



FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
BOZEMAN



# PresbEnews

*Good News Edition - May 2018*

A mid-week newsletter of First Presbyterian Church - Jody McDevitt & Dan Krebill, co-pastors  
Willson at Babcock, PO Box 1150, Bozeman, MT 59771

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*Co-Pastors' Corner...* May is that month when our thoughts turn to transitions

and changes. Even in Montana after a winter for the record books, the tenacity of spring flowers inspires hope in us that there is indeed a summer to come. May is the beginning of transitions marked by graduations—first in the university and then a few weeks later in high school. The completion of a course of study is both an end as well as a beginning—a theme that will be included in countless graduation speeches and charges across the country.

In the church, it is no coincidence that Easter is celebrated in the springtime when new life is emerging all around, and that 50 days later, Pentecost is then observed. Both of these Christian holidays are all about transition and change. Easter is when the course of history was fundamentally changed with Jesus' triumph over the power of sin and death. While Easter is all about the new life that is given to us in the here and now and in the hereafter, Pentecost is about equipping us for that living.

With the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost, the followers of Jesus who had become believers in the risen Jesus, but who were not quite sure what to do with this good news, became ardent proclaimers and evangelists with passion and fire in their bellies for sharing this good news with the world (see Acts chapter 2). It is from Pentecost that these followers, in a sense, graduated from several years of preparation to assume this calling.

This year on Pentecost Sunday, we will be celebrating the culmination of our *Year of Call* in our church. It will be a wonderful opportunity to cap off all of the many ways that we have focused on this important aspect of our Christian character. It will also be the beginning of taking all that we have been considering and incorporating it into our lives going forward. To that end, our services on May 20 will include a commissioning of everyone present to carry out Christ's mission in the world in ways old and new. We hope that you can be there for this special event.

## *Enhancing Our Conversation With God*

*"And this is the confidence that we have toward Him, that if we ask anything according to His will He hears us. And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of Him."*

*1 John 5:14-15*

## Session Notes April 26

The Session and Board of Deacons met 4/26/18 for our annual joint dinner meeting. Discussion included how we might develop a ministry of serving communion to shut-ins, how we might encourage and provide education for various ministry leaders, and several of the many 'Sailboat Church' programs and ministries already in the church.

The Session then met for its monthly meeting, opening with a Word-Share-Prayer time based on the 'eye-opening' video *People Eyes*. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1AbT1IT7Bu8>

- Kori Robbins attended the meeting and the Session endorsed her upcoming participation in the YAV (Young Adult Volunteer) PCUSA program in New York City. After approving her solicitation for support funding from members of the congregation, Session voted to help support her with a \$500 contribution from the Endowment Fund.
- Dan Krebill announced the Presby Cats March 2019 mission trip to Baton Rouge, LA to help with post-flooding rebuilding efforts there.
- Church security: Tom McMakin is organizing a group in the congregation who will be trained to respond to basic medical and security issues that may arise. All are reminded **not** to leave car keys or purses unattended when in the church.
- Session Retreat 5/20/18 at Rockhaven. Staff member reviews are being completed. Session approved the upcoming ordination and installation of newly elected Elders and Deacons
- Charlie Mandeville, for the Mission Committee, reported on the recent successful Maundy Thursday Agape Dinner with plans to hold it again next year. Through generous giving, \$1700 was raised for the One Great Hour of Sharing. The upcoming Pentecost Offering will help support programs like the Young Adult Volunteer program and our 40% of the offering goes to fund Rockhaven Scholarships. It's anticipated about a dozen church members will participate in the upcoming mission trip to the Fort Peck Reservation. There's a continued focus, as well, on Food Bank giving and the Love INC toilet paper donations.
- Our "Year of Call" continues with special plans for Pentecost Sunday
- Rockhaven registrations are already >74% and Jody has interviewed parents requesting scholarship assistance so far for 38 children for \$3025. Thanks to all who have contributed to the Scholarship Fund! A complete camp staff has been hired. Session voted to accept Madelyn Montgomery's nomination to the Rockhaven Operational Board. There was a great turnout for the Easter Sunrise Service and anticipated for the Work Day 4/28. Through generous donations, a golf cart and tipi are being purchased and several projects planned at Rockhaven this spring/summer while long range planning, to include a new multipurpose building, continues.

