



FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

BOZEMAN



# PresbEnews

December 19, 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](http://www.fpcozeman.org) - Editor - [presbenews@fpcozeman.org](mailto:presbenews@fpcozeman.org)  
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*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year  
from the staff of First Presbyterian Church  
PresbEnews will not publish next week, December 26  
The office will be closed December 24th- 26th and 28th*

## Special Services during the Christmas Season Please join us for all the celebrations

Monday, December 24	5 pm Christmas Eve Family service 8 pm Christmas Eve Traditional service 11pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion
Sunday, December 30	10:30 am Blessing of the Animals (one service)



Richard Reiley, Jane Hodges and Maureen Poremba with their cute puppies last year. Blessing of the Animals is on Sunday, December 30th at 10:30 am. Please join us with your animals on leashes.



## *Enhancing Our Conversation With God*

*"Gracious Lord, May my words, thoughts, and actions always sound forth the beautiful love of Christ, even when life feel too busy."*

*Bill Giovannetti, Daily Guideposts, December 15, 2018*

## Welcome to our newest members



**Suzanne (Sue) Haines Crawford:** Sue was delighted to find First Presbyterian Church because she believes the people here look out for and take care of each other while looking positively forward. She and her husband Paul were university professors at Bowling Green State University in Ohio. The family summered in Maine and when they left Ohio they went to Maine. Now they have come to Bozeman to be with their daughter, son-in-law, and grandchildren. Paul is a member of Holy Rosary Church. Since coming here Sue has volunteered with the Association for the Blind and Vision Impaired, PEO, Senior Center, and League of Women Voters. They are happy to be in Bozeman.

**Contact information:** 10 E. Villard, Bozeman 59715; 406-551-2657; [scrawfo@bgsu.edu](mailto:scrawfo@bgsu.edu).  
Sue's church host is Marilyn Lockhart.



**Jeffrey (Jeff) Davis:** Jeff comes to our church as a transferee from Colonial Park United Church of Christ in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Jeff is a native of Pennsylvania and a graduate of the Pennsylvania State University. After graduation, he served for over 25 years with the Pennsylvania State Police. He retired from the police department in 2004, moved to Cody, Wyoming, and served as a seasonal law enforcement ranger at Yellowstone National Park. Jeff moved to Bozeman in 2016 to accept employment with Karst Stage, where he works in the business office and occasionally drives buses. So, when you see a Karst stage, wave just in case Jeff is driving. While at Colonial Park UCC, Jeff served as the Investment Treasurer for the church's endowment funds and also participated in services as a liturgist. Jeff likes to cross country ski, read U.S. history, and work on home improvement projects. **Contact information:** 192 Falconers Way, Bozeman 59718; 610-301-2811; [jeffdavis4040@bresnan.net](mailto:jeffdavis4040@bresnan.net). Jeff's church hosts are John and Judy Patterson.



**David and Jane Spencer:** David and Jane Spencer recently moved to Bozeman from New York City (with a brief interim in Connecticut). In New York, Jane served as a trustee and David served as an elder and a trustee of a Presbyterian church. Jane grew up Presbyterian in York, Pennsylvania. David grew up Lutheran (his grandfather was a Lutheran minister) on a farm outside of Madelia, Minnesota. In New York, Jane was a banker and David was an international project development lawyer. Their initial connection to Montana was through David's family, which has been ranching in Montana since the 1870s. They settled on Bozeman for the warm community, outdoor activities (especially winter) and cultural and culinary attractions. Jane is on the executive committee of a non-profit early literacy program. David coaches Little League and Babe Ruth baseball and is working on a novel. They have one son, Will, who lives in San Francisco and loves to visit Bozeman. **Contact information:** 5 W. Mendenhall #306, Bozeman 59715; Jane - 917-596-5228, David - 646-272-8481; [jane@spencix.com](mailto:jane@spencix.com), [david@spencix.com](mailto:david@spencix.com). Spencer's church hosts are John and Jane Hodges.

*Birthdays this week and next*

- 12/19 Ashley Hickert
- 12/23 Rhoda McCormick
  - Ed Sedivy
  - Mike Roser
  - Debbie Ernst
  - Heather Overton
- 12/25 Ruth Steele
  - Doug Babcock
- 12/26 Terry Schaplow
  - Mary Demro
- 12/27 Elliot Johnson
- 12/29 Joanna Ellison
  - Kelly Meredith
- 12/30 Jim Hall
- 12/31 Sammylu Parsons

**Lunch at Bridger Bowl**



Join us at Bridger Bowl Deer Park Lodge every Monday at 12 noon for lunch and fellowship throughout the season.

