

PresbEnews

Good News Edition - September 2016



A mid-week newsletter of First Presbyterian Church - Jody McDevitt & Dan Krebill, co-pastors
Willson at Babcock, PO Box 1150, Bozeman, MT 59771

(406) 586-9194 - www.fpcbozeman.org - Editor - presbenews@fpcbozeman.org

To *unsubscribe*, email presbenews@fpcbozeman.org and type "Unsubscribe" in the subject line.



Co-Pastors' Corner... It's September, a time when children and youth start a

new school year, families settle down after a summer outdoors, university students and faculty begin a new routine, and many people resolve to find a community of faith they can call home. Have you noticed the visitors and guests in our worship in the last few Sundays? Have you greeted new faces with genuine interest, showing the welcome of Christ?

A few years ago our congregation studied *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*, in which "radical hospitality" was practice #1. We learned that hospitality in the church does not mean, knowing which fork to use, nor even just the habit of a cordial welcome, but rather a deeper interest in relationship with strangers, who become friends and family as they are welcomed into the body of Christ. *Radical* (from the *root*, like a radish) hospitality arises from the root of our faith and gratitude for the grace of God known in Jesus Christ. Radical hospitality is a natural outgrowth of our love for God, reaching out in love for others.

And although we have some wonderful workers in our midst who organize our fellowship, meals, worship greeting and ushering, and outreach to visitors, true hospitality is not confined to these workers. True, radical, genuine, pervasive hospitality is the ministry of ALL.

The Bible reminds us over and over to welcome the stranger. "You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt" (Deut 10:19) is a refrain which echoes throughout the Torah. Jesus named welcoming strangers as an opportunity to welcome him (Mt 25:31-40) and Hebrews 13:2 advises Christians "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it."

On Sunday mornings, before visiting with your friends, before taking care of church business (think—can this wait for a better time?), before you get your own cup of coffee, look for someone you don't yet know. Welcome that person with the welcome of Christ. This is the call of every Christian.

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 August 25

Session met Thursday evening August 25. Lloyd Mandeville opened the meeting with devotions by sharing Scripture and reflections on the book "The Shack" concerning not being afraid and we need to Walk with God, followed by our opening prayer.

Under the Pastors Report, Dan and Jody are busy gearing up for Fall activities. The "Walk with Sam", tour of churches was a very successful event.

We had 4 major topics of discussion.

Session received a report from the 24 S Wilson Task Force and approved their plans to hold listening sessions and work to come back with recommendations later this fall. See more information later in this newsletter.

We discussed the upcoming Session retreat which we will be meeting to do some team building and planning out our general goals for the upcoming church year.

We discussed the upcoming Stewardship Campaign with the theme of Honoring God with Gratitude and Good Cheer and made session assignments for moments of mission and newsletter articles.

We also discussed ways to re-energize the Endowment Board.

Under Committee business, our Mission and Outreach Committee reported, that after much discussion, our church will no longer be taking a lead role in getting volunteers to serve a specific time at the Community Café, however, individuals are encouraged to volunteer time on their own. The Worship and Music Committee recommended to hire Kathy Braun as the Handbell Choir Director and Holly Aloise as the Early Service Musician.

Jody led us in our closing prayer.

Submitted by,
Elder, Debbie Ernst

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 July, 2016

July Income	\$68,981	Year to Date Income	\$306,596
July Expenses	\$50,544	Year to Date Expenses	\$303,312
July Balance	\$18,438	Year to Date Balance	\$3,284

Where to Park? - Your Input Is Requested

Last year, the Session asked a small group of experienced church members to explore an option to re-develop the property we own on the northeast corner of Willson and Babcock to help ensure the long term availability of parking while minimizing our mortgage on the property and the burden of maintaining the 24 S. Willson office complex which sits on part of the property.

The group made a proposal to Session which was tabled based on input from the Congregation. Church members wanted to think more broadly about options we might have and to feel rock solid about the value of the property.

