

PresbEnews

Good News Edition - July 2016



A mid-week newsletter of First Presbyterian Church - Jody McDevitt & Dan Krebill, co-pastors
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Co-Pastors' Corner... Summertime in Montana is precious! From all over the

country and the world, people travel to experience our wondrous scenery, our big sky, clean rivers, and wilderness areas, and our (usually) pleasant weather. Many people who live in the Gallatin Valley have moved here because of its beauty, space, and summer recreational opportunities. Summer is when most of us spend more time outdoors, where God's creative wonders show themselves on a grand scale (just look at those mountains!) and small scale (did you see that Western Tanager?)

We are blessed to live in such a place. We are also blessed to live in community with one another. Recent world events have reminded us of the importance of community. About 60 people from the community gathered in our church sanctuary on the Saturday evening following the Orlando shooting, to grieve and remember through music, prayer, and readings. We stood in solidarity with all peace-loving, peace-seeking people. Two larger gatherings of community people occurred in our sanctuary this month, at the funeral services of Don Frye, Jr., and Bob Mathis. As a Christian community should, our church community simultaneously gathered around each family and welcomed the larger community. The ministries of comfort, hospitality, and hope are the gift and calling of a community of faith in our triune God of love.

First Presbyterian Church has a special calling to live out our ministry together in a precious place. At Rockhaven Camp, for seven weeks of the Montana summer there are children, youth, and young adults who are experiencing God's creative wonders while living in Christian community with one another. For eleven weeks of Sunday evenings, our church community gathers for a few hours to do the same. A community which gives witness to love and peace in God's world—**what could be better than that?**

This summer's Rockhaven theme, "All Things New," reminds us that God's creating and renewing didn't stop after seven days (Genesis 1), or when Israel was in captivity in Babylon (Isaiah 43:18-19), or with the vision of John of Patmos (Revelation 21:5). God is still creating, both in the world, in the hearts of those touched by wonder who share the love in community with one another. We're all invited to be part of that re-creation.

So as you enjoy the precious Montana summer, remember also to enjoy God in Christian community, in town and/or at Rockhaven!

Session Notes June 30

Session met June 30th with Sally Broughton leading our devotions and opening prayer.

Our new Ombud is Dan Berg who will serve until Oct. 1st.

After 6 months, our new sound system has been completely installed.

Session approved the ordination of Holly Aloise as a Ruling Elder in the class of 2019.

Her ordination will take place July 10th at the 10:30 service.

A portable doorbell has been purchased as a security device when locking the entrance door is necessary during office hours. Dan Berg will be installing a railing at the front North entrance for safety.

The newly ordained Ruling Elders will serve on the following committees:

John Patterson will join Incumbent Debby Haynes on the Worship Committee; Debby Ernst will serve on Finance and Holly Aloise will join the Kids and Family Committee.

Marcia Jarrett and Dan Holland were our voting delegates at the Presbytery meeting in Miles City June 10-11th. Marcia submitted the following report : Nineteen youth and adults will be attending the Trienium in Indiana July 17-26th. The following were commissioned as General Assembly Delegates (Portland, OR) They were Emily Keegan, Tanner Robinson and Lanny Rounds. The next Presbytery Meeting will be in Butte Nov. 4-5th.

Dan and Jody highlighted the General Assembly Meeting which they attended. The highlights were inserted in the Sunday bulletin.

The next Session Meeting is August 25th.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Beck, Clerk

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

*This quarter our **OMBUD** from the session is Dan Berg, he will be happy to answer your questions and listen to what you have to say. He will be available in the library after Sunday services or you can contact him by phone (556-7156) or email constructorberg@gmail.com. He 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 May, 2016

May Income	\$48,763	Year to Date Income	\$206,922
May Expenses	\$37,052	Year to Date Expenses	\$203,195
May Balance	\$11,711	Year to Date Balance	\$3,727



Rockhaven in July

We continue services at Rockhaven this summer with potlucks at 5:30 pm. Please bring a main dish, a side dish, salad or dessert, and stay for the Vespers at 7 pm. On the following dates the vespers are led by:

- July 10 Jody McDevitt and Holly Aloise
- July 17 Jody and Martha Krebill
- July 24 Jody and Martha Krebill
- July 31 Scott Thrasher and Rockhaven Summer Staff

This summer we are exploring the theme “All Things New,” from Isaiah 43:18–19. Rockhaven is located at milepost 67 on Highway 191, on the way to Big Sky. Please come and enjoy the fun and fellowship.



Fresh Flowers for the Sanctuary - Aren't they a lovely touch?

