



FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
BOZEMAN



# PresbEnews

*Good News Edition - March 2021*

A mid-week newsletter of First Presbyterian Church - Jody McDevitt & Dan Krebill, co-pastors  
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*Don't forget to set your clocks ahead  
 one hour on Sunday morning March 14th*





## *Co-Pastors' Corner...*

These long months of pandemic have lessons to teach us. One dominant theme is the power of connection. Here are some illustrations.

- A virus that previously lived in bats connected to a new host, humans
- Humans in Wuhan, China, are connected to humans all around the globe
- Everywhere, people need connection to health care
- We all are connected by food supply chains and the workers who grow, harvest, process, and sell food
- The elderly and those who live in long-term care facilities rely on an interconnected community of helpers
- Children and families need a connected community to grow and learn and be healthy
- The health of body, mind, and spirit are all connected
- Scientific research depends on "connecting the dots," linking past learning to present need
- Vaccine distribution requires complex logistical connections

These connections, networks, links, and interconnections challenge a culture which admires "rugged individualism." No one is an island, the poet John Donne wrote long ago. His insight came from his Christian faith. We live in connection with God, with community, and with the earth and its living creatures. Our life is made possible by these connections.

We are grateful for the connections which are sustaining us in this time of grief. Thank you for the prayers, meals, cards, and help you have provided our family following the death of Dan's father, Paul Krebill, last month. All of us have been challenged by the pandemic to find new ways to keep connections strong. The faithfulness and adaptability of First Presbyterian Church is testimony to Christ's spirit of love and unity working among us. As recipients of your sympathy and affection, we know how important it is to have a church family, a community rooted in faith, hope, and love. Thank you, from all the Krebill family.

*Enhancing Our Conversation With God*

*"Lord, help us not to be discouraged or indifferent to the happenings around us. May our lives reflect Your love and light to a hurting world. Amen."*

*Upper Room Disciplines, 2/27/2016*

## Pandemic Team Report by John Patterson

Thanks to Jody for her very thoughtful sermon last Sunday and the tribute to Paul Krebill who, indeed, lived a life that mattered.

Your Pandemic Response Team met by Zoom this past Wednesday afternoon. Although we're still unable to safely open to in-person worship, there are a number of things we are considering. We're looking at updates to the church building use policy. One proposal we have adopted is to allow the Presby Cats (up to 18 of them) to meet for meals that could be prepared in the kitchen. The students would be able to appropriately spread out in the combined space of the Fellowship Hall and Library to allow safe distancing between each other while eating and meeting.

With Covid-19 cases trending downward, we're also planning to update our procedures for when we are able to re-open to in-person worship. Some of our procedures from a few months ago were developed when there was more concern for virus transmission by surface contact. Now we know that the virus is primarily transmitted through the air and that will change some of our procedures and protocols. Further consideration is also being given to how we can optimize the worship experience for those who will be attending in-person as well as virtually. That will likely include things like having well-positioned camera, additional TV monitor screens in the sanctuary, etc.

Covid-19 vaccinations remain a priority in our community as well as around the world. As of February 22, 12,740 first doses and 5,142 second doses have been administered in Gallatin County. Fortunately, a third Covid-19 vaccine developed by Johnson and Johnson was given the OK for use in the U.S. this past week and that should help with vaccine distribution. We remain in Phase 1B of vaccine distribution, which is for individuals at and over age 70, American Indians and other people of color and those 16-69 with certain underlying medical conditions. Continue to regularly check the [healthygallatin.org](http://healthygallatin.org) website for updates on obtaining the Covid-19 vaccines and tips on the signup process through the county and various providers. If you have questions, call John Patterson at 587-9722.

Make sure you stay connected with one another. Although we're not meeting in-person, remember that WE ARE the church and WE WILL get through this together!

