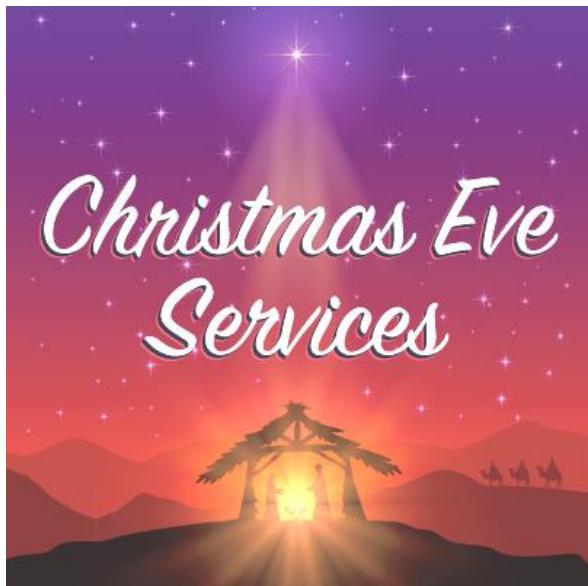


December 2018



**6 pm & 8 pm  
Candlelight service**

**INSIDE:**

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**Poinsettia memorials.**

It is early, yes. Just wanted to get you thinking about this.

The forms for poinsettia memorials will be due on Dec. 17th.

You can email ([fpc@actaccess.net](mailto:fpc@actaccess.net)) or call (672-1717) with your information or fill out a form and turn it in.



**Trolley ride & light tour**

**December 7**

**6-8 pm**



**Christmas at Camp Story**

**December 8**

**10 am-2 pm**

**Lunch will be served at noon!**

Greetings Everyone...and welcome to the Christian Season of Advent.

Advent is a time of preparation. Certainly, we prepare for the holidays. How could we avoid the process, especially in the Western World. Advertisements bombard us. Black Friday was the biggest ever. Local business Saturday was super (and wasn't the downtown stroll wonderful?!). Cyber Monday raked in gazzillions. Giving Tuesday...oh, that's today and I don't know how it will fair. My point is, commercial preparation for the celebration of Christmas hits us from every angle so it is difficult to not prepare.

But what about preparation for the true meaning of Christmas, the Birth of our savior and Lord, Jesus Christ? How are we doing on preparing for the eternal, life-changing event of Immanuel, God with us? This morning I was reading the two accounts of Jesus' birth as part of my devotions. Each year I read what took place through the eyes of Matthew and Luke. Each year something different strikes me, something I need to consider. This year my heart focused on the first appearance of Gabriel, the arch angel and his prophecy about John the Baptist who would come to prepare the way of the Lord (Luke 1:5-25).

The appearance of Gabriel took place while Zechariah was in the temple presenting an incense offering to the Lord (9). It is of interest to me that while Zechariah was presenting the offering on behalf of God's people, the people were outside praying (10). How often do we forget (or neglect) the importance of praying for someone as they are doing a specific ministry task (think Pastor Nominating Committee; think the pastor God has already called to serve FPC). It was in the midst of the individual (Zechariah) and the congregation doing their jobs that God showed up through Gabriel (11-12). Listen to the message Gabriel brought.

1. ***God has heard your prayers*** (13). A friend once said, "God may be slow according to our timeline, but, God is never late." I am sure Zechariah and Elizabeth felt this way. The text says "...they had no children because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years"(7). God answered their prayer.
2. ***Your child*** (John the Baptist) ***will be "great in the sight of the Lord"*** (15). As parents we want our children to be great. We help them find their area where they can grow and fulfill their potential. We help them discover what that area might be. We take them to soccer, music lessons, tutoring, drama, 4-H, riding lessons, spelling lessons,... and the list goes on. Any effort within our means (and sometimes beyond our means) is taken. We hope and pray they will be great in some arena of life. But what about 'great in the sight of the Lord?' Parents...grandparents, we need to prayerfully consider how we can help our offspring become great spiritually as well as temporally.
3. ***"He will be filled with the Holy Spirit"*** (15). John who would prepare the way of the Lord was not to do so under his own power. If he could, it would have led to self-aggrandizement. Too many leaders have this problem already. No, John was to do his job under the power of Holy Spirit which grows from an intimate walk with God. If we are to prepare the way of the Lord today, we need to same filling of Holy Spirit.
4. Note the work Gabriel said John would do: ***"make ready a people prepared for the Lord"*** (17). The greatest leaders in the world cannot lead a people that are not prepared. And how was John going to prepare the people for what was coming? Three ways.

