



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

BOZEMAN



PresbEnews

January 15, 2020

A mid-week newsletter of First Presbyterian Church - Jody McDevitt & Dan Krebill, co-pastors
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Seminarian Kori Robbins checks in

It was wonderful to have church member Kori Robbins in church last Sunday, January 12. During both services, she presented a moment for mission in which she brought us a good thumbnail sketch of her year as a PCUSA Young Adult Volunteer in New York City, as well as on her experiences in her first semester of seminary. Kori has begun the process leading to ordination as a minister of word and sacrament. She was also the featured guest during our first Presby Cats gathering of the new semester. Donations are still be accepted to support a \$1,600 scholarship for Kori's upcoming second semester of seminary. This is about 10% of the total cost of attendance. If you would like to contribute, please contact Linda in the church office at linda@fpcbozeman.org or at 586-9194. You can also give online at www.easytithes.com/fpcbozeman and choosing the "Seminary Assistance Fund."

Thanks for your support.

Youth Sale of Cookie Dough Concludes January 21

Thank you to the Board of Deacons and to others who have placed their orders for Elliotts cookie dough and other mixes. Our youth will be selling these fine products through January 21, with delivery on February 4. The sale benefits our summer mission trip to the Navajo Nation with Sierra Service Project.

We appreciate your support!



Enhancing Our Conversations With God

"Oh God, liberate us from conceptions and ideas that make You smaller than You are, and open our minds to praise You for mercy wide enough to include all people as your children. Amen"

Upper Room Disciplines 1-8-2020

FIRST FRIDAY FEBRUARY 7
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 the Christian viewpoint of the movie of the month, **THE TIGER HUNTER**.

“A timely and topical comedy that captures a young immigrant's pursuit of success, love and the American dream with humor and heart. Sami Malik, a young Indian, travels to America in the 1970s. He dreams of becoming an engineer to impress his childhood crush and live up to the legacy of his father, a legendary tiger hunter. When Sami's job falls through, he takes a low-end job and joins with a gang of oddball friends in hopes of convincing his childhood sweetheart that he's far more successful than he truly is -- or perhaps ever could be. The

result is an endearingly old-fashioned comedy, not just in its style and the sweetness of its plot, but also in its bright-eyed optimism about immigrant opportunities. These days, it can be hard to remember that for those who dreamed large, America once seemed like a soft place to fall.”

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 Halverson Benediction

Wherever you go, God is sending you.

Wherever you are, God has put you there.

God has a purpose in your being there.

Christ who indwells you has something he wants to do through you where you are.

Believe this, and go in his grace and love and power.

The Rev. Richard Halverson

Richard Halverson was a Presbyterian minister who served several churches in the U.S. before becoming the chaplain of the U.S. Senate in the 1980s and 1990s. We are using his benediction in our worship services through the month of January.

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!*



5-Week Study On Antiracism begins February 28

This interesting study will provide you with information about racism that you have not been aware of and will show you what you can do to eliminate racism. The study will be led by Heidi Jones Magee (President of The Montana Racial Equity Project) and Vicki Van Rensselaer (a retired Human Resources professional). Any member of the First Presbyterian parish family is welcome to attend the study. The study will be held in Room 204 at First Presbyterian from Noon to 1 p.m. on five Fridays (February 28, March 6, March 13, March 27 and April 3) and following the 10:30 a.m. service at First Presbyterian on Sunday, March 15th and Sunday, March 29th. Don't worry if you're unable to attend all sessions of the study. You're welcome to attend whenever your schedule permits and you'll learn something whenever you're able to attend. Study participants can bring snacks or a light lunch.

It's recommended that study participants read the book So you want to talk about race by Ijeoma Oluo (available through amazon.com in paperback and Kindle editions) before the study gets underway because that book will provide you with some good preliminary information about racism. During our 5-week study, we'll be reading the book How To Be An Antiracist by Ibram X. Kendi (available through amazon.com in hardcover and Kindle editions).

If you have any questions, please contact:

Vicki Van Rensselaer at terracecoast@aol.com or at (406)282-7035.

VOLUNTEERING IN THE COMMUNITY

We are planning to update the wall hanging in the Fellowship Hall which lists the various places that our church members volunteer in the community. Please list where you volunteer below and place it in the offering plate or leave it at the church office.

No names needed.

