

# PresbEnews

*Good News Edition - November 2016*



A mid-week newsletter of First Presbyterian Church - Jody McDevitt & Dan Krebill, co-pastors  
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## Co-Pastors' Corner...

When turning the calendar from October to November, the seasonal imagery often displayed and that comes to mind switches from jack-o'-lanterns to cornucopias. Cornucopias are a symbol of bounty and thanksgiving as they are overflowing with the fruits of the harvest.

Autumn is always an appropriate time to take stock of the bountiful blessings of the year and, in turn, to give thanks for them. We have much for which to be thankful in our church family. This fall, our worship services have been enriched by our worship choir that is bigger than ever, sharing their faith in joyful song and undergirding the praise of the entire congregation. The 10 young people in our confirmation class this fall are also in evidence as they worship and seek to deepen their faith and understanding of Christian worship. And it's always good to see the return of our college students as they join us in worship in the "Presby Cats" section of the sanctuary. Add to this, the inspired musical leadership of our other musicians, including our hand bell choir, and we find that we are blessed Sunday after Sunday in our corporate praise of God. In October we were privileged to have inspired guest preachers—Valerie Webster of the Montana Association of Christians (MAC), and Rob Hagan of the Presbyterian Foundation—who supplemented the preaching of God's word that we share every week. Actively participating in the weekly worship life of our church is one of the primary ways that we live out our devotion to God.

The fall is also the time that we have another opportunity to quantify our response of gratitude to God for the blessings that we have individually and as families. The financial pledges that are made by faithful church members are not so much a fee for services rendered as they are an explicit demonstration of the place that God and faith have in our lives. As a church we are blessed by many such expressions of faith as pledge cards are received clearly showing the place of our church in the lives of our members. We encourage all who live their lives with joy and gratitude to join us in making such financial pledges to our church.

The other experience that is often accompanies the turning of the calendar to November is the realization of the coming holidays of Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas. It's a joyful time of year with much celebrating. We encourage you to keep our church at the center of your holiday celebrations this year.

"O come, let us sing to the Lord and shout with joy to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving, singing joyful songs of praise!" (Ps. 95:1-2)

### Session Notes October 27

Meeting was opened with prayer and a devotion from Brent Turner reflecting on the election season. We welcomed Lynn and Helen Bissell for membership. They will be received on Sun. Oct. 30 at the 10:30 service. Their hosts are Judy and Dave Arkwright.

Under the Pastor's report, we approved allowing Dan and Jody to carry their 5th vacation Sun. for 2016 to Jan. 1, 2017.

Dan handed out a worksheet showing the 2017 stewardship campaign progress. The process is being wrapped up this weekend with pledge cards due on Sun. Follow-up will occur next week. Tom McMakin reported on the property task force – the listening sessions went well, surveys are due on Monday. New information is always coming in that make this process a challenge.

The Endowment Board of Trustees is being reconvened with several members of the congregation volunteering to be part of the committee. We had the first reading of a word change to Article IV, 4.2 and 4.4. The wording would be changed to "Ruling Elders" rather than "member of the session". The wording change will be voted on next month after the 2nd reading of the proposed change.

Marcia Jarrett, Mission and Outreach Committee, requested paying the \$200 Gallatin Valley Interfaith Association dues out of the Endowment Fund Spendable Earnings fund—Mission Benevolence fund. Motion approved.

Marcia Jarrett, Ruling Elder

**OMBUD:** *The person who will listen to your suggestions, concerns, complaints and compliments. This quarter our OMBUD from the session is Dan Berg, he will be happy to answer your questions and listen to what you have to say. He will be available in the library after Sunday services or you can contact him by phone (556-7156) or email [constructorberg@gmail.com](mailto:constructorberg@gmail.com). He 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 September, 2016

September Income	\$38,533	Year to Date Income	\$372,085
September Expenses	\$34,238	Year to Date Expenses	\$383,403
September Balance	\$4,294	Year to Date Balance	\$-11,319

### 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](http://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!*



## **Enhancing Our Conversation With God**

*"Persevere in prayer, with mind awake and thankful heart...." Colossians 4:2*

*This prayer scripture is shared in honor of Doris and Paul Krebill.*

Dear Congregation:

Another Financial Stewardship Campaign is wrapping up with the blessing of the pledges at services on Sunday, October 30. Thank you for your very generous pledges. You are an amazing group of people and we thank God for you daily. If you have not sent in your pledge yet please do so that our amazing finance committee can develop our budget for 2017.

