



First Presbyterian  
Church of Sheridan

# The Good News

November 2024

## All Saints Sunday

This Sunday, November 3rd is All Saints Sunday. We will ring a bell for all those friends and family members who have passed away during this past year.

## Lunch Together

First Presbyterian's next time to serve Lunch Together is Monday, November 4—Thursday, November 7th.

Please contact Denise Mueller at 828-712-9500 if you can help in any way.

Thank You!

## Family Gathering

Our monthly Family Gathering in November, will be parents' night out. The adults will be dining at the Himalayan Kitchen on Sunday, November 10th at 5 pm. This restaurant brings the rich flavors of Indian cuisine to Sheridan! An RSVP is required for childcare by November 6th. We need those for planning purposes. Dinner RSVPs are not necessary, but as always are appreciated.

Email CJ at [cj@sheridanfpc.church](mailto:cj@sheridanfpc.church) for those reservations.

## Office Closed for Thanksgiving

FPC staff wish each and everyone of you a blessed Thanksgiving holiday. The church office will be closed both Thursday, November 28th and Friday, November 29th.

## Advent Study

For the Advent study, adult Sunday School will be reading "Calling All Angels" by Erin Wathen. This study begins December 1 and concludes on December 22nd.

Books are \$10 and can be picked up in the church office.



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Dear Ones,

On Tuesday, we will head to the polls and exercise our civic duties as American citizens (unless you voted early). This election year, things seem to be tense. They were tense in 2020 and a little bit in 2016, but I don't remember them being like this before my adult life. I think we're all acting a little crazy at times because the election gives us a pass to do so. In a campaign season when making enemies seems to be fashionable so that one can separate oneself from the other candidate, we easily forget that Jesus asks us to pray for enemies not to make them. We are called to behave differently as Christians than what our political system asks of us.

That clash between politics and faith is nothing new. Even Jesus was tempted with power and saw that his way went a different direction. But there has been a marked shift that I have noticed in the last 8 years in how our political parties operate in our lives and the functions they serve. Our behavior and priorities have seemed to change. David Brooks recently put it this way, "In an increasingly secular age, political parties are better seen as religious organizations that exist to provide believers with meaning, membership and moral sanctification." Though Brooks notes the secular age, this is as much or more of an issue for religious persons. We profess Jesus to be our guiding way and truth, but many of us are increasingly gaining meaning and direction from the political pursuits of our parties. We are quick to trust the talking heads of our preferred news networks but not the learned people of our faith traditions. If our parties only serve to gain power, push cultural issues more than policy (as is the norm now), and make enemies of the opposite side as a means to this end, where is that going to leave us? Who will that turn us into? It's not going to make us any more like Jesus no matter what your party is.

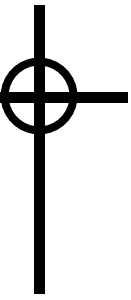
So what next? I encourage you to exercise your civic duty. We don't have to hold our efforts to follow Jesus and our responsibilities as Americans completely apart from one another. They are not mutually exclusive. However, just as Jesus reminds his disciples that his kingdom is not an earthly one, let us remember this week that our citizenship in his kingdom is the citizenship that is meant to help us make meaning, find our identity, and guide our transformation to be more like him.

Then, after you've voted, go right out the doors of the polling place and love your neighbor (i.e. show them an act of kindness and love). Pray for those who vote differently than you. Quit making enemies out of other people. Look at the world like Jesus did, as a place that is full of people who need love not a place full of people to make into the opposition. Serve at Lunch Together or somewhere else. Cultivate gratitude for what you have. Be generous. Turn off the television and read a psalm. Turn it over and read it again. Find meaning in faith not in the pursuit of power, not in the fallible persons you voted for, and not in the results either. If your candidates lose, Jesus loves you. If your candidates win, Jesus loves you. If your neighbor's candidates win, Jesus wants you to love them. If your neighbor's candidate loses, Jesus wants you to love them. That is how we make meaning and how we are called to be as those who follow Jesus.

As a final note, I want to put one more practical piece out there for you. Social media is one platform that has heightened everything I've noted and spurred that change I've seen over eight years. Our calling to be disciples doesn't go out the window when our fingers hit the keyboard. If a post riles you up, that's the point of it. Stop the cycle and don't share it.

In God's grip and God's grip alone,

Pastor Karl



You never know the journey that God designed for you, but when you look back, you think, mm... good one, God! As I sit down to write my 120th newsletter article, I have been very reflective.

