



PresbEnews

November 16, 2016

A mid-week newsletter of First Presbyterian Church - Jody McDevitt & Dan Krebill, co-pastors
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Presby Cats to Lead Worship this Sunday

Members of our Presby Cats collegiate ministry will be leading both of our Sunday morning worship services on Sunday, November 20. It has become a tradition for this group of inspired collegians to share their faith with the congregation on the Sunday before Thanksgiving. The services will be informed by the Bible study that they have engaged this fall on God's justice. This theme was chosen as a way of preparing the group for its upcoming spring break mission trip to inner city Chicago in March. Two of our charter members of Presby Cats who are graduating and leaving Bozeman at the end of this fall semester, Monica Whitaker and Dani Repka, will be sharing in the sermon portion of these services. Please plan to join us in worship on November 20 as we celebrate the work of Christian faith in this wonderful group of young people.



HARVEST DINNER/PASTOR APPRECIATION THIS SUNDAY

Please plan to attend our annual Harvest Dinner – Pastor Appreciation luncheon immediately following the 10:30 service on Sunday, November 20. Lunch will be served about 11:45 in the Fellowship Hall. Join us for some delicious food for a \$6 donation, special entertainment, and a chance to say "Thank You" to all our pastors who so faithfully serve our church. No reservations necessary.

"Enhancing Our Conversation With God"

"He spoke to them in a parable to show that they should keep on praying and never lose heart...."

Luke 18: 1

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!*



Cookies Needed for Fellowship Time

Calling all bakers: We all love enjoying a cookie after Sunday church service, so if you could turn your oven on, find your favorite cookie recipe, and do a little baking the Deacons would surely appreciate your help. There is always a need for cookies. Thanks for your help.



Winter Clothing Project



Thanks to the generosity of our congregation to the Deacon's Benevolence Fund, we were able to give coats, gloves/mittens, boots, socks, winter caps, and snow pants to 101 children. They were delivered October 17 with back orders delivered October 26. JC Penney saved us hundreds of dollars with their generous discounts. We encourage you to patronize JC Penney. Thank you for your support in this important project of our church Deacons. John and Judy Harrison, Project Chairman



Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes are available for pick up and must be returned by Monday, November 21. The silent auction is downstairs in the Fellowship Hall and your bids are needed as well. The deadline for the silent auction is noon on December 4. Thank you! If you have any questions please call Joy Ames at 586-1854.

LOVE INC Needs

Did you know that FPC has committed to be responsible for supplying **TOILET PAPER** on an ongoing basis for those in need served by Love INC (In the Name of Christ)? If you haven't helped lately, please consider donating TP.

Currently the Personal Care Pantry is getting low on **Kids Toothpaste**

Also, for the Clothes Closet...**Girl Clothes, size Toddler and up; Boy Clothes, size 6 and up (gently used is OK)**

All can be **placed in the basket in the North narthex of the church...we will get them to Love INC.**

Love INC is also in need of some **people to help behind the scenes sorting and organizing donated clothing here at our business office (near 19th and Stucky)**. If you or anyone you know would be willing to help with that, please contact Rob at ministry@loveincgc.org.

Questions- please call Katie and Bill Anderson LOVE INC, FPC church ministry coordinators. 406-624-6118

Dates to Remember During the Christmas Season

December is coming quickly! Mark your calendars for these upcoming church events.

Sunday, November 27, 4 pm - Christmas Around the World Advent Celebration

Sunday, December 4, 11:45 am - First Families & Presby Kids Christmas movie & pizza

Saturday, December 17, 5 pm – Christmas at Rockhaven

Sunday, December 18, 3 pm – Community Messiah Sing

For more information, contact the church office or look in this and upcoming editions of PresbEnews.

Advent is Coming!

Mark your calendars for November 27, the first Sunday of Advent, when we will hold our second annual church family event culminating in the lighting of our outdoor Christmas tree.

