



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
BOZEMAN



PresbEnews

Good News Edition - November 2018

A mid-week newsletter of First Presbyterian Church - Jody McDevitt & Dan Krebill, co-pastors
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Co-Pastors' Corner... "The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those

who live in it." This first verse of Psalm 24 reminds us again that everything we have, including our lives, has its origins with God. While this truth informs our living throughout the year, it is particularly fitting to reflect on it in connection with our annual Thanksgiving holiday. Blessings abound all around us. We live in a spectacular part of God's world. We're enriched by a large variety of people in our community who come from all parts of the world. And we live in a spirited community that is motivated to strive to make this a place of welcome and inclusion. While it is tempting to make this place a haven insulated from the wanton wiles of the larger world in which we live, as people of faith, we affirm that all that is in the world is the Lord's and therefore we must not hide or shield ourselves from harsh realities.

When the murderous hate crimes were visited on a Pittsburgh synagogue last week, the local communities of faith came together right away to stand together and to stand up to such heinous evil. On Sunday, October 28, an interfaith prayer service was held at Temple Beth Shalom here in Bozeman. There was a standing-room-only crowd that joined in a public way to affirm that such evil must be called out. As people of faith we affirm our solidarity with one another at all times, and especially in times of challenge. While it was a somber occasion, it was also a time in which we affirmed that which binds us together as people of faith.

As we gather later this month to celebrate our national Thanksgiving holiday, we will be pondering and remembering all of our blessings. As people of Christian faith, may our witness of thanksgiving to God be both public as well as personal as we affirm the central truth that the world, and those who live in it are the Lord's.

Enhancing Our Conversation With God

"Dear God, give us courage to shine our light in this world so that others can see you clearly."

Upper Room, Oct. 30, 2018

Session Notes October 25

- Dan and Jody will be attending the Parliament of World Religions in Toronto this next week. Doug Melius will be filling in for Dan and Jody. Doug is a Presbyterian minister, retired from Wyoming Presbytery, and now residing in Livingston.
- Over 200 people attended the first Climate conference and the second one is now in the planning stages.
- Presbytery will be held here on November 2 and 3. Worship service will be at 7 on Friday night and all are invited to attend. At 10:30 Friday morning a workshop on “Caring for Your Church Employees” will start off the two day meeting.
- Mark Friday, November 16 for the Thanksgiving basket delivery.
- Then on November 17th there will be a new member class from 9:30-12:30. Also a sale of “Made for Freedom” craft item made by girls that have escaped from human trafficking and are being helped to find new careers. Think about how you might help the girls (all proceeds go to the project) and get some Christmas shopping done.
- Nancy Bast is looking for more people to help welcome people to church on Sunday mornings by serving as ushers/greeters.
- As of Thursday we were at 65% of the stewardship campaign. Session members spent considerable time discussing how we can achieve the goal of having our pastors salaries in line with recommended levels so when it is time to find new pastors, we will be able to do so. We realize many costs are fixed and when we continue to just do cost of living at best, we continue to fall behind every year. We will be asking for everyone to prayerfully consider how you can help achieve this goal. Kris Hall will be spearheading this goal.
- As part of the Deacons report, we heard that coats will be going to Monforton, Gallatin Gateway and the homeless students in Bozeman of which there are over 100. Not every child will receive a complete outfit, but will be given the items they need to keep them warm this winter.
- The last two Courageous Conversations will be November 7 and 14. We have discussed refugees, human trafficking and suicide. The last two will be on homelessness in Bozeman with Connie Campbell-Pearson and Gun Safety with Scott McCormick. Thank you to Jenny Beard, Alison Todd, Suzanne Bratsky, Jay and Bruce Pontius-Backman for the wonderful meals. Remember that dinner is at 5:30, program at 6 and dismissed at 7. Kids club is available to our youth.
- “Christmas at Rockhaven” will be Saturday, December 15.

