



PresbEnews

March 9, 2011

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

Beginning at our 8:30 service this Sunday, Alison Todd and Bryan Adams will lead our musical worship while Roxanne and Alan are away. Bryan is also known as the "Singing Policeman," and is a real blessing, especially in conjunction with Alison's talents.

You may have already noticed (lol) that this Sunday is Library Sunday. You'll find those details just to the right. -> -> ->

This Sunday is also the first Sunday in Lent, where Dan and Jody will follow the same theme as they're using in Feed Your Soul, "Walking in Faith." I'm confident you won't want to miss a single sermon in this series.

Another quick reminder, the FREE shuttle bus will begin its rounds at 8:30a Sunday morning, carrying riders from the city parking garage (where the parking is FREE) on a route of churches in our neighborhood, including First Presbyterian. They'll drop you off at the Babcock entrance, with the promise to pick you up there as soon as you're ready to go home. Try it. You'll like it.



Library Sunday - March 13

LIBRARY SUNDAY: A BRIEF HISTORY

It all began in 2008 when the FPC Library Committee was looking for ways to promote the ministry of the library. That first Library Sunday offered congregational members and friends the chance to pick up some hot book bargains as well as learn what the library had to offer after it had spent some time in limbo due to remodeling activity. The success of that first event led the committee to plan another in 2009 and so a tradition was born! With the proceeds from the Library Sunday book sales, and a generous gift from the Heilman estate, new items have been purchased: books, bookcases, kick stool, desk chair, and miscellaneous supplies for maintaining the library. In the past donations from the library fund have been made to Ryan Mandeville's church in Skagway (2009) and to a school in Cameroon (2010). The recipient of the 2011 donation has yet to be determined.

The Fourth Annual Library Sunday will be March 13. Refreshments will be served in the Fellowship Hall after both the 8:30a & 10:30a services. An abbreviated adult class at 9:30a will feature short Lenten presentations by committee members using library resources.

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It all began in 2008... the success of that first event led the committee to plan another.

This week...

Wed, Mar 9 -

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

Thu, Mar 10 -

7:30a - Women's Morning Book Group
 7:00p - All Committee Night

Sun, Mar 13 -

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS
 8:30a - Jazz Worship
 9:30a - LIBRARY SUNDAY (No Sunday School)
 10:30a - Traditional Worship
 10:45a - K-4 Sunday School
 12:00p - Prayer Chain Meeting

Tue, Mar 15 -

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

Wed, Mar 16 -

2:30p - Worship Committee Meeting
 4:00p - Adult Forum Study
 5:15p - Feed Your Soul
 7:00p - Choir Rehearsal

...and beyond

End of March

Donations for our "Go Bobcats!" basket need to be received by the end of the month. You can make your check payable to FPC with "Go Bobcats" in the memo field.



Library Sunday

(Continued from page 1)

Plenty of open time for browsing the book tables has been included in the morning's agenda. Proceeds from the book sale, along with the Heilman gift, are the sole means by which the library operates and is maintained.

Of course, none of this would happen without the cooperation and dedication of many people. The library committee: Stephanie Breen, Ilene Casey, June Dennin, Paul Krebill, Cherie Olsen and Nancy Williams. Each year a special "library" cake has been lovingly baked and decorated by Glenn Welch -- many thanks to him for this tasty donation. Appreciation is also extended to the Hospitality Committee for their help in preparing the refreshments following each service. If you're up for good food, fellowship, and a bit of library education, be sure to join us this Sunday as we celebrate YOUR library.



~Betty Knutson

Sunday Brunch Enjoyed by All

As you may be able to tell from the photo, about 80 of us thoroughly enjoyed the yummy brunch provided by Christine Holland, John & Judy Patterson, Chuck & Maureen Poremba, Pat Donahoo, and Deb Griffin.

Thanks to each of you and everyone who helped with clean-up or set-up for making our first brunch of the year such a wonderful and tasty success.

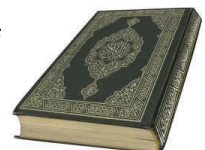


Adult Sunday School

Our study of Islam will continue on Sunday, March 20th. This Sunday, March 13th, we hope you'll come at 9:30 and join us for Library Sunday.

If you'd like to receive study materials for the study on Islam, just email Pastor Dan at Dan@fpcBozeman.org and he will put you on the distribution list.

Many of us are finding great understanding of the Islam faith in this study. Please plan to join us on March 20th.



Help Needed!

Every year each partner church contributes a theme package for



Love INC's "Plant the Seed" dinner. All items are auctioned the night of the dinner and proceeds are used to

fund Love INC's many ministries in our community.

Our theme this year is "Go Bobcats" and we are planning a large basket filled with all kinds of items such as hats, mugs, shirts etc. In order to avoid duplications we are requesting monetary donations, but to date haven't received any.

Please help! We need to have our basket ready by early April!



Empty basket!



Be sure to set your clocks forward one hour this Saturday night!

