



First Presbyterian
Church of Sheridan

The Good News

October 2020

October Happenings

Beginning this week, join us for the **Hymn of the Week** on First Presbyterian's YouTube channel. Hymn of the Week will be posted each Wednesday. Click [here](#) to view.

FPC Fellowship Committee is offering an **"October Card Challenge"** for each of you to send a card/note to another member in our congregation. The "Challenge" is a great way to stay in touch and fellowship with one another. Send one card or send multiple cards. Our goal is to have 500 cards sent throughout the month.

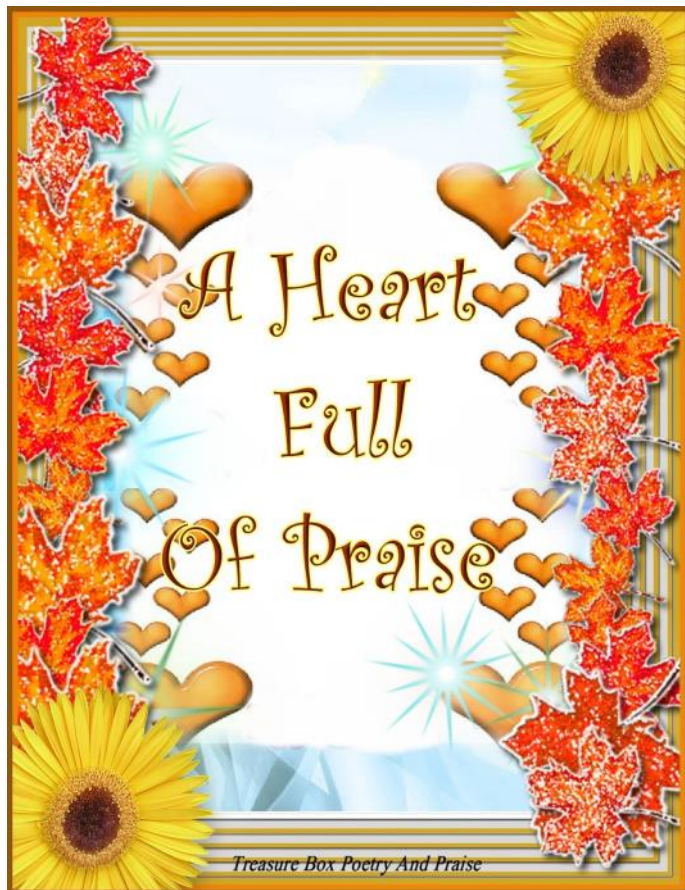
Accept the "Challenge"! Have fun with it, enjoy a cup of coffee or tea as you write. If you are in need of note cards or stamps, call the church at 672-1717 and Fellowship Committee will work on getting those to you.

1 Thessalonians 5:11, "Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."

First Presbyterian Church will be doing our fall **Highway Cleanup** on Saturday, October 17 starting at 8:00 am.

The Highway Department supplies orange trash bags and reflective safety vests. The filled bags are left along the side of the road and collected by Highway Department crews.

If you are willing to help with the highway clean-up, please email Dave Engels at d_t_engels@yahoo.com and he will give you further details.



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Dear Ones,

In the early centuries of the Christian church, there were those known as the Desert Mothers and Fathers. These hermits withdrew from their more urban settings to the stillness of the wilderness. It was there, in the deserts of Egypt, that they felt they could most fully devote themselves to God through a life of meditation, prayer, and fasting. This lifestyle became the basis for later expressions of Christian life lived in monasteries and abbeys by monks and nuns. An important characteristic of the life of the Desert Mothers and Fathers and more contemporary Christian monastics is an intentional commitment to silence.

Silence is difficult to come by. This is why those early ascetics withdrew to the confines of the desert. But it is even more difficult as we have new ways of filling any sort of silence that might still our day: the radio or any other background music, social media, and 24/7 news outlets (to name just a few). Many of us carry in our hands a device that can access each of those things listed while also connecting us to almost anyone we would please. We have surrounded ourselves not just with means of filling the silence but with ways of completely decimating it.

