



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
BOZEMAN



PresbEnews

Good News Edition - January 2018

A mid-week newsletter of First Presbyterian Church - Jody McDevitt & Dan Krebill, co-pastors

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Co-Pastors' Corner...

With the start of a new year always comes a bit of reflection on self-improvement. A number of years ago I (Jody) learned the power of being public about resolutions. In a sermon, I mentioned that I was planning to quit jaywalking and instead would use the pedestrian crosswalk at Willson and Babcock. Little did I suspect that more people would quote that brief confession back to me than anything else I've ever said! My self-improvement resolve was fortified by many people who were happy to serve as my conscience about where I crossed the street. (Some have even joined me over the years!)

It's because we are social beings that "going public" helps us accomplish what we know is good for us. We live in community, and one of the functions of community is to provide accountability. A weight-loss group gives support and shares healthy eating habits. An AA group both encourages its members and calls them out when they are making excuses. A spiritual family, such as a church, has the responsibility to provide its members with spiritual practices, disciplines, and motivation, and with reminders of the commitments made when members "go public" with their faith and their desire to grow in that faith.

Taped to my computer monitor is a small card which reminds me of the basic commitments made by Christ's followers. It reads,

As a disciple of Jesus I will strive to. . .

PRAY daily

WORSHIP weekly

READ the Bible

SERVE at and beyond First Presbyterian Church

Be in RELATIONSHIP to encourage spiritual growth in others

GIVE of my time, talents, and resources.

Perhaps you are noticing a need for self-improvement in one or more of these six disciplines. If you are serious about change, GO PUBLIC. You will find plenty of support if you join a small group, offer your resources, or show up in Sunday school. Weekly worship is the opportunity to structure your spiritual practice in community. And if you are already scoring "A" in each of these departments, you surely have discovered that there is always more a Christian can do to grow in discipleship. Share your resolve with others, and it's more likely to happen.

May this new year be one of challenge and growth for us all!

Enhancing Our Conversation With God

"Almighty God, Creator of all life, for forgiving love, and guiding grace, I give you thanks. For the blessed hope for a new year dawning I praise you, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen. And Amen."

New Year prayer from Words for Thinking and Thoughts for Meditation by Paul Krebill

Session Notes December 21

The Budget: The Session approved the minutes of a special session meeting that was held on November 18th at which the Session approved a balanced budget for 2018. Then the Session approved an amended budget which included total projected revenues of \$552,355 and expenditures of \$551,502 which represents a 4% increase year-over-year).

Raises: As part of this budget, Session approved a 2% increase in compensation paid to staff and pastors, voting to recommend 2018 terms of call to the congregation. These terms will be voted on by the full congregation at the annual meeting scheduled for February 11, 2018.

Resignation: The Clerk read a letter of resignation from Jenny Beard from the Session. The Session voted to accept Jenny's resignation and thanked her for her service.

Feedback to the Session: Debby Haynes remains the Session's Ombud. Feel free to contact Debby with thoughts, questions, comments or suggestions for the Session.

Discussion: The Session discussed the on-going Year of Call including plans for small groups between January – May. It also talked about committees and how they do (or do not) report to the Session. Finally, the session discussed the lawsuit that has been lodged against the church over a property line dispute at Rockhaven by a neighbor.

Submitted by,
Elder Tom McMakin

OMBUD: *The person who will listen to your suggestions, concerns, complaints and compliments.*

*This quarter our **OMBUD** from the session is Debby Haynes she will be happy to answer your questions and listen to what you have to say. You can speak with her personally or contact her by phone (581-0925) or email deborahc.haynes@gmail.com She will follow-up with Session.*

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.

Below is a table showing our financial status as of the end of November 2017

November Income	\$47,546	Year to Date Income	\$482,582
November Expenses	\$43,205	Year to Date Expenses	\$495,691
November Balance	\$4,341	Year to Date Balance	\$-13,109

Offering Envelopes and Per Capita for 2018

Offering Envelopes are available at the back of the sanctuary or at the church office during the week. Envelopes are available for weekly and monthly giving along with quarterly Deacons Benevolence Pledge envelopes. Please note that the Per Capita for 2018 is \$52 each member. The Per Capita goes to the Yellowstone Presbytery, Rocky Mountain Synod and the General Assembly help pay for expenses. If you have any questions call Linda at the office, 586-9194.