6 Years Later...

It's not often that we get to see the direct results of a short-term mission trip. But here is a picture showing some of the Maya village youth in Mexico who are attending school beyond 6th grade, thanks in part to the efforts of our 2005 mission trip to the Yucatan. Our youth and young adults (this trip included 3 MSU students as well as 3 young people from Lame Deer) helped put the roof on a residential "village" near



Spring 2011
VIM kids dressed for school

the secondary schools which are not found in their home villages. 28 youth call this "village" home during the week. You can see how happy they are to be going to school!

Journey to the Cross



Beginning Ash Wednesday (March 9), Journey to the Cross is the on-line devotion site for Lent. It provides scripture, a meditative thought, and prayer for each day of the Lenten season.

The site will be offered through Easter Sunday, April 24, at www.JourneyToTheCross.org. "Into the Wilderness" is the theme this year, written by Andy Watts and Amy Dodson-Watts of Nashville, TN. Nathan Hanson, a saxophone artist from St. Paul, MN, provides the music that accompanies the thoughts and images at *Journey To The Cross* this year. Make this unique, contemplative resource part of your Lenten experience this year.

Journey to the Cross is part of the ongoing daily devotional site www.d365.org. Visit the site daily for new devotions throughout the year. It is sponsored by the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, the Presbyterian Church (USA), and The Episcopal Church.

Lent Begins at Feed Your Soul

On Wednesday, March 9, our periodic midweek gathering, "Feed Your Soul," will begin a 6-week Lenten emphasis on "Walking in Faith." We will share a prepared supper at 5:15p, adult study at 6p with child care provided, concluding before 7p. This season's study will help participants share their faith story with one another. All are invited.

Because March 9 is also Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, our time together will begin this annual season of deepening our faith in preparation for Easter. We will observe a brief time of worship, including a "scripture echo" of Psalm 51, within the adult study time. The rest of the time will be devoted to sharing faith stories with one another. If this is a new experience for you, we will make it easy for you—just one question at a time! We'll also be introducing the idea of a Lenten journal, based on these same questions.

For those unable to attend the

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New Members at FPC

Frank Schurz is joining us by letter of transfer from St. Andrew Presbyterian Church in South Bend, Indiana, where he was a deacon and an usher. Earlier, in Maryland, he taught Sunday School. Frank is semi-retired while still



working in his career field of publishing and broadcasting. Frank and his family have been in Bozeman for the last 2 years. He looks forward to becoming involved in the services and activities of our church. Frank's hosts are Chuck & Maureen Poremba.

Gigi Swensen has lived in Bozeman for the last 25 years. She grew up in Helena, where she was raised in the Evangelical Covenant Church. She is a graduate of MSU. She and her husband, Chuck, have two kids, Hans (age 13) and Lenka (age 11), who are actively involved in our Sunday School. Gigi teaches foreign language to children through music. She looks forward to continuing her involvement in Sunday School and other church projects. Gigi's hosts are Jim & Kris Hall.



Lou and Lois Weiskittel are joining us by letter of transfer from First Presbyterian Church in Kissimmee, Florida. They were members here in the 1980s and are very pleased to return. Lou is retired from a mechanical engineering career and, when in Bozeman in the 1980s, taught at MSU.



In retirement, he is a writer and has published 3 books. Lois is retired from a career in teaching and banking. Two of their 3 children live in the Bozeman area. Both of them are singers in our worship choir, and they look forward to becoming involved in other ministries as well. The Weiskittels' hosts are Dick and Rosemary Lee.

Feed Your Soul

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weekly gatherings, you can still keep a Lenten journal. Set aside a time for reflection each day of Lent, and write your responses to the sentence starters below. You may write a few words, a few sentences, or a story. After 20 days, we will recycle the questions and you can go deeper as you wish.

Lenten Journal 2011

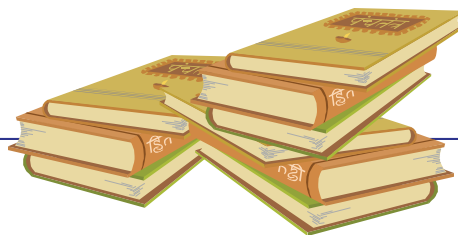
- March 9 If I could thank God for one person or circumstance in my life, it would be . . .
- March 10 The closest I have felt to God in my life was . . .
- March 11 The farthest I have felt from God in my life was . . .
- March 12 If I could name a turning point in my relationship with God, it would be . . .
- March 13 SUNDAY
- March 14 God is doing something in my life that is good news . . .
- March 15 I first knew God loved me when . . .



Youth Deliver Books and Tour Detention Center

Many hundreds of books have been donated in recent weeks to the combined church library book sale/book drive for the Gallatin County Detention Center. On March 7, members of the youth group delivered about half of the donations to the Detention Center and had a 45-minute tour of the entire building. From intake to the various security level units, computer monitors, kitchen, infirmary, visitation area, and staff areas, this new facility and its operation were open to the eyes and questions of our youth. When it opens next month, it will have a newly equipped library of books for use—thanks in part to the generosity of First Presbyterian Church.

