



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

BOZEMAN



PresbEnews

February 14, 2018

A mid-week newsletter of First Presbyterian Church - Jody McDevitt & Dan Krebill, co-pastors
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Ash Wednesday Taizé Service TONIGHT at 6:30 pm

What is Ash Wednesday? Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the 40 days of Lent, the season of preparation for the celebration of Easter. On Ash Wednesday we are reminded of our human frailty and need for God.

What is a Taizé Service? In 1940, an ecumenical monastic community was founded in Taizé, France. Over the years, they developed a distinctive contemplative worship style using simple music and prayer. The Taizé Community attracts more than 100,000 pilgrims each year who come to engage in worship, prayer, Bible study, sharing, and ecumenical work. Our service will follow this style.

Where and when will it be? We will hold the service in the church library on tonight at 6:30 pm. It will begin promptly and conclude in time for choir practice at 7 pm.

Why should I come? The contemplative style of worship is restful and deep, inviting worshipers to dwell in the presence of God. If you long for a time of peace and quiet prayer, you will find it in a Taizé service. If you long for God's will to be known to you, you may experience that in a Taizé service. If you simply long for God, a Taizé service is an opportunity to draw closer to our source.



Enhancing Our Conversation With God

"Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that God may lift you up in due time."

1 Peter 5:6

Loving Christ, as we enter the season of Lent, help us understand the sacrifice You made in order to save us and ensure our place with You for eternity. Amen

Adult Sunday School to study the Lord's Prayer during Lent



Do you remember the first time you heard the Lord's Prayer? Most of us not only can't remember when we first heard this prayer, we can't remember when we memorized it--because our memorizing was not a conscious effort; it was simply the process of hearing the words until they were part of our very persons. Yet most of us don't know much about this prayer, and we're inclined to recite it without thinking. Martin Luther, with his penchant for saying things directly, described the

Lord's Prayer as the greatest martyr, "for everybody tortures and abuses it." It is mostly, of course, the abuse of familiarity. Because we say it so often and because its words have the flow of poetry, we are likely to speak it without investment of either mind or heart. Jesus warned, "In your prayers do not go babbling on like the heathen, who imagine that the more they say the more likely they are to be heard" (Matt. 6:7 NEB). It's ironic, isn't it, that the prayer Jesus gave us is probably the most frequent instrument of violation for the warning he gave us.

Beginning on Sunday, February 18, and continuing through March 25, led by pastor Dan Krebill, the adult Sunday school class will undertake a thorough study of the Lord's Prayer. The class meets in the church library from 9:30 to 10:15 on Sunday.

Membership information meeting to be held on Saturday, February 24

Do you have questions about First Presbyterian Church? Are you curious to know more about who we are as part of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) denomination? Is membership in our church something you'd like to consider? Please plan to come to an informal membership information meeting on Saturday, February 24, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the church. Our pastors and church leaders will be on hand to share more about our church and its ministries and mission. Also included will be to share what's involved for those who are interested in formalizing their membership in our church. The time will conclude with a light lunch.

To sign up for the meeting, please call the church office at 586-9194 or email Linda at linda@fpcbozeman.org



PRESBYTERIAN SKIERS

Greetings to all FPC skiers at Bridger Bowl. If you are on the slopes on a Monday, we would love for you, family, and friends to meet for some fellowship and lunch at 12:00 at Deer Park Lodge. Just stop and say "hello," warm your fingers and toes, and munch your lunch. Hope to see you there.

Birthdays this week

2/14 *Anna Kolwyck*
 2/16 *Randy Kleinhans*
 2/17 *Linda Svensrud*
 2/18 *Barney Hallin*
 2/20 *Mary Thompson*

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!*



Presby Cats to nourish and entertain at February 25 fund raiser

On Sunday, February 25, members of our Presby Cats collegiate ministry will be serving lunch after the 10:30 service before hosting the annual talent and variety show. You're invited to enjoy the lunch and you're also invited to participate in the talent show if you'd like. To be part of the show, please contact James Schulz at 509-822-0866 or jkschulz2731@gmail.com.



Rent-a-Cat program

Please call us for odd jobs, rides to the airport, or whatever else you need help with. Our students will be happy to help out in any way in exchange for a donation to our spring break mission trip fund. Contact Tanner Robison at tanner.h.robison@gmail.com or call or text him at 406-498-2751. Eight of us will be traveling to Miami, Florida over spring break to work with a number of local agencies serving needy populations.

Cookie dough is here! Please pick yours up during the week or on Sunday.

Thanks again for your support!

LOVE INC— “Thank you to all that you do for our community - much appreciated!”

'Commit to the Lord whatever you do and he will establish your plans'. Proverbs 16:3 NIV

Here is the update on the inventory/**need** of personal care items.

