

THE CORNER CONNECTION



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

October
2007

First Presbyterian
Church

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Dan Davis

Youth and Family:
Michelle Kuntz

Secretary:
Jacqy Little

Treasurer:
Deloris House

Organist:
Kathy Murphy



Cater-Corner

This month I want to remind you about *Welcome Home Sunday*, we will celebrate this on October 7, 2007. I spoke of this last month and asked each of us to invite our former members, inactive members and potential new members to come and worship with us on this day. You can think of this as homecoming celebration, or, more aptly, a family reunion. The objective of a family reunion is not to get people to move back to the old home town but to come together for fellowship and to catch up on how your relatives are doing; a family reunion is a place to laugh, learn, share, and love. The same is true for our *Welcome Home Sunday*. If former members are actively involved in another church that is wonderful! We'd love to hear how they are doing. If inactive members are active in other churches that is great! We can rejoice with them and their new church home. If inactive members are not involved with another church then maybe this will be a reminder that they are loved right here and will lead them to become active once again. If someone who has no church affiliate likes how they are welcomed into our worship perhaps they will want to join our "family."

This may seem like a small, inconsequential thing, maybe even just a gimmick. I would argue that this is not the case! First, how do you want your church to be known? As a warm, friendly, welcoming, and inviting church? If so then this is a good opportunity to show that! Also the date for having this *Welcome Home Sunday*, October 7, 2007, is not arbitrary. This is also World Communion Sunday as well. Do you know the history of this celebration? It was started in 1936 by one of the predecessor denominations of the PC(USA). At first it was just celebrated by Presbyterians all across the globe, but it was always hoped that other denominations would also

adopt this special Sunday as well. In 1940 the idea was embraced and celebrated by several other churches throughout the world. From the National Council Churches Website: "World Communion Sunday – celebrated the first Sunday in October – is one of the most venerable of "special Sundays." The day has taken on new relevancy and depth of meaning in a world where globalization often has undermined peace and justice – and in a time when fear divides the peoples of God's earth. On this day we celebrate our oneness in Christ, the Prince of Peace, in the midst of the world we are called to serve – a world ever more in need of peacemaking." Not only will we be celebrating with our FPC family but we will also be celebrating the sacrament of communion with our brothers and sisters in Christ the world over.

Our communion time will be quite different from normal. In lieu of a spoken and recited liturgy with prayers and the words of institution we will celebrate communion while listening to a song written by Bill Carter, a PC(USA) pastor in Pennsylvania. Bill is a jazz pianist and the song is sung by Warren Cooper, also a PC(USA) pastor in Pennsylvania, we will be listen to the song on a CD. Here are the words to this song:

My soul is so tired from the roads that I've wandered,/And hope withers from my despair./Been so close, yet so far, as I count broken blessings./Will someone notice I'm here?/I watch for a light to shine in the window./I wait to hear one call my name./And I hunger to know if I'm welcome or wanted./Will someone gather me in?/Welcome Home, all you worn-out and weary./Welcome home, all strangers of grace./Welcome home, all hungry and poor./The door opens wide, find your place./The table is set, the bread smells delicious./The wine is poured out for the world./And I know that I can't ever outrun such mercy./The Father says, "Welcome home."/God says right now, "Welcome home."

Dan

New Books in the Church Library



October Featured Book

The October Featured Book will be used in the Tuesday night Adult Class in October.

What Jesus Meant: The Beatitudes and a Meaningful Life

By Erik Kolbell

In this popular interpretation of the Beatitudes, Kolbell suggests that the eight pillars of the Beatitudes--meekness, empathy, righteousness, peace, persecution, purity, poverty, and simplicity--are timeless codes of conduct for our busy, anxious lives.

Erik Kolbell starts off with the following fireworks and keeps us on our toes all the way through to the end of this soul-stirring book: "The burning of houses of worship, the bombing of clinics, the shooting of children by children, the baiting of races, the vilification of immigrants, the gating of neighborhoods, all lead me to wonder if it is in our nature to always divide ourselves against ourselves. But when I sit awhile with the Beatitudes, I am taking a tonic for what ails my soul: their restorative powers remind me that not only does God speak a universal language of unconditional love, he expects us to do no less."



Youth Ministry at FPC



October 2007

BUNCO Night

- Oct. 3rd after dinner
 ⇒ Get the dice & roll 'em
 ⇒ *Winners Stay*
 ⇒ *Losers Stray*
 ⇒ *Wild, Crazy Fun!*

What are you rolling the dice with in your life?

October Calendar

- Oct 3: Bunco!
- Oct 10: Photo Scavenger Hunt
- Oct 17: Movie Night @ Kuntz's
- Oct 24: Guest Speaker - Scot Ferda
- Oct 31: Costume Party & Dance @ Armory



October 17 at 8:00 pm
Come to the Kuntz's for movie night. Popcorn and snacks will be served! Friends Welcomed

Costume Party & Dance at the Armory

October 31st from 8-11 pm

- CARE is sponsoring a ghoulish good time on Halloween Night!
- Prizes in four different costume categories!
- Mobile Beat Music!
- Food and Entertainment and Give Aways!



