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2017

PASTOR'S PEN

"A Dad's Influence"

What do Andy Taylor, Mike Brady, and Charles Ingalls have in common? They have been rated as the top television dads of all time. Andy from *The Andy Griffith Show*, Mike from *The Brady Bunch*, and Charles from *Little House on the Prairie* all provide good examples of fatherhood.



In a few weeks, we will be celebrating Father's Day and I would like to take a moment to think about the important role which fathers play in our lives. Dr. Meg Meeker, in her new best selling book, *Hero: Being the Strong Father Your Children Need*, suggests that children who have a positive relationship with their fathers do better in school, are at less risk to engage in destructive behavior, and find enjoyment and fulfillment to a greater extent in life. This book highlights the many benefits which fathers have upon their children, physically, emotionally, mentally, and spiritually.

Many dads find themselves too busy to spend time with their children and leave the primary parenting role to mom. Both moms and dads are essential to raising children and kids need a balanced approach to discipline and care provided by their parents.

As I think about fathers, I am drawn to the relationship which God has with Jesus and Jesus has with us. The relationship between the Trinity (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) is one of inner connection and mutuality. You can't have one part of the Trinity without the other, leading Jesus to say, "The Father and I are one." (John 10:30). God provides a blueprint for a father's relationship with the son and gives a great model for fathers. I am blessed to have a wonderful model in my dad, a relationship that has been based on love, forgiveness, and respect. I hope I can emulate some of these same qualities in my relationship with our kids.

On Father's Day we will be celebrating the special and unique role which fathers play. We will be having a drawing for several gift cards from area businesses for the men of the church that will be given away during our morning worship service on Sunday, June 18.

I wish all of our dads a happy Father's Day and invite you to come and celebrate this special occasion with us on June 18. I also look forward to all of our summer activities that lie ahead: Vacation Bible School, Youth Mission Trip, Summer Block Party, among other activities. Have a wonderful summer enjoying the warm days and short nights that this area provides. I also look forward to being together in worship as we praise God for the many blessings that we enjoy as part of God's creation.

In Christ,

Pastor Dave

COMING ATTRACTIONS:

Vacation Bible School is coming June 5-9 from 9-12:15 each day
Relay for Life at West High School track will be held on Friday, July 7 at 7 PM
Family Promise here at our church June 11-17
Youth Mission Trip to Stanford, Montana from June 12-14
Annual Block Party on Wednesday, August 23 from 5:30-7:30 PM

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MEMORY JOGGERS FOR JUNE 2017

The 4th	The 11th	The 18th	The 25th
Preaching Dave Thompson Key Elder Sandi Schoenberger Greeters Jim & Biff Hogue Ushers Bob & Cathy Culbertson Earl & Sharon Henderson Liturgist Jenice Fugere Van Driver Charles Leggate Sound Booth David Bauer Communion Charlie Reed Pat Clark Heidi Duncan Jerry & Bobbie Koch	Preaching Dave Thompson Key Elder David Bauer Greeters Sharon Mathews Betty Ann Nesmith Ushers Janet Brown Bebe Spring Jo Albin Cindy Leggate Liturgist Kay Doss Van Driver Don Harr Sound Booth Chuck Leggate Flower Delivery Edna Carlson	Preaching Dave Thompson Key Elder Kathy Baskett Greeters Bob & Norma Thiesen Ushers Denise Hash Chris Erikson John Thompson Megan Lorentz Liturgist Linda Luse Van Driver Don Harr Sound Booth Jeff Gruizenga Flower Delivery Sharon Lincoln	Preaching Dave Thompson Key Elder Chuck Leggate Greeters Alta Dakolios Peggy Wilson Ushers Jim Hummel Paige Spalding Bud & Joanne Leuthold Liturgist Heather McLean Van Driver Heather McLean Sound Booth Bob Culbertson Flower Delivery Nina LaSeur

Church Info

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

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 June 5. Thanks to all who brought food last month!