As always, we encourage you to **wash your hands, wear your mask, watch your distance and stay home if you are sick. Stay well and stay connected!**

## 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

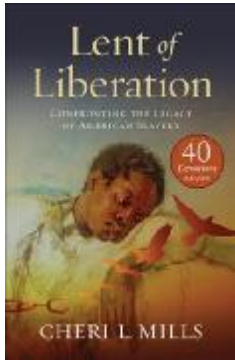
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 994 593 614

Passcode: 255160

## Lent of Liberation Study



All are welcome to join this engaged, compassionate group of people to go deeper into history, faith, and action. *Lent of Liberation* study is based on 40 days of readings. Each begins with the testimony of a formerly enslaved person, which the author relates to a Biblical passage and the challenges of racial justice in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The class will be held on Zoom, using the same meeting links as previous adult Sunday school studies. These are included weekly in the Faith Formation and Fellowship attachment to the email regarding Sunday worship and below.

The book, by Cheri Mills, will soon be available from Jody McDevitt, [jody@fpcbozeman.org](mailto:jody@fpcbozeman.org) or 406-551-3262, for \$10.

### **Adult Sunday School – Lent of Liberation** 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

## Sunday School

**Spark Story Bible At-Home** Preschool – Grade 2 Any time

This week's story: *The Lord's Prayer* Told by Dayna Berg: <https://youtu.be/5QMMcENTiYN8>

**Jaki's Sunday School** Older Elementary/Middle School Any time

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1EesppxBLF\\_64QcLPkt65yqDboyrKs2eT/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1EesppxBLF_64QcLPkt65yqDboyrKs2eT/view?usp=sharing)

### Congregational Get Together March 9, Tuesday evening at 7 pm

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.

1. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/105970704?pwd=b2JObXRhazFFWTVsNXV5RFQ2Tmk2UT09>  
Meeting ID: 105 970 704 Passcode: Fellowship

2. One tap mobile

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

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

3. 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

## 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.easytithes.com/fpcbozeman](http://www.easytithes.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.

## "Religion and Race" at Interfaith Forum Today

This month's Interfaith Forum addresses the topic, "Religion and White Supremacy." It's not just the extremists who subscribe to white supremacy. This ideology underlies many of our institutions and is embedded in our assumptions and habits. What can we do about this? Special guest panelist will be Dr. Shane Doyle, an enrolled member of the Apsaalooka Nation who is an educational consultant, science researcher, film producer, and performing artist.

Join us at noon on Wednesday on Zoom.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82717202109?pwd=YmE3LzdEQWJUam95RHhpTmQwNzBBdz09>

Meeting ID: 827 1720 2109 Passcode: 518801

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,82717202109#,,,,\*518801# **OR**

+13462487799,,82717202109#,,,,\*518801#

Dial from your phone

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

Meeting ID: 827 1720 2109 Passcode: 518801



## Gallatin Valley Food Bank



Right now The Gallatin Valley Food Bank is asking for monetary donations, food donations require volunteer labor and we are limiting the number of daily volunteers due to COVID-19.

Thank you for understanding

Please go to:

[gallatinvalleyfoodbank.org](http://gallatinvalleyfoodbank.org)

## Birthdays this Month

3/3 Russell Milburn

Adynn Small

3/4 Stuart Cunningham

3/8 Kelly Vange

3/9 Logan Cunningham

3/10 Beau Gilbert

3/14 Ellie Lehrkind

3/16 Mattie Hickert

Shelby Guenther

3/21 Ron Vaughn

3/22 Nancy Williams

Trish Garnick

3/24 Jim Craig

3/25 Jody McDevitt

3/27 Jacob Kleinhans

Graham Overton

3/29 Zephaniah Small

## Holland-days...

(by Dan Holland)

This past week, for the first time in two months, the weekly number of worldwide confirmed COVID-19 cases increased. The last seven days registered two point seven million cases. The previous week the figure had been 2.5 million and seven weeks prior it had been 5.2 million. While we certainly hope the most recent data is just an anomaly, there are still thresholds reached we might have thought at one time unimaginable — like the 100,000<sup>th</sup> case in Montana. Of course the good news is that at least two and a half times that number of vaccines have been jabbed into Montanan's arms. And now with a third vaccine available, the number of fully vaccinated Montanans should exceed the number of those previously infected later this week. Now that will be a threshold worth celebrating.

