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MEMORY JOGGERS FOR NOVEMBER 2016

November 6th Preaching Dave Thompson and Bill Lorentz **Greeters** Bob & Barbara Muir Lucile Weisbeck Ushers Jim Hummel Paige Spalding Peggy Wilson Megan Lorentz Liturgist Vicki Thompson **Van Driver** Don Harr **Sound Booth** David Bauer

Communion Janet Brown Rehe Spring

Janet Brown Bebe Spring Cathy Culbertson Bob Culbertson Heidi Duncan

The 13th Preaching Dave Thompson **Greeters** and special quest Greeters Ron Sperry Priscilla Laird Betty Ann Nesmith Ushers Diane Noddings Jerry Koch Ushers Bob Fedric Chris Eriksen Bill White John Thompson Don Reed Pat Clark **Sharon Mathews** Liturgist

Liturgist

Don Harr

Leggate

Bob Culbertson

Sound Booth

Jeff Gruizenga

Chuck & Cindy

Flower Delivery

Van Driver

The 20th Preaching Dave Thompson Greeters Phyllis Brown Ron Sperry Marge Myhra Ushers Jerry Koch Bob Fedric Bill White Don Reed Liturgist Bill Lorentz Van Driver Don Harr Sound Booth Chuck Leggate Flower Delivery Chris Eriksen

Dave Thompson Greeters Dottie Hilger Sharon Mathews Ushers Carla Bracken Teena Bracken Diane Noddings Peg Ostlund Liturgist Shirley Shirley Van Driver Heather McLean **Sound Booth Bob Culbertson** Flower Delivery Edna Carlson

The 27th

Preaching

December 4th Preaching Dave Thompson Greeters Bob & Norma Thiesen Thelma Riggs Ushers Bob & Cathy Culbertson Earl & Sharon Henderson Liturgist Tonya Appelt Van Driver Don Harr **Sound Booth** David Bauer

Communion Jerry & Bobbie Koch Chuck & Cindy Leggate Sharon Lincoln





2016

PASTOR'S PEN

"The Fingerprints of God"

I am writing this article from the Minneapolis airport as Vicki and I are returning from a six day trip to the east coast. In that short period of time we covered a lot of ground, including time in Washington DC, New York City, and Philadelphia. Particular places of interest were the Lincoln Memorial, the Holocaust Museum, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Mt. Vernon, the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, and the Liberty Bell. I want to provide three areas of reflection as I return from this trip.



- 1. I was reminded that our country was founded upon a strong identity in the Christian faith. Our forefathers who laid the foundation of our great country had a strong realization of the importance of God. Our country's Articles of Incorporation that were written in Philadelphia, the inscription on the Statue of Liberty, Lincoln's address at Gettysburg all contain references to a Creator and Sustainer God who enables us to pursue a calling toward "life, liberty, and a pursuit of happiness." Wherever we went, we saw God's fingerprints on the founding documents of this great country.
- 2. I was reminded just how multi-cultural America is. As I read through the lists of ship manifests which recorded new immigrants to the United States through Ellis Island, I found names of passengers from a variety of places and ethnic backgrounds from around the world. As we walked the streets of New York City, I witnessed firsthand the results of this circumstance. New York City is certainly a melting pot of people. We, in Montana, can be a bit sheltered from this realization as our make-up is predominately Caucasian and Native American. Truly, America is a place where all people and nationalities intersect.
- 3. I was reminded just how grateful I am to live in Montana. Having traveled to a place with 8.5 million people in New York City and all the lines of people waiting to take in the monuments in Washington DC, I must admit that there is no place like home. What makes America great is that there is a place for everyone, mine just doesn't happen to be in New York City. Although it is a place that one should experience sometime in your lifetime, I am happy to say "Been there and done that."

I am glad to be headed home to a place where the air is clean, the traffic is light, and the lines are relatively short. I am glad to live in a country that allows 319 million people to experience the fullness of life under the hand of a creator and sovereign God. I am glad to be able to worship freely without restrictions or limitations.

I look forward to worshipping with you on the next Lord's Day.

