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## Homecoming Sunday

Sunday, September 8 will be Homecoming Sunday as we begin Sunday school (all ages) at 9 am that day. We will be kicking off the new study year with a BBQ, fun games, and a bouncy house following the 10:30 am worship.

Hamburgers and hotdogs will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

## The Bridge

September 18th is the start of our Wednesday night's **The Bridge** gathering at 5:30 pm for dinner with study to follow at 6:15 pm.

This year, the first Wednesday of each month, dinner will be a potluck. Please bring your favorite dish to share for those Wednesdays.

The other Wednesdays throughout the month will have cook teams preparing the meal. If you would like to be a member of a cook team, please sign up on the signup sheet by the fellowship hall.

## Lunch Together

FPC is serving Lunch Together Monday, September 9—Thursday, September 12th. Please contact Denise Mueller at 828-712-9500 if you can help in any way.

## Triennium Informational Meeting

See page 9 for all the details from CJ!

Dear Ones,

I love the Prayer for Peace by St Francis of Assisi. I love to read it, to speak it, and I love when we sing it:

*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:  
where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
where there is sadness, joy.  
O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek  
to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved as to love.  
For it is in giving that we receive,  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.*

This prayer pushes against our inclinations. Where we might enjoy the consolation of another and pine for it, this prayer reminds us that Jesus calls us to be those who console as he consoles. The prayer calls us not to find our worth in receiving love but in giving love, and it urges us to be makers of peace (especially good words when our society's vitriol is at the regular four-year peak of a presidential election). We all need these words.

But how do you hear them? How do you let them take root and move toward becoming an instrument of all of these Christ-like characteristics - pardon, faith, hope, light, joy?

I had the pleasure of visiting the Cathedral Basilica of St Francis in Italy while on a choir tour in college. The sanctuary had ceilings as tall as the building and the cavernous space echoed fervently. Whenever someone raised their voice and the echo made it to the middle of the space, the guard stationed there said directly into a microphone so that all could be reminded, "Shhhh....Silence....Silencio!"

Our choir joked about this the remainder of the trip and when we returned to Laramie. Our director even quieted us down a time or two to begin our daily rehearsal by stating, "Shhhh....Silence....Silencio!" If we wish to live into the prayer of Saint Francis, we would be wise to heed the hush and the words of the guard who monitors the sacred space that bears the saint's name and remains. We can only make peace if we have quieted ourselves so the troubles of others reach our ears. We can only sow hope if we are aware of where there is despair. We can only exude joy if we are in the midst of those who are saddened and have deeply embraced and understand their troubles. This takes listening. Listening takes silence. Many times the most faithful witness is the quietest one.

Yours in Christ,

*Pastor Karl*



When I was younger, I would go spend time with my grandparents on their farm. I would follow my grandpa around while he worked with his cattle and sheep and worked on his farm equipment. I remember one time after he changed the oil in his truck, he left the old oil filter sitting out. While he was changing the oil, my little brain went a mile a minute, coming up with questions and asking him. He chuckled and said, "Oh oh, my girl you are filled with the questions, go figure it out." I then proceeded to take the oil filter apart to look at it and investigate why it worked. My grandpa thought it was funny, but my grandmother did not. Guess who had to clean up oil-covered little CJ. My questions did not just pertain to automotive functions on the farm but to the world. I remember watching a calf being born, watching closely as the veterinarian came to take care of the animals, why did the corn grow, how do fireworks work, and asking questions along the way. I loved learning about things.

As I got older, my questions became more internal and complex. Some of the questions got me into trouble, but I wanted to know what was happening and why. I remember a teacher telling me, "You don't need to know why; just do it the way I should you." I think this is one of the reasons why I enjoyed science classes where you could get the answers. I was supposed to ask questions and investigate.

After years of asking questions to myself and reflecting on why I like asking questions, I like questions because I want to learn more about what is going on around me. The questions also helped me learn more about the people around me. In my brain, if I know why or how someone thinks, then I can better understand them and communicate with them. I can word my responses better. I can put myself in their situation or have a better understanding of where they are coming from, and I can be more compassionate. I feel without questions and investigation how will we learn and discover new things about the world around us and ourselves?

