

NEWS from the PEWS

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ~ CHEYENNE, WYOMING

Rev. Bob Thomson
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February 2023

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FROM THE



Pastor

Mark Your Calendars and Plan to Attend

There are two important events in February I would like to call your attention to. The first is our annual congregational meeting and the second is the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday.

On Sunday, Feb. 12, we will have our annual congregational meeting right after the 10 o'clock service in the sanctuary. At our annual meeting, we will review the ministry of the church for 2022. There will be an Annual Report available ahead of time on Feb. 5th. Our church's annual meeting is an important time to celebrate the ministry from last year and listen for what God is calling us to do this year. The annual report will have a summary from each ministry describing the highlights of ministry from 2022.

I encourage you to read the annual report thoroughly, and during the meeting, ask any questions you may have. At the meeting, we will also present the 2023 budget for the church. In the PC (USA) denomination, the budget is approved by the Session and presented to the congregation. One thing you will be asked to consider is any changes to the compensation of your pastor. Our Book of Order requires that this be done at a congregational meeting. Finally, this year at the meeting you will also vote to elect an elder for Session and we will ordain and install two officers. Plan to stay at church on Feb. 12 and participate in this important event.

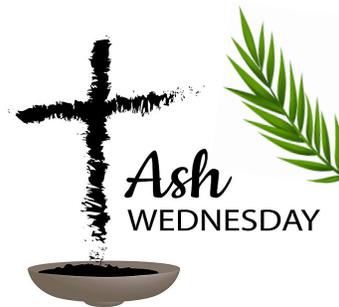
The second event I hope you will plan for is the Ash Wednesday worship service. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. Lent is the season in the church calendar when we remember the 40 days of temptation that Jesus went through in the wilderness before he began his ministry. During Lent, we encourage each person to spend time in self-examination and repentance. In that repentance, we turn to Jesus Christ our Savior and ask for forgiveness, fully confident in God's grace and mercy. Lent leads right up to Good Friday and Easter when we remember our Lord's crucifixion and resurrection, the sacrifice he made for us on the cross, and the new life we have through his resurrection from the dead.

I encourage you to worship on Ash Wednesday and

keep a holy Lent so that you are prepared to experience the Passion of Christ on Holy Week and celebrate the glorious resurrection on Easter.

May God bless you with peace - the peace that only God can give. The peace of God that comes from knowing God's love and God's presence through the good news of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Pastor Bob



Ash Wednesday Service

February 22

7 p.m.

The worship service will be held in-person and via live stream. *Childcare will be available at 6:30 p.m.*

DRIVE THRU ASHES!

We will offer the imposition of ashes from 12-12:30 on February 22 in the church parking lot. **Enter from 22nd Street** and exit onto Carey Ave.

Extended Communion Table



Our donated shelf-stable food items in March will go to Comea Shelter. Suggested items: large canned coffee and creamer, large containers of powdered drink mixes, large #10 cans of food/sauces, large toilet paper packages.

Accessing the Church Directory



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

God's Love



Valentine's Day is all about love, of course. But before we can pour out love on others, we must first fill up with the only source of TRUE love... God. Most of us struggle daily to really grasp how deep and how wide the love of God really is. Why not count down to Valentine's Day by filling up on God's love?

This is what I wanted for my kids, to focus first and foremost on God's love, and even extend this kind of love to others. It's a simple activity. It has to be simple because we all are very busy families. You will want to cut out hearts. These hearts can be all different shapes and sizes. I even have a pattern if you would like to use it. Each day, write something on a heart (for example a bible verse, what you love about your child, or simply thanking them for something) and tape it to their bedroom door. Each morning the kids will be in search of the new heart. This is a great way to start the day off with a positive message. Soon their doors will be covered in hearts! This is a great activity for all ages... even jr. high and high schoolers. Who knows, maybe your kids will start a door full of hearts for you! Start your day with a positive message from God and share God's love. Happy Valentine's Day!

*With God's Grace,
Ashley Braisted*

Children's and Youth Ministry Director

Presbyterian Women offers a

History Lover's Guide to Cheyenne

PW is having our quarterly gathering on Saturday, February 25, at 10 am for a brunch in the Fellowship Hall. This is a fun time for all women to join together to visit, eat, and enjoy a program.

We are excited to tell you that our program will be the authors of a new book called, *A History Lover's Guide to Cheyenne*. Authors Starley Talbott and Michael Kassel will share highlights in the book that explore a rich past, including the origins of the F.E. Warren Air Force Base, the foundation of Cheyenne Frontier Days, and the unheralded history of early aviation that eclipsed Denver. Mike's presentations are always enticing. They'll

be selling and signing their book, as well.

