

# NEWS from the PEWS

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ~ CHEYENNE, WYOMING

**Rev. Bob Thomson**  
[pastorbob@firstprescheyenne.org](mailto:pastorbob@firstprescheyenne.org)

*May 2023*

[www.firstprescheyenne.org](http://www.firstprescheyenne.org)  
[churchoffice@firstprescheyenne.org](mailto:churchoffice@firstprescheyenne.org)

## FROM THE



**Pastor**

## God's Love

In May, we will be celebrating Mother's day and Pentecost.

On Mother's day we are reminded of the wonderful love we received from our mothers. They carried each of us in their wombs, gave birth to us, and raised us until we could take care of ourselves. There is a special kind of love that a mother has for her children. We usually speak of God as our "Father", but God is neither male nor female, God does not have a gender. We can and we should also consider God as our "mother". God loves us and protects us like a mother protects her children. When Jesus was looking over Jerusalem, he expressed in Matthew 23 how much he desired to gather the children of God together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings. This loving protection of God is also expressed in Psalm 91, "Under God's wings you will find refuge, God's faithfulness is a shield and a defense."

If you have ever been around animal mothers when they have babies, you know how protective a mother's love can be. It is well known that you do not want to get between a mama bear and her cubs. We are God's children, and the protective love of our mothers is reflective of the love God has for us. As we celebrate Mother's day, may we remember our mother's love and the love that God has for us as a mother.

We will also be celebrating Pentecost on Sunday, May 28. If you read Acts chapter 2, you will hear the story of the Holy Spirit coming upon the disciples in Jerusalem. It was 50 days after the Resurrection and the disciples were waiting, as Jesus had instructed them, to receive God's power. On Pentecost they were gathered in one place, and the Holy Spirit came upon them. Acts 2:3, "Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit." It was from this event, filled with the Spirit of God, that the disciples journeyed out to the world and spread the good news of Jesus Christ.

It is not surprising that the liturgical color for Pentecost is red, reminding us of the tongues of fire. If you look at the PC(USA) symbol, you see tongues of fire on each side of the cross. On Pentecost Sunday we will have the sanctuary decked out in the color red and encourage you to wear something red.

The Holy Spirit still fills us as disciples, empowering us to share the good news of the Gospel to the world through words and deeds. We share the word of God through our teaching and worship and through our

ministry in the community. As we serve people in the world in the name of Jesus, we share God's love. As we celebrate Pentecost, remember you have been touched by the Holy Spirit. You have been blessed with the power and authority of God to share the good news of Jesus Christ with the world.

Have a Happy Mother's Day and a blessed Pentecost.  
*Pastor Bob*



*Celebrate  
Pentecost*

**May 28**

## New Member Class Information

*Sunday, May 21, 2-5 p.m.*

If you are interested in exploring membership at First Presbyterian Church, we invite you to attend the New Members Class. This will be an opportunity for you to learn about our church and a chance for you to ask questions. At the end of the meeting, you will be invited to join the church if you want to. Childcare will be provided if requested. Please RSVP for the class to [churchoffice@firstprescheyenne.org](mailto:churchoffice@firstprescheyenne.org) or call the church office at 307-638-3345.

## Extended Communion Table

Extended Table for May will be donated underwear. Undies Sunday will be on May 7. We are requesting unopened new packages of underwear in any size and gender. Place them in the gray bin on the Carey Street side entrance to the church. Thank you in advance for your participation and generosity. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Belinda Smith, Deacons Local Mission Chairperson, 307-421-4896.

**May 14**



## Welcome Confirmands!

The Church was blessed to receive confirmands Brennan Lamm and Peyton Jim Westby during the second service on April 23, 2023. Many members will recall these two young men growing up in our church. Now, Brennan is an East High School freshman. He is very fond of sports, including football, wrestling, and track. His dad is Jeff Lamm, and he is the youngest of four children born to Jeff and the late Laurie Lamm, also members of First Presbyterian.

