



First Presbyterian
Church of Sheridan

The Good News

September 2023



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Thank you Dennis!

Dennis Heizer left his position as church financial secretary at the end of August. We are so grateful for his nearly 40 years of service to FPC! Please offer Dennis a special thanks the next time you see him.

Sunday School Kickoff

Sunday School for ages 2 years and up begins Sunday, September 10th at 9 am.

Join us that day for a morning of worship and Sunday school and stay for a potluck lunch, games, and fellowship.

Hamburger and hotdogs will be provided
See you there!

Choir Retreat

Saturday, September 9 from 9:30am to 1:30 pm
Ryan Landis will be leading a choir retreat at The Hub.

Lunch will be provided.
We look forward once again to hearing the choir during morning worship.

The Bridge

The Bridge starts up again on Wednesday, September 13. Dinner will be served at 5:30 pm with educational programming to follow at 6:15. The Fellowship Committee is looking for Cook Teams to plan a full meal for about 25–30 people.

Don't want to lead a team? No problem, sign up to help a team.

Signup sheet is on the bulletin board by the fellowship hall.

Request for Breads

World Communion Sunday is October 1. We are looking for volunteers to bake different types of bread such as rye, soda bread, pumpernickel, sourdough, focaccia or others.

Please contact Denise Mueller,
828-712-9500 or niecy.mueller@charter.net,
if you would be willing to help.

Dear Ones,

I love the beginning of September and the time when we begin to shift out of summer patterns. I know many of you take the summer and find time to get into the mountains, travel, or just lay low and play a round of golf. The summer is an important season for tending to our souls in a different way than the other seasons allow, though, each has its own unique way of doing so. I tend to find the summer the best time to be in the water fishing. As long as I'm not tying up my fly in the trees reaching their branches over the creek, there are few things that fill my cup more than letting the cool water rush around me as I try (emphasis on "try") to catch a fish. Summer is just such a great season for the important sabbath rest that fills our souls, but now we are transitioning into the fall. School has started and church programming is following right behind.

As noted, I like this shift because the energy that we are carrying from that time of summer sabbath is easily seen in the church when we gather. You are excited to see one another and to engage in what is happening, and there are many opportunities to be together outside of worship. On Sundays, we will have Sunday school for all ages at 9 AM. I teach the adult class in the fellowship hall and want to encourage you to try this out if you have not. For 4 weeks at a time, we explore a particular topic with lots of table conversation. In many ways, the adult Sunday school hour is quite fellowship-y. On Sept 10, we will begin with a history of the Bible including how it has been compiled and how it has been interpreted through time. Yes, interpretation has changed many times as the critical lens through which folks have read the text has shifted. I hope you'll attend this important class as we learn more about the Bible and how to read it in such a way that we do not despise it but come to love the amazing story of God's love for humanity and humanity's own experience of that love in all our successes and foibles.

The other piece of programming I want to highlight is the Sept 13 start of the third year of our midweek dinner called "the Bridge." The hope of this midweek gathering is to bridge the time between Sundays by giving another opportunity for congregational fellowship and study. Just as Jesus gathered at the table for meals with so many, we will gather together on Wednesday nights from 5:30-6:15 for a meal. Come and just enjoy the conversation together and to have a night not to cook and clean (unless you sign up to that one week for everyone). Then, if you desire, jump into the adult Bible study that night. We'll take a look at the upcoming Sunday sermon passage and field any questions that might be lingering from the previous Sunday. No preparation is needed for the study, and it's just as laid back as the meal. There will also be programming for our youth during this 6:15-7:00 time.

Beloved, there are many ways to enjoy fellowship and walk alongside one another on this journey of following Christ. Bring that sabbath energy and engage because we often find that in engaging in this journey together is exactly what continues to feed that energy and uphold us.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Karl

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Karl". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. Below the signature, there is a single horizontal line that underlines the name.



I am a pretty relaxed and go-with-the-flow person, but then things happen that I am like, nope, I am not anymore. I need a plan and all the information on what will happen. I need to have my ducks in a row and plan for three different possible outcomes. I can be flexible, but I have to have a plan.

