



First Presbyterian
Church of Sheridan

The Good News

October 2024



Time to Spruce Up for Fall!

Church Cleanup Day

Cleanup at the church is Saturday, October 5 starting at 9 am. No need to signup; just show up ready to help!

Highway Cleanup Day

FPC will be cleaning our section of highway on Saturday, October 12 starting at 8 am. Meet at the Big Horn Y. Contact Dave Engels at 307-751-2009 if you can help.

Goodnight Camp Story

Come help put Camp Story to bed for the winter! Cleanup day is Saturday, October 12 beginning at 10 am. There are a variety of projects for all skill levels as we ready the camp for winter. Lunch will be provided. RSVP to 307-763-0919.

World Communion Sunday

Sunday, October 6th we will be celebrating World Communion Sunday.

The children of FPC will lead us in singing "Hello to All the Children of the World". We invite all ages to sing along with them. We are encouraging everyone to dress in clothing representative of their culture and heritage for that day.

For those making bread from around the world for communion that day, please let Denise Mueller know. Bread should be dropped off at the prep room by Friday, the 4th. If you're making cookies from around the world for fellowship time, please drop those off in the kitchen by Saturday, October 5th

PW Pie Sale

PW Pie Sale will be held October 20th during fellowship time and after church. Pie will be available by the slice, whole pie and by preorder. See details on page 4 of the newsletter.

INSIDE:

Pastor Karl.....	2
Notes from CJ.....	3
PW.....	4
FPC in Action.....	5
Good News at FPC.....	6
Thank You.....	7
Worship.....	8
Birthdays & Anniversaries.....	9
Military.....	10
Calendar.....	11

Dear Ones,

We sing with our young disciples every week, “Jesus loves me this I know for the Bible tells me so!” At home, I only need to start the melody and the first couple of lyrics and Harper Jo can sing the rest of the tune. I am so glad that this reality is beginning to sink into her being at a young age for it is the only eternal truth. Paul reminds us of this in Romans when he states, *“I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 8:38-39). The love of God is what wraps us up in the divine and is the best truth to hold at the center of our being.*

For as easy as it is to sing those words, however, it seems that it gets more difficult to believe them as we get older. We have difficulty comprehending a love that is unconditional. Human love operates differently and as we age we become accustomed to that mode of operation. Our love for others is often determined by attractiveness and character. We find it much easier to love someone - to give of ourselves, our time, our energy, and our very being - if that person is nice, kind, important to us for whatever reason, or if they meet some other standard we have set up in our mind. We live pretty naturally in a quid pro quo state; we give our love in exchange for something whether we acknowledge it or not.

God does not operate this way. Divine love does not make distinctions between people and it has no personal preference. We would be wise to add some of our own qualifiers for love to Paul’s list in Romans: *neither beauty, nor wealth, nor goodness, nor achievement can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ. While we are quid pro quo, God is never transactional. We can never earn God’s love. We will never be good enough for God’s love, but God does not love us because we are good. Rather, we are good and even “very good” as Genesis says because God loves us.*

Think of a time you have known God’s love and received it. Could you not help but feel in that moment as if you might just be God’s favorite? I hope so, because you are! All of us are God’s favorite! We do not always seem to have the capacity to imagine the notion of such amazing love, but it is true! “Jesus loves me this I know for the Bible tells me so!” And this will always be true!

Remember today how far reaching God’s love is and trust that it is for you. You do not have to perform for this love. You do not have give anything for it. Rather, we know it best when we surrender our lives to it and let ourselves be immersed in it. Then, when we find ourselves wrapped up, it becomes that much easier to love as God loves and to see that all others are loved and worth loving. In a time when we seem to be increasingly looking for reasons to hate or discount or make others prove themselves, let’s take a page out of God’s book and let the love of Christ for us and all others be that which keeps us together since nothing can separate us from it.

Yours in the eternal and unshakeable love of Jesus Christ,

Pastor Karl



In middle school and high school, I was active in my church's youth group. We would meet on Sunday nights. We would have a state-wide youth gathering once a year. I admit that I was always excited to attend the state events but disappointed because they were mostly held in my town. Except for once, it was held in Sioux Falls, SD, and we got to travel. We loaded up the church van and headed out. Our conversations in the van were full of laughter and getting to know one another better. I remember one girl saying she thought the moon landing was a hoax, and my mind was blown!

