

# NEWS from the PEWS

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ~ CHEYENNE, WYOMING

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**September 2023**

**www.firstprescheyenne.org**  
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## *Introducing Our* **New General Presbyter,** **Rev. Jeromey Howard**

*(Edited from the Presbytery of Wyoming newsletter)*



We are excited and blessed to introduce Jeromey Howard as our new General Presbyter for the Presbytery of Wyoming! Jeromey grew up in Oklahoma and graduated from Oklahoma State University. Jeromey then

served in the US Air Force for 7 years where he had a distinguished career.

While stationed at Warren Air Force Base, he became active as a member of First Presbyterian Church and felt a call to ministry. He eventually came under the care of the Presbytery of Wyoming.

He attended Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, GA. Jeromey was the Theological Student Advisory Delegate to the General Assembly in 2014 on behalf of Columbia Theological Seminary.

After graduating from Columbia, he served as a solo pastor in Richmond, MO, for two years, before moving to rural New York where he has been serving two small congregations.

Jeromey brings a strong background in leadership abilities and experience and has a pastoral heart for congregational and Presbyterian life. He has served extensively in his former and current presbyteries; Committee on Ministry, Church Order and Listening Committee Chair, and Congregational Communications Committee. Jeromey also serves our denomination as a member of the Mission Agency Board and the Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy. In New York, Jeromey also volunteered as a chaplain/firefighter with his local fire department.

Jeromey wrote, "I want to take a moment to extend my deep gratitude, honor, and excitement about being called to be the next General Presbyter for the Presbytery of Wyoming...I know that I have a lot to learn about from each and every one of you and I look forward to that. I know the realities of the church bring with it moments of great joy and fulfillment...and some

challenges and disappointments. I hope to hear about them all! If anyone ever wants to have conversations or for me to visit (remember...I love to roll my sleeves up and work) please let me know. My dedicated work cell phone will be 307-333-3828 and my email will be jeromey@presbywy.org."

Jeromey loves Wyoming. His wife, Kirsten, is from Great Falls, Montana and they have two young children: Zoe (10) and Seamus (2). Jeromey enjoys fishing, golf, and reading. They have moved to Casper and Jeromey will begin his work as the General Presbyter, on September 1, 2023.

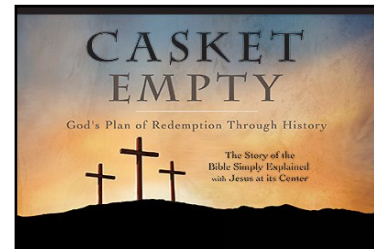
## **Fall Bible Study**

**Tuesday evenings: Oct 3-Nov.7, 7 PM**

### ***God's Redemption Story Through Jesus***

Three 6-week Bible Study Series  
telling God's redeeming work.

*You may join in-person or online.*



**Casket Empty** - The Tomb is Empty. A comprehensive overview of the New Testament, discovering God's Plan of Redemption through History. This will be a Bible Study completed in a series of classes covering 14 weeks. The first class begins on Oct. 3. Sign-up and purchase of the Study Material will be available on the Greeters Table beginning Sept. 3. Focus will be on the New Testament.

*All sessions will be held on Tuesdays at 7 p.m.*

### **Session 1**

**October**  
3, 10, 17, & 24

**November**  
7

### **Session 2**

**January 2024**  
9, 16, 23, & 30

**February**  
6

### **Session 3**

**April 2024**  
16, 23, & 30

**May**  
7

## Special Offerings: Spreading God's Love Around the World!

- Mission Ministry



Mission Ministry has two messages for you this month: First, we thank you for your generous gifts to the Pentecost Offering on June 5; and second, we hope you will consider

a gift to the Peace and Global Witness Offering on October 1. In each case, we are addressing very real needs in our area and around the world.

**Pentecost Offering:** As of the deadline for this newsletter, we have received \$1,751 for this offering, which, in general, goes toward helping children. When we match the amount you gave with Irmgard Meyer's money, we have \$3502, so we will send 40%, \$1400.80, to Boys & Girls Club here in Cheyenne and the remaining 60%, \$2101.20, to PC(USA) to help children around the world. This result is a great example of what can happen when we combine our resources, each of us giving what we can. Thank you for your help!