In memoriam of Eleanor Townsend August 12, 1918 - December 17, 2017. A celebration of her life will be held in Bozeman at a later date. Eleanor had lived in Billings for several years but was a member here since 1950. Our prayers go out to her family.



In memoriam of Dale Bergland June 29, 1932 - December 20, 2017. A memorial service was held on Thursday, December 28. Dale was an active member through the years. Our prayers go out to his wife Sherry and family.

In memoriam of Carl Spring June 5, 1928 - December 22, 2017. A memorial service will held in the summer. Carl was an active member since 1957. Our prayers go out to his wife Lee and family.



Ask the Pastor at Adult Sunday School

Is there a question that you've always wanted to ask our pastors—about Christian faith or theology or about the life of faith? Beginning on Sunday, January 7, and continuing until the beginning of Lent, the adult Sunday school class will be devoted to exploring the questions that you have always wanted to ask. Each week, Pastor Dan will take up to 3 questions that have been submitted ahead of time and address them. Each week will also have the last 10 minutes of class time devoted to on-the-spot questions and responses. Dan is seeking questions to address now so that he can prepare for each class. Send your questions to dan@fpczoeman.org or text them to Dan at 406-223-2557. Questions can also be sent by postal mail at Ask the Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 1150, Bozeman, MT 59771. When you submit your question, please indicate if you'd like to remain anonymous as the one who submitted it. The adult Sunday school class meets in the church library each Sunday morning from 9:30 – 10:15.

Youth plan summer mission trip

After a few years without a summer mission trip, the Presby Youth are planning a trip this summer to the Spokane Reservation in Washington. Under the direction of Sierra Service Project, our group of 8 students and 3 adults will join about 60 others in a week of service with the Spokane Tribe, doing carpentry repairs, painting, and minor home repair work. The tribe has been so pleased with the work of Sierra Service Project in the last 2 years that they are donating the cost of the repairs this year. The trip is planned for July 29-August 4.

We have made our reservations with Sierra Service Project, and soon we will begin our preparations as a team. Watch for more information about how you can support this learning, service, and Christian education opportunity for our youth.

Food Bank this Sunday, January 7

The Gallatin Valley Food Bank is always in need of non-perishable and non-expired items. Bring good items to either church service on Sunday and leave in the basket in the narthex or bring to the front of the sanctuary. During the week they can be brought to the church office. For information go to gallatinvalleyfoodbank.com



Presby Cats return to MSU and Rent-a-Cat on January 10

The winter break at MSU ends in one week. When the students return to campus, our Rent-a-Cat program will once again be in full swing. Please call us for odd jobs, rides to the airport, or whatever else you need help with. Our students will be happy to help out in any way in exchange for a donation to our spring break mission trip fund. Contact Tanner Robison at tanner.h.robison@gmail.com or call or text him at 406-498-2751. Eight of us will be traveling to Miami, Florida over spring break to work with a number of local agencies serving needy populations. Also, starting January 14, our Presby Cats will be taking orders for Elliotts of Montana frozen cookie dough again this year. Thanks for your support of Presby Cats!

'CALLED TO LIFE' VIDEOS

Participants in our church's 'Called to Life' Course this fall viewed some of these 'Stories of Vocation' videos. Whether or not you were able to participate in the Course, you might consider viewing some or all of these stories of call as you seek to learn more about your personal call during this, our church's, 'Year of Call.' <https://collegevilleinstitute.org/the-seminars/resources-for-congregations/lives-explored/>

Giving to First Presbyterian Church

In addition to traditional methods, First Presbyterian Church offers the option of making financial contributions to the church electronically via the web or by texting. Contributions via the web can be made from the online giving link on the church's website, www.fpcbozeman.org or by scanning this QR code with your Smartphone. To give by text, simply text the amount of your gift and any designation to **406-278-6267**. Thank you!



