

News From The Pews

News of the First Presbyterian Church

May 2009

Rev. Bob Garrard
firstpresrlg@qwestoffice.net

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

UPCOMING WORSHIP/ EVENTS

May 3, 2009 – Communion

Rev. Bob Garrard
Worship Theme: “The Shepherd’s Love and Care Unites”
Scripture: Psalm 23; John 10: 11-18; 1 John 3: 16-24

May 10, 2009 – Mother’s Day

Rev. Bob Garrard
Worship Theme: “Nourishing Faith and Love”
Scripture: John 15: 1-8; 1 John 4: 7-21; Acts 8: 26-40

May 17, 2009 – Heritage Sunday

Rev. Bob Garrard
Worship Theme: “More than a Social Club”
Scriptures: Psalm 98; Acts 10: 44-48; John 15: 9-17;
1 John 5: 1-6
We will celebrate our 140th year as a congregation!

May 24, 2009 – SUMMER SCHEDULE BEGINS

Rev. Bob Garrard
Worship Theme: “Truth that Saves Us”
Scripture: Psalm 1; John 17: 6-19; 1 John 5: 9-13

May 31, 2009 – Sunday

Guest Preacher

Where It’s Happening Is Right Here!

Upcoming Worship/Events	1
Rev. Garrard Article	2-3
Finance Ministry	3
Notes and Church News	3
Cheyenne Interfaith Hospitality Network	3
Presbyterian Women	4
New Life Ministry	4
New Members	4
Thank You	5
Historical Archives	6
Deacon’s Beacons	7
Christian Education	8-10
Attachments:	
– Camp Skyline Mission Opportunity	
– May 2009 Calendar	



Radio Broadcast – It’s Baccckkkk!

The Radio Broadcast of the worship services is back!! Tune into KRAE 1480AM at 8:30 a.m. on Sundays. As before, the services are a week behind because we must record them, edit them and give them to the station. Credit goes to John Lane for the editing process. Church members most generously contributed funds for the first three broadcasts. For the rest of the year the funding will come from our worship and music budget.



140 years of Ministry! That is what our church will be celebrating on May 17th.

Be sure to read the article from our Historical Archives Committee in the newsletter on this celebration. We will sing hymns that may have well been sung in those days and the sermon will highlight our 140 years of ministry in response to the scriptures.

This week during a quiet moment, I sat and considered what it took to celebrate six worship services during Holy Week. As you read this you will get an idea. Many thank yous go to all the volunteers and staff who made Holy Week services such an inspiration. Here are many of the people it took to carry it all out. Our Administrative Assistant, Judy Bezek, and office volunteers, Carrol and Ralph DeWyke and Peggy Williams, who spent lots of extra time getting bulletins and inserts ready. Child Care Attendant, Angie Lane, and some dedicated volunteers took care of many children. Children's Ministry Director, Caroline Carver, covered extra bases on Palm Sunday. Choir Director, Becky Tish, Bell Choir Director, Kay Barnes, and Organist, Eleanor Lane, and all chancel, handbell and First Five choirs put in hours of rehearsal time along with the worship services. Our sound system people, Shirley Clark and George Barnes, gave extra time in setting up microphones and making them work so well. John Lane is our worship service recording man, so he spent extra time editing services. Raymond Hamburg, our custodian, shoveled lots of snow and worked extra hard to make sure things were cleaned up after the services. Ralph DeWyke, Richard Clark, and their ushering crews were here for all the services. Some of our elders made extra effort to pitch-in to make sure communion was served twice that week. Denise Fetzer set up for two communion services. Layreaders: Sheila Lutz, Randy Fetzer, Maïda Wedell, and Sherry Lovato made extra effort to be there. Deacons and Mariners made sure we had cookies and cakes to eat. On Palm Sunday, our guest preacher, Curt Barnett, really gave his all to dig out to come to preach an excellent sermon. On Palm Sunday, John and Eleanor Lane went out of their way to pick me up at the end of my snow bound road to get me to church. Al and Greta Marrow plowed through my snow jammed road to get me back to my house. Then there were all of you who traveled to attend the services to worship our Lord, even when the weather was not so good on Palm Sunday. Even the copier repairman saved the day just before the bulletins needed copied. I hope I did not leave anyone out. Great ministry work everyone, in response to the passion, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Update on Church Staff Searches: We are extremely pleased to announce that our session has approved a new organist and children's choir director named Dennis Johnson from Tyler, Texas. Dennis will move to Cheyenne at the end of April and begin work with us sometime in May. We also have a Temporary Part-time Associate Pastor coming on board on May 15th. The Rev. Roger Rapp, who recently retired from St. Paul's Lutheran Church, will work with us part-time (19 hours a week) to help with visitations, worship, and maybe a class or two.

