



INSIDE:

Pastor Karl	2
Notes from CJ	3
Music	4
Worship	5
Camp.....	6
Presbyterian Women	7
Emergency Shelter.....	8
Miscellany.....	9
Military	10
Calendar.....	11

Fellowship Committee

2019 has been a year of fun filled gatherings planned by the Fellowship Committee at FPC.

F.E.A.S.T. , Friends Eating and Sharing Together started this year (formerly PIGGS) gathering from April—August. In 2020 look for F.E.A.S.T. fellowship from February—July.

Folk Dance has continued every other month. Next folk dance is meeting Friday, January 10th from 6—7:30 pm.

Fellowship Committee hosted golf outings, pizza parties, Easter brunch, and the potluck following the congregation’s Annual Meeting and brought a group together for bowling in March.

Fellowship Committee provides donuts for “Holey” Donut Sunday which is the first Sunday of every month.

Fellowship together at FPC provides a warm, welcoming and nourishing space for both newcomers and members alike. Please join us for gatherings in 2020!



Dear Ones,

2020. Here it is. Like it or not, another rotation around the sun is upon us. While I wrote to you all before and noted how we might reframe ourselves around the church year (see the November newsletter), the reality of writing “2020” when dating documents signifies something new in a different and more physical way. To mark that reality and this new calendar year, I plan on taking it upon myself to do more reading. While I often practice latency in the days leading up to January 1 so that I feel especially renewed when I begin my new resolutions, I have already begun reading more here at the end of December. The first book I dove into is one I want to note for you all in this article.

Typically, my reading resolutions revolve around novels and poetry, but “The Bible Tells Me So” by Peter Enns has captured my attention over the past few days. In it, Enns gives a plethora of ideas about biblical interpretation and approach to scripture. He notes that when, at times, we work so hard to defend scripture, we actually end up fitting it into our own mold – the mold we have the words to defend. He goes on to state that, in doing this, we lose much of what scripture can offer us in our own life in terms of transformation and relationship with God. I would further add that when we only approach scripture with the intent of using it to defend our positions or approach it looking at how we can bend it and shape it to display a God we would like rather than one we would not, we miss the spiritual journey that is the Bible.

Yes, the Bible is a spiritual journey – the journey of pilgrims and seekers and followers of God for hundreds upon hundreds and even thousands of years. And we are blessed to have had the Spirit inspire and breathe and preserve these stories so that we might encounter them and journey with them now thousands of years later. People have always been working to understand what it means to be in relationship with God, and the Bible offer us incredible insights of those who have gone before us so that we might have accompaniment in our own journey and seeking.

But sometimes the Bible is difficult to understand. What does it offer for us on our journey if in theirs the Hebrew people were taken into slavery? What does it offer for us on our journey if the journey to the Promised Land meant slaughtering innocent Canaanites? Surely God does not expect us to journey in such a way today? Certainly, I would say that the witness of Christ points us toward a firm “no” on that one. God does not expect our journey today to be the same as those in the Old Testament. We no longer live in ancient tribal times. But we cannot do away with these difficult stories either just because our context is different nor can we mold them to be something they are not. As such, in our adult Sunday school class in January, we will dive into one of the most difficult stories in the Bible – the Flood. We will ask ourselves: what does this story tell us about God both in relationship with the people of the ancient times who wrote the story and with us now? I imagine discussion will be intriguing and enjoyable while difficult and will always be better if more people join! Come on out to start the New Year doing some reading of your own, together, as we discuss this story the weeks of Jan 12, 19, and 26 at 9 AM.

Grateful for you all,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Karl". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style. A horizontal line is drawn underneath the signature.



I hear people say, “I wish Christmas could happen all year long” or “ I love Christmas why can’t it be Christmas every day?” These are legitimate feelings. I love how during this season the love, forgiveness, the generosity of people seem to just over flow. People go out of their way to do nice things. Why is it that this only happens during this time of year? Is it because the Christmas tree is there to remind us? The nativity scene that is set up? Is it because of the advent wreath that we light at every service? What is it?