Birthdays this Month

1/5 *Don Mathre*
Erica Hoffman
Aidar Haynes
1/8 *Betsy Crabs*
Shelby Lumsden
1/10 *Meri Sharon Lewis*
1/12 *Christine Holland*
1/13 *Ric Tieman*
1/14 *Don Frye III*
1/15 *Alison Todd*
McKinley Hall
1/18 *Jennifer Frye*
1/19 *Linda Miller*
1/20 *Fritz Dickensheets*
1/21 *Suzanne Galinac*
Scott Thompson
Chuck Broughton
Jeffrey Bissell
1/22 *Jill Brauss*
1/23 *Helen Craig*
1/24 *Jim Gannon*
1/25 *Bruce Wilson*
Spencer Hallin
1/27 *Stephanie Breen*
Evan Spoerl
1/30 *Margaret Heath*
1/31 *Shirley Sedivy*
Dan Archer

Diversity Concert Sunday, January 14

Mainly Music presents Diversity Concert on Sunday January 14 3pm. Celebrate diverse people making diverse music contributing to the joy of all. Young and old, varied culture and religious traditions with spiritual and secular vocal and instrumental pieces. No admission but a free will offering will be received.

Four Churchwide Special Offerings

Each year we, as Presbyterians, have the opportunity to contribute to four special offerings. These are One Great Hour of Sharing, Pentecost Offering, The Christmas Joy offering and the Peace Offering.

The One Great Hour of Sharing is received at Easter time and this past year \$1415 was given by our congregation to support mission projects throughout the world. Then The Pentecost offering is received to fund youth and young adult activities in the church. We gave \$230 toward this, with one fourth of this being retained and given toward Rockhaven scholarships. The Peace mission is also shared with the local church and our portion goes to support Family Promise. The fourth opportunity is the Christmas Joy offering that goes to support education and retired clergy.

These offerings are above and beyond the giving to the church and go the extra mile, but think about putting a jar on the table and when you have been blessed, put a coin in the jar toward one or all of these offerings with a prayer of gratitude for all the blessings we receive.

COSTUME JEWELRY AND PIECES NEEDED

Lynn Bissell needs our assistance. He takes old, broken, no longer loved costume jewelry and lovingly crafts it into fun pieces to display and sell at the Senior Living Centers or for fund raising event such as he did for our Presby Cats. He only charges \$1.00 per piece to senior residents which provides them with fun and something new. Please donate any costume jewelry pieces - broken or whole to this cause. There will be a container in the office. Thanks for your support.

FIRST FRIDAY - JANUARY 5, 2018

Join us at 5:30 for a spaghetti dinner - movie – popcorn – and ice cream for dessert as we discuss the implications in our lives from a Christian viewpoint of the movie for the month, **GIFTED**. *Gifted* is a 2017 American drama film. The plot follows an intellectually gifted 7-year-old who becomes the subject of a custody battle between her uncle and grandmother. *Gifted* deals with weighty topics like suicide, parental abandonment, courage, giftedness, and bullying. *Gifted* delivers a warm, heart-string-plucking message about our inbuilt need to love and be loved. It proudly proclaims the self-sacrificial, life-changing joys of family.

If you will be bringing children, please call the church office to arrange for a sitter and allow us to provide appropriate movies for the younger set.



Piety Sunday, January 21

Piety Sunday is on Sunday the 21st between the two services and until the pie runs out after second service in the Fellowship Hall. If you would like to make a pie call Rachel Minter at 586-6537 or email at RNRMinter@bresnan.net. People's baking skills are fresh from Christmas baking, and their New Year's resolution to lose weight will be ended by January 21! So be sure and join us for some delicious pie.



Interfaith Forum January 3, TODAY!

Responding to violence Is it enough to say "We are praying for the victims?" Come hear the interfaith panel discuss what they see, and what this means for our faith and our world. The Interfaith Forum began more than ten years ago, and has grown every year since its founding. Regular panelists are Jody McDevitt, Rabbi Ed Stafman (Congregation Beth Shalom), Father Leo Proxell (Holy Rosary Catholic Church) and Ruhul or Shadmani Amin (Islamic Center of Bozeman). Each month additional panelists are added to the table, representing Bozeman's diverse religious community. A diverse audience listens, poses questions, and offers insights into the question of the day. The forum is held on the first Wednesdays of the month at 12 noon, at Beth Shalom, 2010 W. Koch St. A brochure listing the year's topics is available at the church.