The search for a full-time Youth Director has just begun. The committee has met twice, and the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee has just been elected and will begin to meet in May.

I am grateful that Rev. Bob Walkey preached on March 29th and Curt Barnett on April 5th. It was great to have them cover for me while I was back in Pittsburgh to work with my parents on their health issues and finding a retirement center for them to move into. The apartment they decided on was not available at that time, but opened up as I was returning to Cheyenne. I took more vacation April 21-25 to help move them into an independent living retirement center. It is a great relief to have them where they do not have to worry about a house and four acres of land as they have over the past 56 plus years. Thank you for your patience in my being away.

I will be away on vacation May 29 – June 1 to attend our granddaughter Samantha's graduation from high school in Ohio. The Rev. Roger Rapp will cover any funerals and worship.

Peace,

Rev. Bob Garrard

From Our Finance Ministry

We wish to thank you for your generous support so far this year. We are keeping a close eye on the budget and will know better where we are financially at the end of April. We also appreciate when members can catch up on their pledge or giving to keep this church's ministry viable and solvent.

♪♪ Notes & Church News ♪♪

- **College/Post High School Graduates Names Needed**
College Graduates names wanted! Please call the church office at 638-3345.
- **Instrumental Ensemble Performance – May 10th**
Come and make a joyful noise to the Lord!! On Sunday, May 10, we will have an instrumental ensemble perform for the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Any of you who play instruments *of any kind*, are invited to play with us! We will play hymn arrangements so players of all ages and ability levels are cordially invited to join us. Dust off that instrument and help us praise the Lord through music!!
Rehearsals: May 3: 11:30 - 12:00
May 10: 9:30 - 10:30; play for 10:30 a.m. worship service

Cheyenne Interfaith Hospitality Network (CIHN) News

As a reminder, our next rotation for CIHN (Cheyenne Interfaith Hospitality Network) is from 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 26, through 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 3. We have had incredible success signing up volunteers well in advance of this week. Actually, Judy Phillips took advantage of the snowy weekend in early April and contacted many of you. As of this writing, we still need two overnight hosts and hosts for all day Saturday. Please call us if you can help with any of these times. We don't know yet how many guests we will have but we will notify you as soon as possible. Thanks for all of your support! Judy and John Phillips (775-0292) and Don and Sue Riske (635-3060).

Presbyterian Women



May 2nd PW Meeting at FPC, Cheyenne

All women of the church are invited to the spring meeting of Presbyterian Women which will be held in the church parlor on Saturday, May 2nd. The program will begin at 1:00 p.m. with a presentation by the Shepherding Team of the church sharing information about what it means to be a "program church." In addition, we will have an opportunity to meet a recent graduate of Climb Wyoming who was able to purchase work clothing with money we donated from last fall's pin sales. Sarah Circle will also host a dessert table for us to enjoy. We hope you will join us!



New Life Ministry News

Our Welcomer's gifts of bread to Sunday visitors continues to go well, thanks to many of you who have baked and presented bread recently. The Friendship Mariners took the month of March and delighted everyone with tasty delights! Then Pam Mason took the Snowy day, Palm Sunday, in April welcoming three visitors on that cold day! Thanks Pam for braving the weather to make our visitors feel welcome. Our bread gifts were suspended on Easter Sunday due to the large number of visitors, many more than the usual 2-6 we are prepared for. For the rest of the month of April, our New Life members will be on hand at both services. Thanks in advance to Lori Andrews, Marion Yoder, Mary Lou McMindes and Sue Riske. In sunny May, Myrtle Forney has things organized well in advance. Please call Myrtle at 635-7526 if you are able to help. Also remember to thank Myrtle who originated the gifts of bread to welcome our visitors.

Our ministry continues to send notes to all visitors who sign in on Sunday and leave their addresses; we couldn't do this without Ike Bowling's help. We are also trying to keep in touch with notes and phone calls to new members. As always, we invite you to join our efforts if you'd like and/or attend our monthly meetings which take place on the second Monday of the month at 6 pm in the library. Contact Barb Lutz at 635-6347 for more information.

CHURCH WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS RON VINES & BRANDEN BRAISTED

Firefighter Branden Braisted recently joined First Presbyterian by affirmation, having been attracted by our friendly congregation. Branden attended high school in Laramie and lived in Casper before moving to Cheyenne two years ago. He enjoys hunting and snowmobiling and is engaged to be married.