**SUPPORTING OUR PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE LEADERS**

THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING SUPPORTS THESE INSTITUTIONS

**Menaul School | Albuquerque, NM** [www.menaulschool.com](http://www.menaulschool.com)

- 98% of graduates go on to college
- Ranked best Christian High School and 5th best private school in New Mexico by Niche (niche.com) in their February release of “2016 Best Private Schools in America”

**Presbyterian Pan American School | Kingsville, TX** [www.ppas.org](http://www.ppas.org)

- 100% of graduates are accepted into colleges and universities in their home countries or in the United States
- Welcomes a diverse international student body, with 26 countries represented in the last 25 years

**Stillman College | Tuscaloosa, AL** [www.stillman.edu](http://www.stillman.edu)

- 84% of faculty hold terminal degrees
- Ranked among top tier schools in U.S. News and World Report for more than a decade

*Envelopes are in the pews or you may go on line to [presbyterianmission.org/give/christmasjoy](http://presbyterianmission.org/give/christmasjoy).*

Please indicate church name.



**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](http://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!*





**You are invited to join WEBS Winter Book Study 2019**

**When:** Most Mondays, January 7<sup>th</sup>-March 25<sup>th</sup> from 9:30-11:00 AM

**Where:** Hosted at Christ the King, 4383 Durston Rd., Bozeman

**What:** We'll be discussing Parker Palmer's: *Healing the Heart of Democracy: The Courage to Create a Politics Worthy of the Human Spirit.*

Order locally (Published by Jossey-Bass, 989 Market Street, San Francisco, CA [www.josseybass.com](http://www.josseybass.com) © 2011)

Or on-line (Amazon).

**Who:** WEBS welcomes all women, seekers and Christians, interested in living their spiritual journey in community. This study we aspire to be a "PURPLE" group, appreciating foremost we are each created in God's image, and secondarily identify with political parties.

**To RSVP** or if you have logistics questions, please contact:

**WEBS Administrator** Nancy Hopkins [nancyhopkins14@yahoo.com](mailto:nancyhopkins14@yahoo.com) or (406) 587-9134

If you have questions about WEBS in general or this study in particular, contact:

**WEBS Pastor Facilitator** Rev. Valerie Webster [vwebster587@gmail.com](mailto:vwebster587@gmail.com) (406) 579-3980

***Bells of the Bridgers Concert December 21***

*Bells of the Bridgers* presents their annual holiday concert "O Come All Ye Faithful", in Bozeman, Friday December 21<sup>st</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. at Resurrection University Parish at the corner of 11<sup>th</sup> & Kagy.

Favorite holiday selections include "Joy to the World", "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen", "The Holly and the Ivy", "Jingle Bells", "Dance of the Sugarplum Fairies" and many more. Special guests include Lynn Kirtley, organ, Tim Lockie, percussion, and Melody Lindsay, harp.

Joining with handbells will be the Resurrection University Parish vocal ensemble. The concert is free; a good-will offering will be taken.

## Holland-days...

by Dan Holland

Last Saturday night was our annual Christmas at Rockhaven service. It is always a wonderful time, but in stark contrast to the past two years the conditions were much milder this year. It was neither bitterly cold, nor was there a bunch of freshly fallen snow. This year we saw water dripping from icicles on the eaves and about three or four inches of snow that had been around for a while. As a result a few more folks than normal were able to make it down there, but it still wasn't quite a full house.

The unofficial theme for Rockhaven that Scott Thrasher, the Camp Director, has developed reads *Simple, Peaceful, Faithful...Playful!* And I'd like to think the services held in the chapel down there follow this same directive. Saturday night's worship featured great music, festive decorations, traditional carols, and scripture readings. Following the service the Operations Board hosted a chili feed in the dining hall and there were many a warm heart enjoying fellowship around the tables.

After I ate I decided to take a walk around outside in the dark. I stood by the small fire burning in the pit as I drank a cup of Emily Thrasher's wassail. Then I glanced up and noticed the lights spanning the bridge across the river. It looked like a scene that should be explored.

Back in September a team led by Chuck Beck succeeded in bringing electricity to the far side of the bridge for the first time. In addition to a string of small lights attached to the railing, there are also two permanent light fixtures on each side of the bridge. As I walked across the bridge on this evening I was serenaded by the song of the river, just barely visible below me. As I made it to the east side of the bridge, the light fixture cast a circular glow. I was naturally drawn to the outer edge of this circle. Beyond me was absolute darkness; behind me was the safety and security of the light. I began to reflect on the final scripture reading we had heard during the worship service:

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.*

As I turned and walked back into the light, as I walked back across the bridge, as I walked back towards the joyous communion in the dining hall, I knew I was in the presence of a living and loving God.