### The Easy Yoke (Part III)

The carpenter accelerated as he walked up the rise that led from sleeping Nazareth behind him. He knew he must maintain a quick pace to arrive in Shimron with enough daylight left to begin work on his customer's ox yoke. Despite the urgency in his feet, the carpenter allowed himself a brief look back at the village below. Though the sun had not yet risen, the sky to the east had begun to change color and the faintest stirrings were evident as the residents began to ready for a new day. He envisioned his mother rising to stoke the fire and the priests in the synagogue beginning their busy day. He mouthed a brief prayer for them all as he slowed momentarily to shift the bag slung over his shoulder.

The carpenter felt the bag mold into the contours of his sinewy back and he could hear his tools jostle momentarily and then settle into place. His other shoulder held a goatskin bag containing water, and compared to the weight of the larger bag, he barely noticed its presence. He once again quickened his pace as he reached the top of the plateau and in the gathering light surveyed the couple of miles of relatively flat road ahead.

He smiled and felt assured he would be able to make great time now. With this surge of confidence the carpenter began to recite a psalm from the sacred scriptures. It was one of his most beloved. Not only was it a psalm of David, the house from which he had descended, it was also a perfect psalm for moments such as this.

*"Though I rise on the wings of the dawn,"* the carpenter sang it aloud, then looked about conspicuously to see if anyone heard him. A wolf howled in the distance, but it was too far to have heard. So he sang the same verse again, *"Though I rise on the wings of the dawn."* The words felt satisfying and appropriate. He continued, *"and settle on the farthest shore."* He changed an octave and finished, *"even there your hand shall lead me, your right hand shall hold me fast."*

Though the carpenter had heard this psalm sung by the priests in the synagogue before, it was not one he had led the congregation in singing himself. He began to formulate remarks he could potentially preach the next time the priests allowed him to lead. Since his youth the priests had periodically granted him time to address the congregation and its members always commented favorably. This in turn allowed the carpenter's confidence to grow. Suddenly his revelry was interrupted by a weak moaning and wailing coming from the ditch beside the road.

...Continued next week



#### 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](http://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

## March 2021



First Presbyterian Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 4 pm Pandemic Response Team	2 7pm Congregational Get Together	3 12:15 pm Worship Team 12:00 Interfaith Forum	4 7am Men's Bible Study  6:30 pm Deacons	5 11:15 am Worship Tech Rehearsal	6
7 9:30 am Worship 11 am Adult Sunday School 11am Presby Cats	8 4 pm Pandemic Response Team	9 7pm Congregational Get Together	10 12:15 pm Worship Team  7pm Choir	11 7am Men's Bible Study  6:30 pm Deacons	12 11:15 am Worship Tech Rehearsal	13 2pm Paul Krebill Memorial Service
14 9:30am Worship 11 am Adult Sunday School 11am Presby Cats	15 4 pm Pandemic Response Team	16 7pm Congregational Get Together	17 12:15 pm Worship Team  7pm Choir	18 7am Men's Bible Study	19 11:15 am Worship Tech Rehearsal	20 4 pm Gayle Hickert and Barry Brodd Wedding
21 9:30 am Worship 11 am Adult Sunday School 11am Presby Cats	22 4 pm Pandemic Response Team	23 7pm Congregational Get Together	24 12:15 pm Worship Team  7pm Choir	25 7am Men's Bible Study  7pm Session	26 11:15 am Worship Tech Rehearsal	27
28 Palm Sunday 9:30 am Worship 11 am Adult Sunday School 11am Presby Cats	29 4 pm Pandemic Response Team	30 7pm Congregational Get Together	31 12:15 pm Worship Team  7pm Choir			

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.