

News From The Pews

News of the First Presbyterian Church

May 2011

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UPCOMING WORSHIP/EVENTS

May 1, 2011 – Communion Sunday

Worship Theme: “More Gifts of the Resurrection”

Scriptures: Acts 2: 14a, 22-32; 1 Peter 1: 3-9; John 20: 19-31

Rev. Bob Garrard

May 8, 2011

Worship Theme: “Living Waters”

Scriptures: Isaiah 12: 1-6; Matthew 25: 31-46; Revelation 21: 1-5

Norm Soden and Tom Muhlbach will share what they did / learned in working on water wells in Nicaragua

May 15, 2011

Worship Theme: “Shepherded by the Best”

Scriptures: Acts 2: 42-47; 1 Peter 2: 19-25; John 10: 1-10

Ballet Emmanuel will share in our worship services with liturgical dance.

Rev. Bob Garrard

May 22, 2011

Worship Theme: “The Cost of Discipleship”

Scriptures: Acts 7: 55-60; 1 Peter 2: 2-10; John 14: 1-14

Rev. Bob Garrard

MAY 29, 2011 – BEGIN ONE WORSHIP SVC.

Worship Theme: “Living in Love and Obedience”

Scriptures: Acts 17: 22-31; 1 Peter 3: 13-22; John 14: 15-21

Rev. Diana Hartman

It's Happening Right Here!

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SCHOLARSHIPS ANNOUNCED



The Scholarship Committee of the Christian Education Ministry is pleased to announce that General College Scholarships for the 2011-2012 academic year have been awarded to the following high school seniors: Jen Andrews, Jessica Sanchez, and Bonnie Saville.

Scholarship renewals have been granted to the following current scholarship holders: Adrian Beckham, Ashtyn Kilpatrick, Brianna Kilpatrick, Megan Muhlbach, and Thomas Muhlbach.



We have some exciting special worship events in May.

On May 8, Tom Muhlbach and Norm Soden will share what they did / learned in working on water wells in Nicaragua as part of the sermon. Tom and Norm's trip was featured in the Wyoming Tribune Eagle.

On May 15, Ballet Emmanuel will share in both of our worship services with liturgical dance. Ballet Emmanuel is a professional, nationally touring, Christian ballet company. Ballet Emmanuel's vision is to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with people around the world and to be a leading influence in reclaiming the art of dance for the Lord. In May 2006 Erin Benson followed the Lord's leading and founded Ballet Emmanuel. Erin Benson, Melanie Dexter, Laci Landry, and Amy Schaefer are the dancers. You can read more about them at www.ballemmanuel.org.

Help Needed! Host Housing Needed

As part of our support of Ballet Emmanuel, we would like to provide host housing for 1 – 4 troupe members on Saturday and Sunday, May 14 & 15. If you can provide housing for one, two, three or four of the members, please contact the church office (638-3345), Eric Wedell (635-1983), or Walt George (638-8577).

See you in worship!!

Peace in Christ, Bob Garrard

Wonder Full World a Time of Retreat for Women

By Melinda Brazzale

The annual women's retreat, held on Friday evening and all day Saturday, March 18 and 19, in the church Fellowship Hall, was filled with fun, fellowship, prayer, sharing, laughter and joy. A total of 32 women were brought together with the enticement of a "Wonder Full World." This was the theme used both days that had us traveling around the world and visiting the seven continents.

The mood was set by the decorations artfully compiled and displayed by Deanna Dyekman, representing each continent... animals and cold at the Antarctica; musical instruments, blankets and hats in South America... we prayed, discussed and enjoyed time at each "station." We laughingly created perfect "girl friends" to illustrate what we wanted in a friend and tied blankets that we contributed to a charity in Cheyenne. We sang to music led by Mary Burby. We affirmed each and every one of us. We indulged in wonderful tasty food planned and prepared by Barb Lutz and Deanna Dyekman.

Every final retreat evaluation included comments of thanks for the weekend, enjoyment for the involvement of so many women, the growth of personal faith, sharing with old and new found friends, and appreciation for taking the time to attend. Thanks to the following women who led us all so well: Rev. Diana Hartman, Mary Burby, Louisa Brownstein, Libby Barnett, Melinda Brazzale, Becky Tish, Belinda Smith, Mary Lou McMIndes, and Teresa Moore.

