



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

BOZEMAN



PresbEnews

October 11, 2017

A mid-week newsletter of First Presbyterian Church - Jody McDevitt & Dan Krebill, co-pastors
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Presbytery at First Presbyterian Church November 3 & 4

First Presbyterian Church will be the host church for the fall meeting of the Presbytery of Yellowstone on November 3 & 4, 2017. Planners are calling this a "Mini-Conference," thanks to the workshops and theme of the meeting. Members of First Presbyterian Church are welcome to join the workshops, help with hospitality, and meet Presbyterians from across the presbytery. Contact Donna Beck, 539-0917 if you would like to help out.



Why are we calling this a mini-conference? Our theme for the Presbytery is "Equipping and sending the gifted into ministry." The Leadership Cabinet is providing equipping workshops for churches that will help churches be sent into ministry in their communities. Most of the meeting will be focused on providing resources for churches.

Friday night worship will feature some of our workshop leaders and teams as well as the message by Joel, one of the Whitworth Fellows. There will be a plenary session on Saturday morning led by the Whitworth Fellows, some Presby Cats, and Westminster Spires staff. These college folks will share with us their insights from the work they have been doing and how churches can help young adults navigate through their faith as they look to honor and worship God.

You will be able to attend three of four offered workshops.

Friday morning, 10:30 am:

- Rob Hagen, from the Presbyterian Foundation will provide a workshop on stewardship.

Friday afternoon: (time to be announced)

- John Patterson, Suzanne Bratsky, and others from First Presbyterian Church in Bozeman will present how materials from Stan Ott are being used to enhance the faith life of church members.
- Holly Aloise, Debbie Funke, and team will help us see how music impacts our worship.
- George Goodrich will lead us in understanding what it is to be a disciple.

Please consider joining this gathering of our connectional church!

Enhancing Our Conversation With God

"Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."

James 5:16

September Session Notes

The September Session meeting was a very upbeat one. Most of the conversations were spent looking forward to "The Year of Call" journey that we as a Session and congregation are now engaged in together. If you haven't had a chance to participate yet, it's definitely worth the build up, so I'd like to personally invite you on behalf of the Session.

Two quick notes on people following call from our meeting. The first is that Marcia Jarrett has resigned from the session in order to be the best caregiver that she can be right now, as that is the most important thing for her household, currently. The second is that Chuck Broughton will be representing us (our church) to the Gallatin Valley Interfaith Association.

Lastly, as a session, we wanted to communicate that we are aware of the large shortfall in the churches financial report. It was discussed at length, but if you are concerned you should take heart. The simplest way to communicate what is happening is that we are, as a congregation, right on pace with our pledged giving. The shortfall is primarily scheduled fees and rents that haven't come in yet, but will before the close of year.

Submitted by
Elder, Brent Turner

Lions Club Drop Off



Drop off your prescription and non-prescription eye glasses and dark glasses, as well as hearing aids and cell phones in the collection box in the Fellowship Hall across from the bulletin board. Information, contact Richard Reiley at 388-7840.

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!*



2018 Stewardship

It's time again to take a look at what your gift to the church will be for 2018. Probably like most of you I struggle with this every year. How much can I give? I try to be pragmatic and honest with myself and God to decide on my gift. I look at my budget. I try to anticipate what might come up in 2018 that I need to prepare for. Then I realize that I don't have to worry about 2018. God will be faithful in His care for me. I pray for guidance, sleep on my decision and by morning the choice is clear. In this Year of Call this is an area we all are called to support and give our best to. God has blessed our church bountifully in 2017. Let's continue to be a Sailboat church and continue our work to help establish God's kingdom on earth.



