

PresbEnews

Good News Edition - May 2016



A mid-week newsletter of First Presbyterian Church - Jody McDevitt & Dan Krebill, co-pastors
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Co-Pastors' Corner... There are lots of different signs of spring in the life of our church.

- One of them is the return of our numerous snowbirds who show up on a Sunday morning after being away for winter. We're always so happy to see them as we anticipate sharing in the ministry of our church with them over the course of the next half year.
- Another sign is the completion of the academic year at Montana State University. While our Presby Cats collegiate ministry takes a break for the summer from our regular weekly rhythms, there are quite a number of them who will be around this summer. The group is looking to have some summer organized events. By the way that means Rent-a-Cat is still in operation for your odd jobs and needs for help!
- Related directly to the end of the school year are graduation ceremonies. Personally, we're celebrating the masters degree graduations of our daughter Alice and son-in-law Paul in Chicago, as well as our nephew's high school graduation in Idaho.
- Another amazing sign of spring this year is the completely full registration for all of our camps at Rockhaven this summer. This means that we're going to have a busier than ever summer at Rockhaven. It's going to be amazing!
- And, of course, there is the ever-popular downtown ecumenical vacation Bible school that is also filling up fast.

Springtime in the life of the church is an exciting time. On top of all of the transitions that are occurring is the amazing and transformative good news of Easter that continues in this season. We are an Easter people who share this good news in so many different ways. As you affirm your faith in the life of Jesus, risen from the dead, we encourage you to see signs of new life around you and to share those observations with others. While it's always a good time to celebrate this good news, springtime makes it more obvious and easier than ever to share!

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!*



Session Notes April 28

The first few minutes of the meeting we welcomed and received the new members from the recent New Member class. They were Mark and Carolyn Williams, Jeffrey Bissell, and Mike Marjanen. We spent a brief time listening to their journeys to Bozeman and our church.

Donna Beck read a thank you note from the Presby Cats for the congregation's support in their mission trip to Northern Ireland.

Dan and Jody will be traveling May 3-10 to Chicago to be with Alice and Paul as they both graduate with their Masters. Dan Holland will then be preaching May 8 for Camp Sunday.

Spiritual Growth committee will be working to put things together for fall. Feedback is still welcome.

By an approved motion, \$1,760.00 was granted from the Pat Donehoo Fund for the Presby Cats mission trip due to a short fall. The Rent-a-Cat brought in an additional \$450.00 since they returned from the trip.

An initial loan of \$1,500.00 was approved, half from the Fruitfulness Fund for Presby Cats support and half from the Pat Donehoo Fund for youth and collegiate mission trips, to support the application for 20 people on a mission trip to Chicago in March 2017.

Rockhaven Board is focusing on developing a long range plan with the help of Lowell Springer, a well-respected architect who has offered to donate his expertise in helping us get a plan down on paper. We have a record number of registrations at a record early date for the camps. There are waiting lists for most camps. The campership fund is growing, but our campers still need support in this area.

There will be a session retreat in September. Hospitality committee is planning a thank you dinner for the choir on Wednesday, May 11, from 6-7 before their last rehearsal before summer break. There is a big thank you card for everyone to sign and express their thanks to the choir.

Submitted by Suzanne Bratsky

OMBUD: *The person who will listen to your suggestions, concerns, complaints and compliments.*

*This quarter our **OMBUD** from the session is Marcia Jarrett, she will be happy to answer your questions and listen to what you have to say. She will be available in the library after Sunday services or you can contact her by phone (388-6314) or email marciajarrett@littleappletech.com. She will follow-up with Session.*

2 Corinthians 9:7

“Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

Thank you for giving your time, talents, and financial contributions.

Without your generous support we could not do all the great things we do to Glorify God.

