring, we hope to host guest speakers who are more familiar with the religions that are particularly distant from our own heritage.

Children's Sunday School, for Grades Kindergarten through fourth grade, takes place during the 10:30a service, following Children's Time.

Please join us for this time of learning beginning this Sunday!



Change for Changing Lives.

The session recently approved another opportunity for our congregation to financially support Love INC by giving spare change, and the Board of Deacons has agreed to facilitate it. Called "Change for Changing Lives," there will be a change bank at coffee hour each Sunday where such contributions can be made.



Love INC is in the process of expanding its ministry to include a relational ministries program that will provide classes with mentors that will help participants sharpen their life skills. Building on the success of its "Finding Financial Freedom" classes, Love INC hopes to offer classes on other life skills topics beginning early in 2011.

More details will be coming about how you can support this program as a teacher or mentor. In the meantime, consider donating some spare change in support of this new ministry.



Farewell...

Dear First Presbyterian Church,

We recently moved back to Kentucky, our home state, and we wanted to thank you for being such a warm, welcoming community to us throughout our time in Bozeman. In study, fellowship, and worship with you, we have both grown tremendously in these few months. We will be sure to keep you in our prayers, and we look forward to hearing about how you continue to touch and transform others' lives.

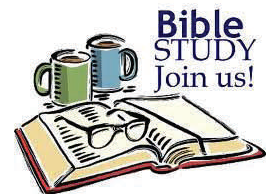
Love in Christ,

**Ian & Allison Cooke
phone: (307) 413-9018**

Women's Ecumenical Bible Study

Women's Ecumenical Bible Study (WEBS) begins Monday, January 17, at 10a at Bozeman United Methodist Church. We will study the Gospel of John using N. T. Wright's "John for Everyone," Chapters 11-21. The study will be led by Pr. Dave McConnell.

WEBS is a diverse group of women interested in nurturing faith through Bible study, friendship, and prayer, and welcomes all women in the community. Childcare is provided. If you're interested, please call Jill Brauss at 586-0476.



**Praise God from Whom
ALL Blessings Flow!**

Library News

In anticipation of the upcoming adult classes in world religions, the library committee has added new items to the WORLD RELIGIONS shelf. Among them is Huston Smith's *The World's Religions*, a classic text for religious studies with suggestions for additional reading at the end of each section. This is the 50th Anniversary Edition of Smith's book. Also new in the library are *World Religions in America*, 4th edition by Jacob Neusner; *God is Not One* by Stephen Prothero; Amir Hussain's *Oil & Water -Two Faiths: One God*; and *World Religions* by Michael Keene. These items will be displayed, along with other selections from the FPC library, on a table in the library for the duration of the series. They are available for checkout. Please follow checkout guidelines.



LIBRARY COMMITTEE MEETING will be held on Wednesday, January 12th at 7:00p in the library. You are invited join us as we plan for the 2011 library activities.

~~Betty Knutson

Donate Used Eyeglasses

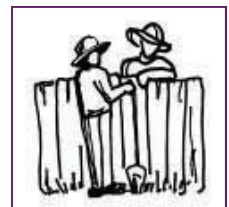


Donate your used eyeglasses to the Bozeman Lions Club. You'll find a collection box in the North narthex ready for your contributions. If you need more information, call Richard Riley, e-clubhouse.org/sites/BozemanMT, or www.LionsClub.org.



Talking with neighbors: An Interfaith Forum

The Interfaith Forum will begin meeting on Wednesday, January 5th (TODAY!!), and the topic is "God and the Big Bang." All are welcome. Bring your lunch (please respect the Temple and do not bring pork or shellfish products) and a friend, and we'll see you at Temple Beth Shalom, 2010 W Koch Street, in Bozeman (behind Albertsons). Panel participants include Rabbi Ed Stafman, Dr. Ruhul Amin, Rev. Jody McDevitt, and Rev. Leo Proxell.



Work Wanted:

Dwayne Arscott is available for snow removal, home repairs, and odd jobs. Dwayne is also seeking a roommate to share a 3-bedroom home. You can reach him at 581-8355.



Holland-days...

In his sermon on Sunday, Dan Krebill spoke about epiphanies and how they are akin to 'A-Ha' moments. I don't know about you, but this time of year has me about as far away from an 'A-Ha' moment as I've ever been. Call it the doldrums, or a post-holiday let down, or whatever, but my get up and go seems to have got up and gone. This year the condition seems to have been exacerbated by the impending return of our kids to college. This fall was the first time Christine and I had experienced being empty nesters, and by the time we had finally acclimated to it, the house was once again rocking during the holidays. This week, though, after a month long tease, our house will once again be devoid of the chaotic revelry that comes from having young adults around.

This Christmas Eve was also the first time in two decades that we did not have children participating in the pageantry of worship. That, too, felt odd. But I looked around the sanctuary that night and noticed the pews were filled with many long time members of the congregation who were in the same boat. Some of you were no doubt now watching grandchildren participate on the same chancel that both you and your children had paid homage to Christ's birth upon. That is one of the many endearing aspects of our church – its historical perspective.

I suspect I will have to wait a few years before watching any of my own grandchildren on a stage, but it was reassuring to see the next generation of our congregation – the Laynas and the Linkas – braying to the newborn king.

Next

Teach your children well,
the song implores.
And so, for generations,
they have been entrusted each Sunday
to saints.
Saints who had once been entrusted
to saints.
And so on,
and so on.

It is like the laying on of hands,
only less formal – popsicle sticks
and paste instead of pomp and circumstance.
Yet each is necessary for the other.
A family.
God's never ending family.