Submitted by Elder John Patterson

**OMBUD: The person who will listen to your suggestions, concerns, complaints and compliments.**

*This quarter our OMBUD from the session is Debby Haynes she will be happy to answer your questions and listen to what you have to say. You can speak with her personally or contact her by phone (581-0925) or email [deborahc.haynes@gmail.com](mailto:deborahc.haynes@gmail.com) She 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 March 2018

March Income	\$24,349	Year to Date Income	\$139,000
March Expenses	\$38,002	Year to Date Expenses	\$133,721
March Balance	-\$13,653	Year to Date Balance	\$6,179

## MERRY MUNCHERS AND FRIENDS 2018 Picnic and Gathering

Our May activity will be an all group picnic on May 18. Because of the size of our group, we have selected a local park as the gathering spot. We will meet at Bozeman Ponds in the covered pavilion. There are clean restrooms on site. This city park is located just west of the Gallatin Valley Mall and Owenhouse Hardware. The entrance is located off Fowler Street.

Our picnic will begin at 6:00 p.m. Guests are asked bring any potluck dish to share. Plates and utensils plus the main dish will be provided. Friends, family and all others are welcome to join us. This is a child friendly area with plenty of play equipment so all are welcome. You do not need to have been a member of the Munchers this year. Please join us for this fun event.



### Spring means graduations

We would like to recognize all who are graduating from high school, college, or with advanced degrees. Please send news of your family's spring graduates to [PresbEnews@fpczoeman.org](mailto:PresbEnews@fpczoeman.org) so we can congratulate all.

If you would like to help out in the church office as a receptionist while Linda is moving on Monday, May 21 and or Tuesday, May 22 please call Linda or Jody at the church office, 586-9194. Thanks!

### Cookies for Coffee Hour

Coffee hour after church service is enjoyed by all. If you still have cookie dough from the Presby Cat sale or you want to make your own dough, please think about baking and sharing some of your cookies. Our supply is getting low. Thank you for your help.



### 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!*



## Adult Mission Trip seeks fabric donations

If you can't participate in our 4<sup>th</sup> trip to the Ft. Peck Reservation and the Dakota Presbyterian Churches, you can still help. This year we will learn more about native culture when a dance group will demonstrate their traditional dances for us. In lieu of a financial gift, they have asked us to bring materials for making their regalia. Plain colored cotton fabric, bells, ribbons, and buckskin are all welcome. You can give these to Jody McDevitt or Charlie Mandeville. Thank you!

## Wear Red!

Pentecost Sunday is May 20 this year, and we are inviting everyone to WEAR RED!

May 20 will also be our Celebration of Call Sunday, the conclusion of our Year of Call emphasis. On that day, both services will include celebratory music. At the 10:30 service, we will also ordain and install elders and deacons, and commission the entire congregation for ministry. It will also be the concluding Sunday of the Sunday school year, so Bibles will be given to graduating 3<sup>rd</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 12 grade students.

Why red? On Pentecost we remember the "tongues of fire" which descended on the disciples gathered in Jerusalem, a sign of the Holy Spirit. Red recalls the fire and is a symbol of the Holy Spirit. We will see red banners and paraments decorating the sanctuary, but the Holy Spirit rests on people, not buildings, so wearing red shows that we are Christ's Spirit-filled people!



## It's Birthday Time!

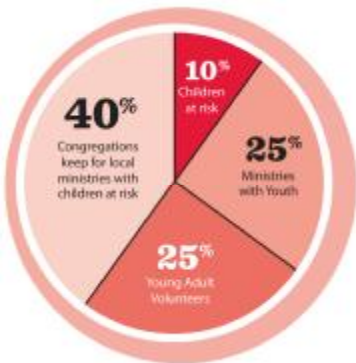
Yes, it's time to celebrate the birth of the Christian Church again! Can you imagine the celebration that took place that first year? And we are still celebrating over 2000 years later. Pentecost Sunday is May 20 and we will be receiving the Pentecost offering at that time. The Pentecost offering celebrates our youth and youth ministries that provide opportunities to build a life of faith.

**40%** of the offering is kept by our church and funds Rockhaven scholarships for children to learn of God's love for them and to make connections with loving adults and leaders. **25%** funds the Young Adult Volunteers. Kory Robbins will be participating in this program starting in September serving in New York City.

Mauren Haynes served in Arizona and David Bratsky did a year in Alaska and a year in England. These are life changing years for our young people as they serve as missionaries for our church. **25%** goes to Youth Ministries such as the Youth Triennium and other leadership development workshops and opportunities. The final **10%** goes to child advocacy that helps nurture children and youth in mind, body and spirit.

