



PresbEnews

March 2, 2011

A mid-week newsletter of First Presbyterian Church - Jody McDevitt & Dan Krebill, co-pastors
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What's Special This Sunday?

We have a busy Sunday coming up this week.

At 8:30, the Free shuttle bus will begin its first trip from the city parking garage past several neighborhood churches, including FPC. This should provide great relief for those trying to find a place to park.

At 9:30, or after the Jazz service, our first quarterly brunch of 2011 will take place in Fellowship Hall. We hope you'll join us for this time of all-church fellowship.

This Sunday is also our monthly Food Bank Sunday. We encourage you to bring some canned goods or non-perishables to share with those in need. We'll gather them all up and get them to the Gallatin Valley Food Bank for distribution.



Free Parking / Free Shuttle Bus Coming to FPC

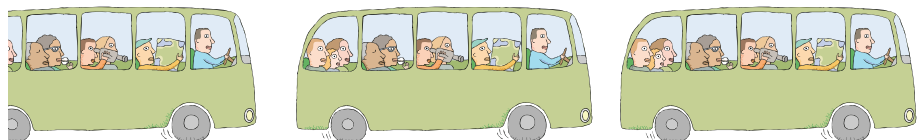
Beginning Sunday, March 6, a free shuttle bus will be running continuous loops from the city parking garage with stops at several downtown churches, including First Presbyterian Church, each Sunday from 8:30a until 1:00p.

**Free Shuttle
from parking
garage to FPC**

**Sundays,
8:30a - 1:00p**

There will be no charge for parking at the garage. Simply arrive at the parking garage, located on E. Mendenhall St. between N. Black Ave. and N. Tracy Ave., with car entrances on both E. Mendenhall and N. Black, 15-20 minutes before you want to be at the church, and you will be dropped off at the Babcock entrance to the church.

This is also the place to pick up the shuttle after the services. This service is being provided by several downtown churches. Please take advantage of this new opportunity to park in dry, ice-free comfort without a walk on slippery sidewalks. This service will continue through Mother's Day, May 8.



This week...

Wed, Mar 2 -

12:00p - Interfaith Forum at Temple Beth Shalom
 4:00p - Adult Forum Study
 7:00p - Choir Rehearsal

Thu, Mar 3 -

7:30a - Women's Morning Book Group
 7:00p - Deacons
 7:00p - Compassionate Friends

Sun, Mar 6 -

FOOD BANK SUNDAY
 8:30a - Jazz Worship
 9:30a - QUARTERLY ALL-CHURCH BRUNCH (No Sunday School)
 10:30a - Traditional Worship
 10:45a - K-4 Sunday School

Tue, Mar 8 -

7:00p - Handbell Rehearsal
 7:00p - Boy Scouts

Wed, Mar 9 -

4:00p - Adult Forum Study
 5:15p - Feed Your Soul
 7:00p - Choir Rehearsal
 7:00p - Library Committee Meeting

and beyond...

Sun, Mar 13 -

FOURTH ANNUAL LIBRARY SUNDAY
 8:30a - Jazz Worship
 9:30a - Sunday School
 10:30a - Traditional Worship

Food Bank Sunday THIS Sunday

This Sunday is our monthly Sunday to bring food donations for the Gallatin Valley Food Bank. Right now they are especially in need of:

- Chunky soup
- Cheerios
- Tomato sauce
- Spaghetti noodles
- Mixed vegetables
- Cream of chicken soup

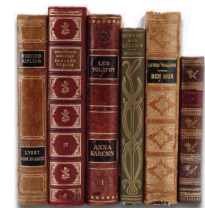


Fourth Annual Library Sunday - March 6th

Sunday, March 6, is the day for our fourth annual Library Sunday. This is also the first Sunday in Lent, a time of renewal and preparation for the Easter season. Often thought of in negative terms as a time of rigorous self-denial, the Lenten season has many positive aspects which will be presented in brief meditations by members of the Library Committee.

Spiritual introspection, service to others, and the life of Jesus are among the topics to be presented using FPC library resources.

You are encouraged to attend this special library event and share in preparation for the joyous Easter season ahead.

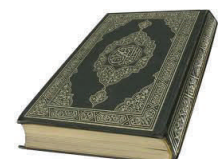


Adult Sunday School Continues - Next Week

Our study of Islam continues after a brief break of one week (No Adult Sunday School on March 6 due to the Quarterly All-Church Brunch). We continue to use materials from www.TheThoughtfulChristian.com and other sources.

If you'd like to be added to the email distribution list (to receive printed materials prior to class), please email Dan@fpcBozeman.org.

Please plan to join this important study each Sunday in the church library at 9:30a.



