

FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

BOZEMAN



PresbEnews

September 26, 2018

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.

Learning God's Love, Together: Wednesday Supper and "Courageous Conversations" Series

Mark your calendars, because you are invited to supper! Wednesday, October 10, at 5:30 pm, is the first in a series of simple suppers to be served in the Fellowship Hall for the church family. These meals will also be offered on October 17 and 24 and November 7 and 14. (We are skipping Halloween.) Gathering around tables is one way we learn love together—we love one another.

The supper will be immediately followed by one hour of "Courageous Conversations" for adults and "Kids' Club" for kids. Each week, adults will hear from a knowledgeable person on a challenging topic, while the kids will engage in hands-on community service projects. Our goal is to learn about current issues, discussing these together in a safe, non-judgmental environment, with an eye to developing our Christian response to these issues. What might we do together to bring forth God's love in the world?

The topics and scheduled speakers are:

- Oct 10 "Refugees 101" Chelsea Eddy, Gallatin Refugee Connections
- Oct 17 "Human Trafficking—Here? In Montana?" Sarabeth Rees, Haven
- Oct 24 TBA
- Nov 7 "Gun Safety—At Home, in Schools, in Churches" Scott McCormick, Bozeman Police Dept.
- Nov 14 "Housing the Homeless" Connie Campbell-Pearson, Deacon, St. James Episcopal Church

If you are able to help with simple meal preparation, cleanup, or with the Kids' Club, contact Jody McDevitt - jody@fpcozeman.org, Alison Todd - alison@fpcozeman.org, or Debby Haynes - deborahc.haynes@gmail.com



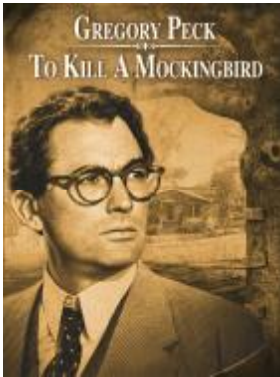
Enhancing Our Conversation With God

"He that prays and does not faint will come to recognize that to talk with God is more than to have all prayers granted --- that it is the end of all prayer."

George MacDonald

FIRST FRIDAY - October 5

FELLOWSHIP HALL – FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



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, **TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD**. The movie starring Gregory Peck, was released in December 1962 and is currently listed as the 29th best film of all time by Internet Database. Focusing on the coming of age of three young children, it sees good and evil of the world through the eyes of a child. It is set in 1932 in a small town in Alabama and uses the time as a backdrop for the portrait of a brave white liberal. The concepts of segregation, prejudice, justice, forgiveness, and equality will be topics for discussion.

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.

THE PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING

PEACE AT ALL TIMES, IN ALL WAYS

Now may the Lord of peace... give you peace at all times in all ways.

2 Thessalonians 3:16



We live in divisive times. Our experience of political, social, or religious division can make our lives, our communities, and our world feel like a wilderness. The news reports of violent acts seem only to increase. We watch millions displaced by war, and hear of women and children battered and abused. We listen as messages of fear and hate, often based on race and ethnicity, grow louder and louder. Weapons crowd our streets, and tools created for destruction increase in their capacity each day. As people of God, we might be tempted to ask, “Can God spread a table in this wilderness?”

Giving to the Peace & Global Witness Offering is one way we come to God’s table of peace.

Twenty-five percent of this offering remains with our congregation to build up peace in our community, 25% expands our witness throughout the region supporting ministries of peace and reconciliation in Presbyterian mid councils, and 50% supports the global witness to Christ’s peace through the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program and the reconciliation work of Presbyterian World Mission.

During the month of September we are focusing on this offering to be taken on World Communion Sunday, on October 7.

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!*



Opportunities to Live God's Love, Together (LGL)

We have been called as a congregation to live and learn God's love together. Are you interested in participating in events specifically identified by session as opportunities for us to live out our congregational call? Below is a schedule of events we hope to attend TOGETHER, listing dates, how to sign up, event contacts, First Presbyterian Church (FPC) Pastor and/or FPC Living God's Love (LGL) committee member who will be attending.

OCTOBER

Interfaith Forum – Politics & Religion, Oct 3rd, 12pm Resurrection University Catholic Parish – 1725 S. 11th Ave.
FPC Pastor, Jody McDevitt, is a regular panelist.
FPC LGL committee member attending - Kris Hall kris@hallcontrols.com 586-6996

Faith, Science & Climate Action 2018 Conference, Oct. 12th, 4pm - Oct 13th, 5pm. Emerson Cultural Center
111 S Grand Ave.

To register - <https://www.fscconference.org>
Cost to cover dinner on Oct 12th & breakfast & lunch on Oct 13th is \$60 through Oct. 5th and \$76, thereafter.
Questions? Email The Rev. Connie with questions at info@fscconference.org
FPC LGL committee member attending - Kris Hall kris@hallcontrols.com 586-6996
FPC Pastor Jody McDevitt will be attending.

