## NEWS from the PEWS

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ~ CHEYENNE, WYOMING

**Rev. Bob Thomson** 

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May 2024

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#### **Pentecost**

On Sunday, May 19, we will be celebrating Pentecost, the birthday of the Christian Church. Pentecost celebrates the Holy Spirit descending

upon the disciples in Jerusalem so that they could begin the ministry to which Jesus had called them. After his resurrection, Jesus instructed his disciples to wait in Jerusalem until they were "clothed with power from on high." (Luke 24:49) He promised them, "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8) The events of that day are described in Acts chapter 2 and I encourage you to read it. It is the Holy Spirit that empowers the ministry of the Christian church. We always celebrate Pentecost 50 days after Easter. As part of our celebration on May 19, we encourage each person to wear red to church.

The Holy Spirit came to the disciples on the Jewish day of Pentecost. In the Jewish faith, Pentecost is the Festival of weeks and is also called the Festival of Reaping or Harvest. It is a time to celebrate the wheat harvest and give thanks for the harvest that God has provided. As part of the celebration, a special offering of new grain would be brought to the temple.

It is appropriate the Christian church began on the Jewish Festival of the Harvest. The ministry of the Christian church is described as the gathering of the harvest God has been tending. In Matthew 9:37 Jesus said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into the harvest."

The coming of the Holy Spirit begins the ministry when God would gather into his Kingdom people of all nations, a fulfillment of the promise God made to Abraham.

We as the body of Christ are called to be workers in the harvest for God's kingdom. This is a good time for us to consider how we can contribute, using the gifts and talents God has given us, to tell people the good news of Jesus Christ and God's love. There are many ways you can help personally in the ministry of First Presbyterian Church, and I ask you to volunteer to help with the harvest. The Deacons serve in various ways both in the church and in the community. The Session has seven ministry areas where you can serve. Consider volunteering to help share the good news of the Gospel.

As part of the Pentecost celebration, our church will

collect the Pentecost offering, one of the special offerings of our denomination. The Pentecost offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support our young people and also addresses the needs of at-risk children. Of the amount collected, 40% of it will be used by First Presbyterian to make an impact on the lives of young people in Cheyenne. The remaining 60% is sent to support the ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency. This includes Young Adult Volunteers, Ministries for Youth, and Children at Risk.

So, as we enter May, prepare to celebrate on Pentecost the harvest of God's people into God's kingdom. Thank you for your service and support to the church and how you are being a "laborer" in the harvest. Don't forget to wear red on Sunday, May 19.

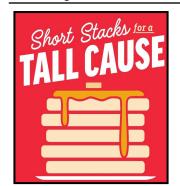
Pastor Bob

## Little Free Food Pantry

A list of items and sizes can be found on the website below the worship materials.







## Flapjack Breakfast Fundraiser for Mission to Nicaragua

Enjoy Short Stack Pancakes, Bacon, and Beverage APPLEBEE's ~ 1401 Dell Range Blvd.

#### Saturday MAY 18 from 8 to 10 am

Help support our volunteers traveling this September to rural Central America to provide safe drinking water for a poor village.

Tickets on sale Sundays, May 5 & 12, during 8 and 10 am fellowship times.

For details and questions about the mission trip, Contact Kevin Boyce @ 630-7607.



Pentecost Offering May 19
Celebrating the Power
of the Holy Spirit

On March 31, we celebrated Jesus' resurrection. Now we are preparing to celebrate

Pentecost, the time the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples and therefore the beginning of the church's global mission work. For PC(USA), Pentecost represents a church-wide effort to help young people and inspire them to lead the church, sharing their talents to do God's work. The Pentecost Offering this year is May 19; Mission Ministry hopes you will give prayerful consideration to supporting the church's efforts to help children in crisis and to encourage the Holy Spirit's activity in the leaders of the future.

This is one of our special offerings which is split

between local support and national/global support. We will retain 40% to donate to an area effort that focuses on helping youth and send 60% to support the Presbyterian Mission Agency, including special projects such as YAV (Young Adult Volunteers) and Youth Triennium. Locally, Mission Ministry has donated the 40% we keep to CASA, Safehouse, and Boys & Girls Club in the past. We will soon consider which area effort for the youth of Cheyenne will receive this year's portion of the offering, so let us know if you have any suggestions.