As we clean up, take the tree down, put the lights away, hide batteries out of toys (not that I have EVER done that), what can we do to hold on to this feeling? There is so much hurt, pain, and anger in our nation at this time it is so important to hold on to the love and the holiday feel. What visual reminder do you need?

We all experience “God moments.” That feeling/experience that helps you remember that you are a beloved child of God. That you are important and that it is your job to be his light. I know when Izabel went to Triennium she experienced that feeling. On the last day, they shot off a confetti cannon. It was raining confetti. It was so deep that Katie made a confetti angel. I know that several youth, including Izabel brought some of the confetti home with them. Izzi keeps hers inside her phone case. All she has to do to remember that feeling is to flip her phone over and look at the scraps of seeming simple pieces of tissue paper. To her that paper is a feeling that takes her back and makes her remember the sense of belonging and love she felt.

How can we do this with the Christmas love? The generosity that we feel right now, some may keep it through New Year’s. Some may carry it through Epiphany, but by Valentine’s Day do you still have the Christmas high? Do you still have that same feeling of love, understanding, forgiveness, the desire to reach and reconcile with that person? Think about, reflect and hold on to that feeling. Grab on to your reminder and hold it close, so come June or maybe closer to next November you can pull it out, and bask in the feeling and rekindle the love and understanding you have experienced in the past month.

Looking ahead for the month of January, mark your calendars for January 19. The youth will be hosting the Chili Cook-Off and Silent Auction. The money raised will help with the church’s camping scholarships and the summer mission work that the youth may participate in. For example, the youth have helped with a mobile Vacation Bible School, sponsored by the Presbytery of Wyoming, and other opportunities as they come up.

If you would like to participate in the Chili Cook-Off or donate an item for the auction, please let me know. It is a wonderful opportunity to share in some wonderful fellowship and support the youth of the church.

Logos will start again on Sunday, January 5 at 3 pm. Recreation Time starts at 3 pm, followed by worship, Bible study and the evening ends with dinner. If you would like to experience Logos with us, the invitation is always open. It is a wonderful opportunity to get to know the future leaders of our church. If anyone would like to share their culinary talents with the youth, we would love for you to come cook or make a dessert.

Happy New Year!!

Choir and Bell Choir News

What a great fall and Christmas season we have had for both choirs. Thanks to choirs and all the musicians for their diligent work in learning anthems especially for the Cantata.

I would like to take this opportunity to say what a GREAT time I have had as director for both the choirs and what a wonderful group of people to work with every week. We are so blessed with great musicians in our church family from singers to ringers to all the musicians who support us.

Due to issues with my knee, I am having difficulty standing for any length of time and am taking time off to have them repaired. You will probably see interim directors for both choirs stepping up in the next few months. Due to the weekly anthems for the choir, I have resigned from that position, but hope to return to Bell Choir director in the fall.

Louise



2020 Per Capita: \$44.95 per member

Per capita contributions are required of churches by our higher councils (Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly). These contributions connect us to the wider work of the church by supporting Presbyterian efforts at regional, national, and international levels. Please consider making this contribution in addition to your annual giving as a sign of your commitment to ministry both within our congregation and beyond.



Mark Your Calendar

Calling all Chili Makers!!

Sunday, January 19th

6th Annual Chili Cook-Off and Silent Auction

Requirements: 1- Crockpot full of chili

Yes, it is that easy! To sign up please email CJ (cjclem@actaccess.net)

The money raised will go towards the various mission activities in which FPC youth participate.

Silent Auction

We will be looking for items for the Silent Auction! Crafters, bakers, authors, artists, and any others are all invited to donate items for the auction. The auction begins during the Chili Cook-Off and continues until the congregation's Annual Meeting, January 26th.

Money raised from the Silent Auction will benefit the church's camp scholarship fund and youth mission fund. If you have something that you would like to donate for the auction, please let CJ know what you would like to donate.

