

NEWS from the PEWS

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ~ CHEYENNE, WYOMING

Rev. Bob Thomson
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March 2024

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The Lamb & The Lion

There is an old saying, “March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb!” It comes from the Old Farmers Almanac and is a commentary on the typical weather pattern. The winter storms that roar at the beginning of March change to the gentle showers of spring by its end. We certainly know about weather here in Cheyenne, and we will see if the Farmer’s Almanac is accurate this year.

For our church calendar, the saying should be reversed, “March arrives like a lamb and goes out like a lion.” March is the season of Lent and the last week of March is Holy Week. Palm Sunday is on March 24 and Easter on March 31. As we journey through Lent, we enter March with Jesus as the Lamb of God. In John 1:29 when John the Baptist saw Jesus he proclaimed, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!” The primary goal in Jesus’ ministry was to reconcile humanity to God by taking away our sin and rescuing us from slavery to sin. In the Exodus story God rescued the Hebrew people from slavery by the sacrifice of a lamb. In Leviticus 5 a lamb is required as an offering for sin. It was this imagery that John the Baptist is referring to when he identifies Jesus as the sacrificial Lamb of God for all of God’s people.

As we journey through Lent, we draw closer to the Passion of Christ, his final hours from Maundy Thursday through his crucifixion on Good Friday. Holy Week begins with Jesus entering Jerusalem to shouts of praise and hallelujah. By the end of the week the crowds will be shouting for his crucifixion. It was in his Passion, his crucifixion, that Jesus fulfills his ministry as the Lamb of God. It is by his death on the cross that he took away the sins of the world and offers us forgiveness.

The Lamb of God is also the Lion of Judah who has conquered sin and is victorious over death. We celebrate Christ’s victory over death on Easter as we proclaim, “Christ is risen.” In his resurrection, death has been defeated. As the Apostle Paul writes in 1 Corinthians “Death has been swallowed up in victory...Where, O death is your sting...Thanks be to God who gives us victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Easter is the celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ as our Savior. In Revelation 5:5 the Risen Jesus is identified as the Lion of Judah. “The Lion of the Tribe of Judah, the root of David, has conquered.” Later in chapter 5 of Revelation, John refers to Jesus as the

Lamb, the Lamb that is crucified and has rescued the saints of every people and nation. Rev. 5:12 is a familiar reference used in Handel’s Messiah in its final chorus, “Worthy is the Lamb that was slain, and hath redeemed us to God by His blood, to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. Blessing and honour, glory and power, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb, for ever and ever.”

As we journey through Lent and prepare to celebrate the Passion and the Resurrection of Jesus, let us remember that as we enter March, Jesus is the Lamb of God taking away our sin. We will conclude March on Easter with Jesus as the Lion of Judah.

May you have a blessed Holy Week and Easter, Christ is Risen - He is Risen Indeed.

Pastor Bob

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

March 10

— The only time of the year
when 2 AM doesn’t exist for one day.

— One of TWO times we’re supposed to
get up at 2 AM so we can change our clocks.

Why 2 AM, you might ask? Well, in 1918 during WWI, when Daylight Saving Time (DST) was introduced, there were no trains out of New York City on Sunday at 2 AM. *Okay.*

You can thank George Hudson, an entomologist in New Zealand, for proposing DST in 1895. It benefited his own hobby of collecting insects after work. This led him to value after-hours daylight. *Huh!*

Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt relaunched DST in 1942 and it became official in 1966 when Pres. Lyndon Johnson signed a law to make the start and end dates uniform across the country.

In 1970, when America was facing an energy crisis, congress passed a law to make it permanent, but just for two years. Pres. Richard Nixon tried to make DST permanent (change the clocks once and forget it) in 1974. It was redacted within the year after public support plummeted from 79% to 42% after its first winter. *Hmm!*



What is Per Capita?



Per Capita What is it?

We ask you pay it, but what is it?

Per Capita is the cost of the administrative side of the church.