I remember vague topics that we talked about in breakout sessions, but what really stuck was the feelings of being loved and accepted and the church camp high, or as it was explained to me later in my life, a mountaintop experience. I went to a high school where it wasn't really "cool" to wear churchy stuff or talk about your beliefs. Being surrounded by other middle and high school students who felt and believed like me was like a shot in the arm that, yes, I love Jesus and am proud of it. It was also wonderful to know that I was surrounded by other kids with the same beliefs and I wasn't alone.

This feeling of belonging was something that the whole gathering felt. Several of us would break the rules and move sleeping bags around to form a sleeping circle with new friends so we could stay up, whispering and getting to know one another. At the end of the weekend, my new friends and I would all hug, cry, and look forward to the next event. Sometimes, we would exchange phone numbers.

Fast-forward to Fall 2017. I am working at the church, and Pastor Doug tells me that there is a youth gathering happening in July at Purdue University called Triennium. I was like, what is this? I was told it would be an experience that I wouldn't forget, even going as a chaperone. I was thinking okay and had my experiences in mind. Boy, was I wrong! Those feelings I had going to my state events were nothing compared to Triennium. I should have known better because a nationwide event was nothing compared to a little state one. The youth who attended seemed to have fun and bonded with each other. It was four days filled with worship, breakout small groups, games, and free time to explore the different stations they had set up around campus. The feelings of belonging to something bigger and surrounded by Jesus' love were overwhelming. The youth that I took on that trip came back with a different perspective of what it means to be a disciple of Christ, and I would like to think that they are not alone in being a Presbyterian youth. The theme that year was "Let us GO and see."

I had the privilege of going again in 2019. The feelings and experiences were just as powerful the second time around. We had the same opportunities with slight changes. The theme was "Here is My Heart." We had so many exceptional worship services and fantastic messages. We heard from the current co-moderator of the General Assembly, Rev. CeCe Armstrong. She said you can change the world, but it is okay to let the world change you a little. Take your experiences and reflect, ponder, let the experience shape you, and let it be written on your heart. Rev. Armstrong also said to stop looking to the sky to see Jesus. Look around you and see him where you are.

Triennium was canceled in 2022, but it is on track for July 2025. The theme for this Triennium is "As If We Were Dreaming," based on Psalm 126. I am excited to see where this theme and leadership will take it. There are also several other changes for Triennium 2025. One of the main changes is the location. It will be held in Louisville, KY, at the Kentucky International Convention Center (KICC), the town of the headquarters for Presbyterian USA. We will also be staying in hotels. When we would stay at Purdue, there was always the fear of not getting the dorm with air conditioning, so that is not a worry this time.

The other exciting change is that they are adding a Young Adult track. This opportunity is for young adults ages 18-23. This group of young adults would have been the youth eligible for Triennium in 2022. They will have their own small groups, but still be part of the Wyoming delegation.

Part of the requirements for the high school and eighth grader participants is to participate in fundraising for Triennium 2025. Even though the event is roughly 299 days away, the crew from Sheridan will be starting their fundraising efforts this month. We will sell raffle tickets for your chance to win a 1/2 of a processed pig donated by Double L Meat Processing. Tickets will be \$10 each and available on Sunday mornings or from any participant. The drawing will occur on Wednesday, October 30, between dinner and study time at The Bridge.

If you know of someone who would be eligible to attend and did not make the informational meeting last month, please contact me. I would love to share the information about Triennium. I strongly feel that this experience is a faith-forming event that will have a lasting impact on their lives.

This opportunity would not be possible without your support for many of our church's youth, so thank you!



Happy October and Happy Fall 2024!

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

Isaiah 26:3 “The steadfast of mind Thou wilt keep in perfect peace, because he trusts in Thee.”

2 Chron. 16:9a “For the eyes of the Lord move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His.”

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 1st Wednesday of the month during the school year September through May.

The Circles (small groups) gather on the 3rd 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)

We are now back in the swing of PW Luncheons. October 2nd will be a program by Uprising which is a group that educates people on human trafficking. They presented a much longer program at the Camp Story Women’s Retreat in June. All who attended

were glad to hear about their program. Bring a friend. Let Jeri Joy know how many people you are bringing so the Luncheon Committee can be prepared. Hope to see you there.