Thanks for helping lead our youth group!

Donnie Clapp
 Marcia Davis
 Shelley Maassen
 Frank Leftwich



Guest Speaker

The one, the only - Scot Ferda!
 October 24th after dinner
 We're always inspired when Mr. Ferda comes to chat with us.
Be prepared
 for an awesome evening!

PHOTO Scavenger Hunt
 October 10th after dinner
Teams, Cars, Cameras
 Projectors
 You provide the models!

Looking Ahead

- November
- 7: Surprise Night
- 14: Food Bank Competition
- 21: No Group -- Happy Thanksgiving
- 28: NOOMA

PARENTS:

There is a meal schedule on line! October is filled. Please call Marcia Davis to schedule a time to make a simple meal for us! 730-2108 Save her a call to you!



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

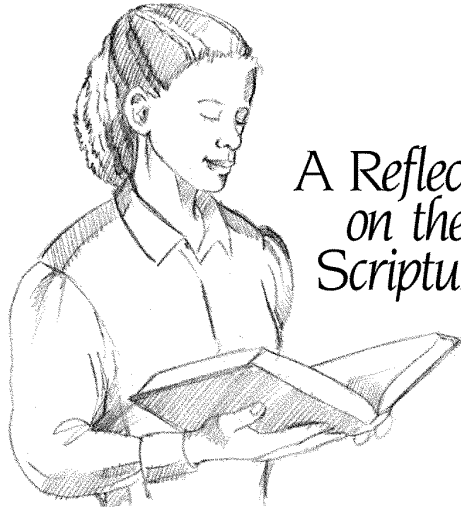
SESSION HAPPENINGS

Special Meeting – 8/13/07

A motion passed to embrace the proposal of raising \$200,000 to maintain the church structure and meet needs of the future, as identified by Building Legacy Committee members Vivian Hull, Hap Peters, Deloris House, Turner Askew and Jay Latimer, and to ask the Committee to move forward with its plan to raise that amount.

Regular Meeting – 9/12/07

- ✚ Church Secretary, Jacqy Little, will be the Funeral Coordinator.
- ✚ A motion passed to allow use of a classroom during morning hours by 1 student and 1 teacher, per a request from Whitefish Superintendent, Jerry House.
- ✚ A motion passed to approve the use of Fellowship Hall for a fundraiser, date to be determined, for the National Foundation for Transplants Fund.
- ✚ A motion passed to approve vacation for Pastor Dan, December 25, 2007 to January 3, 2008.
- ✚ A motion to approve proposed Christian Education curriculum passed.
- ✚ A motion to allow the Youth Group to sell calendars and note cards as a mission trip fundraiser was approved.
- ✚ A motion passed to transfer those accounts which have funds in the Vanguard FTSE Social Index Fund to the Vanguard Equity Income Fund.
- ✚ \$16,370 has been paid to Selig Masonry for repair work. Cost of repairing the kitchen freezer was \$1,094.
- ✚ To date, almost half of the church giving units have been contacted regarding the Building Legacy Fund with \$70,500 being pledged so far. The rest of the giving units will be contacted shortly with information about the 3 year capital campaign.
- ✚ Personnel Committee Policies and job descriptions for the Director of Music, Pianist, Custodian, and Treasurer are being reviewed and revised.
- ✚ October 7 will be Welcome Home Sunday. Former members who currently don't attend will be specially invited.
- ✚ The Whitefish Christmas Stroll is December 14.
- ✚ September 30 a Fall Pot Luck Picnic will be held in Depot Park following worship.
- ✚ The Harvest Home Dinner will be Saturday, October 20.
- ✚ The next meeting will be October 17, 2007, at 6:30 P.M.
- ✚ The next Presbytery meeting will be the Convocation in Bozeman September 16 and 17.
- ✚ The November Presbytery meeting will be in Polson, November 16 and 17, with Eugene Peterson as featured speaker.



*A Reflection
on the
Scriptures*

**OCTOBER
SCRIPTURE
READINGS**

*“The wolf shall live with the lamb...
and a little child shall lead them.*

(Isaiah 11:6)

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time— October 7

Lam. 1:1-6; Lam. 3:19-26 or Ps. 137
2 Tim. 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time — October 14

Jer. 29:1, 4-7; Ps. 66:1-12; 2 Tim. 2:8-15
Luke 17:11-19

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time— October 21

Jer. 31:27-34; Ps. 119:97-104; 2 Tim. 3:14—4:5
Luke 18:1-8

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time— October 28

Joel 2:23-32; Ps. 65; 2 Tim. 4:6-8, 16-18
Luke 18:9-14

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

Music Ministry

The music ministry at FPC has resumed for the fall. Please join us in the sanctuary choir, praise team, or handbell choir. All musical abilities welcome; just an open, loving heart and a desire to praise God through song is required! Contact Karen Leftwich (music@fpcwhitefish.org) for more information.

