



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

BOZEMAN



PresbEnews

May 9, 2018

A mid-week newsletter of First Presbyterian Church - Jody McDevitt & Dan Krebill, co-pastors
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Adult Mission Trip Update

Each year the mission team going to the Fort Peck reservation gathers for several meetings prior to getting in our cars and driving across the state. Team members get to know one another, plan logistics, develop a common mission theology, and learn about the culture and history of Dakota Presbyterians and the Lakota, Dakota, and Nakoda people. Those committed to the mission this year are: Chris Boroughs*, Suzanne Bratsky*, Larry Growney*, Mary Hektner*, Charlie Mandeville, Jody McDevitt*, Jay Pontius-Backman*, John Sacklin*, Matt VanSchenk Hof, and Nita Vaughn. (* indicates returning member of team) The full team will be commissioned on May 27 and will depart on May 29, returning on June 2.

Can't Go on the Mission Trip, But Want to Help?

One of the delightful parts of the mission trip is when the young dancers come and perform for the group. In the past we have given them a financial donation, but this year they have asked that we help by providing them with fabric and notions for them to create their costumes with. They need plain colored cotton fabrics, bells and other decorative items, ribbon and they said buckskin too. Gary Shanafelt is donating a hide for us to take to them, and if you have any fabric, bells or other items that would lend themselves to the costumes, please let Jody McDevitt or Charlie Mandeville know or drop off at the office.

Enhancing Our Conversation With God

"Some healings are internal, some are external, and some are eternal. Our role is to pray, and let God do the healing. Pray a bold prayer of healing for someone you know. Pray consistently for a time and see how the Lord works in you, and in them.

Gari Meacham, Mornings With Jesus, 2018



Congratulations to Tae Kwon Do Champions!

Rodney Aloise, right, is State Champion in 2 events: sparring and traditional weapons and Martha Aloise left, is State Champion in 2 events: forms and creative forms.

Holly Aloise, their mother, is State Champion in 4 events: sparring, traditional weapons, creative forms, and creative weapons. Elizabeth Mead, Holly's sister, is State Champion in 2 events: forms and traditional weapons.

The entire family will compete in the District Championship in Loveland, CO, on June 2.

All are students at Cunningham's ATA Martial Arts, where Stuart and Julie Cunningham teach skills, confidence, discipline, and working hard to achieve goals. Congratulations!

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 3rd, 8th, 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!

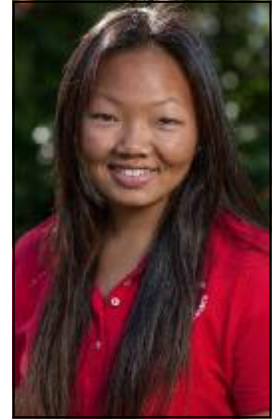


Graveside service set for Cleo Jones

Cleo Jones was a long-time member of First Presbyterian Church and passed away in November. Her family and friends will gather for a graveside service here in Bozeman on Saturday, July 28, at 11 am, followed by a lunch at the Jones' home in Bozeman. Cleo's church family and friends are warmly invited to both gatherings.

“Young Adult Volunteers: How They Help us Minister to the World”

One day at lunch, 14-year-old Teresa pointed to the camera of Presbyterian Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) Kristen Young and called it Kristen’s “treasure.” “I tried to tell her that it wasn’t my camera that I treasured, but rather the people and moments I could capture with it,” Kristen says. Kristen served in Peru at a shelter for young survivors of sexual abuse and domestic violence, where Teresa was a resident. Kristen’s responsibilities included helping to promote the shelter’s work to supporters, so she spent much of her time taking pictures. The images she captured through her camera lens are etched in her mind. She remembers the face of Diana who came to the shelter scared and refusing to smile. As the days passed, Diana’s somber countenance began to brighten as she experienced the warmth and acceptance of the shelter staff. Kristen was especially moved when she saw the delight Diana took in her newborn son. “It was really a transformative moment to see how she came to feel about herself and her baby,” Kristen says. It was a moment that gave witness to the opening words of a song frequently sung at the shelter: “The Spirit of God is in this place; the Spirit of God moves in this place.”