Continued on page 6

Thank you to all who came to support the Triennium Pancake Feed. It was great seeing everyone come out. I heard the pancakes were great. Thank you to Michael Browne for getting up early and being the official pancake flipper.

Mark your calendar for December 16 at 2 pm. We will be hosting a showing of "The Star" The Star is a story about Bo, a donkey, that breaks out of the bakery where he is used to grind grain. Bo teams up with Ruth, a sheep who lost her flock, and Dave, a dove who dreams of being something better, to follow the Star.

The Triennium Youth are selling raffle tickets for several handcrafted items. The items in the raffle are; a cedar chest made from leftover wood scraps from Camp Story, a memory box, 2 cutting boards, 2 yardzee, and coasters. All the items are on display in the fellowship hall. The youth will be selling tickets from now until December 16. The tickets are \$5 each.

I am in the works for a junior high and high school event over Christmas break. Keep an eye out for more information

#### Raffle items

CJ





Eli, Zach, Arianna, Katie, Avery, CJ, Izzi, and Maggie bring smiles and an enthusiasm, as the youth group served at Lunch Together the week of Thanksgiving. A special thanks to Su Rappleye, Doug Moore and Jan Leupold for supervising volunteers during a busy holiday week. FPC fed 140 people over 3 days with the help of 30 volunteers who worked or prepared food.

FPC will serve at LT again January 14 - 17, 2019

Sign ups will begin on January 6, 2019

Blessings,

Tina Anderson 751-4810

Jan Leupold

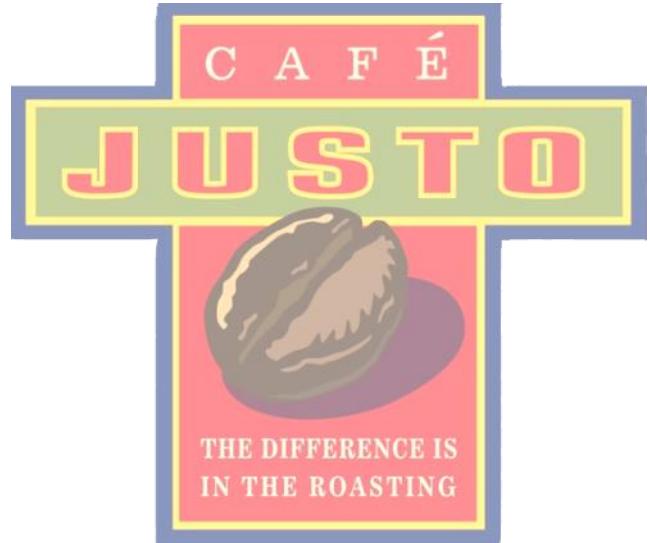
Doug Moore

Mary Ludemann

Mitzi Knapp

Su Rappleye

Janis Devore



JUST coffee makes great Christmas presents! There will be a new shipment in shortly. A big thank you to our Church family for supporting our brothers and sisters in Christ in Mexico. You have bought over 300 pounds of coffee this year! Way to go!

The Holidays are approaching quickly and the Mission and Outreach Committee would like to help you with your Christmas shopping. The Mission we support - JUST Coffee makes for a great gift in more than one way!! Not only the pleasure of drinking it but as we drink it remembering our farmers in Mexico that we are supporting! Each Sunday Coffee order sheets will be on the tables that we display coffee on. We would appreciate you filling out these forms as it will aide us in knowing how much and what kind of coffee to order. Payment upon ordering would be appreciated.

Thanks be to God for our Church family being so generous in supporting this Mission. And just a reminder you can be a sponsor for our coffee at Sunday Fellowship by signing up at the information center. Provided under the sign-up sheet is an envelope to put your \$10 in.

