

NEWS from the PEWS

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ~ CHEYENNE, WYOMING

Rev. Bob Thomson
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April 2023

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Our New Life

Easter is the most important day of the Christian year, it celebrates the resurrection from the dead of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior and the new life and hope we have through our faith in Christ. The Apostle Paul wrote to the church in Corinth when the congregation was debating whether or not Jesus had risen from the grave. Paul's answer is in 1 Corinthians 15, "If Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain...If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Those who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died." On Easter we will celebrate in worship our new life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Easter celebrates the new life we have currently through our faith and the assurance we have of a new and eternal life in God's kingdom. The New Life we currently have is experienced through the forgiveness we receive through Christ's death on the cross. Forgiveness assures us that we are never separated from God's love. Each day we wake up knowing that God loves us and has given us a new beginning for the day. Lamentations 3:22 assures us, "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to the end; they are new every morning." By God's mercy and forgiveness we know that we no longer live in our sin but through Christ we have a new life to live each day.

The resurrection of Jesus Christ also assures us of our promised new life in God's kingdom when our life on earth is done. The Apostle Paul assures us in 1 Corinthians 6:14, "God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power." Through God's power, death has lost its sting and Paul proclaims, "Thanks be to God for giving us victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

To fully appreciate the sacrifice that Christ made, I hope you will participate in the worship services of Holy Week. Palm Sunday celebrates Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem where he was heralded as a King by the people. On Palm Sunday we will waive palms and celebrate that Christ has entered our lives as our King. On Maundy Thursday we will worship to celebrate Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples before his crucifixion. We will have communion and recount his time in the garden of Gethsemane where he is arrested

and then his time on the cross. On Good Friday, at noon, we will remember, in a somber time of worship, Christ's final words. These worship services will help prepare us to celebrate the glorious resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter when we will boldly proclaim that Christ has risen from the grave. Hallelujah.

We look forward to celebrating the resurrection of our Lord and Savior on Easter. Breakfast will be served from 8-9:30 in our Fellowship Hall. As you enter the sanctuary, you will have the opportunity to place a carnation in our Resurrection cross. The music on Easter will offer praise to God for the new life we have in Christ, and all who want to will be invited to come forward and join in singing the Hallelujah Chorus with our choir. Easter will be a glorious celebration of Christ's Resurrection and our new life we have through Christ our Lord.

Have a blessed Holy Week and a Happy Easter.

Pastor Bob

All are invited to join the Deacons and New Life Ministry for an Easter breakfast April 9, from 8-9:30 am in Fellowship Hall. We will have breakfast casseroles, muffins and other pastries, fruit, juice and, of course, coffee and tea! Come and enjoy the breakfast that you didn't have to prepare and you don't have the clean up! It will be a great start for your Easter.



Extended Communion Table

Our Extended Table donated items will go to Day of Giving this month. Large canned food items, dried beans, and large cans of coffee are suggested.



Accessing the Church Directory

Go to:

members.InstantChurchDirectory.com

Or Download and Use The
"Instant Church Directory" App



**Per
Capita?**



The per capita for 2023

\$45.63 per member

\$91.26 per couple

Associate Pastor Search

Your Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC) received the survey results in early March and had a Zoom call with PC-USA on March 16. There are several ways to view a summary and review the complete survey results. The survey summary is below.

If you would like the complete survey results, here are your options:

1. Stop by the church office and read through the complete results.
2. Send Larry Barttelbort or Phyllis Salzburg an email, text, or call asking them to email you the

complete results. They'll send you one large PDF file.

Larry Barttelbort wyobartt@gmail.com 307-631-0812

Phyllis Salzburg psalzburg@bresnan.net 307-421-1516

Our next steps are to use this information to complete the Mission Study, which will lead to completing the Ministry Information Form. That information will be posted online to the Church Leadership Connection to help match us with potential candidates.

Thanks for your patience. We're moving forward!
Committee Members - Lena Arntzen, Larry Barttelbort, Jeanne Bellamy, Robin Cole, Jerry Crader, Phyllis Salzburg, Belinda Smith, Walt George, and Ken Vines.