Thanks, Donna and Sally

Adult Sunday School class to take up the Matthew 25 mandate from the denomination

Beginning on Sunday, January 19, pastor Dan Krebill will begin a 6-week Bible study in our adult Sunday school class on what it would mean to become a Matthew 25 church in our denomination. The last two General Assemblies of our church (2016 and 2018) exhorted the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to be a Matthew 25 church, acting boldly and compassionately to serve people who are impacted by oppressive systems of poverty, and racism. Matthew 25:31-46, the parable of the Judgment of the Nations, calls all of us to actively engage in the world around us. Matthew 25 churches are actively engaged in their communities by working toward: • building congregational vitality, • dismantling structural racism, and • eradicating systemic poverty. Pastor Dan will lead the class in an in-depth study of this important part of Jesus' ministry in Matthew's gospel.

The class meets on Sundays from 9:30-10:15 in the church library.



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

Birthdays this week

- 1/15 Alison Todd
 McKinley Hall
- 1/18 Jennifer Frye
- 1/19 Linda Miller
- 1/21 Suzanne Galinac
 Scott Thompson
 Chuck Broughton

Rent-a-Cat is back!

With the new semester about to get underway at MSU, our Presby Cats are back in town, ready and eager to help with all of your odds and ends jobs where some extra assistance is needed. Presby Cats will do just about anything to help you out in exchange for a donation to the Presby Cats' mission trip fund. There are 10 of us going to Cuba over spring break, and we need to raise quite a bit more money to break even on the costs. Please contact Andrew Chauvin at 425-328-5765 or archauv@gmail.com to hire Rent-a-Cat. *Thanks for your support!*

Betty Knutson's Son Ordained

My oldest son, Bill Knutson, was ordained into the priesthood at St. John's Cathedral of the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles on Saturday, January 11, 2020.

I had the honor of standing alongside Bill, his wife Carin, and their two children, placing the stole on my newly-ordained son. It was a blessing to have extended family members and friends present to support and celebrate Bill at this very special time.

I would like to thank my FPC friends who have also supported us in thought and prayer throughout this process which, like anything good, isn't always easy but well worth the effort. We are humbled, thankful, and blessed and praise God from Whom all blessings flow!

In Christ,
 Betty Knutson



Bill Knutson is in the second row on the far left.

Holland-days...

by Dan Holland

Last week this space was more or less devoted to explaining how our family may have experienced the best Christmas ever. In the interest of full disclosure I should come clean and tell you that the days and weeks since Christmas have been considerably less than the best ever.

My wife, Christine, began to struggle with her health immediately after all of our company departed. Christine has always been a fairly private person when it comes to certain matters, so she had requested I keep these struggles under wraps until we could get a complete diagnosis. She finally got some clarity earlier this week and she now feels more comfortable exposing her condition in the hopes that some of you will lift her up in prayer.

Those two weeks between the onset of her symptoms and the clarity of a diagnostic plan of attack were not pleasant. In addition to suffering the physical setbacks, Christine was also combatting the mental aspects of not fully knowing what was happening. To compound matters she didn't have a very good caretaker.

Among my many faults are a lack of patience and a lack of compassion. Oh, sure, I can pontificate in this space and behind a pulpit until I am blue in the face, but true character is revealed in times of crisis. Time and time again I fail the test. This time God decided to teach me a little lesson, and last week God had a little fun at my expense.

Pumping gas is an activity I dare say everyone has experienced. At best it is a minor inconvenience, and at its worst it is, well, a slightly larger inconvenience. Last Wednesday afternoon, however, I managed to take the act of pumping gas to new depths. As I absentmindedly washed the windows of my car, I failed to properly navigate the gas hose and rather violently tripped myself. During my rapid descent toward the filthy concrete below me, I heard a distinct pop in the back of my left leg. Fortunately the squeegee I was carrying broke my fall (and snapped the squeegee in half), but as I lay face down on the gasoline and grime saturated ground, the pain from my freshly strained hamstring surged through my neural system. A mild state of shock set in, and I found myself unable to move. After what seemed like an eternity, a kind gentleman offered assistance, and despite my embarrassment, my light-headedness, my excruciating pain, I took him up on his offer, slowly got up, and drove home.

I drove home to where my job as Christine's caretaker would become considerably more deliberate, slow moving, and painful. Hmmm, a little dose of patience and compassion. God indeed works in mysterious ways.

As for Christine, heart surgery is in her immediate future. If the way be clear, we will travel to Missoula in the next week or two for a mitral valve procedure. And if all that goes well, she should be her old, vibrant self in a few weeks. In the meantime we covet your prayers to the God of patience and compassion.



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!