Make plans now to attend the retreat next year, the third weekend of March.

Small Groups: Faith Connections and Spiritual Growth

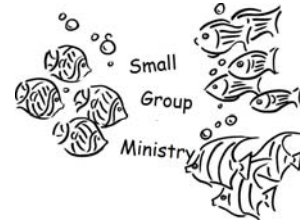
By Diana Hartman

How is God working in your every-day life?

When, where and how is God being revealed to you?

What is your ministry in the world?

Are you being called to grow spiritually?



Small Groups will explore these questions and others in a safe faith-based environment. These groups will help you make those connections between God and yourself and others, between work and home and community, between what is and what could be. Small Groups will be a combination of social, study, sharing, and service. If you're looking for a way to connect, this is it. Commit to this low stress, high impact opportunity.

Small Groups will meet at least once a month for 9 – 12 months depending on the groups desire to meet throughout the summer. We will begin meeting in September, 2011. Groups will include 6-12 members. Each group will decide together their focus and format from a wide variety of suggestions. Groups will be formed according to your preferences concerning day of the week, time of day, and composition of the group. Some groups will be couples, some singles, and most will be mixed. Some may be age based. Others will be diverse ages. Some will meet in the daytime, some in the evening, some on the weekend and others midweek. All groups will respect confidentiality and will honor personal beliefs and convictions. All groups will have the opportunity to learn, share and grow together in new ways.

Join a group...lead a group...make connections.

Training for those interested in being group leaders has begun. Our first group of eight potential leaders was trained on April 16 and a second training session is planned for July. Those interested should contact Rev. Diana Hartman at 638-3345. Brochures describing the groups that will be forming in September will be available in late July and sign up for groups will begin in August.



Women of First Presbyterian Church

Submitted by Kay Barnes

Presbyterian Women's Brunch – On Saturday, May 7th, all women of the church are invited to the Presbyterian Women's Brunch at 10 a.m. in the church parlor. The speaker will be Heather Dixon, our Youth Director, who will share with us some of her adventures in The Gambia and information about the youth mission trip this summer. We will also have an update on how our mission projects and the Chrismon groups are progressing. No reservations are needed. We hope you will join us for food, fellowship and inspiration. For more information contact Kay Barnes (778-7445).

Chrismon and Mission Workshops – The next Chrismon beading workshop will be held Tuesday, May 3rd at 7 p.m. in either the library or archives. The next stitching and crafting workshop will be during the Stitch-by-Stitch mission work on Saturday, May 21st at 10 a.m. in the parlor. The mission workshops will continue through the summer on the 3rd Saturday of every month. For more information, call Kay Barnes (778-7445).

PER CAPITA INFORMATION

Per capita for our church for the year 2011 is \$39.25. You have seen this amount listed frequently in our bulletins and in our newsletters. But many have been asking what does this mean?

The per capita amount is what our church pays per member to the Wyoming Presbytery. Since this amount is paid directly out of our budget, many members choose to pay this amount in addition to their pledge or non-pledge giving.

Below is more detailed information regarding per capita as noted on the PC (USA) website:

Frequently asked questions

What is per capita?

The official definition: "Per capita is an opportunity for all communicant members of the Presbyterian church through the governing bodies to participate equally, responsibly, and interdependently by sharing the cost of coordination and evaluation of mission; and of performing ecclesiastical, legislative, and judicial functions that identify a Reformed Church, while at the same time strengthening the sense of community among all Presbyterians" (GA Minutes, Part I, 1995).

In essence: Per capita is a set amount of money (apportionment) per member that congregations pay to the larger Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Said another way, it is a Presbyterian Covenant Community Fund — part of the glue that holds Presbyterians together. Because every Presbyterian shares in the benefit of the PC(USA)'s system of government, the expenses associated with coordinating and performing the functions of that system should be shared by everyone as well.

Who pays per capita, and how much?

Congregations (through their sessions) pay an annual amount of money per church member — per capita apportionment — to their respective presbyteries.