Below is a table showing our financial status as of the end of March, 2016

February Income	\$30,091	Year to Date Income	\$119,120
February Expenses	\$37,496	Year to Date Expenses	\$128,956
February Balance	(\$7,404)	Year to Date Balance	(\$9,836)

Camp Sunday features guest preacher and artist



Sunday, May 8, will be celebrated as Camp Sunday this year, with a special focus on the outdoor ministries of Rockhaven Camp. Preaching will be church member and elder Dan Holland. If you were in worship when he filled the pulpit in January, you know that Dan is very gifted at communicating God's Word. Also in leadership that day will be Camp Director Scott Thrasher, who will be creating a project that the church family and summer campers will all be able to contribute to. Come and see what this might mean!

We are blessed with the stewardship of Rockhaven, a place where we meet God in simplicity, peacefulness, and faith. As the summer approaches and we prepare for fellowship opportunities, Vespers worship, and summer camp, all are invited to join in prayer and praise for this special place and its ministry.

Rockhaven Summer Camps Report

A record number of registrations, at a record early date, has yielded FULL camps for the season. That's more than 240 camp registrations!

Many campers attend multiple camps, so this number represents approximately 150 different campers. As part of our camp's mission, we provide camperships for those with financial need. The average need for assistance is \$100/camp.

Thanks to the generosity of the congregation, all campership requests will be met. Thank you to the Board of Deacons for a major gift, to the youth of the church who put on the Easter Breakfast in support of the campership fund, and to generous individual donors who have made gifts. The fund now stands at approximately \$4200. Any funds not used this year will provide a boost for next year's fund, helping our camp be available to all children.

Jody let us know that as she is wrapping up the latest requests for assistance, she gets to hear these parents RAVE about the experience their kids had last summer. They beg to go back; some parents testify that their children have been shy but camp really helped them. They say that sending their kids to camp is really good for the parents themselves, and always express how grateful they are for the program and the assistance!

Thank you everyone for all you do for the Kids at Rockhaven.

Rockhaven Board

FIRST FRIDAY – May 6



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 a Christian viewpoint of the movie for the month, *Brooklyn*. In the 1950's a young Irish woman with only a suitcase made the journey by boat from Ireland to begin a new life away from family and friends.

Homesickness, tragedy to her family, and love make this a thoroughly entertaining and emotionally resonant story. The movie was named one of the TOP 10 of 2015 by AARP.

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.

NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO FIRST FRIDAY IN JUNE, JULY, OR AUGUST.

*The Board of Deacons
cordially invites you
to the Annual Tea
Honoring Senior Members
and Friends
of First Presbyterian Church
On May 19th at 3:00 p.m.
at
First Presbyterian Church
Fellowship Hall*

*For Transportation and to
R.S.V.P.
call Jay Pontius-Backman
at 924-6135*

An Afternoon at the Farm



It has become a tradition for the children of our Sunday school and their families to enjoy a spring outing to the Holland “farm” in Belgrade. This year, the “kids” will meet two sets of “kids,” those born in February and those expected in May. Dan and Christine always have special activities planned so that the children can enjoy the chickens and horses as well as the goats. It’s a special day!

This year the farm afternoon will be Sunday, May 15, from 12 noon – 1:30 pm. RSVP to Don Frye 580-4973.



Pig Raising to Support Women Pastors?

What and where and why?

Find out from Mission Worker, Ruth Brown, on Tuesday, May 24 at 7:00 p.m. in room 204.

Ruth will share where some of our money goes when given to One Great Hour of Sharing or the PW Thank offering. Ruth is a mission worker with PCUSA and will be with us for coffee, dessert and fellowship to share her experiences. She says "I simply want to thank churches for their already existing part in PC(USA)'s partnership with the Presbyterian Church of Congo (CPC) and to provide more understanding our work for development in Congo.

When church members have given to Presbyterian Women's Thank Offering and to One Great Hour of Sharing, they have supported communities in Congo! In the past 6 years, the CPC has been a recipient of 4 grants from Presbyterian Women's Thank Offering and 2 grants from Presbyterian Hunger"

Ruth was appointed as a mission co-worker to serve as a development specialist with the leadership of the Presbyterian Community of Congo (CPC) focusing on food security issues. Ruth works with the CPC development staff as they expand existing development services and collaborates closely with ecumenical organizations with similar goals. She trains and accompanies church and community leaders in resolving problems by using local resources. She supports plans and training for community needs assessment and resource mapping, program monitoring, and evaluation. She also collaborates closely with other PC(USA) personnel assigned to the Central and West Africa area.