Accordingly, the Session asked a parking lot task force to set up a series of listening sessions early this fall to better understand the will of the Congregation. After those sessions, the parking lot task force will survey the membership on how it feels and craft a recommendation to Session. The listening sessions will be held on the following dates:

Sept 18 - 9:30 AM

Sept 21 - 6:00PM

Sept 25 – immediately after second service

As a way to start the conversation, the task force has articulated four options it believes are available to the Church:

The “Stick with the Plan” Option: When we first decided to acquire the property on the NE corner of Willson and Babcock, the 24 S. Willson Team recommended that we operate the 24 S. Willson building as a rental. Projections suggested that the rental income would be sufficient to cover our mortgage payments after a few years of initial shortfalls, giving us the option of razing the building over time and expanding a dedicated church parking lot. The first option, then, is to stick with this plan, continuing to operate the rental property and partially use the parking lot as we build equity in the overall property with the expectation that one day we would build a large surface parking lot.

Pros

- Move toward the vision of having a large church-dedicated surface parking lot
- Rental income now covers costs and pays the entire lot’s mortgage after a market-appropriate increase in rents
- Continued partial use of parking lot as is now
- Church owns an appreciating asset
- Church has options in the future, including selling the property and buying another property that might come up for sale

Cons

- Administration of the rental property has proved time intensive; current approach depends on substantial volunteer hours which is unsustainable. There might be increased cost to the Church to pay for additional management.
 - Rental building cash flow is not as favorable as when we first approved the purchase because of a near doubling of property taxes and a sharp increase in the cost of utilities
 - Church must continue to service substantial debt
- (Continued on next page)*

(Continued from page 3)

Church must pay for anticipated and unanticipated capital costs associated with maintaining the 24 S. Willson building. In the short run, the Church will need to decide whether to make a number of repairs to the building which will cost money, e.g. renovate the bathrooms. There will be a tradeoff – the more we invest in renovations, the higher the rent we can command; the lower the investment, the less rent we can charge. Additionally, the Church will need to raise money to eventually raze the building.

The “Go to Market” Option: The Church could invite developers to submit proposals that would include some mix of cash and parking. While we do not know what the market would respond with, some have suggested that options we might be offered could include:

A long term master lease on the 24 S. Willson building that locks-in income sufficient to cover our mortgage while preserving our ownership of the underlying ground and our option of creating more parking in the long run while allowing us to continue to use the existing lot and getting us out of the rental property business

A creative division of the property, e.g. raze the 24 S. Willson property, sell a Babcock-fronting strip and put church parking on the east side of the lot

Sell the entire lot to a developer who wants to build a sidewalk-to-sidewalk multi-story building in exchange for cash and the rights to use its structured parking

Swap the property for a more desirable property

Pros

The “market” might come back with creative options that allow the Church to both have access to substantial parking and debt elimination

The Church can see what the market offers and decide the best course of action later. Going to market does not preclude “sticking with the plan” later.

The market will definitively establish the property’s value, eliminating any fear of not receiving a full and fair offer.

Cons

A market test will take time. Any proposal that the Church might accept will take time to come to fruition. It will also require substantial volunteer hours and possibly additional funds to evaluate proposals.

(Continued on next page)

(Continued from page 4)

The “Proceed with Negotiations” Option: The Church has received a handful of unsolicited offers that include the sale of the 24 S. Willson building, eliminate our current debt, and the retention of roughly 25 parking spaces. Included in these offers is the developer with which last year’s parking lot task force negotiated a transaction which was brought to Church.

Pros

Likely the quickest route between where we are now and no debt and a reconstructed parking lot as much has already been negotiated.

Continues negotiations with those who have already invested substantial time and capital into finding a workable transaction.

Would give Church representatives the opportunity to update the deal to reflect current market prices and some church members’ concern with the permanent easement.