**Peace and Global Witness Offering:** On October 1, we will observe World Communion Sunday, and, as is very fitting for this time, take up the offering which reminds us that we are called to work for God's peace in the world and to 'walk the talk' of our faith whenever possible. This time, we will donate 25% of the offering to a local effort, send 25% to Presbytery for similar work in our region, and forward the remaining 50% to the Presbyterian Mission Agency to advocate for peace and fair treatment of all. Let us pray that this offering will bring help and healing in our area as well as around the world.

As always, our church will match the total we donate, so every dollar you donate will be doubled, up to a total of \$2,000 for the congregation. In other words, your donations could help us provide up to \$500 to a local effort like last year when we donated to Family Promise and Unaccompanied Students Initiative. Presbytery will help with similar efforts in other parts of the state, and worldwide, we could be helping to stop such heinous acts as human trafficking. In other words, right here in Cheyenne, Wyoming, we have the power to make life better for others!



## Mission *POSSIBLE*

- Living Water, John 4:10, "Agua Viva"

Since 2006, over 70 of our congregation members (and two pastors!) have brought the message of "living water" and developing safe drinking water in needy countries with Living Water International (<https://water.cc>). In September 2022, eight of us traveled to the western Dominican Republic and repaired supply systems in the villages of Los Arroyos and Clavellina.

The Mission Ministry is looking to sponsor women and men for a 2024 trip who are able, have a passport, and who want to assist those struggling with inadequate water supplies and hygiene.

Living Water International has just released their destinations calendar for 2024. Central America trips are on for Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Mexico, and Dominican Republic/Haiti (Caribbean). If you are interested in this real mission-for-God opportunity, contact Kevin Boyce at [kboyce444wy@gmail.com](mailto:kboyce444wy@gmail.com) or 630-7607 for details and organizational meetings.

## DEACONS

*Following to Lead | Leading to Serve*



Deacons will be cooking dinner and serving at Comea Shelter on 12 September. We'll need 2-3 cooks at 1:30 pm and 6-7 servers at 5:30. A sign-up sheet will be in the Fellowship Hall two Sundays prior. Or contact Belinda Smith at 307-421-4896.



Deacons will be partnering with Volunteers of America by providing two types of soup for a fund raising event, Empty Bowl, on 21 September at the Kiwanis House from 5-6:30 pm. Funds raised will be used to provide for those in need in our community. Tickets are: family \$30, adults \$15, children over 5 \$5, under 5 are free. Please join us and support this event. For more information please contact Belinda Smith, 307-421-4896.



Our Extended Table will be 3 September and the donated items will go to Family Promise. They need diapers, wipes and laundry detergent.

Thanks for all of your support, the Deacons could not do our local mission work without you and your generosity.

*Belinda Smith,*

*Deacons Local Mission Chairperson*

## Should We Force Our Children to Go to Church?

Force is such a strong word, isn't it? When I think of force, in the Biblical sense, I automatically think of Samson, who stood between two pillars and pushed an entire building down!

In the parenting sense, of course, we would much rather build our kids up than tear them down. That is why I'd rather refer to forcing our kids to do something as lovingly requiring them to do things that are best for them. And that includes going to church.

Think about it this way: We require our kids to go to school so they can learn and expand their knowledge. We require them to brush their teeth, so they won't get cavities. We require them to be respectful in hopes they will grow up to be respectable members of society. So, why wouldn't we require them to go to church? No matter what our kids' ages or stages, it's important for them to attend church with the family.

When our kids question the importance of going to church, we can offer an explanation similar to this Crosswalk Devotional entitled, "Take Your Child to Church." In it, the author says, "Life isn't lived in isolation. A church provides a bigger family, a group of people to care about and who care for you."

In essence, church provides a connectedness that other groups cannot. Sport's teams and after-school clubs are educational and fun, but they don't provide the deeper heart-connections the church provides. Not only do we want our kids to connect with the family of God, we want them to connect with Jesus, Himself!