Sundance native James "Ron" Vines recently moved to Cheyenne to be nearer family and soon joined the church by letter of transfer. Ron is an Air Force veteran, is retired and enjoys birding as well as spending time with his family. Before moving to Cheyenne, he lived in both Riverton and Sheridan, and was an active member of the church in both communities.





THANK YOU!
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!



- My heartfelt thanks for all the cards, calls, flowers, and visits! Most of all, your prayers since I have been ill. I am doing well and will be living in assisted living at Point Frontier.

With Christian Love, Frances Creech

- Ann and I would like to thank our friends and the members of First Presbyterian Church for their prayers and concern during our recent surgeries. Ann has recovered and is feeling good. I lost the vision in my left eye during cataract surgery in December but had successful surgery on my right eye on Thursday, March 26. *PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW.* Thank you Rev. Bob Garrard.

Ann and Alex Blane

- The Presbyterian Women would like to thank members of the congregation for their generous support of the *Gifts of the Heart* project. We received enough materials to provide at least 22 health kits and 21 school kits. Thanks also to those who willingly sewed the school bags.
- The Deacon's Fellowship Committee would like to thank the Choir and Youth for helping serve and provide goodies during March. The choir members who provided goodies were: Clarice Brown, Becky Tish, Curt Barnett, Mary Bausserman, Pasty Dyekman, Eric Wedell, Randy Fetzer, Eleanor Lane, Melinda Brazzale, and Bonnie Legerski.

The following youth helped serve in March: Brent Carver (twice), Matt Woodard (twice), Jen Andrews, Megan Muhlbach, Jessica Sanchez (twice), and youth leader Liz Rich.

The following Deacon's helped in March: Liza Mackey (twice), Jory & Jennifer Kaufman, Lyn Rinehart, Marion Yoder, Joe Dougherty, Bert Trimble, and Dorothy Tucker.

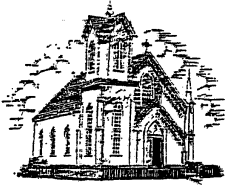
The Deacon's Fellowship Committee would also like to thank Friendship Mariners for serving and providing goodies for the month of April.

The following Deacon's helped in April: Joe Dougherty, Marion Yoder, Jory & Jennifer Kaufman, Lyn Rinehart, and Mary Lou McMIndes.

Thank you everyone for your help and support!

Submitted by Ashley Stratton - Fellowship Chairperson

Thank You



**HYSTERICAL
HISTORICAL
ARCHIVES**

Submitted by Peggy Williams

This month we will celebrate the 140th anniversary of First Presbyterian Church, Cheyenne on Sunday, May 17th, Presbyterian Heritage Sunday. Here are a few items of interest from the history of our church.

In 1869, the Presbytery of the Missouri River in Sioux City, Iowa, was concerned about its missions in the territories. Rev. Sheldon Jackson was appointed Superintendent of Missions in Central and Western Iowa, Nebraska, Dakota, Montana, Utah and Wyoming. Rev. John L. Gage was commissioned as a missionary to Cheyenne and Laramie. He began his work on May 18, 1869.

The work of Rev. John L. Gage to establish a Presbyterian Church in Cheyenne soon produced tangible results. Three men and six women signed a petition stating that they desired to be organized into a Presbyterian Church and they requested that Rev. Sheldon Jackson and Rev. John L. Gage effect an organization at their earliest convenience.

The Cheyenne Daily Evening Leader on June 5, 1869 reported: "...A meeting was called at the office of Dr. G. H. Russell, on Eddy Street, for the purpose of hearing the proposition of the Rev. Sheldon Jackson to aid in the erection, in this city, of a Presbyterian Church building. The meeting was attended by a goodly number of our most worthy and respectable citizens. The interest displayed was highly creditable to our population. Rev. Sheldon Jackson, Superintendent of Presbyterian Missions for this and other Territories, pledged a donation of five thousand dollars to assist in the erection of a Presbyterian Church building...."

Don't forget to put your pennies in the Pennies for Stained Glass jar toward the rear of the sanctuary. We aren't able to empty the Penny Jar very often but when we do, we usually find \$100.00 or so. We need to continue saving our pennies as this fund goes toward any maintenance or cleaning needed on our beautiful windows. Try putting your age in pennies every year on your birthday.

If you are interested in serving on this committee or just helping with some of our projects, please contact any member of the committee.

Paula Qualls	638-8805	Glen Oslund	638-8884
Mel Qualls	638-8805	Peggy Williams	634-0147
Frances Creech	638-3787	Colleen Osborn (out of town member)	
Ralph DeWyke	632-8210		

REMEMBER, IT IS IMPORTANT TO KNOW WHERE WE HAVE COME FROM AS WE JOURNEY
FORWARD MAKING OUR OWN HISTORY.



