

FIRST WORD

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

October 10, 2021

Sunday Worship in the Sanctuary | October 10th, 9:30am

Our Scripture for Sunday tells a story from Israel's journey from slavery to the land of promise (Exodus 16.1-18). It's not an easy immigration. The people become so hungry and hopeless six weeks into trudging through the wilderness that they begin to think fondly of their captivity in Egypt, complain bitterly, and even accuse Moses of bringing them out into the desert to die. They act like a people who have not yet experienced the real hardships associated with true freedom. And they are not surprising. We hear people whining all around. And if we are honest, we also notice our own tendency to grumble and blame. What's surprising is how God responds. In their anxious need, God provides manna from the sky. Generosity falling like rain. Enough bread for the day.

We are reading these stories from Scripture as our own, as the metanarrative that reminds us in our desert need just who God is to us. In your own walk through the wilderness, as you feel the complaints and blame begin to rise, will you trust the One who provides bread for the journey? The One who is leading you to a land of promise?

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

<https://youtu.be/Jdt1cKpuaxk>

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, or find it on Facebook at 'First Presbyterian Church Missoula.'

Gathering Children, Youth & Adults this Sunday, October 10, 11am, Fellowship Hall!

Following our parent/child gathering last Sunday at the Cravy's we have decided to gather weekly to create a shared spiritual life together.

A starting vision for *this weekly gathering* is that children, youth and adults will engage biblical stories and practices of faith (including service on fourth Sundays) together through a flexible, interactive format. The goal is shaping disciples of Jesus (adults as well as kids) through an intergenerational community where relationships convey the gospel and where everyone learns and leads. (There will be particular attention and leadership given each week to preschoolers and young elementary kids.)

FPC Mask Policy for Children/Youth Gatherings

In accordance with Missoula County Public Schools guidelines (and at the urging of parents), the Session has adopted the policy that participants wear masks indoors at youth and children's gatherings. Masks may be removed indoors when eating or drinking. Please plan on wearing a mask to children/youth gatherings, and know that we have extras here if you forget yours!

Senior Luncheon with the Pastor

We are looking forward to this month's Senior Luncheon with Pastor Dan. It will be on Tues, Oct 12th at 11:15 am in Fellowship Hall. So, if you are looking for some thought-provoking Biblical based discussion as well as getting together with friends, both old and new, please join us.

***To get a better idea of numbers for food planning, please speak to Pat Habeck (# 406-542-0188) by Sunday, Oct 10th.

READY, SET ...

The GO date for Roots is coming up soon. This month, we will be starting another year of small-group study. Folks who've never been in a Roots group may ask what it's like. They may even ask, "Why should I bother?" Here's the answer. Pretend that you've lived in Missoula for years, and have often gazed at the distant mountains, but have never seen them up close - never hiked the trails or climbed the hills, never ventured into the wilderness. Then one day, driven by curiosity, you hike off into the mountains surrounding town with a group of friends. Wow! What an adventure. The fast-flowing streams, the shade-covered trails, and those big summits. The mountains will never look the same again, and your life may never be the same.

You may be wondering what this has to do with Roots and FPC - well, just remember that Christianity has mountains and trails and free-flowing streams that are worth exploring. So join us in the adventure of Roots as we explore the wilderness of our faith. Now's the time. Groups are forming, deciding what they will study this year, and when and where they will meet. You'll find an insert in this Sunday's bulletin listing all the groups, detailing their plans for the year. If you haven't yet joined up, please pick a group that suits

your fancy and fits your schedule. If you've never taken part in one of these small-group studies, you don't know what you're missing.

We hope to see you on the trail! We'd like to hear from you by Sunday, October 10th.

For more information, contact any of the following:

- Tom Mateer | tom@tcmateer.net | 406 529-3329
- Don Harbaugh | ddharbaugh2@gmail.com | 406 240-2979
- Ron Righter | ron.righter@umontana.edu | 406 218-8479
- Mike McKay | mmckay@mtrail.com | 406 370-6244

Room Reservations

With fall here and Roots groups starting to meet along with other ministry teams and bible study groups, please be sure to contact the office for availability of rooms for your designated time and meeting place. Also, we are asking all groups to ensure that tables used are wiped down at the conclusion of your meeting. There are wipes or towels/spray in each room for your use. Thank You!

SAVE THE DATE: The First Presbyterian Handbell Choir will join with the handbells from First United Methodist Church to present a concert of Christmas music on Dec. 12, at 4:00pm at the Methodist Church, 300 E. Main Street. Beautiful music in a beautiful setting! Questions? Call Tomi Kent, 241-7843.

Upcoming Dates for FPC Gatherings

- Coffee Hour after Worship on Sunday, October 10th, 10:30am: Fellowship Hall
- Children, Youth & Adult Gathering after Worship on Sunday, October 10th, 11:00am: Fellowship Hall
- Senior Luncheon: Tuesday, October 12th, 11:15am, Fellowship Hall
- High School Retreat at Deep Creek: October 15th-17th
- Middle School Lock-in at the Church: October 29th-30th

All Church Casas Por Cristo Build

Did you happen to miss the Casas info night? Have no fear, we can still get all the information to you! We are planning the trip for June 19-25, 2022. This is an adult-youth-and-family, all-church mission trip (middle schoolers having completed 6th grade with a parent; high schoolers with or without parents).

We have made an informational packet that can be found in the narthex of the church and the church office. The registration deadline (with a deposit of \$150 per person) is Oct. 31. We expect the trip to be \$800 per person or less. If additional family members are attending, cost will be subsidized at a gradual rate.

It is looking like we have the interest of taking 40-60 participants on this trip. Building 4 houses!

Jo Ruby (jo@fpcmissoula.org) and Lexi Graef (lexi.graef@gmail.com) are organizing this trip, so if you have any questions at all or just want to chat about the trip, please don't hesitate to reach out to one of them.

Announcement Guidelines and Office/Staff Hours

Announcements for FPC's Friday News Emails and for Sunday Worship must be sent to angela@fpcmissoula.org and emma@fpcmissoula.org by Wednesday.

FPC Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday, 9am - 3pm, 406-549-5144

FPC Staff Meeting: Tuesdays, 9:30am - 11:30am

Pastor and Ministry Directors (Dan Cravy, Emma Thackston, and Austin Graef) work Mondays; unavailable Fridays

Operation Manager and Facility Steward (Becky Kress and Gary Jones) work Tuesday - Fridays; unavailable Mondays

Program Support Administrator (Jo Ruby) typically works Tuesdays & Thursdays

Secretary (Angela Maxwell) works remotely Tuesday - Thursdays; typically works in office on Friday; unavailable Mondays

PRAYER LIST

Ongoing Support: Victor Schlimgen, Mary Barnett, Roy Miller, Nancy and John MacDonald, Irene Smith, Eva Tsosie, Chaske Hoyt, The Family of Joey Hekman

Health and Healing: Steve Hasterlik, Kelly Nicholson, Jason Kirchner, Bob Maitland, Bob Bricker, Jessica Loewen, Steve Arno, Tom and Becky Tucker, Lynda Clegg, Jim Kieronski, Sheryl Tegelberg, Roy Miller, Luceile Kempner, Brenda Desmond, Dalton Porter

Condolences: Family and Friends of Dick Venable, Family and Friends of Jacob Gentri, Family and Friends of Red Barringer