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September



2019

Pastor's Pen

New Youth Minister Hired



I am very excited to introduce Russ Dornisch, our new minister of children and youth. Russ will begin his work with us on September 5 and brings a lot of experience and enthusiasm to this position. The interview committee who met with Russ all agree that he will be a good fit with our congregation and that he will help enhance and expand our programs to young people and their families. Here are a few things about Russ that we would like to share with you:

- * Russ is 31 years old and was married last January to Angie
- * Russ was born and raised in Colorado
- * He has a bachelors' degree in communications and a minor in youth ministry from Colorado Christian University
- * Russ is the new head boys' soccer coach at Skyview High School
- * Angie is the new pastor of Hope United Methodist Church in the Heights
- * The have two dogs
- * He and Angie moved to Billings in May and purchased a home in the Heights
- * Russ brings a youthful enthusiasm, strong work ethic, and gentle spirit to his work with people of all ages
- * Russ is a people person who enjoys playing soccer and hockey
- * He will be working closely with our church's Sunday school and youth ministry programs.

I look forward to welcoming Russ to our staff and working with him. Join us at the Ministry Fair on Sunday, September 8 from 9:15-10:15 as Russ looks forward to meeting you.

Worship returns to its 10:30 AM worship time on Sunday, September 8. Youth group will resume on Wednesday, September 11 from 6-8 PM for all middle school and high school youth. Sunday school for all ages will resume on Sunday, September 15 with classes offered for children, youth, and adults. Our reFUEL Bible study group will resume on Sunday, September 22 from 6-7 PM.

We hope that you will take part in all that FPC Billings has to offer. I look forward to a great start of the new fall season and working together with Russ to bring a deeper relationship of Christ to the church, community, and beyond.

—Pastor Dave

Coming Attractions:

Better Together Preschool program resumes on Wednesday, September 4
Fall worship schedule returns to 10:30 AM on Sunday, September 8
Ministry Fair coming on Sunday, September 8 at 9:15 AM. Free food and prizes!
Youth group resumes on Wednesday, September 11 from 6-8 PM
Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) resumes on Thursday, September 12 at 9:00 AM
Sunday school for all ages begins on Sunday, September 15 at 9:15 AM
ReFUEL group will resume on Sunday, September 22 at 6 PM

Memory Joggers for September

<u>The 1st</u>	<u>The 8th</u>	<u>The 15th</u>	<u>The 22nd</u>	<u>The 29th</u>
Greeters Bob & Linda Fedric	Greeters George & Heather Rosenfeld	Greeters Gary & Jean Schnieder	Greeters Carla Bracken Teena Bracken	Greeters Jim & Biff Hogue
Ushers Gary & Jean Schneider Teena Bracken Carla Bracken	Ushers Cindy Leggate Jaki Harada Greg & Deb Wiens	Ushers Jerry Koch Bob Fedric Bill White John Reed	Ushers Marlene Spencer Sharon Brady Betty Ann Nesmith Linda Luse	Ushers Carla Bracken Teena Bracken Greg & Deb Wiens
Liturgist Cherrie McRae	Liturgist Sara Thompson	Liturgist Vicki Thompson	Liturgist Suzanne Braun	Liturgist Shari Dayton
Sound Booth David Bauer	Sound Booth Chuck Leggate	Sound Booth Jeff Gruizenga	Sound Booth Bob Culbertson	Flower Delivery Sharon Lincoln
Communion Bob & Cathy Culbertson Russ & Janet Kline Carla Bracken	Flower Delivery Jack & Karla Mahan	Flower Delivery Chris Eriksen	Flower Delivery Chuck & Cindy Leggate	

