

THE CORNER CONNECTION

First Presbyterian Church
301 Central Avenue
Whitefish, MT 59937
(406) 862-2802

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Whitefish, MT
Permit #1



the KERYGMA
— *program* —

Starting Sunday morning, Jan 8th at 9 a.m. FPC of Whitefish will be learning the bible through the KERYGMA Program. Cost is \$16.00 for materials.

Contact Pam Peters at 863-2605 if you would like to join us.

We will be studying the Parables, a 7 week class, which is an in-depth exploration of the parables of Jesus and their varied meanings, pointing out applications for our life of faith today. Participants will discover fresh perspectives in these timeless words, to enrich faith and deepen discipleship.

New Books in the Church Library



JANUARY BOOK REVIEW

LIBRARY NOTES

January FEATURED BOOK

TWELVE STEPS FOR CHRISTIANS ~FRIENDS IN RECOVERY

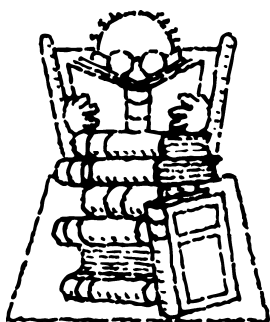
This revised edition is a powerful resource for merging the practical wisdom of the Twelve Steps with the spiritual truths of the Bible.

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Sincere appreciation and grateful thanks for the library donations in the name of Peggy Lowe

### NEW BOOKS:

*The Gospel according to Oprah*

*Light from Heaven*



## BOOK Reviews

## Pastor Nominating Committee Update

The PNC of FPC Whitefish has begun the task of searching for a new Pastor.

Members were trained by Don Patterson and the COM liaison members and regular meetings are being held.

### From the Treasurer

Thank you for your faithful giving to the work of our Lord through First Presbyterian Church. Contribution letters have gone out for 2005. Numbered envelopes are available in the back of the Sanctuary for those who wish to use them.

Respectfully,  
Deloris House, Treasurer

### BOOK CLUB

Anyone wanting to join a Christian Book Club/Discussion Group, contact Bob Paulus at 862-1554  
surreal@bresnan.net

### Thank You From the Office

Milah Gano, Secretary would like to thank all the people that have made her job easier ... Bob Paulus and Sheila Smalley as office assistance, Phyllis Galloway for making beautiful desk arrangements, and all those who help with bulletin and newsletter information. You have made 2005 a great year.

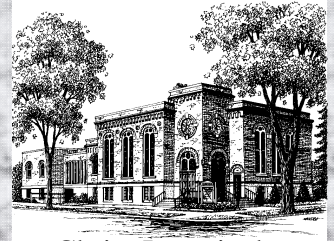
### LOUIS STOKER:

**406-862-4486**—at Margarite Coopers  
(disregard the message and leave your information if you get the answering machine)

### Andy's new Address:

Rev. Andy Kennaly, Shawna, Cole, Grant and Mark have moved to LaGrande, Oregon. Their new address is:  
P.O. Box 635, LaGrande, OR 97850  
their telephone number is 541-963-2103.

# THE CORNER CONNECTION



Christ Jesus is the  
Chief Cornerstone  
Ephesians 2:19-20

JANUARY  
2006

First Presbyterian  
Church  
301 Central Avenue  
Whitefish, MT 59937  
(406) 862-2802  
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fpcwf@cyberport.net

Interim Pastor:  
Louis Stoker

Youth and Family:  
Michelle Kuntz

Secretary:  
Milah Gano

Treasurer:  
Deloris House

Organist:  
Kathy Murphy

Pianist  
Sarah McHale

Custodian:  
Donna Simpson



## *From the Pastor ...*

Standing on the threshold of a New Year, one must be realistic and appreciative, for options which will arise will never come again. Opportunities must be seen graciously and must be accepted for what they are.

Donald Barnhouse tells a terrific story of a young man who went to the employment office of Western Union looking for a job delivering telegrams. The manager said he needed someone to start at once and asked if the young man would be willing to begin right then. "Well," said the boy, "there's one thing I must warn you about before I get started. I am psychologically so constituted that I cannot stand any scene of unhappiness. I'm only willing to deliver good news. Birth announcements, that's fine. Congratulations for success, fortunes that have been received, promotions, acceptances of marriage--all of the joys and bliss news, that I'll deliver. But sickness, death, and failure and all of that, that's alien to my nature; I won't deliver them." It didn't take the manager very long to say, "I guess I'm still looking for the one who is going to fill this job, because this responsibility requires that you also announce bad news. It could be said that good news isn't complete until the bad news is also delivered.

Charlie Steinmetz was a dwarf and terribly deformed, but what he lacked physically, he made up for mentally. Few people knew more about electricity than Steinmetz. Henry Ford realized this and hired him to build vast generators that would run his first plant in Dearborn, Michigan. Along came Steinmetz, who, with remarkable genius, put together those wonderful pieces of machinery that made great profit for the Ford Motor Company. One day, quite suddenly, the place ground to a stop. Ford hired a few ordinary mechanics and a number of hard working helpers, but no one seemed to be able to find the problem. He finally pressed his friendship with Steinmetz and asked him to come and do a little repair work. Steinmetz fiddled around with this gauge, tinkered with that motor, tried this button, did a little wiring, tinkered with this switch, and threw the matter switch. In a matter of a few hours everything was fixed, and the motors were running again. Within a few days, Steinmetz mailed Ford a bill for

\$10,000. Henry Ford, though eminently wealthy, balked at paying such an exorbitant amount of money for what appeared to be a little bit of work. So he wrote a letter to his friend and he included the bill. "Charlie," he wrote, "this seems awfully steep at \$10,000, especially in the light of just a little while of tinkering around with a few motors." Steinmetz wrote a new bill and sent it back to Ford, "Henry: For tinkering around with motors, \$10; for knowing where to tinker, \$9,990.

Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, a pivotal Christian thinker of our time, said, "Joy is the surest sign of the presence of God." This Jesuit priest-theologian-anthropologist had a good deal in common with the Presbyterian sages who penned the Westminster Confession of Faith. The bottom line for you and me is simply this---grimness is not a Christian virtue. There are no sad saints. If God really is the center of one's life and being, joy is inevitable. If we have no joy, we have missed the heart of the Good News and our bodies as much as our souls will suffer the consequences. Joy is both in the traveling and the goal. There is always joy in doing the right thing. A gloomy Christian is a contradiction in terms and nothing in all religious history has done Christianity more than that its connection with long faces.

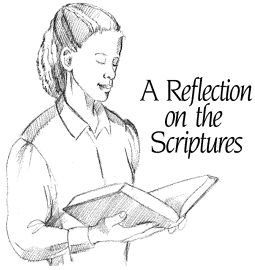
An anonymous writer has penned:

I have wept in the night  
For the shortness of sight,  
That to somebody's need made me blind:  
But I never have yet  
Felt a twinge of regret,  
For being a little too kind.

***Have the finest of appreciative New Years!***

Blessings,

Louis Stoker



## JANUARY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Lord, help me to persist although I want to give up.  
Lord, help me to keep trying although I can't see what good it does.  
Lord, help me to keep praying although I'm not sure You hear me.  
Lord, help me to keep living in ways that seek to please You.  
Lord, help me to know when to lead and when to follow.  
Lord, help me to know when to speak and when to remain silent.  
Lord, help me to know when to act and when to wait.

Marian Wright Edelman

### 1st Sunday after Christmas— January 1

Isa. 61:10-62:3; Ps. 148; Gal. 4:4-7  
Luke 2:22-40

### Baptism of the Lord— January 8

Gen. 1:1-5; Ps. 29; Acts 19:1-7  
Mark 1:4-11

### 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time— January 15

1 Sam. 3:1-10 (11-20); Ps. 139:1-6, 13-18  
1 Cor. 6:12-20; John 1:43-51

### 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time— January 22

Jon. 3:1-5, 10; Ps. 62:5-12; 1 Cor. 7:29-31  
Mark 1:14-20

### 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time— January 29

Deut. 18:15-20; Ps. 111; 1 Cor. 8:1-13  
Mark 1:21-28

## Patience

*In every life*

*There's a pause that is better than onward rush,  
Better than hewing or mightiest doing;*

*"Tis the standing still at Sovereign will.*

*There's a hush that is better than ardent speech,  
Better than sighing or wilderness crying;*

*"Tis the being still at Sovereign will.*

*The pause and the hush sing a double song*

*In unison low and for all time long.*

*O human soul, God's working plan*

*Goes on, nor needs the aid of man!*

*Stand still, and see!*

*Be still, and know!*

V. Raymond Edman, *The Disciplines of Life*

## Congregational Care Committee

We are happy to be welcoming new members into our fellowship.

The following people were recognized in our worship service on December 18, 2005; the McConnell family, Bob, Vicki, and Molly who have been attending and participating in church activities for several months. Also present to join with us was Elizabeth Askew. Elizabeth is the daughter of Turner and Nan Askew. She has recently moved to Whitefish from Missoula, Montana. She and her young daughter, Faith, are transferring their membership from the Missoula First Presbyterian Church.

New members, Bob Paulus and James and Donna Kaphammer were unable to join us on December 18th, but have been invited to attend training sessions on January 8 and 15, 2006.

Pastor Stoker will lead in formal instructions of denominational history, lifestyle of Christianity and commitment of Jesus Christ.

Anyone interested in joining with our fellowship may take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about the Presbyterian Church. You may contact Pastor Stoker at the church office; 862-2802 —Evelyn Peterson

## MISSION STATEMENT

The main purpose of the First Presbyterian Church is to glorify God and enjoy God forever. To fulfill this purpose, we affirm three God-given responsibilities:

- ⇒ To know, love and worship God through Jesus Christ
- ⇒ To serve and build up one another in love as members of the body of Christ
- ⇒ To go into our community, our country and the world, empowered by God's Holy Spirit to make disciples, teaching them all that Christ commands



**is coming to FPC!!!**



Learn the basics and complexities of the Bible

Develop skills for interpreting Scripture

Apply learning from the Bible to personal and corporate life  
in today's world.

For information, call Pam or Hap Peters (863-2605)

or the church office

Happy New Year ♪ Happy New Year ♪ Happy New Year

## SESSION HAPPENINGS – DECEMBER 14, 2005

- † The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held January 22 following worship with a potluck after the meeting.
- † A motion was passed to approve ordering the plaque that designates the church's listing on the National Register of Historic Places, and mounting it just above the cornerstone at the front of the church.
- † New Member training will be Sunday mornings, January 8 and 15.
- † Communion will be by intinction January 8.
- † A motion to approve the proposed 2006 Budget of \$156,753 was passed.
- † A motion was passed to discontinue the general request to the congregation for Per Capita in 2006.
- † The Deacons will give monetary Christmas gifts to the church staff.
- † There will be a regular worship service on December 25; Communion will not be served.
- † A motion was passed to designate the Christmas Eve Offering to the Deacons Fund for use in local missions as they deem appropriate.
- † The transfer of Kim Fleming's membership to First Presbyterian, Kalispell, was approved.
- † The transfer of Elizabeth Askew's membership from the Presbyterian Church in Missoula was approved.
- † A motion was passed to hire a high school girl as Nursery Attendant at \$10 per Sunday, beginning in January.
- † The next regular meeting will be January 11, 2006 at the church.