Session Notes:

During its meeting on Tuesday, May 9 the session welcomed Jim and Jo Ausk, Joe and Judy Gerbase, Travis Harr, Kay Hein, Cheryl Morgan, Karen Morrow, Katelyn Morrow, Fern Nelson, Jase and Karen Norsworthy, and Carrie Rigney into the membership of our church.

The CE committee announced that Sunday School for children will be from 9:15 until 10:15 beginning in September. The search for a youth director continues. It was reported that the church has received a generous donation from the estate of Willeen Dailey.

Events approved by the sessions were: the baptism of Elizabeth Maki, infant daughter of Dan and Michelle Maki on June 25, the wedding of Michelle Berger and Lloyd Swords on May 20 and the mini mission trip to Stanford, Montana, from June 12-14.

Financial snapshot

2017	Income	Expense	Net
May	\$ 67,853	\$ 22,939	\$ 44,914
YTD	\$ 241,413	\$ 139,669	\$ 139,669

The elevated income from May is in part to a very nice gift from the estate of Willeen Daily who passed away last August. We appreciate the Daily family for this generous gift.

Per-Capita is being received for 2017. Our church pays \$47 per member. If you would like to pay your share of the per-capita that would be appreciated. You can write a check to the church and indicate on the memo line “Per-Capita.” We appreciate your giving to help off-set this fund. Thank you!

MAY	2017
7TH	209
14TH	209
21ST	169
28TH	127
2017 MAY AVERAGE	179

Church Mice:

Not many members (old or new) spend 4 days a week at our church. However, new members Karen Norsworthy and Karen Morrow spend Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday at our church. As co-directors of Better Together Preschool, they are here three days a week with 33 preschool children.

On Sunday, May 14, 2017, Karen Norsworthy and her husband, Jase and Karen Morrow and her daughter Katelyn (who was also baptized) were in the newest class of new members at First Presbyterian Church. We welcome these two families and all the new members in that class.

We are glad to have Karen and Karen so involved in our church through the preschool program and other activities.

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 May. They are Bob & Cathy Culbertson (in celebration of their anniversary), Gary & Judy Lohnbakken (in memory of their son Russell), and Sharon Lincoln (in memory of her husband Cecil). 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.

MEMORY JOGGERS FOR JULY 2017

July 2nd Preaching Dave Thompson Key Elder Sandi Schoenberger Greeters David & Robyn Bauer Ushers Jim & Louise Graff Gary & Judy Lohnbakken Liturgist Coryn Martinez Van Driver Chuck Leggate Sound Booth David Bauer	The 9th Preaching Dave Thompson Key Elder Chris Erikson Greeters Edna Carlson Pat Clark Ushers Carla Bracken Teena Bracken John & Susan Stewart Liturgist Rhonda Stennerson Van Driver Don Harr Sound Booth Chuck Leggate	The 16th Preaching Dave Thompson Key Elder Carla Bracken Greeters Carl & Vickie Johnson Ushers Jerry Koch Bob Fedric Bill White John Reed Liturgist Vicki Thompson Van Driver Don Harr Sound Booth Jeff Gruizenga	The 23rd Preaching To Be Determined Key Elder Heather McLean Greeters Carla Bracken Teena Bracken Ushers Sharon Brady Marian Shehein Marlene Spencer Betty Ann Nesmith Liturgist Don Harr Van Driver Heather McLean Sound Booth Bob Culbertson	The 30th Preaching Dave Thompson Key Elder Heather McLean Greeters Thelma Riggs Kay Doss Ushers Ken & Barbara Eichenberger Russ & Janet Kline Liturgist David Sanderson Van Driver Don Harr
Communion JoAnn Jones Sharon Mathews Bill & Colleen Lorentz Jody Mercer-Wallace				