Last year's theme was Narnia, the fantasy world created by C.S. Lewis with many parallels to the Advent world we live in. This year we will celebrate Christmas "around the world" by learning from Christians in other countries. The church family event (including all ages) will begin at 4 pm on November 27, with crafts and activities. Children will participate in "Las Posadas,"

the Mexican tradition of looking for a hospitable place as Mary and Joseph did. The welcoming place they discover will be the Fellowship Hall, where there will be a simple supper for all ages at 5:15 pm. At 6 pm, the theme of welcoming the stranger will carry through in our "lighting the way" service in the sanctuary. At the conclusion, the Christmas tree on the front lawn will be lit for the season.



Plan to be part of this joyous family event!

Downtown Interfaith Thanksgiving service on November 23

Thanksgiving will be observed by several local faith communities in an interfaith service to be held at the Bozeman United Methodist Church, 121 S. Willson, on Wednesday, November 23, at 6:00 p.m. Our co-pastors will be joining with other local faith leaders in the leading of this service in which we as people of faith join together to celebrate God's blessings in our lives.



Mark your calendars for the Messiah Community Sing



Messiah Community Sing is Sunday, December 18 at 3pm. You won't want to miss this 15th year of sharing this music with our community.

Community Choir will rehearse Saturday, December 17 at 1pm. (Notice time change).

Contact Kathy Braun for questions at 539-3491

Birthdays this week

11/16 *Bill Gould*

11/17 *Beth Sinnema*

Katja Milburn

11/18 *Alene Vogel*

11/19 *Suzanne Bratsky*

11/20 *Rod King*

Bells of the Bridgers

Bozeman's community handbell ensemble, Bells of the Bridgers, under the direction of M.A. Bellingham, presents its annual holiday concert "Carol of the Bells", Friday December 16th, at 7:00 p.m. at Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 2118 So. Third, Bozeman. Selections include well known Christmas works, handbell-specific techniques showcasing the ethereal Singing Bell technique. Guest artists include Melody Lindsay, harp, the Pilgrim Congregational Church vocal choir and Parker Wise, percussion including temple blocks. There is something for everyone! A free-will offering will be taken.

Sunday December 18, the concert moves to Big Sky Chapel, Big Sky Montana, at 4:00 p.m., joined by the "All Saints Chorus" under the direction of Jennifer Reed.

Organ Concert Benefiting Warming Center

Organist Matthew O'Sullivan will present a recital to benefit The Warming Center on Sunday, December 4th on the beautiful and powerful organ of Hope Lutheran church, 2152 W. Graf St., in Bozeman. Matthew was trained in the UK, and was previously organ scholar at Christ's College, Cambridge University, then director of music for 11 years at the church of St John the Divine in Richmond, London. He now lives in Bozeman and plays the organ at Hope Lutheran and has been our guest organist here at First Presbyterian. His program celebrates music for Advent across the centuries, including the colorful *Magnificat Antiphons* by French virtuoso Marcel Dupré, along with music by J.S. Bach, Sigfrid Karg-Elert, Kenneth Leighton, Lester Groom and Olivier Messiaen. The recital will start at 3.30pm, lasting one hour, and will be followed by cookies and hot chocolate. Admission is free but a \$10 donation to the Warming Center is suggested. Please join us for this exciting seasonal event in aid of a great cause!

We would so much appreciate your sharing this information with your congregations. We are so happy to offer this wonderful holiday experience to benefit The Warming Center. Thank you so much for your help.



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!

Holland-days...

by Dan Holland

Elephant in the Room of My Heart

What does the Lord require of me, a mortal:

to do justice — for the most part I think I am on target here

to love kindness — okay, but there's always room for improvement

to walk humbly with my God — not so much

Pride is a festering abscess
in the cauldron of my soul.
It haunts me; it taunts me,
always wanting to get in the last word,
acting holier than thou,
refusing to acknowledge when I am wrong,
throwing tantrums when I don't get my way.

And judgmental? Whew. There is a stench
emanating from my inner being
that is castigating
and mitigating
and marginalizing
to the extent I am not altogether sure
God on High even recognizes me anymore.
Just because no one hears me utter
a micro-aggression doesn't mean no
words were spoken. God can hear me
and that is all that should matter.

I am ashamed of myself. Hopefully
it is the first step in my recovery.

And so I will endeavor to rid myself
of this self-flattering pride upon whose
shoulders wars and insurrections have
been started. There is much work to be
done. Work best done on my knees.