

Staying Encouraged: Our church is here to help you through this pandemic. Pastor Dave, Stephen Ministers, and Deacons are available to talk, pray, or read scripture with you via the telephone or in person. Feel free to use these resources as we want to help and encourage one another.

Pledge cards will be received during worship this Sunday or anytime via the mail. We will also be receiving our One Great Hour of Sharing fish banks this Sunday as well. If you have yet to receive a pledge card, you can pick one up at the church or request that one be mailed to you. Thanks!

Pay It Forward Campaign will kick off this Sunday as we will be giving out \$10 to anyone who would like the money. We ask that you use the money as seed money to pay-it-forward by helping an individual, family, or group. For those who are not attending church, money is available in the church office if you would like to stop in or we can bring it to you if you would like.

Presbyterian Women's groups will be meeting this Wednesday. Check the calendar page for meeting times and locations.

ReFuel groups continue this week: We are offering four small group opportunities for a six-week period. These groups meet to provide a weekly small group experience (with social distancing) where people can come together for Bible study, prayer, and encouragement. Two groups are currently meeting in the afternoons and two groups in the evenings. If you are interested in being a part of one of these groups, please text/call Pastor Dave at 696-4913.

Grief Support Group will be meeting this Tuesday at 10:00 AM in the conference room. Facilitated by Dr. Don Harr, this group meets twice a month to provide support and encouragement to those facing grief and loss.

Drawing Close: Pastor Dave continues his Sunday school class titled, *Drawing Close* this Sunday at 9:15 AM in the Fireside Room. During this time of social distancing and isolation, many feel that they have drifted away from their faith. Dave is helping us look at ways that we can draw close to God during this time of pandemic and will be using examples like Elijah, the Apostle Paul, Mother Theresa, and Dietrick Bonhoeffer to help us find ways to stay connected with Christ. This four week class will continue through November 22.

Sanctuary flowers this Sunday are given by Vicky Zimmerman in memory of her father Larry Shriver; and Priscilla Laird in memory of her husband Walt. Our flower sign-up sheet is available to designate flowers in memory or honor of someone. Please find the sheet as you enter the sanctuary. Suggested donation is \$25.

Kids' Sunday School: Our children's Sunday school program is being offered on-line. Jaki Harada, a student at MSUB, is putting together a weekly lesson that is being sent out via e-mail.

Church Columbarium: Our church will be installing a columbarium next spring. There will be 30 niches available for purchase at \$1,000 per niche. Each niche can contain up to two urns. Please contact Sandi Schoenberger at 647-5685 if you are interested in learning more about this opportunity.



First Presbyterian Church

2420 13th Street West

Billings, Montana

252-3434

www.fpcbillings.org

November 15, 2020

Prelude *Sandi Rabas, accompanist*

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship:

Pastor: Long roads and uphill climbs;

People: The Christian life is a journey of faith.

Pastor: Detours, potholes, and construction zones;

All: God is there to guide and lead us along the way.

*Opening Song *“You Are My All in All”*

*Prayer of Confession (In Unison)

Bill Lorentz

Gracious and merciful God, help us to humble ourselves before you. Save us from the pride and arrogance that cuts us off from your hand of blessing. Teach us to walk softly with you every day and to never lose sight of your greatness and our need. We ask these things through the redeeming nature of Jesus Christ.

(Please continue in silent confession...)

*Assurance of Pardon

*Song # 2036 *“Give Thanks”*

Passing the Peace of Christ

L: May the peace of Christ be with you. All: And also with you.

Children’s Time

Prayer of Illumination

Bill Lorentz

Old Testament Scripture: Psalm 123 *pg. 572*

New Testament Scripture: Philippians 4:10-23 *pg. 199*

Sermon Series *“Seven Decisions”*

see Sermon Helps

Part 7 of 7: “Choosing to Press On”

*Song of Response # 344 *“Christ of the Upward Way”*

Worshipping God With Our Offerings

The Offertory *Michelle Berger, soloist*

*The Doxology *pg. 592*

*Prayer of Dedication

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Lord’s Prayer (Debts/Debtors)

*Closing Song # 341 *“Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine”*

*Benediction

*Postlude

Sandi Rabas, accompanist

* Indicates to stand, if able and comfortable.