Per Capita is the cost of running

the church so that funds given for mission work are kept for mission work. Each Presbyterian Church is assessed the cost of operating the church at the General Assembly, Synod, and Presbytery level. Our amount this year is \$16,289.91. The church pays this to the Presbytery, who pays our part of Synod and General Assembly costs. Our church asks members to pay their per capita to cover this cost.

Church members have really stepped up and made significant per capita payment. Last year, members paid \$8,861.33 of our \$16,335.54 assessment. That is 54%! The goal of the Finance Ministry is to reach at least 50%. Congratulations, you did it.

This year, we put \$10,000 in the budget. Can you, the congregation meet this challenge? We think you can. Thank you for your support of Per Capita. You are helping meet the work of the Greater Church.

THE GREAT HOUR
OF SHARING

Helping in Three Ways

-Mission Ministry

As we recognize God's sacrifice in giving us his Son to be crucified and rise to save us, we might want to consider what sacrifice we can make to save those who need our help. One Great Hour of Sharing allows us to make a critical donation that PC(USA) will use in three ways to ease suffering and help those struggling realize their full potential.

As is our custom, Mission Ministry will match up to \$2,000 of the total offering from our congregation. For this offering, the entire sum after matching will go to PC (USA) for use in three programs worldwide – Presbyterian Hunger Program (36%), Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (32%), and Self-Development of People (32%). Often, funds from each of these programs kick in when PC(USA) arrives on the scene.

For example, when Hurricane Maria hit Puerto Rico in 2017, many residents in the village of Fideicomiso lost large parts of their roofs, so they either had to sleep in unsafe conditions or abandon their homes. One Great Hour of Sharing funds helped replace those roofs and give the residents security. Other funds from the OGHS offering helped the village acquire new water tanks and

install solar panels in three schools that had to be shut down after the hurricane. All this work has improved the infrastructure of Fideicomiso and will help the village withstand future violent storms. If you donated to One Great Hour of Sharing in 2017, your donation may have helped right there in Puerto Rico!

Our world is very small these days, so we know that others suffering from hunger, disaster, or abuse really are our neighbors. Please send help to them by making your One Great Hour of Sharing Offering on Palm Sunday, March 24!

Women and Girls Helping Others



The members of Hearts and Hands and Stitch by Stitch recently answered the call for hats and scarves from the Salvation Army. These two groups welcome any woman or girl to join us! Hearts and Hands centers on knitting and crocheting, and Stitch by Stitch is more into sewing.

Our thanks to those of you who stepped forward to help meet the need. We also have a new ongoing project for Recover Wyoming. Recover Wyoming has been doing wonderful work for some years and will now become an agency under the umbrella of Day of Giving. They asked for blankets for those who have found apartments and for those who sleep outside. We have two fleece and six crocheted bed-sized blankets ready for them. If you would like to participate by knitting or crocheting squares or strips or even full blankets, contact Kay Barnes (307-630-0875). We are also looking for individuals who would be willing to sew little girls' dresses from pillowcases. We have kits available if you are interested in helping.

Nicaragua Mission Trip Postponed

Due to our trip leader needing foot surgery in late March, our Living Water Mission trip to Nicaragua is postponed until September 21-28, 2024. Therefore, we are back in recruitment mode for those interested in providing safe drinking water to those in need in Central America. In these excursions we experience the water of our faith to nourish hearts and souls. If you have the desire, good feet, good boots, and a passport, please contact Kevin Boyce at 630-7607 for questions about details. Also see www.water.cc



Accessing the Church Directory

Go to:

members.InstantChurchDirectory.com



Presbyterian Women

Celebrate Random Acts of Kindness and Gratitude

Women recently met for a Valentine's dessert with many sweet treats provided by Rebecca Circle. Our program was about Random Acts of Kindness and Gratitude, both helping others and ourselves to live into the Jesus' commission that we love one another. There was a splash of red outfits along with lots of warm fellowship.



Margie, Karla, Barb, daughter of Vicki, Vicki (sitting behind her daughter).



Betty Jo, Becky, Marion, Kay, Dawn, and Becky.

A component of each of our quarterly gatherings is a mission project. This time we collected items to construct hygiene kits for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Enough items were collected for 42 of the kits. Thanks to everyone who donated!