Holland-days...

(by Dan Holland)

The average age of a member of the Presbyterian Church, USA is sixty-two according to their most recent census. I still have a couple years to go before I get there, but my current age still allows me to wax nostalgic. This next statement probably sounds overly smarmy, but Christine and I have both been saying this holiday season may have been our most memorable ever. Much of that is probably attributable to traveling mercies extended to all of our children. All three of them (two with significant others in tow) made it here without incident. Two of them flew and one drove, and then they all made their return trips absent delays as well. Granted, the weather prevented my father from being able to drive down, but other extended family members and friends were able to help fill the void. Our home seemed to be alive with excitement for the better part of two weeks.

Our church home was much the same way. The Advent season at First Pres Bozeman is an incredible bustling hive of activity. I can't claim we made it to every event, but we made it to enough to have our hearts warmed to a constant state of pure joy.

It takes a tremendous amount of effort and coordination to make these events run smoothly and if you are reading this and were involved in making everything work, my floppy red holiday hat gets tipped to you. This year seemed even a tad more hectic than normal because Christmas Eve fell on a Sunday and that always manages to ratchet up the stress level. Our church always comes through with flying colors, and that was especially evident at the 5:00 PM service on Christmas Eve.

Christine and I arrived at this family service fairly early in order to tend to some chores and to save seats for the rest of our crew. As I wandered around the church I was amazed at the whirlwind of activity I was witnessing. We have been blessed of late with a greater number of young children participating and it seemed like all of them made it to the service. That meant they all had to be fitted with costumes and provided with last minute instructions as to their parts in this delightful celebration of the nativity. If you attended that service, you know that it was absolutely wonderful (like it always is) and the children did a superb job.

There is one little vignette from that magical night I would like to share with you that I think sums up how everything works in concert in an event like this. Prior to the service Martha Krebill was in the kitchen furiously cooking dinner for her parents. Since Dan and Jody would be on duty for back-to-back-to-back services they wouldn't have much time to grab sustenance and Martha was making sure they had strength to carry on. Later when the prelude music had already started, I was helping usher at the northeast entrance to the sanctuary. All of a sudden Martha came flying up out of the basement. She stopped at the entrance only long enough to dip the reed of her oboe into a cup of water, hurriedly place it into her instrument, then dashed onto the stage just in time to hit her first note right on cue. It was yet another Christmas miracle at the corner of Babcock and Willson.



Church Facebook page a source of up-to-date info!

Even if you're not a Facebook member yourself, you can still access the church's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/fpcbozeman to get in on regular breaking news. If you'd like to interact with the content and others on the page, click the "Like" button at the top of the page if you're a Facebook member. Facebook—just one more way for us to interact with today's world!



Rockhaven Chapel

First Presbyterian Church

January 2018



First Presbyterian Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Office closed 	2	3 7 pm Choir	4 7am Men's Bible Study 7:30am Women's Morning Book Group 5:00 pm Deacons	5 5:30pm First Friday	6
7 8:30 am Worship 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School	8	9 7 pm First Bells 7 pm Boy Scouts	10 7 pm Choir	11 7am Men's Bible Study 7:30am Women's Morning Book Group	12	13
14 8:30 am Worship 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:45 Presby Cats 3:00 Mainly Music–Diversity Concert	15 Martin Luther King Day Holiday Office closed	16 7 pm First Bells 7 pm Boy Scouts	17 7 pm Choir	18 7am Men's Bible Study 7:30am Women's Morning Book Group	19 6pm Merry Munchers	20
21 8:30 am Worship 9:30 Piety Sunday 10:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:45 Presby Cats	22	23 7 pm First Bells 7 pm Boy Scouts	24 7 pm Choir	25 7am Men's Bible Study 7:30am Women's Morning Book Group 7pm Session	26	27
28 8:30 am Worship 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:45 Presby Cats 3pm Messiah Community Sing	29	30 7 pm First Bells 7 pm Boy Scouts	31 7 pm Choir			