

THE CORNER CONNECTION



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

September
2007

First Presbyterian Church

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Whitefish, MT 59937
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Pastor:
Dan Davis

Youth and Family:
Michelle Kuntz

Secretary:
Jacqy Little

Treasurer:
Deloris House

Organist:
Kathy Murphy

Custodian:
Donna Simpson



Cater-Corner

Welcome back! This is for all of you who have endured summer journeys and also for *The Corner Connection* since it too had a summer hiatus. All the folks I have talked to who have gone on travels always come back with the same feeling – it was good to get away but it is even better to come back home. Do you feel that way after traveling, even on a well earned vacation? Most people do! I believe there is something very deep seated within human nature that calls us back home when we have been away.

I am not sure why that is but I have a belief that is how God made us. Think of the remarkable abilities of homing pigeons, the incredible journey of salmon, or recall the stories of how pets lost on a cross-country trek have found their way back home again. This is not to say we are like animals. But we do seem to have this need to return home built into us. The instinctive need for this in animals has to do with self-preservation. It would seem that our human homing instinct also serves to protect us. The other thought that comes to mind is that we are designed to live in community with one another.

If you saw the movie *Castaway* with Tom Hanks you will remember there were three things that kept him struggling to survive. First was the memory of his fiancée. He kept her picture always near by, a poignant scene took place in the cave he came to use for shelter. As he lay in the darkness he kept clicking on and off the flashlight he had recovered just to illuminate that picture. Another was one of the packages that washed up on shore. Most of those he opened to see if there was anything that could be of use to him – ice skates, video tapes, etc. But there was one package that he did not open; it not only had an address on the package but also a symbol drawn on it. That hand drawn symbol had no intrinsic value to him but it meant that there was someone behind that pack-

age, some who cared enough to hand decorate it. That package was the only one he kept, the one that at the very end of the movie he attempts to deliver. Then there was his effort to make community even in his loneliness. It came when he looked at the volleyball with his bloody handprint on it. In that handprint he saw a face and after he smudged out eyes and a mouth he had in Wilson his own man Friday as did Robinson Crusoe. Do you remember the heartbreaking scene when this dirty, deflated, volleyball was washed off the raft and lost to the sea?

A church is just one of the ways humans recognize and honor God's call for us to live in community with one another. This church is your community; its health reflects our efforts in honoring God and serving one another. Churches, like other forms of community – neighborhoods, clubs, families – all offer us ways to fulfill our need for community. It is in our communities that we find support, nurture, care, safety, and comfort. It is within our communities that we learn and as we learn we also teach. What is it that we learn and teach? How to speak, how to walk, how to interact with others and our surroundings, how to love, laugh, grow – in short we learn how to live!

This month I will have been a part of this community for one year. I want to try something with you all. I want to celebrate this church community and welcome anyone and everyone back home! This community, like all others, has had its ups and downs, its triumphs and tragedies, its delights and despairs. **Sunday, October 7, 2007 we will celebrate together and with as many of our family and friends as we can bring together. We will celebrate communion that day and it will be honored as "Welcome Home!" Sunday. I will be working with the session Ministry Teams to plan this but make sure you mark it on your calendar now!**

Dan

New Books in the Church Library



SEPTEMBER FEATURED BOOK

Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Fight Terrorism and Build Nations...One School at a Time

by [Greg Mortenson](#) and [David Oliver Relin](#)

From Publishers Weekly

Starred Review. Some failures lead to phenomenal successes, and this American nurse's unsuccessful attempt to climb K2, the world's second tallest mountain, is one of them. Dangerously ill when he finished his climb in 1993, Mortenson was sheltered for seven weeks by the small Pakistani village of Korphe; in return, he promised to build the impoverished town's first school, a project that grew into the Central Asia Institute, which has since constructed more than 50 schools across rural Pakistan and Afghanistan. Coauthor Relin recounts Mortenson's efforts in fascinating detail, presenting compelling portraits of the village elders, con artists, philanthropists, mujahideen, Taliban officials, ambitious school girls and upright Muslims Mortenson met along the way. As the book moves into the post-9/11 world, Mortenson and Relin argue that the United States must fight Islamic extremism in the region through collaborative efforts to alleviate poverty and improve access to education, especially for girls. Captivating and suspenseful, with engrossing accounts of both hostilities and unlikely friendships, this book will win many readers' hearts.