Annual Congregational Meeting

January 26th

**Following the 10:30 am
worship service**

**There will be a pot luck lunch as well, so
please bring something to share!**



For their service to the church during the month of December the Worship Committee would like to thank these faithful servants...

Worship Leaders: Shelley Cundiff, Dennis Heizer, Doug & Pam Moore, Karen Schreffler, Scott Hollingsworth, Blaine Holwell, Tina Anderson, Marion Reed, FPC Youth, Kim Wells, Gloria Dierking

Flower Guild: Carol Maloy, Jane Gallagher, Jerilea Phillips, Myrna Saunders

Audio/Visual Systems Operators: Elwyn Maloy, Rick Semino, Chris Smith, Jim Blaha, Loren Ruttinger, Craig Clem

Elmcroft Worship Leaders: Pastor Karl & Jan Leupold

Head Ushers: Howie Fitzpatrick, Chris Smith, Doug Beagle, Tina Anderson, Beth Lenz, Shelley Cundiff, Tod Windsor, Kim Wells, Jeri Joy, Jean Morgen

Greeters: Linda & Harvey Johnson, Brian & Jean Morgen, FPC Youth, Mike Stoll, Tina Anderson, Cheryl Kelsey

Communion Preparation: Denise Mueller, Kurt & Heidi Smith, Tracey Burke

Coffee Fellowship: Phyllis and ladies; Choir Members; Pastor Karl and Kendra Heimbeck, Linda Johnson

Coffee Sponsors: Doug & Kathy Beagle, Pat & Jane Gallagher

Advent Readers: Jay & Maggie Bergstrom; Loren Ruttinger; Landis Family; Szewc Family; Clem Family; Pat & Jane Gallagher; Dave & Cathy Engle; FPC Youth; Heidi & Kurt Smith

Session Members and Committees

Budget & Finance

Beth Bailey, Carol Davis, Kim Wells

Clerk of Session

Susan Smith

Communication & Tech

Tod Windsor, Chris Smith

Christian Education

Judy Garber, Shelley Barrett

Fellowship

Jeri Joy, Kathy Lundberg

Membership & Evangelism

Tina Anderson, Jean Morgan

Mission & Outreach

Doug Beagle, Jerilea Phillips

Personnel

Teresa Williams, Beth Lenz

Properties

Doug Moore, Howie Fitzpatrick, Brett Burtis

Worship

Linnet McGoodwin, Cheryl Kelsey

Keep them in your prayers

Jack Elliott, Margie Elkins, Jim & Margaret Litle, Karen Townsend, Darlene McNair, Kathleen Shafer, Mary Holstedt, Dorothea Doerr, Gloria Stresky, Roy Davis, Jeanette Trohkimoinen, Annette Reed, Marion Sept, Julie Bugher,

Let's keep current!!

If you have changed your:

Phone

Mailing address

Email

Please let us know.

fpc@actaccess.net 672-1717



Camp Story is already beginning its planning and preparing for Summer Camp 2020. We are **actively looking for Summer Staff**. If you know of anyone 18+ who has a passion for mentoring youth, are self starters, energetic and love Jesus, send them to our website: www.CampStory.org/employment.

We are also **looking for volunteers** to help with Starters Camp and our Day Camp. If you feel God calling you in this way please contact Alicia Ford, Camp Director via email alicia.campstory@gmail.com or call 307.763.0919.

Summer Camp is always an incredible experience for all who are involved. It is an experience of a lifetime, a new adventure that molds and shapes you in ways you never knew possible. The Lord is very present in His sanctuary at Camp Story and it shines through every child's face who attends.

We are ever so grateful for the many folks of this church who are generous with their time, donations, and prayers for the ministry that happens at Camp Story. Stay tuned for our **Summer Camp Brochure** and our **open registration** which will **launch January 10th!!**

For His Glory,
Alicia Ford



“Cracked the Movie: New Light on Dementia”

Tuesday, January 7th

9:15 am —11:00 am at The Hub

Open to the public, no cost and no sign-up necessary.