The church book sale is this Sunday, March 13—last call for books is this week!



Holland-days...

As we begin the Lenten season, I would like to present you with a new piece of serialized fiction. This one will be different than the ones you have seen in the past. Previously my offerings to you had already been written; they had been culled from the archives. This time around, though, it will be written in real time, so to speak. Other than the first installment today and a vague notion of an outline where I envision future installments will go, none of it exists yet. My hope is to utilize this as a supplement to the many other devotional activities most of you are employing as the calendar carries us inexorably towards the cross. My hope is also to employ suggestions and thoughts from you all for topics or themes or directions to take for this story. It is intended for this to be our story. It is intended for this to be our journey.



The Gardener (Part I)

Rhythmically, Haluk swung the scythe along the main path, vibrant green grass stalks submitting to the will of his Lebanese iron. It was primarily crested wheatgrass in this section of the garden and their seed heads, though still formulating in the early spring, were large enough to hold a droplet of morning dew. Each swoosh of the scythe sprayed Haluk's face with the delicate moisture. He stopped to wipe his cheek against his shoulder and watched the sun as it rose above the Mount of Olives to the east.

Haluk stretched his back momentarily and took a deep breath. His nostrils filled with the smell of Namira's breakfast wafting down the path from their caretaker's shack. By the time he gathered the sheaths and walked back up the hill, the morning meal would be ready. His favorite meal. He laughed — Namira always chided him that his favorite meal was his next meal.

At the top of the rise he stopped and turned to survey his domain in the soft morning light. The Mount of Olives dominating the east, with the dusty green leaves of the trees giving rise to its namesake. Their fruit in turn lending origin to the Assyrian term for oil press, and hence the name of the garden for which he and Namira had been hired to maintain: Gethsemane.

To the west was the wall of the city and the Shushan Gate, which led into the portico of the Temple — and his employers. The local magistrate, at the urging of the Pharisees, had set aside this spring-fed area several years ago as a place of peace outside the city walls. Their contract was first awarded to Haluk's father, and now after his death, Haluk and Namira had taken over. They were to maintain the ten acre garden and harvest all of the olives on the mount, with the Temple receiving ninety percent of the harvest. In exchange they were allowed to live in the modest residence, could keep ten percent of the olives, and all of the grass and grain that grew in the garden. Livestock were not permitted within the garden, so the grass was put up as hay for the herd Namira's father tended down by Bethany.

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Holland-days...

(Continued from page 6)

Haluk approached their home, the scythe slung over one shoulder, bundles of grass over the other, and a single stalk clenched in his teeth. "You have already eaten, my love," greeted Namira, nodding at the stalk.

"Were I one of your father's sheep I would have. The grass down there is plentiful...and rich. Oh, and good morning to you, too, my love." He removed the grass from his mouth and bent over to kiss the top of his young bride's head as she tended the flame in the earthen oven. They had been married for a little over a year, but had not yet been blessed with children — despite the many remedies proffered by concerned relatives.

(to be continued)

~ Dan Holland



FPC Celebs

Swimming Sensations!

Laina and McKinley Hall competed at the Montana Short Course State Swimming Championships on February 26th and 27th. Laina, ten years old, came home with six State Championships: 100 and 200 yard freestyle, the 50 and 100 yard butterfly and the 100 and 200 yard IM (individual medley). The IM includes backstroke, butterfly, breaststroke and freestyle all in one race. Laina was narrowly defeated in her 50-yard backstroke, placing 2nd. Her "AAA" time was so fast it qualified her to compete in California this summer at Western Zones.

McKinley, 13 years, helped the Bozeman Barracuda girls 13-14 yr. relay qualify to compete at Sectionals in Seattle, placing 2nd at State. McKinley, coming off a snowboarding injury where she broke her radius over New Years, still managed to bring home 3rd places in the 50-yard Backstroke and 50-yard Butterfly. She placed in the top ten in her other five events. The Hall girls faced the added challenge of having to swim all their events scheduled over three days in just two days because the State Championships were moved on the first day of the meet from Butte to Missoula due to a serious water quality issue.

Please wish McKinley and Laina luck as they will represent Bozeman at the Northwest Age Group Sectionals in Seattle over Spring Break in March.

Volunteer of the Month

Our own **Judy Belding** has been named R.S.V.P. Southwestern Montana Volunteer of the Month, according to an article in the Bozeman Chronicle.

Judy says, "Volunteering enriches my life so much as I help others and I enjoy the friendships I've made!"

Judy has been a member of RSVP for 3 years and has served over 1,000 hours at Bozeman Deaconess Hospital, Sweet Pea, and RSVP Handcrafters.

(Editor's note: If you know of someone in our church family being recognized for achievements or accomplishments, please let me know at debg52@gmail.com, and we'll put them on our Celeb list.)