Peyton also attends East High School, where he is a sophomore. He wrestles, plays both football and baseball, and loves to travel around Wyoming competing in sports. His parents are First Presbyterian Church members Brad Westby and Laura Westby.

Both recently completed the confirmation class under the direction of Pastor Bob Thomson and Ashley Braisted. We are thankful for the confirmand's mentors, Steve Carver and Jim Woodard. Welcome, confirmands Brennan and Peyton!



## First Presbyterian Recognized

The local Historic Preservation Board and the City of Cheyenne have selected First Presbyterian Church for the LeClerc Jones award for historic preservation. The award will be presented on Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:00. During the award ceremony, Richard Johnson, Council President, will read a proclamation naming April as Historic Preservation month. The church will also be presented the LeClerc Jones award at this time. Following the presentation, there will be a reception in the new Fellowship Hall. Tours of the church renovation will also be available. The restoration of the church parlor and library will be highlighted on the tours. The congregation is encouraged to attend the presentation on May 6th.

The Historic Preservation Board recognized the work the church did during the renovation to preserve the looks of the original building while adding to the building in a way that complimented the original structure. Using limestone from the original quarry in Indiana, some of the design elements of the original building were also incorporated into the new addition stonework. In making the selection, the Historic Preservation Board looks for exceptional historic preservation efforts through restoration and or

maintenance of the structure.

The church worked with The Design Studio, Inc on the project and is pleased with the design of the new addition. Architect Amber Conwell, working with the Capital Building Committee, used input from the congregation on a design that compliments the existing building. The new façade and entrance does that well. The church is honored to receive the LeClerc Jones award honoring its efforts during the renovation project.



*Dates to Remember*

## Day Of Giving 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Cheyenne Day of Giving May 12 and 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Youth Event May 11

This congregation has been behind Day of Giving efforts since the blood and bone marrow registration drive in 2005, the event which turned out to be the precursor to Day of Giving in 2006. Eighteen years later, here I am to ask one thing of every member of our congregation: Choose one of the many ways to give and, on May 11 for the Youth Event after school or May 12 for the all-day event, come out to the Kiwanis Community House in Lions Park and give in that way.

Whether you bring food and personal care items, drop off medical supplies, give blood, donate extra craft supplies, or bring out a couple of packages of new underwear, you will be reaching out to help our neighbors who are sick or in dire financial straits. We really are 'walking the talk' of our faith and giving area agencies a huge infusion of donations that will help carry them through the summer when supplies tend to run low.

The big news this year is that we are partnering with the Fresh Start Program at Habitat for Humanity to help the clients at four of the agencies we support when they can finally move into an unfurnished apartment – but have no money to outfit it. We are asking donors to drop off furniture, housewares, kitchen items, and other items that can help furnish such an apartment. Habitat for Humanity will take these items to their ReStore. Clients at area agencies will receive vouchers for \$250 and then use that 'money' to shop for the necessities, maybe a table and chairs, a sofa, a chest of drawers, a lamp and some pots, pans, and dishes, for example. (Habitat for Humanity cannot accept bedding, mattresses, pillows, and sleeper sofas.)

Thanks to our wonderful congregation for all the ways you have helped Day of Giving grow over the years! I hope to see you at the Kiwanis Community House on May 11 or 12!

*Greta Morrow, Day of Giving Board*





## Pentecost Offering

**May 28**

*Celebrating the Power  
of the Holy Spirit*

As the memory of Easter Sunday and our celebration of Jesus' resurrection is still fresh in our minds, we approach Pentecost, the celebration of the descent of the Holy Spirit on the disciples and thus the beginning of global mission work. It is fitting that in our celebration of the new world and the Holy Spirit among us, we dedicate this offering to helping youth.