Asking questions helps us dig deep and find answers we may not even know we know. Jesus asked questions of his disciples and the crowds around him. I know he knew the answers to the questions he asked. He asked the questions to get the people to look at themselves and find the answers within themselves. One of the questions Jesus asked (Matthew 6:26) "And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life?" This gets me every time. No, it can't, but why am I worrying? Getting to the heart of the why is a start. Asking a question like, can you tell me more why you think that way -Is another good question to investigate.

I came across this quote from Rachel Held Evans: "Most adults I know aren't looking for a religion that answers all of their questions, but rather a community for faith in which they feel safe to ask them." It struck me—how true that it is. Not just adults but children. How do we foster an environment to ask these questions? Children ask between 100-300 questions a day. Why as adults do we stop asking questions? I know as an adult, I don't have all the answers. and still ask questions. I know many of my questions are inside my head questions. I will save them for later and either Google or ask a trusted person, which with my brain will cause more questions. I then will ponder my questions and answers and more than likely come up with more questions. But through my investigation, I get a better understanding and I get to own my answers. It isn't wonderful that despite us having questions, we are still loved unconditionally by God?

The 2024-2025 backpack tags state, "Be Curious. Ask Questions." These are great reminders for kids and adults. If you didn't get a tag and would like one, let me know, and I can hook you up!

Go out and be like a toddler, ask questions, and be curious.



**Happy September 2024! Happy It's still Summer (Until September 22nd)!**

Happy School Year to those teaching and learning!  
Happy PW season as Luncheons and Circles get us together for fun times of fellowship .

**Theme for 2024:** Store 24 Bible verses in your heart in 2024.

“I have given you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you.” John 13:15 RSV

“I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict.” Luke 21:15 RSV

**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 of the church are Presbyterian Women.**

You are welcome to visit PW meetings, gatherings and Circles to see what it is like – you are always invited! Pray about it and see what the Lord reveals to you. If you can only attend sporadically – don't let that stop you – you are always welcome!

PW Luncheons are a wonderful time of fellowship on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month during the school year September through May.

The Circles (small groups) gather on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month during the school year September through May.

Circle 1 gathers at 10:00 am in the Parlor  
Circle 2 gathers at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall  
Circle 3 gathers at noon in the Fellowship Hall (bring your own lunch)

If you work and are interested in an evening Circle where you meet one night per month, contact Rhea or Helen. God is all about fellowship and friendship. What a friend we have in Jesus! Can you spare a couple hours per month to get to know your sisters-in-Christ and find a closer walk with God through Bible Study, community and building relationships?

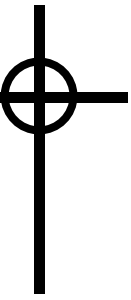
We say “THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF PW AND THE BAKELESS BAKE SALE.” You did a fine job of baking for the Bakeless Bake Sale! Way to go! This type of donation is welcome at any time throughout the year when the Spirit moves you. May the Lord richly bless you all for you generosity!

Five of our PW sisters attended Churchwide Gathering in St. Louis, August 9 – 11. The theme of the gathering was “Do Everything in Love. 1 Cor. 16:14” These women will share highlights from their experience at the PW Luncheon on September 4<sup>th</sup>. Remember all are welcome and bring a guest.

Love and blessings and prayers from your sisters-in-Christ,  
Helen 673-1710 and Rhea 683-2362



FPC youth that attended the ROCCS Youth Rally did some shopping for the food pantry that they helped restock. Sunday afternoon of the rally was spent at a Rockies game and the Zach Williams concert. More pictures on page 6.



# FPC in Action!



Jeri Joy, Cheryl Kelsey, Helen Campbell, Sherry Laughton, Lynn Hahn, and Marilyn Donnelly traveled to St. Louis for the PW Churchwide Gathering in August. They will be sharing their insights and experiences of their trip at the September 4 PW Luncheon.



FPC's Pool Party at Kendrick pool was well attended on a hot August afternoon. Everyone had a great time, cooled off, and ate dilly bars!

Fun was had by all who participated in the Golf Scramble at Hidden Bridge Golf Club hosted by the Fellowship Committee in August!



# Good News at FPC !



Bentley had a great summer at the State Fair this year! “Babe” (white pig) won Champion Light Cross Market Hog; “Jewel” (Black & White Pig) took 3rd Overall Market Gilt; and “Bubba” (Black Pig) was a Class Winner and 3rd Overall Dark Cross Lightweight Division.



