

# PresbEnews - Good News Edition

## November 2010

A monthly newsletter of First Presbyterian Church - Jody McDevitt & Dan Krebill, co-pastors  
Willson at Babcock, PO Box 1150, Bozeman, MT 59771  
(406) 586-9194 - [www.fpchozeman.org](http://www.fpchozeman.org) - Deb Griffin, Editor - [PresbEnews@fpchozeman.org](mailto:PresbEnews@fpchozeman.org)  
To *unsubscribe*, email [presbenews@fpchozeman.org](mailto:presbenews@fpchozeman.org) and type "Unsubscribe" in the subject line.

### Co-Pastors' corner



"Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Matthew 6:21) At first hearing, this advice from Jesus might sound like generally accepted wisdom. Let your money follow your passion; invest in what you care most about. But read it again—Jesus is actually flipping this advice on its head. He is telling us that our hearts will follow our investments. Give, and you will discover that you care about what you have given to.

This is different advice than that which we receive in fundraising solicitations from worthy causes. Most often, the "ask" brochures and campaigns appeal to what we value most in life, and expect that as we are reminded of this, we will want to give generously. Jesus takes a different approach. He wants our values and priorities to change, in the direction of God's values and priorities. So "store up for yourselves treasures in heaven," (Mt 6:20) he tells us, *so that your life will be oriented towards God's eternal love.*

Making a pledge to the church's ministry is one important way that we choose the direction for our lives. When we commit resources we have been given—time, talent, and treasure—to the community in which we meet Christ and live out our faith, we are taking a step forward in faith. If we are timid about this, then it is unlikely that our faith will grow. If we deliberately withhold our gifts, our faith withers. But if we let our investment of time, talent, and treasure precede our passion, faith grows. Our hearts expand with love for God and for others, and we experience the joy of salvation "on earth as it is in heaven!"

So our counsel to you this month is to look at the church's stewardship materials with different eyes than you look at any other request that comes to you in the mail. Thoughtfully and prayerfully consider your resources; trust God to adjust your priorities as you step out in faith; and then DO IT!



Co-Pastor  
Jody McDevitt

#### Page 1

- *Co-Pastors' Corner*

#### Page 2

- *November Thanksgiving*
- *Memorial Service*
- *FPC Recognized for 100 Years of Incorporation in MT*
- *Financial Report*

#### Page 3

- *Thanks!*
- *Feed Your Soul*
- *All-Church Brunch*
- *Need Help With Odd Jobs?*
- *Thanks to Rachel Minter*
- *9th Annual Messiah Community Sing*

#### Page 4

- *Holland-days Contemplates*
- *Love INC Talent Tithes*
- *Bible Study Group*
- *Operation Christmas Child*

#### Page 5

- *Preparations for Thanksgiving*
- *Session Notes—October 2010*
- *Food Bank Sunday*
- *Donate Old Eye Glasses*

#### Page 6

- *Moment for Stewardship*
- *Change your Clocks!*
- *Blankets for Sale*

#### Calendar



## November Thanksgiving

We've made it back around to November, the month when we focus on giving thanks for the many blessings of life.

Beginning on Sunday, you'll find in your bulletin an insert with space for you to write down the things you are thankful for. I'll be printing your responses in the PresbEnews throughout the month of November.

Please join me in sharing our blessings so that we will all be more blessed.

*"Praise God from whom ALL blessings flow!"*



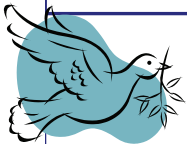
## God's Promises

*"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven. A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;"*



*Ecclesiastes 3:1-3*

*(The Message)*



## Memorial Service/ Contemplative Corner

As you may have heard, we have lost a dear friend, member of our congregation, and PresbEnews champion. Jerry Crabs passed away unexpectedly early Friday morning. His memorial service will be held at the church on Thursday afternoon (November 4th) at 1:30.

## FPC Recognized for 100 Years Incorporation in MT

The office of Montana's Secretary of State, Linda McCulloch, has issued a certificate to 109 businesses and organizations that registered with the state between 1989 and 1909. Since First Presbyterian registered on May 31, 1905, we are a part of that group.

You may find our certificate posted above the sofa in the waiting room across from the church office, framed by Fritz Dickensheets. Thanks Fritz!

We will soon receive the original Articles of Incorporation from the state to place in our church archives.



### 2 Corinthians 9:7

*Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*

Thank you for giving your time, talents, and financial contributions.  
Without your generous support, we could not do all the great things we do to Glorify God.

September Income	\$28,368.52	Year-to-Date Income	\$288,173.75
September Expenses	\$29,572.10	Year-to-Date Expenses	\$312,908.30
September Balance	(\$1,203.58)	Year-to-Date Balance	(\$24,734.45 )

## Thanks!

Dear Friends,

Thank you for the many kind expressions of appreciation for our ministry with you. We continue to be grateful to God that we are able to serve this congregation. Your partnership in ministry and your genuine love help us to keep growing in faith.