We will send 60% of our offering to PC(USA) to be used in their youth programs. They will work toward lowering the drop-out rate among at-risk youth, growing early childhood education programs, helping with Triennium, which our youth have attended several times, and encouraging participation in the Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) Program, among numerous other efforts. The remaining 40% of this offering will stay in our area and go toward improving life for at-risk youth in our area.

Mission Ministry asks that you give prayerful consideration to including the Pentecost Offering on your list of church efforts you choose to support. Remember that Mission Ministry will match the congregation total donation up to \$2,000, so we have the potential to impact numerous lives with this offering. Be sure to use the special Pentecost Offering envelope in your offering box or the special pew envelope and write "Pentecost Offering" on the memo line of your check. We appreciate your help!



We will be cooking dinner and serving at The Comea Shelter on Tuesday the 9th of May. I will have a sign-up sheet available two Sundays prior. We

need 2-3 people at 1:30 pm to cook, and 5-7 people to serve at 5:30 PM. Contact Belinda Smith, Deacons Local Mission Chair, with questions: [beleajeane2@gmail.com](mailto:beleajeane2@gmail.com) or call 307-421-4896.



Visit our  
Library

"What To Say When We Pray," by Dr. Robert E. Palmer helps us understand the words of The Lord's Prayer and how saying them with meaning can bring new power to our praying and to our spiritual lives. He uses stories and comparisons to extend the explanations in this easy-to-read book.

For a comprehensive coverage of the events in Jesus' life, his teachings, his work, and the meanings behind the final words he gave while on the cross, read "*The Incomparable Christ*," by J. Oswald Sanders. By covering Jesus' entire journey in this way, we gain a different perspective of his life.



## Ends May 7

You may bring unopened packages of new underwear, any size or gender, through Undie Sunday, May 7th. They will be delivered to Day of Giving.

Place them in the gray bin on the Carey Street entrance. Please contact Belinda Smith with any questions.

## Scholarship Committee

The Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the recipients of the General College Scholarship for the upcoming academic year. We have nine members of our church who will be receiving these scholarships and they are: Lena Arntzen, Jarrod Dilly, Cole Finn, Haden Lamm, Danielle Sears, Ava Sutton, Sarah Sutton, Katie Thomson and Sarah Thomson. In addition to the General College Scholarship, Sarah Sutton will also receive the Keith Weigner Memorial Healthcare Scholarship.

As the new Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee, I would like to thank the retiring committee for their many years of commitment and service; Maïda Wedell, Chairman of the Committee for over twenty years, George Barnes, and Linda McGuire who also served faithfully for many years.

## PW Luncheon ~ May 5

All women are encouraged to attend the May 5 Presbyterian Women luncheon. We'll meet in the fellowship hall at noon, \$5 at the door. Be prepared to enjoy a delicious meal catered by Comea! Belinda Smith, who works closely with Comea, discovered they cater and are happy to work with us. A representative will give a short presentation of their work. Our own Julie Anthony will present the program on domestic violence, a subject that she is well aware of. Julie works for the Cheyenne Police Department with victims of violence. She promises to give us ways we can contribute to this cause as well. Our gatherings are always fun with great fellowship, good food, and lively conversation. All are welcome.

Our local Presbyterian Women take the summer off. However, we will have a summer brunch on Saturday, August 12 at 9:30 am. Please mark your calendars!

In September, we begin our monthly circle meetings and quarterly social gatherings. Two groups meet during the day and one in the evening which includes supper. Our study for 2023-2024 is called *Sacred Encounters, the Power of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts*. The study comes with Horizons Magazine, but if you don't subscribe to it, we can order a study magazine for you in May.

For Presbyterian Women information, contact Melinda Brazzale, 307-256-0506.



## First Family Promise Rotation a Success!

We took a big step forward the week of March 26-April 2 when we had our first Family Promise rotation since the COVID pandemic and inaugurated our new Mission Center. Thanks to our volunteers who brought in delicious meals, ate with the families, hosted until 8 p.m., served as overnight hosts, and helped with our laundry. Things went very smoothly. We coordinators could not have covered those jobs without our additional volunteers, and we send a big thank you to each of you!