Blessings, Pastor Dave

Christmas With C.S. Lewis

You are invited to join others from our church for a memorable night with C.S. Lewis on Saturday, December 3 at 7:30 PM at the Alberta Bair Theatre. Portrayed by British actor David Payne, you will be invited into the life of this wonderful man of faith. Tickets are \$14 and will be on sale in November from the church office or Pastor Dave. Transportation from the church will be offered. Watch for more information coming soon.

COMING ATTRACTIONS:

New Member's Classes coming November 6 and 13 at 9:15 AM in the Fireside Room All church potluck will be held Sunday, November 13 following worship Annual Senior Thanksgiving Dinner coming on Wednesday, November 16 at 6:00 PM Community Thanksgiving worship coming Sunday, Nov. 20 at 3 PM at St. Stephen's Christmas with C.S. Lewis at Alberta Bair coming on Saturday, December 3 at 7:30 PM RMC Christmas concert hosted by our church on Sunday, December 4 at 3 and 7 PM

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Church Info

Office Hours: Mon—Thurs 8:30 am— 4 PM 406-252-3434 mainoffice@fpcbillings.org www.fpcbillings.org Sunday School @ 9:15 AM Worship Celebration @ 10:30

STAFF

Pastor: Dave Thompson Office Manager: Jeanne Thompson-Raney

Accompanist: Sandi Rabas Choir Director: Janie Sutton Custodian: Kent Fellingham

SESSION MEMBERS

Clerk of Session: Marlene Spencer

Class of 2017
David Bauer
Ken Eichenberger
Sharon Lincoln
Sharon Mathews

Class of 2018

Kathy Baskett Marv Brown Jeff Gruizenga Sandi Schoenberger

Class of 2019
Chris Eriksen
Jenice Fugere
Chuck Leggate
Heather McLean

FOOD BANK SUNDAY

Our church was one of the first churches in Billings to designate a monthly Food Bank Sunday. We invite you to bring some non-perishable food items with you on the first Sunday of each month as we help local people in need. Our next Food Bank Sunday will be held on Sunday, November 6. Thanks to all who brought food last month!

Session Notes:

The session met on Tuesday, October 11 at 7:00 PM in the Fireside Room.

The mission committee was given permission to donate \$30,000 to the following charitable organizations: Tumbleweed will receive \$10,000; Friendship House will be the recipient of \$10,000 to help fund updated playground equipment; Kristi Van Nostran, who works for the Presbyterian Mission Agency in El Salvador will receive \$5,000 to help support its efforts; Global Village, a nonprofit fair trade organization will receive \$5,000 to assist with the operating cost of the store here in Billings.

The property committee reported that the microphones are in working condition. The remodeling project will be finished as soon as a few small details are completed.

Pastor Dave will conduct a new member class beginning November 6.

Financial snapshot

2016	Income	Expense	Net
October	\$ 50,605	\$ 187,279	\$ (136,674)
YTD	\$ 406,109	\$ 585,616	\$ (179,507)

Expenses in October are much higher than normal and a large portion of it reflects the amount paid to Fisher Construction for the office/bathroom remodeling project. Even though we have reserve funds to cover most of the cost, we still run the financials through the General Fund budget. We have about \$50,000 to raise to complete the capital campaign for the remodeling project and would appreciate any donations to the "building fund."

OCTOBER	2016
2ND	194
9тн	175
16тн	189
23RD	135
ЗОтн	193
2016 Oct Average	177
2015 OCT AVERAGE	187

Sermons available on-line

Did you know that you can listen to sermons on-line at our website at www.fpcbillins.org? Just click the "Listen to Sermons" tab on the upper right front of our church's homepage. Stay connected even when you are away. Sermon for the past twelve weeks are archived on our church's website.

Church Mice:

Marlene Spencer is one of the busiest people in our church. She is Clerk of Session, Moderator of our Presbyterian Women's organization, is an usher and serves on the worship committee. Those are just her "official" jobs. It is difficult for the church mice to keep track of her, but we and the entire congregation appreciate her dedication to our church. Thanks for all you do Marlene!