But the Desert Mothers and Fathers promoted a truth of the Christian tradition. We need silence to encounter God and to choose silence is to take a risk. To choose silence takes leaving behind, if even for a moment, that which insulates us from or inoculates us to the world around us. It takes encountering ourselves at a deeper level, and thereby, encountering God. It takes opening ourselves fully to the groans of the Spirit that permeate the very foundations of creation and existence.

It is no short order to embrace silence. When Jesus tried to pull away from the crowds, they followed. He could not always escape into the silent retreat he needed. We cannot always either, but like Jesus we must try. Our lives will suffer as fields do when they are harvested over and over and over if we do not. We will become exhausted and unable to produce. Silent moments in our lives allow for replenishment. Just as fields are left fallow, we must strive to leave moments in our life silent.

The election season is a particularly ripe time for us to cultivate this practice. We are bombarded with messaging on every platform we sign in to and every channel we turn on no matter our political persuasion. More than ever, take time to be silent. No news. No background music. No empty chatter. Allow silence to be your Sabbath because in silence we find a place where we can lay down in green pastures, drink from still waters, and find our souls restored. And only God, if even in a still and small voice, can offer that sort of rest.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Karl



When Youth Group met last month, we discussed Romans 12:2, "Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing, and perfect will." We had a great discussion about what it means to conform to the world. What does that mean, look like, and how does it apply to today. It was a great conversation about how we need to hold on to our beliefs but not being so ridged to change; we alienate our society. The conversation led to how we need to be strong in our spiritual practice and re-fill our faith buckets. With the foundation of healthy practices and a full bucket, we will handle the tests that come our way. We will have the skills to discern God's will for us, or the foundation to figure it out. It was the consensus; you are never too old or too young to start a spiritual practice. I feel that it is easy to conform to the world's ways, and it is okay up to a point. We still need to be loving and kind to our neighbor, but still hold faithful to God's will.

This week is the kick-off for LOGOS@Home. It will be a fun and new way to do LOGOS. We kept true to the four parts of LOGOS; worship, rec, Bible, and family time, but it is a condensed version. LOGOS@Home will be sent out via email. Everything you need to participate in LOGOS@Home will be in the email right down to the recipes. The focus will be on the family sitting around the table doing LOGOS@Home together. The way we have designed it is that you will not need to have a computer. There may be links provided to enrich the experience but are not necessary—for example, dinner grace sung to the TV show Adam's Family tune. The link included will help familiarize yourself with the song before dinner. The first six weeks of LOGOS@Home, we will be looking at the Lord's Prayer. LOGOS purpose is to bring the children of God together to enrich the participants' lives while passing on the faith. It is the prayer that LOGOS@Home still brings the children of God together, but it might just be those of the same family. It will encourage faith conversations in the home. We are all children of God, so everyone is welcome to participate. If you are interested in joining the LOGOS@Home emailing list, please contact the office or me directly to be added to the list.

Youth group has started meeting again. We meet Wednesday nights from 7-8 pm in the youth room. It is an excellent time for the youth to get together, explore scripture and what it means to them, how they can be active in the world around them, and concerns that they may have. Any youth grades 6th-12th are welcome to join us. Since we are meeting indoors, masks are required.

Did you know you that the church has its own YouTube channel? You can find more than just Sunday's service on there now too! Starting the week of September 28, you will be able to find Hymn of the Week and Time with the Children on the channel. Hymn of the Week will drop on Wednesday, and my Time with the Children will be available on Fridays. You will find the links on the Facebook page, but if you don't have Facebook or forget, you can always go directly to the church's YouTube channel.

Forget the debate between pumpkin spice versus apple cider, my friend and I debate the importance of candy corn. I am in the camp that it is gross, disgusting, and useless. My friend is like everything candy corn, buy all the bags! She even uses it to decorate. I love that no matter what is going on, I can always count on the texts around the end of September begging for October, which coincides with the first sighting of the candy to start the debate. There is just something comforting and routine about our exchange. So friends, no matter what this month brings, remember, candy corn is gross!

Blessings!

Compassion Sunday October 18, 2020

The Covid virus interruption saw Mission committee having to cancel our annual Compassion Sunday in the spring of 2020. Through the years, the annual Compassion Sunday at our church has been dedicated to providing information about Compassion International and offering individual children with their pictures for sponsorship. Sunday, October 18th we will show a short video highlighting a child whose life changed because of being a sponsored child.