Jenny Beard, Elder

CROP WALK October 15

The Gallatin Valley CROP Hunger Walk (a 10 k walk) will be held, rain or shine, Sunday, October 15, at 1:30 p.m., beginning at the Food Bank (602 Bond St.). Donations given to walkers will help to alleviate hunger at home and abroad. 25% of funds raised will support the Gallatin Valley Food Bank and the Community Cafe. The rest will go to Church World Service to be used where needed. Church World Service is at work in over 35 countries including the U.S See Judy Mathre (587-8666) or mathre@q.com for more information, or to pick up a sponsor envelope. The following people are looking for sponsors: **Don Mathre, Joanne Jennings, Suzanne Bratsky, Madelyn Montgomery, Trish Garnick, Celia Wood, Barbara French, Nancy Bast, Sally Broughton and Holly Aloise.** For more information about the relief work of CWS see their website at: www.churchworldservice.org .



Birthdays this week

10/11 Mike McCormick

10/12 Doris Krebill

10/13 Rodney Aloise

10/14 Marj Williams

10/15 Sherry Bergland

Kay May

Carolyn Williams

Mainly Music Memorial Concert

On Sunday, October 22 at 3pm. Mainly Music will feature our Memorial Concert honoring those members of our congregation who have passed away during this last year. Music offerings will feature selections from several of their memorial services. Musicians include Alison Todd, Matthew O'Sullivan, Russell Milburn, FPC Worship Choir and First Bells Choir, Larry Growney, Jay Pontius-Backman, and others.



Paul and Doris Krebill

Paul Krebill is turning 90!

Please join Paul and his family for an open house on Saturday, October 21, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 pm. in the church fellowship hall when we'll be celebrating this special birthday and his 90 years of life.

Presby Youth spend afternoon at Rockhaven



The sun was shining when 19 youth (Presby Youth and their guests) took the low ropes challenge, and (mostly) successfully navigated the course to safely transport a cupful of "serum" to save the world's population from sure death. But this is October in Montana, so a snow squall made the high ropes more memorable than ever!

Holland-days...

by Dan Holland

Several years ago the General Assembly of the PCUSA voted to change the titles of the leaders of local congregations. As a result of this change pastors are now referred to as Teaching Elders and the members elected to serve on Session are referred to as Ruling Elders.

On the surface the title *Ruling Elder* may seem like a promotion for those folks previously referred to simply as *Elder*, but in this case the word *ruler* was intended to have multiple meanings. Certainly a ruler is someone in a position of authority called upon to make the tough decisions in the life of a congregation. A ruler, though, is also a measuring device, and in this sense it is intended that the faith life and discipleship of these elders should be a measuring stick we congregants attempt to emulate. Lately our Session has been setting a fine example for us to measure up to.

As I am sure you are aware the Session has designated this church year as the *Year of Call*. Many of us are currently enrolled in the *Called to Life* class led by members of Session. I am sure I am not the only one looking forward to learning how to become more intentionally aware of God's call in my life.

During the past couple of weeks the Session has also begun our annual Stewardship campaign. This is not unusual, because churches always tackle stewardship in the fall; it's how they set their budgets for the following calendar year. What is unusual this year, however, is the marriage of Call and Stewardship and the manner in which our Ruling Elders are exposing themselves to champion this campaign.

This notion of exposing one's self was highlighted in Dr. David Henderson's kick-off to our year of call last month. In his sermon Dr. Henderson quoted Parker Palmer's thoughts on *broken wholeness*. It is when we are at our most vulnerable that we can become most in tune with our call which in turn allows us to find our most true, compassionate selves and express our gifts in humility.

During the past two weeks we have heard from the pulpit and read on these pages the vulnerability of four of our Ruling Elders. I suspect future weeks will hold more of the same in store and I look forward to these stories of broken wholeness. It is no easy task to expose your darkest self to others, but that is exactly what our Session is attempting to do. And they are holding themselves up so that we might measure ourselves and follow their lead. Ultimately we are all following Christ's lead, and it is Christ that shines the light into our darkest selves. This light beckons us to follow God's call and truly become what we were intended to be.



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!