FLOWER SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Our flower sign-up sheet is located on the back table in the narthex. We invite you to sign up for a particular Sunday to sponsor the flowers either in honor or memory of someone or a special event such as an anniversary, birthday, etc. Suggested donation is \$30. Special thanks to those who donated flowers during the month of September They are Diane Noddings, Peggy Jo Wilson, Tom and Ginny Helmer, and the Presbyterian Women's organization from our church.

Following worship each Sunday, the flowers are distributed to church members and friends in the hospital, nursing homes, or among those who are unable to attend church. If you would like to help with flower delivery, please talk with Chris Eriksen.

BATHROOM/OFFICE REMODELING UPDATE

Our office/bathroom remodeling project is nearing completion. The project includes new bathrooms for men and women, a new family restroom, and updates to Pastor Dave's office, conference room, and storage area. The total project cost is \$300,000. We continue to raise funds through a capital campaign with the goal of raising \$150,000 and the other half coming from church reserve funds. To donate to this fund, please indicated on your gift "Building Fund." Any and all donations to this project would be greatly appreciated. We have raised just about \$100,000 toward our \$150,000 goal. Thanks to all who have given.

Real Life Issues Group

Our church's Real Life Issues (RLI) group will meet again on Wednesday, November 16 at 10:00 AM in the new conference room at the church. This monthly group will discuss issues pertaining to end of life, death and dying, and spiritual questions. This group is open to anyone in the church or community who has an interest in dealing with these issues. You are invited to join us.

Senior Singles to meet on Saturday, November 19

Our church's Senior Singles group will be meeting on Saturday, November 19 at 10:00 AM at a location to be determined. This group meets monthly for a variety of activities and social events. Normally food is involved one way or another. For more information about this group, please talk with either Tom Erskine or Phyllis Brown. All senior single adults are welcome to attend.

Our Church's Leadership Team

Moderator of Session: Pastor Dave Thompson

Clerk of Session: Marlene Spencer

Class of 2017	<u>Class of 2018</u>	<u>Class of 2019</u>
David Bauer	Kathy Baskett (2)	Chris Eriksen (2)
Ken Eichenberger	Mary Brown (2)	Jenice Fugere (2)
Sharon Lincoln	Jeff Gruizenga (2)	Chuck Leggate
Sharon Mathews	Sandi Schoenberger	Heather McLean

Deacons:

<u>Class of 2017</u>	<u>Class of 2018</u>	<u>Class of 2019</u>
Diane Noddings (2)	Janet Brown (2)	Peggy Cluff
Kathy Ramage	Pam Gore (2)	Dodie Cox (2)
Paige Spalding	Ruth Kaufman	Bob Fedric
Marjorie Stewart	Charlie Pinnick	Janice Ward

(2) denotes a second consecutive terms that is currently being served.

Grief Support and Caregiver Support Groups

Two support groups at our church meet monthly. Our Grief Support Group meets the first Wednesday of each month at 10:00 AM and provides help, hope, and healing to those dealing with grief and loss.

A new group, Caregivers Support Group, meets the second Wednesday of each month at 10:00 AM and provides help to those who care for others. Both groups are open to anyone in the church and community and both are facilitated by Dr. Don Harr, a retired psychiatrist with a lot of years of experience.

Stephen Ministry Update

We have an active group of Stephen Ministers who are working to help others in our church and community. Each of our church's Stephen Ministers are assigned a care receiver with whom they provide one-on-one skills of listening, encouragement, and spiritual help. Stephen Ministry supervision is scheduled for the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM and includes time for continuing education and support. More information about Stephen Ministry is available through one of our church Stephen Ministry leaders who are JoAnn Jones, Doris Backus, Shirley Shirley, or Pastor Dave.

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On a Personal Note

"I would like to thank everyone in the congregation for their thoughts, prayers, flowers, and food. I appreciate your care and support during this time of my recovery with my brain cancer. Recovery is slow, but I know that the Lord is with me every step of the way and I have all of you with me too! God Bless," —Mary Grabow

"I would like to express what a blessing to have such a wonderful church family. Thank you all for your prayers, cards, visits, food and flowers. One never realizes how important friends are until you need them." —Gratefully yours in Christ, Kay Doss

A memorial service for Dr. Paul Crellin was held on October 8 at the Lillis Chapel.