As I prepare for our extensive European trip, I am a mess! I have never been outside of the United States. I have no idea what to expect. Therefore, I am freaking out. I have no idea what to plan for, what to expect, and no backup plan. I need to get my money converted, but where? I read I don't do it at the airport, but watch out for those who will cheat you. I have no idea how we will get from point A to point B. Ack!!!! In my mind, I envision us looking and acting like the Clampetts. I know it won't be that bad, but my brain is dramatic. When I get going, I must remind myself to take a deep breath and pray. Once I have recentered myself, I get out my notebook, pen, travel books, and notes from wonderful people who have shared their knowledge with me and start making lists of things I need to do.

When looking for experienced travelers, I turned to my church family—trusting that they would not lead me down a dark alley. I took in all the information, made notes, processed all the information, and now I am applying the knowledge to formulate a plan. I appreciated everyone taking the time to answer all my crazy questions.

Seeking those in the church who have more experience is a perfect example of what we do with our faith. We study the Bible, ask questions, and seek answers with those we trust. The conversations that evolve from the questions can be very inspirational. Coming together is what church is all about. There is a flow of information, ideas, and understanding. Each party involved grows and gains a better understanding or at least a different perspective.

I have been asked why I like working with kids. Besides the obvious that I am still a kid at heart, it is the joy of introducing the little ones to the stories and the love that surrounds us. They think about and apply the themes and lessons to their lives and surroundings as they age. They are insightful and look at things from a different perspective. It is a sense of pride when a child feels surrounded by love, safe enough to question, absorbs the information, and applies it to their faith. Then, they take that step and get confirmed. The youth are saying I have examined, I have processed, and I am confident enough to own my baptism vows.

As we kick off the new Sunday school year (September 10 at 9 a.m., be here or be square!), come knowing that all ages are welcome. I challenge you to come with the enthusiasm of a first grader with a new box of crayons, the confidence of a teenager talking to their parent, the curious mind of a two-year-old, and the trust of a baby that you will find what you are looking for even if you don't know what it is you are seeking.



Happy August from Presbyterian Women!
Praying for God to Help Us Bloom Where We Are
Planted in 2023!

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.

All women of the church are Presbyterian Women. You are welcome to visit PW meetings, gatherings and Circles to see what it is like – you are always invited! Pray about it and see what the Lord reveals to you. If you can only attend sporadically – don't let that stop you – you are always welcome!

The Circles (small groups) gather on the 3rd Wednesday of the month during the school year September through May.

- Circle 1 gathers at 10:00 am in the Parlor
- Circle 2 gathers at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall
- Circle 3 gathers at noon in the Fellowship Hall (bring your own lunch)

The next PW luncheon is on September 6th at noon in the Fellowship Hall. The cost is only \$5.00. The Coordinating Team is the Luncheon Committee. These luncheons are a good time of fellowship and fun. Put on your thinking caps about programs you want to see at our PW luncheon. Your opinion matters. We will have a time of sharing ideas instead of a program. God may be doing a new thing! Pray that we hear Him clearly as we move forward in this new PW season. God is always at work! He is up to good things for our good and His glory! Hope to see lots of Presbyterian Women and guests!

Those who are studying the 2023-2024 Bible Study: it is called "Sacred Encounters—The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke—Acts".

The one thing we are guaranteed is that things will change. We may wish for things to be as they were, but the seasons change and the times change. God will help us deal with changes that grow us into the souls that He wants us to become. We are works in progress, but God stays the same. There is comfort in that knowledge.

Hebrews 18:8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Isaiah 40:8 The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

Love and blessings from your sisters in Christ,
Helen 673-1710 and Rhea 683-2362

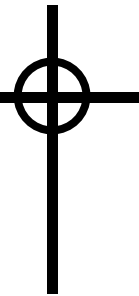
Kick-off Sunday

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Join us for a morning of worship and
Sunday school, and stay for a potluck
lunch, games, and fellowship.
Hamburgers and hotdogs will be
provided.