Deacon's Beacons

Submitted by Jane Nelson

Sympathy is the rarest of all ministries and also the sweetest. It makes no show in the world, but it leaves its mark.

Edward Dennett

It is as we daily hear God's call, and put intercessory prayer into practice, that the consciousness will begin to live in us, that we too are intercessors and we shall feel the need of living in Christ and being full of the Spirit if we are to do the work of intercession aright. Nothing will so test and stimulate the Christian life as the honest attempt to be an intercessor.

Andrew Murray

I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone.

Timothy 2:1

Stacy "Skoumal" Adams	Robert Drummond	Roshni Joseph	Bertie Price
Meryl Adams	Glen Flyr	Kevin Keller	Jenna Qualls
Lil Barbour	Adam George	Jim Kleine	Midge Reed
Richard Beauchamp	Joan Gray	Mary Jane Larson	Doris Rogers
Ike Bowling	Dianne Grimm	Ann Lembke	Celia Schadel
Betty Brown	Mary Hardway	Alice Mabie	Allan Schultz
Jay Brown	Marydee Hartsook	Eugene Martinez	Susan Sexton
R.J. Brown	David Hettler	Kevin McMindes	Dorothy Wagner
Bonnie Carley	Clyde Hilson	Hal Miller	Bruce Whearty
Eddie Clark	Karen Hruby	Linda Norris	Margy Will
Scott Coulson	Marcy Jacobsen	Colleen Osborn	B. J. Wise
Jon DeWyke	Margret Jones	Sherry Popham	

In this time of sorrow,
 Help us to remember and know
 Deeply
 That if we simply turn to You
 Our hearts will be comforted
 Our loads will be lightened
 Our souls will be understood.

– Jennifer M. Spencer

May the Lord bless you with all good and keep you from all evil; may He give light to your heart with loving wisdom and be gracious unto you with eternal knowledge; may He lift his loving countenance upon you for eternal peace.

– Dead Sea Scrolls

Sue Barttelbort - Loss of Father
 Clint Jessen - Loss of Grandmother
 Jennifer Kaufman - Loss of Grandmother



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



A message to ANGIE LANE, our "so dependable and appreciated" paid nursery caregiver from all our Little Blessings.



My mommy told you thank-you for taking care of me. I wish I could talk, too! Whenever I come into the room, you smile at me. It makes me feel so good to see you! Sometimes I'm a little sad that my mom is leaving, so I can't smile back. But deep inside, I know you care for me. Thank you. I heard you talk about Jesus today. I don't exactly know who He is, but if He loves me as much as you do, He must be pretty special! I love you!

A message to all the SPECIAL PEOPLE who have been caregivers in our nursery this year:

I'm glad you noticed how much fun I was having playing with the blocks! First, I built towers. But then I banged the block on lots of things--the ball, the car, the wall, and even your leg! (I'm sorry that hurt you.) Thanks for giving me a train to bang on instead! I liked talking about the animals that God made and making sounds like my cat. It made me feel so warm and good when you told me that God Loves Me and you love me. I want to come every Sunday!



In Summary...

Children's Ministry

WOW!!! What a year. This has been one of the best Sunday school years I can remember. We had a great time, both leaders and students. A lot of it, I think, can be contributed to our "back to basics" and team approach. We focused on using the Bible, D.O.V.E. (our verse memorization project), the Wordless Book and Belonging to God: A First Catechism. By using these elements, we were able to focus on God's Word as it was written without a lot of interpretation and what I refer to as "fluff." Even the Bible is just a book unless it is looked at, used and lived.

Without teachers and leaders to help us learn about the Bible, we cannot grow in our faith. It takes planning, teachable materials and exceptional leaders to convey the information in an interesting, engaging format. One of the integral aspects of children's ministry is the Children's Ministry Team (CMT). This is a group of dedicated individuals who believe first in Christ and second in the importance of leading children to see and feel the love of Christ. The short version of the vision of CMT is: "...to help children GROW in Christ's love. How do we do this? First by showing them Christ's love..." Our team takes this responsibility seriously. The CMT is where the planning of curriculum and all the programs — Advent, summer programs, early release days, mission projects, children's library, etc. — begins. We meet year around. The team currently consists of: Julie Cook,

Tami Mason, Stephanie Prescott, Pastor Bob and myself. Margie George joined our team in April. We are blessed to have everyone of these people on this team.