MEMORY JOGGERS FOR AUGUST 2017

The 6th Preaching Dave Thompson Key Elder Chris Erikson Greeters Alta Dakolios Judy Nusbaum Ushers Earl & Sharon Henderson Robert & Cathy Culbertson Liturgist Kristy Catlin Van Driver Charles Leggate Sound Booth David Bauer	The 13th Preaching Dave Thompson Key Elder Carla Bracken Greeters Bob & Shirley Shirley Ushers Sharon Mathews Edna Carlson Peggy Wilson Sonja Bennett Liturgist Russ Kline Van Driver Don Harr Sound Booth Chuck Leggate	The 20th Preaching Dave Thompson Key Elder Chris Erikson Greeters Gary & Jean Schneider Ushers Chris Erikson John Reed John Thompson Charlie Reed Liturgist Bill Lorentz Van Driver Don Harr Sound Booth Jeff Gruizenga	The 27th Preaching Dave Thompson Key Elder Sharon Lincoln Greeters Ron Sperry Phyllis Brown Ushers Craig & Denise Hash Edna Carlson Pat Clark Liturgist Judy Cuff Van Driver Don Harr Sound Booth Bob Culbertson	Sept 3rd Preaching Dave Thompson Key Elder Heather McLean Greeters Bob & Norma Thiesen Ushers Carla Bracken Teena Bracken Liturgist Charlie Reed Van Driver Chuck Leggate Sound Booth David Bauer
Communion Marv & Janet Brown Heather McLean Doris Backus Sharon Lincoln				Communion Paige Spalding Jim Hummel Ken & Barb Eichenberger Chris Eriksen

On a Personal Note

Carol Harr and her family would like to thank the congregation, Presbyterian Women and Pastor Dave for your support this past month following Scott's death. Special thanks also to Sandi Rabas, Amy Letson and David Sanderson for providing music that Scott loved. Words alone are not enough to tell you how much your cards, flowers, memorials, hugs, prayers and words of sorrow and consolation have helped to carry us through this time. Truly you have followed the Apostle Paul's words when he instructed the Galatians to "carry each other's burdens to fulfill the law of Christ."

Ed & Edna Stauber would like to thank everyone for all your prayers, cards, and concerns. They would like to let you know that they are on the road to recovery.

Diane Nodding is doing well after having hip surgery on May 18

Peggy Oslund is doing well following back surgery in April



Welcome New Members

We welcome our newest group of members. They joined our church on Sunday, May 14. They include Jim and Jo Ausk, Joe and Judy Gerbase, Travis Harr, Kay Hein, Cheryl Morgan, Karen and Katelyn Morrow, Fern Nelson, Jase and Karen Norsworthy, and Carrie Rigney. Let's welcome them to the fellowship and mission of our congregation.

Our Church's Leadership Team

Elders:		
Moderator of Session: Pastor Dave Thompson		
Clerk of Session: Marlene Spencer		
<u>Class of 2017</u>	<u>Class of 2018</u>	<u>Class of 2019</u>
David Bauer	Kathy Baskett (2)	Chris Eriksen (2)
Ken Eichenberger	Marv 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.

Singles group to meet on Saturday, June 17

Our church's singles group will be meeting on Saturday, June 17 at 10 AM at a location to be determined. All singles are welcome to join this group which meets monthly for food and fellowship. Questions about this group can be directed to Phyllis Brown. Watch the Sunday bulletin and e-news for meeting location.

Stephen Ministry Update

Stephen Ministers continue to meet monthly for education and support. They meet the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6 PM in the Fireside Room. If you know of someone who could benefit from having a Stephen Minister, please talk with JoAnn Jones, Doris Backus, or Shirley Shirley. Stephen Ministers are available to help provide support and care to those going through difficult times, such as the loss of a spouse or other family member, health concern, transition in a job, or other life change that brings stress.



Mission News

Jack Bell visited our sister church, Makokaba Church in Zimbabwe. After he got home, he shared his trip with us. Individuals in our congregation donated a total of \$1,755 to the people Jack met on his trip. Our Mission Committee added \$1,500 to that fund. It will all be sent to Makokaba. The First Presbyterian Church of Stanford will add at least another \$1,000 to aid the students in Makokaba.

Our congregation donated \$2,593.84 to One Great Hour of Sharing. The mission committee matched those funds to make a total of \$5,187.68.

Quarterly, we are donating \$750 to the Peace Lutheran Church food pantry program. We also gave Eagle Rock Sanctuary \$2,500 for their operating expenses.