Contact CJ with
questions.



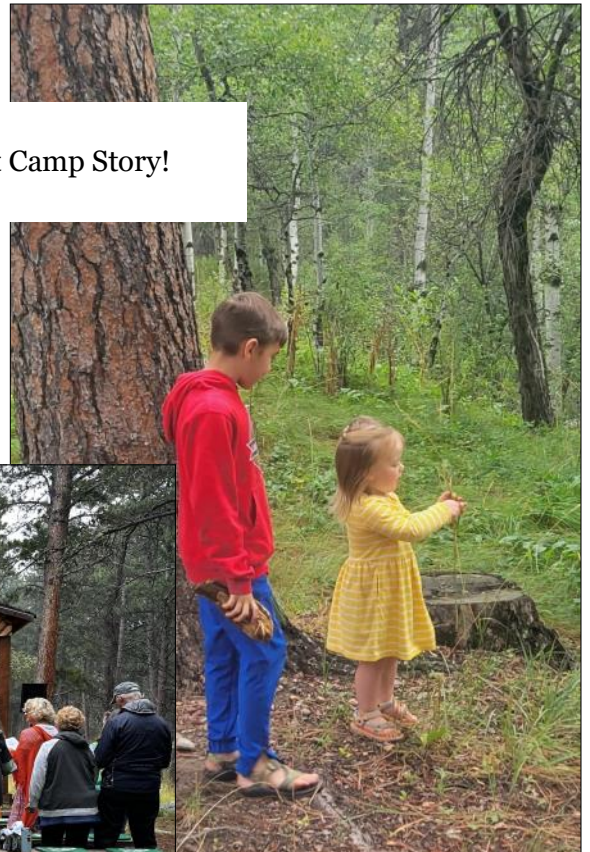
FPC in Action!



Youth and adults that helped serve at Lunch Together in August.



Worship at Camp Story!



Good News at FPC !



Bentley Malone met with success at both county and state fairs with his champion pig! At the State Fair he had:

- Reserve Champion crossbred breeding gilt
- 3rd Overall Breeding Gilt
- Reserve Heavyweight Light-Cross Class
- 3rd Class Heavyweight Light-Cross
- 4th Overall Heavy weight Berkshire

At the County Fair he had:

- 5th Junior Showmanship
- Reserve in Class 7, 9, and 12

Bentley also did Livestock Judging at the State Fair and was 3rd in Reasons and 7th Overall Junior.



Please share special days/events/ milestones for our Good News at FPC page. We like to share good news!



Soaking in the sun! Enjoying the sounds of laughter! Being with fellow Presbyterians!

Joys of FPC's Family Fellowship Pool Party in August.



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The monthly Session meeting for August was held on Tuesday the 22nd at 7 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

News of Interest --

- Baer Ruttinger, son of Loren and Bridgette will be baptized on September 10.
- Dennis Heizer, who has served as Financial Manager for nearly 40 years, has submitted his resignation.
- The Bridge dinners will begin again on Wednesday, September 13.
- The Congregational Care Committee will be looking for people to provide a weekly meal for Jerrod and Rockie Sadler after their baby is born, which is due soon.
- A tree has been planted in memory of Rebecca Koehn.
- The food pantry by the office door has been getting a lot of visits and is low on food, so Becky Motsick is requesting food donations. Please help if you can.

Gary Joy, Clerk of Session

The church office will be closed
Friday, September 1 and
Monday, September 4 for
Labor Day.

FPC Pool Party in August!



Financial Summary for 2023 through the end of July

Giving:

Actual Giving	\$ 227,179
Budgeted Giving	\$ 223,917
Difference	\$ 3,262

Expenses:

Actual Expenses	\$ 214,778
Budgeted Expenses	\$ 232,966
Difference	\$ -18,188

Net:

Actual Giving	\$ 227,179
Actual Expenses	\$ 214,778
Difference	\$ 12,401

These numbers reflect that a few large annual donations received early in the year are divided by the remaining months in the year and then added to each month's actual giving.

