



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

BOZEMAN



PresbEnews

December 6, 2017

A mid-week newsletter of First Presbyterian Church - Jody McDevitt & Dan Krebill, co-pastors
Willson at Babcock, PO Box 1150, Bozeman, MT 59771
(406) 586-9194 - www.fpcozeman.org - Editor - presbenews@fpcozeman.org
To *unsubscribe*, email presbenews@fpcozeman.org and type "Unsubscribe" in the subject line.



Presby Cats Wreaths will be here Today

If you ordered a Christmas wreath from our Presby Cats collegiate group, the wreaths will be here at the church today. Those who ordered wreaths will be getting a phone call from one of our Presby Cats to let you know how to get yours. Also, if you did not get to order one, we will have a few extra wreaths ready to sell when they arrive.

If you're interested in one of these extras, please contact Amy at 541-815-1608 or amydesjardins@yahoo.com. Many thanks for your support of our spring break mission trip fund.

Special Services During the Christmas Season

Please join us for all the celebrations

Saturday, December 16	5 pm Christmas at Rockhaven
Sunday, December 17	3 pm Community Messiah Sing
Sunday, December 24	10:30 am (one service)
Sunday, December 24	5 pm Christmas Eve Family service
	8 pm Christmas Eve Traditional service
	11pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion
Sunday, December 31	10:30 am Blessing of the Animals (one service)



Enhancing Our Conversation With God

"Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel." *Isiah 7:14*

Come into our lives, O God, through your son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Help us to see you more clearly as you come to us in Jesus' advent. In Christ. Amen.

From: Words for Thinking and Thoughts for Meditation by Paul Krebill

Christmas at Rockhaven

Mark your calendars for Saturday, December 16, starting at 5 pm. We'll be gathering in the Rockhaven Chapel for our annual "Christmas at Rockhaven" service, followed by a chili dinner in the dining hall.

Think Rockhaven in winter:

- snow on Sheep Rock
- the warmth of a wood stove
- the magic of a crackling fire
- the wonder of singing carols and hearing the story of Christmas
the joy of being together.

Come, and bring a friend to this special time, a respite in a busy season.

Deacon Winter Clothing Project

Thanks to the generosity of our congregation to the Deacon's Benevolence Fund. We were able to give warm coats, gloves/mittens, snow pants, boots, socks, and winter caps to 84 deserving children. J.C. Penney saved us thousand of dollars with their generous discounts, therefore, the children received both their first and second choice items. We encourage you to patronize J.C. Penney. Thank you for your support in this important project of our church Deacons.
John and Judy Harrison, Project Chairs



Adult Sunday School Class During Advent

Adult Sunday School class continues the study of Advent hymns. The season of Advent is a special season before Christmas when we take time to intentionally prepare for the coming of Christ. Pastor Dan Krebill will be leading a study of some of the great hymns of the church that are written for the Advent season to deepen our appreciation for this time of preparation. The class meets in the church library Sunday morning from 9:30-10:15.

Advent art for all

Do you like to color? For the four Sundays of Advent, we will have coloring pages and colored pencils available for your pleasure! Hope, Peace, Joy and Love are featured on four Advent coloring pages. You can take your artwork home to finish, then bring it back to church to be displayed with others.

In this hurried season, slowing down to create something beautiful can remind us of God's presence in our lives. All ages are encouraged to give coloring a try!

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!*



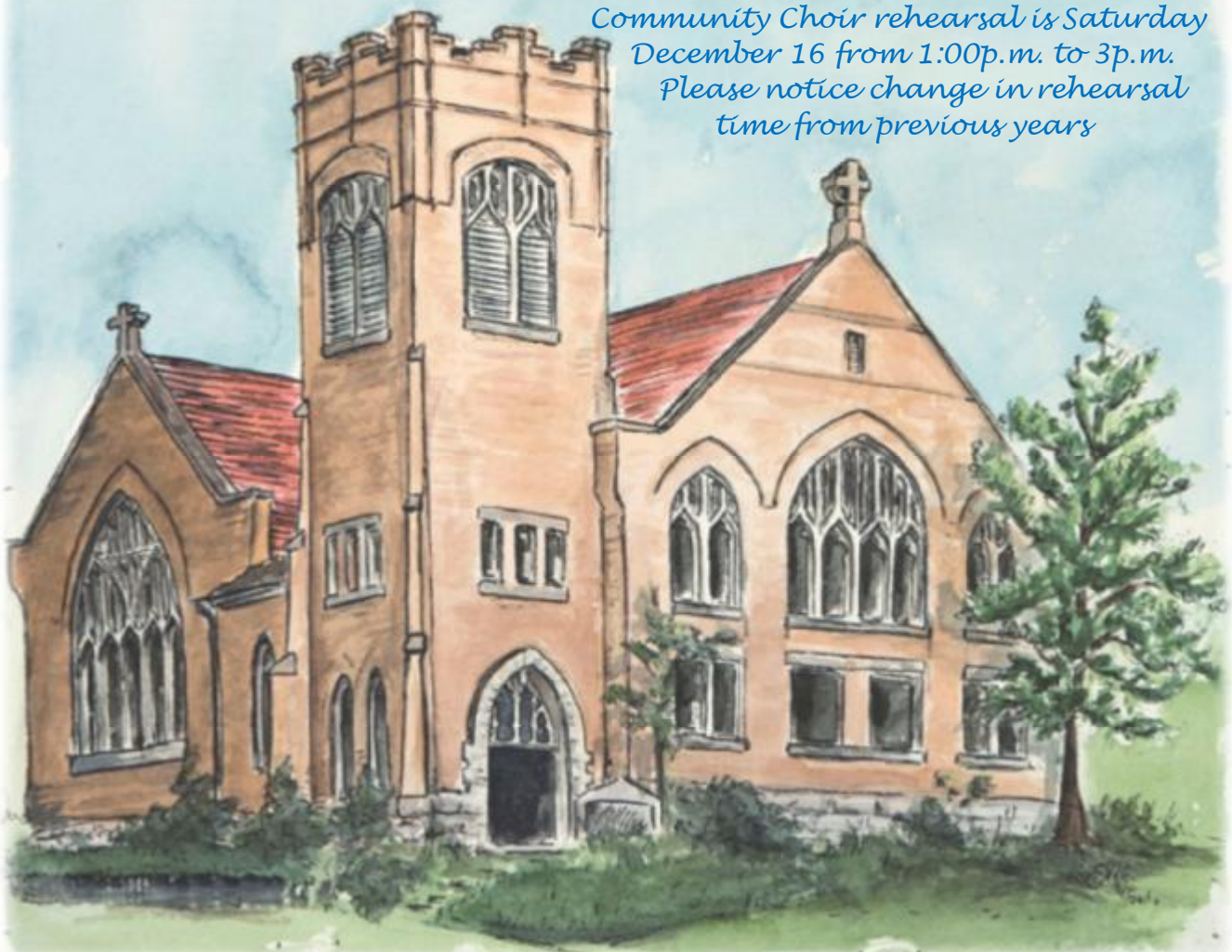
First Presbyterian Church Messiah Community Sing