As a development specialist, Ruth works with communities to address the root causes of hunger and poor health rather than just treat symptoms. She strives to help adults and youth evaluate their situations and develop solutions that will serve the entire community.

Please come and learn more about where your dollars go for those in need!

Mission Trip to Dakota Presbytery, part 2

For the second year in a row, First Presbyterian Church is sending a mission delegation to the Ft. Peck reservation in northeastern Montana to build relationships with the Dakota Presbyterian Churches there. Last spring, the group of 13 short term "missionaries" completed the documentation of a cemetery at the Makaicu Presbyterian Church. This year, projects are still developing but the mission of building relationships remains primary.



The trip will take place May 31- June 4 this year. As of May 1, the mission team members will be: Chuck Beck, Suzanne Bratsky, John & Judy Harrison, John* & Jane* Hodges, George* McClure, Jody* McDevitt, John* & Judy* Patterson, Sammylu Parsons, Jay Pontius-Backman, and Nancy Rutkowski. (* indicates participation in 2015 trip also).

Once again, our journey is being facilitated by Patrick and Sudi Pipe, both Dakota Presbyterians who joined First Presbyterian Church when they were students at MSU a few years ago. Several other Dakota Presbyterians have already offered their welcome, which tells us that we are succeeding in our primary mission of building relationships. We will also learn more about the culture, history, and current realities of life on the reservation.

Please pray for safe travels and the growth in relationships between brothers and sisters in Christ.

Presby Cats wind up a very successful year

On Sunday, May 1, our Presby Cats collegiate group met for the last time this academic year. We had a party at George and Kathy Goodrich's home where we had a delicious lunch followed by some fun activities. One of them was to make goodie bags for our friends and classmates to help them through the upcoming finals week. We've already planned out our calendar of activities for next year and we'll be promoting Presby Cats at the upcoming freshman orientation sessions this summer. Our mission trip next spring break in



2017 will be to Chicago where we'll learn about and take part in inner city urban ministries. We'd like to thank all of the people who cooked lunches for us over the last 2 semesters. Your home-cooked meals are so appreciated and we love it when there are leftovers to take home with us as well. Many thanks to: Bernie and Jim Mitchell, Susan Gibb, Nancy Rote, Debby Haynes, Nancy Giddings, Pam King, Suzanne and Tyler Forrester, Debbie Ernst, Kathy and George Goodrich, Linda Best, Judy Arkwright, Donna Beck, and Maureen Poremba.

Calling All Graduates

If your family has a graduate from either high school or college this spring please let the church office know either by emailing linda@fpcbozeman.org or calling 586-9194. We would like to share your news!



Lions Club Eye Glasses



Drop off your prescription and non-prescription eye glasses and dark glasses as well as hearing aids and cell phones in the Bozeman Lions Club collection box across from the bulletin board as you enter the fellowship hall at the east entrance. For more information contact Richard Reiley at 388-7840 or <http://e-clubhouse.org/sites/bozemanmt> .

Jeanne Warden Memorial Service

Long time member Jeanne Warden passed away on April 29. A service will be held at the church on Friday, May 6 with visitation at 9 a.m., the service at 10 a.m. and a luncheon following. Please come and celebrate her long life.

Pentecost Offering

Each year on Pentecost Sunday, we celebrate the arrival of the Holy Spirit. This year that event occurs on May 15th. Also at this time we receive the Pentecost Offering which is one four special offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

A gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people so they can begin life with a strong start. 40% of the Pentecost offering stays with our congregation and will go toward the Rockhaven Summer Camp Scholarship Fund. 25% supports Young Adult Volunteers (YAV) providing opportunities for young adults to serve in communities around the world and grow as leaders through transformative Christian service 25% goes to Ministries with Youth helping to guide our youth by uniting them in Christ and lifting them up as leaders and messengers of God's word. 10% advocates for at-risk children supporting vital ministries to improve education and provide a safe haven for children across the globe.

