

# NEWS FROM THE PEWS

News of the First Presbyterian Church ~ Cheyenne, WY

October 2016

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## OCTOBER 2016

### October 2, 2016 / Communion Sunday

Worship Theme: "Truth Be Told"

Scriptures: 2 Timothy 3: 14 – 4: 5

### October 9, 2016

Worship Theme: "Justice Rolls Down"

Scriptures: Matthew 11: 1-6

### October 16, 2016

Worship Theme: "Be the Church"

Scriptures: Matthew 25: 31-40

### October 23, 2016

Worship Theme:

Scriptures: Luke 18: 9-14

### October 30, 2016

Theme: "Dirt and Jesus"

Scriptures: Luke 19: 1-10



In October we will be completing our Sermon series on the Great Ends of the Church with the last Great End, "The Exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the World."

I enjoy museums and I'll admit that I like to read all the words in the exhibits.

I go through museums very slowly. The most enjoyable displays are the dioramas because you can see the exhibit in three dimensions. Dioramas invite me to imagine living in a different time period or a different place. That's the purpose of museum exhibits, to teach us and help us experience something new. Some museums display the history of an area while others might display present day life somewhere else in the world. Museums about other countries offer a window into that place and make me want to travel there. Nowadays the internet provides a window into places around the world through webcams. You can literally see life happening in real time. As we were considering moving here I saw Cheyenne through the webcam located in the Depot tower.

Our congregation is to be the window through which the Kingdom of Heaven is exhibited to the world. We are the three dimensional display that exhibits the Kingdom to people who have no idea, or a wrong idea, what it looks like. This puts a weight of responsibility on us. Imagine that a webcam was hung over our city displaying everything we do throughout the day. This Great End is calling us, the church, to show others what the Kingdom of God is. Our goal is that our exhibition would be so inviting that people would want to be part of the kingdom.

In 2 Cor. 5:20 the Apostle Paul calls us to be "Ambassadors for Christ." As ambassadors we are to represent Christ and the Kingdom of Heaven to the world.

I can't list everything we do but we display the kingdom in our joyous worship, in our small group studies, in the children's Sunday School, in the youth group fellowship, and in all of our meetings. We also exhibit the Kingdom of Heaven in our everyday lives: when we shop for groceries, when we play sports, when we drive, when we communicate, and when we live in our neighborhoods. Through our actions we hope others experience the Kingdom of Heaven.

As the body of Christ let us strive to exhibit to all who see us the joy and peace that is in the Kingdom of Heaven. May our display be an invitation for them to become part of the church and part of God's Kingdom.

In Christ's name, Rev. Bob Thomson



THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!



To our beloved church family: As I write this in London on Sept. 15, I am overjoyed at the fact that we are both flying home today, Eric on a tiny air ambulance. We have not been home since August 4, and Eric has spent 27 days in the hospital here, 25 of them in the ICU, with the diagnosis of acute myelogenous leukemia. Our gratitude to you knows no bounds, as your support has been phenomenal. Your thoughts and prayers have been so very important to us, and will continue to be while Eric continues treatment here at home. Love to all, Maïda Wedell

# HARVEST FEST

Who: Whole Church

Where: Fellowship Hall

When: Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>

Time: 6:00pm – 8:00pm

MUSIC

CHILI DINNER  
&  
PUMPKIN PIE

FUN  
and  
GAMES



## Irmgard Meyer Grants News

At the September Session meeting of the First Presbyterian Church the following grants were approved:

Grant # 12 – \$500.00

Presbyterian Women – To support four events through the coming year

Grant # 14 – \$300.00

Presbyterian Women – Purchase materials for mission sewing projects

Grant # 15 – \$1500.00

Personnel Ministry – Cost of background checks for those working with youth & children

Grant # 16 – \$2500.00

Mission Ministry – Presbyterian Church of Baghdad to support Primary School & Vocational Training

Grant # 17 - \$17,241.38

Mission Ministry – Second half disbursement for mission obligations

Grant # 18 - \$25,000.00

Building & Grounds Ministry - To address unpredictable maintained expenses

Grant # 19 - \$2500.00

Christian Education Ministry – Support current and future event

Grant # 21 – \$5600.00

Finance Ministry – To assist with operating expenses

Reminder that the closing date for the next round of grants is **December 15, 2016**. No grants will be accepted after that date. All grants must come through a ministry. Grant applications can be acquired in the church office. Once completed please return to the church office. If you have any questions or need assistance in doing a grant please contact Connie Davis.