TOTAL RESPONDENTS

133 responses

150 average worship attendance

359 total members



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SURVEY COMPLETED JANUARY 2023

APNC SURVEY SUMMARY

WHAT SHOULD THE CHURCH PRIORITIZE

- Serving our members
- Serving our neighbors
- Being a presence in the community

ASSOCIATE PASTOR PRIORITIES

- Pastoral Care
- Support deacons work
- Recruitment and retention of members
- Promote/Supervise Youth and Children
- Preaching

WHAT SHOULD THE MISSION FOCUS OF THE CHURCH BE

- Food and hunger programs
- Serving the poor or homeless
- Serving the youth in our community

WHY MEMBERS LOVE THE CHURCH

- Sunday Worship
- Preaching
- The People



Maïda Wedell, on March 19 gave, her last stained glass tour. She is moving to St. Paul. Before she gave the tour, she was surprised with a recognition of her dedication to educating people on the stained glass. We wish her the very best with the new adventure with her children. She will be missed but her influence in this church will be with us forever.

Talent Show



**Fifth Sunday Fellowship
April 30th**

A talent show is planned for our "Fifth Sunday" this time, and Deacons are planning a great one,

And we need your help. We are looking for acts that thrill, chill, and amaze the audience. But we will take all acts for the first talent show in awhile at First Presbyterian Church. What talent do you have that you can share with us? Is it singing, pet tricks, magic, or even juggling? Let Gail Heimback (307-331-0368) know and let's start getting the acts together for a *really* great show.



We will, once again, be cooking and serving at the Comea Shelter on the 9th of May. A sign-up sheet will be in the Fellowship Hall on the 2 Sundays prior, or contact Belinda Smith, Deacons Local Mission Chair, at beleajean2@gmail.com or call 307-421-4896, to volunteer, to cook at 1:30, or serve at 5:30.



The Sunday school movement, as an international effort to provide privately-funded religious education to children, began in England in the 1780's and quickly spread to the United States. Early Presbyterian involvement in the Sunday school movement in America centered in New York and Philadelphia, where prominent ministers and elders were instrumental in creating the national American Sunday School Union in 1824. By the mid-century, Sunday schools were no longer a novelty, but an established part of the Christian education program of most Presbyterian churches, and a principal vehicle of their evangelism.

Susan Bogert Warner and her sister, Anna Bartlett Warner, were two of a large number of women who found freedom of expression and an opportunity for ministry in the phenomenal growth of the Sunday school movement in the nineteenth century. Both as teachers and as novelists, the Warner sisters contributed many titles and countless hours to the cause—and one simple, innocent rhyme to American, and even global Christian culture. Although critics dismissed their literary efforts as “fudge,” it was Anna Warner, who in her sentimental 1859 novel, *Say and Seal*, depicted a Sunday school teacher singing to a child dying in his arms the lines which became the anthem of the Sunday school movement and a piece of the childhood of almost every American Protestant: “Jesus loves me, this I know, For the Bible tells me so...”

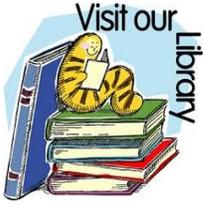
Don't forget to put your pennies in the Pennies for Stained Glass jar toward the rear of the sanctuary. We aren't able to empty the Penny Jar very often but when we do, we usually find \$100 or so. We need to continue saving our pennies as this fund goes toward any maintenance or cleaning needed on our beautiful windows. Try putting your age in pennies every year on your birthday.