A memorial service was held in our church for Eleanor Reinecke on October 28.

Helen Montgomery is recovering from back surgery she had on October 6 and will undergo another surgery soon.

A memorial service for Willeen Dailey will be held in our church on Saturday, December 9 at 10 AM. Willeen passed away last month at her home in Sparks, Nevada.

Congratulations to Bonnie Grossheusch who turned 100 years old on October 22. She is our oldest member! Congratulation to Aaron and Lis TenHarmsel on the birth of Ethan Lane. He was born on October 3 weighing 7 lbs. 4 oz. and measuring 19 1/2 inches. Grandparents are Wayne and Lynn TenHarmsel from our church also. Charlene (Rich) Switzer continues to undergo treatment for ALS Disease.

We extend our condolences to the family of Bobbie Lauwers on the death of her son, Rick. His funeral was held on October 8. Rick was also the father of Jason Lauwers and the brother of Cathy Culbertson and Sharon Henderson. Edna Carlson has returned home following heart surgery last month at the Billings Clinic

Juanita Stovall (arm surgery) and Sharon Lincoln (knee surgery) were both hospitalized last month.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Neve	2016	1 9:30 Women's Bible Study 12 Property Com- mittee Meeting	2 9 BSF Leaders 10 Grief Support Group 12 Bible Lunch Time (BLT) 6 Youth Group 7 Choir Rehearsal	3 BSF 9-11 1 Mission Commit- tee 7 CE Committee 7 College Group 7 Bible study	Presbytery meeting in Butte begins at 1 PM	5 10 AM Glu- ten Intoler- ance Group Presbytery meeting in Butte
6 9:15 Sun School 10:30 Worship Communion 11:00 West Park Global Village on Display	7 6 Billings Child Care Association Meeting	8 9:30 Women's Bible Study 12noon Finance Committee Mtg 7 Session meeting	9 9 BSF Leaders 9:30 PW Board 10 Caregivers Sup- port Group 12 BLT 7 Choir Rehearsal	BSF 9-11 7 College Group 7 Bible study	11 Church Office Closed	12
9:15 Sun School 10:30 Worship 11:00 West Park 11:30 Church Pot- luck	14 10 Worship Committee 12 Men's Group	9:30 Women's Bible Study	16 9 BSF Leaders PW Circles Meet 10 RLI Group 12 BLT 6 Senior Thanksgiv- ing Dinner 7 Choir Rehearsal	17 9–11 BSF 11 Fellowship Committee 12 Congregational Care Team 7 College Group 7 Bible study	18 Church Office Closed 12 United Women	19 10 Senior Singles Group
9:15 Sun School 10:30 Worship 11:00 West Park 2 Community choir 3 Thanksgiving ser	21 9 BSF Leaders 4 Deacons Meet- ing	9-11 BSF 9:30 Women's Bible Study 6 Stephen Minis- try Supervision	23 12 BLT No Youth Group No Choir Rehearsal	Give Thanks	25 Church Office Closed	26
27 8:15 Family Promise Set-Up 9:15 Sun School 10:30 Worship 11 West Park	28 Family Promise Here 12 Men's Group	29 Family Promise Here 9:30 Women's Bible Study	30 FP Here 9 BSF Leaders 12 BLT 6 Youth Group 7Choir Rehearsal			

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Community Lecture Series coming to Billings November 4 and 5

You are invited to the Church of the Good Shepherd (1108 24th Street West) on November 4 and 5 for this special series featuring Amy-Jill Levine, Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies at Vanderbilt University. Topics will help participants gain a better understanding of Jesus, his parables, and the Bible. There are four sessions that will be offered, each costing \$25, or you can attend all four at a discounted rate of \$60. For more information and to see the full schedule of events, you can go to www.goodshepherdbillings.org or call 656-1080.

Sunday school classes

Sunday school for all ages continues each Sunday for children, youth, and adults. Lots of great classes are provided for all ages! Hope you all with join us!



Classes for Kids:

Kindergarten through 5th grade: This class meets at 9:15 AM

Middle School and High School: Youth meet in the downstairs youth coffee room with Russ and Heidi Sunday school during our worship service is held every week after the children's sermon. A variety of teachers lead this class for children ages kindergarten through the 5th grade.

