

# FIRST WORD

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH | 235 S 5<sup>th</sup> ST W | MISSOULA, MT 59801 | 406.549.5144 | [WWW.FPCMISSOULA.ORG](http://WWW.FPCMISSOULA.ORG)  
February 28, 2021

## Worship this Sunday | February 28, 9:30am

Through Lent, we are *Walking His Way*, growing as disciples as we follow Jesus to the cross. This Sunday's text is Luke 11.1-13. What do you think the parable Jesus tells has to do with the prayer he invites? This week, I'll ask you a pair of questions: When was the time in your life when your practice of prayer was *best*? And how would you characterize your practice of prayer *now*?

We will be together in-person at 9:30am. You can also click this link to live-stream our worship (or view it afterward):

<https://youtu.be/zy9NrG9qt5U>

To listen by phone to the live 9:30 worship service on Sundays via Zoom, call 253-215-8782. You will be asked to enter three codes:

- Meeting ID: 897 6262 0870 (then #)
- Participant ID: (just press #)
- Password: 702769 (then #)

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

## Lenten Music Playlist

Throughout the Lenten season, we will be singing these songs in worship to help draw us nearer to the love of God as we remember and proclaim His story. You can click on the link below from your computer or smartphone to listen to these songs at home or wherever you may find yourself throughout the week:

[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL\\_kJeWF6N9UhueXsZqpvZcckb9\\_uRO\\_iLJ](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL_kJeWF6N9UhueXsZqpvZcckb9_uRO_iLJ)

## Daily Lenten Reflections for FPC

As we imagine what particular practices of restraint, prayer, and generosity might shape our journey through Lent, I want to invite you to **consider setting aside some time each day to meditate on a collection of Lenten reflections called '40,'** compiled by Emily Huff, Tracey's and my sister-in-law. This is the twelfth year that Emily has drawn together Lenten meditations as a spiritual discipline. As she writes in the introduction, 'don't worry about being 'behind' or 'ahead' on the daily readings. This is not an assignment or a race! Just enjoy and listen for what God might be speaking to your heart whenever you can carve out the space.' I pray that these readings might become a meaningful part of returning to Jesus with all your heart! Please find it on the FPC website at [fpcmissoula.org](http://fpcmissoula.org) under 'Downloadable Resources'.

## Church Member Seeking Help

A church member is looking for a donation of clothes for her 4-year old granddaughter who wears a size 5-6. If you have any clothing that you can donate, **please drop off at the Church Office by March 7th.**

## COVID Vaccine Assistance

Getting a COVID vaccine appointment can be very challenging right now. The online system fills up very fast and the phone system can be frustrating! Brent and Jo Ruby are available to help. Please reach out to Jo, and they will try to do their best and get you an appointment. You can reach her at 544-0965.

## Glacier Presbytery Winter Retreat

Glacier's winter retreats on prayer will be led by Dr. Gary Hansen, author of *Kneeling with iants*. Gary will be leading the **general Winter Retreat** session, open to all in the presbytery via Zoom, on **Sunday evening, February 28, 5:00-7:30**. This will be a "guest speaker" sp in the forthcoming Lenten Sunday night series hosted and led by Tim Lanham. All are invited to this retreat session (as well as the February 20<sup>th</sup> presbytery meeting). A link for signing up for the retreat or for the presbytery worship and business session, is available on the [Presbytery website](#).

## Church Member Seeking Help

A church member is looking for a donation of clothes for her 4-year old granddaughter who wears a size 5-6. If you have any clothing that you can donate, please drop off at the Church Office by March 7th.

### **Loving Our Neighbors by Stocking the Shelves! February 14th-28th**

Our Little Free Food Pantry in front of church is being well used by our neighborhood! Thank you to many in our Roots groups who have donated items these past months. To continue providing food for those struggling in our community, we are inviting our entire church family to help us stock up on non-perishable items. If we each bought an extra 3–5 items with our weekly groceries, all those extras would quickly add up to keep our food pantry full and ready for those who need it. What a tangible, practical way to continue to surprise our neighbors with Christ's love and care!