**REMEMBER, IT IS IMPORTANT TO KNOW
WHERE WE HAVE COME FROM AS WE JOURNEY
FORWARD MAKING OUR OWN HISTORY.**

April 2023 Calendar

Date	Day	Time	Event
<i>See weekly meeting dates & times on back page of the newsletter. See below for weekly meeting updates.</i>			
April 1	Saturday	10:00 am	Hearts and Hands (Fellowship Hall)
April 2	Sunday		<i>See Worship Schedule on Back Page</i>
			<i>Palm Sunday / One Great Hour of Sharing</i>
		12:00 pm	-3 p.m. Polity Class (Library)
April 3	Monday	5:00 pm	Worship & Music (Library)
		5:30 pm	Christian Ed (Christian Education)
April 4	Tuesday	1:00 pm	Mission Ministry (Library)
		7:00 pm	Boy Scout OA (Stage Room)
April 5	Wednesday	6:00 pm	Friendship Mariner's Service Auction (Fellowship Hall)
April 6	Thursday		<i>Maundy Thursday Service 7 p.m.</i>
		1:00 pm	Kitchen Committee (Fellowship Hall)
April 7	Friday		<i>Good Friday – Noon Service</i>
April 8	Saturday	2:00 pm	-3 pm Easter Egg Hunt
April 9	Sunday		<i>See Worship Schedule on Back Page / Special Music: Bell Choir</i>
			<i>Easter Sunday – One Service – 10 AM / Lily Program</i>
		8:00 am	-9:30 am Easter Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
April 10	Monday	1:30 pm	Building & Grounds (Library)
		5:30 pm	New Life (Library)
		5:30 pm	Moms2Mom (Christian Ed)
April 11	Tuesday	1:00 pm	Personnel (Library)
		7:00 pm	Bible Study – Casket Empty (Fellowship Hall)
April 12	Wednesday	2:00 pm	Finance (Library)
April 13	Thursday	5:30 pm	Sarah Circle (Fellowship Hall)
April 14	Friday		<i>May Newsletter Due</i>
April 15	Saturday	8:00 am	Men on a Mission (Fellowship Hall)
		10:00 am	Stitch by Stitch (Fellowship Hall)
April 16	Sunday		<i>See Worship Schedule on Back Page / Special Music: 1st Five</i>
		12:00 p.m.	Session – Special Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
April 17	Monday	10:00 am	Genealogy (Family History Center)
		12:00 pm	Investment (Fellowship Hall)
		7:00 pm	Session (Fellowship Hall)
April 18	Tuesday	7:00 pm	Boy Scouts OA (Stage Room)
April 20	Thursday	9:30 a.m.	Coloring & Caring (Fellowship Hall)
April 21	Thursday	1:00 pm	Ruth Circle (Library)
April 23	Sunday		<i>See Worship Schedule on Back Page / Special Music: Bell</i>
			Start Undies Sunday / Confirmands Joining
April 24	Monday	1:00 pm	Rebecca Circle (Library)
		6:30 pm	Local Missions (Fellowship Hall)
		7:00 pm	Deacons (Fellowship Hall)
April 25		1:30 pm	PW Coordinating Team (Library)
		7:00 pm	Bible Study – Casket Empty (Fellowship Hall)
April 26	Wednesday	9:30 am	Walk, Pray, Love (Library)
April 27	Thursday	4:00 pm	Church Book Club (Library)
April 30	Sunday		<i>See Worship Schedule on Back Page</i>



“*The Archer’s Perspective*” is by Donna Coulson who spoke to Presbyterian Women last fall about her Christian writing. The story takes place in Wyoming and Colorado and begins with an accident involving an arrow shot from a bowstring. Coulson follows the three main characters as they deal well or poorly with the consequences of, and life changes caused, by that accident. The underlying theme is the need for forgiveness and how these characters react to that need and what it indicates about their individual relationship with God.

Many books have been written to help us deal with the grief of the death of a spouse, other family member or friend but very few discuss the prospect of our own death. In “*The Art of Dying*,” Robert Neale writes about why we are so fearful of death and what lies behind that fear. We all face death and our reactions to that fact can affect our daily lives. Neale includes exercises to help us deal with our emotions about the subject and discusses how we can let our Christian faith support us as we contemplate the future.



Dear Church Family: I really enjoyed taking my mom, Dorothy Tyrell, to church Sunday. Thank you for praying for her! She loves First Presbyterian. I look forward to bringing her again this spring.

In Christ, Gaylene Thomas

Deacons Seeking Coffee Sponsorship

The Deacons are now serving Cafe Justo, a fair-trade coffee, at fellowship time and at other church events. We are asking for your support in this project by sponsoring one week of coffee for \$10. Choose any week you want and make your donation for one or more weeks if you wish. You can make your donation during fellowship time by either cash or check. Mark your check in the memo line with fellowship coffee. Check with Gail Heimbeck or Linda Woodard if you have questions. These offerings not only help us purchase the coffee but also support the ministry of Cafe Justo, a ministry supported by PCUSA. You can pick up a prayer card on the information table in Fellowship Hall and keep Mark Adams and Miriam Maldonado Escobar in your prayers. Mark, Maria and their family are pictured here. They serve the Borderland Ministries and have a partnership with Cafe Justo. Thank you for your support in this mission project.