There are several categories of giving that the committee uses to get the best income picture for our annual needs. These categories are:

- 1) Congregants who pledge every year. These pledges become the "backbone" of our budget because we know exactly what we can count on when developing a balanced budget. These congregants receive a statement quarterly showing what they have paid toward their pledge and their giving for other purposes.
- 2) There are congregants who, while not signing pledge cards, tend to give a set amount that the committee can anticipate for the year. These also receive a statement quarterly. But because there are no pledge cards behind these contributions, the committee is not as easily able to establish clarity for this income amount.
- 3) There are the folks who give what they can, when they can and if they give by check or other trackable means they receive a quarterly statement for their records.
- 4) Loose offering.

Of course for the sake of building an accurate budget that can be counted on for all the expenses of the church, it would be ideal for all to give regularly and to send in a pledge card. It gives the committee a more accurate count of what we can plan to do or what we need to cut back on. It is not too late to submit a pledge. Please call Linda at the church office at 586-9194 and she can either mail you a pledge card, or take your pledge over the phone, or you can email it to her at [linda@fpcbozeman.org](mailto:linda@fpcbozeman.org).

I hope this helps you understand why we emphasize turning in pledge cards during the Stewardship Campaign. The committee hopes to have the final budget almost complete for the Session to approve at the November Session Meeting (on November 17th).

I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the difficult, intense and time consuming work of the Finance Committee. Their work is vital to the running of First Presbyterian Church. Pray for them that all the numbers will add up correctly, and balance perfectly so that we can continue God's work in our community and the world.

God's blessings on us as individuals and this church.

Ruling Elder Jenny Beard, on behalf of the whole session

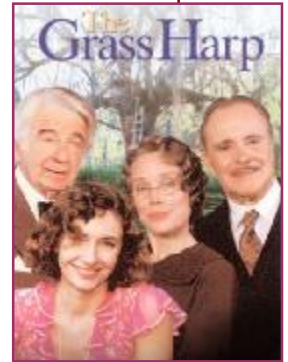


## FIRST FRIDAY - November 4



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.



### *Birthdays this Month*

11/1 *Lee Spring*  
11/5 *Cyn Frye*  
11/7 *Dave Arkwright*  
11/8 *Gary Shanafelt*  
11/10 *Julie Cunningham*  
11/11 *Bob Staffanson*  
11/13 *Jim Babcock*  
11/15 *Diane Stone*  
11/16 *Bill Gould*  
11/17 *Beth Sinnema*  
*Katja Milburn*  
11/18 *Alene Vogel*  
11/19 *Suzanne Bratsky*  
11/20 *Rod King*  
11/24 *Dick Rote*  
*Deana Berg*  
11/25 *Betty Knutson*  
11/27 *Kurt Heim*  
11/28 *Laurence Ames*  
11/29 *Hans Swenson*  
11/31 *Oscar Mendoza*

### **A special "thank you" to Ric Tieman**

This fall the church upgraded all its computers and computer systems. Ric Tieman donated countless hours and great expertise to this process. Those of us who use the computers daily are especially grateful for all Ric's work behind the scenes to help our church operate in the technological world we all live in in 2016.

**From the staff at First Presbyterian Church –  
THANK YOU, RIC!!**

Dan Krebill  
Jody McDevitt  
Linda Best  
Sheryl Hallin  
Larry Growney  
Russell Milburn  
Alison Todd  
Kathy Braun  
Scott Thrasher

And all others who have occasion to use the church computers!







### CROP Walk Great Success

The 2016 Crop Hunger Walk was a success this year thanks to those of you who walked and those who sponsored the walkers. It was a beautiful day, and a total of \$14,481 was raised, with \$1,459 from First Presbyterian Church. Three fourths of the funds raised go to Church World Service which provides relief to victims of disaster both here and abroad. One fourth is returned to local hunger relief agencies which this year include the Gallatin Valley Food Bank, Headwaters Area Food Bank, and the Community Cafe.

### Operation Christmas Child 2016

It is Operation Christmas Child time again. The shoe boxes are available for pick up and must be returned by Monday, November 21. Please help support this wonderful mission project. The kids and their families appreciate it much. 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.



### *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](mailto:blbenberg1@gmail.com)*

### Welcome new Members!

Lynn and Helen Bissell were looking for a church home in Bozeman and lucky for us they found First Presbyterian. The service and the friendliness of the congregants helped them to feel they belong here. In addition their son Jeffrey, who works at MSU, is a recent member. Completing the family is son Dan, an engineer in New York. Helen spent 32 years guiding first through third graders as an elementary teacher while Lynn's career at Wilber National Bank kept him busy for 40 years. Their home before coming to Bozeman was in Oneonta, New York. They have been in Bozeman about a year. Both Lynn and Helen play bridge at the senior center on Wednesday and Friday. A portion of Lynn's Christian outreach is to make people laugh. He has four humorous presentations he is willing to share with groups. Several nursing homes in the area have laughed with him in the past year. Lynn and Helen work together to repair costume jewelry and offer it at affordable prices to clients. Helen likes to paint with acrylics often on note cards, old metal trays, etc. She calls herself a "craft painter". Lynn calls her an artist.