Go Bobcats! the Theme for "Plant the Seed" Dinner



The time has arrived for us to start "gathering" for our congregation's auction item for Love INC's annual "Plant the

Seed Dinner" in May.

This year we will be assembling a "Go Bobcat's Basket " which hopefully will appeal to the many MSU fans in the Gallatin Valley.

We hope to fill it with clothing items, mugs, blankets etc. In order to avoid having too many of the same item this year, we are asking for monetary donations so that we can assemble a gift package of a wide variety of items. Checks should be made payable to First Presbyterian and marked "Plant the Seed Dinner."

Please help us in this effort to raise funds for Love INC! If you have any questions you can call Nancy Rote at 219-3154.

Sunday Brunch

BE SURE TO REMEMBER!

This Sunday, following the 8:30 service, we'll be meeting together in Fellowship Hall for good food and fellowship.

This is a great time to meet new people, visit with old friends who attend the other service, and just have a great breakfast.

SEE YOU THERE!!



Thanks for the Yarn!



Thank you to the kind people who have given me knitting yarn for the school-children we support - I am overwhelmed! Unfortunately I have no room to store more - would any kind reader be willing to take some and continue knitting now - or in the Fall? I shall be most grateful - phone# is 624-6292 - Joyce Armour

Caps & Mittens Campaign

As most know, we participate in supplying caps, mittens, and scarves for a number of schools in Gallatin Valley. This is a good time to think ahead.

A number of stores (Penney's, Target) have winter accessories on BIG markdowns this time of year. If people are so inclined, they might look around to purchase caps and mittens now for next



winter. They can be dropped at the church office for Joyce Armour's attention. She is beginning to stockpile for next year.



The Family Promise Program

The Family Promise Program is an interfaith non-profit organization committed to helping low income families achieve lasting independence. It has just begun its fourth year at FPC. Betsy Crabs, Volunteer Coordinator, has stepped down from this assignment to be on the Family Promise Board of Directors. Betsy has worked tirelessly in the roll of Liaison between the families and our church.

We thank her for her commitment the past three years. It will take two people to replace her, and Marcia Jarrett and Terry Langford will be the new Volunteer Coordinators. Over 60 members of our congregation have stepped up as volunteers during our hosting weeks, serving as dinner and overnight hosts, preparing meals, and doing laundry. Their help is what keeps the program going.

We are in need of more volunteers who would be willing to have dinner with our guests or stay overnight on occasion. This requires attendance at a Volunteer Training Class. The next class is on Thursday, March 3rd from 6:00p to 8:00p at the Bozeman Public Library.

Please consider being part of this meaningful ministry. If you have any questions about the program or would like to sign up to attend the March 3rd training, please call Terry Langford at 587-2960, or Marcia Jarrett at 388-6314.

Holland-days...

We return you, gentle reader, to the story we have been following. For those of you with memories like mine, I will recap. This story, much like the biblical story of Esther, does not mention God. Its central character is Shelby, a woman born with Down's Syndrome. Like most reasonable people she is a lover of goats. We last left her in a friend's barn as she and her father were witnessing and assisting in the birth of yet another of these lovable creatures.

Shelby (Conclusion)

Sugar gave another high-pitched, frantic cry. The kid slid out all the way to its hip. "Go ahead and pull it out, Shel," Vivian encouraged. Shelby determinedly complied. "Okay, now grab its hind legs." Shelby dangled the world's newest denizen at arms' length as fluids oozed onto the straw bedding.

Vivian gently stroked the kid's head in a downward motion with a towel. "Is it a boy or a girl?" asked Shelby.

"You're holding the boy or girl end," teased Vivian.

Shelby slowly spread the kid's legs. "I don't see nothing."

"It's probably a doe." As Vivian completed the fluid draining process, she peeked at the end Shelby was holding. "It is a girl; congratulations, mommy."

Sugar let out a winsome bleat. "Okay, Shelby, now I want you to lay her close to her mother's head," instructed Vivian.

As Shelby placed the kid down, Sugar began to smell her pride and joy, and she began to meticulously lick the remaining goo from every square inch of the kid's body. Everyone respectfully moved back to give the two room. "Bonding time?" asked Shelby's father rhetorically.

"Will there be more?" asked Shelby.

"That's the million dollar question," was Vivian's reply. "We'll just have to wait and see. Sierra is predicting at least two, but Bridger says it's only going to be one."

Just then the kid spoke its first word, a soft bleat that seemed to be both happy and quizzical.

"She said she was alone," giggled Bridger. They all had a good laugh at that one.

Then Sugar gave a last grunt and pushed out a pile of afterbirth that seeped into the straw. "I guess Bridger was right," said her mother. "Sierra, it looks like you'll be doing the dishes this week."