Undie Sunday ~ May 7

You may begin to bring packages of new underwear, all sizes, on April 23 through May 7th and place them in the gray bin at the Cary Street side entrance of the church.

Prayers for Jane Iddings and John Brounink for the passing of their mother, Sally Brounink; and for Becky Dougherty on the loss of her brother-in-law, Terry.

Continued Prayer

Meryl Adams
Nadine Amen
James Anderson
Guy & LaVonne Beardsley
Gail Blackwell
Mary Kay Bohnenblust
Dr. Richard Brown
Minnie Bunley
Chuck Burke
Bryan Burrows
Rose Burrows
Bob Clark
Debbie Confortini
Gina Courtade
Karen Denniston
Robert Drummond
*Don Ederer

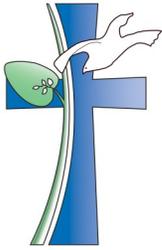
Jerry & Cindy Foote
Kevin Gallagher
Adam George
Melissa Gilespi
Lyle Ginter
Carmen Grubbs
Patricia Hamil
Tamiecka Hamm
Hart Family
Patricia Hawke
Geraldine Hayes
Sherry Hayes
Ray Hernandez
Jamie Herrera
Jon Jacquot
Jessica Jessen
Joy Johnson
Jim Keen
Debbie Lenhart

William Loftus
Mary Lou McMIndes
Casey Medina
Tom Milholland & Children
Kathy Lee Montgomery
Tom Muhlback
Kari Murdoch
Stephanie Oakland
Kim Olson
Susan Payne
Dale & Aurthur Petersen
Diane Peterson
Catherine Pacheko
Amanda Pierce
Paula Qualls
Carol Rieser
Frank & Belinda Serrano
Del Shortliffe

Jeannie Smith
Karen Smith
Marilyn St. John
Don Stang
Diana Stevens
Paula Stevens
Carol Ann Strader
Rick Stratton
Joan Swim
Mary Tolle
Larry Twidwell
Dorothy Tyrell
Georgia Valdón
Javen Westby
Allen White
Lexie White
Brenda Williams
Jennifer Wulf



Let us know when people are well and can be taken off our prayer list. Thank you!



First Presbyterian Church

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



4/2023



WORSHIP MATERIALS can be 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.

Holy Week Schedule

Worship Services In-Person
and Live-Streamed @ 10 AM & 7 PM

Palm Sunday – April 2

- Worship at 8 & 10 AM
- Children will return One Great Hour of Sharing Fish Banks during Children’s Time.

Maundy Thursday – April 6

- Worship service at 7 PM.
- Communion will be served.

Good Friday – April 7

- A quiet service at Noon remembering Jesus’ death on the cross. (No livestream.)

Easter – April 9

- Breakfast 8-9:30 AM (Fellowship Hall)
- Worship at 10 AM *only* - Christ is Risen
- Easter Flower Cross

Weekly Meetings

Mondays:

6:00 pm Boy Scouts #116 (A. Cntr) (3rd Mon.-Stage Rm.)

Tuesdays:

9:30 am Staff Meeting (Library)

5:15 pm Chancel Choir

Wednesdays:

4:00 pm Children’s Chimes

4:30 pm Children’s Choir

5:30 pm Bell Ensemble

6:00 pm Bell Choir

Thursdays:

7:00 pm APNC (Assoc. Pastor Nom. Comit.) (Library)

Sunday Worship Services:

See date of worship for updates for that week.

8:00 am Worship – Chapel / Fellowship (F. Hall)

9:00 am Adult Sunday School (Library)

9:30 am Nursery

10:00 am Worship – Sanctuary and Live Stream

10:00 am -11:15 Children’s Sunday School (Upstairs)

11:00 am Fellowship

TBD Youth Group