

# NEWS FROM THE PEWS

News of the First Presbyterian Church ~ Cheyenne, WY

February 2015

Rev. Elizabeth Wilson  
firstprespastor@qwestoffice.net

Website: www.firstprescheyenne.org  
Email: firstpresbyteri5@qwestoffice.net

Rev. Diana Hartman  
firstpresap@qwestoffice.net

## Table of Contents

Worship Calendar.....	1
Rev. Wilson .....	1
Undie Sunday. ....	2
Small Groups.....	2-3
Notes and Church News .....	3
Thank You .....	3
Women of FPC .....	3
2015 Newsletter Deadlines.....	4
In Our Library .....	4
Christian Education.....	4-5
Deacon's Beacon .....	5
February 2015 Calendar .....	6-7



This past week, I have been thinking a lot about the word "joy." I had always thought joy synonymous with happiness, but it seems now to be far less vulnerable than happiness. Joy seems to be a part of an unconditional wish to live, not holding back because life may not meet our preferences and expectations. Joy seems to be the function of the willingness to accept the whole, and to show up to meet whatever is there. It has a kind of invincibility that attachment to any particular outcome would deny us. It is like a warrior who does not fight toward a specific outcome and therefore is never haunted by failure and disappointment. It is the lover drunk with the opportunity to love despite the possibility of loss. Joy is like the player for whom playing has become more important than winning or losing.

The willingness to win or lose moves us out of an adversarial relationship to life and moves us into a powerful kind of openness. From this position, we can make a greater commitment to life. Joy seems more closely related to aliveness than to happiness. Joy is being alive, truly alive.

Each of us is born with an unencumbered spot. This spot is free of expectation and regret, free of ambition and embarrassment, free of fear and worry. This is an umbilical spot of grace, a spot where we were first touched by God. It is this spot of grace that issues peace. Jesus calls this the center of our love. To know this spot of inwardness is to know who we are. We are not identified by the surface markers of where we work or what we are. We feel our place in relation to God and by inhabiting it. During the next few weeks, let's ask ourselves, who are we as friends and members of First Presbyterian Church? Are we filled with joy? How is the Lord leading and guiding us? May we listen with open ears to what God is calling us to do. "May we love the Lord with all our heart and with all our mind and with all our soul and our neighbor as our self." And may we do it joyfully. Happy New Year!

Peace and Blessings,  
Pastor Beth

## Worship Calendar

**February 1, 2015** - Communion Sunday  
Worship Theme: "One Who Is Called"  
Scriptures: Deuteronomy 18: 15-20;  
Mark 1: 21-28

**February 8, 2015**  
Worship Theme: "The Healing Effect"  
Scriptures: Isaiah 40: 21-31; Mark 1: 29-39



**February 14, 2015**

**February 15, 2015**  
Worship Theme: "Dazzled"  
Scriptures: 2 Kings 2: 1-12; Mark 9: 2-9

**February 18, 2015**  
**Ash Wednesday Service - 7:00 p.m.**  
Scriptures: Isaiah 58: 1-15;  
Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21

**February 22, 2015**  
Worship Theme: "Out in the Wilderness"  
Scriptures: Genesis 9: 8-17; Mark 1: 9-15

**MARCH 8 IS UNDIE SUNDAY!**

- CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS FOR DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME
- CHANGE YOUR SMOKE ALARM BATTERIES
- BRING A CHANGE OF UNDERWEAR TO CHURCH

Greta Morrow, Day of Giving Board

Remember our Undie Sunday drive last year? It was an amazing effort that resulted in Day of Giving receiving a total of 755 pieces of new underwear from our church. We were part of the magic that happened when 19 congregations had Undie Sundays and Day of Giving ended up with over 6,660 pieces donated, all split up according to the wish lists of Boys & Girls Club, Interfaith Family Support Services, Magic City, Needs, Safehouse, Salvation Army, and Wyoming Coalition for the Homeless. This is the kind of result that proves the truth of the Day of Giving motto, "Together we can do so much"!

Let's do that again! Undie Sunday is scheduled for Daylight Savings Sunday again this year, so when you "spring forward," remember it's time to "spring" for a package of new underwear to bring to church and drop off at the display in the parlor. Bring a donation to help anyone you choose, baby to senior citizen, either gender, any size. Last year, we received not only things like panties, briefs, and boxer shorts, but also t-shirts, socks, bras, diapers. . .all very welcome and a godsend to people in need. You decide what you would like to donate.

