



PresbEnews

October 26, 2016

A mid-week newsletter of First Presbyterian Church - Jody McDevitt & Dan Krebill, co-pastors
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Moment for Stewardship by Ruling Elder Sally Broughton

As many of you know, before we moved to Bozeman in 1989, my family lived in 14 different homes because of Charles' career in the United States Marine Corps. Moving is stressful especially when the husband/father is often away on duty. The challenge to settle and become part of the community is often overwhelming. The first thing we always did was to locate and attend a church. Sometimes we were in an area with only a Base Chapel, but otherwise we would find a Presbyterian Church. This church association became the rock of our family. Education for us and our children, support in difficult times, a place to worship and serve, love and caring always. When I was alone in a new community with a new baby, a 5 year old, a husband in combat in Vietnam and no relatives within 2000 miles, the love and fellowship of the San Clemente Presbyterian Church gave me the support I needed to endure those 14 long months.

Why does my family give to the church? We give out of gratefulness for all God has given to us. We give so others will have a place of fellowship, love, and learning. We give so the little ones - and older folks too - will learn of God's love. We give so we can come together in this beautiful facility to worship. We give so we can minister through mission to those in our community and through out the world. I ask you to strongly consider God's gifts to you when you make your response in gratitude with a pledge to the stewardship campaign.

Enhancing Our Conversation With God

"The Lord is near; have no anxiety, but in everything make your requests known to God in prayer and petition with thanksgiving. Then the peace of God, which is beyond our utmost understanding, will keep guard over your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4: 6 & 7

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!*



Deacon Thanksgiving Baskets

Thanksgiving is once again upon us and the Deacons will be distributing food baskets to needy families in the Gallatin valley on Friday, November 18. Please help in this important church project by signing up to help with set up, clean up, and most important, delivery teams. Donations are also needed to defray the cost of the turkeys. Please make checks to FPC, memo Thanksgiving basket project. Sign up sheets are located at the back of the sanctuary.



Thanks for your continued support of this most worthy project. For questions, please call Mike Roser at 580-5818.

YOU ARE INVITED

The members of the Thursday morning book group invite you to share in a discussion with author Paul Krebill

Date: November 3

Time: 7:30 a.m.

Place: First Presbyterian Church Rm. 204

Paul will present a short overview of fiction writing and take questions regarding his books. Coffee and breakfast pastries will be served.

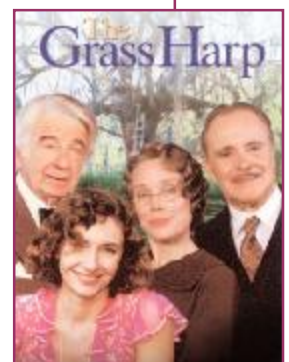
*Please RSVP to Betty Knutson
Email: blbenberg1@gmail.com*

Pledge Dedication Sunday is coming up this week

Please return your completed pledge cards by this Sunday, October 30. The session will be finalizing the 2017 budget in November. Your pledge of financial support is a big help to the session in this planning. If you need another pledge card, please contact Linda in the church office at 586-9194. You can also make your pledge online at www.easytithe.com/fpcbozeman. Thank you for your support.

FIRST FRIDAY - November 4

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, *THE GRASS HARP*. Based on the novel by Truman Capote, this 1995 comedy-drama film looks at a young man growing up with an unusual family in the Deep South in the 1940s. The film was directed by Charles Matthau. It starred Piper Laurie, Sissy Spacek, Walter Matthau, Edward Furlong, and Nell Carter. Piper Laurie won the Best Supporting Actress award from the Southeastern Film Critics Association for her work on the film.



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.

First Families and Presby Kids Pick Pumpkins



Presby Kids meet in the hay bale maze



Most of the group showing off their pumpkins

The weather was ideal last Sunday for the annual pilgrimage to the Rocky Creek Farms Pumpkin Patch! The group admired pumpkins of many shapes, sizes, and colors, and everyone picked their own to take home. The only rule was “you have to be able to carry it yourself!”

Visiting the pigs and sheep, swinging on tire swings, and playing in and on the hay bales added fun to a perfect pumpkin picking afternoon! Thanks to Don Frye for a delicious lunch and organizing the outing.

Toothpaste needed for Operation Christmas Child boxes

For the “assembly line” filling of Operation Christmas Child boxes on November 6, toothpaste is the one item needed at this time. If you can donate fresh tubes of toothpaste, please bring them to the church by November 5. Thank you!



Birthdays this week
10/26 Randy Larimer
10/27 Dan Krebill
10/28 Justin Hickert
Lloyd Mandeville
10/30 Judy Gregg
11/1 Lee Spring

Parking Lot Surveys are due on Monday

Please be sure to return your completed Parking Lot Surveys to the church no later than 4:00 p.m. on Monday, October 31. All church members received a survey in the mail. If you did not get one or your need a replacement, please pick one up at the church office. The results will be tabulated and shared with the session in early November. Thank you for your participation.

Holland-days...

by Dan Holland

Previously in this space I have mentioned the old hymn All Things Bright and Beautiful by Cecil Frances Alexander. I am sure you are familiar with it, but as a refresher I will repeat its refrain here:

All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small
all things wise and wonderful,
the Lord God made them all.

Is the melody stuck in your head now? Good, because it has been stuck in mine for about a week now. Moose encounters have a tendency to do that.

I got a late start on bird hunting this year. For the first couple of weeks I had too many other things going on, so it was not until last week that I finally capitulated to my dog's hourly demands to get out in the field. We visited some of our familiar haunts including a section of river not long after the sun peeked over the top of the Bridgers. The light was brilliant as it shone through the trees and reflected off the shimmering river. Shortly thereafter we heard a train-like crash about fifty yards downriver. We sat and watched as a large bull moose slowly ambled across the river, completely oblivious to our presence. Glistening water dripped from his dark, rich fur and from his massive antlers as he occasionally stopped to search for breakfast. The dog and I quietly observed this scene unfold in awestruck wonder. I think you already know the tune that began to play in my head as I headed home, grateful for such a marvelous encounter.

A couple of days later we headed back to the same general area. We were beating the brush about a mile upstream from our previous spot. We broke through some willows into a small clearing, and not ten yards away was the very same moose. We eyed each other apprehensively (me more so than he.) Luckily the dog didn't act aggressively, and we slowly backed away as I said something to the effect of, "Good day to you, sir. We'll be on our way now."

Moose encounters aren't all that uncommon in this neck of the woods. Last spring one frequented Riverside golf course and the surrounding neighborhood. The previous fall one got stuck in a backyard in the middle of Belgrade. I have been fortunate during my life to have experienced many such sightings, including slapping one on the rump with a fly rod (I don't recommend this, but it was appropriate at the time.)

They are magnificent creatures. Yet gangly. And odd. Some have said they are living proof that God has a sense of humor. In any event, I hope to have many more occasions to get that song stuck in my head.