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Wednesday Morning Bible Study Starting September 5th

Wednesday morning Bible Study will resume on September 5th at 9:30 a.m. Marlene Barnes will share a story from Barb Boswell's book, "Every Time I Turn Around I Bump into God." Each member of the class will be invited to describe a time they bumped into God this summer as they also share prayer needs and concerns.

Starting September 10th, the group will finish their study of the book of Genesis with a quick trip through the life of Joseph, which was not covered in the Horizon Study. Everyone should bring suggestions as to which study they would like to do next. A possibility is the books of Ruth and Jonah, the 2007-2008 Horizons Bible Study. New members are welcome! Claire asks for help leading the studies this year as she recovers from knee surgery!



Youth Ministry at First Pres



September & October 2007

Grocery Shopping

- will be on September 19th
- Many Transients come into the church to ask for food. They are traveling and have no money for food. They need quick instant food. The church is able to give them a bag - filled with food!
- Bring some money to donate into the pot and we will shop for the food that fills these bags.
- You and your team will shop, spend your money to the PENNY, and have show-n-tell later!

The Calendar

Sept 5th - Back to School Bash

Sept 12 - Kick Off Dinner at Kuntz's

Sept 19 - Grocery Shopping

Sept 26 - Homecoming - No Youth Group

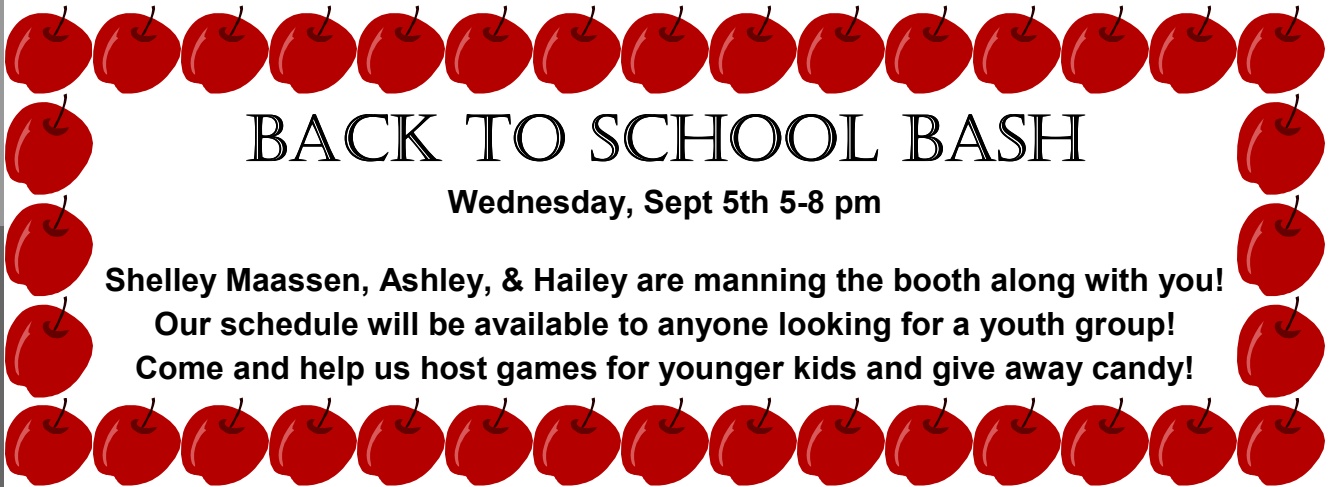
Oct 3 - Bunko Night

Oct 10 - Photo Scavenger Hunt

Oct 17 - Movie Night at Kuntz's

Oct 24 - NOOMA

Oct 31 - Costume Party & Dance - Armory



BACK TO SCHOOL BASH

Wednesday, Sept 5th 5-8 pm

Shelley Maassen, Ashley, & Hailey are manning the booth along with you!