We are especially thankful for the lovely gift of an overnight (with dinner and breakfast) at Chico Hot Springs to be scheduled this winter. We enjoy the luxury of the hot springs pools, and look forward to a refreshing getaway sometime in January or February!

Blessings on you,

Dan and Jody



## Feed Your Soul

Feed Your Soul gathers on Wednesdays at 5:30p through November 17<sup>th</sup>, for a simple supper followed by an adult study on "The Bible and Homosexuality." The study is led by Dan Krebill and Jody McDevitt, beginning at 6:00p.



The study concludes by 7:00p, so choir members can rehearse. All ages are welcome to the supper; activities for children are provided during the study time. All are welcome!



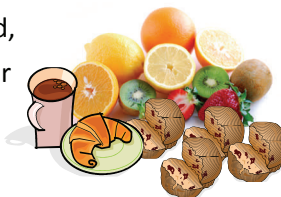
## All-Church Brunch

November

14

Our next all-church brunch is scheduled for the time between worship services on Sunday, November 14th, or at 9:30a or so. The brunches this year have been very well received,

so you won't want to miss this one either! Your church session is excited to be hosting this brunch. More news later, but for now, mark your calendars so you can be part of this event.



## Need Help With Odd Jobs?

Ron Vaughn continues to be available for hire to help out around your home. Light cleaning, yard work, cleaning car or garage, painting, or errands are all possibilities. Please call Ron at 548-4863.



**Many Thanks** to Rachel Minter and her crew of bakers for the very festive Halloween coffee hour on Sunday. It was a labor of love and enjoyed by all!



## 9th Annual Messiah Community Sing

Sunday December 19<sup>th</sup>, at 3:00p in the FPC sanctuary, Rehearsal for the lead choir: Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:00a. If you need a score or have questions, call Kathy Braun at 539-3491.



(Continued on page 4)

## Holland-days Contemplates

Jerry Crabs was one of those people that could get under your skin. Your spiritual skin. He was continually asking questions. Tough questions. On Friday Jerry got the answer to those questions when his heart gave out and he walked over to the other side of the curtain. Though the mystery is now revealed to him, it is little consolation to those he leaves on this side. We are left to wonder and ponder and piece together some of the clues left by Jerry and those that preceded him.

### What Does the Lord Require of You?

We know the answer.  
Do justice.  
Love kindness.  
Walk humbly with your God.

They are admirable goals,  
and as a matter of practicality  
it's fairly straightforward.  
Give a fish to someone that needs it.  
Then teach them how to catch their own.  
Repeat.  
Oh, and you can't make a big deal about it  
except to the extent you encourage others  
to do the same thing.

Still, it's easier said than done,  
and the problem is you can't hardly turn around  
without bumping into someone in need. So unless  
you have the soul of Mother Teresa it can wear  
you down and one is left to ask the question  
again and again.

And perhaps that is his legacy,  
to instill in us the spiritual discipline  
to wake up each morning and  
inquire anew:  
What does the Lord require of me today?

**Love INC Talent Tithes** are available on the table on the south side of the sanctuary and on-line. The link is [http://loveincgc.org/talent\\_tithe.htm](http://loveincgc.org/talent_tithe.htm). A new Talent Tithe needs to be completed each year as the clearinghouse tries to keep that information current and will discard information that is not updated every 1-2 years. You can leave them at the church office, or mail them directly to:

Love INC  
101 Oak Street, Suite T  
Bozeman, MT 59715



**Bible Study Group** Perhaps you're looking for a Bible Study Group that critically examines the text and asks searching questions as a way of grounding your faith more deeply! Perhaps you're interested in learning more about aspects of church history and the contemporary religious scene! If this kind of study sounds interesting to you, join us on Wednesday afternoons at 4-5p in Room 204 at the church.



## Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child boxes are ready to take home and fill. The Silent Auction items are also available to bid on in the south narthex. Proceeds go to providing the Sunday School and Youth groups with items to fill boxes. Please contact Joy Ames at 586-1854 if you have any questions.



## Preparations for Thanksgiving

It's that time of year again when our Deacons organize the preparation and delivery of Thanksgiving baskets to needy families in Bozeman. We anticipate a large number of baskets this year, so we are once again asking for help from the congregation.

We need help packing and delivering the baskets on Tuesday, November 23 at 3:30p at the Bozeman Senior Center. We also need donated 10 to 14-pound turkeys (or monetary donations). Turkeys should be brought to the church kitchen by noon on the 23rd.

Please consider helping with this special ministry to our community. Last year, 67 families enjoyed a Thanksgiving dinner because of our commitment. There will be a sign-up sheet in the back of the sanctuary or you can call Dick Rote at 219-3154.



## Session Notes—October 2010

At their meeting last Thursday, October 28, your Session met to conduct the business of the church.

\* Co-Pastors Report: Fall Festival at Rockhaven was extremely successful. The Presbytery Youth Retreat was a great success also with lots of positive feedback.

\* Dec. 9th - Performance of the Messiah at our church. More info to come.

\* Sheena Rice of the Montana Organizing Project regarding social, economic, and racial justice, presented an explanation of the MOP Program and will do a presentation at our church Nov. 11th (12:00 noon- brown bag lunch).