Respectfully submitted,  
Connie Davis, Grants Chairman



First Presbyterian Church of Cheyenne is a connected church. We are one of 28 Presbyterian churches in the Presbytery of Wyoming. To learn more about our presbytery and stay up-to-date go to: <http://pbywy.org/>.

## Deacon's Local Mission Projects

The Deacons have taken on a few new local outreach projects this year. We are delivering Friday Food Bags to Pioneer Park Elementary School. We want to invite the whole congregation to participate. It involves picking up 30 paper bags from Element Church containing staple food items any day prior to Thursday and delivering them to the school by close of the school day on Thursday. These food bags are provided so the children will have something to eat during the weekend.

We will also be cooking and serving a meal at Comea Shelter on 11 October, and we welcome you to participate in this service project as well. A sign up sheet will be in the parlor soon.

This Christmas we will once again be doing the Angel Tree for the schools and more news will come later as it gets closer to putting up the Tree.

We will also be ringing bells for Salvation Army in December and are anticipating having an indoor location out of the elements. Again a sign up sheet will be in the parlor several weeks prior to this event.

We want to encourage you to participate in any or all of the Local Mission projects. If you are interested please see Belinda Smith at church or call her cell phone, 307-421-4896.



### **FROM THE LIBRARY** Library Committee

Philip Yancey has done a fresh extensive study of what we can learn about Jesus in the New Testament in The Jesus I Never Knew. This is an excellent resource for those who want extra background for the women's Bible study for this year – "Who is Jesus?" [232 YAN.JES]

In Christian Caregiving – A Way of Life, Kenneth Haugk covers ways to overcome some of the obstacles that can keep us from being good caregivers. Caregiving is taking care of the physical and emotional needs of others, and listening. Christian caregiving adds a sharing of faith and showing of love. [248.5 HAU.CHR]

## CHURCH PHOTO DIRECTORY

The New Life Ministry would like to collect a few more pictures for our church photo directory. We have made a plan to put the directory together ourselves rather than use a professional photography business as in the past.

We are asking each family, couple, or individual to provide us a current picture. It does not have to be a formal picture. You can do this by emailing a picture to phyloconn@msn.com or sending a picture that we can scan and return to you. If this is not possible, we will be available to take a picture after church on Oct 2nd. Pictures for scanning can be sent to Phyllis O'Connor, 710 Mylar Park Drive, Cheyenne, WY 82009.

In addition, we will need your permission to publish your picture, name, address, phone number, and email in the directory. Please return the attached form to Phyllis O'Connor, 710 Mylar Park Drive, Cheyenne, WY 82009 or return to the church office by Oct 10, 2016.

## ♪♪ Notes & Church News ♪♪

**Inquirers and New Members Class:** If you have been a visitor at First Presbyterian Church and would like more information about our ministry or would like to become a member, please attend the Inquirers and New Member Class. Rev. Bob Thomson and Rev. Diana Hartman will be hosting a class on Sunday, October 23, from 2-6pm at the church. We will provide information about what it means to be a Presbyterian and how we embody that at First Pres. Cheyenne. Dinner will be provided. Please email or contact the church office or one of the Pastors if you plan on attending. Church phone: 638-3345

fpcpastor@qwestoffice.net  
firstpresap@qwestoffice.net

Rev. Thomson  
Rev. Hartman

**Halloween Costumes:** The Deacons will be collecting new and gently used Halloween costumes from Sept. 25 through Oct. 13 to be distributed to those children in Cheyenne who are not able to purchase a costume. The costumes will be distributed by United Way. Thank you for bringing a bit of joy into the life of a child.