*For their service to the church during the month of November the Worship Committee would like to thank these faithful servants...*

**Worship Leaders:** Louise Semino, Gloria Dierking, Shelley Barrett, Teresa Williams, Susan Smith

**Communion Servers:** Pat & Jane Gallagher, Dave & Becky Motsick, Terri Hayden, Doug Moore

**Flower Guild:** Carol Maloy, Diane Peterson, Jane Gallagher, Jerilea Phillips

**Audio/Visual Systems Operators:** Elwyn Maloy, Rick Semino, Chris Smith, Jim Blaha, Loren Ruttinger

**Sugarland Worship Leaders:** Jan Leupold, Lorrie Ledgerwood

**Head Ushers:** Carla White, Doug Beagle

**Greeters:** Jim & Darlene Douglas, Linda Frey, Jacob St.Pierre, Lois Trujillo, Steve Kennedy, Clark & Karen Izzard

**Communion Preparation:** Becky Motsick & Denise Mueller

**Coffee Fellowship:** PW Circles/ Fellowship/Session

**Meal Deliveries-** Tina Anderson, Jerilea Phillips, Jan Leupold, Kim Kozel, Carla White, Ron Patterson, Sandy Birkholz, Denise Mueller, Marion & Annette Reed.

### **Session Members and Committees**

#### **Budget & Finance**

Beth Bailey, Carol Davis, Tod Windsor

#### **Clerk of Session**

Carla White

#### **Communication & Tech**

Ted Knapp, Tod Windsor

#### **Christian Education**

Janis DeVore, Judy Garber

#### **Fellowship**

Kim Kozel, Jeri Joy, Kathy Lundberg

#### **Membership & Evangelism**

Tina Anderson, Jean Morgan

#### **Mission & Outreach**

Peggy Blaha, Doug Beagle

#### **Personnel**

Teresa Williams, Jim Lyon

#### **Properties**

Doug Moore, Dave Motsick, Gareth Dixon

#### **Worship**

Loren Ruttinger, Linnet McGoodwin

### **Keep them in your prayers**

Jack Elliott, Margie & Art Elkins, Jim Little & Margaret Little, Dede Shrum, Karen Townsend, Wilma Browne, Darlene McNair, Esther McKenzie, Kathleen Shafer, Mary Holstedt, Dorothea Doerr, Larry Mueller, Jason Szewc

Pastor Paul Hayden's email address:

[fpc.paul@actaccess.net](mailto:fpc.paul@actaccess.net)

**Let's keep current!!**

If you have changed your:

Phone

Mailing address

Email

Let us know!! :)

[fpc@actaccess.net](mailto:fpc@actaccess.net) / 672-1717

## Online Giving

Continued from pg. 2

A. **"He will turn many of the people...to the Lord their God"** (16). The implication is that individuals were looking elsewhere for direction and fulfilment in their lives. We too need to keep the eyes of our mind and heart focused on the Lord. This is the highest priority in life. **"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength"** (Matt 22:34-40).

B. **"Turn the hearts of the parents to their children"** (16). A friend of mine once told me, "I have chosen to be my children's parent and not their friend." Part of John's work would be to re-unite and strengthen families. The parent as a child's instructor for godly living is well laid out in the scriptures. We need this focus today.

C. **"And the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous"** (17). Society at large can become out of focus. Materialism causes many to turn from the ways of the Lord. God empowered John to call society to repent of their broken ways and return to ways God says are right.

Advent, the Christian Season of Preparation. May we make the time to prepare our hearts and our homes for the presence of the Baby of Bethlehem who is now the Risen Christ. Amen.

Preparing for Jesus' Birth with you,



**Congregational Meeting**  
Sunday, December 16  
Following Worship

Session has called a Congregational Meeting following worship on December 16 for the election of Ruling Elders, Class of 2021. Please plan on staying after worship to elect the our new leaders.

First Presbyterian Church of Sheridan will soon offer an online giving option on the website <http://sheridanfpc.church/>.

The online giving program is offered through the Presbyterian Foundation (the Foundation). As this program is implemented, the Business and Finance Committee want to inform you of how the process of online giving will operate.

There will be an online giving icon on the website that can be selected to activate a transaction. A 2% processing fee will be charged with each transaction. The funds will be collected by the Foundation and then transferred to First Presbyterian Church of Sheridan. Because the initial funds are received by the Foundation, the annual giving report will come from the Foundation, not First Presbyterian Church of Sheridan. However, the Foundation will provide a monthly itemized giving report to First Presbyterian Church of Sheridan and all giving will be tracked.

The online giving will provide an alternate option for tithing to First Presbyterian Church of Sheridan. This will also add convenience for visitors and memorial giving for people who may not attend First Presbyterian Church of Sheridan on a regular basis.

## Giving statement changes

With much discussion the Budget, Finance and Stewardship committee has decided to only send out giving statements once per year after the first of the year to include year end contributions.

If you find that you need information on your giving you can contact Dennis Heizer and he can help you with any information you may need.

This change will help in cutting costs.