Including coordinators, we needed 29 volunteers who logged 168 hours for the week. We began with two families and then Family Promise sent one family to a hotel when one of the children became sick. That left us with one family, a mother and her 3-year-old son. They enjoyed their brand-new sleeping room; the kitchen, where they had nice quarters to enjoy dinner and grab a snack anytime; and the commons area, which offers plenty of room for children to play, sometimes with volunteers or coordinators who acted as role models for the mother, who needed some ideas on how to play with her son.

We understand our rotations will be approximately every 10 weeks, so we will likely be hosting again around the first week in July. If you are interested in volunteering for any of the 'jobs' we need to fill, please reach out to one of us at the numbers listed below! We have a dedicated pool of volunteers but need to increase their numbers so as to avoid burnout for anyone. Jobs include dinner-makers for either entrée and vegetable or salad and dessert, dinner host on weekdays from 5-8 p.m., overnight hosts from 8 p.m. until 7 a.m. or earlier if needed, and 3-hour Saturday shifts are for guests who plan to be at the church between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. We will appreciate your help and think you will enjoy being part of our outreach to homeless families with children!

Contact information: Greta Morrow (307-421-3436), Linda Woodard (307-287-4796), or Jim Woodard (307-421-1203).

*-Greta Morrow, Linda and Jim Woodard*

## One Great Hour of Sharing

*Thank You for Donating!*

Mission Ministry is happy to report that as of April 15, the deadline for this newsletter, we received \$2,154 in donations to this year's One Great Hour of Sharing Offering! We will match the grand total received, so we know we will have at least \$4,154 for this offering. PC (USA) will use our donations for disaster assistance,

hunger programs, and self-development of people. . . and we will impact thousands of people around the world! Thank you for your generosity!

*- Mission Ministry*

## Summer Camp

Since 1917, Camp Story has offered Christian summer camps, both day and overnight programs, for elementary, middle, and high school youth. That's more than 100 years of experience in providing dynamic, safe, and meaningful youth programming. When it comes to summer camp, we've got this. It's what we do best.

*Camp Story helps campers:*

Grow in faith and act on their Christian faith.

Build Christ-centered communities.

Learn stewardship for God's Creation.

Develop skills in outdoor living.

Safely experience fun, fellowship, and adventure.

Scholarships are available for qualifying families.

Please contact Alicia Ford at 307-763-0919 or email at [Alicia.campstory@gmail.com](mailto:Alicia.campstory@gmail.com) for more information.

### This VBS is something worth roaring about!

Join us in Babylon, where we'll explore what life was like for Daniel and his friends, captives in a strange land. You'll craft cool projects in the Marketplace, laugh as you play Bible-times games, visit with Daniel, and eat some interesting food. Plus, you'll meet lots of new friends!

Location: First Presbyterian Church

The adventure will last: June 19-22, 2023

Celebration begins at: 9:00am

The day's adventure ends at: 12:30pm with Lunch

For more information, call: Ashley- 638-3345  
Email: ashleyb@firstprescheyenne.org



This event is FREE! Register now online at:  
<https://www.firstprescheyenne.org/>



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## Friendship Mariners

Friendship Mariners' first-ever "silent" auction was a tremendous success as we raised over \$3,000 for our church and community mission projects. From the many unique and wonderful donations and the generous individuals who made purchases, to the delicious food and awesome camaraderie, it was a really fun evening! Thank you all for the outstanding support of this important fundraising event!



**Food, Fun ~  
Conversations,  
Bid Sheets, and  
Donating for a  
Good Cause!**



## Church Fellowship

The Deacons provide a fellowship time following our Sunday worship services and for special events. We have been pleased with the response to the fellowship times in our new space. We are enjoying the coffee, tea and cookies, and sometimes, cake and cupcakes, or even doughnuts! Thank you to everyone for their support of this ministry. We appreciate the cookies you make and serve and the donations we receive each week. Linda Woodard is the Fellowship Chair and is happy to have more volunteers provide treats for fellowship, so watch for sign-up sheets for cookies this summer.