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Church Info

Office Hours: Mon—Thurs
8:30 am— 4 PM
406-252-3434

mainoffice@fpcbillings.org
www.fpcbillings.org

Worship @ 9:30
Fall worship begins on Sep-
tember 9 at 10:30 AM

STAFF

Pastor: Dave Thompson

Youth Director: Russ Dornisch

Office Manager: Jeanne

Thompson-Raney

Accompanist: Sandi Rabas

Choir Director: Janie Sutton

Custodian: Kent Fellingham

Bus Driver: David Sanderson

SESSION MEMBERS

Clerk of Session: Marlene
Spencer

Class of 2020

David Bauer

Carla Bracken

Ken Eichenberger

Sharon Lincoln

Class of 2021

Janet Brown

Jim Hummel

Bud Leuthold

Sandi Schoenberger

Class of 2019

Dick Bailey

Kristy Catlin

Heather McLean

Bruce Phillips

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, September 1. Thanks to all who brought food last month!

Session Notes: At the August 13 meeting of the session, approval was given for the installation of new flooring in the kitchen. Jim Hummel was thanked for his role in making this possible with his work at Carpet One.

The new digital sign which is visible from Poly Drive currently being erected and should be operational by the middle of August.

Our church is making a significant contribution to the new Habitat for Humanity house which is presently under construction.

We will return to the 10:30 AM hour for worship on September 8. The annual Ministry Fair will also be held on that date.

Financial snapshot

2019	Income	Expense	Net
August	\$ 40,544	\$ 27,050	\$13,494
YTD	\$ 284,035	\$ 251,394	\$32,641

We appreciate your continued financial support of our church and its ongoing ministries

AUGUST	2019
4th	171
11th	163
18th	174
25th	160
Aug Ave	167

Sermons available on-line

Did you know that you can listen to sermons on-line at our website at www.fpcbillings.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: We are about to resume our fall/winter church schedule. The church mice are very appreciative of those who provide additional Sunday opportunities in which church members can participate.

Shari Dayton, with her sidekick Don Harr, provides speakers each week in the Church and Society class. We are also grateful for our student interns who are involved in Sunday school for our younger members. We also appreciate Bruce Hoffman who assists Pastor Dave with the reFUEL group which will resume on Sunday, September 22 in the evenings. Thanks to all who help with our Christian education programs!!



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 \$25. Special thanks to those who donated flowers during the summer months. They were Greg & Deb Wiens and Russ & Janet Kline in memory of their parents, the Rev. Norman & Iris Austin; Jo Albin in memory of her husband and children; the Presbyterian Women's group from our church; Bruce & Lisa Burns in honor of Pat Clark's 90th birthday; Greta Murray, Carol Harr, Cathy McLean, Cathie Bell, Beth Morrow, JoAnn Jones, Linda Haden, and Bobbi Koch in honor of Jane & in Memory of Ralph Myhre; Carol Annin in honor of Tom & Ruth Drummond's 65th Anniversary; Fern Nelson in memory of her late husband, Dr. Robert C. Nelson; Len & Bonnie Richards in honor of their 38th wedding anniversary; Marlene Spencer in memory of her husband; and Suzanne Braun in memory of her parents.

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.

Women's Bible study resumes on Tuesday, September 10

Ladies are invited to the woman's Bible study in the Fireside Room every Tuesday morning at 9:30 AM, beginning on Tuesday, September 10. Facilitated by Mary Lou Jacobson, this long standing group meets weekly for Bible study, prayer, and fellowship. This group is always open to new participants. They will begin the year with a study on womanhood. Questions about this group can be addressed to Mary Lou at 252-1315. All women are invited and encouraged to attend.

Ministry Fair coming on Sunday, September 8

Join us on Sunday, September 8 at 9:15 in the Fellowship Hall for our annual Ministry Fair. Lots of information about our fall program opportunities will be available along with a tour of our new preschool facilities. We might also be providing tours of the newly remodeled bathroom/office area. Free food, prizes, and beverages will be provided. Join us to learn more about our church and all that we offer.



Christ caring for people through people

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministry Update

We are blessed with a very active group of Stephen Ministers who support the church in providing care and concern to those in our church and community. Stephen Ministry supervision is scheduled for the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6 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.