## Our Purpose

Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit we commit ourselves:

- To nurture our faith through prayer and Bible Study
- To support the mission of the church worldwide
- To work for justice and peace, and
- To build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (USA) and witnesses to the Promise of God's kingdom.

***All women in the congregation and guests are invited to the PW December Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, December 5, 2018 at 12:00pm. We will be treated to seasonal music by the Sheridan High School Choir. For reservations call Jeri Joy 307-752-4553***



Jointly Circles meet for Brunch or Lunch on the first Wednesday of September through May.

**Circles plan to meet for Bible Study and Fellowship on Wednesday, December 19:**

**Circle 1**- 10:00 am in the Parlor

Moderator-Jeanette Trohkimoinen  
672-2059

**Circle 2**- 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall

Moderator- Marilyn Michelena  
672-3656

**Circle 3**- 12:00 am at 1131 Park View Ct.

Moderator-Jeri Joy  
752-4553- RSVP

Individual, Circles meet on the third Wednesday of each month September through May.

**Coordinating Team Officers for 2019 are announced:**

Sherry Laughton      Co-Moderator

Sharon Browne      Co-Moderator

Rhea Cooksey-Dixon      Secretary

Kathy Beagle      Treasurer

## **Christmas Angel Tree Project**

Have you picked your gift tag from the Angel Tree? Here are steps to complete your gift giving:



1. If you picked a book tag go to our local book store or online to purchase one or all the books on your tag. Start now so the books will be here for delivery. We are also accepting cash donations that may be put in the collection plate and marked as angel tree contributions.
2. Make sure your gift tag is returned with the gift items. You don't have to wrap your purchases this year.
3. Make sure your gift items are returned and placed under the tree by December 16, so we can deliver the items to the teachers before Christmas break.
4. The Christmas Angel tree committee this year is comprised of:  
  
Helen Campbell, Karen Fosher, and Nancy Elliott. Any questions please feel free to contact any one of us.  
Thanks for giving the gifts that keep on giving.

## **Sunday School Happenings**

Well can you believe the month of December is here all ready. Sunday school has been so much fun. Our teachers Judy Palm, Sharon Brown, Joyce Groneberg, Sandy Brown, CJ Clem, Peggy Blaha and Beth Thurow have all done a great job teaching our children and youth. Thank you to all the parents and children who have been in our Sunday school program this fall.

We started the year from the beginning with Creation/Adam and Eve with the Pre-K -5<sup>th</sup> graders. The junior/senior highs started in their curriculum from the beginning of the Bible and they also learned about different translations and other background and cultures of the Old Testament times.

If you have any questions about Sunday school please feel free to call me at 307-752-0410.  
**HAPPY HOLIDAYS !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

### **Sunday School Calendar:**

- December 2 Practice for Children's Program
- December 9 Christmas lesson
- December 16 Christmas lesson
- December 23 No Sunday School
- December 30 No Sunday School
- January 6 Sunday School Resumes

*In Christ's Love,  
Darcie Lyon*

# MisceLay

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1– Jacob Botten, Mary Hutton
- 4– Laurie Paronto, Mia Shifrar
- 7– Roger Porter
- 8– Shelley Barrett, Judy Garber, Leonard Hurst
- 9– Myrna Saunders,
- 10– Jo Sholey, Kim Wells
- 12– Karen Schreffler
- 13– Sharon Basse
- 15– Graeme Ford
- 17– Brian Morgen, Nathan Motsick
- 18– Bill Cunningham, Chad Rieger, Carla White
- 19– Marilyn Koester
- 21– David Hackert
- 22– Dorothy Johnson, Rick Semino
- 23– Lois Trujillo
- 28– Sherry Laughton
- 29– Roy Davis
- 30– Brooke Hostedt
- 31– Zachary Fitzpatrick, Avery Quarterman

*The website is up and running! Check it out!  
The first sermons are now online!!! Check  
out Pastor Paul's blog!*

[sheridanfpc.church](http://sheridanfpc.church)

*Pastor Paul's sermons are also on the  
website!*

*Printed Directories ! We are asking for a \$5  
donation to help with the cost of printing.  
They are available in the church office.*

*As always, if you have updates to add to the  
directory, let the office know and we will get  
that taken care of!!*

*Correction on Meline's address:*

*612 Fort Clay*

*Evensville, Wy 82636*

## Happy Anniversary!

- 4– John & Su Rappleye Jackson
- 19– Ron & Nancy Stanker
- 22– Jack & Nancy Elliott
- 27– Bob & Marilyn Koester
- 30– Mike & Cheryl Madden

**The office will be open during these hours.**

8-noon- Monday– Friday

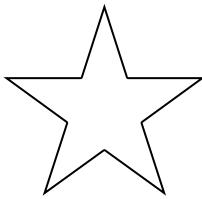
Please call ahead for office availability in the  
afternoon.