Cons

Might not be the highest price. Church would use comparables, but not a market test, to determine property value.

Might not yield the most creative solution to the challenge of creating parking for the Church.

The “Sell the Property” Option: The Church could put the entire property up for sale.

Pros

We would be out of the property management business

We might make a handsome return on our investment

We would have resources to re-invest in the church and for mission

Cons

We would be back to square one and wouldn’t have any parking

Thank you for your prayerful consideration of these options and for finding a way to give input on this decision to the task force which includes Ric Tieman, Donna Beck, Lloyd Mandeville, Dan Krebill, Chuck Poremba, Mike McCormick and Tom McMakin. If you are unable to attend one of the listening sessions, feel free to contact any one of us individually. Also Debby Haynes, a session member who is not part of the task force, has volunteered to set up individual meetings with anyone who would like to weigh in on this decision.



WELCOME SUNDAY!

On Sunday, September 11, all ages are invited to a get-together in the Fellowship Hall between the two worship services. There will be FOOD (provided by the Kids and Families Committee), FUN (play a mixer game for all generations), and LEARNING (reports from summer ministries and what's coming up for the fall).

The party will be held from 9:15 – 10:15 am. Come, and bring a friend.

Teacher Training for Children's Sunday School

Interested in helping out in Sunday school, but not sure where to start? There's a place for everyone to help in our children's program. We will hold two sessions of teacher training (you need attend only one) to orient new and experienced teachers. Sunday, September 11, immediately following the 10:30 service OR Thursday, September 15, at 7 pm.

At these sessions, you will learn

- The big picture of our year's plan: why are we learning these stories?
- The small picture of a typical weekly class
- How to use our online curriculum, Spark Sunday School Rotation
- Where to find materials, snacks, etc.

Please contact April Spoerl at 717-203-4116 or spoerla1@gmail.com or Holly Aloise at 406-451-4630 or hollyaloise@gmail.com for more information.

Birthdays this Month

- 9/2 Linda Best
Tom McMakin
- 9/3 Mark Williams
Laina Hall
- 9/5 Sally Stanke
Diana Johnson
- 9/7 Lee Cook
Rosemary Lee
- 9/8 Karen Kempt
- 9/12 Katherine Martindale
- 9/13 Susan Gibb
Diane Thompson
- 9/14 Kathy Braun
- 9/16 Sally Broughton
Josephine Milburn
- 9/17 Rachel Turner
- 9/18 Kay Newman
- 9/21 Carol Wilson
- 9/22 John Tamminga
- 9/23 Jodi Kleinhans
- 9/24 Sydney Kolwyck
- 9/25 Katie Anderson
- 9/26 Richard Giddings
- 9/29 Holly Aloise

Willson Ave closed on Sunday, Sept 11

The Bozeman Marathon will take place on Sunday, September 11, and since Willson Ave. is part of the course, it will be closed throughout the morning. To facilitate traffic, there will be police officers at Babcock Ave., Olive St., and Kagy Blvd. who will help those in cars safely get where they want to go. Please allow extra time getting to church on this day. Thank you!

October Concert in Memory of Loved Ones

Our Mainly Music Series will begin a new tradition on October 23 at 3 pm. The concert will be dedicated to the memory of church members and loved ones who have passed away. This year the concert will include the Second String Orchestra, Thomas Lee on trumpet, a vocal quartet with violin, an organ solo and a piano solo.

In its first year, the Annual Memorial Concert will remember church members who died in 2015 and 2016. Thereafter, we will remember those who died in the year preceding the concert. In addition, church members and friends are invited to submit names for the program of those they wish to remember, regardless of the year of death. Please contact the church office if you have a family member or special friend you would like to remember this way.