October is a fun time to have pie! Our PW Pie Sale will be held October 20th during fellowship time and after church. As in the past, we will take orders for the “Pie of Your Dreams” to make sure you get your favorite flavor. We will have several peach pies as that is Pastor Karl’s favorite. As we did last year we will suggest a minimum donation of \$5 per slice or \$30/pie. These funds go toward the support of the PW missions, so give as the Lord leads.

We have the honor of serving the Everything Beautiful Thrift Store in Lame Deer again this year with the Missions Committee and the Angel Tree. Unwrapped presents will be collected throughout the month of November with the goal of delivering them around the first of December. People can then shop at the thrift store and buy new presents for their families at thrift store prices. This gives them a gift that they can say they bought. It helps the store with their mission of giving people a hand up instead of a handout to help them preserve the individual’s integrity.

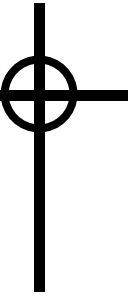
The Annual PW meeting will be closer this year, as it will be hosted by Powell on October 11-12. The meeting starts Friday afternoon and goes through Saturday at noon. Carolyn McBurney, our past state Moderator will be telling about her USA Mission Experience trip to the American/Mexican border. She was tasked with reading several books before she went to give her a better understanding of the issues. We look forward to seeing her again and hearing about her USA Mission Experience. Sign up sheets are in the information center. If you have questions you can call Rhea or Helen.

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

Cards and Letters for Brooke

We have been made aware by Brooke Holstedt’s daughter that he is in hospice care now and receiving comfort treatment. If you would like to send him a note, please do so at the following address:

Brooke Holstedt, % Dianna Fritters, 43460 Old Harbour Dr., Bermuda Dunes, CA 92203



FPC in Action!



Greyden & Pastor Karl during 3rd grade Bible presentation.

CJ recently received a \$1,000 grant to develop and incorporate children in worship through Wonder of Worship (WOW). The grant money will be used to purchase children's bells, hand chimes, a xylophone and Children's Bibles for the sanctuary. Here Harper Jo is trying out the boomwhacker, a plastic tube tuned to a musical pitch. We look forward to future musical offerings from our youth.



The north parking lot of the church was resurfaced in September!



Good News at FPC !



Congratulations to the Hailes!

Little Reece Sean Haile was born 9/19/2024 at 2:30 am weighing in at 8lbs 30z.

“Everyone is happy & healthy, we’re very thankful for the prayers, gifts, and meals from the church. Elliot is adjusting to his role as big brother well, and Peter and Sarah are leaning to thrive with interrupted sleep.”

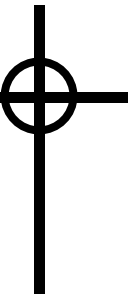
—Peter

Do you have news in your family?

We like to share good news, so if you have some exciting events/ milestones happening in your family, send information and/or pictures to office@sheridanfpc.church.



Colton Williams was sworn in to the South Dakota bar in September and will be practicing with the law firm of Costello Porter in Rapid City. Attending the ceremony were Colton’s parents, Mike & Teresa Williams and grandmother Mavis Williams.



Thank You!

Dear Church Family,

On May first, at the emergency room, Greg and I learned he had a fast growing, inoperable brain tumor. Greg died July seventh.

Alone in the ER room, I waited for Greg to return from the MRI. But the first CAT scan had told me all I needed to know. I can be cynical, even when I pray, and I cheekily complained to God why don't Presbyterians have saints to help them at a time like this. I need a saint.

As I looked up, I saw the busy ER staff tending to others. I was reminded of "our" saint, Fred Rogers, a Presbyterian. Mr. Rogers said, "When bad things happen look for the helpers."

The story that unfolded from that point on was about helpers. So many wonderful, kind, quiet helpers. I will never be able to thank you all for all the different ways you helped. But I am grateful.

Apparently, monks do not pray for themselves, except for mercy. Any prayer for themselves is how to best love others. They are humble enough to know they too need prayer, so, when they give alms, they ask the recipient to pray for and bless them.

You asked for nothing, but I wish to bless you with the words from Paul to the Ephesians 3:14 -21.

This, then is what I pray, kneeling before the Father, from whom every family, whether spiritual or natural, takes its name:

Out of His infinite glory, may he give you the power through His Spirit for your hidden self to grow strong, so that Christ may live in your hearts through faith, and then planted in love and built on love, you will with all the saints have strength to grasp the breadth and the length, the height and the depth; until, knowing the love of Christ, which is beyond all knowledge, you are filled with the utter fullness of God.