Please plan to support our youth and give generously to the Pentecost Offering.



Calling all shutterbugs!

Do you have digital pictures of church activities you would be willing to be part of the church's re-vamped website? If you do, send them to Dan Krebill at dan@fpccozen.org. In particular, we are looking for high-resolution close ups of kids, holiday events, Rockhaven, mission trips, Sunday school, blessing of the animals, holiday productions, music events, etc.

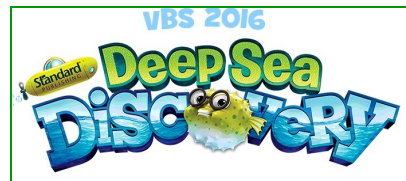
Thank you!
The website committee

THANKS TO THE CHOIR, BELL CHOIR, AND MUSICIANS

To show how much the congregation has appreciated all the beautiful music which has been given to us this year, the Hospitality committee is hosting a Thank You dinner for the choir and the bell choir on May 11. Please feel free to bring a card or note of appreciation to place in the basket which will be at the back of the sanctuary or please sign the large card which will be located upstairs following first service and downstairs at the coffee hour after second service.

Birthdays this Month

5/2 *Lori Larimer*
5/4 *Edie Renner*
5/7 *Barbara Mackie*
Marilyn Lockhart
5/10 *Bernie Mitchell*
5/12 *Marjorie David*
Jen Poore
5/13 *Nancy Giddings*
5/14 *Fran Bradley*
5/18 *McCabe Overton*
5/20 *Craig Miller*
5/20 *Ian Hoffman*
5/21 *Betty Boxmeyer*
5/22 *Madelyn Montgomery*
Frank Schurz
5/23 *Marjorie Hickman*
5/24 *Gigi Prunty*
Mimi Roser
Julia Johnson
5/25 *Kay Gannon*
5/26 *Mary McMakin*
5/28 *Bob Olsen*
5/29 *Nancy Rote*



Vacation Bible School 2016

June 20 – 24th

Vacation Bible School 2016

Deep Sea Discovery God is With Me Wherever We Go!

Our **VBS** is an experience of God's love, grace, and joy for over 140 children and 150 youth & adult volunteers. It is where our larger Christian family can come together to learn about and celebrate the unconditional love of Jesus Christ.

Our main program is for **children 4 years old - entering 6th grade** in the Fall of 2016 and can register here:

<https://yellowstone-reg.brapp.com/BozemanVBS2016child>

Childcare with VBS Activities is provided for our volunteers' children 0-3

Youth entering 7th - 12th grades are part of our **Youth Assistant Team** and can register here:

<https://yellowstone-reg.brapp.com/BozemanVBS2016youth>

Adults of all ages are our **Adult Volunteers** and can register here:

<https://yellowstone-reg.brapp.com/BozemanVBS2016adult>

Childcare with VBS Activities is provided for our volunteers' children 0-3

8:45am - Noon Please arrive at 8:15am on Monday June 20th

**Pre-Registration is necessary!
Register the whole family today!**

Love INC Class

Love INC is offering a **FREE** class, **Love Your Kitchen**, designed to help people learn how to cook and eat healthy on a budget. The registration deadline is **May 24**, and the class starts June 14. **To sign up to take the class** call Jane at 587-6395 or email changeyourlife@loveincgc.org . Childcare and transportation are available. If you would like to volunteer by being a **coach, or help with childcare or transportation** for the class, give Jane a call as well.

Flowers in Sanctuary

Are you looking for a way to commemorate or celebrate a special occasion? How about sharing some beautiful fresh flowers with your family at FPC? You may bring your own or Joy Ames will be happy to purchase and arrange them for you. Just call the church office and our secretary will assist you and decide on the announcement for the bulletin.

The flower calendar for 2016 is in the north narthex.

Email Articles for the Good News or PresbEnews

Please email all articles for the Good News or PresbEnews to presbenews@fpcbozeman.org . If you forget there is a link on the first page at the top of every issue. We receive so many emails we don't want articles to get lost and not get published.