I am so excited for all the fun and new events we have planned for the next YEAR! I hope you and your

children will find time to attend! "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6

*Blessings,  
Ashley Braisted*

*Children's and Youth Ministry Director*



Ted Foote and Alex Thornburg discuss what the church does or should do to fit into today's culture in *Being Disciples of Jesus in a Dot.com World*. The subtitle is "A Theological Survival Guide for Youth, Adults, and Other Confused Christians." The authors ask what challenges our churches face today and how we can be in the world but not of it, as Jesus said. They want the reader to question

whether there are moral or other situations in our society that the church accepts but should instead be challenging or resisting. They then cover in-depth four "essential indicators" of discipleship that come from God's gift of grace: humility, gratitude, community, and courage.

*Chicken Soup for the Soul: A Book of Miracles* is another in the series of inspirational books, by Jack Canfield, Mark Hansen, and LeAnn Thieman. The true stories cover healing, faith, and answered prayers.

## Church Book Club

The Church Book Club will meet on Thursday, September 21 at 4 PM in the Church Library. The Church Book Club meets quarterly. We will be discussing *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* by Rachel Joyce. Everyone is welcome to join the discussion. We will offer a Zoom link for those unable to attend in person. For further information, please call Phyllis O'Connor at 307-630-3997.



*Please join us for*

**WELCOME BACK SUNDAY**

**SEPT. 10**

*Help Us Kick Off Our New Program Year!*

***All Are Welcome!***

**Worship Service**

**10:00 a.m. only**

**Lunch**

**11:30 a.m.**

Served in the  
Fellowship Hall



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**Children's Activities**

**11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

**(bounce house, games, treats and more!)**



Please invite your family, friends,  
and neighbors to join us to  
enjoy worship, lunch, and fellowship!

## September 2023 Calendar

Date	Day	Time	Event
<b>Weekly</b>	<b>Weekly</b>		
	<b>Mondays</b>	<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Boy Scouts Troop 116 (Activity Center) (Not 9/4)</b>
	<b>Tuesdays</b>	<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Staff Meeting (Library)</b>
	<b>Wednesdays</b>	<b>5:15 pm</b>	<b>Chancel Choir Rehearsals</b>
		<b>5:15 pm</b>	<b>Nominating Committee (Library)</b>
		<b>4:00 pm</b>	<b>-5 Children's Choir &amp; Chimes Rehearsals</b>
		<b>5:30 pm</b>	<b>-7 Bell Choirs Rehearsals</b>
	<b>Thursdays</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>APNC (Library)</b>
<i>See specific date for any weekly updates:</i>			
<b>WORSHIP</b>	<b>Sundays</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>Worship – Chapel / Fellowship</b>
		<b>8:45 am</b>	<b>Adult Sunday School (Starts Sept. 10)</b>
		<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Nursery</b>
		<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Worship – Sanctuary and Live Stream</b>
		<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Children's Church (Sept. 3 only)</b>
		<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Children's Sunday School (Starts Sept. 10)</b>
		<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Fellowship</b>
		<b>TBD</b>	<b>Youth Group</b>
September 2	Saturday	10:00 am	Hearts & Hands (Fellowship Hall)
September 3	Sunday		<i>See Worship Schedule Above</i>
September 4	Monday		<b><i>Office Closed for Labor Day</i></b>
		5:30 pm	Christian Ed (Christian Ed)
September 5	Tuesday	1:00 pm	Mission Ministry (Library)
September 9	Saturday	10:00 am	Men on a Mission (Fellowship Hall)
September 10	Sunday		<b><i>Welcome Back Sunday – One Service 10:00 AM</i></b>
			<i>See Worship Schedule Above</i>
		11:30 am	Lunch Served in the Fellowship Hall
		11:30 am	-1 pm Children's Activities (Bounce House, Games, & Treats)
September 11	Monday	1:30 pm	Building & Grounds (Fellowship Hall)
		5:15 pm	Worship and Music (Fellowship Hall)
		5:30 pm	New Life (Library)
		5:30 pm	Moms2Mom (Christian Ed)
September 12	Tuesday		<b><i>Outreach - Comea Cook &amp; Serve</i></b>
		1:00 pm	Personnel (Library)
September 13	Wednesday	2:00 pm	Finance (Library)
September 14	Thursday	5:30 pm	Sarah Circle (Fellowship Hall)
September 15	Friday		<b><i>October Newsletter Deadline</i></b>
		1:00 pm	Ruth Circle (Library)
September 16	Saturday	10:00 am	Stitch by Stitch (Fellowship Hall)
September 17	Sunday		<i>See Worship Schedule Above</i>
		Noon	Friendship Mariners (Fellowship Hall)
September 18	Monday	10:00 am	Genealogy (Family History Center)
		7:00 pm	Session (Fellowship Hall)