We have need of someone who would be willing to purchase (from a fund we have at the church) and arrange fresh flowers for our Sunday services. Donations from your garden are always welcome. We all extend our grateful thanks to Joy Ames who is retiring from her position as flower supplier/arranger after many faithful years of service. Contact Sally at 585-3544 or Linda at the office for further information.



Lions Club Drop Off

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 information contact Richard Reiley at 388-7840 or <http://e-clubhouse.org/sites/bozemanmt> .

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!*





SPIRITUAL GIFTS MINISTRY



CLASSIFIED ADS

If you want to get involved in one of the ministries at FPC, I would be happy to help. Here is just a few of the many options.

Help with the following committee efforts:

Kids and Family (Sunday School, nursery, family events, youth ministry, VBS)

Worship (pulpit guests, musical events, ushers, greeters)

Mission and Outreach (Family Promise, Community Café, adult mission trip, Crop Walk, Operation Christmas Child, and Love, INC)

Hospitality (visitor welcome, Merry Munchers, First Friday at First Church, flowers and decorations, church luncheons/brunches/dinners, field trips, attendance tracking, birthday cards)

Spiritual Growth (Presby Cats, small groups, adult ministries)

Finance (budget and funds monitoring, campaigns)

Facilities (interior and exterior maintenance and repairs)

Leadership and Personnel (staff and salary review, property management team, web page)

Rockhaven (summer camps, retreats, special events)

Help the Deacons with the following activities:

school nursing programs, warm clothing drive, holiday baskets, transportation, visitations, kitchen, receptions, fellowship coffee, reception/fellowship cookies, caring meals

SPIRITUAL GIFTS COURSE

The Bible tells us that we each have Spiritual Gifts. If you haven't yet discovered what yours are and would like to know, speak up! We would be happy to offer the *Discovering God's Vision for Your Life: You and Your Spiritual Gifts* course whenever there is enough interest.

Contact me at
Jane Hodges
Jhodges6680@mcn.net
586-6338

Spiritual Gifts in Use on the Fort Peck Reservation

Our second FPC adult mission trip to the Poplar area is over and was, once again, memorable and fulfilling, with 11 representatives from our church participating. At this time last year, my post-mission trip article focused on how members of the Bozeman group used their Spiritual Gifts in service to the Native Americans. This time, I was struck (and humbled) by how they were using **their** gifts in service to **us**!

Day after day, it was apparent that our hosts were using their Spiritual Gifts for our benefit, but it was the gift of Generosity that I kept noticing. Generosity is explained in Haugk Spiritual Gifts literature (used in the SG courses given at FPC) as the gift which "enables some Christians to share joyfully and passionately what they have and who they are with others...(sharing) time, money, abilities, and self freely and willingly...to the extent that the giver becomes the gift." What the residents of the reservation had, they shared – in particular, their food, their time, and their testimony.

- They shared their food. Members of the Fort Kipp, Chelsea, Riverside, and Poplar First Presbyterian Churches took turns providing us with hearty, meat-based, delicious dinners (and even an unexpected lunch).

- They shared their time. Patrick and Sudi Pipe were once again our contacts and the advance, on-the-ground organizers. They made arrangements for our trip, hauled in lawnmowers and weed eaters for our use, carted off trash, and worked beside us during most activities. The congregations of four churches spent time cooking for us. (It takes many hours to prepare food for crowds of 20 to 30, especially deep-frying the "frybread" for Indian Tacos!) Several other individuals were very generous with their time in providing us with cultural learning experiences. Ernie Bighorn, a prominent local rancher and mentor to many, gave us a tour of his ranch. Dr. Kenneth Ryan, a former instructor at MSU, shared with us the story behind the "Crying Grandmother" rock. Lois Red Elk, medicine woman/healer/faculty member of the local community college/actress/poet took us to find native plants, explaining the medicinal qualities of each, and showed us a historic area with teepee rings and Sitting Bull's winter camp. Last, but not least, much time was spent preparing gifts with which we were presented at the end of our stay. We were given ballpoint pens with hand-beaded covers, intricately hand-crafted in beautiful colors – each one taking a full day to make!