Deacons also provide receptions for funerals and memorial services. It is our honor to remember a family's loved one and to provide a meal for them. Marion Yoder is the chair of the Compassion Committee which coordinates these receptions.

Thank you to all who attended the Easter breakfast and provided food for this great time. It was well received and enjoyed by all. The Deacons have been very busy and I, as the moderator, give my thanks to each of them for their hard work, outreach, and care for our church members and the community.

*Gail Heimback*

## May 2023 Calendar

Date	Day	Time	Event
<b>See weekly meeting dates &amp; times on back page of the newsletter. See below for weekly meeting updates.</b>			
May 1	Monday	5:00 pm	Worship & Music (Library)
		5:30 pm	Christian Ed (Christian Education)
May 2	Tuesday	1:00 pm	Mission Ministry (Library)
		7:00 pm	Boy Scout OA (Stage Room)
		7:00 pm	Bible Study – Casket Empty (Fellowship Hall)
May 3	Wednesday	6:00 pm	Friendship Mariner's (Fellowship Hall)
May 5	Friday	12:00 pm	PW Luncheon (Fellowship Hall)
May 6	Saturday	10:00 am	Hearts and Hands (Fellowship Hall)
		1:00 pm	LeCerque Award
May 7	Sunday		See Worship Schedule
			<b>End Undies Sunday / Special Music: Bell Choir</b>
May 8	Monday	1:30 pm	Building & Grounds (Library)
		5:30 pm	New Life (Library)
		5:30 pm	Moms2Mom (Christian Ed)
May 9	Tuesday		<b>Cook and Serve Comea House</b>
		1:00 pm	Personnel (Library)
		7:00 pm	Bible Study – Casket Empty (Fellowship Hall)
May 10	Wednesday	2:00 pm	Finance (Library)
May 11	Thursday	5:30 pm	Sarah Circle (Fellowship Hall)
May 12	Friday		<b>Day of Giving</b>
May 13	Saturday	10:00 am	Men on a Mission (Fellowship Hall)
May 14	Sunday		See Worship Schedule / Spec'l Music: Bell Ensemble
			<b>Sr. Grads / Mother's Day</b>
May 15	Monday		<b>June **AND** July Newsletter Deadline</b>
		10:00 am	Genealogy (Family History Center)
		7:00 pm	Session (Fellowship Hall)
May 16	Tuesday	7:00 pm	Boy Scouts OA (Stage Room)
		7:00 pm	Bible Study – Casket Empty (Fellowship Hall)
May 18	Thursday	9:30 am	Coloring & Caring (Fellowship Hall)
May 19	Friday	11:30 pm	Ruth Circle (Epic Egg/Library)
May 20	Saturday	10:00 am	Stitch by Stitch (Fellowship Hall)
May 21	Sunday		See Worship Schedule / Special Music: 1 <sup>st</sup> Five
			<b>Youth Sunday / Teacher Recognition</b>
		2:00 pm	-5 p.m. New Member Class
May 22	Monday	1:00 pm	Rebecca Circle (Library)
		6:30 pm	Local Missions (Fellowship Hall)
		7:00 pm	Deacons (Fellowship Hall)
May 23	Tuesday	7:00 pm	Bible Study – Casket Empty (Fellowship Hall)
May 24	Wednesday	9:30 am	Walk, Pray, Love (Library)
May 28	Sunday		See Worship Schedule
May 29	Monday		<b>Office Closed for Memorial Day</b>



*Dear Church Family,*

I am truly grateful for all of the kind words, prayers, and support as my doctors work towards a diagnosis of my health situation! I know that God has this!