Glory be to him whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine; glory be to him from generation to generation in the Church and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen

Beth Thurow

2024 Financial Summary Through August 2024

	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Revenue	409,500.00	241,860.47	(167,639.53)
Expenses	409,500.00	232,784.09	(176,715.91)
Profit/(Loss)	-	9,076.38	(9,076.38)

The revenue amounts reflect a few large donations received early in the year that are divided evenly amongst the remaining months and added to those month's actual Tithes and Offerings.

Your contributions to the Church's Per Capita obligation, paid to the General Assembly, total \$2,680. The 2024 Per Capita assessment is \$12,776.40.



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, Mary Apple, Chantelle & Griffin Boostrom, Doug Moore

Worship Leaders: Kim Wells, Rob Milne, Mary Ludemann, Scott Davis

Ushers: Nickey Arney, Tina Anderson, Becky Motsick, Nate Motsick, Kim Wells, Mary Ludemann, Mitzi Knapp, Brian & Erica Bainter, Larry Apple, Larry Mueller, Jean Morgan, Nancy Cook, Nancy Elliott, Marilyn Michelena, Frank Rugh, Rob Milne

Communion Prep: Denise Mueller

Communion Servers: Dave Youngren, Bobbie Spahn, Brian Bainter, Gary Laughton

Audio/Visual Systems Operators: Ted Knapp, CJ Clem, Craig Clem, Eli Clem, Mickey Willson, Ethan Milne, Doug Moore, Tyler Milne, Rachael Milne



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The monthly Session meeting for September was held on Tuesday the 17th at 6 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

News of Interest –

- Mission Committee is planning a mission trip to Omaha to participate in rebuilding efforts after F-4 tornadoes hit the area last April. The trip is being planned for March of 2025.
- Church clean up day is scheduled for Saturday, October 5 from 9 to noon. Come help with the clean up.
- First Presbyterian Church of Sheridan is part of the national Presbytery. To support national programs and relief efforts, every Presbyterian church pays a fee to the Presbytery for each member of their church. This Per Capita fee is \$45. Church members are asked to donate this amount so that it does not have to come out of church funds. Please note on your check or envelope that it is for the Per Capita fee.
- The Bridge, the Wednesday evening meals put on by the Fellowship Committee have begun. Please join us for food and fellowship!

Gary Joy, Clerk of Session

**Keep them in
your prayers**



Ongoing Prayers: Margie Elkins, Karen Townsend, Kathleen Shafer, Robert & Jeannette Ruttinger, Roy & Carol Davis, Bill Ferguson, and Brooke Holstedt.

Prayers for Peace & Healing: Howie Fitzpatrick, Julie Bugher, Jae Satterlee, Diana Miller, Mary Hutton, and Pat Gallagher.

Prayers for Mission Partners: Federated Community Church (Thermopolis) and Habitat for Humanity of the Eastern Big Horns.

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

Time of Remembrance for

Jerry Saunders

Please join us after our 10:30 AM worship service on October 13 as we take time to remember and give thanks to God for Jerry Saunders by singing a couple of Jerry's favorite songs, sharing stories, and enjoying lunch together in the fellowship hall afterward.



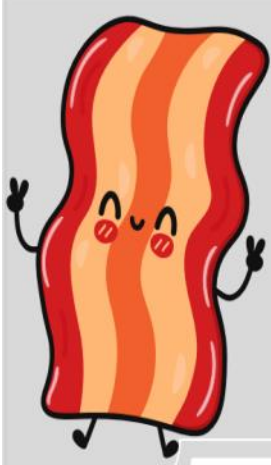
OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- October 1—Julie Kennedy, Gabe Thurow, Greyden Nield
- October 2—Jim Litle
- October 5—Keith Luegge
- October 6—Becki Youngren
- October 10—Ethan Milne
- October 12—Brian Bainter
- October 13—Tyler Wells, Emmi Johnson, Carter Steidley
- October 14—Sharon Porter
- October 16—Jill Martin, Ryli Malone
- October 17—Tyler Milne, Cindy Mitchell, Cory Hamstreet
- October 18—Helen Campbell
- October 22—Logan Groshart
- October 24—Decker Nield
- October 26—Sandy Birkholz
- October 28—Linda Luegge
- October 31—Lisa Rugh, Cheryl Kelsey