We welcome you to join us on Saturday, May 18 for our next gathering, a brunch at 10 am in the church Fellowship Hall. For information, contact Judy Lissman, Moderator, 307-575-1102.

(Right) Moderator,
Judy Lissman



Looking for Coffee Sponsors



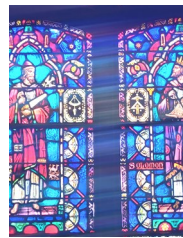
Fellowship Hour is using Café Justo fair trade coffee to support the coffee farmers in Mexico and keep them on their land. This is an extension of the Coffee Ministry that sells coffee to church members. The cost of the coffee is in the Mission Committee's budget, but your support helps extend their budget and supports an important ministry.

Sponsors give \$10 to help fund a Sunday's Fellowship Hour. If you would like to be a coffee sponsor, find the envelope on the white bulletin board, sign up, and drop your sponsorship in the envelope. Your support is greatly appreciated by the Mission Ministry, and it is really appreciated by the coffee farmers you help keep on their land. Thank you for your support.

In The Library



In "And the Angels Were Silent", author Max Lucado covers all the events that occurred in the last week of Jesus' life through the resurrection. He discusses the part each event had in Jesus' ministry, its meaning to him and to us today. The book also has a study guide to help the reader dig deeper into the topics. Lucado's books are well written and easy to understand and follow.



Stained Glass Window Tour

March 17

11:20 AM



Meryl Adams
Nadine Amen
Max Arrowsmith
Guy Beardsley
Ernie Brazzale
Chuck Burke
Rose Burrows
Sonya Caldwell
Olivia Campbell
Donna DiNino
Cooper Dulany
Donna Jo Epler
Heather Franks
Adam George
Patricia Goss
Gail Heimback

Mary Jensen
Jim Keen
Karl Krieger
Virginia Leach
Tina Lemmons
Karen Ludeke
Roger Magnuson
Linda McGuire
Mary Lou
McMindes
Lois Moody
Tom Muhlback
Kari Murdoch
William Norton
III
Susan Payne

Loren Pully
Priscilla...
Paula Qualls
Mary Rapp
Gail Salzburg
Jan Schippers
Marlene Sidwell
Diana Stevens
Paula Stevens
Hazen Stone
Dorothy Tyrell
Sarah Wacker
Ann Wensky
Javen Westby





Happy Easter

As I recently strolled down the grocery aisle, I was taken aback by the shelves piled high with jelly beans, plastic-wrapped gift baskets, pink and yellow marshmallow chicks, and giant chocolate bunnies! No wonder kids get confused about Easter! For believing moms and dads, explaining Christmas to our kids is a cinch. This is because the birth of Jesus is relatively simple to grasp. Nativity scenes, carols, and pageants all reinforce the biblical story, making it easier to keep Santa Claus in perspective.

But are we keeping Christ in Easter? How do we keep Christ the focus of our Easter celebrations? How do we begin to explain to our kids something as profound, powerful, and mysterious as the death and resurrection of Jesus, which is at the very heart of our Christian faith?

How do we help our kids understand that when it comes to Easter, Jesus (not the Easter Bunny!) is the “reason for the season?” The good news is our children come into the world hard-wired to grasp deep spiritual truths—even something so amazing and miraculous as the Resurrection—because for children, believing in God is instinctive. It is as natural as breathing. Jesus recognized this when He said: “Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these” (Mark 10:14; Luke 18:16).

Bottom line: Our children are hungry for the truths of God. So don't be shy. I encourage you to go online and choose from thousands of free Easter family devotionals. If you need help selecting one, please let me know. I suggest you select a regular time (perhaps after dinner, or before bedtime) to read and discuss the first question and answer. You might begin and close each devotional time with a short prayer. You may want to have a Bible handy to look up scripture references. If your child poses a question you don't have an answer for, don't be afraid to say, “I don't know,” or, “Let's look in the Bible,” or, “Let's ask our pastor or Ashley about that.” And don't be surprised when your child teaches you!