Kristen Young

She saw the Spirit move when teen moms who were raised in abusive homes learned to be caring and conscientious parents. She saw God at work as shelter residents graduated high school, went on to further study, and took steps toward independent living. Kristen completed her year of YAV service in 2017, but she continues to see the Spirit move back home in Hawaii. Thanks to a grant from the Presbytery of the Pacific, Kristen is involved in a 10-month internship working with Micronesian youth at Lānaʻi Union Church in Lanai City, Hawaii. In her ministry, she is inspired by what she learned in Peru. “God is not just in church,” she says. “Much of the time, we find God outside the church.” She stresses the need to work for the kind of world God wants and urges the youth to nurture their relationships with God and others.

“I am so grateful for all of the support, encouragement, and generosity that made it possible for me to serve as a Young Adult Volunteer,” Kristen says. Through your gifts to the Pentecost Offering, you support Young Adult Volunteers who experience God’s Spirit in new ways and who return home ready to serve. You are helping to change lives and prepare leaders. Sixty percent of the Offering goes to the national offices to support the YAV program, ministries with youth, and the needs of children at risk. Forty percent is retained by our congregation for local ministries that empower individuals in this crucial first third of life.

Please give generously to this offering and support the future of our young people.

Let us pray ~

*Transforming God, We give you thanks
that your Spirit is at work all around us.
We celebrate that lives are changed and
hope is renewed by your hand.
Gives us eyes to see the work of your Spirit
and hearts to follow your Spirit’s call.
Amen*

To learn more about Kristen, go to:

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/yav/yav-new/kristen-young/>

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
3. 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!

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 6th)

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>

If you would like to help out in the church office for a few hours 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!



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@fpcbozeman.org so we can congratulate all.

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.

Birthdays this week

5/10 Bernie Mitchell

5/11 Brooks Lehrkind

5/12 Marjorie David

Jen Poore

Ashley Driscoll

5/13 Nancy Giddings

5/14 Fran Bradley

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, fpc-bozeman.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!



Holland-days...

by Dan Holland

As we inch closer to the end of our Year of Call, it makes sense to conduct an honest assessment of its effectiveness. The most efficient manner in which to perform this diagnosis would be to hook up electrodes to each congregant's brain, heart, and soul. These results would then be compared to each person's baseline reading. If there are differences, we could surmise that person had indeed received a call of some sort. We would aggregate all of the individual results and if the congregation registered a positive percentage in excess of sixty, then the campaign could be deemed to be a success.

Okay, this is obviously preposterous. For one thing, you can't hook an electrode up to someone's soul. You need a spiritometer, and those haven't been invented yet.

No, there really aren't any objective metrics that I am aware of by which we can measure anyone's call. Rather, we must rely on purely subjective measurements. Like this: Two Sundays ago a first-year medical school student provided his testimony to the congregation. I didn't hear Dylan LeBlanc's description of his deeply personal call, but I did obtain a copy of the transcript. I found it to be a fascinating story, and without permission I would like to quote from it. "Over the course of my time there (volunteering at Eagle Mount), I came to discover such *joy and peace* [his emphasis] in people that I had, in essence, been afraid of."

The reason I didn't hear Dylan's testimony was because Christine and I were teaching Sunday school that week. The lesson we taught was on the fruits of the Spirit in the fifth chapter of Galatians. Now it may seem unwieldy to teach six year olds such a complex theological concept, but the curriculum our church provides made marvelous use of a bunch of different fruit and a blender. I point this out because the lesson hinges around the Apostle Paul's testimony, "By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, *joy, peace* [my emphasis], patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control."

This is no doubt an unfair oversimplification of Dylan's story, but it is one I am compelled to make anyway. The Holy Spirit had been nudging Dylan — had been calling him — in a particular direction and when Dylan responded in the affirmative, the results were evidenced by the fruit of the Spirit.

That is one case. Does it prove whether the Year of Call was a success? We need only look for fruit.

(Editor's note: Copies of Dylan's transcript are available in the Babcock entrance of the sanctuary.)



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!