

PresbEnews

October 5, 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

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Moment for Stewardship by Ruling Elder Jenny Beard

I grew up in a large downtown Presbyterian Church in Atlanta GA – North Ave. Presbyterian. Large and downtown don't usually bode well for any church. This church, however, did not have issues because of either being large or downtown. It had a tremendous effect on me and I still feel it's influence. North Ave. believed in its children. Because of retreats, children's choirs, open prayers, church camp I received God's love and guidance for the rest of my life. First Presbyterian is much like North Ave. in its commitment to its children and young adults. We all know doing the programs not only for our kids but also for the community and for the adult members of the congregation is a costly endeavor. When you decide how much to pledge this year consider the opportunities we offer to our congregation and it's kids of all ages and our community. Think about which of these opportunities you would be willing to give up.

First Presbyterian Nets Largest Donation to Family Promise

Thanks to supporters willing to give and supporters willing to show their solidarity with homeless people by sleeping in a box, for the second year in a row our church won the grand prize at the Cardboard Box City: Most Money Raised!

Lenka Swenson, Hannah Koch, Julia Johnson, Zoe Helrigel, Rodney Aloise, Gigi Swenson, Mary McMakin, and Brent, Rachel, Delia, Jolene, & Arden Turner all braved the cold, rain, thunder, lightning, and hard concrete of the pavilion at Bogert Park on Saturday night, Oct 1, sleeping in cardboard boxes they decorated for their homes. The evening included education about homelessness in Gallatin Valley, as well as entertainment. This was the 10th year that Family Promise has hosted this fundraiser, and First Presbyterian Church has participated every year.

As of 10/3, contributions through FPC totaled more than \$2000. Thank you to all who supported this effort this year.

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!



Guest Preacher/Teacher on Oct 16, President of Montana Association of Christians

The Rev. Valerie Webster, an Episcopal priest who lives in Bozeman, will be our guest preacher on Sunday, October 16. Valerie is currently the president of the Montana Association of Christians (MAC), an ecumenical association to which the Presbytery of Yellowstone has held a long commitment. (Dan Krebill is a past president.) She also serves as associate priest at All Saints in Big Sky, an Episcopal/Lutheran congregation based at Big Sky Chapel. In addition, she is on the spiritual care team at Bozeman Deaconess Hospital



as a chaplain. Her ecumenical leadership gives her an important perspective for us to hear regarding faith and social justice issues in Montana.

Valerie was also chosen as an Episcopal delegate to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, which met in New York City earlier this year. This commission works towards a just and sustainable future for all, standing against violence and discrimination against girls and women, and advocating for quality education, decent work, decent decision-making power, and access to health services. She will share a presentation about this important work in the adult class at 9:30 am, also on October 16.

Adult Sunday school class continues study on basic beliefs

Last Sunday, the adult Sunday school class began its fall series on basic Christian beliefs from our Presbyterian perspective. We looked at the Bible so that we can better understand it as a primary source for all of our other beliefs. This coming Sunday, October 9, we'll be studying the Trinity—one of the most fascinating beliefs that has much mystery around it. Join us this Sunday, or any Sunday, at 9:30 a.m. in the church library as co-pastor Dan guides us in this ongoing study.

SACRED SONGS EVERYBODY FOR: A Workshop in Paperless Community Singing

Join Maren Haynes Marchesini, guest artist at First Presbyterian Church of Bozeman, for a workshop in paperless singing! Maren will lead conversation, workshops, and a creative worship service designed to enrich and expand your repertoire of sung prayer and praise. Learn old and new spiritual songs by ear from around the world, spanning from South Africa to France to the American South. Together we'll explore new ways to build community, connect with God, and express our theological convictions through congregational music.

Saturday October 29th at 9 AM-3 PM • \$25 cash/check at the door includes lunch First Presbyterian Church, 26 W. Babcock

Sign up at tinyurl.com/SacredSongsforEverybody

Scholarships available.

Questions? Please contact Maren at marenhaynesmarchesini@gmail.com

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 be-

fore 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

10/5 Jim Casey
Cinclair May
Laurie Hinck
10/6 Elizabeth Kruz
10/7 Bob Hickman
10/10 Kay Smith
Dayna Berg
10/11 Mike McCormick
10/12 Doris Krebill
10/13 Rodney Aloise
10/14 Marj Williams
10/15 Sherry Bergland
Kay May
Carolyn Williams

Jim Thompson



Holland-days...

by Dan Holland

This year marks my fourth season as a football referee. For nearly twenty years I had refereed the other football, soccer, but I decided my life wasn't nearly complicated enough. There is a shortage of officials in most sports, so in the fall I continue to referee both football and futbol. Since there are far more football games than soccer, I work more of the former than the latter. This week, for example, I will officiate six football games and one soccer match.

Football also requires considerably more travel than soccer, since every school has a football team while only the larger ones have soccer teams. Last Friday I was scheduled to work a game in Harlowton. It is about a two hour drive to Harlow (although no one seems to refer to Lewistown as 'Lewis', most everyone refers to Harlowton as 'Harlow', so I will follow convention.) Our crew was scheduled to work the junior high game, and then after an hour break the varsity game would follow. When you throw in the drive home, it makes for a very long day.

Regardless of your opinion of the game of football, there is no denying that in small towns across the country the Friday night game is the single most important social event of the week. It seems as if the whole town comes out to support the local team and to be seen. Harlow is no different, and last Friday was a matchup of undefeated teams, so the stands were packed. The home-standing Engineers were facing the Ennis Mustangs.

The football field in Harlow is a bowl dug into the ground just off the main drag, surrounded by houses and trees. The weather last Friday was glorious and the trees were all displaying their autumn finery. As I stood along the sideline before the game started, listening to the school's seven member band play the Star Spangled Banner, I was struck by what a gorgeous setting this was. I was facing west and the sun was far down in the horizon, casting its flat light through those golden leaves. Smoke from the concession stand grill was wafting throughout the stadium. Hopeful and expectant faces filled the bowl.

Unfortunately, the game didn't live up to the hype. The visitors dispatched Harlow's finest by a score of sixty-eight to nothing. There was a clear disparity in talent, yet the Engineers showed their grit and determination until the final whistle, despite having one of their better players carted off in an ambulance. The stands were packed until the bitter end, too.

Referees don't hang around after the conclusion of games. We run to the locker room, shower, change, and hit the road. As we walked through the school towards our car, though, we noticed that the visiting team from Ennis was sitting in the cafeteria. The hometown fans, despite being humiliated moments earlier, were feeding the other team a hearty meal prior to their long bus ride home. It was a true sign of community. Perhaps that was what Jesus meant by saying the meek shall inherit the earth.