Dakota Mission Trip Photos on Bulletin Board



Early in the summer, a group of 11 adults traveled to Poplar, MT, and the Ft. Peck Reservation to further our church's relationship with the Dakota Presbyterian Churches on the reservation. The trip was a great success, growing friendship and showing support for the ministries of three churches. The photo (by Judy Patterson) shows the group following the replacement of three wooden crosses on a hillside near the church in Chelsea, within sight of Highway 2 and the railroad line which Amtrak uses twice daily. More photos are on the bulletin board at the east entry to the Fellowship Hall. Enjoy – and consider joining the group again next summer!

FIRST FRIDAY - September 9

The Presby Cats will be joining 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, **THE INTERN**.

Labeled the best comedy of the year by AARP, this is a timely story of a bored retiree (Robert DeNiro)

who becomes an intern to a hard-charging young internet executive (Anne Hathaway). These two characters learn to like and respect each other – flaws and all. 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.



Planning ahead with your busy schedule? You might add the following dates to your calendar to the coming year for First Friday:

September 9 with Presby Cats

October 7

November 4

December 2 with Presby Cats

February 3

March 3

April 7

May 5

Fun at Rockhaven!

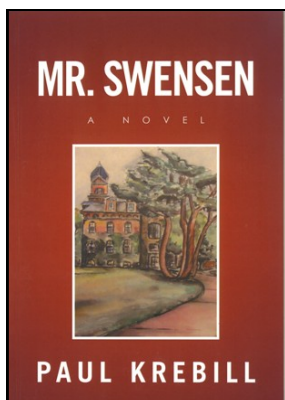


The Tobacco Root Mountain Band, from the left, Joanna Ellison, Phil Schladweiler, Alice Allen, Ray Erickson, and Harry Benham

Photos by Dan Krebill and Maureen Poremba

New in the Library: *Mr. Swensen* – a novel by Paul Krebill

Published 2016 by Xlibris



“Must be Sunday night, Mr. Swensen is back from his weekend.” Karl Swensen acknowledged his students as he walked to the far side of the room and took a table alone. An apparent bachelor, well-liked and respected by students and faculty at Elmhurst College he was, however, a mystery to everyone: he lived alone, had few friends, and was reclusive. On Friday, a cryptic sign on his office door reading “Return on Monday” signaled the beginning of Mr. Swensen’s weekend absence. Who was this man – where did he go – what did he do on those weekends? In his latest work, *Mr. Swensen – a novel*, Paul Krebill gives us a story within a story. The narrative begins in 1948 when Mr. Swensen, professor of history at Elmhurst College, starts writing a memoir of an earlier time in his life.

The memories from the past combined with the everyday routine at the college, eventually blend to create a new focus for Swensen’s life: the establishment of the Reese Creek Field Study Center in Montana.

Connecting such disparate places as Chicago, Reese Creek, Billings & Three Forks MT, as well as Cannon Beach OR, Krebill explores the impact each location has on Mr. Swensen’s life. The main character is Karl Swensen, an adoptee who has felt out of place for most of his life. How he overcomes this feeling and the role his students, professional colleagues, and even complete strangers play in the change, is the substance of the story. A beautiful love story, a promise kept, and the journal writings of a merchant seaman add depth and complexity to the narrative. The work is not without flaws -- a few grammatical errors here and there –however, the attentive reader will discover the story beyond the words on the page. The reader can identify with this story. It presents a representation of the many and varied struggles of life experienced by humankind and how said struggles can be overcome.

A copy of *Mr. Swensen – a novel*, has been placed on the Local Authors shelf in the FPC library. Enjoy!

OCC Beanie Babies

Your Beanie Babies are needed for Operation Christmas Child boxes, bring to the box outside the church office. For more information contact Joy Ames at 586-1854.



Interfaith Forum Begins September 7

“The urgency of interfaith dialogue” will be the topic for discussion at the first Interfaith Forum of the season, Wednesday, September 7 at noon at Temple Beth Shalom. The four regular panelists, Rabbi Ed Stafman, Shadmani Amin (for Ruhul Amin, who is on sabbatical), Jody McDevitt, and Father Leo Proxell, will be joined by Dave Johnson of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and Sally Loble, Baha’i. In a world growing smaller, in a nation growing more and more multi-religious, in a community becoming more diverse, the Interfaith Forum is an opportunity to understand our neighbors and build peace.