Ten years ago, I saw an advertisement in the newspaper. It was just a little square asking for a temporary position to help run the youth programs until vacation Bible school the following summer. My family and I had just started attending church here, so I figured, why not apply. On a fateful Monday night, I walked into the office door and was led to the parlor filled with people all staring at me as I walked in. I am sure it wasn't that full, but every couch and chair seemed to have someone sitting on it. They asked me to sit in the lone chair across from everyone, and it felt like I had a spotlight shining down on me. One of the questions I remembered was what a mature Christian looks like. I answered the question, and Pastor Doug added to it. Who would have thought that a temporary job until June would have lasted this long?

When I started, my life was so different. Ottis was just a tiny two and half month old. Eli was in second, Izabel was in fifth, and Brenden had started his last year in middle school. We were running in so many different directions with kids' activities. Now, Ottis is in fifth grade, Eli is preparing to graduate high school, Izzi is a junior in college, and Brenden is married and living his best life. It seems like I blinked, and here we are. The constant would be Craig. He hasn't changed. 😊

During Bible study, we talked about how we are created to work together to carry each other's burdens. When I was younger when I heard the word burden I also thought of burdens as negative. You don't want to have burdens because they drag you down. As I gained more life experiences, I learned that burdens are significant and could be time-consuming but not necessarily bad. Over the time that I have been here, I have gone to Triennium twice, a substitute Triennium. I have attended 15 state youth retreats, several lock-ins, 9 vacation Bible schools, 10 Christmas programs, countless Sunday school and midweek classes, and all the other little things along the way. I have not done these things by myself. You have come together, worked alongside each other, and lifted all these activities up and the work that has gone into them. They are works of love, and without you, most of the things we offer would not be able to happen, so thank you! It has been and will continue to be a beautiful partnership.

I am reminded of the song "Seasons of Change" from the musical Rent.

"525,600 minutes, 525,000 moments so dear.  
525,600 minutes - how do you measure, measure a year?  
In daylights, in sunsets, in midnights, in cups of coffee.  
In inches, in miles, in laughter, in strife.  
In 525,600 minutes - how do you measure a year in the life?  
How about love? How about love? How about love? Measure in love.  
Seasons of love."

All 5,256,000 minutes here has been measured in love. I cherish all the memories and can't wait see what God has in store for us.



## Happy October and Happy Fall 2024!

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

Let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name. Hebrews 13:15 NASV.

Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise. Psalm 95:2 ESV

### **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)

**A HUGE THANK YOU TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE PIE SALE!**

You all are a blessing! It was fun! We collected \$1250 which will go toward missions. Bless you all!

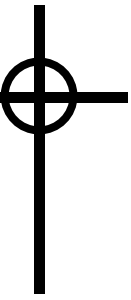
We have the honor of serving the Everything Beautiful Thrift Store in Lane Deer again this year with the Missions Committee and the Angel Tree. Unwrapped presents will be collected throughout the month of November with the goal of delivering them around the first of December. People can then shop at 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 in the Presbytery meeting was hosted by Powell on October 11-12. Carolyn McBurney, our past state Moderator, gave a presentation about her USA Mission Experience trip to the American/Mexican border. Our new Moderator is Jane Iddings. The Vice Moderator is Kay James. Sharon Cole and Jeri Joy will be on the Search Committee. The Women's Retreat has changed to August and the Annual meeting will move back to the Spring. So, the next Annual Meeting will be in Torrington next spring. Our special offering went to the Powell Valley Loaves and Fishes Food Bank. Frontera de Cristo received an honorarium for Carolyn's presentation. It is always a great time of fellowship as always!

Our next luncheon is at noon on November 6<sup>th</sup>. Our program will be "The Rest of the Story" by Helen Campbell. Helen's great grandfather had quite a life as a pioneer in the Colorado and Laramie area. Hope to see you there for a great time of food and fellowship!

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





# FPC in Action!



**FPC's Pumpkin Patch Party!**  
The party started with a group photo by the sign; continued with wagon rides; and the finale was finding your perfect pumpkin, which Elliot did!

**World Communion Sunday**  
On the first Sunday in October, Pam Moore led a group of children and adults who shared their talents singing a greeting from many different countries, "Hello to All the Children of the World".