Our Church's Leadership Team

Session: Moderator- Pastor Dave Thompson

Clerk of Session: Marlene Spencer

Class of 2020

David Bauer (2)

Carla Bracken

Ken Eichenberger (2)

Sharon Lincoln (2)

Class of 2021

Janet Brown

Jim Hummel

Bud Leuthold

Sandi Schoenberger (2)

Class of 2022

Dick Bailey

Christy Katlin

Heather McLean (2)

Bruce Phillips

Deacons:

Class of 2020

Kathy Ramage (2)

Lorrie Rimpe

Paige Spalding (2)

Marjorie Stewart (2)

Class of 2021

Jo Ausk

Sharon Brady

Charlie Pinnick (2)

Jean Schneider

Class of 2022

Peggy Cluff (2)

Pam Harr

Len & Bonnie Richards

Janice Ward (2)

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

Support groups continue to meet monthly

Two support groups meet at our church on a monthly basis. They are:

1. Our Grief Support Group meets the first Wednesday and the third Tuesday of each month at 10:00 AM and provides help, hope, and healing to those dealing with grief and loss.

2. Our RLI Group deals with "Real Life Issues" and meets the second Wednesday of every month at 10:00 AM This group meets to discuss issues pertaining to a wide range of issues

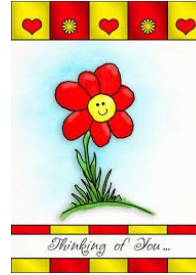
Both groups are open to anyone in the church and community and maintain a high level of confidentiality. Both of these groups meet in our new conference room.

For questions about any of these support groups, please talk with Dr. Don Harr or Pastor Dave. Dr. Harr is a retired psychiatrist with a lot of years of experience in helping people cope and grow through their loss.



On a Personal Note

Ed Stauber's funeral will be held in our church on Monday, September 30 at 10 AM. Mary Wempner passed away on August 5 and a private memorial service was held with her family. CJ Johnson's mother, Carleen Johnson, passed away on August 20 under hospice care. Jack Bell has been hospitalized several times in the past month with complications from cancer. Bob and Penni Nance appreciate your prayer as Bob has been dealing with heart concerns. Gary Lohnbakken is doing well following heart valve surgery in July. Ken Eichenberger has returned home under hospice care after being hospitalized recently. Judy Cuff has returned home after being hospitalized recently.



Come and reFUEL on Sunday evenings

Do you have a desire to get to know people in the church in a more personal way? Do you wish to study the Bible and see how God's word applies to your life? Join us for reFUEL (Fellowship, Understanding, and Encouragement in the Lord) on Sunday evenings from 6-7 PM in the Fireside Room, beginning on Sunday, September 22. Co-led by Bruce Hoffman and Pastor Dave, this series includes an opening game, sharing, study, prayer, and treats.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Food Bank Sunday 9:30 Worship Communion 11:00 Westpark worship	2 Office Closed in Observance of Labor Day	3 12noon Property Committee Meeting	4 9 Preschool 9 BSF Workshop 10 Grief Support 12noon BLT 7 Choir Rehearsal 7 College group	5 1 Mission Committee tour of Global Village 7 Christian ed Committee	6 9-1 Preschool	7 10 Gluten Intolerant Group (GIG)
8 Worship Time Change 9:15 Ministry Fair 10:30 Worship 11:00 Westpark worship	9 9-1 Preschool 10 Worship Committee 12 Men's Group	10 9:30 Women's Bible Study resumes 7 Session meeting	11 9:30 PW Board 10 RLI Group 12noon BLT 6 Youth Group 7 Choir Rehearsal 7 College group	12 9 Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) Resumes Dave in Bozeman for Presby. Comm	13 9-1 Preschool	14
15 9:15 Sunday School begins 10:30 Worship 11:00 Westpark worship	16 9-1 Preschool	17 9:30 Women's Bible Study 10 Grief Support Group meets in the Conf. Room	18 9-1 Preschool PW Circles Meet 12noon BLT 6 Youth Group 7 Choir Rehearsal 7 College group	19 9 Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) 12 Congregational Care Team Meets	20 9-1 Preschool 12 Preschool Lunch 4 Wed rehearsal Newsletter Deadline	21 Travis Harr and Cassandra Stewart wedding
22 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 11 Westpark 6 reFUEL resumes	23 9-1 Preschool 12 Men's Group 4 Deacons meeting in the Fireside Room	24 9:30 Women's Bible Study 6 Stephen Ministry Supervision meets in the Fireside Room	25 9 BSF Leaders 9-1 Preschool 12noon BLT 6 Youth Group 7 Choir Rehearsal 7 College group	26 9 Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) 11 Fellowship Committee meets in the Fireside Rm	27 9-1 Preschool	28
29 9:15 Sun Sch 10:30 Worship 11 Westpark 6 reFUEL	30 10 Funeral for Ed Stauber	September			2019	



