

FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

BOZEMAN



PresbEnews

January 16, 2019

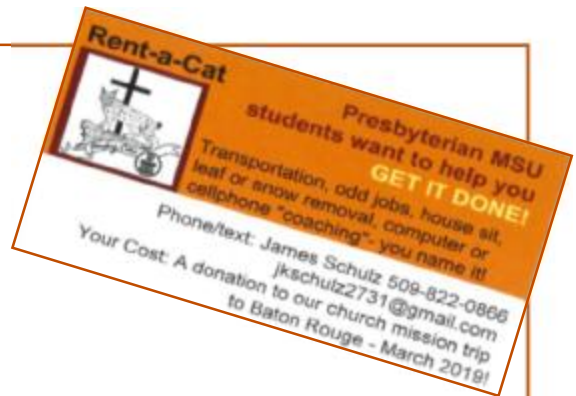
A mid-week newsletter of First Presbyterian Church - Jody McDevitt & Dan Krebill, co-pastors
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Rent-a-Cat is back with the students

Now that our students are back in town, our Rent-a-Cat fund raising project is back in full swing. The spring break mission trip this year is to Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Please consider this for the odd jobs you have as well as for airport transportation, or anything else where a helping hand is needed. Contact cards are on the bulletin boards throughout the church and at the office. James Schulz is the coordinating Rent-a-Cat, so give him a call or text him at

509-822-0866, or email him at Jkschulz2731@gmail.com



Adult Sunday School to study *The Verse After the Verse*

The adult Sunday school class is continuing a Bible study inspired by a book by Doc Shear entitled *The Verse After the Verse*. We are looking at a number of familiar Bible verses and unpacking their meaning in light of the verse that follows. In so doing, we discover that there is likely more to the meaning than has been attached to the focus verse.

Pastor Dan Krebill will lead this class in a format that will encourage lively discussion.

Please join us in the church library on Sunday mornings from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m.

Enhancing Our Conversation With God

"Lord, help us not to overthink serving others. Sometimes the small, simple things mean more than we ever know. And help us to remember that whatever we do for others, we are doing for You"

Our Daily Bread, 1/12/19



WORKING FOR HABITAT

Would you be interested in working to build houses for low income families who need a home? Habitat for Humanity is currently building a house in Livingston and has others in the works. If you'd be interested in spending one day a week to help, contact John Shellenberger at 586-9104.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BOZEMAN

MAC DAY


AT THE

LEGISLATURE

JANUARY 21

Join Christians from across Montana at the Capitol to advocate for the "least of these" in our state. A charter bus will depart Bozeman at 7:30 am and return by 4:40 pm.

\$20/person
Contact Dan Krebill, 586-9194



Montana Association of Christians
Faith • Unity • Justice • Compassion

Birthdays this week

- 1/18 Jennifer Frye
- 1/19 Linda Miller
- 1/20 Fritz Dickensheets
- 1/21 Suzanne Galinac
Scott Thompson
Chuck Broughton
Jeffrey Bissell
- 1/22 Jill Brauss

Love INC Pantry Needs

These are the products needed at this time for our neighbors in need:

- Queen sheet sets
- Baby cream/ointment
- Body wash (no bar soap)
- Shampoo and Conditioner
- Lotion
- Children's toothpaste
- Lip balm
- Toilet paper
- Laundry detergent



Lunch at Bridger Bowl

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

Holland-days...

by Dan Holland

Human nature is a hard thing to predict. This is especially true when it comes to forecasting our financial behavior and is one reason economics is known as the dismal science. In our brief time together today I would like to give you three reasons to cheer our human endeavor, three huzzahs from projects in which I have a fairly lengthy history of involvement.

The first is our very own congregation and our every-day budget. As you may be aware the Session recently commenced a 'Close the Gap' mini-campaign to raise an additional \$7,200 towards the 2019 general fund pledge count. This comes on the heels of our annual stewardship campaign last fall, which came up shorter than anticipated.

Typically when this happens the powers that be will 'sharpen their pencils' and make cuts to existing programs so that expected revenue will equal expected expenditures and the bottom line will be zero. This year, however, the Session in its wisdom and through the assurance of prayer discerned that perhaps if we congregants were made aware of the shortfall we would be willing to close the gap and prevent the cuts to some of the programs we cherish. As we heard on Sunday the first week of the mini-campaign resulted in two-thirds of this gap being closed. Huzzah!

The second example comes from an area you may only have rudimentary familiarity. The Presbytery of the Yellowstone is the governing council that stands directly above our own congregation in our denominational hierarchy. The Presbytery stands watch over the twenty-three constituent churches within its geographical boundary, which is essentially the southern and eastern portions of Montana. YellPres, as it is affectionately known, uses five part-time employees and a host of volunteers throughout the region to carry out its mission, which can be summarized in far too simplistic terms as nurturing congregations and pastoring to pastors. The main source of revenue for YellPres is the per capita charged to the member churches, however, this does not fully fund all its activity. As a result the general presbyters solicit donations from various sources to insure this vital ministry can continue. This process, too, is an inexact science, and we never quite know if funds will be forthcoming. Year after year, however, God's children step up and provide assistance. In December a year end appeal resulted in contributions surpassing the goal by ten percent. Huzzah, again!

The third reason to cheer involves our own Rockhaven camp. As you may know we have long struggled to make the summer camp a self-sustaining activity. The fees campers are normally willing to pay just don't cover the cost required to provide those services. This year our Camp Director, Scott Thrasher, challenged us to enact a new pricing model, wherein the campers are allowed to select among three different tiers of fees. The first tier is price the campers have paid in the past. The second tier is about ten percent higher and helps pay for more of the true costs of conducting camp. The third tier is another ten percent higher and is closer yet to representing the actual costs. I must confess I was skeptical of this approach. Why on earth would someone in their right mind select anything other than the first tier? The answer of course is not on earth. Last weekend Scott opened registration for this summer's camping season and ten of the first twelve registrants selected the third tier. Huzzah a third time!