



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
BOZEMAN



PresbEnews

Good News Edition - June 2018

A mid-week newsletter of First Presbyterian Church - Jody McDevitt & Dan Krebill, co-pastors
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Co-Pastors' Corner... After the long winter we've come through, it has been delightful over the past weeks to soak up the multitude of shades of green that are seen across the landscape. The extra rich greenness this year is due in part to the record moisture that fell to the earth around here during the previous months. Anyone who has lived around here for any length of time knows though to savor the green for it can be fleeting as the skies become clearer and drier as summer takes hold. The change of seasons is often one of the reasons cited for loving life in Montana. And because change is always around the corner, it's time to get out and about and soak up the summer!

Seasonal changes affect the pulse and pace of life around our church as well. Much of the activity moves from within the church building itself or within the walls of other structures, into the great outdoors and beyond. At the end of May, the adult mission trip delegation was building relationships and connections in the far northeast corner of the state. Closer to home, and up the Gallatin River, workers have been abuzz with activity in anticipation of the summer camping season at Rockhaven Camp. And within Bozeman's downtown church neighborhood, final preparations have been percolating as we gear up for another banner Vacation Bible School week, June 18-22. And a number of our youth are gearing up for their mission trip adventure in eastern Washington at the end of July. It's a fun time of year to be out and about soaking up the sun as we carry on the work of the church, of sharing God's love in Jesus, in our summertime patterns.

Two members of our church family are undertaking new adventures in their faith lives this summer. John Patterson will be representing our presbytery at the upcoming meeting of our denomination's General Assembly in St. Louis, June 16-23. Later this summer, in early August, Kori Robbins will be heading to New York City to begin a year of service as a Young Adult Volunteer in our denomination. Both John and Kori will be serving as ambassadors for Jesus as well as ambassadors for our church and Montana. We look forward to following their progress and hearing of their adventures. You can read more about both of these endeavors elsewhere in this newsletter.

Summer is a busy time around here, in and out of the church. We look forward to checking in with you on Sundays here in town in the morning, or up at Rockhaven in the evening. *Have fun and stay safe!*

Enhancing Our Conversation With God

Loving Father:

Give me a discerning heart toward the Holy Spirit. Teach me to hear.

Teach me to be still and silent to know when you are talking. Amen.

Pocket Prayers #36

Session Notes May 24

The Session had its monthly meeting on May 24. We noted the end of a successful year of Sunday School, Presby Cats, and the Year of Call, as well as a wonderful session retreat at Rockhaven on May 20. We're looking ahead to see what the Spirit is calling us to focus on next year.

Other highlights from the meeting:

- St. Andrew Presbyterian Church in Billings is celebrating its 50th anniversary. We voted to send flowers and a letter congratulating them.
- We approved a motion to refurbish the bells for the bell choir this year.
- It was mentioned that the pew cushions are starting to slip more and more. We're looking at possible solutions.

Submitted by Elder Holly Aloise

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 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 April 2018

April Income	\$56,146	Year to Date Income	\$195,846
April Expenses	\$41,537	Year to Date Expenses	\$175,058
April Balance	\$14,609	Year to Date Balance	\$20,788

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!*



Rockhaven Summer Kicks off June 17 with Father's Day at Rockhaven!



All are invited to join the festivities at Rockhaven on Sunday, June 17, for our annual Father's Day "Pig" Roast. The Rockhaven Operational Board will host dinner, providing pulled pork sandwiches and beverages. Please bring a potluck dish to share with others. The meal will begin at 5:30 pm. Come early to enjoy the peace and beauty of Rockhaven in June—when the river really runs through it! Look for the new tree fort, low ropes course, mud kitchen and tipi and for those less mobile, take a golf car ride across the bridge to enjoy the east side of the river.

Sunday evening vespers services begin the same night, at 7 pm. Pastor Jody McDevitt will start this summer's theme, "Wild Thangs." Musicians will include the Riverside Singers and accompanist Holly Aloise. Come raise the roof of the Rockhaven Chapel with your singing and praising God. This will be the first of 11 weeks of Sunday evening potlucks (5:30) and vespers (7:00) at Rockhaven. Plan to be there! Rockhaven is a blessing for the church family and for friends, too. Invite your friends to experience God's presence at the "thin place" we call Rockhaven.