The Interfaith panel is also on the radio, resuming its schedule of the second Thursdays of the month from 8:00-8:30 am on Sept 8. Tune in to KMMS, 1450 AM, to hear more interfaith dialogue.



Taize Prayer service on Sept 11

An ecumenical group began organizing Taize Prayer services for our community a few years ago. Kathy Braun of our congregation serves on this volunteer team. Taize prayer provides a contemplative experience to open ourselves towards God, through singing basic chants, Scripture readings, times of quiet and petitionary prayer, as well as short periods of silence. You are invited to this experience on Sunday, September 11th at 7:00 PM at Resurrection University Catholic Church (at 1725 S, 11th Ave.) in Bozeman, lasting about 50 minutes.

Love INC Pantry Needs

The Love INC Personal Care Pantry is either getting low or completely out of tissues and feminine products (pads, specifically). Neither of these things are cared for by a specific church, so we send these out to all of the churches to help with. They may be placed in the large basket in the north narthex. Thanks so much for tackling this huge need for our community!

Warming Center—Tonya Horn

I am reaching out for opportunities to have conversations about homelessness in our community. I want to open a dialog about those tough questions that we seldom know how to ask. I want to engage others in the challenges that face our homeless neighbors in need. I am looking for groups that would be interested in inviting me to have such conversations. I am happy to go wherever a group meets, or I am open to host groups at the Warming Center. I would appreciate any help that you can provide.

I have one additional reason to reach out to you. Plans for another Warming Center season are in full swing! As you are aware, our shelter 100% funded by the community. It's that time again for our Flying Signs Fundraiser! This event held on September 10th and October 22nd brings awareness through amazing volunteers "taking to the streets" to raise critical operating funds and supplies to ensure a successful Warming Center season. During this event, volunteers are located at designated corners around Bozeman while "flying" Warming Center signs and collecting donations.

We are in need of as many individuals and groups as possible. This has proven to be a fun and competitive event for all! Contact Taylor at vista@thehrdc.org for more information.

Welcome new music staff

We welcome two people to new positions in our congregation's music ministries this fall.

Kathy Braun will be our Handbell Choir Director beginning Sept 1. She will conduct weekly rehearsals and prepare First Bells for monthly worship leadership. Kathy is well-known in our congregation, a member for many decades who also serves as Special Musical Events Coordinator and who previously served as Educational Ministry coordinator. She earned a B.A. in Music from MSU in 2003. For four months earlier this year, she capably filled in as Interim Handbell Choir Director, and discovered a new calling. Welcome Kathy!



Kathy Braun

Holly Aloise will be our Early Service Musician beginning Sept 1. She will plan the music with our co-pastors and accompany the service, including additional musicians on occasion. Holly moved to Bozeman two years ago with her children, Rodney (12) and Martha (10), and joined our church soon afterwards. She grew up in Colstrip and earned a Bachelor of Music Education from MSU in 2000, then lived in Boston for 14 years where she continued to expand her church music experience. She sings in our Worship Choir and has often led music at the 8:30 service. Welcome Holly!



Holly Aloise

These two musicians join our other staff musicians Alison Todd (Organist and Assistant Director of Music) and Russell Milburn (Worship Choir Director), as well as other professional and volunteer musicians who help us give glory to God in our worship.

Thank you to search committee members John Patterson, Pat Dickensheets, Pam King, Alison Todd, Dan Krebill, and Jody McDevitt.

Choir Starts soon!

Join us in singing! Our worship choir will be starting a new season, beginning Sunday, September 11, with the first rehearsal on Wednesday, September 7th. All ages and voice types are welcome. The choir rehearses Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. and sings at the 10:30 service on Sunday mornings. For more information contact Russell Milburn at 406-581-6919.