## September 2023 Calendar

Date	Day	Time	Event
September 21	Thursday	9:30 am	Coloring and Caring (Fellowship Hall)
September 22	Friday	1:00 pm	PW Presbytery Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
September 23	Saturday	8:00 am	-Noon PW Presbytery Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
September 24	Sunday		See Worship Schedule on Previous Page
September 25	Monday	1:00 pm	Rebecca Circle (Library)
		6:30 pm	Local Missions (Fellowship Hall)
		7:00 pm	Deacons (Fellowship Hall)
September 26	Tuesday	1:30 p.m.	PW Coordinating Team Meeting (Library)
September 27	Wednesday	9:30 am	Walk, Pray, Love (Library)



thank you

I would like to thank all of the loving members for the prayers, phone calls, and cards during my recovery from my double-knee replacement surgery. I am very blessed to have so many wonderful church friends. God Bless all of you.

Marlene Sidwell

Dear Pastor Bob & My Church Family:

Thank you to all of you who helped in the service for my son, Darrin Harris, and thank you for your prayers, cards, and love you have been to me.

Charlene Randolph



Prayers for the family of Margie Pepper, and John Brown for the passing of his father, John Brown, and Julie Anthony for the passing of her father, Marshall Jenkins.

Meryl Adams  
Nadine Amen  
James Anderson  
Max Arrowsmith  
Guy Beardsley  
Gail Blackwell  
Dr. Richard Brown  
Minnie Bunley  
Chuck Burke  
Rose Burrows  
Olivia Campbell  
Rachel Campbell  
Debbie Confortini  
Gina Courtade  
Karen Denniston  
Donna DiNino  
Robert Drummond

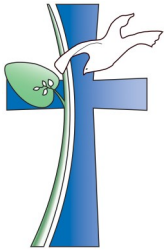
Kevin Gallagher  
Adam George  
Melissa Giles  
Lyle Ginter  
Patricia Goss  
Carmen Grubbs  
Patricia Hamil  
Tamielka Hamm  
Hart Family  
Patricia Hawke  
Geraldine Hayes  
Sherry Hayes  
Gail Heimback  
Ray Hernandez  
Jamie Herrera  
Jessica Jessen  
Jim Keen  
Debbie Lenhart  
William Loftus  
Pat McDaniel

Linda McGuire  
Mary Lou McMinds  
Tom Milholland &  
Children  
Kathy Lee Montgomery  
Tom Muhlback  
Kari Murdoch  
Stephanie Oakland  
Kim Olson  
Susan Payne  
Dale & Aurther Petersen  
Catherine Pacheko  
Amanda Pierce  
Dorothy Pontillo  
Paula Qualls  
Carol Rieser  
Frank & Belinda Serrano  
Del Shortliffe  
Don Skoumal  
Darlene Smith

Jeannie Smith  
Karen Smith  
Marilyn St. John  
Don Stang  
Diana Stevens  
Paula Stevens  
Carol Ann Strader  
Mary Tolle  
Larry Twidwell  
Dorothy Tyrell  
Georgia Valdon  
Javen Westby  
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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Website: [www.firstprescheyenne.org](http://www.firstprescheyenne.org)  
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9/2023



## 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.*



Adult Sunday School  
will resume classes  
Sunday, Sept. 10  
at 8:45 a.m.



will resume classes  
Sunday, Sept. 10  
10-11:15 a.m.

# *Welcome Back Sunday*

## September 10

### Free Lunch ~ Activities and Games

## Help Us Kick Off a New Program Year!