Helen and Lynn Bissell

Contact information: 3032 Oliver Street Bozeman, MT 59718; 607-432-0633 (Lynn) and 607-434-01047 (Helen); Lynn and Helen's hosts are Judy and Dave Arkwright

### 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 7:00 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.



### 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.

### Food Bank Sunday, November 6



The Gallatin Valley Food Bank is always in need of non-perishable and non-expired items. We have had several very expired items left recently. Please be sure to check the dates and if they have expired throw them away. 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 more information go to [www.gallatinvalleyfoodbank.com](http://www.gallatinvalleyfoodbank.com)

### Presby Cats to Lead Worship on November 20



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.



### SAVE THE DATE NOVEMBER 20 HARVEST DINNER/PASTOR APPRECIATION

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.



#### 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](http://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)

Recently Jody McDevitt mentioned in a sermon that the Christian faith is just one generation away from being lost. Of course that has always been the case; unless we pass our tradition along to the next generation it will wither and fade.

The same can be said of many human endeavors; that is our nature. We have an oral tradition. We are a storytelling people. Until the invention of the printing press, much of our history was passed from generation to generation — at least in the more common classes — via the story. Even today, with the advent of mouse-click access to everything ever written, we still love a good story. A bedtime story. A campfire story.

Our congregation is blessed to have a lot of stories as well as storytellers. There is wisdom sitting in our pews. All around us are people who have been places and seen things. They are willing to share their stories.

Recently I visited with a long-time congregant. I told this person I sometimes run out of ideas to fill the space on this page. I realized that I was relying solely on my own experience. Our directory, however, contains the names of people whose own life experiences are as fertile, if not more fertile than my own. As a result I will endeavor to retell some of those stories. It won't be every week, but from time to time I hope to enrich our collective lives by telling our stories, by recording our gospel.

### Nuremberg, Germany (1946)

At the conclusion of World War II the twenty-four highest ranking commanders in the Third Reich were brought to trial in front of a tribunal composed of judges and prosecutors from the four largest Allied nations. The trial was conducted in the Bavarian city of Nuremberg, because the spacious palace in that town had survived the war unscathed. In addition Nuremberg was considered to be one of the birthplaces of the Nazi movement, so trying its most notorious members there would be a rich irony.

Of the twenty-four Nazis on trial, perhaps the most infamous was Hermann Göring (Hitler, Goebbels, and Himmler had all taken their own lives before they could be captured.) Göring was the commander of the Luftwaffe, the German air force that wrought so much destruction throughout Europe. During the proceedings he sat passionless, almost disinterested in the defendants' box.

The trial was conducted in four different languages: English, French, Russian, and German. Translation devices were provided to all of the participants as well as to the many observers sitting in the vast courtroom. One of these observers, with his dial set to English, was a young airman in the Army Air Corps, Ted Williams.

Ted was a college engineering student when the world celebrated VE Day. His military service had been deferred due to his young age (he graduated when he was seventeen) and due to the death of his older brother on Bataan in the Pacific. The deferral ended six months after VE Day, so Ted reported for service as an eighteen year old and was sent to relieve active duty troops at Erlangen, a mere ten miles from Nuremberg.

Ted's tour was cut short when his father died back home in southeast Colorado. He returned to help his mother on their small farm, but would resume his studies that ultimately landed him a professorship in Bozeman.





Rockhaven Chapel

# First Presbyterian Church



First Presbyterian Church

## November 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 7am Men's Bible Study 7:30 am Women's Morning Book Group  7pm Deacons	4  5:30 First Friday	5
6 8:30 am Worship 9:20 Confirmation 9:30 Adult Class 10:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:45 Presby Cats	7	8  6pm First Bells 7 Boy Scouts	9  7pm Choir	10 7am Men's Bible Study 7:30 am Women's Morning Book Group	11	12
13 8:30 am Worship 9:20 Confirmation 9:30 Adult Class 10:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:45 Presby Cats	14	15  6pm First Bells 7 Boy Scouts	16  7pm Choir	17 7am Men's Bible Study 7:30 am Women's Morning Book Group  7pm Session	18  6pm Merry Munchers	19
20 8:30 am Worship 9:20 Confirmation 9:30 Adult Class 10:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 12:00 Harvest Lunch	21	22  6pm First Bells 7 Boy Scouts	23  7pm Choir		25 Holiday Office Closed	26
27 8:30 am Worship 9:20 Confirmation 9:30 Adult Class 10:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:45 Presby Cats 4:00pm Christmas Around the World	28	29  6pm First Bells 7 Boy Scouts	30  7pm Choir			