



PresbEnews

September 21, 2016

A mid-week newsletter of First Presbyterian Church - Jody McDevitt & Dan Krebill, co-pastors
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Moment for Stewardship by Ruling Elder Debby Haynes

"We give thee but thine own,
Whate'er the gift may be,
For all we have is thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from thee"

This hymn, written by William Walsham How in in the 1800s, is based on Proverbs 3:09 and Matthew 24:34-40. It is a simple thought, but when it comes to stewardship for the work of the church, the thought is not called to mind easily. All sorts of other ways to use money demand our attention—current bills, saving for retirement, worrying about the age of car—these and other concerns crowd our decisions about whether to and how much to give.

I encourage us to refer back to this hymn and its profound perspective:

"We give thee but thine own."

And the final stanza of the fourth verse reminds us,

"Whate'er we do for thine, O Lord, We do it unto thee."

Our worldly assets are a gift from God and stewardship calls us to return to God a portion of that gift to do God's work on earth. Giving is a sacred act of thanksgiving and of loving God.

Please prayerfully ponder this when considering what your pledge of financial stewardship will be for the coming year. Pledge cards are coming in the mail this week. You can also pick up a pledge card at the church office. Thank you for your support of our church.

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!*



Confirmation Class Retreats to Rockhaven

Our 2016 Confirmation Class met for the first time on Sunday, September 18 in the South Tower Room. High on the agenda was planning for a retreat at Rockhaven which will take place this week, September 24-25. Plans are in place for teambuilding games led by Scott Thrasher, an evening campfire, a morning hike to the cross with worship on top of the mountain, and a labyrinth walk, all around the theme of "Journey with Christ." Leadership of the class will be by Jody McDevitt, assisted by high school senior Wade Spoerl, with help from others. On the retreat, in addition to Scott Thrasher, help will be provided by Presby Cats Kori Robbins (cook) and Aidar Haynes (dorm counselor).

Please pray for these young people who are part of this class, exploring who Jesus Christ is and what he and his church mean to each one of them: Rodney Aloise, Danielle Berg, Shelby Guenther, Wyatt Guenther, Alyce Larsson, Mitchell Larsson, Julia Johnson, Annie Kolwyck, Graham Overton, and Evan Spoerl.

Peace and Global Witness Offering: A Season of Peace World Communion Sunday, October 2

The Peace and Global Witness Offering will be collected Sunday October 2 during World Communion Sunday. Half of the donation will be sent to Presbyterian Mission Agency to support ministries of peacemaking and reconciliation. We keep 25% of the offering which is used for food for Family Promise the weeks they are in our church and 25% goes to Presbytery.



You may sign up to receive a daily reflection during *A Season of Peace* at www.pcusa.org/subscribe. Check "Path of Peace" under the category "Advocacy and Social Justice".

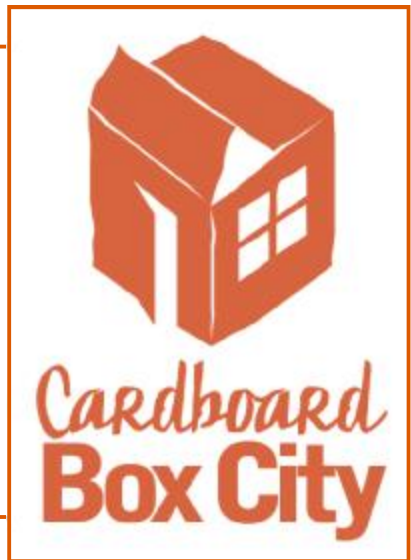


Church Facebook page a source of up-to-date info!

Even if you're not a Facebook member yourself, you can still access the church's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/fpchozeman 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!

Cardboard Box City Oct 1-2

Since Family Promise began its annual fundraiser/educational event called the Cardboard Box City, youth and others of First Presbyterian Church have participated by spending the night in a cardboard box "home" in Bogert Park. 2016 will continue the tradition. Several of our youth are planning to build their boxes and participate, but this year we ask your help in the fundraising effort. Most of the youth will be on retreat at Rockhaven on Sunday, September 25, the week before. If you want to support Family Promise and our youth by pledging to this event, please contact the church office to indicate your intention. We thank you very much!



FIRST FRIDAY - OCTOBER 7



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, *The Lady in the Van*. "The Lady in the Van tells the true story of Alan Bennett's strained friendship with



Miss Mary Shepherd, an eccentric homeless woman whom Bennett befriended in the 1970s before allowing her temporarily to park her van in the driveway of his home. She stayed there for 15 years." Maggie Smith has been praised for "subtly conveying the emotional pain and desperation of an addled old woman..."

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.

Birthdays this week

9/21 Carol Wilson

9/22 John Tamminga

9/23 Jodi Kleinhans

9/24 Sydney Kolwyck

9/25 Katie Anderson

9/26 Richard Giddings

Holland-days...

by Dan Holland

Perhaps it is the noticeably shorter days, but if you are like me, a slight sense of panic has been creeping into the daily schedule. It is certainly compounded by the start of a new school year, and it seems like every time I look at the calendar some sort of meeting or obligation requires attendance or attention. Gone are the languid days of summer, when it there was always time to relax and reflect. And pray.

God of hurried lives,

Sometimes we get so busy,
too busy even for you.

Help us to carve out a few precious
moments in your presence. A moment
stolen away in the middle of the day
when we notice a tree starting to change
color, or when we get caught behind a
school bus stopping to deliver its cargo,
or when we rush out to cover delicate plants
from the threat of frost.

All you want is a few words from us;
all we need is the assurance you
hear those words.

Our assurance is meted out in
those brief encounters we have
with your creation. Laughter filtering
from a playground, fruit falling from
a tree, geese flying overhead, whistles
and cheers from a distant ballfield.

The beauty of this arrangement we
have — where we talk to you and you
listen to us — is that there will come
a time when our schedules are filled
with nothing but meetings
with you.

Amen