

FIRST WORD

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH | 235 S 5th ST W | MISSOULA, MT 59801 | 406.549.5144 | WWW.FPCMISSOULA.ORG

OCTOBER 18, 2020

Worship this Sunday

Our **Scripture for this Sunday's worship** is Ephesians 3.14-21. Want to set your mind on something more nourishing than fear-inspiring election ads? In this passage Paul prays for us who count ourselves disciples of Jesus – that in all uncertainties we might be rooted and grounded in the love of Christ in all its dimensions. What if our neighbors of every stripe could count on us to be filled with such love?

After quite another week of wrestling, your church staff is cautiously optimistic that we have solved our livestreaming troubles with the simple solution of a new cord! We pray (even as I write) that you at home will find our worship livestream to work smoothly this week. If for some reason it does not, please watch your email.

Click this link to **live-stream** or later view our Sunday, October 18th service of worship:

<https://youtu.be/HWw8VUfS6KI>

You will also be able to join worship by clicking the link on FPC's web page at www.fpcmissoula.org, or find it on Facebook at 'First Presbyterian Church Missoula.'

BLESSING BAGS!

Our next Sending Sunday is October 25. One activity will be building blessing bags that will offer a hand to our homeless brothers and sisters when we meet them. We need donations of the following items to help with this effort:

warm socks **knit caps** **hand warmers**

Hygiene products (soap, shampoo, wet wipes, mouthwash, toothpaste, floss) preferably in small packaging - like travel or hotel complementary sizes.

comb **band aids** **hand sanitizer**
toothbrush **bottled water** **protein bars**
tuna/cracker pack **trail mix** **1 gallon zip**
lock bags

These are just examples of things we can include. **Please drop your donations by the church office no later than Friday the 23rd** so we can ensure we have enough items on hand for a successful project on Sunday morning.

Another Opportunity to Connect

Per Capita Giving

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) refers to our **yearly per capita giving** as "the tie that binds, providing the means to strengthen the connection of our work, and build lasting relationships to help all Presbyterians share God's love through mission and ministry." Presbyterian churches are called to connect, participate, and share in the work of the wider church through this annual request. The work of the Office of the General Assembly relies almost entirely on annual per capita funds, and our Glacier Presbytery uses portions of these funds also.

The annual rate is a *per-member apportionment* that is assessed biennially by the General Assembly. This year's rate has been set at \$52 *per member*. The Session decided to give members the opportunity help offset our **\$14,508** budget line item for FPC's 2020 per capita. We are grateful to those of you who have already responded. But we want to remind everyone again that this extra giving opportunity is available until the end of the year. After your contributions, the balance of the above amount will be paid out of our operating funds. During this time of virus, we will not provide the usual per capita envelopes, but should you be using a check, please mark "per capita" on the memo line. You can also give on-line.

Please pray and consider this extra giving and respond as you feel led. Thank you.

Lecture with David Swanson

Thursday, Oct. 22 at 8:45 p.m.

We pass on this invitation from Whitworth University Office of Church Engagement, especially because our own FPC staff and session are currently reading Rev. Swanson's book. (Kind of a late start, but it starts earlier in Spokane!)

David Swanson will join us (Whitworth Office of Church Engagement) later this month to discuss his book, *Redisciplining the White Church*. The event will be livestreamed via [Facebook](#) as part of the Biblical Justice Forum. You can also livestream the event at [this link](#). All are invited to tune in!

The Biblical Justice Forum started as a partnership between the OCE and First Presbyterian Church, Spokane. The forum features monthly events that focus on questions surrounding faith and justice. We are happy to be able to continue these events virtually for the time being and hope that as many of our local and non-local friends can join us. If you'd like to hear about future events, email Ross Carper at ross@spokanefpc.org to be added to the email list OR keep an eye on our [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

We are in need of persons to serve coffee and treats on the second Sunday of the month! We also need those who might serve on a sound/video tech team for worship. And we could also use some greeting/ushering help. If you are willing to serve, please call Emma (worship) or Jo (welcoming) in the church office at 549-5144. Or email: emma@fpcmissoula.org, jo@fpcmissoula.org

DODGEBALL FOR KIDS (AND KIDDISH ADULTS)!

Join us **on the front lawn following worship** (10:35ish) for some casual all-ages (yes, even littles) dodgeball with your church family! Wear warm clothes and run around or watch!



Take Pictures and send them to FPC!

Anytime you take pictures at FPC, please send your pics to secretary@fpcmissoula.org. Whether you're at worship, a meeting, an special event, a gathering...any time! We want your pictures!

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