In August, Charles and Melissa Johnson, missionaries for PCUSA will be visiting Montana to speak to a number of churches. We are giving them \$500 to help with their travel expenses.

Our next mission committee meeting will be held in August.

For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.



Israel 2018— Plans are being made

We are considering a trip to Israel in the summer of 2018. Here are the details at this point:

1. The trip will likely be in mid-late June 2018 and is open to any in the church.
2. The trip will likely be for 12-14 days in duration, including travel to and from Billings
3. Sites that Pastor Dave would like our group to see would include the Sea of Galilee, Mt. of Beatitudes, Caesarea Maritime, Caesarea Philippi, Capernaum, Nazareth, Jerusalem, Masada, the Dead Sea, Jericho, Qumran (where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found), and Bethlehem.
4. The cost will be in the neighborhood of \$4,000 which would include plane, hotels, most meals, bus transportation, and tour guide.
5. Pastor Dave would like for the group to meet 6-8 times leading up to the trip to better acquaint you on the sites that we will be visiting and to learn more about their biblical significance. He found this helpful when he traveled to Israel in 2009 as it gave him a better understanding of what he was seeing and how geography and theology are connected.

If you have an interest in going, please talk with Pastor Dave. A deposit will not be required until later this fall, but planning ahead is always a good idea. Passports are required and some shots might be recommended. Further information will be forthcoming in the weekly e-news and church bulletins. If you would like your name to be added to the potential list, please talk with Pastor Dave.

Relay for Life coming Friday, July 7

The annual American Cancer Society's Relay for Life will be held at the West High School track on Friday, July 7 beginning at 7:00 PM. The team from our church will be selling luminaries before and after worship on June 18 and 25. Luminaries are \$10 and can be given in honor or in memory of a loved one. Those who want to join our team can register on-line at www.yellowstonecountyrelayforlife.org and click on the "Join a Team" link. For questions, please talk with Chris Eriksen.

Mini-Mission Trip to Stanford, Montana from June 12-14

We would love to have you join us for a mini mission trip to Stanford, Montana, from June 12-14 (Monday-Wednesday). We will be taking our Vacation Bible School program to the Presbyterian Church in Stanford where Jack Bell is serving as their Commissioned Lay Pastor. We will lead VBS each day from 8:30-12noon. We will also plan an outing to the waterpark in Great Falls one afternoon. If you are interested in joining us please contact Pastor Dave. Adults and youth are welcome. There will be no cost to join us for this special trip.

Youth News:

The youth group changes gears a bit in the summer with weekly meetings taking a hiatus during the summer months. We invite the youth to continue to participate in a variety of activities including helping with our annual vacation Bible school program which runs from June 5-9 from 9-12:15 each day. We will also be taking a mini mission trip to Stanford (Montana) from June 12-14 where we will be taking our VBS program on the road. This trip will include some fun in Great Falls at the water park and a church picnic with the Stanford congregation.



Summer camping opportunities at Westminster Spires (just south of Red Lodge) are abundant in July. Elementary camp will run from July 9-14; Middle school camp will be held July 16-21; and senior high camp will be July 23-28. We invite kids of all ages to attend camp as it provides a wonderful week of fun and learning. Camp scholarships are available if needed. Camp information can be found at the church or on the presbytery's website at www.yellowstone.pcusa.org.

Thanks again to the many volunteers who help with our youth programs!

Family Promise returns June 11-18

Your help with our Family Promise week would be greatly appreciated. Families served through this program will arrive on Sunday, June 11 and will leave our church on Sunday, June 18. Help is needed with meals, overnight hosting, and activities. A sign up list is available on the bulletin board outside of the Fireside Room door. Family Promise is a community based program that works specifically with homeless families in the Billings area. For more information, please talk with Chris Eriksen or Marv & Janet Brown.

Men's group

Our men's group meets the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 12noon in the Fireside Room. This group will begin a new study of the Old Testament book of Ecclesiastes. This book talks much about finding purpose and joy in life. The next meeting will be held on Monday, June 12 at 12noon. All men are invited.