Care products **out of:** Band-aids

Care products **low on:** (When possible, please donate unscented personal care products.)

Body wash, hair conditioner, lotion - hand and/or body, laundry detergent, dish soap, children's toothpaste and toothbrushes, dental floss, pull-ups 3-4 T, tissues, toilet paper, and paper towels.

Warming Center in Need

The Warming Center has continued to see dramatic increases in the number of men, women, and families using the main location and overflow at Christ the King Lutheran Church. As of today, the Warming Center has served as emergency shelter for TEN families whereas the Warming Center only assisted three families last season. Additionally, the Warming Center has continued to have record breaking nights with the most being 69 persons sheltered in once evening. As HRDC continues to search for more people to maintain staffing at both locations for the rest of the season, I am reaching out to make another request for volunteers.

We are desperately in need of individuals willing to volunteer for the following shifts:

SET-UP: Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 9 PM to 12 AM

CLEAN-UP: All Days from 5 AM to 8 AM (Most of These Shifts Wrap Up Before 7:30 AM)

GALAVAN DRIVER TO TRANSPORT GUESTS FROM MAIN LOCATION TO OVERFLOW: All Nights

from 8 PM to 9:30 PM and Sunday Mornings from 6 AM to 7:30 AM

OVERNIGHT: 9 PM to 5 AM Saturdays Starting February 10th Through March 31st

For those willing to help, please contact me directly (vista@thehrdc.org or [\(406\) 585-4879](tel:4065854879)).

Thank you,

Alyssa Hjelvik

EQUIPPING YOU & YOUR CHURCH

Join Us

Presbytery Mini-Conference March 2 & 3, 2018 St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, Billings



Friday, March 2nd: [Building a Culture of Generosity](#)

10am -12N Workshop by Rev. Dr. Rob Hagan, Presbyterian Foundation

12 Noon to 1 Lunch and Fellowship

1 - 5 p.m. Opening Worship & Dwelling in the Word followed by:

[Transformed and Mobilized?!](#) Keynote & conversation with Stan Ott, Part 2

[WHY learning and living Loved & Called - Gifted - Equipped – Sent actually transforms, motivates, & mobilizes people and churches.](#) “What are we missing out on if we keep thinking and ‘doing church’ the way we always have?” Keynote & conversation via Skype with Stan Ott, MDiv, PhD, pastor, author, church vitality expert, trainer & Speaker for Yellowstone’s February 2017 Conference, as Part 1 2017

Materials and some video clips @ <http://www.yellowstonepcusa.org/2017PresMeeting.htm>

Choose between 2 workshops:

[1. Called to Life: A Year of Call at First Presbyterian Church, Bozeman](#)

An interactive discussion of how this focus on Call began and is unfolding in response to Stan Ott’s February, 2017 Presbytery Workshop ‘Transformed and Mobilized’ on being Loved & Called - Gifted - Equipped - Sent. Presenter - John S. Patterson, MD, Family Physician (Retired), Ruling Elder FPC, Bozeman & a key leader for this initiative.

[2. Christian Discipleship is the relational process by which Christ followers,](#) “enabled by the Holy Spirit, ... can actually be transformed. Those practices through which individuals can become like Christ in character and in power. Ordinary individuals... can become, through the grace of Christ a love-filled, effective, and powerful community. This is the heart of the New Testament message.” - Dallas Willard. How may we help ourselves and others grow in relationship with God, with one another and in an impactful way with the world into which Christ sends us... Presenter - George Goodrich, MDiv, DMin, Co-General Presbyter, Yellowstone Presbytery.

6 – 8:15 Dinner (\$8) & Worship, Preaching Joel Schroeder - Whitworth Fellow

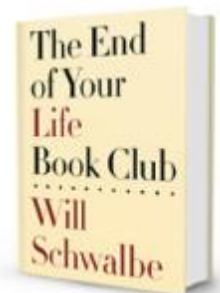
[Saturday, March 3rd 8am – 10:30am Worship + Workshop for all - led by students:](#)

[Growing Young: What’s the secret of churches that are bucking the trend & engaging young people well?](#) Hear latest research findings and ideas from some of our college students!! Bring questions; Join them in large & small group conversations to explore further. Led by: college students from Whitworth University/YP Fellows and Yellowstone Presbytery

Materials 2018 & welcome letter with lodging information is available on the Presbytery website <http://yellowstonepcusa.org/> 2018.03.02PresMeeting.htm

Women’s Morning Book Group

The Women’s Morning Book Group are using the many books the Bozeman Public Library provides. We are starting a new book this week, *The End of Your Life Book Club* by Will Schwalbe. It is an inspiring story of a son and his dying mother, who form a “book club” that brings them together as her life comes to a close. The books they choose range from classic to popular, from fantastic to spiritual, and we hear their passion for reading and their love for each other in their intimate and searching discussions.