We invite all women and their friends to attend! We'll have a sign-up in the Fellowship Hall starting in February or you can email or call Melinda to tell her you'll attend so that we can plan for food. Questions? Contact Melinda Brazzale, 307-256-0506 or mlbrazzale@gmail.com.

Behind the Tree

I got up Christmas morning
Saw the presents 'neath the tree
There were plenty for the kids
Even some for you and me.

All were wrapped so beautifully
Soon to be a pile of paper trash
But the gifts inside would be used
And Christmas would be a smash.

But hidden there way in the back
Was a present not seen before
Wrapped in plain brown paper
The tag read "Look at me once more".

I opened it very carefully, heart beating fast
What could this be, who put it there?
The questions were many and wouldn't go away
It had been wrapped with such tender care.

I got it opened and looked inside
I was filled with unearthly love
It was a plain wood cross
With a message from heaven above.

"Don't forget what this is all about
The reason for this special day
Give thanks to God and Jesus His son
Each in your own way".

I was filled with so much joy
More than I'd ever known
To be given such a reminder
My faith restored and grown.

So now as I look at that simple cross
That was given to us that day
I'm reminded of the tremendous love
That Jesus sent our way.

Always look behind the tree
A reminder of the past
Never forget the reason for the day
Look for the gift that will forever last.

Happy Birthday, Jesus!

Paula Stevens 12/7/22

Thank You

First Presbyterian Church,

I am at a loss for words to thank all my friends at church. The charming Christmas stocking stuffed with goodies and a meaningful reminder from Pastor Bob to reread the gospels of Matthew and Luke, which became my Christmas morning devotions.

And to end all, a delightful surprise at my front door when some dear angel left me an absolutely beautiful poinsettia plant.

I am overwhelmed with gratitude and thoughtfulness. God truly cares for me.

Thank you for continuing to remember me in your prayers and concern.

Affectionately, Mary Clark

Dear church family,

I can't tell you how wonderful and attentive my church family in Cheyenne has been since my illness started in October. The many beautiful cards and kind words have been so uplifting!! They have helped so much. I wanted to mention that my mailing address is no longer currently in Denver. We leave here February 1 and head back to Montana. God willing we will have good roads. Please pray for our safe travels. So far, my recovery has been good and complete to this point.

Susan Payne



Thank you to all for your generous donations to The Angel Tree. You are the reason so many children had a joyful Christmas.

Thanks to those who cooked and served at the Comea Shelter. The residents and staff were very appreciative as we followed Christ's instructions to feed the hungry. We will cook and serve again on the 14th of March.

The Deacons are so grateful for your assistance in serving our local community mission projects.

*Belinda Smith, Deacons Local Missions
Chairperson*

The family of Darwin Mainwaring would like to thank our church family for your prayers and kind thoughts at Darwin's passing. It is a comfort to know that you were there for us at this difficult time. A special thank you for the lovely poinsettia from the Deacons too.

*God bless you all,
Betty Jo, Scott, Lori, and Doug*

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!



Presbyterian Women and the Deacons would like to thank the congregation for the most generous donations to the Warmth Tree this year. The huge number of coats, socks, scarves, hats, gloves, and other warm items has been sorted by the Deacons and given to the Comea Shelter, Wyoming Coalition for the Homeless, veterans, Safehouse, Senior Center and the school district to be used for those in special need during the winter. Please accept our grateful thanks for your kindness in supporting this project to help others stay warm. We also appreciate the time and skill of those who hand made items for the tree. A reminder – this is an annual project so keep it in mind when you clean out closets and drawers! Contact Kay Barnes (630-0875) with questions.