John Patterson goes to St. Louis for General Assembly

When the 223rd General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) convenes in St. Louis on June 16, John Patterson will take his seat in the convention center as Ruling Elder Commissioner for Yellowstone Presbytery. Along with Teaching Elder Commissioner Dick Davis and Young Adult Advisory Delegate Tamara Lucht, also representing Yellowstone Presbytery, and several hundred others from across the country, John will vote on more than 500 items, helping to set policy and direction for our denomination for the coming 2 years and more.

John has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since 1979. Now retired from a career as a family practice physician, John is a member of the Session and the moderator of the Rockhaven Operational Board. He sings in the choir, volunteers with Love INC, and is often the first person to welcome visitors to our church. Sometimes Presbyterians talk about General Assembly as "they," but when a commissioner is as active in a congregation as John is, we are reminded that General Assembly is "us."

Time at General Assembly includes business sessions, committee meetings, daily worship, an exhibit hall, and mission tours. Judy Patterson will be attending as an observer. Please keep both of them in your prayers.

You can follow the GA proceedings at <https://ga-pcusa.org/>

Mission Team Returns from Ft. Peck Reservation

Full of memories and inspiration, our team of 10 adults and one child returned on June 2 from 5 days at the Ft. Peck Reservation in northeastern Montana. In that time, the group completed the data collection at the Ft. Kipp cemetery (450 graves!), renewed friendships with friends, enjoyed deepening relationships with one another, learned more about Indigenous culture and wisdom, received hospitality from 3 churches, and enjoyed a colorful dance demonstration. We are invited to return next year.



John Sacklin, Charlie Mandeville, Chris Boroughs, Jay Pontius-Backman, Jody McDevitt, Larry Growney, Nita Vaughn, Matt and Paige VanSchenkof, Suzanne Bratsky, and Mary Hektner

Many thanks to those who supported the venture with your prayers. In addition, the dance group appreciated the fabric and decorations for making regalia. We will be reporting on the mission sometime in the fall.



From left, Jay, Matt, Nita and Jody record grave data at Ft. Kipp cemetery



Cody Eagle Man, one of the leaders of the dance group, performs a grass dance.



At the left, Young dancers demonstrate their art in the fellowship hall of First Presbyterian Church in Poplar

Church member Kori Robbins to serve as Young Adult Volunteer

One of the founding members of our Presby Cats collegiate ministry has accepted a call to serve as a Young Adult Volunteer beginning in August. Church member Kori Robbins will be serving in New York City. As part of this Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) program, Kori is required to raise at least \$4,000 toward the overall \$22,000 that is the cost of her year. The session has already designated \$500 from mission funds in our spendable endowment account to support her. The session also authorized Kori to request financial support from the congregation. Kori has written more about it here.

My name is Kori Robbins, and I grew up in the small community of Anaconda, in the southwest corner of Montana. I earned my Bachelor of Arts in History at Montana State University in 2015, and as of 2017, have been working towards my Masters in American Studies. I am a founding member of the Presby Cats. It's been one of the best groups I could have been a part of during my collegiate years, and I've been even luckier to be a part of it even after graduation. Each day I get to spend with the Presby Cats, regardless of what we are doing, strengthens my faith.

The other group I joined in college that has helped make me who I am is my sorority, Alpha Gamma Delta. God definitely opened this new door for me, and I dove in, maybe not head first, but definitely with some enthusiasm. During my collegiate years, I was able to make some amazing friendships, with sisters I'll never forget. Alpha Gam has given me a sense of purpose, and indeed, along with my faith, our Purpose is what guides my life, along with my faith.

My faith hasn't always been as strong, and each day sometimes feels like a new hill to climb. I wasn't raised in faith, but always had some vague idea that God existed. It wasn't until I was thirteen and invited to Youth Group at the First Presbyterian Church of Anaconda by a friend of mine, that I really started understanding what God meant to me. I wholly credit Mary Davis, then the pastor at FPC – Anaconda for helping make me into the person I am today. I definitely wouldn't be where I am today without her quiet, confident leadership, and kindness for the dorky, weird girl who read too much and asked too many questions. While my faith journey continues, and will always be in a state of progress, I'm proud to say that I was baptized on Easter morning 2018 at my favorite place in the world, Rockhaven, by another favorite person of mine, Dan Krebill, co-pastor of FPC – Bozeman. Dan has been a constant rock in my life, and somebody who challenges and encourages me to be the best person I can be.