Thank you from the Jarretts

Thank you to our church family for all the phone calls, beautiful cards, and warm hugs to our whole family during the loss of our Mom, Helen Anderson. We are so grateful for your loving care.

Marcia & Jim, Greg & Jennifer and all the children

Holland-days...

(by Dan Holland)

I don't imagine it is a coincidence that God uses Jewish holidays as a reference point for Christian ones. The best example of this is Easter which overlaps with the Jewish festival of Passover. The second best is rapidly approaching, namely Pentecost Sunday (this year it falls on May 15th.) Pentecost is the Greek word for the Jewish festival of Shavuot, a harvest festival that always occurs fifty days after Passover. I know enough geometry to know that "pent" signifies five (think pentagon) so perhaps "cost" means something akin to "times ten days after Passover." In any event, Christians have squeezed it into the Roman calendar by designating the seventh Sunday after Easter as Pentecost and the time in between as Eastertide.

I don't know about you, but Pentecost usually sneaks up on me. That is to say I normally sit down in my pew on that Sunday morning, open up the bulletin, and notice "oh, that's right; it's Pentecost Sunday." That is regrettable behavior on my part, because Pentecost is a big deal. It is the day God chose to bless the early followers of Christ with the gift of the Holy Spirit, followers who happened to be gathered in one spot because they were celebrating Shavuot.

I am a little more in tune with Pentecost this year, because I have been participating in a Bible study that follows the lectionary. The lectionary always follows the church calendar, and that explains why we typically hear sermons preached from the Book of Acts during Eastertide. It is a purposeful effort to remind us of the struggles and triumphs of the early church. But let's face it, the Book of Acts just doesn't get the notoriety that many other books in the Bible get. I mean Cecil B. DeMille never made a movie called Acts of the Apostles.

I'll be the first to admit that reading Acts can sometimes be tedious for me. But in an effort to make it a tad more relevant, I have taken to doing a little substituting. I hope this isn't a heretical act on my part, but instead of reading Philippi, or Corinth, or Thessalonica, I say Bozeman, or the Gallatin Valley. And instead of reading the apostles, or the followers, or Lydia, or Peter, I say the Board of Deacons, or the Family Promise volunteers, or the hospitality committee. It is a way of breathing fresh air into an ancient text and reminding me that the Holy Spirit is as alive in our congregation as it was in theirs.



Rockhaven Chapel

First Presbyterian Church



First Presbyterian Church

May 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1 Food Bank 8:30 am Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:45 Presby Cats 3 pm Pat Donehoo Memorial Concert</p>	2	<p>3 6pm First Bells 7pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>4 7pm Choir</p>	<p>5 7am Men's Bible Study 7:30 Women's Book Group 7pm Deacons</p>	<p>6 5:30 pm First Friday</p>	7
<p>8 Family Promise 8:30 am Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School</p>	9 Family Promise	<p>10 Family Promise 6pm First Bells 7pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>11 Family Promise 1pm Lydia Circle 3:30 Adult Mission 6pm Dinner for First Bells & Choir 7pm Choir</p>	<p>12 Family Promise 7am Men's Bible Study 7:30 Women's Book Group</p>	13 Family Promise	14 Family Promise
<p>15 Sunday School Recognition New Members 8:30 am Worship 10:30 Worship</p>	16	<p>17 7pm Elder/Deacon Training 7pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>18 7pm Choir</p>	<p>19 7am Men's Bible Study 7:30 Women's Book Group 3pm Senior Tea</p>	20 6pm Merry Munchers	21
<p>22 8:30 am Worship 9:30 24 S Willson Listening Session 10:30 Worship 3 pm Choir Festival</p>	23	<p>24 7pm Ruth Brown - Missionary 7pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>25 3:30 Adult Mission 7pm 24 S. Willson Listening Session</p>	<p>26 7am Men's Bible Study 7:30am Women's Book Group 7pm Session</p>	27	28
<p>29 8:30 am Worship 10:30 Worship</p>	30 Memorial Day office closed	<p>31 7pm Boy Scouts</p>				