Your contributions to our Per Capita obligation to the General Assembly totals \$3,305 thru July. Our total 2023 Per Capita assessment is \$13,600.

The Wednesday Bridge

Food, Family, Friends & Fellowship
Building a community of faith beyond Sundays

Cook Teams Needed!

Teams sign up for a Wednesday night.
Provide a full meal for those who attend
(about 25-30 people)
As formal or informal as you like
Don't want to lead a team? No problem, sign
up to help a team.
Turn in receipts for reimbursement if you choose.

Dinners served every Wednesday
Sept 13 – Nov 15 at 5:30 pm
Wednesday Programming to follow at 6:15

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

Musicians: Miriam Nance, Ryan Landis, Mary Apple

Worship Leaders: Doug Moore, Mary Ludemann, Tyler Milne

Ushers: Shelley Cundiff, Nickie Arney, Denise & Jeff Mueller, Helen Campbell, Jean Morgen, Sherry Laughton, Nancy Elliott, Marilyn Michelena

Communion Prep: Su Rapple-ye-Jackson, Denise Mueller

Communion Servers: Gary & Sherry Laughton, Beth Thurow, Nancy Elliott, Marilyn Michelena, Jean Morgen

Audio/Visual Systems Operators: Ted Knapp, CJ Clem, Craig Clem

Coffee Sponsors: Mike Stoll & Tina Anderson, Mission Committee



Thank You

To all the volunteers who helped
prepare and serve food for
Lunch Together in August!

Keep them in your prayers



Ongoing Prayers: Margie Elkins, Karen Townsend, Darlene McNair, Kathleen Shafer, Jerry and Myrna Saunders, Leonard Hurst, and Robert & Jeannette Ruttinger.

Prayers for Peace & Healing: Howie Fitzpatrick, Julie Bugher, Jae Satterlee, Diana Miller, Mary Hutton, Jay Gallagher (Pat & Jane's son), and Lauren Norby (Jeanette Trohkimoinen's granddaughter).

Prayers for Mission Partners: Community Presbyterian (Shoshoni) and Habitat for Humanity of the Eastern Big Horns.

If you have prayer concerns that you would like shared, please call the church office at 672-1717.



Session Members and Committees

Budget & Finance

Scott Davis, Gary Laughton

Clerk of Session

Gary Joy

Christian Education

Rex Arney, Tori Milne

Fellowship

Kim Wells, Becky Motsick

Congregational Care

Bobbie Spahn, Jean Morgen, Larry Apple

Mission & Outreach

Tina Anderson, Rachel Mathews-Landis

Personnel

Shelley Cundiff, Nancy Cook

Properties

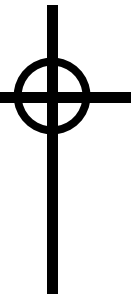
Dave Youngren, Kurt Smith

Worship

John Jackson, Beth Thurow

Tech

Gloria Dierking, Craig Clem



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

September 1—Jeanette Trohkimoinen,
John Thurow
September 4—Jill Cameron
September 6—Larry Apple, Rachael Milne
September 8—Bryan Luedtke
September 9—Kathy Beagle
September 10—Brandon Fitzpatrick
September 12—Daren Bainter, Roger Barrett
September 13—Mike Madden
September 16—Mike Williams, Jenna Wilson,
Jesse Wilson
September 18—Diana Perry
September 19—Carol Davis, Cannon Groshart,
Amber Quarterman
September 22—Tom Nance
September 23—Marigene Vogt, CJ Clem
September 27—Sharon Browne, Jan Leupold
September 29—Dave Engels, Carol Maloy,
Susan Mottram