The impetus behind Undie Sunday is the very harsh reality that for people who have difficulty affording food, hygiene items, which are not covered by food stamps, are a real stretch. Therefore, underwear is often a luxury that is simply beyond reach. Over the years, Day of Giving has purchased thousands of dollars' worth of hygiene items and underwear for local agencies to pass on to their clients, but those purchases cannot begin to do what all of us working together can do – bring much needed help to what last year was likely over a thousand people in need.

Undie Sunday will be a good way to lead into the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Cheyenne Day of Giving exactly two months later, on May 8. I hope you will join Day of Giving for both!

**SMALL GROUP MINISTRY IN 2015**

The Small Group Ministry is beginning the new year by adding to its numbers. Find the group(s) below in which you are interested. Contact the leader. Get started! These groups are available for members and non-members, so invite your friends. If you would like to lead a small group, contact Rev. Diana Hartman at 638-3345 or [firstpresap@qwestoffice.net](mailto:firstpresap@qwestoffice.net).

**Finding Your Roots****Leader: Kay Barnes**

This genealogy small group meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 1 p.m. in the Library. We are watching a DVD series of genealogy lectures prepared by The Teaching Company and sharing successes and problems we encounter as we search for information on our ancestors. You do not need to be actively searching for information in order to learn from the DVD series. Newcomers are always welcome. For more information contact Kay Barnes 778-7445.

**Hearts and Hands****Leaders: Deanna Dyekman, Kay Barnes, and Belinda Smith**

This small group has three purposes: to enjoy fellowship as we 1) teach beginners basic knitting and crocheting techniques, 2) share and learn more advanced patterns from each other, and 3) possibly pursue other forms of needlework of interest in the future. We will hold a planning meeting on Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. in the Parlor to determine exactly when and how often we meet. Currently the plan is to meet at 10 a.m. on the first Saturday of the month and at 7 p.m. of the third Thursday of the month. You are welcome to attend either or both meetings. Come and join in the fun! For more information contact Kay Barnes 778-7445.

**Ha Yesod: Jewish Foundations of Christianity****Leader: Diana Hartman**

Ha Yesod is the Hebrew word for "the foundation." This Bible study is about the Jewish foundation of Christianity. We will learn about our connection with the Land, the People, and the Scriptures of Israel. Learning about the Jewishness of Jesus and the Jewish origin of Christianity can be a life-changing experience. We will meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:30 – 8:30 pm. The cost is \$35 for the student workbook. Please contact Rev. Diana Hartman for more information 638-3345 or [firstpresap@qwestoffice.net](mailto:firstpresap@qwestoffice.net).

**Men on a Mission****Leaders: Marty Sears and Jory Kaufman**

No, this is not the next mega-game coming out for PlayStation or X-Box. The men of the First Presbyterian Church started "Men on a Mission" with the inaugural

meeting in November of 2014. We meet the **second Saturday** of each month for breakfast at **8:00am**. Meetings are at the church in either the parlor, or downstairs in fellowship hall. We have plans for service to our church and members, and ideas to serve our church and community are welcome. Please come and enjoy the fellowship at our breakfast, and a chance to roll up your sleeves in the spirit of service to our Lord. If you've ever heard the saying, "getting in on the ground floor", this is your opportunity.

### Walk, Pray, Love

#### Leader: Phyllis O'Connor

Come join us for a short walk, indoors or outdoors depending on the weather. A devotional and fellowship follow. We meet once a month on the fourth Wednesday of the month. Contact Phyllis for additional information 630-3997.

### Christian Book Club

#### Leader: Eric Wedell

We will meet on January 29 at 7pm in the church library, and again in March and May. This is a "religious book club." We will alternate between books suggested by our pastors and books suggested by the group members. Contact Eric Wedell at 635-1983.

### Mothers of Preschoolers and Moms Next

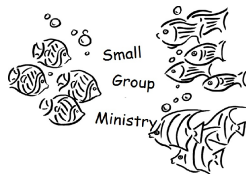
#### Leaders: Kim Shank and Jennifer Davis

Mothers of Preschoolers along with their children meet to enjoy dinner, fellowship, and a Christian program. Children eat, play, and are readied for bed by excellent child care volunteers while the mothers enjoy the program and dinner in the church Parlor. We meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month at 5:30pm in the church Parlor. Contact Kim at 222-8251.