For those who may be new to our congregation and as a refresher for all, Compassion International was founded in 1952 and is a Christian child development advocacy ministry powered by now more than one million sponsors. Approximately two million children are finding release from poverty in Jesus' name. Over 60 members of our church have sponsored or are sponsoring children. Compassion International works in partnership with local churches that are equipped through sponsors to implement programs providing for the child's physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs.

The special benefits and learning opportunities the child receives have the power to transform his or her young life. The children receive a caring and safe environment to grow in self confidence and social skills.

Compassion international works in 25 countries.

For just 38 dollars a month a sponsored child receives:

- *Critical resources to meet immediate needs. Supplementary foods if necessary.
- *Educational support
- *Medical care
- *Vocational training
- *Christian care to help them know Jesus and be all that God intends them to be
- *Hope...knowing they are loved and that they matter to you

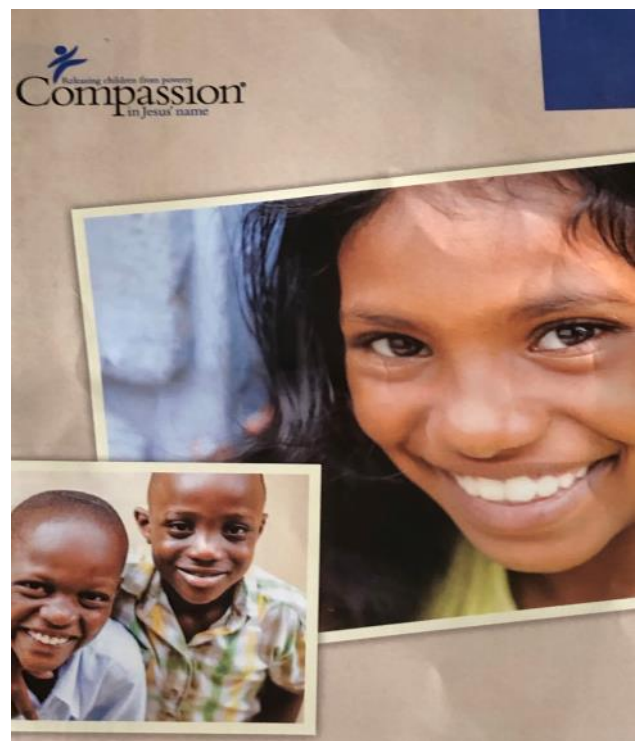
We are hopeful that we can return to sponsoring Compassion Sunday for individual child sponsorships in the spring. Due to the extraordinary circumstances the organization has been experiencing we wanted to remember their work and still offer a way to sponsor a child or to give a gift. When the centers were closed due to Covid, Compassion workers visited homes to see to individual needs so care was not interrupted. Some centers have reopened but others remain closed but the work goes on.

Sponsorship can be easily accomplished on line and an individual child can be selected to sponsor.

The web site is: [Compassion International.com](http://CompassionInternational.com). It is an easy website to navigate and a great way to learn more about the organization and how to sponsor a child or give a gift.

Also, if you have any questions or need help please contact Jan Leupold, Jerilea Phillips, or Nancy Elliott.

In Christ, we go forward with hope.



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

Musicians: Miriam Nance, Ryan Landis

Flower Guild: Carol Maloy, Georgia Mueller, Jerilea Phillips, Becky Motsick

Audio/Visual Systems Operators: Ted Knapp, Rick Semino, Chris Smith, CJ Clem, Ryan Landis

Coffee Sponsors: Thank you to all who have been purchasing coffee during the month.

Meal Deliveries and Lunch Together: Denise Mueller, Jeri Joy, Becky Motsick, Brian Bainter, Doug and Kathy Beagle, Pastor Karl, Kurt Smith, Kim Wells, Beth Bailey, Tina Anderson, Dick and Sandy Birkholz, Jan Leupold, Jody Roberts, Jerilea Phillips, and Doug Moore for serving through the COVID period.