Harvest Home Dinner

Remember the Harvest Home Dinner on October 20th at 6:00 p.m. This event has been an tradition in our church that goes back many decades.

Welcome Home Sunday

Invite former members, friends, non –active membership to come worship and celebrate a very special Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Presbyterian Women

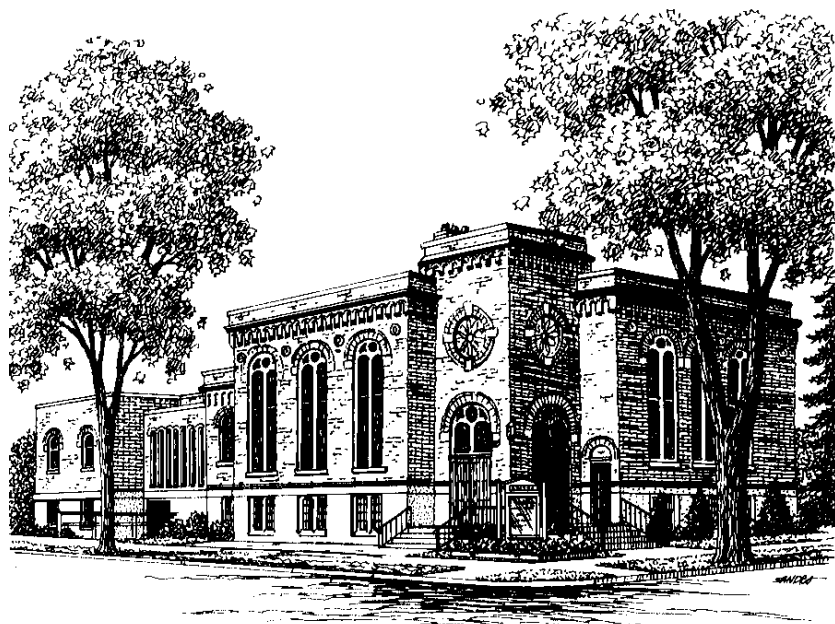
Susan Hartman, a former member of FPC, spoke to the PW ladies at their September meeting about her work as an aide at Dayton Elementary School. This school –almost 100 years old—the oldest operating country school in Montana with two rooms housing 40 children from grades K – 6th. Currently there is no hot lunch program.

Susan says “we have 3 microwaves available for the students to heat up meals but many of them do not bring what would typically be considered a nutritious lunch. In an attempt to occasionally provide a variety and better nourishment, we try to serve a hot lunch 2-3 times a month. In the past, Pat and I have mainly provided this with occasional help from parents and teachers. We would like to be able to offer lunch and breakfast more frequently.”

The PW ladies have voted to support the school as our local mission for this year and hope to visit the school.

Susan continues, “While the school is not open to proclaim the gospel, we can know that the seeds of goodwill and generosity are being planted.” Susan adds, “Many of our students already benefit from a Wednesday after school class at the Dayton Church. The benefits we see from them interacting with adults who care about them is wonderful.”

Our Church's Legacy



I am growing old and our church building is growing old. I have access to Medicare and prescription drug programs for my ailments but there is no insurance program for aging churches. That leaves only the church family to watch over the health of the building.

It is unusual for churches to be listed on the national Register of Historic Places, but our church was listed because of its architecture, but just as important was the outreach to the community. Dr. Taylor,

who was a physician and a member of our church, designed the church with the intent that it would serve as a community center as well as a place of worship. The original basement had a ceiling high enough so basketball and other games could be played there and it was used by the entire town as a meeting place for all kinds of activities. There no longer is a need for that particular activity, but as neighbor churches move to outlying areas the need and the opportunity to serve the community in other ways has become more important. It is a beautiful building and a visible presence of the Christian community, but it is in need of some improvements. Art and Mable Engelter became members of this church in 1936. Art worked in the offices of the railroad and Mable was the City Librarian. They were good caretakers of the church during their lifetime. It was not surprising then to learn after their deaths in 1992 that they had left several thousand dollars in their estate to be used for church maintenance. It has been used sparingly since that time but now the fund has been nearly depleted and it is in need of a transplant.

The Session has researched the needs and would like to raise \$200,000 by current donations and pledges over three years. As we look at the names on the beautiful windows we have the opportunity to carry on the legacy those pioneers created for us and to preserve our assets. I am not going to live forever even with my Medicare and prescription drug program, but with the proper attention our church can live many lifetimes. If we can reach the goal of \$200,000 we can begin to carry out the needed maintenance, then each time the chimes ring out they will announce that our church is alive and well and in good health.

Building Legacy Fund

The Responses to date for participation in the Building Legacy Fund have been fantastic! Letters to members and friends were mailed out the week of September 16th. We have received pledges as of September 27 in the amount of \$86,700. We are hopeful that everyone will participate so that we can achieve the goal of \$200,000.