**Elevator Presentation** The presentation regarding the elevator is available. Paper handouts and a DVD are available in the church office. Presentation is also on the website.

**Peacemaking Offering** On October 2<sup>nd</sup> we will be collecting the Peacemaking offering. Envelopes will be available in the sanctuary.

**Cribbage** Is the game of cribbage your interest? Never played before but want to learn? Join us on Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, at the church for a fun evening! We meet at 7:00pm and end around 9:00pm. If you have a cribbage board and cards, please bring them. If you don't come anyway. Hungry? Bring your own snacks and drinks. Easy, simple and fun! Questions?? Contact Ernie or Melinda Brazzale by email mlbrazzale@gmail.com or call 307-256-0506.

## Women of First Presbyterian Church

Some questions for women of the church:  
Did you know?

- Every woman who is part of the Presbyterian Church is, by definition, a "Presbyterian Woman", and invited and welcomed into the various activities of PW. Each of our three circles has its regular (monthly) meeting dates included in the monthly calendar printed in the newsletter, so check out the day and time which fits your schedule and join in Bible study, fellowship, and devotions.
- Quarterly, our three PW circles host a lunch or brunch activity for all women and their guests. The September 9 'back to school' lunch focused on education, where Holly and Bob Garrard shared their photos and experiences from recent travel to Lebanon mission stations and described the educational support PW and the PC(USA) provide

to Syrian and other refugees through our representatives there.

- PW's from around the Presbytery (state of WY) gather several times each year and the circles of our District will meet on October 22 in Torrington. Think about joining the trek on this Saturday to meet with PW's from Torrington and Guernsey-Ft. Laramie.
- Two of our local members, Margie George and Melinda Brazzale, serve as co-moderators of the Wyoming Presbytery PW, a 2-year responsibility which they are fulfilling with grace and enthusiasm.



*Children's Ministry*

### You Are God's Pumpkin

This devotional was written by Kelly McFadden. Please share this devotion with your family! Carving pumpkins with your children or youth will have a whole new meaning! Branden and I will even be doing this with Gavin this year. I feel that this devotion can be adjusted for all ages.

God has united you with Christ Jesus. For our benefit God made him to be wisdom itself. Christ made us right with God; he made us pure and holy, and he freed us from sin. Therefore, as the Scriptures say, "If you boast, boast only about the Lord." —1 Corinthians 1:30-31 (NLT)

For most of the country, the crisp cool air of autumn is upon us. A sure sign of autumn is that Christmas decorations are popping up everywhere in retail stores. Halloween costumes and disguises are selling out in stores as trick-or-treaters are ready to take over the streets. A popular symbol of both harvest time and Halloween is the pumpkin. I was thinking recently that being a Christian is a lot like being a pumpkin. Perhaps you are visualizing this orange, round vegetable and wondering how you could ever be compared to one of these squashes! Simply put, like a child chooses a pumpkin to carve and mold an image upon, so God carves and molds His own unique design in you.

The Scriptures tell us that the Lord chooses us. He lifts us up and washes the dirt from our skin. Then he

opens us, connecting deep inside to scoop out all the slimy, yucky stuff, including seeds of doubt, spite, lies, and fear. Then He carves a new creation, and makes our faces shine by putting His light inside for all to see. *(This can be the hands-on activity for your children.)*

Sometimes I feel like I don't want my light to shine because I am ashamed of a thought or action or pattern in my life. I try to hide the light Christ has put in me, and blend in with the crowd. What I forget is that when God carved me, created me, and gave me His Son, I no longer had to count on my own strength. I can count on the Lord's. It is He who washes me clean; it is He who gives me a spirit of strength and perseverance; it is He who makes me pure; it is He who frees me from sin; and it is He who gives me hope. When I realize that my part of the equation is to rely on His strength and power, then I can do as Scriptures say, and shine His light through the power of the Holy Spirit.