\* The tower windows broken by the hail storm will be completed and installed in the Spring and the North Vestibule will be painted soon.

\* Rockhaven reported that the Ropes Course is progressing and that White Water Rafting reported a successful first season with the zip line.

\* A rent structure was established for Rockhaven.

\* Stepping Up In Faith is our theme for our Stewardship campaign with a pledge goal of \$326,000. The brochures and pledge cards will be mailed this week and various Session members will be doing presentations at various events throughout the church.

~~Donna Beck

## Food Bank Sunday

This Sunday, November 7, is our regular monthly **Food Bank Sunday**. The Gallatin Valley Food Bank is especially in need of:

- Turkeys
- Evaporated milk
- Pumpkin pie filling
- Fruit cocktail
- Canned yams
- Tomato sauce

Bring your donation to church with you on Sunday morning, and we'll place it at the front of the sanctuary for the worship services, and then make sure they get into the hands of those at the Food Bank who will distribute them to those in need.



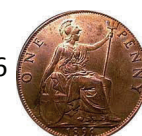
## Donate your old eye

**glasses** to the Lions Club! You'll find a collection box in the North narthex ready for your contribution. If you need more information, call Richard Reiley or check out [www.LionsClub.org](http://www.LionsClub.org).



## Moment for Stewardship

In 1958, our family moved from Berkeley, CA, to Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, to start a new mission church in the Dovercourt area of the city. The job was offered to my dad with the understanding that there was no building, no congregation, and no money to pay him, but they'd sure like him to come on up and do what he could to get a church going. We were a family of six at the time, and I think any sane person would have declined. But my dad felt God's call to minister in that area. So we went, rented one side of a small duplex, and Dad got a job selling shoes at the local department store. Sunday School and worship were held in our unfinished basement.



As you can probably imagine, there was no abundance of income, and there was also no doubt that God still called on us to give our tithe. Mom and Dad set the example, and as small children, we followed in their footsteps.

It was in that duplex that I received my first allowance - 5 cents. It bothered me, at age 6 or so, that tithing that nickel was an impossible task. I suppose one way to do it would have been to give a penny every other Sunday, but there was no talk of that! It was probably one of my first "duh!" moments when my mom suggested I just give the whole penny every week.

God still calls on us to share from the abundance of our blessings with those around us. We can share our time, our talents, and our resources.

- Can the sharing of our resources be done without making a pledge to the church? Absolutely!!
- Can it be done spreading our gifts among several worthy causes? I think so!
- But, can our church function without us giving of our resources? No!

Pledging is simply a way to let our Session plan and prepare for the activities of the church during the coming year.

Please prayerfully consider how God would have you contribute to his church, and submit your pledge by Sunday, November 21, so that the ministries of First Presbyterian Church of Bozeman can continue.

~~ Deb Griffin

## Change your Clocks!

This weekend is when it happens!

This Saturday is the day/night we'll set all our clocks back one hour so that we can wake up at the right time to get us where we need to go on time...which includes not showing up an hour earlier for church than you intended.

So set your clocks back this weekend, and we'll see you in church on Sunday morning!



## Blankets for Sale!

The fundraiser-for-Rockhaven blankets are still for sale. You can find them during the brunch on November 14th, or after the late service that same day.

Think "Christmas gift!" Think "cold, soccer season." Think "a great way to support Rockhaven!"

Donna has two teal and several gold blankets ready for custom orders. You can call her at 587-4087, or catch up with her on the 14th.

Thanks for your support!!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>November 2010</h1>						
	<b>1</b> Family Promise Week with Mount Ellis	<b>2</b>  7pm Handbell Rehearsal 7pm Boy Scouts	<b>3</b>  4pm Forum Study 5:30 Feed Your Soul 7pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>4</b> 6:50am Women's Book Group  7pm Deacons 7pm Compassionate Friends	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	<b>8</b>  Last Day to Bid on Operation Christmas Child Auction Items	<b>9</b>  7pm Handbell Rehearsal 7pm Boy Scouts	<b>10</b>  4pm Forum Study 5:30 Feed Your Soul 7pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>11</b> 6:50am Women's Book Group  7pm All Committee Night	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 8:30 Worship 9:20 Hospitality Brunch 10:30 Worship 10:45 K-5 Sunday School 12pm Prayer Chain Meet	<b>15</b>  Last Day to Accept Operation Christmas Child Boxes	<b>16</b>  7pm Handbell Rehearsal 7pm Boy Scouts	<b>17</b>  4pm Forum Study 5:30 Feed Your Soul 7pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>18</b> 6:50am Women's Book Group  7pm Session	<b>19</b>  Merry Munchers	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship  Dedication of Operation Christmas Child Boxes	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>  7pm Handbell Rehearsal 7pm Boy Scouts	<b>24</b>  4pm Forum Study  7pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>25</b> Office Closed  Thanksgiving	<b>26</b> Office Closed	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship  Good News Deadline	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>  7pm Handbell Rehearsal 7pm Boy Scouts				