Presbyterian Women

This year's PW study is called *Love Carved In Stone, A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments*. We probably all think we have a basic idea what the Ten Commandments mean. We do our best to follow them by loving God, honoring our parents, not stealing, and more.

But we are about to embark on an adventure of learning and thinking in a more complete way. Our author takes each commandment, or "word" as she calls them, to a new level. She shows us the meaning of the original Hebrew scriptures and how the whole law and culture of the time impact each commandment. She also has a piece each lesson on what Jesus said about that particular commandment. We know not to steal things, but have you ever considered that being a bully can steal someone's self-worth? We look forward to learning the deeper meanings of these commandments.

The PW organization in our church has five different groups which meet monthly for study, fellowship. Groups meet in the mornings, afternoons, and evenings. Consider joining one of our groups to grow in your faith in God and one another. For more information about the PW organization in our church, please talk with either Sandi Schoenberger or Marlene Spencer.

The PW board will meet on Wednesday, September 11 at 9:30 AM in the Fireside Room. PW groups will meet on Wednesday, September 18 with two groups meeting in the morning, two groups meeting in the afternoon, and a group that meets in the evening. Talk to Marlene Spencer about meeting times and locations.

Sunday school classes start on September 15

Sunday school for all ages will begin on Sunday, September 15 for children, youth, and adults. Lots of great classes are provided for all ages! Hope you all will join us!



Classes for Kids:

Sunday school during our worship service will resume on Sunday, September 15 after the children's sermon. Our student interns will lead this class for children ages kindergarten through the 5th grade.

Special Class for Adults:

"Do You Believe in Miracles?" Pastor Dave will begin a new adult Sunday school class, starting on Sunday, September 15 titled, "Miracles." Dave will help us understand the three kinds of miracles found in the Bible and how they changed people's lives. We will also consider if miracles still occur today. Join us as we explore this fascinating area. This six week class will continue through Sunday, October 20.

Church and Society Class meets in the C & S Room. Here is the schedule of speakers for September:

September 15 Dr. Tim Lehman, Professor of History, Rocky Mountain College. "One Nation Under God: The Rise of Political Evangelicalism." This discussion will trace the increasing involvement of Christian evangelicals in politics from the rise of the Moral Majority in the 1970s to the flourishing of Christian responses to politics in the present.

September 22 Dr. Jennifer Lynn, Associate Professor, Department of History, Director of Women's and Gender Studies Center. "Spiritual Resistance During the Holocaust." What were the possibilities for resistance during the Holocaust? This discussion explores how individuals and groups fought to maintain dignity and humanity (through cultural, religious, and artistic practices) in the face of dehumanization.

September 29 Jessica Meeker, RMC Student. Jessica is the current recipient of the Rotary Club's Hartman Scholarship. She will be a senior at Rocky Mountain College and is majoring in environmental science and English creative writing. During the presentation she will be providing photos and a brief talk about what college has done for her and how the Hartman Scholarship has changed her life. Jessica is the granddaughter of Sharon Brady. RMC is historically related to Presbyterian Church USA and the Presbytery continues to fund the RMC campus ministry, in addition to the ministries at MSU and MSUB.