This important, innovative research-based play and film follows the experiences of persons living with dementia and their families, from diagnosis to their new lives in long-term care. View families as they struggle to see beyond the disease until they come to see that each of us has cracks as part of being human.

Check out the information center !

Events happening!

Volunteering!

Newsletters, devotionals

The go to place for all the good stuff going on at FPC!!

WANTED!!

The **Personnel** committee is looking for volunteers to be on the committee. Contact Teresa Williams.

Fellowship & CE are also looking for additional members!



Presbyterian Women (PW)

OUR PURPOSE:

Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit we commit ourselves:

- *To nurture our faith through prayer and Bible Study**
- *To support the mission of the church worldwide**
- *To work for justice and peace, and**
- *To build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (USA) and witnesses to the Promise of God's Kingdom.**

Important DATES TO REMEMBER:

All women in the congregation are invited.

January 8 10:00 am PW Brunch meeting in Fellowship Hall (CT meets in Parlor at 9:00)

(Notice this is the second Wednesday)

Program- Jeri Joy and Kathy Lundberg
(Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery and USA Mission Experience to the Finger Lakes of New York entitled "Standing on the Shoulders of Empowered Women".)

January 15 at 8:30 am Packing bags for **Food Group** at office on Broadway next to Sheridan Commercial. If you can help please call Nancy Elliott.

January 15 Wednesday Circle Meetings and Bible Study*

Circle 1: 10:00 am in the Parlor

Circle 2: 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall

Circle 3: Noon at Holiday Inn

*2019-2020 PW/Horizon's Bible Study, *Love Carved in Stone, A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments* by Eugenia Anne Gamble.

A Bit of History:

Some twenty plus years ago with the guidance of Rosemary Brouwer Circle One made the Chrismons you see on our sanctuary Christmas tree. Chrismons are Christmas decorations with Christian symbols on them. Chrismon is a combination of the words "Christ" and "monogram". They are gold and white, representing majesty and purity. Thus, it is fitting that there are white lights (purity) and gold (majesty) ornaments on sanctuary Christmas trees. The Chrismons that are usually seen today were developed in 1957 in Danville, VA. Early Christians often worshiped in secret and communicated with each other using symbols that signified the believers faith. Chrismons are hung to remind us that Christ is the reason for Christmas.

The tradition of hanging greenery in the Sanctuary is to adorn the sanctuary before the start of Advent in preparation for Christmas. The greenery represents everlasting life as does the evergreen tree. The wreaths are circles that symbolize eternity.



Red Cross Emergency Shelter

First Presbyterian Church has entered into an agreement with the Red Cross to use the church as an emergency shelter.

The idea to do this was conceived during last spring's flooding in Sheridan County. The question was asked, if people are displaced by the flooding, how can we help? This began a series of discussions with Red Cross that led to the agreement.

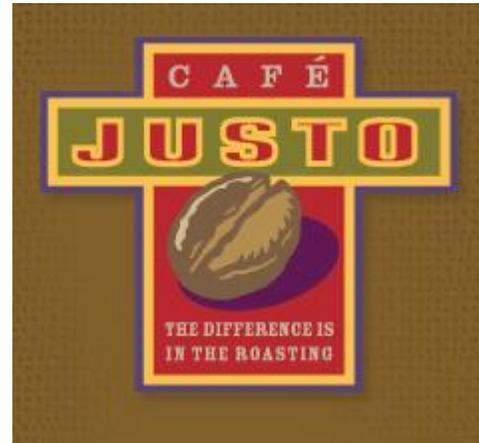
In the event of an emergency, Red Cross will contact us and begin a process to establish an emergency shelter here at the church. As you can imagine those events would be fluid and chaotic. Red Cross would mobilize people and prepositioned resources. Initially the church would be a location for people to go to get information, a cup of coffee and some food while Red Cross assesses the best response to serve their needs. A dormitory and food service may be opened if the numbers of displaced warrant it. Often times affected families are put up in hotels. A typical event would see about 10% of the people displaced seeking some type of Red Cross Aid. The goal is to get these people back to their routines as quickly as possible, with this usually occurring within a week.