Session Members and Committees

Budget & Finance

Carol Davis, Scott Davis

Clerk of Session

Susan Smith

Christian Education

Shelley Barrett, Kurt Smith

Fellowship

Kathy Lundberg, Mitzi Knapp, Jason Szewc

Membership & Evangelism

Jean Morgan, Nancy Cook

Mission & Outreach

Doug Beagle, Jerilea Phillips, Loren Ruttinger

Personnel

Teresa Williams, Beth Lenz, Doug Moore, Nancy Cook

Properties

Doug Moore, Howie Fitzpatrick

Worship

Cheryl Kelsey, Kim Wells, John Jackson

Tech

Tod Windsor, Chris Smith



Keep them in your prayers

Jack Elliott, Margie Elkins, Karen Townsend, Darlene McNair, Kathleen Shafer, Mary Holstedt, Dorothea Doerr, Gloria Stresky, Roy Davis, Julie Bugher, Karen Fosher, Jerry Saunders, Sig Palm, Carla White, Jean Morgen, and the family of Vickie Martin, the family of Maurine Badgett, and the family of John Dierking.

Let's keep current!!

If you have changed your:

Phone

Mailing address

Email

Please let us know.

fpc@actaccess.net 672-1717

Presbyterian Women (PW)

Greetings First Presbyterian Church! Blessings from Presbyterian Women!!

PW Purpose – “Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit we (PW) commit ourselves: (During Pandemic and all other times) To nurture our faith through prayer and 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.”

Sometimes life throws us an erroneous curve that spins us into obscurity. Yet the good thing about obscurity is that protective state where you can figure out what you feel called to do next. We have certainly felt like we’re in obscurity. As we navigate through this stage in our lives, I pray our hearts have been drawn closer to God and we’ve reached out to someone that comes to mind during the day. We are the church **family**. Reach out and touch a heart today. It won’t cost you a thing, but will bring light and love and hope to someone!

This month’s featured Presbyterian Woman who has made a difference in our lives, our congregation AND Presbyterian Women is one many of us know and love;

Linda Johnson

If any of you know Linda, you know she has a huge heart and a “get ‘er done” philosophy in regards to Presbyterian Women. She was baptized and joined the church when she was in the 7th grade. She and her husband, Harvey Johnson, have been married for 61 years!



Linda and Harvey Johnson

Together they have 3 children, two girls and one boy. They have 2 grandchildren, one great grandson, and several grand dogs. When Linda joined Presbyterian Women in the 1960’s she joined Circle 1, which, at the time, was the Young Mother’s group. Linda says that PW has always been a circle of support and long term friendships. These friendships have always been there to assist and support anytime they are needed. Linda also said she’s been blessed by opportunities to attend state meetings, meeting many women, and creating lifelong friendships all the while learning all of the programs available to Presbyterian women and even venturing to Churchwide Gathering, where hearts were intertwined with Presbyterian Women from all around the world.

Linda has also held other positions of leadership in the church. She’s been on Session, was a Sunday School teacher, was involved with LOGOS and nearest and dearest to her heart, a Stephen’s Minister. Linda’s advice for the future of Presbyterian Women is to **“Have courage and strength and to help each other remember how important PW relationships are.”** Give Linda a call and say hi and thank her for her diligence and compassion and love for Presbyterian Women.

Important PW DATES TO REMEMBER

Save the date - Please remember to put October 14, 2020 on your calendars. This is the date for the first and (hopefully last) **Virtual Zoom PW 2020 Annual** fall business meeting. The meeting will start at 10:00 am. State Moderator Kathy Lundberg will send information on how to register get on Zoom the day of the meeting. There will be several different speakers and elections of new State officers. Please leave this time open and be involved. It is important to the life of Presbyterian Women Statewide!!

August 5-8, 2021 Churchwide Gathering, St. Louis, Missouri. It's been said, if you save \$60.00 a month every month from now until August 2021, you'll have enough to attend this LIFE-CHANGING event.



If you have **any** questions about Presbyterian Women or regarding your involvement in Presbyterian Women, please contact Jeri Joy, Moderator; Rhea Cooksey-Dixon, Co-Moderator; Gloria Dierking, Secretary; or Hannah Shannon, Treasurer.

The office will be open during these hours.

8-noon- Monday- Friday

Please call 672-1717 to leave a message.

fpc@actaccess.net

Like us on Facebook!