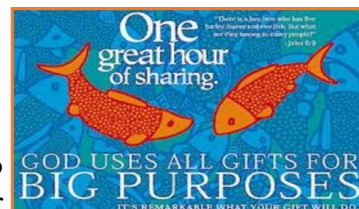
There are an infinite number of questions about the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus—more than can ever be answered in one week. What's important is in the days leading up to Easter, you and your child(ren) will have a powerful opportunity to grow together in the knowledge and love of our Lord. You and your child will gain a clearer understanding of not only what you believe, but why. Remember, God loves a seeking heart! (Matthew 7:7-12). Have a wonderful Easter.

Bless you,
Ashley Braisted
Children's and Youth Ministry Director

One Great Hour of Sharing

I encourage families to participate in One Great Hour of Sharing this year! I have given your child their very own fish bank. If your family has not received or may have misplaced their bank...don't worry, I have a lot of banks. Fish banks are a fun way for children, youth, and families to live out their faith during Lent as they participate in the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering. Please return fish banks by March 24th (Palm Sunday). Please fill banks with any loose change. It's wonderful to know that our coins and dollars will bring relief to people when they are experiencing a crisis. We can be like the boy who gave his loaves and fish (John 6:9-13). God will multiply our gifts!

Blessings,
Ashley Braisted
Children's Ministry Director



Cooking & Serving

We will be cooking and serving at the Comea Shelter on Tuesday, March 12. We need 2-3 people to come at 1:30 p.m. to cook and 5-6 people to serve at 5:30 p.m. to serve. A sign-up sheet will be in the Fellowship Hall.



We want to say a great big Thank You to all who helped Larry, February 4 and the support we got from all.
God Bless,
Larry & Nina

Thank you Pastor Bob and First Pres. Members for prayers, gifts, cards and phone calls as I travel my medical journey. I especially thank PW, Stitch by Stitch, Ruth Circle, Walk Pray Love and Mariners. My heart is strengthened & over-flows with love and gratitude for all.

Love,
Libby





\$1,021.56
WE DID IT!

Thank you for supporting Day Of Giving! With your generous donations we were able to meet our goal!

49ers—\$361 KC—283.11 Commercials—377.45

Thanks for Donating!

- Greta Morrow, Day of Giving Board

Thanks to the youth who organized the Souper Bowl of Caring and to everyone who donated on Feb. 4 and 11! The \$1,021.56 Day of Giving received from this wonderful event will go entirely to purchases of basic items our neighbors in need simply cannot afford. For example, your donation could cover one of these needed items.

510) 16-ounce jars of peanut butter for Needs or St. Joseph's Food Pantry

25) cases of diapers for Safehouse or Life Choice Pregnancy Care Center

20) pairs of school shoes for students at Boys & Girls Club who have only flip-flops

5) sets of underwear, casual clothing and jackets for teens at Unaccompanied Student Initiative who come with only what they are wearing.

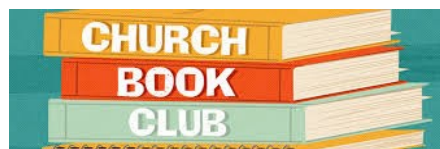
You are helping Day of Giving make life better for numerous residents who need our help! Our congregation helped start this effort 18 years ago, and you have been with us every step of the way!



Elizabeth, Ziva, Lewis, Alek, and Rhett



Wesley, Sira, Catherine, Elie, and Rosley



The Church Book Club will meet on Thursday, March 21, at 4 PM in the Church Library. We will be discussing "The Radium Girls," by Kate Moore. A Zoom option will be available. For further information, contact Phyllis O'Connor at 307-630-3997 or email her at phyloconn@msn.com.



LENT & HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday

March 24

Worship, Celebrate Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem with Palms and Singing.

Maundy Thursday

March 28 ~ 7 pm

Jesus' celebration of the Last Supper with his disciples in the Upper Room.

Good Friday

March 29 ~ Noon

Remembering the Crucifixion of our Lord.

Easter

Continental Breakfast 8 am
March 31 ~ Worship ~ 10 am
One Service Only.
Celebrate the Resurrection.
Hallelujah!