Since this is a birthday offering, consider giving a dime, quarter or dollar for each year that you have been able to celebrate your birthday and your walk in the Lord or take a box for blessings and during the next few weeks, add a coin for blessings you have received.

**The boxes will be in the back of the sanctuary on Sunday.**



### *Birthdays this Month*

- 5/2 *Lori Larimer*
- 5/4 *Edie Renner*
- 5/7 *Barbara Mackie*  
*Marilyn Lockhart*  
*Alyce Larsson*
- 5/10 *Bernie Mitchell*
- 5/11 *Brooks Lehrkind*
- 5/12 *Marjorie David*  
*Jen Poore*  
*Ashley Driscoll*
- 5/13 *Nancy Giddings*
- 5/14 *Fran Bradley*
- 5/18 *McCabe Overton*
- 5/20 *Craig Miller*  
*Ian Hoffman*
- 5/21 *Betty Boxmeyer*
- 5/22 *Frank Schurz*  
*Madelyn Montgomery*
- 5/23 *Marjorie Hickman*
- 5/24 *Gigi Prunty*  
*Mimi Roser*  
*Julia Johnson*
- 5/25 *Kay Gannon*  
*Kyndra Campbell*
- 5/26 *Mary McMakin*
- 5/28 *Bob Olsen*
- 5/29 *Nancy Rote*

### Food Bank this Sunday, May 6



Gallatin Valley Food Bank Sunday is this Sunday. Please bring any nonperishable and non-expired items to the front of the sanctuary or in the baskets in the narthexes.

### Don't Forget Your Nametag

Ever forgotten a longtime church member's name? As a church visitor somewhere have you ever had trouble remembering the name of the church members who just introduced themselves to you? Are you ever hesitant to talk to someone because you don't know their name? Ever wished you could address the children and youth by their names?



We're frequently referred to as a very friendly congregation. Part of that has been through the use of our name tags which allow us to more easily connect with each other and visitors. Consider regularly wearing your name tag on Sundays and when attending in-church activities. If you've lost yours or don't have a name tag, contact Linda in the church office at 586-9194 or [linda@fpcbozeman.org](mailto:linda@fpcbozeman.org).

### Interfaith Forum Today, May 2

*The pursuit of happiness.* It's enshrined in our nation's founding documents, but is this the goal of our faith traditions?

Regular panelists are Jody McDevitt, Rabbi Ed Stafman (Congregation Beth Shalom), Father Leo Proxell (Holy Rosary Catholic Church) and Ruhul or Shadmani Amin (Islamic Center of Bozeman).

Each month additional panelists are added to the table, representing Bozeman's diverse religious community. A diverse audience listens, poses questions, and offers insights into the question of the day.

The forum is held on the first Wednesday of the month at 12 noon, at Beth Shalom, 2010 W. Koch St. A brochure listing the year's topics is available at the church.



## First Bells travel to Hamilton for Big Sky Handbell Festival

The Hamilton High School was the site of the annual Big Sky Handbell Festival last weekend, April 27-28. Ten of our stalwart *First Bells* ringers drove to Hamilton on Friday in time to set up with another couple of hundred bell ringers from around Montana and Idaho. After an initial rehearsal Friday evening with nationally known clinician Jason Wells directing, the groups rehearsed all day on Saturday, before presenting an hour-long concert Saturday evening. Each year, the festival is the culmination of months of preparation for the numerous pieces performed. We'll have one more opportunity to hear our wonderful bell choir when they offer one of the festival pieces in our worship services on May 20.



Front row: Kathy Braun, director, Paula Thomsen, Caralyn Hodgson, Debbie Ernst, and Rachel Minter. Back row: Nancy Bast, Pam King, Jen Poore, Marilyn Lockwood and Dan Krebill.

## Presby Cats wind up the year with a party

With the end of the semester at MSU this week, our Presby Cats group had its last event of the year at the home of George and Kathy Goodrich with lunch followed by celebrating the graduation of 5 of the group.

- Amy Desjardins will received a degree in animal science and is headed to Colorado State University for veterinary school.
- Tanner Robison will receive a degree in chemical engineering and is off to the University of Michigan for a PhD program in biomedical engineering.
- Sara Mo Vanacht will receive a degree in psychology and is working in her own start-up business.
- Tanner Visnick will receive a degree in earth/snow science and will spend the next year competing in cycling and telemark skiing before pursuing a graduate degree in meteorology.