What starts as an everyday squash turns into a lantern of light. What starts as an everyday person turns into a beacon of hope for all to see. Through our union with Christ, we are given the light and wisdom of the Holy Spirit who enters and dwells in our lives. It is He who picked you out and carved you just the way He wants you. So make sure you keep your lantern lit for all to see.

God Bless,  
Ashley Braisted  
Children's Ministry Director



The beginning of the school year is upon us once again, as the leaves begin to change color, and the breeze ever chills. This is always a challenging period of time for us all, as we have become so accustomed to the freedom that summer allows. However, as the year sets forth its challenges, I want to convey how encouraged I am at how prepared and confident the youth are!

A big event that we are preparing for is this fall's "Harvest Festival". The church will hold, on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, a gathering for all ages! On this Saturday, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm, the church will host any and everyone who wishes to join. We will begin the night with dinner, and follow it with lots of fun and games.

Of course, we will come dressed in all our favorite costumes, so don't be too surprised to see a few Super Heroes and Ghouls (but don't fear, it will probably just be Blain and Jarrod Dilly!). We hope that everyone can attend, and not only help out with our youth, but also join us as we have fun, too! Again, this will be a church-wide event, and we hope that our youth can interact and enjoy all the other members of our church. Remember to be friends and family, and don't forget your costume.

While this isn't news, I want to take a moment to thank all of the volunteers that have helped throughout this summer. R.D. Allaback, Tom Muhlback, Hans Seitz, Jessica Sanchez, Linda Woodard and Jim Woodard are just a few who have consistently helped with our youth group, and are always enthusiastic to be there for our youth. This is extremely special to have, and I thank God often for them. I truly and genuinely believe that being around youth revives the soul. With this in mind, I ask again for anyone in our congregation to volunteer with our group. This does not have to mean spending two hours at church on Sunday. It does not mean sacrificing your already busy schedule for someone else's. What it does mean is this: loving those who wish to learn what love is. What I would ask for is that you show that love in a way that you know how. Maybe that is coming to youth group to learn with them, or providing food for an evening. This might even be attending for five minutes to introduce yourself to them so that they might recognize your face in service. The apostle Paul calls us to be united with each other in mind and judgement, and to reject harmful divisions. So, I ask of you: come and join us. I know that the youth would love to see each and every one of you.

If you wish to participate, please contact me. I would love to hear your voice, so please call me at any time. I am at the church from 8:00-4:30 Monday through Thursday (Church – 3076383345), or call my cell phone all other times (3072861206).

Again, thank you for supporting us, and we look forward to continuing this journey with all of you!

With blessings from God,  
Matt Woodard

***Adult Ministry Opportunities  
First Presbyterian Cheyenne  
2016 - 2017***

<b>Small Group</b>	<b>Leader</b>	<b>Meeting time</b>
Daniel: Faithful in All Circumstances	Rev. Diana Hartman	Begins Oct. 11 – Dec. 27 6-7:30 pm 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesdays
Ephesians: Relationships that Honor God	Rev. Bob Thomson	Begins Sept. 20 – Jan. 17 7-8:30 pm 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays
Aging in the Grace of God	Belinda Smith	Begins Oct. 5 at 10 am
Just Faith- deepen commitment to care for vulnerable people	Rev. Diana Hartman	Begins Sept. 22 – April 29 Weekly, (24 sessions) Thursday 9:30am- 12 noon
Christian Book Club	Shared by group	Begins Sept. 29, Quarterly, Thursday 7:00pm
Finding Your Roots Genealogy	Kay Barnes	Begins Sept. 27 – May 23 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday, 12 noon (some variation)
Hearts and Hands (knitting/crocheting)	Kay Barnes	1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday 10am & Third Thursday, 7pm
Men on a Mission	Rev. Bob Thomson	Begins Oct 8 <sup>nd</sup> Saturdays at 8:00 am
Stitch by Stitch	Kay Barnes	3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday 10:00am
Walk Pray Love	Phyllis O'Connor	4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday 9am
Yoga	Jessica Nyffler	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday 12:10pm
Men of Integrity	Rob Shank	To be determined by group
Spiritual Parenting	Ashley Braisted	To be determined
Chancel Choir	Becky Tish	Wednesday 7:00pm
Bell Choir	Becky Tish	Wednesday 6:00pm
Bell Ensemble	Becky Tish	Wednesday 5:30pm
Ruth Circle study "Who Is Jesus"	Patsy Dyekman	3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday 1:00pm
Rebecca Circle "Who Is Jesus"	Ann Lembke	4 <sup>th</sup> Monday 1:00pm
Sarah Circle "Who Is Jesus"	Jean Marie Seitz	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday 7:00pm
Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPs)and Moms Next	Jennifer Bixby Amy Nelson	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday 5:30pm
Great Ends of the Church (topics will vary every 6 weeks)	Walt George	Every Sunday 8:15 am