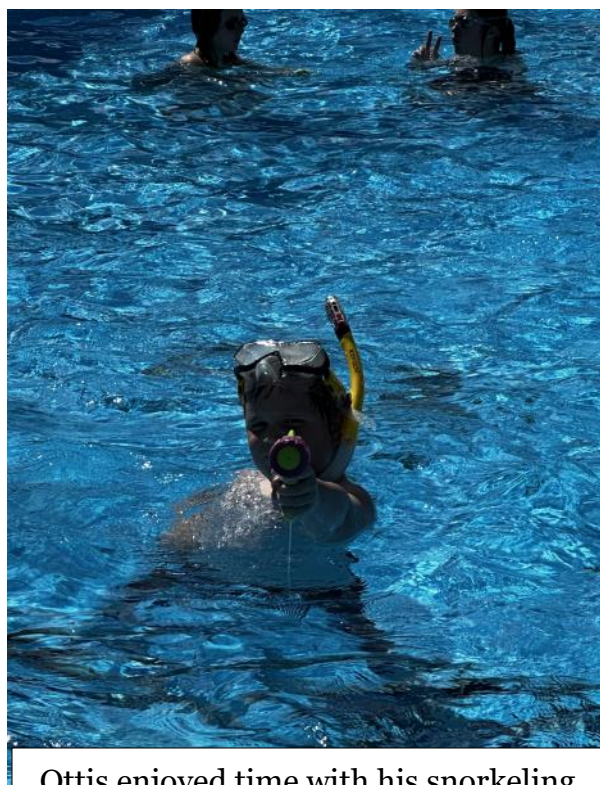


Henry and Prakash help cleanup and
organize mats following Sunday morning
worship!
Thank You!



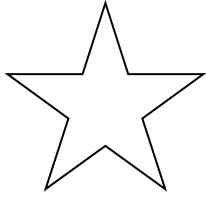
Happy Anniversary! September

September 1—David Brock & Claire Gerber
September 4—Roger Barrett & Shelley Cundiff
September 5—John & Kathy Lundberg
September 22—Ken & Susan Mottram
September 24—Robert & Katie Araas
September 26—Gareth & Rhea Dixon



Ottis enjoyed time with his snorkeling
gear at the August Family Fellowship
Pool Party!



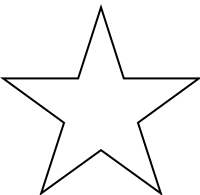


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Space Force

Ryan Laughton (Son of Gary & Sherry Laughton)

Air Force

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

Megan Price (Granddaughter of Karen Fosher)

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

Bridger Ammann (Grandson of Joyce and Gary Meling)

National Guard

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

Carsie Mitchell (Grandson of Jim & Dianne Perry)

Henry Johannesen (Grandson of Judi Palm)

Army & Army Reserves

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

Jacek Aksamit (Grandson of Mary & Larry Apple)

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.

September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Juanita out of office 	2
3 8 am Worship w/ Communion 10 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship w/Communion 11:45 am Tech Committee	4 LABOR DAY Office will be closed	5	6 12 Noon PW Luncheon	7 7 am Bible Study	8	9 9:30 am Choir Retreat at The Hub
10 8 am Worship 9 am Sunday School Begins 10 am Fellowship Time 10:30 am Worship 11:30 Potluck & Lawn Games	11	12 11 am Properties 12 pm Personnel 4 pm Worship 5 pm CE 5:15 pm Fellowship 5:30 pm Budget/Finance 5:45 pm Mission	13 10:15 am Congregational Care Committee 5:30 pm The Bridge 6:30 pm Bells	14 7 am Bible Study	15	16
17 8 am Worship 9 am Sunday School 10 am Fellowship Time 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Choir	18	19 7 pm Session	20 10 am Circle 1 & 2 12 pm Circle 3 5:30 pm The Bridge 6:30 pm Bells	21 7 am Bible Study	22 	23
24 8 am Worship 9 am Sunday School 10 am Fellowship Time 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Choir	25 	26	27 5:30 pm The Bridge 6:30 pm Bells	28 7 am Bible Study	29	30
			CJ Out of Office 			

First Presbyterian Church

2121 Colonial Drive
Sheridan, WY 82801

Return Service Requested

Mailing label goes here