Our schedule will be available to anyone looking for a youth group!

Come and help us host games for younger kids and give away candy!

PARENTS:

There is a meal schedule on line!
Please sign up to serve a simple meal
sometime this year.

Drivers are needed for
September 19th & October 10th

Shelle Kuntz, Director of Youth Ministry
First Presbyterian Church
301 Central Ave.
Whitefish, MT 59937

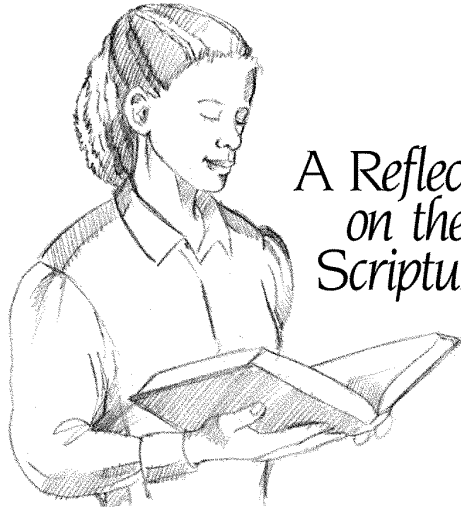
Phone Church: 862-2802
Phone Home: 862-3533
Phone Cell: 250-4645

Kick Off!

**Start off the New School Year
With Dinner at the Kuntz's
150 Stageline Drive
September 12th from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.**

**Dinner & Games
Wear athletic shoes.
Bring someone new to our group.**

A love for teens, A passion for Jesus Christ, A desire to make a difference.



*A Reflection
on the
Scriptures*

**SEPTEMBER
SCRIPTURE
READINGS**

*“I will pour out my Spirit upon all
flesh... Your old ones shall dream
dreams, and your young ones shall
see visions.”*

(Joel 2:28, alt.)

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time— September 2

Jer. 2:4-13; Ps. 81:1, 10-16; Heb. 13:1-8, 15-16
Luke 14:1, 7-14

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time — September 9

Jer. 18:1-11; Ps. 139:1-6, 13-18; Philem. 1-21
Luke 14:25-33

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time— September 16

Jer. 4:11-12, 22-28; Ps. 14; 1 Tim. 1: 1:12-17
Luke 15:1-10

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time— September 23

Jer. 8:18—9:1; Ps. 79:1-9; 1 Tim. 2:1-7
Luke 16:1-13

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time— September 30

Jer. 32:1-3a, 6-15; Ps. 91:1-6, 14-16
1 Tim. 6:6-19; Luke 16:19-31

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

BITS & PIECES

Choir Practice

We will begin choir/praise practice for the Fall/Christmas season on Monday, Sept. 17th. We will stay with the 6:00pm - 7:30pm practice time for choir. A short Praise team practice will follow for those who would like to participate.

Please bring your choir folders and any music you still have back to the church ASAP to turn in. I will return a filled practice folder to you on the 17th.

Thanks,
Karen

Bell Choir Practice

Bell choir practice will resume on Tuesday, Sept. 18th, @ 12:30pm. I suggest we start with a bell cleaning/maintenance and planning session. We will continue to meet in the sanctuary balcony. Jessie, we hope your schedule will allow you to join us this year. Wanda, welcome back!

See you soon!!!
Karen

Building Legacy Fund

Session has approved a capital campaign to create a Building Legacy Fund, with a target of \$200,000 to:

- (1) take care of much needed maintenance work on the Church building and,
- (2) To make improvements which will provide for the needs of the congregation and community in the coming years.

Early pledges and commitments have been tremendous in their support of this effort! In September, there will be more details of this campaign and you will receive a letter of invitation which the Building Legacy Fund Committee hopes you will consider.

Youth Group Medical Release

Is your medical release on file? If not, you can't join us for any activities where we would be driving! If you lost your paper, just get a new one from Shelle!