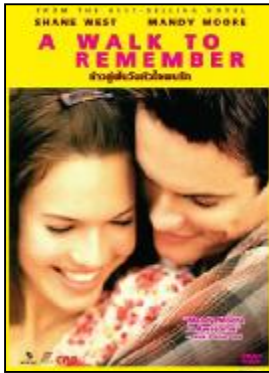
Presby Cats charter member Kori Robison is moving to New York City this summer for a year-long Young Adult Volunteer position with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

Many thanks to all of the church members who provided delicious lunches for our hungry college students. Your support of this collegiate ministry is very much appreciated. Lunch providers: Nancy Giddings, Nancy Rote, Jill Brauss, Debbie Ernst, Maureen Poremba, Debby Haynes, Linda Best, Judy Arkwright, Donna Beck, and Bernie Mitchell.



Back row (l to r): Matt Muehleman, Sara Mo Vanacht, Amy Desjardins. Middle row (l to r): Lindsey Wire, Faith Arnett, Tanner Robison, Kori Robbins. Front row (l to r): James Schulz, Andrew Chauvin.

**FIRST FRIDAY - May 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, **A WALK TO REMEMBER**. (Our faithful member, Paul Krebill, selected this movie especially for us.) It is a story by the popular author, Nicholas Sparks which is set in North Carolina in 1959. We will be able to discuss the topics of rebellion, bullying, redemption, self-acceptance, and reconciliation.

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.

**Successful 4/22 Rockhaven Work Day!!**

It was a beautiful day and we got a lot done. Many thanks to all who were able to help out at Rockhaven last Saturday, including Jim Martin, Jim and Bernie Mitchell, John and Judy Harrison, Madelyn Montgomery, Cyn Frye, Mike Marjanen, George Haynes, Lloyd and Charlie Mandeville, Rachel, Delia, Jolene and Arden Turner, Kristin Griffin, Chuck Beck, Gary and Chris Shanafelt, Scott Thrasher, Don, Miriam, Frances, and Effie Frye, Judy Patterson and Dan Holland.

For those who would like to help yet this spring or during the summer, contact Scott Thrasher directly at 600-1891 to see what projects he has for you.

Also throughout the summer help with mowing/trimming is always appreciated!



Effie, Frances and Miriam Frye painting away.



Jim Martin and Dan Holland working at Rockhaven

A hard copy of Dylan LeBlanc’s testimony from Sunday 29th is available at the entrance of the sanctuary at the Babcock door.



**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!

## It's time to register for VBS 2018!

June 18 – 22, 8:30am-12:00pm

Hosts: Bozeman UMC, First Baptist, First Presbyterian, Grand Ave Christian, Pilgrim Congregational & St. James Episcopal.

**All ages—please register NOW if you plan to attend!**

- Adult volunteers (for adults of all ages) (Child care provided for 0-3 year old children of volunteers)
- Youth Assistants (entering 7th-12th gr)

Children (age 4 – entering 6<sup>th</sup>)

Fee: \$25 - 1st child, \$10 – add'l children, \$45 family max.

*Both Youth and Adults serve as:*

*Small Group Shepherds  
Games Gurus  
Craft Wizards  
Snack Gatherers & Servers  
Carpentry Creators  
Theater Nerds  
Decoration Fairies  
Music Makers*



We need **YOU** to help us plan a week of magic for over 150 children!

Pre-Registration is necessary! Register the whole family today!

Right Click on these links and go to open link.

Adult Volunteer Form: <https://bozemanumc.breezechms.com/form/2e43f08865>

Youth Assistant Form: <https://bozemanumc.breezechms.com/form/2e43f088>

Child Participant Form: <https://bozemanumc.breezechms.com/form/2e43f0>

## VBS Snacks Coordinator Needed

Could you help feed 300 hungry people a snack each day during VBS week, June 18-22?

It's easier than it sounds. With 6 participating churches, volunteers are already being identified who can serve the snacks and clean up. In many previous years, the leadership roles have been filled by various volunteers from Bozeman United Methodist Church. This year, it's our turn to identify someone (or a team of 2) to be Snacks Coordinator for our ecumenical downtown VBS.