# Good News at FPC !



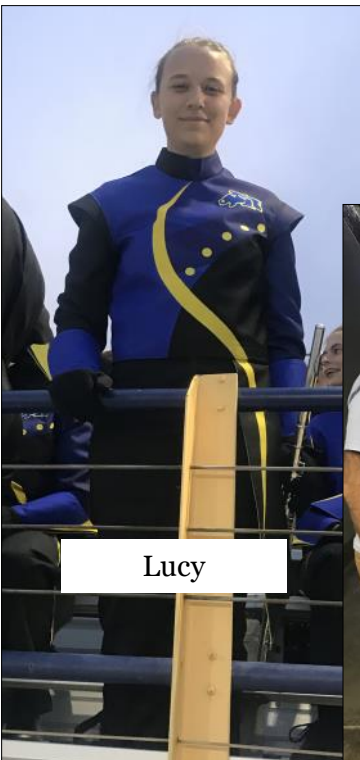
Jeri Joy was recognized by the Volunteers of America for her work as a volunteer Faith Coach offering intentional spiritual care to patients at the Gathering Place. Comments from VOA included: "What sets Jeri apart is her ability to see each patient as a new creation in Christ, speaking this truth into their lives with wisdom and grace. She is an irreplaceable asset to our team."

Congratulations Jeri on your award!



## Highway Cleanup Day

It was a smokey day, but our highway cleanup crew still got the job done! Thank you to all for your help. Pictured above are some of the crew: Jody Roberts, Dave Engels, and Gary Laughton.



Lucy

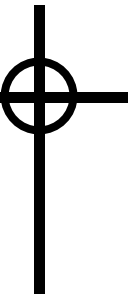


Tyler and Family

## Sheridan High School Marching Band

Lucy Brock and Tyler Milne were members of the Sheridan High School Marching Band who performed "Beetlejuice" during halftime of the SHS Broncos vs. Campbell County Camels at Home Scott Field. The band received a Superior rating and two caption awards for outstanding performance in Winds and Color Guard.

The Milne family enjoyed all the festivities!



### Church Cleanup Day



### Camp Story Cleanup & Winterizing the Camp

We have great pictures from the Camp Story cleanup day which we will share in the December newsletter.

### Pumpkin Patch Party

More participants enjoying the wagon rides!



Thank you to the following who were our cleanup crew at the church on October 5th!  
Dave & Becky Youngren, Bobbi Spahn, Rob & Tori Milne, Judi Palm, Beth Bailey, Scott Davis & Mary Ludemann, Jan Leupold, Sandy Browne, Steve Kitto, Ron Patterson, Lisa, Frank, Issac, & Anna Rugh, Dave & Becky Motsick, Miriam Nance, and Mitzi Knapp.

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

**Musicians:** Miriam Nance, Ryan Landis, Mary Apple, Doug & Pam Moore

**Worship Leaders:** Rachel Mathews-Landis, Brian Bainter, Edie Siddle, Sharon Porter

**Ushers:** Jerilea Phillips, Jody Roberts, Mike Stoll & Tina Anderson, Marilyn Michelena, Nancy Cook, Shelley Cundiff, Frank Rugh, Jan Leupold, Tracey Burke, Dave Motsick, Ethan Milne, Doug & Pam Moore, Lynn & Tom Hahn, Nathan Motsick

**Communion Prep:** Denise Mueller

**Communion Servers:** Doug & Pam Moore, Tom & Lynn Hahn

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

**Coffee Sponsors:** Mission Committee, Mike Stoll and Tina Anderson, Karl & Kendra Heimbeck, Tom & Miriam Nance



## SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The monthly Session meeting for October was held on Saturday the 19th at 11:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

News of Interest –

- Mission Committee is sending \$1000 to Black Mountain Presbyterian Church near Asheville, NC to aid in Hurricane Helene relief. Black Mountain has been feeding the flood ravaged community out of their church kitchen since the hurricane hit.
- They are also exploring the best way to aid our local communities and firefighters battling the Elk Fire. Any ideas you may have are welcome.
- The Per Capita fee is \$45. Have you paid yours yet?
- Properties Committee reported that the church roof did sustain some damage from the recent hail storm. Adjuster's estimate is \$16,723.

Gary Joy, Clerk of Session

## Keep them in your prayers



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

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

**Prayers for Mission Partners:** First Presbyterian Church of Cheyenne and CASA.

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

## Thank You

We have received a thank you note from Julie Bugher that we wanted to share with all of you.