This time of Pentecost, with its focus on youth, evokes many biblical passages. How about, "Suffer the children to come unto me, for such is the kingdom of God," (Matthew 19:14), or "Whoever welcomes one of these little ones in my name welcomes me" (Mark 9:37)? Mission Ministry thanks you for your prayerful consideration of a donation to this very special offering!



Please register online at: www.firstprescheyenne.org
Or call Ashley 638-3345
Lunch will be provided





Our next date to cook and serve is Tuesday, May 14. We need eltering the journey home. two or three people to prepare the enchiladas at 1:30 p.m., and

it takes approximately 45 minutes to complete. Five or six people are needed to serve the meal at 6:00 p.m. The sign-up sheet will be in Fellowship Hall on May 5. If you have questions, please contact Linda Woodard at 307-635-3479.

## Little Free Food Pantry

Thanks to all who have so generously donated food or hygiene products to the new pantry. Please continue to drop off your gifts either directly to the Little Free Food Pantry or deposit them in one of the baskets found at the main entrance or the west entrance.

## Day of Giving

It's coming SOON! We are gathering our donations for the 19<sup>th</sup> annual event to be held on May 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> at the Kiwanis House. The youth event will take place from 3:30 - 6:30 p.m. on May 9<sup>th</sup> and the main event will take place from 8 - 4 p.m. on May 10th. Please bring your non-perishable food, hygiene items, eyeglasses or hearing aids, packages of underwear, and craft items to the church and place in one of the marked containers to be delivered by the youth on May 9<sup>th</sup>. Please see your bulletin inserts for an expanded list of donations which may be dropped off directly to the May 9th or 10<sup>th</sup> events. Thanks so much!



The final Sunday to drop off packages of new underwear is May 5. Underwear of any size, gender, or color will be appreciated! All donations will go to Day of Giving

where it will be distributed to agencies throughout the community.



The story of Jacob is the basis for "God Never Gives Up on You," by Max Lucado. Jacob discovered that regardless of the sins he committed and his disobedience to God's will, God continued to guide him throughout his life. As the scripture

passages are explained as to what they meant in Jacob's life, Lucado also shows the reader how they apply to us as well as we learn to trust God will act in our lives instead of trying to do things on our own.

Presbyterian Women are Hosting

## A Brunch in Honor of Mother's Day

Please join us for a Mother's Day Brunch in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, May 18 at 10 am. What a great chance to enjoy delicious food and visit with other women in our church! Sarah Circle ladies are hosting and are asking for a \$5 donation at the door. Our featured speaker will be Jessica Sayers who represents the Chevenne Unaccompanied Youth Initiative. This worthy organization provides a safe and stable home to develop sustainable independence for students ages 16-20 experiencing homelessness. There will be a freewill offering to support this program.

A sign-up sheet is available in the Fellowship Hall. For more info., contact Judy Lissman, PW Moderator, 307-575-1102 or ilissman1@gmail.com.

#### Don't Miss the

## Women's Retreat at Camp Story!

Picture yourself enjoying a relaxing few days in a forest of pines, sitting on a wooden deck with a small creek winding by, surrounded by new friends.

All women are invited to the 2024 Women's Retreat at beautiful Camp Story in Story, Wyoming. The retreat will run from Friday, May 31 at 4 pm through Sunday, June 2 at noon. The weekend is sponsored by Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery of Wyoming.

Our program this year will include a presentation on human trafficking, a Bible Study based on the bestselling book by Ann Voskamp entitled One Thousand Gifts, fellowship, singing, worship, and great food!

Click here for a virtual tour of Camp Story https:// www.campstory.org/rentals to get a sense of the beauty of the place. Deadline to register is May 15.

Registration forms are on the table in our church Fellowship Hall. For more information, contact Melinda Brazzale, mlbrazzale@gmail.com or 307-256-0506.

## Did You Miss A Sermon?

It's easy to watch a missed sermon on YouTube!

Go to www.firstprescheyenne.org, click YouTube, it's below the worship video on the home page.

This will take you to our YouTube channel. If the most current worship videos don't come up first, click on 'Live' above the videos; then choose the service you want to watch. Easy peasy!





May 22 at 9:30 a.m. in the Library



# Thank Yous

To First Presbyterian Church,
Thank you for the lovely Easter lily, Easter card, and goodies.

Sincerely, Evelene Rabou

Christ Is Risen, Indeed!

"To My Family and Friends" at church: I can not express how much it meant to me for all the wonderful birthday cards you sent! I had a wonderful day thanks to all of you! God Bless!