Menus have been planned and we even have the shopping list prepared. Here is the job description:

1. Purchase food (paid for by VBS budget)
  2. Organize the snack volunteers for the snack rooms, making sure each location is covered each day
- Distribute the food with instructions for serving

If you are interested, or want to know more, talk with Suzanne Bratsky (539-0211) or Jody McDevitt (551-3262). You will receive the gratitude of 300 people times 5 days!



## Holland-days...

(by Dan Holland)

Last Saturday was Clean-up Day at Rockhaven. A good group of folks showed up, rolled up their sleeves and were able to cross quite a few items off the to-do list. One of those items was clearing out additional space amongst the trees on the undeveloped east side of the river. Now it may seem odd to suggest that the forest has too many trees, but in this particular section the junipers had grown so intertwined that it had become difficult — no, impossible — to walk between them. This overgrowth had also created an obstacle to young campers making full use of the potential of this area. So a number of us put a number of tools to work and created what a decorator might call better flow

The tool I was tasked with utilizing was a chain saw. It had been quite a long time since I used a chain saw as much as I used it on Saturday, roughly forty years. I spent one summer in college working for the Forest Service over on the Big Hole and my task (along with several other folks) was to thin a section of the forest that had been clear cut about twenty years prior. The predominate species of tree in this area is Lodgepole pine and they had regrown in this clear cut as thick as, well, the hair on a dog's back. So each day we hiked up from the end of the road carrying a chainsaw on our shoulders and wearing ballistic nylon chaps for protection. We would then proceed to wield that saw all day long. Each person would spread out across the mountainside and select the healthiest looking tree within a twenty foot diameter then cut down everything else within that circle. At that time the trees were all about eight feet tall and to properly fell a tree we would slash the branches off two sides and then cut the trunk as close to the ground as safety would allow. All day long the routine was the same, lift the saw up one side of the tree as high as you could lift it then back down the other side before making a horizontal cut at the base.

It was grueling work and I was plumb wore out by the end of the day. Gradually, though, I got used to it. My muscles developed; I got stronger. By the end of the summer I was probably in the best shape of my life.

Before this past Saturday it had been quite a while since I thought much about that job. The actual task I performed at Rockhaven certainly reminded me of that long ago job, and so, too, did the ache I felt in my muscles the next day. Equally reminiscent, though, was the closeness I felt to God's creation. I was transported back to the high country all those years ago and to my favorite part of the day, lunchtime. That's when the obnoxious whine of the chainsaws would be quieted and we would sprawl out on the grass peering down at the valley way below us. Occasionally a hawk would circle above us or an elk would bugle in the distance. Towards the horizon one could see only mountains upon mountains and trees upon trees.

I've never returned to that old clear cut. Perhaps I will someday to see how vibrant those trees are. In the meantime I know I will return to Rockhaven and now I will keep an eye out to see what exciting things the campers are up to in their newly accessible portion of God's creation.



Rockhaven Chapel

# First Presbyterian Church

## May 2018



First Presbyterian Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1  7 pm Boy Scouts	2  7pm Choir	3  7am Men's Bible Study 8 am Women's Morning Book Group 5:00 pm Deacons	4 Presbytery in Harlowton	5 Presbytery in Harlowton
6 8:30 am Worship 9:30 Adult/Youth Sunday Schools 10:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 12 pm Youth Mission Trip Meeting	7	8  7 pm First Bells 7 pm Boy Scouts	9  7pm Choir	10 7am Men's Bible Study 8 am Women's Morning Book Group	11	12
13 Rockhaven Sunday 8:30 am Worship 9:30 Adult/Youth Sunday Schools 10:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School	14	15  7 pm Rockhaven Operational Board 7 pm First Bells 7 pm Boy Scouts	16  7 pm Choir	17 7am Men's Bible Study 8 am Women's Morning Book Group	18  6 pm All Merry Munchers	19
20 <b>Pentecost Sunday</b> Family Promise 8:30 am Worship 10:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 12:30 pm Session Retreat at Rockhaven	21 Family Promise	22 Family Promise  7 pm Boy Scouts	23 Family Promise	24 Family Promise 7am Men's Bible Study 8 am Women's Morning Book Group  7pm Session	25 Family Promise  6pm Merry Munchers	26 Family Promise
27 8:30 am Worship 9:30 Adult/Youth Sunday Schools 10:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School	28 Memorial Day— Office Closed	29 Adult Mission Trip through June 2	30	31		