Submitted by,
Charlie Mandeville, Ruling Elder

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

This quarter our OMBUD from the session is Kris Hall 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 (586-6996) or email

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 September 2018

September Income	\$42,693	Year to Date Income	\$388,181
September Expenses	\$38,988	Year to Date Expenses	\$417,043
September Balance	\$3,705	Year to Date Balance	-\$28,862

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

Wednesday evening suppers, Courageous Conversations, and Presby Kids Club continue on November 7 and 14. On November 7, The Rev. Connie Campbell-Pearson, Deacon at St. James Episcopal Church, will speak about "Housing the Homeless." Connie has been actively developing plans for a Housing First Village in Bozeman, featuring tiny homes for the chronically homeless. This is based on the philosophy that all the other issues which come with homelessness, including physical and mental health, can be addressed if the person has a safe, secure home.

On November 14, Scott McCormick of the Bozeman Police Department will address "Guns and Safety." Scott has experience as a school resource officer and he is now a detective. He will address concerns about guns in homes, schools, and public places such as churches, with an emphasis on how to keep people safe.

5:30 Supper
6:00 Courageous Conversations and Kids Club
7:00 Adjourn



NOTE: DATE CHANGED DUE TO PRESBYTERY MEETING IN OUR CHURCH FIRST FRIDAY - NOVEMBER 9

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, **COCO**. This animated movie “draws heavily on Mexican folklore and traditional designs...catchy music, a complex but comprehensible plot and bits of domestic comedy and media satire.” “ It assumes a non-American point-of-view on spirituality and culture” which should lead to a lively 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.

In memoriam of Fran Babcock February 23, 1929 ~ August 22, 2018. A memorial service will be held in the sanctuary on Friday, November 9 at 2:00p.m. Throughout the years Fran was very active in our church and the Yellowstone Presbytery.



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.

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 Deacons

Thanksgiving is once again upon us and the Deacons will be distributing food baskets to needy families in the Gallatin valley on Friday, November 17. Please help in this important church project by signing up to help with set up, clean up, and most important, delivery teams. Cash donations are also needed to defray the cost of the turkeys. Please make checks out to First Presbyterian Church, memo Thanksgiving basket project. Sign up sheets are located at the back of the sanctuary. Thanks for your continued support of this most worthy project. Please call Mike Roser at 580-5818.

Presby Cats are selling wreaths again this year

Beginning this Sunday, November 4, members of our Presby Cats collegiate ministry will be taking orders for live Christmas wreaths and other Christmas decorations. The wreaths will be delivered to the church Thanksgiving week. Funds raised are in support of the Presby Cats upcoming spring break mission trip to Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Please watch for college students with order forms in hand on Sunday. If you'd like to place your order by phone, please contact Andrew Chauvin at 425-328-5765 or by email at archauvin@gmail.com. Thanks for your support.



God's love has been poured into our hearts. (Rom. 5:5)

Stewardship in our Lives



Some days when I am sitting in a Session meeting, I think to myself that a house church would be so much simpler and cheaper. We could just gather around one pot of coffee and one pan of cinnamon rolls, and take turns reading the Bible aloud. We would not have the pressure of church finances and personnel decisions. That sounds great, right?

And then I sit in the choir and look out upon the many members in our wonderful congregation. I hear Pastor Dan and Jody preach, telling all of us how God is still working in our current events. Afterward, I enter the Fellowship Hall where we gather over many pots of coffee and way more than one recipe of goodies. I look at the quilt on the wall in the Fellowship Hall that has labels indicating all that our congregants do in the world. It is then evident to me that all the trouble we go to in organizing and paying for our facility and personnel is for a good reason: We are called into community to learn and live God's love, together. The church building and our staff are important resources to our community's ability to grow spiritually and to do the work of the church. The key word, "together," ties us to each other in learning and living God's love.

Sure, the church building and staff cost money, but we church members multiply the dollars we pledge to produce multiples of our pledges in value to each other and the community at large. The church is a crucible for making this earth a better place and all we pledge ends up to be a good investment in doing God's work.