With the growing number of children attending Sunday school during worship we will be offering two classes during worship. Additional teachers are needed for this growing program. If interested in helping teach, please talk with Robin Bauer.

Special Classes for Adults:

NEW MEMBERS' CLASS will be held on Sundays November 6 and 13 at 9:15 AM in the Fireside Room. Taught by Pastor Dave, this class is a great way to learn more about our church, our denomination, and the Christian life. New members will be introduced during worship on Sunday, November 13. If this class is of interest to you, please talk with Pastor Dave.

CHURCH & SOCIETY CLASS SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER:

NOVEMBER 6: Jim Gransbery, Retired Political and Agricultural Reporter for the Billings Gazette, will be speaking about "The Rule of St. Benedict: A Spiritual Guide for the 21st Century". St. Benedict composed daily meditations on the rule 1500 years ago amidst a time of great economic, societal, and political turmoil. Jim will discuss how these rules for monastics were historically developed and applied, proving that they are as relevant for our lives today as they were when St. Benedict wrote them.

NOVEMBER 13: Curt Kochner, Retired MSUB Administrator, and the Rev. Susan Thomas, Retired Coordinator in Pastoral Care at Billings Clinic. This past spring, Curt and Susan had the wonderful opportunity to walk the Camino de Santiago, an ancient pilgrimage route from St. Jean Pied de Port, France to Santiago, Spain. The pilgrimage honors St. James, one of the disciples of Jesus. Susan and Curt will share about their 500-mile, six-week journey across northern Spain, highlighting the spiritual lessons of their walk.

NOVEMBER 20: Speaker to be determined

NOVEMBER 27: There will be no class on November 27 due to Thanksgiving weekend.

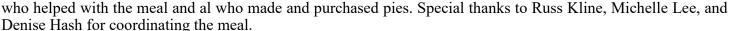
Community Thanksgiving Service coming on Sunday, November 20 at 3 PM

You are invited to join us on Sunday, November 20 at 3:00 PM at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church for our annual 13th Street community Thanksgiving service. Pastor Dave will be giving the sermon and a community choir will rehearse at 2:00 PM. This annual service is a way for us to gather with others at St. Stephen's and Peace Lutheran to thank God for the many blessings we receive throughout the year. Consider joining us this year as we gather with others to show our appreciation to God.

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A nice group of middle and high school group meets very Wednesday for dinner, games, worship, and Bible learning. If you would like to help provide a meal on one of our weekly gatherings, please talk with Jody Ferestad or Pastor Dave.

Thanks to all who made our annual pie auction another successful event on Sunday, October 16. \$4,114 was raised to support our youth ministry programs. Thanks to all



We had a great group attend the fall youth retreat held at Rockhaven Camp, located south of Bozeman. The youth enjoyed a beautiful weekend full of activities that brought them closer to God and one another. The annual ski retreat will be held in February and watch the upcoming bulletins and newsletters for more information about that special event.

The youth sold Cat/Griz raffle tickets for Family Promise with all money raised through this raffle supporting the Family Promise program of Yellowstone County.

We rely upon a great group of volunteers to keep the youth activities going and we continue to search for a full time person to work in this area. Please pray for the search process in finding the right person to lead our children's and youth ministry programs in the coming years. If you know of someone interested in this position, please have them talk with Pastor Dave or David Bauer.

Our church's young adults group meets Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM at the home of Trina White, 1145 Delphinium Drive. They are beginning a Bible study on the book of John. Designed for attendees to attend one, a few, or all weekly studies, this group meets for group discussion and personal reflection and to challenge yourself to grow in your relationship with Christ. They will meet weekly until Thanksgiving. For questions please contact Trina White or Jileasa Heidt at 698-8899.

Better Together Preschool continues

Our church is the new home to the Better Together Preschool. This school is open for children ages 2 through pre-K and will meet in the upstairs educational wing. The preschool staff is comprised of five ladies, plus additional is asked of the parents.