Music license for use in worship and live streaming is provided via CCLI #20735174

Giving Mobile App: Check out our mobile giving app. You can simply text fpcbillings to 77977 and give a one-time gift or set up reoccurring gifts. If you have any questions, you can talk with Jeanne or Pastor Dave. We appreciate your generosity to our ministry!

This Week @ FPC

This Sunday
(Nov. 15)

Drawing Close class continues in Fireside Room 9:15 AM
Worship service 10:30 AM
Stewardship Sunday—pledge cards received during worship
Pay-It-Forward campaign kicks off
RMC Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary 2-6 PM
ReFuel Diesel Group meets in the Fireside Room 6 PM
ReFuel High Octane Group meets in Conference Room 6 PM

Monday

Monday morning work crew 9:00 AM
Better Together Preschool 9:00 AM
Kiwanis group meets in the Fellowship Hall 9:30 AM
Nominating Committee meets in the Fireside Room 12noon
RMC Choir Rehearsal in sanctuary 12noon
ReFuel Ethanol Group meets in the Fireside Room 2:00 PM
Billings Child Care Meeting in the Fellowship Hall 6:30 P

Tuesday

Men's Bible study meets in the C & S Room 9:00 AM
Women's Bible Study meets in the Fireside Room 9:30 AM
Grief Support Group meets in the Conference Room 10 AM
ReFuel Nitrous Group meets in the Fireside Room 1:00 PM

Wednesday

Better Together Preschool 9:00 AM
Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) Leader's Meeting 9:00 AM
Miriam Circle meets in the Fireside Room 9:15 AM
Naomi Circle meets in the Conference Room 9:15 AM
RMC Choir Rehearsal in Sanctuary 12noon
Elizabeth Circle meets in the Fireside Room 1 PM
Sarah Circle meets at the home of Marlene Spencer 1:00 PM
Deborah Circle meets downstairs in the Coffee Room 5:30 PM
InterVarsity College Ministry meets downstairs 5:30 PM
Youth Group for grades 6-12 6:00 PM
Young Adult Bible Study at Trina White's 7:00 PM

Thursday

Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) 9:00 AM
Congregational Care Team meets in the Fireside Room 12noon
RMC Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary 12noon
Mission Committee meets in the Fireside Room 7 PM

Friday

Better Together Preschool 9:00 AM
RMC Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary 12noon

Saturday

RMC Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary 9-12noon

Sunday
(Nov. 22)

Drawing Close class continues in Fireside Room 9:15 AM
Worship service 10:30 AM
RMC Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary 2-6 PM
ReFuel Diesel Group meets in the Fireside Room 6 PM
ReFuel High Octane Group meets in Conference Room 6 PM

Last Sunday: Attendance: 46

Offering: \$9,786.25

Sermon Helps

Designed to help you get the most out of the sermon

Sermon series: "Seven Decisions"

Part 7 of 7: "Choosing to Press On"

Philippians 4:10-23

A. The Key Decision:

I will _____ in my faith.

B. Observations about Persistence:

1. It is much easier to _____ than to _____.

2. Most of us are made for _____.

3. The Christian life is a long journey, not a _____.

4. Too much of life is spent doubting our _____ and believing our _____.

5. Faith is to _____ what one has not seen. The reward of faith is to _____ what one has believed.

C. Three Steps to a Persistent Faith:

1. Realize that God _____ for us along the way.

2. Remember the _____ you have received from God & others.

3. Return _____ to God through worship and giving.

D. Thought to Take With You:

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." —2 Timothy 4:7

Reviewing the Seven Decisions:

1. I choose to seek to be better not bitter.

2. I will seek the help from God and others.

3. I choose to be a person of action.

4. I have a decided heart.

5. Today I will choose to be happy.

6. I will greet this day with a forgiving spirit.

7. I will be a person of great faith.