A two – part, 5 hour **training** will be conducted **February 8, 2020** on Shelter Fundamentals and Shelter Management.

This training will provide the skills and information necessary for us to get the shelter up and running and assist in its operation. After the training, we'll have more information on what is required to support the shelter. We'll be identifying more specific roles, such as registration and food preparation and soliciting commitment to fill them.

Please consider attending the training and/or helping support the shelter operations.

Mission and Properties Committees



Thank you to all who have been coffee sponsors in 2019. It has been a great year!

There is a new sign-up sheet to sponsor in 2020 at the information center.

Just a reminder, Mission Committee can special order coffee for you and we have gift certificates available.

Pastor Karl's email:

fpc.karl@actaccess.net



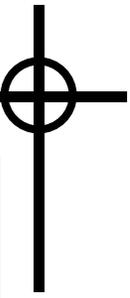
Nursery

Supervisor

and Assistant

Sunday mornings – 8:30-11:30

Contact the church office for more information and an application.



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2–Mike Stadick
- 3– Agnes Hall, Marilyn Michelena
- 5– Izabel Clem, Avery VanKrosigk
- 6– Janet Burtis, Kristin Kelly
- 9–Zachary Gray
- 11–Rex Arney, Betty Leavitt, Chris Smith
- 13–Phyllis Wilhelm
- 14–Bailey Bard, Danielle Reel
- 15– Alexandra Cameron, Doug Moore
- 16–Ted Knapp, Elwyn Maloy
- 18– Bruce Williams
- 21– Greta Johnson, Linda Pruitt
- 23– Hazel Ford, Rudy Osborne
- 24– Karen Foshier
- 26– Doug Melius
- 27– Howie Fitzpatrick
- 29– Brenden Clem, Mary Holstedt, Jerry Saunders
- 30– Teresa Williams
- 31– Karen Izzard, Pam Moore

Be sure and visit the church website!

sheridanfpc.church



First Presbyterian
Church of Sheridan



Bring non-perishable food items to church on the **3rd Sunday** of each month and help FPC support your local Salvation Army.

Happy Anniversary!



- 2– Jim & Peggy Blaha
- 5– Lynn & Galen Tipton
- 6– Kristin Kelly & Vince Schutte
- 19– Brian & Jean Morgen
- 25– Dennis & Cheryl Heizer

The office will be open during these hours.

8-noon- Monday– Friday

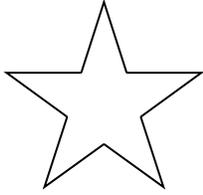
Please call 672-1717 to leave a message.

fpc@actaccess.net

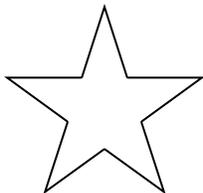
Like us on Facebook!

Church web site

Sheridanfpc.church



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Air Force

Jason Browne (Son of Sandy Browne)

Ryan Laughton (Son of Gary & Sherry Laughton, Grandson of Joe Laughton)

Howard (Ace) Shrum (Grandson of Dorothy Shrum)

Damon Sevier (Son of Patty Usher)

Kai Grimmell (Nephew of Gloria Stresky)

Bryce Williams (Son of Mike and Teresa Williams)

Brennan & Sydney Negrete (Grandson & Granddaughter-in-law of Elwyn & Carol Maloy)

Megan Price (Granddaughter of Karen Foshier)

Captain Rory Montgomery (Great Nephew of Harvey & Linda Johnson)

Brandon Fitzpatrick-(Son of Howie & Sandy Fitzpatrick)

National Guard

Allen Price (Son-in-law of Karen Foshier)

Carsie Mitchell (Grandson of Jim & Dianne Perry)

Navy & Navy Reserves

William Ferries (Son of Jane Buell)

Army & Army Reserves

Kyle Jennings-(Grandson of Bernice Jennings)

Ethan & Johnna Hall (Grandson & granddaughter –in-law of Elwyn & Carol Maloy)

Jacob Botten (Son of Jon and Rene Botten)

Chance Quarterman (Son of Chad & Amber Quarterman)

Marines

Zachary Fitzpatrick-(Son of Howie & Sandy Fitzpatrick)

If you would like to have your loved-one in the military listed on this page, or if you would like to have their address printed in the newsletter, or their picture on our picture board, please give the information to the office.