### Mind Games: The Power of Optimism

#### Leader: Jim Woodard

Are we racing against ourselves each day to get "it" all done as a spouse, an employee, a parent, a friend, a mentor, a leader, a student, a coworker, etc.? Grab a sack lunch or your favorite drink and head on over to First Pres. to join others for a mid-week moment to reflect on our busy lives as Christians. No book necessary. We will be pulling from multi-media sources and ourselves for our discussions. Come on the second and fourth Wednesdays of February, March, and April at noon and leave at 1:00 if you need to, or stay longer if you can. Be prepared to laugh and pray and maybe respond in a new way. Contact Jim at 635-3479.



**THANK YOU!**  
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!



Thank you to my church family for your prayers in regards to my back surgery. I am doing well. The pain is gone and I am so thankful. Thanks also to Rev. Wilson and Patsy Dyekman for their visit and flowers. I enjoyed the time with them. Dana Skoumal

Dear Members of FPC,

Thanks for the beautiful flowers delivered to me. The whole room came alive with love and color. Sorry I was not home to greet the couple who brought them.

Lorene Schrader

## Women of First Presbyterian Church

The Valentine's Day Luncheon for Presbyterian Women will be Friday, February 6th in the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor CE bldg. Our speaker will be Pastor Beth Wilson, who will be sharing her faith journey. This is your chance to ask her questions also – perhaps about South Carolina. All women of the church and friends are invited to come and join us for fellowship, food, and inspiration.

### Stitch by Stitch

Feb. 21 – Tying Blankets. This will be the regular sewing day with flannel blankets and quilts to tie. Come to the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor CE Bldg. at 10am for work, coffee and fun.

### Special Stitch

Feb. 28 – Special stitching at 10am at the church. We will make the flannel baby layettes for Africa for our Mission project. Since we make these in assembly line fashion, you only have to do the kinds of things you feel comfortable with – cutting fabric, sewing simple seams or hems, or ironing. If you have a portable sewing machine, we would appreciate your bringing it along with an extension cord. If so, please notify Kay Barnes (George.kay.barnes@att.net; 778-7445) or Belinda Smith (421-4896; belajejan@q.com) so they can plan the number of tables needed.



**Mission Workers at FPC**

We will be hosting two of our denomination's mission workers from the Middle East who will be in Cheyenne Feb. 10 and 11. They will lead a discussion regarding current conditions in the region where they work and live, along with how these conditions are impacting PCUSA Partners. Though there is much over which to be deeply concerned, there are also stories of hope to be heard and shared. There are several opportunities to hear them.

Tues. 2/10 at 7pm in the Sanctuary.

Open to the community.

Wed. 2/11 at noon and 1:30 –  
1<sup>st</sup> floor of the CE Bldg.

The noon event on Wed. will be a sack lunch opportunity for people who want to come on their lunch break. However additional sandwiches will also be provided. Then at 1:30 they will shift their focus to Syrian refugees and will speak to the women who have asked specifically how they can help. Both of these times will be more of discussion time and time for questions to be answered.

**2015 Newsletter Deadline Dates**

If you plan to submit newsletter articles, please add the following submission dates to your calendar. Late submissions will be included in the following month's newsletter.

<b><u>Submission Deadline</u></b>	<b><u>Month of Newsletter</u></b>
February 17	March 2015
March 17	April 2015
April 17	May 2015
May 15	June / July 2015
July 17	August 2015
August 17	September 2015
September 17	October 2015
October 19	November 2015
November 17	Dec. 2015 / Jan. 2016

**IN OUR LIBRARY**

Library Committee

- A Turbulent Peace by Ray Waddle - a devotional reflection on each of the Psalms with commentary on what its words and the emotions involved mean for us today.
- Shrewd by Rick Laurence - teaches us what it means to be "shrewd as serpents and innocent as doves" from Jesus' command in Matthew 10:16 and how to develop the shrewdness we need to follow his command.

**Children's Ministry**

God's Big Love

I love God and I want the kids I teach to love Him too. It is important that your kids hear how much God loves them not only at church, but also at home! One aspect of God that brings me comfort is His bigness. Yes, He is small enough to fit inside a child's heart, but large enough to love the entire world. Like many of God's attributes, grasping this one is challenging to anyone — especially a child. Convey the truth about God's ability to love "big" with these three, easy-to-use object lessons. Visual aids make demonstrating these special attributes easier than ever. Tie each object lesson to loving scriptures like John 3:16 or Romans 5:5.