Upcoming Committee Meetings in March

(All meetings are in the Fireside Room)

Christian Education	Thursday, June 1 at 7:00 PM
Property Committee	Tuesday, June 6 at 12noon
Congregational Care Team	Thursday, June 15 at 12noon
Stephen Ministry Leaders	Monday, June 19 at 11:30 AM
Session Meeting	Tuesday, June 20 at 7:00 PM
Mission Committee	Thursday, August 3 at 1:00 PM

Annual community block party is coming Wednesday, August 23

Make plans to join us on Wednesday, August 23 from 5:30-8:00 PM for our annual community block party at the church. Always a fun evening with free food, games, music, dunk tank, and goodies. This is a great way for our church to reach out to our neighbors and to be a good neighbor to those in our community. Invite some friends to join you and lets show others how much fun we can have in the Lord. This event is being organized by our church's fellowship committee.

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. This group will be meeting on Wednesdays, June 7, July 5, and August 2 at 10:00 AM at the church in the conference room.



June Birthdays

- 1 Peter Weisbeck
Karen Norsworthy
- 2 Andrew Wiens
Dave Thompson
Jason Ward
- 3 Lucille Weisbeck
June Pierce
- 4 Jane Quandt
- 6 Dan Gall
Juanita Stovall
- 7 Eric Leggate
Bill Young
- 8 Zoey Harr
- 9 Kelly Murch
- 11 Kurt McLean
- 12 Jeannette Davis
Karen Gall
Chuck Pinnick

- 14 Tom Helmer
- 17 Sharon Klovstad
Addison Norsworthy
- 19 John Thompson
- 20 Bobbie Lauwers
- 21 Carol Limbach
- 27 Bebe Spring
- 27 Linda Luse
- 29 Pat Hastings

Anniversaries

- 10 Russ & Janet Kline
- 12 Tim & Gail Janiak
- 14 Enoch & Lisa Walker
- 16 Mark & Teri Pattee
- 22 George & Maxine Schuman
- 23 Ken & Barb Gullard
Rod & Cindy Hessler
Jack & Karla Mahan
- 27 Dave & Vicki Thompson
Ernie & Susan Watters



July Birthdays

- 6 David Sanderson
Andrew Sterup
- 7 Patricia Clark
Lois Dalton
- 9 Charlie Reed
- 10 Pam Gore
- 11 Sandra Schoenberger
- 12 Amy Letson
Jason Ascheman
Michelle Berger
- 16 Norma Thiesen
- 18 Daniel Repka
Wava Knutson
- 19 Jim Bateman
- 20 Merilyn Ballard
Jim Duncan

- Rae Chaney
- 22 Bud Leuthold
- 23 Janet Kline
- 24 Mike Lafko
Shawn Pattee
Eric Wiens
Noah Bauer
- 27 Colin McRae
- 28 Phyllis Brown
- 29 Melissa Leggate
- 30 Carlene Taubert
- 31 Boden Lafko

Anniversaries

- 16 Jim & Cherrie McRae
- 19 Robert & Irene Sterup
- 22 Dan & Karen Gall

- 23 Tom & Ruth Drummond
- 27 Kevin & Karen Morrow



August Birthdays

- 1 Jo Albin
John Oliver
- 2 Ryan Lafko
Madison Morrow
- 4 Megan Bell
Jody Ferestad
- 5 Margie Jarrett
Deborah Keenum
Carrie Rigney
- 7 Russ Kline
- 8 Betty Ann Nesmith
- 11 Deb Wiens
- 12 Jerry Swanson
- 14 Darlene Busch
Jean Ross
John Luse
- 15 Lorrane Croymans

- 16 Vicki Thompson
- 22 Michelle Cormier Lee
- 28 Rod Hessler
- 31 Ruth Letson
Tom Erskine

Anniversaries

- 3 Joel & Lila Spring
- 7 Bob & Shari Dayton
- 11 Chuck & Cindy Leggate
- 14 Bill & Marilyn Ballard
- 19 John & Linda Luse
- 21 John & Lauren Wright
- 27 Tom & Jeannette Davis
- 30 Ralph & Jane Myhra
- 31 John & Mary Quandt