Debby Haynes, Ruling Elder

Thank you to all who have made pledges for 2019 so that the session can plan next year's budget. If you have not yet made a pledge, please consider doing so. It is through the generous contributions of our congregation that we can continue ministries like the Presby Cat college group, youth mission trips, the deacons' ministry, Christian education, Vacation Bible School, Rockhaven, our music ministry, Family Promise, adult mission trips, Weds. night dinners/discussions, etc.

Thank you, not just for your financial contributions, but for your contributions of time and talent. With the countless hours of many volunteers, we are better able to share the good news of the Gospel with our community, as we make our focus this year on "Learning and Living God's Love, Together". I have truly been blessed by this church for the past fifteen years -- a place of fellowship, spiritual growth, and an opportunity to be involved in music ministry.

Alison Todd, Ruling Elder

Deacons Distributing Thanksgiving Baskets

Thanksgiving is once again upon us and the Deacons will be distributing food baskets to needy families in the Gallatin valley on Friday, November 16. Please help in this important church project by signing up to help with set up, clean up, and most important, delivery teams. Cash donations are also needed to defray the cost of the turkeys. Please make checks out to First Presbyterian Church, memo Thanksgiving basket project. Sign up sheets are located at the back of the sanctuary. Thanks for your continued support of this most worthy project. Please call Mike Roser at 580-5818.



Family Promise Training

Everyone and anyone interested in volunteering for Family Promise Training a course will be offered Tuesday, November 20 from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. at Journey Church located at 1794 E. Baxter Lane in Bozeman. To sign up call Jill with Family Promise at 406-582-7388.

Thank you, First Presbyterian Church Family Promise Coordinators.

Gallatin Valley Ecumenical Taizé Prayer 2018-2019

Since World War II, Roman Catholic and Protestant Christians, inspired by the Taizé Community (<https://www.taize.fr/en>) in France, have come together around the world for ecumenical worship and fellowship. In this spirit, a community of churches in the Gallatin Valley gather amidst quiet, icons, and candles – to pray, read Scripture and sing for about 50 minutes the second Sunday of each month at 7 PM. The music emphasizes simple phrases, often from Psalms or other passages of Scripture, sung as a chant.

This year's host church is **St. James Episcopal Church**, 5 West Olive Street (*on the corner of Olive and Tracy Streets*). Thank you to Resurrection (2016-2017) and Bozeman United Methodist (2017-2018) for their hospitality. On the 2nd Monday of the month November – May, *except March*, a different church leads. January 14 everyone is invited to gather ahead at 6:00 PM for a simple super. (Bring a side dish to share.) www.facebook.com/Taizeprayergallatinvalley

Questions: Contact either 2018-2019 Taizé Point Persons:

Rev. Deacon Connie: campbell.connie54@gmail.com

Rev. Valerie Webster: vwebster587@gmail.com 406-579-3980

Interested in considering church membership?

On Saturday, November 17, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., a membership information meeting will be held at the church. Anyone who would like to know more about First Presbyterian Church, as well as our denomination, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), is invited to attend. The process for becoming a church member will be included. Lunch will be served. So that we have enough materials as well as food, please contact Linda in the church office to let her know you're coming. She can be reached at linda@fpcbozeman.org or at 586-9194. Childcare can be arranged by letting Linda know that as well.



Birthdays this Month

11/1 Lee Spring
11/5 Cyn Frye
11/7 Andrew Driscoll
11/8 Gary Shanafelt
11/10 Julie Cunningham
11/11 Bob Staffanson
11/13 Jim Babcock
11/15 Diane Stone
11/16 Bill Gould
11/17 Beth Sinnema
 Katja Milburn
11/19 Suzanne Bratsky
11/20 Rod King
11/24 Dick Rote
 Deana Berg
11/25 Betty Knutson
11/28 Larry Ames
11/29 Hans Swenson
11/31 Oscar Mendoza

Food Bank Sunday November 4



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

Operation Christmas Child Boxes

Everyone is invited to help put together the Operation Christmas Child boxes any time this week, November 4 - 9. Joy Ames is in need of your help. The boxes are in Room 204, so if you have extra hour or two to help it would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks!

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!



The following thoughts come from the PC(USA). We hope you will find them helpful.