**Daddy Shoes and Baby Shoes:** You'll need two pairs of shoes for this object lesson. Show God's bigness by showing first the baby shoes, keep the big ones hidden. Talk about how small the shoes are and compare them to our hearts. Say, "When we love someone, we think that love is really big. But compared to God's love, our love is very small." Show the second pair of shoes, and say, "These shoes are like God's big love." Place them next to the small shoes, then say, "See how small our love is compared to God's? God's love is so big He can love everyone at one time. Can you do that?"

**Seeds and trees:** You'll need a pack of small seeds and a potted tree for this object lesson. A silk tree is okay but kids are pretty sharp so bring a live tree if you can. Talk

about the tree and how tall it will become. Let the children stand next to the tree one at a time. Compare the height of the tree and the height of the children. Sprinkle seeds in the children's hands. Tell kids that these little seeds are like God's love. When we accept Jesus, God's love is like this little seed. Planted in our hearts, the seeds grow into large trees. Explain to the children that we love like the tiny seeds before God lives in us. After we invite Him into our heart, we love big, just like God.

Ping pong and a giant beach ball: Show kids the difference between man's love and God's love in a playful way. Bring out the ping pong ball but keep the beach ball hidden. Taking the beach ball out will get everyone excited and not focused on the lesson. Bounce the ping pong ball on the table and show it to the kids. Tell children, "You know, I love all you kids so much! So do your friends. But as much as we love, God's love is so much bigger. Let's take a look at this." Uncover the ball and bounce it up and down. Tell the kids that God's love is like this big beach ball, huge and goes everywhere. Spend some time bouncing the ball back and forth with the kids.

I love these fun object lessons. I've used them and they really do work. Try one or all of them out in your own households. Also, remind your kids not only during the month of February about God's love. God loves us all year!

### Upcoming Dates

Feb. 8 - Faith Game (Potluck at church, game 3:05)

Feb. 15-20 - Ashley will be at a Children's Ministry Conference

With God's Grace,  
Ashley Braisted, Children's Ministry Director

## Youth Ministry

Youth Sunday school ~ We are having Youth Sunday school at 8:30am on Sunday mornings for all 7<sup>th</sup>- 12<sup>th</sup> graders. Thank you Matt Woodard for leading this class!

### Other Youth News

- Feb 1 Souper Bowl of Caring  
4:00 pm Super Bowl party at Lamm's
- Feb 8 Potluck after church and then hockey game in Loveland, CO!
- Feb 15 6:30pm Youth Group at the church
- Feb 22 6:30pm Youth Group at the church

## DEACON'S BEACON

### Be In Prayer For

Paula Baldeshwiler – Loss of Son  
Lola Brown -- Loss of Brother  
David Cook – Loss of Father  
Karen Denniston -- Loss of Mother  
Patsy Dyekman -- Loss of Sister  
Marydee Hartsook -- Loss of Husband  
Margie Pepper -- loss of Son  
Roger Rapp -- Loss of Mother  
Jim Woodard – Loss of Mother

Unspoken Request	Sheila Lutz
Meryl Adams	Janet McIlroy
Carol Arthur	Keith McIlroy
Virginia Bohnenblust	Sophie Meese
Loretta Boucher	Susie Moench
Ike Bowling	Margaret Mueller
Chris Christensen	Janet Norrod
Karen Christensen	Trish Peacock
Karen Denniston	Aaron Pease
Carrol DeWyke	Kathleen Petersen
Robert Drummond	Jim Peterson
Fritz Frieauff	Mike Peterson
Joyce Funk	Karen Toft Pope
Adam George	Carol Rieser
Tammy Harden	Dylan Riske
Marydee Hartsook	Savannah Smith
Safia Hauswirth	Dorothy Thompson
Robert Hawk	John Townsend
Jerry Heimsoth	Jane Uchner
Vealess Hudspeth	Javen Westby
Tasha Jones	Margy Will
Avery Jurgens	Judy Willard
Gayle Lain	Patty Young
Mike Lewis	