Jesus led by example, parables, questions and answers. He sat down with the children. He walked among the people. He did not sit behind a Bible and talk AT the people. He was there in the midst of them. This is what you will find any Sunday in any of our Sunday school classrooms. Teachers who lead by example. Teachers who get down on a child's level literally and figuratively. They ask questions, share life experiences and make abstract ideas more real for children helping them to learn and live their faith. Our teachers are not just talking the talk, they are walking the walk. Who are these wonderful teachers leading the future of our church? They are: Linda and Jim Woodard, Laura Westby, Ashley Stratton, Lorie Andrews, Sally Sato, Tami Mason, and Margie George.

We have another special group of people — our youth leaders. We have junior and senior high school students helping from time-to-time in the classroom and with early release days. Many of these youth also help in the nursery. These students are: Jen Andrews, Brent Carver, Matt Carver, Kayla Cook (my early release buddy), Madeleine Sato, Rachel Sato, Javen Westby and Matt Woodard. This is a remarkable group of young people in our church.

There were many memorable moments this year. I would like to share a couple of them. First, we were talking about sin. One of the activities in the classroom was to wrap a child in toilet paper from head to toe. This represented the bondage of sin. They where then to pray and break away from the "sin" by breaking through the TP. I was in the classroom with Jen Andrews as she was doing this. Instead of having the child break away from the "sin," Jen was helping them to do it. After class, I asked her about it. She explained she helped the child break away from the "sin" because we all need Jesus to help us break away from the sin, we cannot do it on our own. What insight!!! Lorie (Jen's mother and teacher of team "Andrews") said Jen came up with that on her own. Way to go Jen!!!

Another special time was early in the year when it was team "Woodards-Westby" in the pre-kindergarten/kindergarten class. What made this special was we had four generations in the class — Linda and Jim Woodard, Laura Westby (Linda and Jim's niece), Matt Woodard (Linda and Jim's son), Javen Westby (Laura's older son) and Caden Westby (Laura's 3 year old son). What a family!!! Sharing God's love like it was meant to be shared.

D.O.V.E. was a memory verse project. Each child coming to Sunday school received a dove booklet which contained 24 Bible verses. They were to memorize as many verses as possible. Some of the verses where very short and some a little longer. This project was meant for every child from pre-kindergarten through sixth grade to be able to be successful in memorizing verses. A large chart was put in the CE assembly room. Every time a child recited a verse from memory, they put a sticker by their name showing which verse(s) they shared. EVERY child in Sunday school worked on their verses. EVERY child was successful. Our verse star though was Corrin Martinez. By April 5th, Corrin had memorized all 24 verses. Way to go Corrin!!! We will celebrate the children's accomplishments by having a bowling and pizza party.

As the Sunday school year comes to an end, it is met with both joy and sadness. There is great joy in seeing our children grow in their faith. It is sad to have something so fun and wonderful end. But, we must move on and start planning for next year. The goal is to make next year even better. As long as we follow Christ, how can we miss!!! See you in the fall.

With Christ's Love and Grace,
Caroline

Youth Update



I pray you all had a wonderful Easter with family and friends. This newsletter will be short because as I write this nothing has happened that needs to be reported on. The next newsletter will be filled with the highlights of Youth Sunday, so keep your eyes open for that.

The week of June 21-27, 2009 the youth will be heading to Camp Skyline for their Mission Trip. We have been asked to help build a prayer walk trail through the camp. This trail will highlight some of the memorable areas of camp, like the Vanilla tree and the cemetery. There are probably other areas of camp that the trail will cover but the goal for our group and a group from Boulder is to get things started around Timberline and head south as well as getting to the Vanilla tree and cemetery. If this sounds like something you would be interested in doing please plan on joining the Junior and Senior High youth group for a day or the week to help us reach this goal. More details are still to come so keep asking questions and keep on reading information that comes out. There is also an insert in the newsletter about this trip as well.

On June 20, 2009 a group of about 26 youth and adults from Shallowford Presbyterian Church in Atlanta, GA will be staying the night in our church. This group will then stay for Worship Service on Sunday June 21, 2009. I would like to invite anyone who attended the Mission trip to Martin, SD to join the youth and the Shallowford group for a dinner on June 20th. The Shallowford group is heading to Martin, SD for a mission trip themselves and would like to hear about your experiences in order for them to know what they might be doing on their trip. Stay tuned for more details on this event, for we are only in the early stages of planning this.

Have a wonderful month filled with many blessings.

If you have any questions or would like to help in any way please reach me at the church after 4:30 P.M. Monday – Friday (638-3345) or at home (307-575-3125) on the weekends. I'm available through e-mail (firstpresyouth@qwestoffice.net) all the time; just drop me a quick note. I also have a mailbox at the back of the Sanctuary labeled Youth Director.

Blessings,
Elizabeth "Liz" Rich
Interim Youth Director