Sunday, December 17 at 3pm

*Dr. Lukas Graf, Director and Carrie Krause, Concert Master
Featuring Second String Orchestra and other local musicians*

*Soloists: Erin Equall, Mandy Bowker, Reggie Mead and Logan Henke
Organist: Joanna Ellison*

*Community Choir rehearsal is Saturday
December 16 from 1:00p.m. to 3p.m.
Please notice change in rehearsal
time from previous years*





The Presbytery of Yellowstone Seeks Stated Clerk

- A salaried, quarter-time position
- Some travel required (reimbursed)
- 3-year renewable term, beginning February 2018
- Geography includes southern and eastern 2/3 of Montana, with the presbytery office in Bozeman
- Desired attributes: servant leader, self-starter, proactive communicator, organized, accountable, technologically literate, mission-focused, and faith-driven

Must be a PC(USA) Ruling Elder or Minister of the Word and Sacrament

Responsibilities include record keeping, meeting coordination, election administration, clergy and congregational polity support and interpretation, general communication and administration

Application is available at www.yellowstonepcusa.org

Applications will be received until December 15, 2017.

For more information contact Jody McDevitt, jody@fpcbozeman.org

Birthdays this week

12/7 Jan Peace

12/8 Lenka Swenson

12/9 Henry Erwin

*12/10 Bruce Pontius-
Backman*

Kris Hall

12/11 Marcia Jarrett

Jillian May

Blake Babcock

Thank you from Love INC

Thank you so much for your prayers and support. I wanted to let you know over the last three quarters of 2017 **First Presbyterian Church** congregation members served a total of **506 volunteer hours** through the Clearinghouse call center, Clothes Closet, Office Ministry, your Church Ministry Coordinator, and serving individuals. This is your Love INC ministry.

Thank you for continuing to be a partner of Gallatin County Love In the Name of Christ!
We are here to serve you.

Blessings,
Sheila D'Amico
Gallatin County Love In the Name of Christ
Executive Director



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

The cover article in the latest issue of National Geographic is entitled “The Real Jesus.” I suspect the fact the article appears in the December issue is no accident. No doubt the editors of this fine magazine thought they could garner a few extra eyeballs by releasing the article during the Advent season. I am a longtime subscriber, so I don’t really count as an extra eyeball, but the article certainly piqued my interest. I sat down to read it last week. But after reading only a few sentences I put the magazine back down. It wasn’t because the few words I read contained blasphemous contradictions or heretical counter points. Rather, it was because it was too archeological, too scientific. I suppose I shouldn’t have expected anything different; National Geographic is, after all, a scientific journal for laypersons. Eventually I will pick the magazine back up and finish reading the article, but it will be in January sometime, after the decorations are back in the attic, after the carols have stopped playing, after the guests have departed, after the wonder has subsided.

Wonder

Every year I crawl back into
the skin I wore as a child. This
reverse metamorphosis is as much
a part of the season as holiday
parties, gaudy sweaters, almond
roca, and closets full of beautifully
wrapped presents. Or perhaps my
transformation occurs because of
the trappings.

In any event I am taken back to
a place as warm as a mug of hot
chocolate, as comfortable as my
mother’s lap, as inviting as a
horse-drawn sleigh. Sure, nostalgia
plays its part, but more than that,
it is the mystery, the awe,
the wonder.

For I am always transported back
to a stable where I sit in a darkened
corner along with the lowing cattle
waiting, waiting, until at last Mary
smiles at me and whispers,
“God is with us.”