Church web site

Sheridanfpc.church

CONTINUE IN OUR GIVING

This is our time to continue our ministry in a full and vibrant manner. We will continue to support our partners in mission and our staff will continue to minister. You can give your offering online via the following link

<https://sheridanfpc.church/give/>

or by

mailing a check to: First Presbyterian Church,
2121 Colonial Dr., Sheridan, WY 82801.

2020 Per Capita: \$44.95 per member

Per capita contributions are required of churches by our higher councils (Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly) and connect us to the wider work of the church by supporting Presbyterian efforts at regional, national, and international levels. Please consider making this contribution in addition to your annual giving as a sign of your commitment to ministry both within our congregation and beyond.

Pastor Karl's email:

fpc.karl@actaccess.net

Thank You from Properties Committee

The Properties committee would like to recognize and thank the volunteers who's gracious sharing of their time, talent, and treasure made the completion of our parking lot drain project possible.

We are so grateful to Ron Patterson, Scott Davis, Roger Barrett, Chuck Green, Dennis Schreffler, Jason Szewc, and Doug Moore. Thanks to these volunteers the north parking lot now has a new drainage system in place to hopefully, and prayerfully, mitigate our draining issues.

Mission Committee

The Mission and Outreach Committee is continuing to help those in need in our community. Becky will be assessing which items in the kiosk are being used on a weekly basis. Watch for updates on the needed items in the weekly update. Another opportunity for assisting those in need is to explore purchasing gas coupons for those traveling through our community.

In other news the date for Compassion Sunday has been set for October 18. Read the Compassion article with complete details in this newsletter on page 4.

Plans are being made to have another opportunity to participate in a build day for Habitat for Humanity. The weekly bulletin will supply you with details with when and where this will take place.

Due to COVID issues the Red Cross Shelter plan for our church has been deferred indefinitely.

Finally, the Mission and Outreach Committee is exploring how we might help families in need of fresh produce and meat. Stay tuned to see if church members might be able to help in this endeavor.

I will leave you with this verse from Proverbs 11:25 that suggests we find inner peace when we give generously. "A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."

Nancy Elliott, Mission Committee

FEEDING PROGRAMS

If among you, one of your brothers should become poor, in any of your towns within your land that the Lord your God is giving you, you shall not harden your heart or shut your hand against your poor brother, but you shall open your hand to him and lend him sufficient for his need, whatever it may be.
Deuteronomy 15:7-8

With God's help, FPC has continued a strong feeding program throughout these difficult times. Our church family is still offering up lunch through Lunch Together (LT) one week at a time every other month. Two volunteers serve a packaged meal outside the Congregational Church. LT buys these lunches at 8 dollars a meal. If you are unable to serve at this time, but want to help buy some of these meals, donations are being taken to help cover those costs. If you are healthy, able and willing to be a server outdoors as we go into the colder season, or would like to make a financial donation of any size, please contact Tina Anderson at 751-4810.

FPC is also delivering HUB meals to home-bound seniors every Thursday. We don't get to stop and chat as we did in the past, but we do get plenty of smiles from some very precious members of our community. If you are approved by the HUB (or would like to be) to make home deliveries, please contact Tina.

Our church family gives in many ways through the Foodgroup as well. Foodgroup helps feed school age kids. You have probably seen the wonderful Foodgroup pantry outside the church office door. Food is also delivered to schools and homes through the help of FPC volunteers. Mission Committee and PW have been coordinating FPCs involvement.



Ron Patterson hauls a trailer full of food bags assembled by volunteers to Coffeen School.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1—Julie Kennedy
 2—Jim Litle
 3—Clark Izzard
 5—Keith Luegge
 9—John Trohkimoinen
 13—Brandie Shifrar, Carter Steidley
 14—Alexine Birkholz, Taylor Cameron, Sharon Porter
 17—Cory Hamstreet
 18—Helen Campbell
 19—Cara Semino
 23—Jack McMahan
 24—Emily Beagle, Isaac Gray
 25—Nicholas Groshart
 26—Sandy Birkholz
 28—Linda Luegge, Greg Thurow
 31—Cheryl Kelsey



Youth Happenings!

Starting in October, **CJ's Time With the Children** will be uploaded to First Presbyterian's YouTube channel every Friday. You can find the link to Time with the Children on our Facebook page or go directly to the church's YouTube channel.