(Continued on next page)

Birthdays this Month

7/1 *Chris Asher*
7/2 *Pat Dickensheets*
Rich Brauss
Debra Jackson
7/3 *Vern Svensrud*
John Lewis
7/4 *Rachel Minter*
7/6 *Lois Swatland*
Richard Mackie
Mike Hoffman
7/7 *Lynda Reiley*
7/8 *Bella Wilfling*
7/9 *Rachael Thompson*
7/11 *Owyn Campbell*
7/12 *Mary Lensink*
7/14 *Doris Heckerman*
7/16 *Wilson McMakin*
Miriam Frye
7/18 *Natalie Hoffman*
7/19 *Laurel Schlegelmilch*
7/20 *Jean Travis*
Bruce Visser
7/21 *Barbara Wertz*
Whitney Larimer
7/22 *Glenn Welch*
7/23 *Carol Shellenberger*
Gail Weingart
Brad Garnick
7/24 *Jolene Turner*
7/25 *Caralyn Hodgson*
7/28 *Frank Blakely*
Madelyn Carlson
Louise Milburn

Spiritual Gifts *(continued)*

• They shared their testimony – very openly, mainly in one-on-one conversations. Here are a few of the stories related:

-- a wife was told by doctors that her husband was dying and was in fact in his final moments. Machines confirmed that he was “flatlining.” After prayers, he rallied and lived another eight years. As a result, her faith was greatly strengthened.

-- an alcoholic was able to turn his life around, and now helps other people fight their addictions.

-- a mother almost lost her 3-year old son when he was run over by a car and attributed the son’s survival to the power of prayer.

-- a woman who had been “adopted” by the local people felt that she felt she had truly found her calling – to live simply and try to make people happy.

It was obvious that our friends on the reservation were using their Spiritual Gifts in most of their interactions with us. We used our gifts, as well, but I believe we received much more than we gave. It was a special experience.

We’ll gratefully remember our time with our Brothers and Sisters in Christ on the reservation and hope that we’re invited back next year. As was the case last year, most of our “missionaries” are eager to return. Please consider joining us!

Jane Hodges
Spiritual Gifts Coordinator

Summer Publications of the PresbEnews

With summer upon us the PresbEnews and Good News issues will publish every other week in July and August.

The publication dates are:

July 7 Good News

July 20 PresbEnews

August 3 Good News

August 17 PresbEnews

August 31 Good News

If you have any articles please send them to presbenews@fpcozeman.org the Tuesday by noon before publication on Wednesday.

Holland-days...

(by Dan Holland)

I am reasonably certain I am the only one this has ever happened to, so I offer it as a cautionary tale in the hopes you will not repeat my mistake.

During the warmer months of the year I often sport footwear that is susceptible to intrusion by pebbles, thorns, blades of straw, and various other bric-a-brac. These impediments typically lodge themselves directly under the point on the bottom of my foot on which I place the greatest amount of weight during each stride, and as a result these annoyances quickly cause me to develop a hitch in my giddy-up. Now a reasonable person would stop and simply remove the obstacle from his or her sandal; unfortunately reason and my actions seldom share a symbiotic relationship. No, I'll walk it off, I tell myself. It will soon dislodge itself. Besides, I'm far too busy to stop. I'm sure you can guess what happens next. I rapidly develop a calf strain, or my knee flares up, or some other compensating injury. Soon this unnatural limping leads to spinal discomfort, and all manner of contrivances, real or imagined.

All because I couldn't be bothered to do the sensible thing.

Our relationship with God is often like this. A seemingly trivial matter will crawl under our skin and cause a blemish. Rather than turning to God and offering our problem to the Great Physician, we ignore it. We try to walk it off. But it just gets worse. It begins to fester, and soon it is all we can think about. This tiny mustard seed of a problem has continued to grow until it envelops every fiber of our being like kudzu on an abandoned Birmingham warehouse.

Prayer is the great elixir. It doesn't always solve problems exactly how we envision them being solved, but it does manage to at least deal with them. It also opens the avenue of discourse, of conversation, with God, the great Three-in-One. For it is through our personal, intimate chats with God that we are drawn into a closer communion with the one who will not only lend a sympathetic ear, but who will also cleanse our feet of the travails of wearing sandals in a world burdened with many pebbles.




Rockhaven Chapel

First Presbyterian Church



First Presbyterian Church

July 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 7pm Mainly Music	
3 8:30am Worship 10:30 Worship 5:30pm Rockhaven Potluck 7 Rockhaven Vespers		5 7 pm Boy Scouts	6	7 7am Men's Bible Study	8	9
10 8:30am Worship 10:30 Worship 5:30pm Rockhaven Potluck 7 Rockhaven Vespers	11	12 7 pm Boy Scouts	13	14 7am Men's Bible Study	15	16
17 8:30am Worship 10:30 Worship 5:30pm Rockhaven Potluck 7 Rockhaven Vespers	18	19 7 pm Boy Scouts	20	21 7am Men's Bible Study	22	23
24 8:30am Worship 10:30 Worship 5:30pm Rockhaven Potluck 7 Rockhaven Vespers	25	26 7 pm Boy Scouts	27	28 7am Men's Bible Study 6pm Session Potluck	29	30
31 8:30am Worship 10:30 Worship 5:30pm Rockhaven Potluck 7 Rockhaven Vespers						