**There will be collection boxes in the sanctuary narthex and at the front office. You are welcome to drop off your donations in either place between February 14th and 28th. Please do not leave food outside or overload the pantry. We cannot have canned food in the pantry when temperatures are below 20 degrees.**

If you are not able to grocery shop at this time and want to contribute, you may designate money for the Little Free Food Pantry and we will send shoppers to purchase needed items. Questions or if you would like to help with ongoing support of the food pantry, please contact Katherine Kahl at 546-3418 or [katherinekahl@gmail.com](mailto:katherinekahl@gmail.com).

Thank you for your generosity on behalf of our neighbors!

Below is a suggested list of staple, nutritious and non-perishable items .

- Canned Tuna or Meat
- Peanut Butter
- Canned Soup (*Low/No Sodium*)
- Canned or Dry Beans
- Canned Vegetables (*Low/No Sodium*)
- Dry Cereal
- Baby Food & Formula
- Personal Care Items (*shampoo, conditioner, soap, feminine hygiene products, etc.*)
- Tomato Sauce
- Cooking Oil
- Pasta
- Flour
- Sugar
- Whole-grain items
- Gluten-Free items
- Low Sodium/Low Sugar items
- Low-fat Salad Dressings
- Canned Chili
- Oatmeal

We are also seeking donations for the warming tree. We are looking for items such as: Men's gloves, Adult hats and Adult scarves.

### **FPC Mission Opportunity to Serve Missoula Family Promise Families**

Beginning in August 2015, the Hogan House of First Presbyterian Church was dedicated and supported as a **prototype for interim housing for homeless families**. We want to celebrate the church's success in using our resources for the service of God in our community. Working with YWCA, the **Hogan House** housed a total of 42 homeless families. 37 of these families including 66 children, went on to more permanent housing. During each stay, the YWCA and our mentor team provided care, assistance and guidance to families in their search for housing. Families were thrilled to have caring people provide this special opportunity after staying in motel rooms or cars or tents or couch surfing with friends and relatives. We received so many heartfelt thank you's and notes.

### **We Now Have an AMAZING Opportunity to Expand our Family Promise Mentor Team!**

The YWCA and Missoula Interfaith Collaborative have joined together to open the Meadowlark Family Housing Center. Up to 31 families will be housed resulting in a greater need for mentorship to help families reach goals. The Housing Advocate Network (HAN) has some existing teams, but more are needed. First Presbyterian Church has been working with the YWCA and HAN. We are now seeking to continue and to expand our current mentoring team for Family Promise families.

**Please don't be concerned that this opportunity will be too hard or take too much of your time.** Our current team has a lot of experience and will be working with you. COVID 19 protocols will be in place. We typically spend an hour or two each week with families we are mentoring, and we will rotate to serve in two person teams as our schedules allow. Our team will receive an orientation and training from HAN. YWCA Professional Support Specialists will be working with and advising us.

**Truly, a lot of our help involves listening, caring and being a non-judgmental friend. If you would like a meaningful relationship with a family and to make a meaningful impact, please consider this opportunity to serve.** If you have concerns or questions, contact Jan Everett (406-544-1076) or Jane Hogan (407-902-9647)

### **Coffee Conversation Date Change**

**March's coffee conversation has changed dates this month from the 14th to the 21st.** Please join us this third Sunday of the month as we discuss, what is one of your favorite books and why? Zoom link to be posted in March.

### **COVID Vaccine Assistance**

Getting a COVID vaccine appointment can be very challenging right now. The online system fills up very fast and the phone system can be frustrating! Brent and Jo Ruby are available to help. Please reach out to Jo, and they will try to do their best and get you an appointment. You can reach her at 544-0965.