Youth Group meets each Wednesday at 7:00 PM in the youth room. Masks are required. Come join the fun!

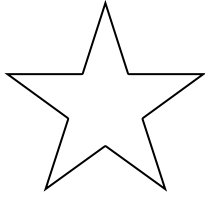
Confirmation Class begins October 4th meeting at 12:30 pm each Sunday.

Don't forget to sign up for **LOGOS@Home**. The first edition comes out on October 1st. If you are unfamiliar with LOGOS, it is a 4 part (Worship, Bible Time, Rec, and Family Time) program that introduces, reinforces, or strengthens faith development. It will be fun for the whole family!

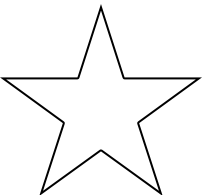
Presbytery of Wyoming & ROCCS Committee (the committee that puts on all the retreats!) hosts a **statewide virtual youth group** the last Sunday of every month from 2-3:00 pm via Zoom. It is a great way to gather with youth from across the state to have fun, grow in your faith, and make connections! This will be for anyone in 6th-12th grade. If you are interested in participating please let CJ know.

Happy Anniversary! October

5—John & Jeanette Trohkimoinen
 7—Cory & Janet Hamstreet
 11—Jeff & Denise Mueller
 13—Roy & Carol Davis
 14—Kurt & Heidi Smith
 15—Bryan & Shawn Luedtke
 17—Kevin & Beth Bailey
 18—Gary & Jeri Joy
 19—Keith & Patty Brandt



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Air Force

Jason Browne (Son of Sandy and Rick Browne)

Ryan Laughton (Son of Gary & Sherry Laughton)

Kai Grimmell (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 Foshier)

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

Brandon Fitzpatrick (Son of Howie & Sandy Fitzpatrick, Grandson of Jim & Margaret Litle)

National Guard

Allen Price (Son-in-law of Karen Foshier)

Carsie Mitchell (Grandson of Jim & Dianne Perry)

Navy & Navy Reserves

William Ferries (Son of Jane Buell)

Army & Army Reserves

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

Jacob Botten (Son of Jon and Rene Botten, Grandson of Joan Botten)


Chance Quarterman (Son of Chad & Amber Quarterman)

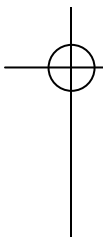
Marines

Zachary Fitzpatrick (Son of Howie & Sandy Fitzpatrick, Grandson of Jim & Margaret Litle)

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 the office.

October 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 7 :00 am Bible Study via Zoom 11:00 am Properties Committee	2	3
4 8:00 am Worship Service w/ Communion 9:30 am Worship w/ Communion 11:00 am Outdoor Worship w/ Communion 12:30 pm Confirmation	5	6	7 12:00 noon PW meeting 7:00 Youth Group 7:00 pm Bible Study via Zoom	8 7 :00 am Bible Study via Zoom	9	10
11 8:00 am Worship Service 9:30 am Worship 11:00 am Outdoor Worship 12:30 pm Confirmation	12	13 3:00 pm Worship 4:00 pm Fellowship 5:00 pm Mission 6:00 pm Budget & Finance	14 10:00 am Wyoming PW Annual Meeting 12:00 pm CE 7:00 Youth Group 7:00 pm Bible Study	15 7 :00 am Bible Study via Zoom	16	17 8:00 am Fall Highway Cleanup Day
18 8:00 am Worship Service 9:30 am Worship 11:00 am Outdoor Worship 12:30 pm Confirmation	19	20 7:00 pm Session	21 9:30 am Circle 2 10:00 am Circle 1 11:30 am Circle 3 7:00 Youth Group 7:00 pm Bible Study	22 7 :00 am Bible Study via Zoom	23 	24
25 8:00 am Worship Service 9:30 am Worship 11:00 am Outdoor Worship 12:30 pm Confirmation 2 - 3:00 pm Statewide virtual Youth Group	26	27	28 7:00 Youth Group 7:00 pm Bible Study via Zoom	29 7 :00 am Bible Study via Zoom	30	31


First Presbyterian Church
2121 Colonial Drive

Return Service Requested

Mailing label goes here