Jim Symmonds



# One Great Hour of Sharing!

- Mission Ministry

The members of Mission Ministry are grateful to each

of you who donated to our One Great Hour of Sharing offering this year! As of the end of March, we had received \$1,613 in congregation gifts, an amount which will translate to \$3,626 with the matching Irmgard Meyer funds. Our total donation will go toward three important PC(USA) programs that help our neighbors in great need around the world: The Presbyterian Hunger Program, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, and Self Development of People. Here's an example of what we say so often, "If everybody does a little, nobody has to do a lot." Thanks so much for your generosity!





First Presbyterian Church financially assists people from Cheyenne who are behind in their utility bills and are challenged to pay their bills. Many face having their utilities disconnected.

We limit the assistance to each person to \$250 once

each year. The funds for this assistance come from both an Irmgard Meyer Grant of \$18,000 and donations from you, the congregation. The funds approved from the Irmgard Meyer Grant will not cover the amount of requests the church will receive this year. As of April 15, 90% of the grant has already been expended.

If you would like to assist with this much needed mission work, you may donate to the Utilities Assistance Fund. Every donation helps one more family. Thank you.



# First Pres Golf Tournament

We are planning a golf "tournament" this summer in, most likely, the last half of June on a <u>weekday morning</u>. For anyone who enjoys the game - *no matter your game*.

A <u>fun</u> time together to enjoy a round at Little America golf course, shot-gun start, followed by lunch. <u>No</u> requirement to be a member or attend First Pres., friends are welcome. Planning nine holes including lunch for \$40 or \$55 with a cart. Still in planning stages so all we want to know now is if you and your friends **would** be interested in playing.

The final date is still to be decided and will obviously affect our final numbers. If you are interested, please sign up in the Fellowship Hall. Have questions? Talk to Steve Carver (307-631-7172) or Pastor Bob (307-631-2901).



Meryl Adams **Nadine Amen Max Arrowsmith Guy Beardsley** Gail Blackwell **Clarice Brown Chuck Burke Kevin Bovce Rose Burrows** Olivia Campbell **Glenis Child** Mary Clark Donna DiNino **Cooper Dulany** Donna Jo Epler **Heather Franks** Adam George Patricia Goss **Charles Ham** Gail Heimbuck Mary Jensen Jim Keen Karl Krieger Virginia Leach

**Tina Lemmons** 

Roger Magnuson

Linda McGuire Mary Lou **McMindes Benny Medina Cindy Miller** Tom Muhlbach Kari Murdoch William Norton III Susan Payne **Carson Pittman Loren Pully** Priscilla... Paula Qualls Mary Rapp Misty Saxon Jan Schippers **Diana Stevens** Paula Stevens **Gary Thompson Dorothy Tyrell** Sarah Wacker Javen Westby



## May 2024 Calendar

Date	Day	Time	Event
Weekly Meetin	gs:		
	Mondays	6:30 pm	Boy Scouts 116 (Activity Cntr. / 3 <sup>rd</sup> MonStage Rm.)
	Tuesdays	9:30 am	Staff Meeting (Library)
		5:15 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (May 7 <sup>th</sup> – Men Only)
	Wednesdays	5:30 pm	-6:30 Bell Choirs (Rehearsals) (May 1st Only)
	Thursdays	5:30 pm	APNC (Library)
	Fridays	Noon	Church Office Closes
Saa spacific de	te for any weekly up	datas	
WORSHIP	Sundays	8:00 am	Worship – Chapel / Fellowship
	Sunutys	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School (May 5, 12, 19) no summer meetings
		9:30 am	Nursery
		10:00 am	Worship – Sanctuary and Live Stream
		10:00 am	Children's Sunday School (May 5, 12, 19) not in summer
		11:00 am	Fellowship
		11:15 am	-11:45 Children's Choir & Chimes (May 5 & 12)
		11:30 pm	-1 Youth Group May 5 (2-4 p.m. May 19)
May 1	Wednesday	6:00 pm	Mariner's (Fellowship Hall)
May 4	Saturday	10:00 am	Hearts & Hands AND Stitch by Stitch (Fellowship Hall)
May 5	Sunday		Undies Sunday Ends
	·		See Worship Schedule at the Beginning
			Special Music: Bell Choir
May 6	Monday	5:15 pm	Worship & Music (Library)
May 7	Tuesday	1:00 pm	Mission Ministry (Library)
<del>-</del>		7:00 pm	Boy Scouts O.A. (Stage Room)
		7:00 pm	Casket Empty (Fellowship Hall) Last One in the Series
May 8	Wednesday	2:00 pm	Finance (Library)
May 9	Thursday		Youth Day of Giving
		5:30 pm	Sarah Circle (Fellowship Hall)
May 10	Friday		Day of Giving
May 11	Saturday	8:00 am	Men on a Mission (Fellowship Hall)
May 12	Sunday		See Worship Schedule at the Beginning
			Youth Sunday / Mother's Day / Sr. Grads
			Special Music: Men's & Children's Choirs
May 13	Monday	10:00 am	Rebecca Circle (Epic Egg & Stage Room)
		1:30 pm	Building & Grounds (Library)
		5:30 pm	New Life (Library)
		5:30 pm	Christian Ed (CE)
May 14	Tuesday		Cook & Serve at Comea
		1:00 pm	Personnel (Library)
May 15	Wednesday		Deadline for June AND July Newsletter
May 17	Friday	1:00 pm	` • /
		12:00 pm	-2 Shirley Marsh Reception (Fellowship Hall)