The per capita amount requested from a congregation is a combined total of requests from that congregation's presbytery, the synod in which the presbytery is located and the General Assembly — based on their respective budgets for the coming year(s).



2012 Member Giving Envelopes to Receive Changes

In an effort to reduce costs, the Finance Ministry will be reducing the number of giving envelopes ordered for use in 2012. For the past few years, 575 boxes of giving envelopes have been ordered for our members to use. Many of these envelope boxes sit on the shelf unclaimed only to be destroyed at the end of the year.

By reducing the order by the number of boxes that are not used, we can reduce our cost by at least 40%. In doing so, we will have to assign new envelope numbers to our faithful givers. The Finance Ministry and session feel that the potential savings of at least \$600 makes this change worthwhile.

We thank you for your understanding and ask that you contact Ken Sherman, Finance Ministry chairperson, or any other Finance Ministry member if you have any questions.





Deacon's Beacons

Submitted by Jane Nelson

I have benefitted by praying for others. For making an errand to God for them, I have gotten something for myself.
- Samuel Rutherford

I have found that there are three stages in every great work of God:

First: it is impossible,
Then, it is difficult,
Then, it is done.

- J. Hudson Taylor

Praying for others can flow only from a heart at rest about itself, and knowing in itself the value of the desires it expresses for another.
- J. Butler Stoney

Be in prayer for:

Stacy "Skoumal" Adams	Scott Coulson	Jim Kleine	Paula Qualls
Meryl Adams	Virginia Donaldson	Dr. Robert Lanier	Mary Alice Radford
Loretta Adsit	Robert Drummond	Mary Jane Larson	Aaron Rebout
Lil Barbour	Pat Fairbanks	Ronan Louis	Midge Reed
Richard Beauchamp	Adam George	Bob McGuire	Rev. Skip Reeves
Betty Brown	Bob Goss	Paul Murdoch	Douglas Rice
Del Brown	Joan Gray	Jane Nelson	Doris Rogers
Jay Brown	Karen Grover	Carla Nolen	Lana, Leann Smith & Ken Smith
R.J. Brown	Jim Hamil	Alice Norfleet	Austin Strietmatter
Dennis Butler	Marydee Hartsook	Kim Olson	Thyra Thomson
Bonnie Carley	Ruth Holmes	Glen Oslund	John Townsend
Caroline Carver	Bob and Karen Hruby	Kari Pace-Murdoch	Javen Westby
Eric Case	Michelle Ivester	Virgil Payne	Allen White
James Chaney	Marcy Jacobsen	Robin Peterson	Margy Will
Richard Chatfield	Margret Jones	Sherry Popham	Harry Williams
Gary Child	Roshni Joseph	Brooklyn Pratt	B.J. Wise
	Rev. Tom Kittleman	Bertie Price	

- If anyone listed on the above list needs to be removed, please let the church office know. -

Love is timeless ... death does not separate lover from the beloved.

---Kahlil Gibran

Relying on God has to begin over again everyday as if nothing had yet been done.

---C.S.Lewis

Comfort those who have lost loved ones:

Family of Marvin and Marjorie Hoflund
Janni Mitchell - Loss of Husband
Peggy Williams - Loss of Father





THANK YOU!
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!



Adventure Thru the Best Book Ever Written in the Art of Knitting

Thanks to Reverend Diana Hartman for asking me, and for her help, to display the children's sermons through knitting. It is a truly humbling experience, also a real pleasure, to show my love for the Bible, our church, children, and for knitting.

Many thanks to all who gave support and encouragement, especially Nadine Amen, for the wonderful scripture cards!

Thanks for knitting:

Jacobs Dream
A Dragon
A River
The Fiery Furnace

Carmel Burns
Pat Gillespie
Becky Tish
Deanna Dyekman



Thanks for the loaned gifts:

Afghan
The Spirit of Giving Santa
John the Baptist
Lamb of God
Green fish
Fish With Shekel for Taxes
Simeon, Fruit of the Spirit Tree and Church Mouse
Deacon's Christmas Tree

Patsy Dyekman and her daughter, Debbie Riedl
Debbie Riedl
Rev. Bob Garrard
Marilyn Ham
Mary Tarantola
Gerri Andersen

Words cannot express my gratitude for all the support and encouragement in so many ways from family, friends and so many of the church family. Thank you to:

Rose Burrows

Newspaper article; arranging help with David's harp and shield, Noah's Ark and much more.