Julie was very thankful for everyone that helped move things out of her apartment...your generosity, your hard work, support...all was greatly appreciated. For those wishing to send Julie a note, her address is

Julie Bugher, Cottonwood Rehab, 503 S. 18<sup>th</sup> St.,  
Laramie, WY 82070



## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

November 1—Jerilea Phillips, Harvey Johnson,  
Rachel Mathews-Landis

November 2—Melissa Rieger

November 3—Louise Semino

November 6—Dennis Ledgerwood, Julie Bugher

November 7—Dennis Schreffler

November 10—Tina Anderson

November 12—Nickie Arney

November 13—Jason Szewc

November 14—William Graves

November 15—Cheryl Madden

November 16—Kevin Bailey, Jan Deaver,  
Robin Smith

November 17—Mary Apple, Barb Finch

November 19—Jae Satterlee

November 21—Ruby Szewc

November 25—Todd Phillips, Craig Clem, Eli Clem

November 26—Kal Malone, Sandy Browne

November 27—Tod Windsor, Carly Motsick

November 29—Tom Hahn, Jack Elliott,  
Jim Douglas



## Happy Anniversary! November

November 11—Tom & Miriam Nance

November 12—Tom & Lynn Hahn

November 13—Dennis & Lorrie Ledgerwood

November 23—Gene & Becky Bard

November 25—Dick & Sandy Birkholz

November 28—Dennis & Karen Schreffler

### Military/Service Board

We are making an effort to update the Military/Service board in the narthex. We wish to include family of FPC members which includes currently serving military personnel, law enforcement, professional firefighters, volunteer firefighters, wild land firefighters, aerial firefighters, all first responders wherever they serve.

Please leave following info in the church office:

-a photo

-how/where serving

-full name and relationship to congregation member.

If you have questions contact Sherry Laughton.

### Fire Mitigation at Camp Story

Gloria Dierking was part of the crew that did grounds cleanup for fire prevention. Thank you to all members of the crew.



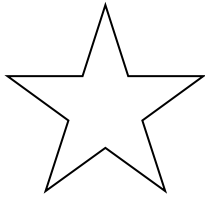
### 2024 Financial Summary

#### Through September 2024

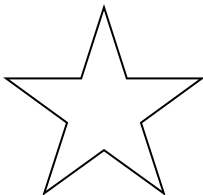
	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Revenue	\$307,124.91	274,199.64	(32,925.27)
Expenses	\$307,046.21	273,327.40	(33,718.81)
Profit/(Loss)	\$78.70	872.24	(793.54)

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 \$2,725. The 2024 Per Capita assessment is \$12,776.40



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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)

**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.

# November 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
<b>3 All Saints Day</b> 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 Committee 6 pm AA	4	5	<b>6</b> 12 pm PW Luncheon  5:30 pm The Bridge 6 pm AA 6:30 pm Bells	7	8	9
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">Pastor Karl Out of Office</div>						
<b>10</b> 8 & 10:30 am Worship 9 am Sunday School (all ages) 10 am Fellowship 5 pm Family Gathering Dinner at Himalayan Kitchen 6 pm AA	11	<b>12</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	<b>13</b> 10:30 am Congregational Care Committee 5:30 pm The Bridge 6 pm AA 6:30 pm Bells	<b>14</b> 7 am Bible Study 10 am Bible Study	15	16
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">CJ Out of Office</div>						
<b>17</b> 8 & 10:30 am Worship 9 am Sunday School (all ages) 10 am Fellowship 11:45 am Choir 11:45 am S3 6 pm AA	<b>18</b> 6:45 am M3  6 pm AA District Mtg.	<b>19</b>  6 pm Session 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	<b>20</b> 10 am Circle 1 & 2 12 pm Circle 3  5:30 pm The Bridge 6 pm AA 6:30 pm Bells	<b>21</b> 7 am Bible Study 10 am Bible Study	22	23
<b>24</b> 8 & 10:30 am Worship 9 am Sunday School (all ages) 10 am Fellowship 11:45 am Choir 6 pm AA	25	26	<b>27</b> 6 pm AA 6:30 pm Bells	<b>28</b> Office Closed  <b>Thanksgiving Day</b>	29	30
Office Closed						



*First Presbyterian Church*

2121 Colonial Drive  
Sheridan, WY 82801

Return Service Requested

Mailing label goes here