**DEACON'S BEACON*****Be In Prayer For***

Meryl Adams	Ruth Hale	Sophie Meese
LaVonne Beardsley	Tamieka Hamm	Dick Moody
Loretta Boucher	Tammy Harden	Ian Mueller
Al Brenner	Edna Harris	Joe Norris
Pat Brenner	Safia Hauswirth	Eric Payne
Briggs Family	Robert Hawk	Karen Toft Pope
Chris Christensen	Beth Hoobler	Carol Rieser
Karen Christensen	Charlie Johnson	Rick Stratton
Jessica Curless and Family	Avery Jurgens	John Townsend
Karen Denniston	Jim Kubitschek	Jane Uchner
Carrol DeWyke	Mary Jane Larson	Eric Wedell
Robert Drummond	Bonnie Legerski	Javen Westby
Sparky England	William Loftus	Deborah White
Eva Estorga	Marilyn Markus	Beth Wilson
Adam George	Ray Martin	

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH – October 2016**

Date	Day	Time	Event
Oct. 1-2	Sat and Sun	■■■	FPC hosting Family Promise
Oct. 1	Saturday	10:00am	Hearts and Hands (Parlor)
Oct. 2	Sunday	■■■	Communion Sunday
		8:00am	Nursery
		8:15am	Sunday School for all Ages
		9:30am	Worship Service and Communion
		10:30am	Fellowship
		4:00pm	Rev. Thomson Installation and Reception
		6:00pm	Youth Group
Oct. 3	Monday	10:00am	Genealogy (Family History Center)
		5:15pm	Family Promise Coordinator Meeting (Lower CE Room)
		5:30pm	Christian Education Ministry (Library)
		7:00pm	Worship and Music Ministry (Parlor / Library)

Date	Day	Time	Event
		7:00pm	Boy Scout Troop 116
Oct. 4	Tuesday	5:15pm	Building and Grounds Ministry (LCE 3)
		6:30pm	Ephesians Bible Study (Library)
		7:00pm	Boy Scouts (OA)
Oct. 5	Wednesday	12:00pm	Library Committee (Library)
		5:30pm	Handbell Ensemble
		6:00pm	Handbell Choir
		6:00pm	High School Bible Study (Archives)
		6:15pm	Friendship Mariners (Fellowship Hall)
		7:00pm	Chancel Choir
Oct. 6	Thursday	9:30am	Just Faith (Hartman's)
		6:00pm	High School Bible Study (Archives)
Oct. 7	Friday	7:00pm	Cribbage (Parlor)
Oct. 8	Saturday	8:00am	Men on a Mission (Fellowship Hall)
Oct. 9	Sunday	8:00am	Nursery
		8:15am	Sunday School for all Ages
		9:30am	Worship Service
		10:30am	Fellowship Time
		6:00pm	Youth Group
Oct. 10	Monday	10:00am	Aging in the Grace of God (Mary Jane Larson's)
		12:00pm	Investment Committee (Library)
		1:00pm	New Life Ministry (Stage Room)
		7:00pm	Boy Scout Troop 116
Oct. 11	Tuesday	10:00am	SE Presbytery (Library)
		12:15pm	Yoga (Studio)
		4:00pm	Personnel Ministry (Library)
		5:30pm	Deacons Meal Prep and Serve (COME A)
		6:00pm	Daniel Bible Study (LCE 3)
		7:00pm	Missions Ministry (Library)
Oct. 12	Wednesday	2:00pm	Finance Ministry (Library)
		5:30pm	Handbell Ensemble