MSU-B 2019 Annual Dinner and Fundraiser

Our Annual Dinner in support of United Campus Ministry's work at MSUB will be held Tuesday, September 24 from 5:30-8:30 PM. The event will take place in the Glacier Room in the Student Union Building of MSU-B (1500 University Avenue). Over dinner we'll share stories about UCM from students and Rev. Dwight Welch. A silent and live auction will be held. Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased by sending a check to UCM at MSUB at 1500 University Drive; Billings MT 59101. Churches can purchase a table of 6 for \$400 and will receive special recognition. Dr. Dan Edelman, the chancellor at MSU-B, will speak about "Religious Understanding in an age of Polarization."

Youth News:

Our youth had a busy summer of activities that began with a full and fun week of Vacation Bible School. Many of our youth assisted as crew leaders, providing lots of help with just over 100 children attending.



In July, a group of youth traveled the Presbyterian Youth Triennium conference in Indiana. We had a great experience with over 4,000 at this conference at Purdue University. Heather McLean, Kristin Kochner, and Pastor Dave led this trip.

In August, a group of youth led Vacation Bible School at the First Presbyterian Church in Stanford, Montana. Pastor Jack Bell greatly appreciated our group that has come to Stanford the past five years.

We look forward to having Russ Dornisch as our new youth pastor. Russ is looking forward to getting to know our children, youth, and their families. Youth group will resume on Wednesday, September 11 from 6-8 PM for all middle and high school students. Each night will include a meal, games, music/worship, and Bible sharing time. Meals are once again needed each Wednesday evening. Please talk with Russ if you would like to help provide a meal for a Wednesday evening.

Thanks to all who help support our youth activities. We have an active group and appreciate the opportunities we have to share God's love with our children and youth.

Fall worship schedule changes on Sunday, September 8



Our fall worship schedule will change on Sunday, September 8 with worship at 10:30 AM. Our annual Ministry Fair will also be held on Sunday, September 8 at 9:15 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Sunday school classes will resume on Sunday, September 15 at 9:15 AM.

Better Together Preschool will begin September

Our church continues to be the home of the Better Together Preschool and they will resume classes on Wednesday, September 4. This school is open for children ages 2 through pre-K and will meet in the downstairs classrooms. The preschool staff is comprised of five ladies, plus additional help is asked of the parents. For more information, please contact Karen Norsworthy at 690-8481 or Karen Morrow at 281-0280.

Men's group

Our men's group meets 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 book of Matthew from the New Testament. For more information about this group, please talk with Pastor Dave. The next meeting will be held on Monday, September 9 at 12noon. All men are invited.

Upcoming Committee Meetings in September

(All meetings are in the Fireside Room)

Property Committee	Tuesday, September 3 at 12noon
Mission Committee	Thursday, September 5 at 1:00 PM
Christian Education	Thursday, September 5 at 7:00 PM
Worship Committee	Monday, September 9 at 10:00 AM
Session Meeting	Tuesday, September 10 at 7:00 PM
PW Board Meeting	Wednesday, September 11 at 9:30am
Congregational Care Team	Thursday, September 19 at 12noon
Deacons Meeting	Monday, September 23 at 4:00 PM
Fellowship Committee	Thursday, September 26 at 11:00 AM

Block Party Appreciation!!