Please join us for inspiring discussion and light breakfast on Thursday mornings at 8 a.m. in room 204. For more information call Betty Knutson at 570-6057.



The Presbytery of Yellowstone Seeks Stated Clerk

- A quarter-time position, with salary + pension starting at \$16,000+
- Some travel required (reimbursed)
- 3-year renewable term
- 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 the position is filled.
 For more information contact Jody McDevitt, jody@fpcbozeman.org

One Great Hour Of Sharing : Sharing Resources and Changing Lives

Have you ever taught a child to fold their fingers inside their hands and say the rhyme, “There is the church, here is the steeple, open the doors and see all the people?” The wiggling fingers teach children, and adults, too, that the church is not the building — the steeples, windows, or structure, but people gathering to worship God.



There’s something else in the children’s rhyme. As the child breaks open their hands to reveal the people,” they move their fingers back and forth, often as fast as they can. This simple move reminds us that the church is the energy and actions that share the love of Christ.

- When a disaster strikes, people give, volunteer, and pray so that those impacted receive help and hope, *this is church.*
- When poverty and violence cause hunger and people join together to respond to the need and address its root causes, *this is church.*
- When injustice falls on those who are vulnerable and people join hands with one another and lift their voices against the interests of power, *this is church.*

The church is the Holy Spirit’s transforming power emanating into the world sharing the compassion, justice, love, and peace of Christ. Presbyterians join the movement of the Spirit into every corner of the Earth — and in this season, through our church-wide One Great Hour of Sharing.

- We share* — and church happens with women who were once trafficked for domestic labor and now own their own cooperative business.
- We share* — and church happens with people through land rights training and improvements to farming methods.
- We share* — and church happens with those whose homes have been washed away by flood, as the arms of comfort wrap around them, and hands pick up shovels to assist.

The church is happening right now, all around us — because we share Christ’s love.

Join us for One Great Hour of Sharing

Holland-days...

by Dan Holland

Today marks the beginning of our annual pilgrimage to the foot of the old rugged cross. It has been the tradition in this space to mark the journey with a six week story, and I have to admit these stories have been self-serving in nature. They are somewhat of a cathartic devotion for me as I never know where they are going from week to week — only that they will ultimately lead me to the pain of Golgotha followed by the joy of an empty tomb.

The Still, Small Voice (Part I)

Rosa sat at her desk and brushed aside the one fleck of dust she hadn't previously noticed the last time she brushed aside dust, two minutes ago. Her three o'clock appointment was late. Again.

The Crowleys seemed like a well-meaning couple, but one thing they appeared to have no respect for was time, especially other peoples. Rosa had only been counseling them for less than a month, but they had never been earlier than ten minutes late and this week was already bordering on fifteen.

Rosa hadn't always specialized in couples' therapy, but it seemed like her practice just evolved in that direction. She joked that she specialized in whatever paid the bills and lately it was trying to save marriages.

Sadly, statistics were in favor of Rosa's bottom line. Nationwide forty-one percent of all marriages ended in divorce, and the numbers cut across all demographics. Red states had higher rates than blue states. Christians had higher rates than atheists. Couples living together before marrying presumably in order to increase their compatibility also increased their rate of divorce. And for second marriages the rate was even higher than for firsts.

Rosa wasn't very political, nor was she very religious. She also wasn't very married. Her first and only ended childless after five years. Since then she poured herself into her work. She told everyone she was reasonably happy, and she told herself the same thing. She rarely dated and it was usually at the behest of friends trying to set her up. Her heart was never in it, nor was her heart in the church. There was one church she tended to go to if the need arose, but that need tended to center around Christmas and Easter and coincided around the pangs of guilt she felt from being raised in a Christian family.

Rosa didn't promote her practice as one catering to Christian counseling, but she ended up with many nonetheless. Because she kept copious statistics on her own work, she was able to quote how her efforts mirrored those of society in general. About a quarter of her patients considered themselves religious, and a little more than half the time she was able to save their marriages. Intellectually, she knew she was swimming against the tide, but the feeling of accomplishment when she was successful kept her from drowning in doubt.

As she glanced at her appointment calendar for the umpteenth time and then at the grandfather clock at the far side of her office, Rosa felt a wave of resignation wash over her soul. The Crowleys would undoubtedly become a tally in the wrong column of her practice's matrix, another metric lending credence to the nationwide trend. "Why bother?" she asked herself. Before she could answer, the Crowleys walked through the door. (*Continued next week...*)



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!