Date	Day	Time	Event
		6:00pm	Handbell Choir
		6:00pm	High School Bible Study (Archives)
		7:00pm	Chancel Choir
Oct. 13	Thursday	9:30am	Just Faith (LCE)
		6:00pm	High School Bible Study (Archives)
		7:00pm	Sarah Circle (Library)
Oct. 14	Friday		Civic League - Christmas Project (Fellowship Hall)
Oct. 14-15	Fri - Sat	9:30am	Just Faith Retreat (Parlor / Library)
Oct. 15	Saturday		Civic League - Christmas Project (Fellowship Hall)
		10:00am	Stitch by Stitch (Lower CE)
		3:00pm	Girl Scout Troop (LCE)
Oct. 16	Sunday	8:00am	Nursery
		8:15am	Sunday School for all Ages
		9:30am	Worship Service
		10:30am	Fellowship Time
		6:00pm	Youth Group
Oct. 17	Monday	■ ■ ■	<b>Deadline for November newsletter</b>
		10:00am	Genealogy (Family History Center)
		7:00pm	Session (Lower CE)
		7:00pm	Boy Scout Troop 116
Oct. 18	Tuesday	1:00pm	Worship Design Team (LCE3)
		5:30pm	MOPS (CE Wing)
		6:30pm	Ephesians Bible Study (Library)
		7:00pm	Boy Scouts (OA)
Oct. 19	Wednesday	12:00pm	Library Committee (Library)
		5:30pm	Handbell Ensemble
		6:00pm	Handbell Choir
		6:00pm	High School Bible Study (Archives)
		7:00pm	Chancel Choir
Oct. 20	Thursday	9:30am	Just Faith (Hartman's)
		6:00pm	High School Bible Study (Archives)
		7:00pm	Hearts and Hands (Parlor)

Date	Day	Time	Event
Oct. 21	Friday	1:00pm	Ruth Circle (Library)
Oct. 22	Saturday	6:00pm	Harvest Fest
Oct. 23	Sunday	8:00am	Nursery
		8:15am	Sunday School for all Ages
		9:30am	Worship Service
		10:30am	Fellowship Time
		2:00pm	New Member Class (Lower CE)
Oct. 24	Monday	1:00pm	Rebecca Circle (Library)
		6:30pm	Local Missions (Lower CE)
		7:00pm	Deacons (Lower CE)
		7:00pm	Boy Scout Troop 116
Oct. 25	Tuesday	12:15pm	Yoga (Studio)
		3:00pm	Foundation Meeting (Library)
		6:00pm	Daniel Bible Study (LCE3)
Oct. 26	Wednesday	12:30pm	Children's Half-Day Program
		5:30pm	Handbell Ensemble
		6:00pm	Handbell Choir
		6:00pm	High School Bible Study (Archives)
		7:00pm	Chancel Choir
Oct. 27	Thursday	12:30pm	Youth Half-Day Program
Oct. 28	Friday	12:00pm	Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team (Library)
Oct. 30	Sunday	■■■	<b>Memorial Sunday / New Members Join</b>
		8:00am	Nursery
		8:15am	Sunday School for all Ages
		9:30am	Worship Service
		10:30am	Fellowship Time
		6:00pm	Youth Group
Oct. 31	Monday	7:00pm	Boy Scout Troop 116