March 2024 Calendar

Date	Day	Time	Event
Weekly Meetings:			
	Mondays	6:30 pm	Boy Scouts 116 (Activity Cntr. / 3rd Mon.-Stage Rm.)
	Tuesdays	9:30 am	Staff Meeting (Library)
		5:15 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
	Wednesdays	5:30 pm	-7 Bell Choirs (Rehearsals)
	Thursdays	5:30 pm	APNC (Library)
	Fridays	Noon	Church Office Closes
<i>See specific date for any weekly updates:</i>			
WORSHIP	Sundays	8:00 am	Worship – Chapel / Fellowship
		9:00 am	Adult Sunday School (Not March 31)
		9:30 am	Nursery
		10:00 am	Worship – Sanctuary and Live Stream
		10:00 am	Children's Sunday School
		11:00 am	Fellowship
		11:15 am	-11:45 Children's Choir & Chimes (Not March 31)
March 2	Saturday	10:00 am	Hearts & Hands (Fellowship Hall)
March 3	Sunday		<i>See Worship Schedule at the Top</i>
			<i>Lily Forms Are Available</i>
March 4	Monday	5:15 pm	Worship & Music (Library)
March 5	Tuesday	1:00 pm	Mission Ministry (Library)
		6:30 pm	Soup & Lent Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
		7:00 pm	Boy Scouts O.A. (Stage Room)
March 6	Wednesday	6:00 pm	Mariner's (Fellowship Hall)
March 9	Saturday	8:00 am	Men on a Mission (Fellowship Hall)
March 10	Sunday		Daylight Saving Time Begins [Tick-Tock]
			<i>See Worship Schedule at the Top</i>
			<i>Special Music: Bell Ensemble</i>
March 11	Monday	1:30 pm	Building & Grounds (Fellowship Hall)
		5:30 pm	New Life (Library)
		5:30 pm	Christian Ed (CE)
March 12	Tuesday		Cook & Serve Comea
		1:00 pm	Personnel (Library)
		6:30 pm	Soup & Lent Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
March 13	Wednesday	11:00 am	-2 Lion's Club Blood Draw
		2:00 pm	Finance (Library)
March 14	Thursday	5:30 pm	Sarah Circle (Fellowship Hall)
March 15	Friday		April Newsletter Deadline
		1:00 pm	Ruth Circle (Library)
March 16	Saturday	10:00 am	Stitch by Stitch (Fellowship Hall)
March 17	Sunday		<i>See Worship Schedule at the Top</i>
			<i>Special Music: 1st Five</i>
		11:20 am	Stained Glass Window Tour

March 2024 Calendar

Date	Day	Time	Event
March 18	Monday	10:00 am	Genealogy (Family History Center)
		7:00 pm	Session (Fellowship Hall)
March 19	Tuesday	6:30 pm	Soup & Lent Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
		6:30 pm	Boy Scouts O.A. (Stage Room)
March 20	Wednesday		Lily Memorial Form Deadline
March 21	Thursday	10:30 am	Coloring and Caring (Fellowship Hall)
		4:00 pm	Church Book Club (Library)
March 24	Sunday		Palm Sunday - See Worship Schedule at the Top
March 25	Monday	1:00 pm	Rebecca Circle (Library)
		6:30 pm	Local Missions (Fellowship Hall)
		7:00 pm	Deacons (Fellowship Hall)
March 26	Tuesday	1:30 pm	PW Coordinating Team (Library)
March 27	Wednesday	9:30 am	Walk, Pray, Love (Library)
March 28	Thursday	7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Service
			<i>Special Music: 1st Five</i>
March 29	Friday	Noon	Good Friday Service
March 31	Sunday	10:00 am	Easter Service ~ One Service Only
			<i>See Worship Schedule at the Top</i>
			<i>Special Music: Bell Ensemble</i>
			<i>Lily Memorial Program will be handed out</i>

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**

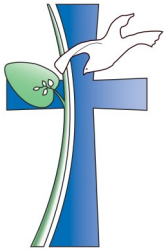
Class of 2025

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



3/24



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.*

Lent & Easter Services

See Schedule
of Services on
Page 5



*All are welcome to
come up front and join
us during the
Hallelujah Chorus
after the service!*