



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

BOZEMAN



PresbEnews

January 13, 2021

A mid-week newsletter of First Presbyterian Church - Jody McDevitt & Dan Krebill, co-pastors
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Pandemic Response Team Report by John Patterson

We had some great worship services on Christmas Eve and for the Blessing of the Animals and we want to thank everyone who participated! The children did a tremendous job for the Christmas Eve service and our pets all seemed to get along for the Blessing of the Animals. Baroque Music Montana's "Heigh-Ho Holiday Concert," using our sanctuary with a small number of participants who followed our Covid-19 protocols, went well and we have been blessed to be able to use some of that music in our worship services. We are in discussion with them about additional programming.

After some time off during the Christmas and New Year holidays, the PRT is meeting again on Monday afternoons and as needed on Wednesday afternoons at 4 p.m. You are all welcome to join us anytime. We definitely value your opinions and input and would welcome your involvement if you would like to consider becoming a member of the PRT. You can contact any of us on the PRT for the Zoom link for our meetings.

As you are aware the number of new Covid-19 cases in the county, the percent of positive Covid-19 tests and the number of people hospitalized with Covid-19 remain high. And there is the wild-card of what will happen to the number of Covid-19 cases as MSU students return to campus. We know there are some church members who would very much like us to reopen to in-person worship. However, it's because of all of those factors I just listed that the PRT doesn't feel we should do that yet as we consider the safety not only of our congregation but of the broader community as well. We're hopeful that the Covid-19 vaccines will help us be able to get back to in-person worship.

As we move into 2021, we encourage you to remain connected with one another through our worship, study and fellowship opportunities as well as individual contact with one another. If you are feeling isolated or lonely, reach out to others in the church family. We're here for one another. That's part of being family.

As often as you've heard it your Pandemic Response Team reminds you to continue to be safe - wear your mask, wash your hands and watch your distance! Zoom instructions are on page 2.

Enhancing Our Conversations with God
Prayer is: Creating and growing in a relationship with God.

Pandemic Response Team meetings, Mondays 4 – 5 pm
Congregation members welcome

1. Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/994593614?pwd=amRWVytZNOV3ajNLaGIGSmJyakNYdz09>

Meeting ID: 994 593 614

Passcode: 255160

2. One tap mobile

+13462487799,,994593614#,,,,,0#,,255160# US (Houston)

+16699009128,,994593614#,,,,,0#,,255160# US (San Jose)

3. Dial from your phone

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 994 593 614

Passcode: 255160

Jim Jarrett Memorial to be January 23

Please plan to join the Jarrett family in an online memorial service on Saturday, January 23, 2021, at 11 am. The service will be on Zoom, on Boxcast via the church website, and on Facebook live.

1. Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88452183043?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88452183043?pwd=MUXQVExjZnlVekQxaGN3ekEwdnhXdz09)

[pwd=MUXQVExjZnlVekQxaGN3ekEwdnhXdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88452183043?pwd=MUXQVExjZnlVekQxaGN3ekEwdnhXdz09)

Meeting ID: 884 5218 3043 Passcode: LookingUp

2. One tap mobile

+16699009128,,88452183043#,,,,*486627336# **OR**

+12532158782,,88452183043#,,,,*486627336#

3. From your phone

669 900 9128 **OR** 253 215 8782 **OR** 346 248 7799 **OR** 312 626 6799

Meeting ID: 884 5218 3043 Passcode: 486627336

In Memoriam

Wally Thomsen, church member Paula Thomsen's mother, died on January 5, 2021, at the age of 90. Wally moved to Bozeman from Denver five years ago to live with Paula. She became an active part of our church family. An online memorial service will be held on Saturday, February 6 at 2 pm. Instructions for attending will be published closer to the date. Sympathies may be extended to Paula 410 N. Yellowstone Ave., Bozeman, Mt 59718.

Sunday School

Spark Story Bible At-Home

Preschool – Grade 2 Any time

This week's story: The Boy in the Temple Told by Dayna Berg: <https://youtu.be/sS0DY6QjdKs>

Jaki's Sunday School

Older Elementary/Middle School Any time

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1n8cb1XFDx4lfnRds1T9_M8QxhLft8Ae/view?usp=sharing

The Book of Joy

Adult Study 11 am Sunday

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81926086294?pwd=WmhWcUYrbHgwWTFaL0N0SIB4L0xhdz09>

Meeting ID: 819 2608 6294 Passcode: 862914

One tap mobile:

+16699009128,,81926086294#,,,,,0#,,862914# **OR**

+12532158782,,81926086294#,,,,,0#,,862914#

Dial from your telephone:

669 900 9128 **OR** 253 215 8782 **OR** 346 248 7799 **OR** 312 626 6799

Meeting ID: 819 2608 6294 Passcode: 862914

Per Capita for 2021

The Per Capita for 2021 is \$55.25 for each member. The Per Capita goes to the Yellowstone Presbytery, Rocky Mountain Synod and the General Assembly to help pay for administrative expenses. The finance committee encourages all members to pay per capita above their other donations if possible.

Please contact Linda if you have any questions, linda@fpcbozeman.org or 586-9194.

Gallatin County Vaccine Information

If you have questions about Covid-19 vaccination, check the Healthy Gallatin website, which shows the timeline for eligibility and provides responses to frequently asked questions. The Pandemic Response Team is planning a vaccine information event for our congregation with a panel of medical and public health personnel. Stay tuned for more information on this event.