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH – February 2015

Date	Day	Time	Event
February 1	Sunday	■	<b>Communion Sunday</b>
		8:15am	Nursery (4 yrs or younger)
		8:30am	Youth / Children's Sunday School
		8:30am	Parent/Adult Fellowship (Parlor)
		9:30am	Worship / Communion
		10:30am	Fellowship
		10:45am	Adult Sunday School
		10:45am	Children's Time (Music/Crafts)
		10:45am	Confirmation Class (Stage Room)
		4:00pm	Youth Group at Lamm's "Super Bowl" party
February 2	Monday	6:30pm	Christian Education Ministry (Library)
		7:00pm	Worship & Music Ministry (Parlor)
		7:00pm	Boy Scout Troop 116
February 3	Tuesday	5:00pm	Building and Grounds Ministry (Library)
		5:30pm	New Beginnings Leadership (Stage Room)
		7:00pm	Boy Scouts (OA)
February 4	Wednesday	5:30pm	Handbell Ensemble
		6:00pm	Handbell Choir
		6:15pm	Friendship Mariners (Fellowship Hall)
		7:00pm	Chancel Choir
February 6	Friday	12:00pm	Presbyterian Women Lunch
February 7	Saturday	10:00am	Hearts and Hands (Parlor)
February 8	Sunday	8:15am	Nursery (4 yrs or younger)
		8:30am	Youth / Children's Sunday School
		8:30am	Parent/Adult Fellowship (Parlor)
		9:30am	Worship
		10:30am	Annual Congregational Meeting (Sanctuary)
		■■	Family Ministry – Meal & Hockey Game Loveland, CO
February 9	Monday	1:00pm	Judy Phillips Antique Group (Library)
		5:00pm	New Life Ministry (Library)
		7:00pm	Ellen Kub PEO meeting (Parlor / Sanctuary)
		7:00pm	Boy Scout Troop 116
February 10	Tuesday	7:00pm	Missionary Meet and Greet (Church)
		7:00pm	Missions Ministry (Library)
February 11	Wednesday	12:00pm	Mind Games: The Power of Optimism Small Group - Jim Woodard (Stage Room)
		12:00pm	PW Missionary Greet and Meet (Lower CE Wing)
		2:00pm	Finance Ministry (Library)
		5:30pm	Handbell Ensemble
		6:00pm	Handbell Choir
		7:00pm	Chancel Choir
		7:00pm	Personnel Ministry (Library)
February 12	Thursday	7:00pm	Sarah Circle (Library)
February 14	Saturday	■■	<b>Happy Valentine's Day</b>
		8:00am	Men on a Mission (Fellowship Hall)

Date	Day	Time	Event
February 15	Sunday	8:15am	Nursery (4 yrs or younger)
		8:30am	Children's Sunday School (CE Wing)
		8:30am	Parent/Adult Fellowship (Parlor)
		9:30am	Worship
		10:30am	Fellowship
		10:45am	Adult and Youth Sunday School
		10:45am	Confirmation Class (Stage Room)
		10:45am	Children's Time (Music/Crafts)
		6:30pm	Youth Group
February 16	Monday	■ ■	<b>Church Closed - President's Day</b>
		7:00pm	Session (Lower CE Wing)
		7:00pm	Boy Scout Troop 116
February 17	Tuesday	■ ■	<b>Newsletter Deadline</b>
		5:30pm	MOPS (CE Wing)
		7:00pm	Boy Scouts (OA)
February 18	Wednesday	6:30pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
		7:00pm	<b>Ash Wednesday Service</b>
February 19	Thursday	7:00pm	Hearts and Hands (Parlor)
February 20	Friday	1:00pm	Ruth Circle (Library)
February 21	Saturday	10:00am	Stitch by Stitch (Lower CE Wing)
February 22	Sunday	■ ■	<b>Boy Scout Sunday</b>
		8:15am	Nursery (4 yrs or younger)
		8:30am	Youth/Children's Sunday School (CE Wing)
		8:30am	Parent/Adult Fellowship (Parlor)
		9:30am	Worship
		10:30am	Fellowship
		10:45am	Adult Sunday School
		10:45am	Confirmation Class (Stage Room)
		10:45am	Children's Time (Music/Crafts)
		6:30pm	Youth Group
February 23	Monday	1:00pm	Rebecca Circle (Library)
		6:30pm	Local Missions (Library)
		7:00pm	Deacons (Parlor)
		7:00pm	Boy Scout Troop 116
February 24	Tuesday	1:00pm	Genealogy Small Group (Library)
		6:30pm	Jewish Foundation of Christianity Small Group (Library)
February 25	Wednesday	9:00am	Walk Pray Love Small Group (O'Connor's)
		12:00pm	Mind Games: The Power of Optimism Small Group - Jim Woodard (Stage Room)
		5:30pm	Handbell Ensemble
		6:00pm	Handbell Choir
		7:00pm	Chancel Choir
February 27	Friday	12:00pm	Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team (Library)
		5:00pm	Boy Scouts District Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
February 28	Saturday	10:00am	Special Stitch by Stitch (Lower CE Wing)