Eight FPC youth traveled to Cheyenne for the ROCCS youth rally. Service work included freshening mulch on the church grounds as well as shopping and stocking a food pantry.



Happy Birthday Pastor Karl! The day was celebrated during Fellowship Time in August.

# Vacation Bible School 2024!

## “Food Truck Party” On a Roll With God

Pastor Karl and Pastor Barth led the study with their puppets DJ Cupcake and Chef Luigi.



Outside team building games are always fun at VBS!

It was all about food! Fishing for fish; healthy snacks; and arts and crafts.

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

**Musicians:** Miriam Nance, Ryan Landis, Mary Apple, Diana Miller

**Worship Leaders:** Kim Wells, Rachael Milne, John Jackson, Tyler Milne

**Ushers:** Dave Engels, Tina Anderson, Jeri & Gary Joy, Jean Morgen, Marilyn Michelena, Frank Rugh, Ottis Clem, CJ Clem, Nancy Cook, Nancy Elliott

**Communion Prep:** Denise Mueller

**Communion Servers:** Tina Anderson, Gary & Jeri Joy, Jean Morgen, Marilyn Michelena

**Audio/Visual Systems Operators:** Ted Knapp, CJ Clem, Craig Clem, Eli Clem, Mickey Willson

**Coffee Sponsors:** Mission Committee, Mike Stoll and Tina Anderson

### SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The monthly Session meeting for August was held on Tuesday the 20th at 6 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

News of Interest –

- The Wednesday evening meals, The Bridge, will start on September 18. New for this year is that the first Wednesday of each month, instead of volunteers preparing a meal, it will be a potluck.
- Bob Miller will be installing handrails to assist people going up the steps by the pulpit.
- Check out the large Maple tree on the west side of the church. It has been trimmed and really looks good.

Gary Joy, Clerk of Session



**Keep them in  
your prayers**



**Ongoing Prayers:** Margie Elkins, Karen Townsend, Kathleen Shafer, Jerry and Myrna Saunders, Robert & Jeannette Ruttinger, Roy & Carol Davis, and Bill Ferguson.

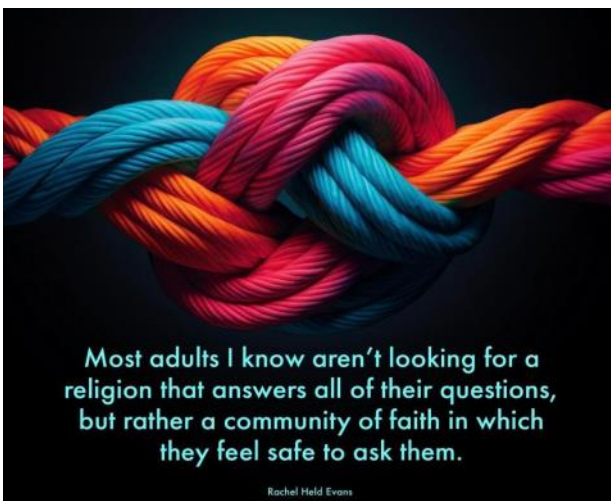
**Prayers for Peace & Healing:** Howie Fitzpatrick, Julie Bugher, Jae Satterlee, Diana Miller, Mary Hutton, Pat Gallagher, Dick Birkholz, Melony Douglas, and Marigene Vogt.

**Prayers for Teachers & Students:** As they begin a new school year.

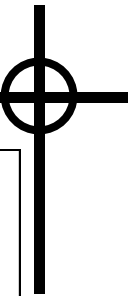
**Prayers for those Grieving:** Mike Stoll & Tina Anderson on the loss of Mike's brother and Ken & Susan Mottram on the loss of Ken's son.

**Prayers for Mission Partners:** Rawlins Cooperative Parish and The Hub.

If you have prayer concerns that you would like shared, please call the church office at 672-1717.







## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- September 1—Jeanette Trohkimoinen, Phyllis Cunningham, John Thurow
- September 6—Rachael Milne, Larry Apple
- September 9—Kathy Beagle
- September 12—Roger Barrett, Daren Bainter
- September 13—Mike Madden
- September 15—Mary Ann Bledsoe
- September 16—Mike Williams, Jenna Wilson, Jesse Wilson
- September 18—Dianna Perry
- September 19—Cannon Groshart, Carol Davis
- September 22—Tom Nance
- September 23—Marigene Vogt
- September 25—CJ Clem
- September 27—Jan Leupold, Sharon Browne
- September 29—Dave Engels, Carol Maloy, Susan Mottram



## Happy Anniversary! September

- September 1—David Brock & Claire Gerber
- September 4—Roger & Shelley Barrett
- September 5—John & Kathy Lundberg
- September 6—Troy & Edie Siddle
- September 22—Ken & Susan Mottram
- September 24—Robert & Katie Araas
- September 26—Gareth & Rhea Cooksey-Dixon, Brian & Erica Bainter

## Triennium 2025

I have been dreaming of this for 5 years! Triennium is back baby! July 28-31 in Louisville, KY. Our theme is “As If We Were Dreaming...” (Psalm 126). Join fellow Wyoming youth and thousands of Presbyterian young people for four incredible days of worship, recreation, group study and fellowship. It is open to any current 8th - 12th graders and adult chaperones 21 years or older. Join me on Sunday, September 15 for an informational meeting in the youth room following the 10:30 service.

- CJ

FRIST PRESBYTERIAN CURCH

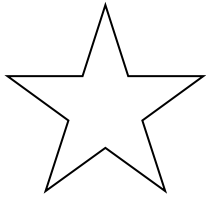
# Homecoming 2024

Join us as we come together a church family to make unforgettable memories, kicking off the new year of programming! Don't miss out on the chance to join us on Sunday, September 8, right after the 10:30 am worship for an afternoon filled with fun, fellowship, and delicious food. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided. We encourage you to bring a side dish or a dessert to share and make this event even more special.

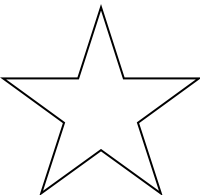
**09/08/2024**    **START AT 11:45AM**    **BRING A DISH**

**YARD GAMES**    **BBQ LUNCH**    **BOUNCY HOUSE**    **LAUGHS**

MORE INFORMATION    [CJ@SHERIDANFPC.CHURCH](mailto:CJ@SHERIDANFPC.CHURCH)    307-672-1717



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**Space Force**

**Ryan Laughton** (Son of Gary & Sherry Laughton)

**Air Force**

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

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

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

**Bridger Ammann** (Grandson of Joyce and Gary Meling)

**National Guard**

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

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

**Henry Johannesen** (Grandson of Judi Palm)


**Army & Army Reserves**

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

**Jacek Aksamit** (Grandson of Mary & Larry Apple)

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.

# September 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 8 am & 10:30 am Worship w/ Communion 10 am Fellowship 11:45 am Choir 11:45 am Tech 6 pm AA	<b>2</b> <b>Office Closed</b> <b>Labor Day</b>		<b>4</b> 12 pm PW Luncheon  6 pm AA			
<b>8</b> 8 & 10:30 am Worship 9 am Sunday School (all ages) 10 am Fellowship Time 11:45 am Choir 12 pm Homecoming Sunday BBQ/Bouncy House/Games 6 pm AA	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 11 am Properties 12 pm Personnel 4 pm Worship 4:45 pm CE 5:15 pm Fellowship 5:30 pm Budget 5:45 pm Mission 6:30 pm Cub Scouts  Lunch Together	<b>11</b> 10 am Congregational Care Committee  6 pm AA	<b>12</b> 7 am Bible Study	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 8 & 10:30 am Worship 9 am Sunday School (all ages) 10 am Fellowship Time 11:45 am Triennium Mtg. <b>No Choir this                      Sunday</b> 6 pm AA	<b>16</b> 6:45 am M3  6 pm AA District Mtg.	<b>17</b>  6 pm Session	<b>18</b> 10 am Circle 1 & 2 12 pm Circle 3 5:30 pm The Bridge 6 pm AA	<b>19</b> 7 am Bible Study	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 8 & 10:30 am Worship 9 am Sunday School (all ages) 10 am Fellowship 11:45 am Choir Karl Out of Office  6 pm AA	<b>23</b> 	<b>24</b>  6:30 pm Cub Scouts	<b>25</b>  5:30 pm The Bridge  6 pm AA	<b>26</b> 7 am Bible Study	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 8 & 10:30 am Worship 9 am Sunday School (all ages) 10 am Fellowship Time 11:45 am Choir  6 pm AA	<b>30</b>					





*First Presbyterian Church*

2121 Colonial Drive  
Sheridan, WY 82801

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