Happy Anniversary! October

- October 7—Cory & Janet Hamstreet
- October 11—Jeff & Denise Mueller
- October 13—Roy & Carol Davis
- October 14—Kurt & Heidi Smith
- October 17—Kevin & Beth Bailey
- October 18—Gary & Jeri Joy



TRIENNium
PIG RAFFLE

\$10

DISCOVER TRIENNium - AN EXTRAORDINARY NATIONAL YOUTH CONVENTION FOR 8TH TO 12TH GRADERS, PROMISING AN UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE FILLED WITH WORSHIP, SMALL GROUP STUDIES, SOCIAL ACTIVITIES, AND CHERISHED MEMORIES.

JOIN US IN LOUISVILLE, KY FROM JULY 28-31, 2025, AND EMBRACE THE THEME "AS IF WE WERE DREAMING..." INSPIRED BY PSALM 126.

EXCITING NEWS! INTRODUCING THE YOUNG ADULT TRACK, DESIGNED FOR INDIVIDUALS AGED 19-23.

TRIENNium OFFERS A UNIQUE AND IMPACTFUL FAITH-BUILDING OPPORTUNITY. IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO WOULD BENEFIT FROM THIS ENRICHING EXPERIENCE, REACH OUT TO CJ FOR MORE INFORMATION.

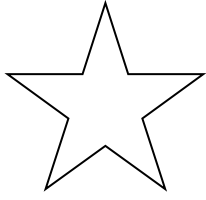


GET YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS NOW FOR A CHANCE TO WIN HALF A PIG! TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE ON SUNDAY MORNINGS OR FROM ANY TRIENNium PARTICIPANT. DON'T MISS THIS EXCITING OPPORTUNITY TO WIN DELICIOUS PORK AND SUPPORT OUR YOUTH!

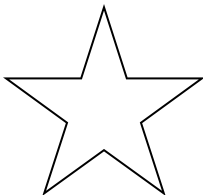
DRAWING WILL BE HELD WEDNESDAY, OCT 30 AT THE BRIDGE.

THANK YOU DOUBLE L MEAT PROCESSING FOR THE DONATION!





**P
r
a
y
e
r
o
f
f
e
r
o
r
s
M
i
l
i
t
a
r
y**



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.

October 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	2 12 pm PW Luncheon 5:30 pm The Bridge 6 pm AA 6:30 pm Bells	3 7 am Bible Study 10 am Bible Study	4 WY Presbytery Mtg in Jackson	5 9 am Church Cleanup
6 8 & 10:30 am Worship w/Communion 9 am Sunday School (all ages) 10 am Fellowship Time 11:45 am Choir 11:45 am Tech 4 pm Pumpkin Patch 6 pm AA	7	8 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	9 10 am Congregational Care Committee 5:30 pm The Bridge 6 pm AA 6:30 pm Bells	10 7 am Bible Study 10 am Bible Study	11 PW Statewide Mtg. in Powell 4 pm Friday—12 noon Saturday	12 8 am Highway Cleanup 10 am Camp Story Cleanup
13 8 & 10:30 am Worship 9 am Sunday School (all ages) 10 am Fellowship Time 6 pm AA	14	15 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	16 10 am Circle 1 & 2 12 pm Circle 3 5:30 pm The Bridge 6 pm AA 6:30 pm Bells	17 7 am Bible Study 10 am Bible Study	18	19 9 am—3 pm Session Retreat
20 8 & 10:30 am Worship 9 am Sunday School (all ages) 10 am Fellowship 11:45 am Choir 11:45 am S3 PW Pie Sale	21 6:45 am M3 6 pm AA District Mtg.	22	23 5:30 pm The Bridge 6 pm AA 6:30 pm Bells	24 7 am Bible Study 10 am Bible Study	25 DEADLINE: Newsletter Articles	26 CJ Out of Office
27 8 & 10:30 am Worship 9 am Sunday School (all ages) 10 am Fellowship Time 11:45 am Choir 6 pm AA	28 CJ Out of Office	29	30 5:30 pm The Bridge 6 pm AA 6:30 pm Bells	31 7 am Bible Study 10 am Bible Study Happy Halloween!		



First Presbyterian Church

2121 Colonial Drive
Sheridan, WY 82801

Return Service Requested

Mailing label goes here