Voting is an Act of Faith

With one week to go before Election Day, we find ourselves again facing choices and consequences that seem to extend beyond the ordinary. Across the political spectrum, we fear that the world we know will change beyond our recognition. Or we fear that the change our country desperately needs will never come. But our faith is not founded on fear. Rather, it is a faith of hope and of action. And the action that all of us need to take on Election Day is to enter our polling place, confront the choices before us, and vote for those candidates and those initiatives that will best serve God's people on earth.

Voting is a civic duty, a sacred responsibility, and a natural extension of faithful action. Even when our problems seem too big to confront and our one vote seems too small to make a difference, it is precisely then that our responsibility is greatest. Those who represent us in government can and will make decisions with far-reaching implications for all people living in the United States, and even the world, particularly those who are most vulnerable.

God has called us into this world to live out God's call to be faithful, to provide compassion, and to seek justice for all God's children on this earth. God has given to us the tools to answer this call. Our vote is our voice and failing to use that voice is equal to silence.

What is the Parliament of the World's Religions?

Co-pastors Dan Krebill and Jody McDevitt are traveling to Toronto Nov. 1-7 to attend the Parliament of the World's Religions. They will join more than 10,000 people from more than 80 nations and of more than 200 spiritual backgrounds in a week of learning, listening, collaborating, and celebrating. With an overall theme of "The Promise of Inclusion, the Power of Love," daily themes will be Women's Dignity; Countering War, Hate, and Violence; Climate Action; Indigenous Peoples; The Next Generations; and Toward a Just, Peaceful, and Sustainable World. There will be two plenaries each day, and hundreds of workshops to choose from. Jody has elected to include a focus on Indigenous Cultural Awareness within the overall program. The Parliament has no legislative authority—it is a voluntary gathering to inspire religious cooperation toward shared goals.

The Parliament meets every few years, most recently in Salt Lake City in 2015. About 30 people attended from Bozeman, including Betsy Crabs and Suzanne Bratsky, along with Dan and Jody. The first Parliament was in Chicago in 1893, and it was the very first time Eastern and Western religious leaders shared a public stage. The second Parliament was in 1993, also in Chicago, and Dan and Jody were able to attend several sessions of that event. Additional Parliaments have been held in Europe, Africa, and Australia.

For more information, check this link:

<https://www.parliamentofreligions.org/parliament/2018-toronto/2018-toronto>.

You will be amazed.

Community Thanksgiving Service at Holy Rosary

Sponsored by the Downtown Ministers group, this year's Community Thanksgiving Service will be held at Holy Rosary Catholic Church on **Sunday, November 18, at 3:00 pm.** Our tradition is to invite the newest pastor in the downtown churches to preach. Co-pastors Eric and Amy Strader of Bozeman United Methodist Church will be flipping a coin to see which one has the honor!



Coming together to express thanks during this season is a long tradition in our community. These events are unifying and build community. They are the foundation of community solidarity when tragedies strike. After this divisive election season, it is especially important that we express our commitment to spiritual unity. Please plan to participate.

A service of solidarity and remembrance was held at Congregation Beth Shalom on Sunday, Oct. 28, responding to Saturday's shootings in Pittsburgh at the Tree of Life Synagogue. This note was received on Monday.

Hi all,

I just wanted to say thank you again for the outpouring of love and support. Our gathering yesterday was standing room only - there were roughly 150 people in attendance and we couldn't have fit any more.

Rabbi Ed, Rabbi Chaim, Dr. Amin, Pastor Lindean, and Rev. Clark - thank you so much for your comforting, healing, and empowering words. Thank you to everyone else who attended, reached out to offer support, and shared the event with your congregations. It truly means so much to us to know that you stand with us, and that we have such a strong interfaith association here. Know that we at Beth Shalom are here for you too.

Love, peace, and gratitude,

Amber Ikeman

Director of Music and Community Engagement
Congregation Beth Shalom, Bozeman MT

Interfaith Forum Starts Wednesday, November 7

Agriculture and Religion With Fabian Menalled, professor of weed and invasive plant ecology. He focuses on the ecological basis of sustainable agriculture. The Interfaith Forum began more than ten years ago, and has grown every year since its founding. 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).