January 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>* LOGOS meet at 3:00 pm every Sunday</p> <p>** AA meets every Sunday at 6:00—7:00 pm and Wednesdays from 7:30—8:30 pm</p>			<p>1</p> <p>New Year's Day</p> 	<p>2</p> <p>11:00 am Properties</p> <p>7:00 pm Choir</p>	3	4
<p>5</p> <p>8:00 am Worship/Communion</p> <p>10—10:30 Fellowship</p> <p>10:30 am Worship/Communion</p> <p>11:30 Tech Committee</p> <p>* **</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7:00 pm Bell Choir</p>	<p>7</p> <p>11:45 am Christian Education Committee</p>	<p>8</p> <p>10:00 am PW Brunch</p> <p>6:30—8:00 pm Youth Group</p> <p>7:30—8:30 pm AA</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6:30 am Breakfast Study</p> <p>9:45 Bible Study</p> <p>7:00 pm Choir</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Registration Opens for Camp Story</p> <p>6:00—7:30 pm Folk Dance</p>	11
<p>12</p> <p>8:00 am Worship/Communion</p> <p>9:00 am—10:00 am Youth & Adult Sunday School</p> <p>10—10:30 Fellowship</p> <p>10:30 am Worship</p> <p>* **</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7:00 pm Bell Choir</p>	<p>14</p> <p>4:00 pm Worship Committee</p> <p>4:30 pm Fellowship Committee</p> <p>5:00 pm Mission & Outreach Committee</p> <p>5:30 pm Budget & Finance Committee</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9:30 am Circles</p> <p>10:30 Membership Committee</p> <p>Report Deadline for Annual Meeting</p> <p>6:30—8:00 pm Youth Group</p> <p>7:30—8:30 pm AA</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6:30 am Breakfast Study</p> <p>9:45 Bible Study</p> <p>7:00 pm Choir</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>8:00 am—12:00 Noon PEO Founder's Day in Westminster Hall</p>
<p>19</p> <p>8:00 am Worship/Communion</p> <p>9:00 am—10:00 am Youth & Adult Sunday School</p> <p>10—10:30 Fellowship</p> <p>10:30 am Worship</p> <p>11:30 am Chili Feed & Silent Auction</p> <p>* **</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Martin Luther King, Jr Day</p> <p>7:00 pm Bell Choir</p>	<p>21</p> <p>7:00 pm Session</p>	<p>22</p> <p>6:30—8:00 pm Youth Group</p> <p>7:30—8:30 pm AA</p>	<p>23</p> <p>6:30 am Breakfast Study</p> <p>9:45 Bible Study</p> <p>7:00 pm Choir</p>	<p>24</p> 	25
<p>26</p> <p>8:00 am Worship/Communion</p> <p>9:00 am—10:00 am Youth & Adult Sunday School</p> <p>10—10:30 Fellowship</p> <p>10:30 am Worship</p> <p>Annual Meeting following with Potluck</p> <p>* **</p>	<p>27</p> <p>7:00 pm Bell Choir</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>6:30—8:00 pm Youth Group</p> <p>7:30—8:30 pm AA</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6:30 am Breakfast Study</p> <p>9:45 Bible Study</p> <p>7:00 pm Choir</p>	<p>31</p>	

First Presbyterian Church

2121 Colonial Drive
Sheridan, WY 82801

Return Service Requested

Mailing label goes here