[fpc@actaccess.net](mailto:fpc@actaccess.net)

**Like us on Facebook!**

**Church web site**

[Sheridanfpc.church](http://Sheridanfpc.church)



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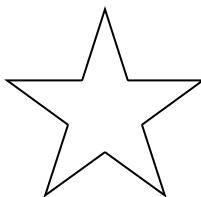
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## Air Force

**Jason Browne** (Son of Sandy Browne)

**Ryan Laughton** (Son of Gary & Sherry Laughton, Grandson of Joe Laughton)

**Howard (Ace) Shrum** (Grandson of Dorothy Shrum)

**Damon Sevier** (Son of Patty Usher)

**Jeff & Michelle Durand** (Cousins of Phyllis Wilhelm)

**Kai Grimmel** (Nephew of Gloria Stresky)

**Bryce Williams** (Son of Mike and Teresa Williams)

**Brennan & Sydney Negrete** ( Grandson & Granddaughter-in-law of Elwyn & Carol Maloy)

**Megan Price** (Granddaughter of Karen Fosher)

**Captain Rory Montgomery** (Great Nephew of Harvey & Linda Johnson)

## National Guard

**Allen Price** (Son-in-law of Karen Fosher)

**Carsie Mitchell** (Grandson of Jim & Dianne Perry)

## Navy & Navy Reserves

**William Ferries** (Son of Jane Buell)

## Army & Army Reserves

**Kyle Jennings**-(Grandson of Bernice Jennings)

**Ethan & Johnna Hall** ( Grandson & granddaughter –in-law of Elwyn & Carol Maloy)

## Marines

**Zachary Fitzpatrick**-(Son of Howie & Sandy Fitzpatrick)

If you would like to have your loved-one in the military listed on this page, or if you would like to have their address printed in the newsletter, or their picture on our picture board, please give the information to Sue in the office.

# December 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Dec. 30</b> 8 am– Worship 10 am– Worship 11:30– Bible study	<b>Dec. 31</b> <b>Office Closed</b> 	<b>January 1</b> <b>Office closed</b>				<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> 10 am– Worship, Communion / Children's Christmas Program 11:30– Bible study	<b>3</b> 7 pm– Bells	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 10 am– PW Luncheon	<b>6</b> 10:30 am– Properties 6:30 am– Breakfast study 7 pm– Choir	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 10-2 Christmas at Camp Story Lunch will be served at noon
<b>9</b> 8 am– Worship 9 am– Sunday School 10 am– Worship 11:30– Bible study 1-3– Confirmation class 3 pm– LOGOS	<b>10</b> 7 pm– Bells	<b>11</b> 4:30– Fellowship 5 pm–Mission 5:30– Budget, Personnel 6 pm– Worship 6:30 pm–Tech	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 6:30 am– Breakfast study 6-8 pm– Trolley tour of lights 7 pm– Choir	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 9 am– Sunday School 10 am– Worship, Congregational meeting 11:30– Bible study 1:30– Brookdale/ Sugarland worship 2 pm– “The Star” 4 pm– Youth Group	<b>17</b> Poinsettia forms due 7 pm– Bells	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 9:30, 10 & Noon– Circles 7 pm– Choir	<b>20</b> <i>Newsletter</i> <b>DEADLINE</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 8 am– Worship 9 am– Bible study 10 am– Worship 11:30– Bible study 1-3– Confirmation class 3 pm– LOGOS	<b>24</b> <b>Christmas Eve</b> <b>services</b> 6 & 8 pm Office closed	<b>25</b> 	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>

 *First Presbyterian Church*

2121 Colonial Drive  
Sheridan, WY 82801

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Return Service Requested

Mailing label goes here



Give a Poinsettia in memory of a loved one.

Please fill out the information below and turn it  
into the office.

This form needs to be in the office by Dec. 17



The Poinsettia needs to be delivered by Dec. 21

I/We will give a poinsettia in Memory / honor of:

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Mail to the church, 2121 Colonial Dr. Or email your information to: [fpc@actaccess.net](mailto:fpc@actaccess.net)