Men's group

Our men's group is meeting the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 12noon in the Fireside Room. Join other men for a time of encouragement, fellowship, prayer, and study. This group is currently studying the New Testament book of Titus which encourages Christians to build a strong faith in the Lord. For more information about this group, please talk with Pastor Dave. The next meeting will be held on Monday, November 14 at 12noon. All men are invited.

Upcoming Committee Meetings in September

(All meetings are in the Fireside Room)

Property Committee
Mission Committee
Christian Education
Session Meeting
PW Board Meeting
Worship Committee
Fellowship Committee
Congregational Care Team
Deacons Meeting

Tuesday, November 1 at 12noon Thursday, November 3 at 1:00 PM Thursday, November 3 at 7:00 PM Tuesday, November 8 at 7:00 PM Wednesday, November 9 at 9:30am Monday, November 14 at 10:00 AM Thursday, November 17 at 11:00 AM Thursday, November 17 at 12noon Monday, November 21 at 4:00 PM

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP CONTINUES EVERY MONTH

A grief support group within our church continues to meet the first Wednesday of each month from 10-11. This group is open to anyone in the church or community who is experiencing grief. Facilitated by Dr. Don Harr, this group provide support, encouragement, and help to those facing grief, loss, or transitions in life. All are invited to join this special group. The next group meets on Wednesday, September 14 at 10:00 AM at the church in the conference room.



November Birthdays

- 1 Josephine Bartels
- 2 Marian Shehein
- 5 Cherrie McRae Marge Pemble Janet Brown
- 9 Beth Morrow
- 10 Chris Eriksen
- 12 Deborah Oliver
- 15 Barbara Muir
- 16 Julie Michalsky Lis TenHarmsel
- 17 Ginger Green
- 19 Emma McLean Bob Culbertson

- 20 Helen Zottnick
- 24 Jim Hummel
- 27 Colleen Lorentz Gail Janiak
- Colleen Lorentz
 28 Heather McLean
 Kathy Dubs

Anniversaries

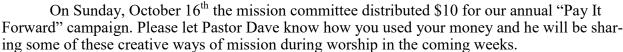
- 10 George & Ginger Green
- 23 Bill & Trina White
- 28 Ken & Ann Chase

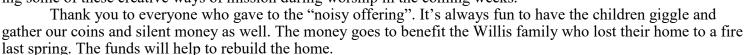


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Mission News

The mission committee had their October meeting at Eagle Rock Sanctuary-- and a Sanctuary away from the cares of the world it is. Thank you Jim Bell for sharing the history of Eagle Rock with us.





We, as a congregation, are so very blessed with the generosity of our members. Because of this generosity, we have been able to give more and more to charitable organizations.

After much prayer and discussion, the mission committee decided to make these donations.

Tumbleweed has a program called "drop in center". In afternoons kids may come to their facilities to socialize, have life skill classes, do homework and other helpful activities. They have showers and a washer and driver available for the kids as well. We will help fund this program with a \$10,000 donation.

Next spring, the Friendship House would like to replace their outdated playground with new 21st Century play equipment. Youth are best mentally when they are at their best physically. We agree with this thought and will give Pastor Matt Lundgren a check for \$10,000 at our church service on October 23rd.

Through the Presbyterian Mission Agency, Kristi Van Nostran is a missionary in El Salvador. She nurtures a relationship between churches and groups in El Salvador with Presbyterians in the United States. They strive to promote better agriculture practices and reduce hunger and improve rural economies. They will receive a check from us for \$5,000 to support these efforts.

Global Village is a nonprofit fair trade organization which supports the world's low income artisans and farmers. Their retail store in Billings is staffed by more than 40 volunteers. They will have a display of their products on Sunday, November 6 in our Fellowship Hall. To help defer their costs of operation we will donate \$5,000.

The Noisy Offering was received on Sunday, October 30 with \$916.34 raised to help the Willis family rebuild their house on 23rd Street West following a fire last year. Thanks to all who gave to this special offering.

Early in December we will be putting up the Angel tree. We look forward to choosing people to give Christmas gifts.

"For we rejoice when we ourselves are weak but you are strong; this we also pray for, that you be made complete." -- 2 Corinthians 13:9