Stephanie Prescott

Loading and transportation, arranging and so many other wonderful ways.

Bob Hale

Husband – help with loading, unloading, travel

Carol Lee Stevens

Daughter – help with pictures and photos

Mark Stevens

Grandson – help with pictures and photos

Church Staff

Ray Hamburg. whose help made it possible! Always willingly and cheerfully given!! Judy Bezek, helped too many ways to mention

Belinda

Goliath Shield

Children's Ministry

David's Shield – Ashley Braisted

Youth Ministry

Photos – Heather Dixon

Church Family

Many, many calls, cards, pictures, remarks commenting in my book - all will be treasured!

Most of all, prayers thanking God for His wonderful Book to tell us of the Great Faith, Response, Trust and the Foreshadowing in the Old Testament and telling us of the Good News to come in the New Testament.

Please forgive if I have left anyone out. There have been so many helpful friends! I thank everyone who took time to see the display. My hope is to read and appreciate more and more of the Bible – and for knitters to continue – don't want to lose this art!

In my small way, Ruth Hale



Notes & Church News



Host Housing Needed

In mid-May, Ballet Emmanuel, a professional, non-profit Christian ballet company based in Colorado Springs, is beginning a one week tour in southern Wyoming. On Sunday, May 15, 2011 they are participating in our worship service. As part of our support, we would like to provide host housing for 1 - 4 troupe members on Saturday and Sunday, May 14 and 15. If you can provide housing for one, two, three or four of the members, please contact the church office (638-3345), Eric Wedell (635-1983), or Walt George (638-8577). For information about Ballet Emmanuel, visit their website www.ballemmanuel.org.

Saint Joseph's Church Invites You To Celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday

Saint Joseph's Church cordially invites you to come and join them in the yearly celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday. This year the celebration is on May 1 at 2:30 p.m. Their church is located on the south side on the corner of 6th and House. They will begin with a Eucharistic Procession at 2:30 p.m. then have the Divine Mercy Chaplet sung at 3:00 pm in the church. At 3:30 p.m. they will have the benediction and a couple of talks on Divine Mercy. After the talks, they will have some anointing with St. Raphael Oil and then have cake and ice cream.

Divine Mercy is indeed one of God's greatest gifts to the world. As Jesus said, "now is the time for His mercy, and the more we receive that mercy, the more we will want to give it to those in need as well."

Go and enjoy the afternoon. They hope and pray for a great turn out for this day!



Adult Sunday School Class

Who is my Neighbor? A Faith Conversation on Immigration: Join us for an open conversation intended to help up discover where our faith intersects with the issue of immigration. Sessions will be held in the Church Library from 9:15 - 10:15 am. Co-facilitators are Bob and Holly Garrard and Diana Hartman.

- May 1: We Are All Strangers in the Land of Egypt
- May 8: What Does the Lord Require of You?
- May 15: Perfect Love Casts Out Fear
- May 22: The Good Samaritan: Who is My Neighbor?



Curriculum is a joint project of the Colorado Council of Churches, American Friends Service Committee, The Bell Policy Center, Colorado Immigrant Rights Committee, and Iliff School of Theology.


Youth Ministry

The school year is slowly coming to an end, which means slowly the weather is becoming warmer and warmer. The end of the school year marks the end of several events but most importantly, it is time to say good bye to our amazing seniors. It is with great joy and sadness that we pray and hope for the best as they graduate high school and prepare for the next adventure called 'college' in the fall. Our outstanding seniors will be missed.

When one chapter ends in a book, another begins. The youth are excited to welcome the current 6th

graders into the youth group. We will be hosting an official welcome for the 6th graders sometime this month; we hope that the suspense isn't too intense.