## May 2024 Calendar

Date	Day	Time	Event
May 18	Saturday	8:00 am	-10 Applebee's Fundraiser for Mission Trip
		10:00 am	PW Brunch (Fellowship Hall)
May 19	Sunday		See Worship Schedule at the Beginning
			Pentecost / Teacher Recognition
			Special Music: 1st Five
May 20	Monday	10:00 am	Genealogy (Family History Center)
		7:00 pm	Session (Fellowship Hall)
May 21	Tuesday	1:00 pm	Coloring & Caring (Fellowship Hall)
		7:00 pm	Boy Scouts O.A. (Stage Room)
May 22	Wednesday	9:30 am	Walk, Pray, Love (Library)
May 26	Sunday		See Worship Schedule at the Beginning
		10:30 am	Children's Church Upstairs
May 27	Monday		Office Closed for Memorial Day
May 28	Tuesday	1:30 pm	PW Coordinating Team (Library)
		6:30 pm	Local Missions (Fellowship Hall)
		7:00 pm	Deacons (Fellowship Hall)

## **Church Officers by Class - 2024**

#### Session Classes of 2024, 2025, 2026

#### **Class of 2024**

Renee Dilly, Christian Education
Jen Hayes, Christian Education\*\*
Pete Kendrick, Building & Grounds\*\*
Tami Mason, Worship & Music\*\*
Larry Meuli, Personnel\*\*
Greta Morrow, Mission\*\*
Brenda Wilson, Finance\*\*

#### Class of 2025

Kevin Boyce, Building & Grounds Julie Cook, New Life\*\* Marilyn Ham, Christian Ed Al Hunter, Worship & Music Meg Kylander, Finance Dana Skoumal, Mission Bert Trimble

#### Class of 2026

Steve Carver, Finance
Bill Loyer, Mission
Betty Jo Mainwaring, Building & Grounds
Cherol Ohde, New Life
Kathleen Petersen, Worship & Music
Joyce Swanson, New Life
Ken Vines, Personnel

Clerk of Session – Bert Trimble \*\*Chairperson

**Deacons Classes of 2024, 2025, 2026** 

#### Class of 2024

Walt George, Compassion, Treasurer Lisa Herbel, Fellowship Sharon Novick, Compassion, Secretary Charlene Randolph, Fellowship\*\* Timi Saville, Local Mission Marion Yoder, Compassion\*\*

#### **Class of 2025**

Julie Anthony, Moderator
Joe Dougherty, Local Mission, Vice-Moderator
Barb Lutz, Fellowship\*\*
Ed Markus, Fellowship
Tom McKee, Local Mission
Rosemary Novario, Local Mission
Carol Russell, Fellowship
Linda Woodard, Local Mission\*\*

#### **Class of 2026**

Becky Logsdon-Dougherty Margie George Becky Tish

All Deacons serve on Visitation



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#### CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



5/24

#### WORSHIP MATERIALS

are accessed on the first page of our website: firstprescheyenne.org

## LIVE-STREAMED WORSHIP SERVICES

are accessed on the first page of our website: firstprescheyenne.org and on our YouTube channel.



Last Day of Program Year is May 19

Summer Schedule starts May 26: No Adult or Children's Sunday School in the summer. 10:30 a.m. Children's Church begins and will be held upstairs.