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!



MERRY MUNCHERS OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FALL 2016

It's time for the next round of Merry Munchers!! All adults are welcome, whether you are a church member, a friend of First Presbyterian, or visiting in the Gallatin Valley.

THIS IS A POTLUCK WHERE EVERYONE CONTRIBUTES. HOST PROVIDES THE MAIN DISH

Name(s) _____

Guests: Circle dates you will participate.

SEPTEMBER 23 OCTOBER 21 NOVEMBER 18 DECEMBER 16

HOSTS: PLEASE VOLUNTEER FOR A DATE (6 guests unless indicated):

____ SEPTMBER 23
____ OCTOBER 21
____ NOVEMBER 18
____ DECEMBER 16

PLEASE LEAVE THIS FORM IN THE OFFERING PLATE OR AT THE OFFICE.
QUESTIONS: CALL Sally Broughton 585-3544 or email at hawgeemt@gmail.com.

**DEADLINE FOR INCLUSION
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12**

Planning ahead with your busy schedule? You might add the following dates to your calendar to the coming year for Merry Munchers: September 23, October 21, November 18, December 16, February 17, March 17, April 21, and May 19.

Food Bank September 4

Gallatin Valley Food Bank Sunday is this Sunday. Please bring any nonperishable and non-expired items. For more information go to www.gallatinvalleyfoodbank.com

Fall Directory

A new directory will be coming out in mid September. If you haven't notified the church office please send an email to linda@fpcbozeman.org or call 586-9194 if you have any changes in your address, phone number or email address.

Door Bell for Babcock Door

A bell door has been placed at the Babcock door when only one person is in the church. If you find the door locked during the church office hours the bell is on the upper left side of the door.



SPIRITUAL GIFTS MINISTRY



Are you fully using your Spiritual Gifts in service to others and to our church? If you think you need to do more, consider the following positions. If you have questions or would like to discuss other options, give me a call at 586-6338...Jane Hodges, Spiritual Gifts Coordinator

Transportation Ministry

Drivers The Deacons currently provide rides to people who want to attend church services and other activities, but are no longer driving or simply do not wish to drive when conditions are snowy or icy. Occasionally no Deacons are available. If you are willing to be a backup driver, contact Deacon Mary Hektner at 406-223-3252 (cell) or john_mary@q.com.

Prayer Chain Members

More prayer chain members are needed NOW. No experience is necessary. No meetings are required. Just pray daily for 8 to 10 people or families. Call John Hodges at 586-6338 for an orientation and/or member handbook.

Sunday School Teachers and

Helpers Teachers are needed to work with our FPC children and youth, starting Sep. 11th during the 10:30 worship service. Training on the use of the online curriculum will be held the same day from 12-12:45. There is also a need for helpers to assist the teachers. Contact April Spoerl at 717-203-4116 or spoerla1@gmail.com for more information about these important positions.

Worship Committee Emailer

Someone is needed to send 2 emails every Monday to remind ushers and greeters that they are scheduled to serve at upcoming Sunday services. Additional emails will be required on an occasional basis, e.g. requesting a substitute, if someone on the roster is unable to serve. There's only one position available, so respond quickly to Debby Haynes at 581-0925.

Hospital Visitors Team

This program has a current need for several more Hospital Visitors. Team members visit the local hospital an average of twice a month. No special qualifications except compassion are needed. Consider joining in this special ministry. For more information, contact Chuck Broughton at 585-3544.

Kitchen Helper

Do you like to serve food, help prepare meals, set tables, or run the dishwasher in the kitchen? The Hospitality Committee would like to compile a list of volunteers to be called when the need arises. Please leave your name with Linda in the church office or call Sally Broughton at 585-3544.