AMEN Bozeman Free Health Clinic, Oct 19th & 21st 8:00am-4:00pm
Gallatin County Fairgrounds, 901 N. Black Ave., Bozeman
Volunteer health providers as well as general volunteers needed
To register - <https://earthangels.net/amen-bozeman-2>
For questions email bozemanvolunteers@gmail.com
FPC LGL committee member attending – John Patterson jspatterson972@gmail.com 587-9722

Gallatin Valley Crop Hunger Walk Oct. 21st registration 1:30pm, walk 2:00pm
Gallatin Valley Food Bank, 602 Bond Street
Register to walk or donate online - <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/bozemanmt>
Make sure to list your organization as First Presbyterian Church Bozeman
Walk Contact Judy Mathre – mathre@q.com or
FPC Living God's Love committee member Kris Hall kris@hallcontrols.com 586-6996

NOVEMBER

Interfaith Forum – Agriculture & Religion, Nov. 7th, 12pm Resurrection University Catholic Parish 1725 S. 11th Ave.
FPC Pastor, Jody McDevitt, is a regular panelist.
FPC LGL committee member attending - Kris Hall kris@hallcontrols.com 586-6996

Thanksgiving Baskets for Community - FPC Deacon's

Stay tuned for details to come on helping the FPC Deacons fill baskets for families in our community who might not otherwise have resources to have a traditional Thanksgiving dinner.

CROP Hunger Walk October 21

The Gallatin Valley CROP Hunger Walk (a 10 k walk) will be held, rain or shine, Sunday, October 21, at 1:30 p.m., beginning at the Food Bank at 602 Bond Street. Donations given to walkers will help to alleviate hunger at home and abroad. 25% of funds raised will support the Gallatin Valley Food Bank and the Fork & Spoon. The rest will go to Church World Service to be used where needed. This year it is possible for donors to make a digital walk.



To set up online fundraising to reach your friends

register at: <https://crophungerwalk.org/bozemanmt> and click on "Register."

For more information about the relief work of CWS see their website at: www.churchworldservice.org.

Contact Judy Mathre at mathre@q.com if you have questions.

Birthdays this week

9/26 Richard Giddings

9/29 Holly Aloise

10/2 Alice Bandy

New Ushers/Greeters



Are you new to the church or interested in getting more involved? We are in need of a few new ushers/greeters for both the 8:30 and 10:30 AM Sunday

services. The commitment is approximately one time per month. If you are interested in more information or would like to join the group, please feel free to contact me by phone at 610/716-2330 or email, nancy.bast28@gmail.com.

Elder Nancy Bast

Holland-days...

by Dan Holland

This past Sunday I participated in the first advertised opportunity to Live God's Love (LGL) since the launch of our church-wide, year-long theme earlier this month. This workshop/seminar was hosted by our church but was led by Rev. Duffy Peet from the Universal Unitarian Church in Bozeman. There were a number of fellow Presbyterians in attendance, but also quite a few other folks I had not previously met.

The title of the workshop was 'Roots of Injustice, Seeds of Change: Toward Right Relationship with Native Peoples.' It was developed by an organization called Boulder Friends which distributes the materials and script for running the event. The two hour long program contains a couple of different exercises, the most prominent and impactful of which condenses five hundred years of Native American history into an hour. The participants are all purposely a part of this dramatic, living presentation.

As you might expect in a community like Bozeman, the participants were almost entirely Anglo, and the exercises did a good job of kindling white shame and European guilt. Although these feelings were certainly an intended effect of the workshop, they were not its end game. The first step in right relations — in living God's love — is to recognize an injustice has occurred, but it is only the first step. There are other, harder steps that must be taken: asking forgiveness, granting forgiveness, acts of atonement, reconciliation.

Living God's Love is hard work. Our church has already been doing some of that work. Over a decade ago our youth group went on a joint mission trip to Mexico with youth from the Northern Cheyenne nation and subsequently did work on their reservation. Last summer our youth group performed mission work on the Spokane Reservation. And for the past three springs adults from our congregation have performed service projects on the Fort Peck Reservation. These are all wonderful demonstrations of living God's love, but I was not a part of any of them. I still have many steps to take.

At the beginning of the Roots of Injustice workshop we participants took turns introducing ourselves: telling everyone our name, our hometown, and which native nation was associated with that hometown. As we went around the room I was reminded of something that occurred a few years ago when I was refereeing a football game over in Big Timber. The hosts were playing a team from Lodge Grass on the Crow Reservation. Not surprisingly all of the players from Big Timber were Anglo as were all of my fellow referees from the Gallatin Valley. All of the Lodge Grass players were native. Before the game started we refs were standing around looking official and judicious. A particularly engaging player from Lodge Grass came up to us, smiled, and asked where we were from. We politely replied, "I'm from Belgrade," or "I'm from Bozeman." The young player, with a twinkle in his eye, then said, "Well, I guess I'm from America."



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!