Click on this link to access the county health web page:

<https://www.healthygallatin.org/covid-19-vaccines/>

Congregational Get-Together Fellowship, with brief devotion time 7 pm Tuesday

The Tuesday evening “Congregational Get Together,” is an informal zoom meeting with a devotion and prayer time. A passcode has been added to this meeting, following zoom security requirements.

TUESDAY Evening Congregational Get Together

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/105970704?pwd=b2JObXRhazFFWTVsNXV5RFQ2Tmk2UT09>

Meeting ID: 105 970 704 Passcode: Fellowship

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,105970704#,,,,,0#,,1528249515# **OR**

+13462487799,,105970704#,,,,,0#,,1528249515#

Dial from your telephone:

669 900 9128 **OR** 253 215 8782 **OR** 346 248 7799 **OR** 312 626 6799

Meeting ID: 105 970 704 Passcode: 1528249515

Birthdays this week

1/13 Ric Tieman

1/14 Don Frye

1/15 Alison Todd

1/18 Jennifer Frye

1/19 Linda Miller

Financial Giving

Please support the church through your financial gifts, pledges and offerings. You can mail checks to the church at P.O. Box 1150, Bozeman, MT 59771. Or consider making your contributions through our church’s online giving platform. Simply go to www.easytithethe.com/fpcbozeman and choose the “Give Now” option to make a one-time gift, or chose the “Sign In” option if you’d like to be a regular user. The drop down “Fund” menu allows you to direct your gift to a specific fund. The first option, “General Church Budget, “ is the one to which Sunday offerings go. You can give by credit card, debit card, or by electronic funds transfer from your bank account. You also have the option to make recurring gifts on a schedule you choose.

Smartphone users may scan this QR code to access the online giving portal.



Thank you for your ongoing support of our church.

Holland-days...

by Dan Holland

Based on almost every metric being considered, the past seven days have been the worst since the beginning of the pandemic. Five point two million human beings contracted COVID-19 last week; ninety-two thousand died. One point eight million of the worldwide positive tests occurred within the borders of the US; twenty-three thousand deaths were Americans. To put it in perspective, eight percent of all the positive cases registered in our country since this health crisis began happened in the last week. Folks, we are in the midst of a dark, dark surge.

Unfortunately there is no light being shone by those who govern us. The darkness has been made darker. Where can we turn to find a source of overcoming light? Where?

Normally this would be the perfect place to insert a passage from the first chapter of John's gospel, but today I am going to suggest a different source. It is a celestial source; it is a star.

During Sunday's worship service those who wished to participate were each assigned a star gift. The star had a word written on it (well, we had to write our own randomly assigned words on it), and we were instructed to utilize that word for the next year. I have been involved in similar types of exercises in the past, and these self-improvement models have the potential to be transformative. There was only one problem with this one — I didn't like the word I was assigned.

I pleaded with our leader to see if I could trade words, but she reminded me that the first rule of the exercise was you can't trade words. I sheepishly agreed, and so for the rest of 2021 I am stuck with this theme: openness.

When I first began to assess this word, I thought I already possess a fair amount of openness. After all I pour my soul into the words in this space each and every week. But as I thought about it some more, I realized I harbor in the depths of my being some rather nasty secrets. So in the interest of bringing some of these character flaws into the light (and fear not, gentle reader, the most vile of my secrets will remain just that) I will commit to periodically disclosing them to you in a segment I will call:

Full Disclosure

I despise the President of the United States. I loathe him. I didn't like him when he was a Democrat and I don't like him as a Republican. I can't even bring myself to type the five letters of his last name. I am also not the only one that suffers from this disorder.

I have always considered myself a moderate politically. I pay an inordinate amount of attention to political affairs, but I try to obtain information from unbiased sources. That is getting harder and harder to do these days. Lately I have been consciously attempting to listen to both sides of the story. I purposely tune in to pundits on each end of the spectrum. Their voices are shrill and each is convinced the other is the personification of evil.

In the past I always figured the truth exists somewhere in between the two extremes. I also convinced myself I could walk away unaffected for having participated in this little experiment of mine. I have deceived myself.

I am as guilty of prejudice as any card carrying member of the Ku Klux Klan. My soul drips with suspicion and innuendo. I am a man of unclean lips. Where to next? I guess wherever Jesus is leading me. Stay tuned.



Rockhaven Chapel

First Presbyterian Church

January 10-31, 2021



First Presbyterian Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
10 9:30 Worship	11 4 pm Pandemic Response Team	12 7pm Congregational Get Together	13 12:15 pm Worship Team	14 7am Men's Bible Study	15 11:20 am Worship Tech Rehearsal	16
17 9:30 Worship	18 4 pm Pandemic Response Team	19 7pm Congregational Get Together	20 12:15 pm Worship Team	21 7am Men's Bible Study	22 11:20 am Worship Tech Rehearsal	23 11 am Jim Jarrett Memorial
24 9:30 Worship	25 Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday 4 pm Pandemic Response Team	26 7pm Congregational Get Together	27 12:15 pm Worship Team	28 7am Men's Bible Study 7pm Session	29 11:20 am Worship Tech Rehearsal	30
31 9:30 Worship						

In these changing times the events on the calendar have changed too. Until further notice all the services, group meetings and events will be by Zoom until we find it safe to come back together. Please contact the leaders of the group meetings for instructions on how to get on Zoom for the meetings. We will update this calendar each week in the PresbEnews and on the church website as more meetings and events are scheduled. Stay Healthy.