Family Promise Hosts

This is an important mission for our church because it gives our congregation an opportunity to help homeless families by providing meals and lodging for 5 separate weeks during the year. We are in need of more trained volunteers to act as evening hosts – eating a meal with the guests or spending the night, sleeping on comfortable air mattresses provided by the church. Call Judy Arkwright at 388-2347 for information on how you can become involved in this worthwhile program.

Holland-days...

(by Dan Holland)

On Sunday night we concluded our summer Vesper series with a full house. Not only was the chapel filled beyond capacity to hear the Presby Cats lead the service, but the dining hall deck was overflowing before the service even started so folks could listen to the Tobacco Root Mountain String Band. It was a magical performance in a wonderfully unique setting.

In fact the last two weeks have witnessed some incredible music at Rockhaven. The Riverside Singers, the TAM (Tanner, Amy, and Monica) Trio, and Holly Aloise also performed this past Sunday. Then the week prior Jennifer Frye played her violin alongside Martha Krebill, and Cheryl McNicholas debuted the world premiere of a song she and I collaborated on. A few people have requested that I print the words to the song in this publication. Our esteemed editor is taking this a step further, though. In addition to the words which appear below, you can also click on the following link to be transported along the information superhighway to a place where you can hear Cheryl strumming her big, bad Taylor guitar and singing our song: www.fpcbozeman.org/audio/AspenLeaves.aac

Aspen Leaves

I sauntered to the northern porch,
the weight of wonder on my mind.
I looked inside my mortal self,
but no answer could I find.

I considered rugged mountains,
and I listened to the creek,
but they, like me, could not fathom
what I had come to seek.

Then a gentle morning wind
murmured down the draw.
It rustled through the aspen leaves,
and they listened without flaw.

The aspen heard my question;
the aspen heard my prayer,
and my Savior whispered in the breeze;
he caught me unaware.

Ten thousand souls from heaven,
ten thousand tongues of truth,
ten thousand echoes I first heard
when I was in my youth.

I drew my knees up to my chest,
and slowly closed my eyes.
I opened up my heart to hear
redemption in disguise.

I heard the sweetest song of love,
of beauty unsurpassed,
and the comfort of a knowing hand
that held me very fast.

The leaves then sang of wisdom,
of sight both sure and swift,
and in a moment the breeze was still;
it had touched me with its gift.

For in those quaking aspen,
through a presence that was real,
I was granted speed and vision
to suffer my ordeal.

Ten thousand souls from heaven,
ten thousand tongues of truth,
ten thousand echoes I first heard
when I was in my youth.



Rockhaven Chapel

First Presbyterian Church



First Presbyterian Church

September 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7am Men's Bible Study	2	3
4 8:30 am Worship 10:30 Worship 11:45 Presby Cats	5 Labor Day Holiday office closed	6 7pm First Bells 7 Boy Scouts	7 7pm Choir Rehearsal	8 7am Men's Bible Study 7:30 am Women's Moring Book Group	9 5:30 First Friday	10
11 8:30 am Worship 9:15 Sunday School Welcome 10:30 Worship 11:45 Teacher Training 11:45 Presby Cats	12	13 7pm First Bells 7 Boy Scouts	14 7pm Choir Rehearsal	15 7am Men's Bible Study 7:30 am Women's Moring Book Group 7 pm Teacher Training 7pm Deacons	16	17
18 8:30 am Worship 9:30 Adult Sunday School, Confirmation 10:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:45 Teacher Training 11:45 Presby Cats	19	20 7pm First Bells 7 Boy Scouts	21 7pm Choir Rehearsal	22 7pm Session	23 6pm Merry Munchers	24
25 8:30 am Worship 9:30 Adult Sunday School, Confirmation 10:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:45 Teacher Training 11:45 Presby Cats	26	27 7pm First Bells 7 Boy Scouts	28 7pm Choir Rehearsal	29	30 Presby Cats Retreat at Rockhaven →	