Here's a look at the plans for May:

	May 1	\$150 due for Mission Trip to Tennessee
	6	Movie Night @ Heather's
	8	Mother's Day, spend time with your mom instead of coming to Youth Group
	15	Senior Recognition, 2nd Service 6 pm - Good Bye Dinner and Party for our Seniors
	22	Last Sunday School for the school year
	27	Central High School Graduation
	29	No Youth Group, celebrate Memorial Day Weekend by honoring those that lost their lives for our country

As always, all (7th – 12th grade) youth are invited to our many events every week:

Sunday School (9:15 – 10:15); Youth Group (Sundays 6:30 – 8); Junior High Only (Wednesdays 6:30 – 8); and Cast of Characters Book Study (Wednesdays 3 – 4:30).

~Heather



Due to Spring Break for the school district and Maundy Thursday MOPS met just one time in April. We had the pleasure of listening to Rev Diana Hartman share the gifts of women in ministry. How wonderful to be reminded that we as mothers of young children have the opportunity to

minister to our families and community. Ruth Hale was kind enough to join the mothers and children to share the message that Jesus lives in our hearts! Thank you Diana and Ruth for giving your time and talents to MOPS! A huge thank you goes out to the gracious Rebecca Circle ladies for planning, preparing, and delivering a plethora of delicious food for the April meeting!

We have two meetings left for this year. May 5 will be our tea and testimony evening. May 19 will be our year-end celebration!

On April 2 four members of our leadership team had the opportunity to attend the annual MOPS International Summit in Arvada. It was fantastic! We were introduced to next year's theme, brain stormed with other MOPS leaders from the region, and enjoyed a husband/wife speaking team.

Your MOPS leadership team had a retreat on April 16 to plan the 2011-12 year. We believe we have another exciting year ahead! Thank you for your continued support of MOPS!



IN THE LIBRARY - submitted by the Library Committee

Did you know... that the "card" catalog for the books in our Library is now on computer? Instructions for using the computer catalog are on a laminated sheet that resides in the cubbyhole to the right of the computer desk. It is possible to search by Dewey decimal numbers, titles or authors. If you have problems or need help, please contact one of the librarians: Kay Barnes (778-7445), Dorothy Scutt (635-7759) or Janet Norrod (632-0097).



Children's Ministry

Wow just one more month till summer break! Do you have family plans for summer yet? Well if not the church will be hosting a week long VBS this summer! It will start June 6th and conclude June 10th from 8am-12:30pm! Pre -K – 6th graders are all welcome to attend. Take your kids to the ultimate "concert" experience each day to worship and sing with the Go Fish Guys! After that, it's time to go backstage, tour a recording studio, and most importantly - learn about the Bible! Your kids will have a great time learning the books of the Bible, the Ten Commandments, and how to be saved by grace through faith...and that's all just in the first few minutes of singing each day! Our goal with this Vacation Bible School is to clearly present the gospel of Jesus Christ while having as much fun as humanly possible. It's time to put the BIBLE back into Vacation Bible School!

The Curriculum

At a concert, the only thing better than a front row seat is a backstage pass! Kids are always very curious about what it's like to go backstage. Each day your kids will start out with their own "concert" experience worshiping and singing with the Go Fish Guys. Then they'll take their backstage passes to go backstage with the Bible!

Daily Overview

- Day 1: *Superstar* - God Made You In His Image
- Day 2: *The Ten Commandments* - Are You Good Enough?
- Day 3: *It's About The Cross* - Find Out What Jesus Did For You
- Day 4: *Saved* - Saved By Grace Through Faith
- Day 5: *Go Fish* - Share The Good News!

Who Is Go Fish?

Go Fish is 3 dads committed to following Christ's call to be "fishers of men". They've performed at several Billy Graham Evangelistic Association events including Franklin Graham and Will Graham crusades all across the United States. They've been featured on Focus on the Family's "Focus" and "Clubhouse Jr." magazines. They've appeared multiple times on Focus on the Family's weekend radio show and on their subscription based audio journal series for parents. They've been featured on NBC's Today show, American Profile magazine, and have sold over 1 million albums worldwide!

Upcoming Events-

- May 22- Children will sing at second service
- May 22- Last Day of Sunday School
- June 6-10- VBS (here at the church)

With God's Grace

Ashley Braisted, Children's Ministry Director



June 6 - 10, 2011