The forum is held on the first Wednesdays of the month at 12 noon, at Resurrection University Catholic Parish at 1725 S. 11th Ave.

A brochure listing the year's topics is available at the church.



Holland-days...

(by Dan Holland)

There is less than a week left before the 2018 mid-term elections are decided. One week from today, when next week's publication of the PresbEnews hits the airwaves, we will presumably already know the outcome. As a result this is the final opportunity to utilize the byte-space available on these pages to influence our dear readers' decision making process.

Thankfully, not one word will be written in that vein. Most churches are like that — they are true sanctuaries. Oh sure, there are a handful that have publicized their efforts to encourage their parishioners to vote a certain way, but by and large individual churches are silent in that regard other than to encourage us to exercise our right to vote.

In the upside-down Kin-dom of God, Jesus tells us the last shall be first. Obviously Jesus would not have made a very good Clerk of Elections, but if Jesus would have lived in a democracy I suspect he would have encouraged his followers to get out and vote.

Last week a Get Out the Vote event was held on the campus at MSU. Voter turnout amongst college students is notoriously low, so different groups are constantly trying to reverse that trend. It doesn't hurt to have a gimmick when attempting to change behavior and these groups often utilize a Get Out the Vote Goat. As you might guess, one of my goats was utilized in this regard. Howie is a seven month old orphan and is no stranger to public events. I made mention of him in this space last spring. He has also appeared in a Rockhaven video, and even has his own Instagram page courtesy of my daughter. In short he is a gregarious creature, but only time will tell if he will have an impact on voter turnout next week.

Earlier in this diatribe, I indicated there would be no influence on your voting in these pages. That may not be entirely true, because I would like to present a proposal for your consideration. It is both radical and controversial, so I apologize in advance for using this space in an attempt to sway you, dear voter.

One of our most cherished enumerated rights is that of free speech. However, I think we can all agree we have grown weary of political ads during election cycles. It has been reported that the spending just on our state's US Senate race is approaching sixty million dollars. Throw in the House race, the ballot initiatives and all of our local contests and the spending will exceed \$100 million. How about a tax on all of that free speech? If we were to enact a 10% tax on every television ad, every mailer, every sign, every internet pop-up, we could add a nice, tidy \$10 million to the public coffers. But why stop there? Let's go further and designate this tax on free speech to fund all the food banks, homeless shelters, and low-income advocacy groups in the state. In that way the last would truly be first.



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

November 2018



First Presbyterian Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7am Men's Bible Study 6 pm Deacons	2 Presbytery at FPC	3 Presbytery at FPC
4 8:30 am Worship 9:30 Adult & Youth Sunday School 10:30 Worship 10:45 Children's Sunday School 11:45 Presby Cats	5	6 7pm Boy Scouts 7 pm First Bells	7 5:30 Supper & Conversations 7pm Choir	8 7am Men's Bible Study	9 2pm Fran Babcock Memorial Service 5:30 pm First Friday	10
11 8:30 am Worship 9:30 Adult & Youth Sunday School 10:30 Worship 10:45 Children's Sunday School 11:45 Presby Cats	12	13 7 pm Boy Scouts 7 pm First Bells	14 5:30 Supper & Conversations 7pm Choir	15 7am Men's Bible Study 7pm Session	16 1pm Thanksgiving Baskets 6pm Merry Munchers	17 9:30 am New Members Information Class
18 8:30 am Worship 9:30 Between Services 10:30 Worship 10:45 Children's Sunday School 11:45 Presby Cats 3:00pm Community Thanksgiving Service at Holy Rosary	19	20 7 pm Boy Scouts 7 pm First Bells	21 7pm Choir	22 Thanksgiving Office Closed  <i>Happy Thanksgiving</i>	23	24
25 8:30 am Worship 9:30 Adult & Youth Sunday School 10:30 Worship 10:45 Children's Sunday School	26	27 7 pm Boy Scouts 7 pm First Bells	28 7pm Choir	29 7am Men's Bible Study	30	