In August, I will be moving to New York City to pursue a year of service as a Young Adult Volunteer with PC(USA). I'm trading in my mountains for skyscrapers and wide-open spaces for the concrete jungle. I'm looking forward to serving in a community different from my own!

It costs about \$22,000 to support a YAV during their year of service. Each YAV is asked to raise a portion of that amount; this year it is \$4,000. This money goes towards housing, transportation and other costs.

This YAV year isn't just about me. It's about making connections, and creating a community of people who share experiences and help each other grow. It's about creating a support network who will walk with me during this year. I am asking each and every one of my friends, family and faith community to support me during my year. If you can give money, great!

Donations can be sent to the following address. Checks can be made out the Presbytery of NYC. Please make sure "Kori Robbins – YAV" is written in the memo line. Kori will also be collecting donations to mail herself if you would like.

Presbytery of NYC

Attn: James Tse

475 Riverside Dr.

New York, New York 10027

If you would prefer to donate online, you can do so at the link below. Please be aware that 17% will be taken out of each donation for processing fees. <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/donate/E051908/>

If you are unable to give financially, please know that I still want you to walk this journey with me. Feel free to follow me! I can be found on Facebook, WordPress and Instagram! Blog: beautyandabook3.wordpress.com, Instagram: [beautyandabook3](https://www.instagram.com/beautyandabook3)



Vacation Bible School 2018 Rolling Down the River June 18-22



VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED FOR:

Carpentry: Building carpentry projects that highlight the VBS theme with ALL ages.

Snacks: Help prepare and serve fun, delicious snacks in one of 3 locations. Some pre-VBS week prep required.

VBS Kickoff Orientation Wednesday June 6th (event 5:30-7:30pm): **VBS Intro @ 5:30,**

Dinner/Orientation/Breakout groups 6-7:30

New Youth Assistant Training: Monday June 11th – 12pm

Must Register Online!

VBS Prep Week (Decorations and Setup): Monday June 11th -

Thursday June 15th 12am -3pm and a special set-up day on

Friday June 16th from 12-3pm Lunch Provided!

All-Hands on Deck VBS Set Up Day: Sunday June 17th – Noon - 2pm

VBS Picnic: Friday June 22nd – Noon

Volunteers Needed – Contact Misti Davis.

MORE WAYS TO HELP VBS HAPPEN

- Make a financial contribution toward the purchase of snacks. (You can do this through First Presbyterian Church. Be sure to indicate “VBS Snacks” on the memo line)
- Contribute supplies for decorations and activities.

Here are items needed:

- * Old music CD's (no cases please)
- * 1 Length of Rain Gutter (about 6' each) with end caps
- * 8-10 Christmas Trees - (mark with name & church... WILL RETURN)
- * 8-10 Life Vests - (mark with name & church... WILL RETURN)
- * 8-10 Paddles or Oars (mark with name & church... WILL RETURN)
- * 5 Rafting Helmets (mark with name & church... WILL RETURN)
- * 3 Kid Collapsible Tunnels (ones used at child care centers or attached to play tents, donation to be used each year)

- Pray for a safe, happy community of all ages who learn to say YES to God's love in Jesus Christ!

Questions? ... ASK JODY MCDEVITT or SUZANNE BRATSKY

Birthdays this Month

- 6/2 Bob Olsen
- 6/5 Jane Hodges
- 6/7 Dan Berg
- 6/8 Amber Wilson
- 6/10 John Sacklin
- 6/12 Charlie Mandeville
Martha Krebill
- 6/14 Julie Small
- 6/15 Danielle Berg
- 6/16 Mike Marjanen
- 6/17 Scott Thrasher
- 6/18 Dwayne Arscott
- 6/19 Brooks Hallin
Chandler May
- 6/20 Nancy Rutkowski
Paula Thomsen
- 6/21 Dolly Smith
Gayle Hickert
- 6/22 Sarah Thrasher
- 6/26 Jonas Overton
- 6/27 Mitchell Larsson
Nathan Milburn
Brenna Babcock
- 6/29 Todd Johnson

First Annual Faith, Science & Climate Action Conference in Bozeman, October 12 and 13



The Montana Faith and Environment Coalition (MFEC) announced today that they will be hosting the first annual Faith, Science & Climate Action

Conference in Bozeman, October 12 and 13, 2018. The conference is to facilitate discussion between Montana faith leaders and scientists to address climate change. The conference will provide tools and resources for attendees to enlist engagement and involvement for more effective climate action. There will be

nationally-recognized speakers from both the science and faith communities.