We had a great time at this year's block party on Wednesday, August 21. The weather was fantastic, the volunteers helpers were incredible, and the turn out was superb! We had a wonderful evening of great food, games, music, and activities for all. Thanks to ALL of the members of the Fellowship Committee and ALL the volunteers for their generosity of time and talent in planning, preparation and assistance in making this year's Community Block Party a Huge Success!!! Special thanks to Bill Dimich and Pepsi for donating the pop, water, and ice; and to John Thompson for providing the music. —Sandi Schoenberger, Chair of the Fellowship Committee



Birthdays

- 1 Mara Duncan
- 3 Jo Ausk
- 4 Carla Bracken
- 5 Zach Morrow
- 6 Cathie Bell
- Kathy Butler
- Jack Mahan
- Sara Thompson
- 7 Robert Anacker
- 8 Jacob Schoenberger
- Andrew Letson
- Jeri Lamerton
- 9 Elise Keenum
- 12 Mary Grabow
- Sarah Luse

- 13 Jennifer Cole
- 14 Heather Rosenfeld
- 16 Robyn Bauer
- 18 Kallie Nagel
- Lila Spring
- 19 Diane Noddings
- 20 Ruth Drummond
- 21 Mary Ann Canan
- 22 Greg Wiens
- Jane Brewington
- 23 John Stewart
- 29 Howard Klovestad
- 30 Helen Hall
- Margie LaFontaine

Anniversaries

- 3 Jeff & Kerry Gruizenga
- David & Robyn Bauer
- Ken & Barbara Eichenberger
- 4 Cook & Kelly Murch
- 5 Jay & Cassie Kouba
- 14 Bud & Joanne Leuthold
- 19 Skip & Charlene Hayes
- 20 John & Debbie Oliver
- 21 Joe & Judy Gerbase
- 24 Craig & Denise Hash
- Jase & Karen Norsworthy
- 25 George & Heather Rosenfeld



Mission News

Cookie Sunday in June was a huge success. You brought so many wonderful cookies and helped bag them that we had more than enough for the Salvation Army. We had enough to share with Gateway House, Tumbleweed, and the Hub. They were thrilled to get them.

Felicia Burg from Family Promise visited with us and shared that their mission is to help the homeless to achieve success in life. In 2018, 34% of the people coming to Family Promise were single parents and 20% were couples. They served 515 families which consisted of 1,591 individuals of which 1,085 were children. They have 4 transitional housing units and are planning on acquiring 4 more by 2020. Family Promise utilizes several programs to help their families reach their goals of independence and success. These include emergency shelters, an aftercare program, a pre-screening program with counselors, a community diaper bank, make this house a home project, partnership in housing, and a transitional housing program.



Dr. Don Harr shared with us about the Out of the Darkness Suicide Prevention Walk. Funds received are used to inform and educate the public about suicide prevention as well as travel expenses for speakers having to travel within the state of Montana. The most at risk groups are those in poverty and higher age veterans. The age groups at risk are males over the age of 65, older adolescents, and young adults.

Guest Speaker, Carson Cramer spoke to us about Young Life. The main goal of Young Life is to bring God into the lives of children who do not attend a church regularly. To incorporate the program into the schools, volunteers go into the schools as tutors, classroom assistants and anywhere else the schools can use their services. They mingle with the children and build relationships with them and then once outside the school, they talk to them about coming to the Monday night club where they sing songs, create skits, play games, have raffles and bible studies. Young Life has started a program for teen mothers with a biblical curriculum and provide child care so the mothers can attend the classes. He said that "every kid is welcome".

Thanks to all who helped with our Family Promise week from August 4-11. Four homeless families stayed at our church that week through the local Family Promise chapter. Thanks to those who helped with set-up, providing meals, overnight hosting, and clean-up. Family Promise comes to our church 3-4 times a year on a rotation basis and we will host them once again at Christmas time. Chris Eriksen and Marv & Janet Brown serve as our church's Family Promise coordinators. Our next rotation of Family Promise will be November 17-23.

We were blessed to welcome Charles and Melissa Johnson, missionaries to Zambia at worship and for lunch in August. Charles teaches sustainable agriculture to students at Chasefu Theological College and is helping develop Chasefu Farm. The farm feeds the students and trains them in sustainable agriculture. Melissa serves as a Health Education Programs Facilitator in the Health Department. They ask for our prayers in their continued work in Zambia. Their verse as they travel throughout the United States is, Ecclesiastes 4:9-10. "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up."