Sugar appeared to be unperturbed by the activity around her. She continued to lick the kid as if her life depended on that sole action. The humans carried on with their buzz of excitement: commenting on the kid's markings, praising the mother's courage, fawning over the cuteness of the kid's face. Finally, Vivian interrupted, "Shel, why don't we see if she'll eat?"

"How do I do that?"

"Hopefully it's just a matter of pointing her in the right direction. So why don't you pick her up and set her back by the udder."

Shelby picked up the kid and Sugar immediately started to balk. She stood up to see where her baby was going. "Atta girl," said Vivian, "Momma's gonna help us out a little."

The kid struggled to stand as Shelby let her go. "Hey, Shel, maybe you could give her a little taste," advised Vivian.

Shelby reached down and squeezed one of the gorged teats. "Remember, Shel, point it towards the kid, and maybe just use a couple of fingers," Vivian reminded her.



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Holland-days...

(Continued from page 4)

“Oh yeah,” remembered Shelby as she adjusted her grip and shot a stream of warm, sweet milk onto the kid’s face. The kid licked a few drops from its own nose and sighed a contented bleat. Everyone cheered her on as she reached up and attacked the teat voraciously.

“That’s all there is to it,” said Vivian triumphantly.

Vivian put her hands on Shelby’s shoulders, looked into her eyes and said with a big smile, “You done good, Shel.” Shelby’s face was at first business-like, as if she had accomplished nothing more than another day’s work, slowly, though, a broad grin spread from cheek to cheek. She jumped a small jump of joy and echoed, “We all done good.”

Bridger snuck up behind her Mother and tugged on her sleeve. Vivian bent down and Bridger whispered in her ear. “That’s right,” Vivian said aloud, “we’re not quite done yet. We need to name this young lady.”

“Sacajawea!” Sierra yelled. She was studying the Lewis and Clark expedition in school and had been on a rampage naming things after the Corps of Discovery.

“Actually, Bridger had a better idea, and I have to say I agree with her,” outlined Vivian.

“Bridger proposes we name the kid Shelby.”

Shelby squealed and excitedly hugged everyone. As she embraced her father, she told him in a matter-of-fact voice, “Daddy, today wasn’t a normal day after all.”

~ Dan Holland

Session Notes – February 24, 2011

- Six prospective members attended the Inquiry class on Saturday, February 19. Several of them have expressed a desire to join the church, so a special session meeting was called for March 6th.
- Feed Your Soul begins again on March 9th, with “Walks of Faith” being the theme.
- Nancy Giddings presented reading materials/food for thought on where our mission money goes. This discussion will be continued at the next meeting.
- Suzanne Bratsky said that the VBS dates have been set, and they need lots and lots of volunteers. Kids & Family committee is also looking at conducting a Baptism workshop for parents and kids.
- Worship committee announced that there will be a special cantata sung during the 10:30 service on Sunday, May 1, as a memorial to Jerry Crabs. The new music for this cantata was purchased with Jerry Crabs memorial funds. Pastor Dan also voiced that plans are being explored to hold a joint Tenebrae service at our church with Gallatin Valley Presbyterian. Also mentioned is that it is FPC’s turn to host the Good Friday service. Pastor Jay Smith from First Baptist will be the preacher. The service begins at 12:10p.
- Betsy Crabs gave a report on our Family Promise week last week. She has accepted a new position on the Board of Family Promise, so Marcia Jarrett and Terry Langford are our new co-chairs. Betsy also reported that our Outreach Committee has been recruited to provide lunch for a group of kids coming to Bozeman to work on the Habitat for Humanity house.
- Hospitality Committee provided breakfast for the New Member Inquiry class. Deb Griffin also reported that the next quarterly brunch is on March 6, hosted by Christine Holland and volunteers.
- Nancy Giddings reported that scholarships are available again this year for Presbyterian MSU students. We are encouraged to spread the word in hopes of finding more recipients.
- Chuck Beck reported for the Facilities Committee that a keyless-entry lock has been installed on the church office door. He also presented a bid for painting the south tower, all three floors. The session approved the bid.
- Mike Atwood reported for the Rockhaven Committee that Scott is very pleased to report that he has 4 returning camp counselors this year, as well as Mabby. Also, the committee is working diligently on definition and funding for a high ropes course connected to the climbing tower.
- Pastor Dan reported attending a meeting of area churches combining efforts to provide a shuttle bus from the downtown parking garage to each of the churches involved. Parking is free on Sunday, and a person probably needs just a 15-minute lead time to get to worship on time. The trial period will last from March 6 to May 8 (10 weeks), and the shuttle will run from 7:30a to 1:30p. The session approved our participation in this trial.
- Pastor Dan did a quick review of the issues to be discussed and voted on at the Presbytery meeting in Billings on February 28 & March 1.