*Thank you sincerely!  
Mary Lou McMIndes*

*Dear Presbyterian Church:*

Thank you so much for the bag of candy you brought me. It is really nice to be remembered! Eleanor is such a blessing to bring me bulletins and recordings each week. I do enjoy your service and feel like I am a part of God's family.

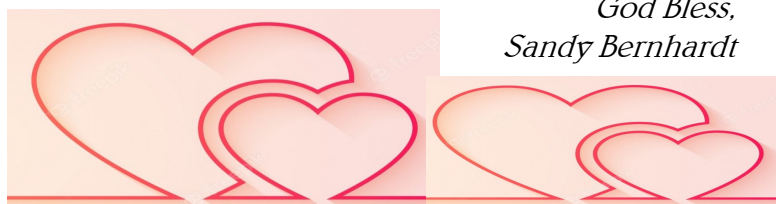
*Sincerely,  
Sarah Wacker*

*thank you*  
from the bottom of my 

*Dear Church Family,*

Thank you so much for the outpouring of love and support following my recent hospital stay. I appreciate the gift from the Caring and Coloring group, the get well cards, texts, and phone calls, as well as the delicious Easter treats delivered to my door. I have also enjoyed the devotional and beautiful bookmark. Thank you for keeping me in your thoughts and prayers.

*God Bless,  
Sandy Bernhardt*



**May 10 ~ Last Day for Children's Choir and Chimes Rehearsals**

**May 14 ~ Sr. Grads & Mother's Day**

**Youth Sunday**

**May 21 ~ 10 a.m. Service**

**Teacher Recognition, New Member Class,**

**Last Day for Childrens and Adult Sunday School**



Meryl Adams  
Nadine Amen  
James Anderson  
Guy 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

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

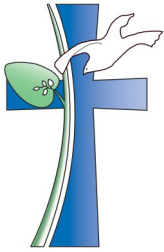
Mary Lou McMIndes  
Tom Milholland &  
Children  
Kathy Lee Montgomery  
Tom Muhlbach  
Kari Murdoch  
Stephanie Oakland  
Kim Olson  
Susan Payne  
Dale & Aurthur Petersen  
Diane Peterson  
Catherine Pacheko  
Amanda Pierce  
Paula Qualls  
Carol Rieser  
Frank & Belinda Serrano  
Del Shortliffe  
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 Valdon  
Javen Westby  
Allen White  
Lexie White  
Brenda Williams  
Jennifer Wulf



*Prayers for Guy Beardsley for the passing of his beloved wife, LaVonne. They were married 72 years.*

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

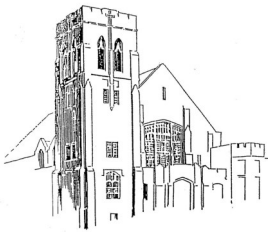


# First Presbyterian Church

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## CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



5/2023




### WORSHIP MATERIALS

*are accessed on the first page of our website:  
[firstprescheyenne.org](http://firstprescheyenne.org)*

### LIVE-STREAMED WORSHIP SERVICES

*are accessed on the first page of our website:  
[firstprescheyenne.org](http://firstprescheyenne.org) and on our YouTube channel.*



### Weekly Meetings

***Mondays:***  
6:00 pm Boy Scouts #116 (A. Cntr) (3<sup>rd</sup> Mon.-Stage Rm.)

***Tuesdays:***  
9:30 am Staff Meeting (Library)  
5:15 pm Chancel Choir (*through May 9th*)

***Wednesdays:***  
4:00-5:00 pm Children's Chimes & Choir (*thru May 10th*)  
5:30-7:00 pm Bell Ensemble (*through April 19th*)  
Bell Quartet (*through April 26th*)  
Bell Choir (*through May 3rd*)

***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) (*ends May 21st*)  
9:30 am Nursery  
10:00 am Worship – Sanctuary and Live Stream  
10:00 am -11:15 Children's Sun. School (*ends May 21st*)  
11:00 am Fellowship  
TBD Youth Group