February 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>			
February 1	Wednesday	6:00 pm	Friendship Mariners (Fellowship Hall)
February 3	Thursday	9:30 am	Coloring & Caring (Library)
February 4	Saturday	10:00 am	Hearts and Hands (Fellowship Hall)
February 5	Sunday		<i>See Worship Schedule on Back Page</i>
February 6	Monday	5:00 pm	Worship & Music (Library)
		5:30 pm	Christian Ed (Library)
February 7	Tuesday	1:00 pm	Mission Ministry (Library)
		7:00 pm	Casket Empty Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
		7:00 pm	Boy Scouts OA (Stage Room)
February 9	Thursday	11:30 am	Interim Pastor Search Committee (Library)
		5:30 pm	Sarah Circle (Fellowship Hall)
February 11	Saturday	8:00 am	Men on a Mission (Fellowship Hall)
February 12	Sunday		Annual Congregational Meeting / Souper Day
			Election of Officers / Installation & Ordination
			<i>See Worship Schedule on Back Page</i>
			<i>Special Music: 1st Five</i>
February 13	Monday	1:30 pm	Building & Grounds (Library)
		5:30 pm	New Life (Library)
		5:30 pm	Moms2Mom (Christian Ed)
February 14	Tuesday	2:15 pm	Personnel (Library)
February 15	Wednesday		March Newsletter Due
		2:00 pm	Finance (Library)
February 16	Thursday	9:30 am	Coloring & Caring (Library)
February 17	Friday	1:00 pm	Ruth Circle (Library)
February 18	Saturday	10:00 am	Stitch by Stitch (Fellowship Hall)
February 19	Sunday		<i>See Worship Schedule on Back Page</i>
			Scout Sunday
February 20	Monday		Office Closed for President's Day
		10:00 am	Genealogy (Family History Center)
		6:00 p.m.	Boy Scouts (Stage Room)
		7:00 pm	Session (Fellowship Hall)
February 21	Tuesday	7:00 pm	Casket Empty Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
February 22	Wednesday	7:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Service
February 23	Thursday	11:30 am	Interim Pastor Search Committee (Library)
February 25	Saturday	10:00 am	PW Brunch (Fellowship Hall)
February 26	Sunday		<i>See Worship Schedule Above</i>
February 27	Monday	1:00 pm	Rebecca Circle (Library)
		6:30 pm	Local Missions (Fellowship Hall)
		7:00 pm	Deacons (Fellowship Hall)
February 28	Tuesday	1:30 pm	PW Coordinating Team (Library)

ANNUAL
Congregational
MEETING February 12
following 10 AM
Service

Session has called an Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, February 12, immediately following the 10 am worship service for the following items: To receive the annual report including the Financial report, to receive the 2023 budget, to consider changes to the ordained pastors' compensation, to elect a Congregational Nominating Committee, elect officers for the church, and to ordain and install officers.

Annual Reports

Annual Reports will be available at the Feb. 5 services.



Debbie Macomber feels many people who enter our lives are gifts from God to help, support, and encourage us. Even those who cause us trouble could have been sent to help make us stronger in our faith and trust in God as

we learn to lean on him for solutions to difficulties. "God's Guest List" includes stories about some of the people who have had an influence on her life whom she now recognizes as being a gift from God. She considers each new person as to whether they can be another gift or whether she can be a gift God is sending to them. She helps the reader to consider those who have had an influence on them.

"Light for the Gentiles" is one of the Westminster Guides to the Bible. These little books were written in the 1950-60's but still have meaning for us today. This one, by Leland Jamison, is about Paul and the young Christian church and its growing pains. Jamison discusses Paul's journeys, how and who he approached, and some of the difficulties he faced as an apostle. Several other Westminster Guides will be on display in the library as well.

Souper Bowl Day
February 12

March Newsletter Deadline
February 15

Scout Sunday
February 19

Ash Wednesday
February 22

Continued Prayer

Prayers for Cheryl Soden & family for the loss of her aunt, Janis Wilson, and for the families of Rev. Jim Green, Marilyn Bush, and George Anderson for the loss of his wife, Susann.

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

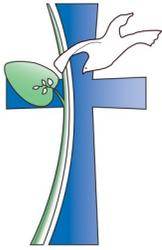
- Kevin Gallagher
- Adam George
- Melissa Gilespi
- Lyle Ginter
- Carmen Grubbs
- Tamiecka Hamm
- Hart Family
- Patricia Hawke
- Geraldine Hayes
- Phil Hayes
- Sherry Hayes
- Lisa Herbel
- Ray Hernandez
- Jamie Herrera
- Jessica Jessen
- Joy Johnson
- Jim Keen
- Debbie Lenhart
- William Loftus

- Mary Lou McMIndes
- Casey Medina
- Tom Milholland & Children
- Kathy Lee Montgomery
- Tom Muhlbach
- Kari Murdoch
- Stephanie Oakland
- Kim Olson
- Susan Payne
- Dale & Aurthur Petersen
- 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 enough to be taken off of our prayer list. Thank you!



First Presbyterian Church

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



2/2023



WORSHIP BROADCAST

Sundays at 8:30 a.m. on
KLAN 103.3 FM (*One-Week Delay*)

LIVE-STREAMED WORSHIP SERVICES *are accessed
on the first page of our website:*

♥ *Happy Valentines Day* ♥



WEEKLY MEETINGS

Mondays:

6:00 pm Boy Scouts # 116 (Act. 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