



PresbEnews

September 7, 2016

A mid-week newsletter of First Presbyterian Church - Jody McDevitt & Dan Krebill, co-pastors
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WELCOME SUNDAY!

This 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.

Willson Ave closed on Sunday, Sept 11

The Bozeman Marathon will take place this 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!

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:

**This 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 (717-203-4116 or spoerla1@gmail.com) or Holly Aloise (406-451-4630, hollyaloise@gmail.com) for more information.

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!*



Choir from India

Many of you who were members in the 1980's will remember Patang Makdoh, our Youth and Campus Minister. He is now ministering in Laurel and will be coming through Bozeman with a group from a Presbyterian Church in India. They will be here on **Monday, September 19th at 7:00 p.m.** for dessert and singing in the fellowship hall. They have promised to sing a song or 2 for us. Please come to welcome and support these visitors from afar and to again greet Patang who served our church so many years ago. A little known fact is that Patang erected the cross on the hill at Rockhaven.

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.

Birthdays this Week

9/7 *Lee Cook*
Rosemary Lee
9/8 *Karen Kempt*
9/12 *Katherine Martindale*
9/13 *Susan Gibb*
Diane Thompson

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.



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!

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, and May 5.



**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):

- _____ SEPTEMBER 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

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 ~50 minutes.

Interfaith Bible Study

In our time, when media and politicians preach fear of refugees, what might we learn from timeless biblical narratives? What relevance might the stories of the Israelites, Ruth, and baby Jesus' family have for us today? This interfaith study will engage Christian narratives on refugees, hear Jewish perspectives on historic passages, and practice godly reflection with civilized conversation.

LIVE @HOPE -- A live discussion featuring Rabbi Ed Stafman, Pastor Stephen Schmidt, and Rev. Valerie Webster. Class at every Tuesday 6:30 - 8:00 PM (September 6 - November 1) at Hope Lutheran Bozeman. Childcare provided at this location.

WEBS @STJAMESBOZEMAN – Can't meet on Tuesday night? Join the Women's Ecumenical Bible Study (WEBS) Every Monday 9:30 – 11:00 AM (September 12 – November 7) to watch a recording of the LIVE @HOPE discussion. Then join in your own small group session lead by Rev. Valerie Webster.

The goals of the class --

- Expanding tolerance and acceptance of nuance
- Modeling different ways of “seeing” an issue
- Holding space for respectful discourse
- Finding points of connection with others who disagree

The speakers --

Rabbi Ed Stafman - Jewish Renewal Movement, Congregation Beth Shalom Bozeman

Pastor Stephen Schmidt - ELCA, Hope Lutheran Church Bozeman

The Rev. Valerie Webster - All Saints Big Sky, a shared ministry of The Episcopal Church and ELCA Lutheran Church

Sponsors -- Gallatin Valley Interfaith Association, MAC Montana Association of Christians, Hope Lutheran Church Bozeman, Congregation Beth Shalom Bozeman, All Saints Episcopal Church, Big Sky, WEBS Women's Ecumenical Bible Study, and St James Episcopal Church Bozeman.

Registration: 406-581-0271

Questions: 406-579-3980

Email: NancyHopkins14@YAHOO.COM

Holland-days...

by Dan Holland

This coming Sunday we officially welcome back our church family to the familiar rhythm of a new school year as we gradually settle into a new season of programming. We obviously aren't the only church welcoming folks back from their summer holidays and less structured schedules. Churches all over fling open their doors with the hope that their former members will come back with renewed enthusiasm and that a new family might get involved and transform the church into a new creation.

Recently the discussion at the Thursday morning Men's Bible Study briefly focused on this very issue. The group is composed not only of long time members, but also some that are newcomers. I am kind of in the middle, so it is both wonderful and instructive to hear the different perspectives offered amongst the group. On the subject at hand, one of the newer members channeled Goldilocks in his comments and that got me to thinking.

The Porridge Is Just Right

What is it that makes one church feel like home, while others feel alien and transitory? Is it the music, the coffee, the theology, the demographics?

If a perfect recipe existed, then there probably wouldn't be four hundred different flavors to choose from. It's hard to be the Bride of Christ. Heck, it's hard enough just to be a disciple of Christ, but then when you mix in a bunch of other humans it gets messy.

Most everyone is good at being themselves; it's our natural fallback position. But if we don't push ourselves, do we really grow in our faith? Practicing radical hospitality often pushes us outside of our comfort zone, but it is precisely in this zone that we are met by the Great Comforter.

Instead of looking for like-minded souls, perhaps we should look for souls we won't mind liking.