Topics will include discussion of such key issues of how both communities can engage in mutually constructive discussions to more effectively change hearts and minds and studies from scientists on the changes already evident in Montana. "It's about getting everyone together to discuss facts and finding ways to make the focus on helping our planet," shared Connie Campbell-Pearson, one of the organizers of the event. Speakers will include The Rev. Canon Sally Bingham, one of the first faith leaders to recognize action around changing climate as a moral imperative; Dr. Katharine Hayhoe, an evangelical Christian and accomplished atmospheric scientist who directs the Climate Science Center at Texas Tech; and Dr. Bruce Maxwell, co-director of the Institute on Ecosystems at Montana State University.

About the Event

Faith, Science & Climate Action Conference 2018 will be held at the Emerson Center in Bozeman, on October 12, Friday afternoon and evening, and will include dinner, and all day Saturday, October 13, which will include breakfast and lunch. Detailed information is on the website at www.fscconference.org and on facebook.com/fscconference.

About the Organizers

The MFEC is an organization of scientists and interfaith coalition of religious leaders from Billings, Bozeman, and Missoula. Their main goal is to bring religious leaders and laypersons from the across the state together with the science community to effect a wide array of societal actions on global climate change, and to provide tools for action to address these changes.

Contact: The Rev. Connie Campbell-Pearson info@fscconference.org 406.333.1851

Holland-days...

(by Dan Holland)

This week marks the fiftieth anniversary of the chartering of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church in Billings. As many of you may be aware Paul Krebill was the first pastor at St. Andrew, and obviously his son, our co-pastor, Dan Krebill, grew up in that church.

I have had the great fortune of interacting with many of the members of St. Andrew over the years and I rejoice with them as they celebrate a half century as a worshipping community.

I won't be able to do it in person, though, because our oldest daughter, Katie, will be getting married here in the Gallatin Valley at the same time the festivities are occurring in Billings.

From time to time you have heard mention in this space of the connectional nature of the church writ large. It is a topic also mentioned periodically from the pulpit on Sundays. The power of the Holy Spirit is too immense to be contained within the walls of a single sanctuary, so this very same Spirit is at work in the lives of millions of people simultaneously. We can't help but bump into each other as we in turn work with the Spirit to build God's Kingdom here on earth.

Our daughter, Katie, grew up in our church here in Bozeman, but she now lives and works in Billings. She has attended St. Andrew and she also serves as the Yellowstone Presbytery's representative on the Board of Trustees for Rocky Mountain College in Billings. Katie teaches first grade at Meadowlark Elementary School. Meadowlark is the same school that Dan Krebill and his sister, Rose, attended when they were growing up in Billings. Of course there wasn't much question about which school they would attend, because the house Paul and Doris bought when they moved to Billings to start St. Andrew was right-directly-across-the-street from Meadowlark.

Coincidence? Perhaps. But I prefer to think of it as the Spirit weaving the lives of the community of believers together into a rich tapestry of faith. Happy Birthday, St. Andrew!



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!



Rockhaven Chapel

First Presbyterian Church

June 2018



First Presbyterian Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 8:30 am Worship 10:30 Worship	4	5 7 pm Boy Scouts	6	7 7am Men's Bible Study 5pm Deacons @ Mary & John's house	8	9
10 8:30 am Worship 10:30 Worship	11	12	13	14 7am Men's Bible Study	15	16
17 8:30 am Worship 10:30 Worship Rockhaven Father's Day 5:30 pm Potluck 7:00 Vespers	18 Vacation Bible School	19 Vacation Bible School 7 pm Boy Scouts	20 Vacation Bible School	21 7am Men's Bible Study Vacation Bible School	22 Vacation Bible School	23
24 8:30 am Worship 10:30 Worship Rockhaven 5:30 pm Potluck 7 pm Vespers	25 3pm Good News Deadline 3-5 pm Carl Spring Memorial Gathering	26 7 pm Boy Scouts	27	28 7am Men's Bible Study 7pm Session	29	30