



First Presbyterian  
Church of Sheridan

# The Good News

March 2025

The  
Season  
of  
Lent



### Lent

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, on March 5th. We will have a bread and soup meal at 5:30 pm that day and our Ash Wednesday worship service will follow at 6:30 pm.

### M3 and S3

These two groups will not be meeting during the month of March as it is spring break that week.

### Free Tax Prep

Tracy Landeis has once again worked with Wyoming Free Tax Service and scheduled free tax prep at First Presbyterian. Call Wendy Faldowski (Wyoming Free Tax Service Coordinator) at 307-710-1022 to schedule an appointment. The next available days for appointments are March 20th, 22nd and April 3rd & 5th.

### New Member Class

Pastor Karl is offering a new members class on Sunday, March 9th from 12 pm—2:30 pm. Lunch will be provided. Please talk with Pastor Karl if you are interested in attending.

### The Bridge

Our first Bridge gathering for the month of March is our 5:30 soup and bread meal and our Ash Wednesday service. There is no Bridge gathering on March 19th. The Bridge will resume on Wednesday, March 26th.

### Daylight Savings Time Begins

Be sure to set your clocks ahead as daylight savings time begins Sunday, March 9th.

### Trivia Night

Gather your team together for Fellowship committee's annual Trivia Night on Sunday, March 9th at 6:30 pm. The Milne family will be trying to defend and keep the travelling trophy which they won last year. Light snacks will be provided. See you there!

### INSIDE:

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

Dear Ones,

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent. At the Ash Wednesday service, we mark ourselves with the sign of the cross using ashes made from the branches waved the previous Palm Sunday. The use of the palm branches is a reminder of the cyclical nature of the Christian life. This faith is known within the circle of life and death. We transition regularly from the joyful celebrations akin to Palm Sunday to the penitence and embrace of mortality that mark Ash Wednesday.

Ash Wednesday might be the closest thing we have to an altar call within our tradition. An altar call is a moment in a worship service when people are invited to come forward to the front of the sanctuary and make a public profession to follow Jesus. It is a regular occurrence in more evangelical Christian traditions. In the Presbyterian tradition, we make a public confession of faith when baptized (or have one made on our behalf). We state what we believe when we join a congregation, and we reaffirm these confessions regularly in the words of our Affirmation of Faith and in joining together in renewing baptismal vows.

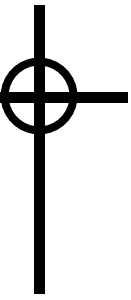
But on Ash Wednesday, we are invited to come forward in our desire to follow Jesus and to be marked in a public way with the sign of our Lord. This is a chance to recognize that our lives are a living sacrifice to Jesus. But at the heart of our theological tradition and central to this invitation forward at the start of Lent is the truth that *we come forward not because we can offer our hearts to Jesus but because he has offered his to us. Again, we come to the altar (chancel in our theological language) because God has opened the divine heart in Jesus Christ and wishes for us to enter.*

This year, we will be marked with the ashes, embracing our mortality, and then we will share communion and remember that Jesus Christ also embraces our mortality in the sacrificial act through which we have come to know the gift of God's own heart. We will break the bread and pass the cup so that we might know, once again, that even the dust we return to is held in the heart of God through the life, death, and resurrection of our Savior.

I hope you will join on Wednesday for this powerful service and movement into the Lenten season. Worship will be at 6:30 PM. There is a simple soup and bread meal beforehand at 5:30 PM for those who would wish to come. These meals will continue on Wednesday nights throughout the Lenten season as a point of gathering and reflection during the penitential season.

Reflectively,

Pastor Karl



As I sit down to write my article, I am flooded with all the things that I could write about. This is a first for me because I am not one to look forward to writing my newsletter article. Don't believe me, ask Juanita or Karl. I think not writing a newsletter article was one of the highlights I said to Karl when I accepted the Executive Director position at Camp Story. He told me that I would still have to write one every month. I am not sure if he was serious or not. I would want it noted; it is probably my longest.

I have so many fond memories over the last ten years. Many of those memories are tied to Camp Story and the church. The first time I was at Camp Story was in February 2015, and the Coalition had just formed to explore the option of running Camp Story for the Presbytery. Tracey Burke and I drove up to camp. We got out. I put little Ottis in his backpack carrier and we started walking around the camp. The peace and calm that settled over me in that moment made me want to be part of helping to preserve that feeling for campers. Later that year in May, I remember sitting at Brenden's junior high track meet and Elwyn Maloy asking me if I had heard about the Presbytery's decision about camp and I had not. He was the one that shared that information with me. Again, another cherished memory tied to the camp and the wonderful people of FPC. The first clean up day we had was a damp day. It drizzled on and off, but wasn't as cold as it could have been. We worked hard, but there was also laughter in the air as people of all ages came together to celebrate this gift.

The next year, I went to Triennium. The overall theme for the time was "GO!" With the logo was a shoe with wings. The t-shirt we got was a heather charcoal black/grey with the theme, scripture, and the shoe in black. The consensus was it was hard to read, and you had to focus to see all the information. I may still have the t-shirt shoved in my grubby clothes drawer. Every time I pull it out, I have to look to see the "GO!"

During the week at Triennium, we were challenged to Go—to see what God is doing, to go and do likewise—to be kind and serve, open to hearing and learning the way I should go, let my people go—defend those who need defending, and great go—and make disciples. For the past couple of months, God has sent me little signs that have activated memories.

Over the past ten years, the "GO" has popped up in the children, youth, and family events around the church. I have taught five confirmation classes, countless Sunday school and LOGOS/The Bridge classes, vacation Bible schools, lock-ins, three out-of-state mission trips, several smaller in-state, led two Triennium adventures, one substitute Triennium, and coordinated and planned several statewide retreats. Through these experiences, many memories were made; most were good ones, relationships were formed and built upon, and love was in and overflowed through it all. In the background of all these activities was the love and support of the church. You help make all this possible, from volunteering to teaching, chaperoning, donations, prayers, letters, and conversations. And you continue to help and support. Evidence of that is sitting out in the hallway as I write this, the silent auction, and the lingering smell of the chili from the chili cook-off.

On the last day of the Triennium, the theme was the Great Commission, which calls us to make disciples of all nations and embrace the challenge of being God's people. The pastor talked about how it might not be comfortable, and there may be tears, but we should go, do, and answer the call. Well here I am taking what feels like a huge step. It is scary, but so thrilling too.

I have to admit, the first time I was approached about the potential of being the executive director for camp, it was a very strong no, nope, I don't think so. As time passed, with prayer, reflection, and encouragement I considered the possibility. I figured, why not. The Holy Spirit has been leading me to this point. I need to embrace it, and like my first Triennium said "GO!" take that leap of faith and said sure, let's go!

As I take off on my GO, I am filled with excitement that is Camp Story and all the wonderful things that entails, but also filled with sadness. I have been truly blessed to be a part of a church full of love and encouragement and that embraces change with an open heart and mind. Just not me, but my family. The relationships that they have formed and the love that surrounds them is astonishing! It is what makes church a home. When a good thing ends, it is a little sad in a sentimental way. I am not going far and will continue to have your love and support in a different capacity. In the transitional period, there will be some bumps in the road and growing and learning for everyone, but we will continue to face it with the love and grace we are known for. Thank you for everything!

With love and peace,



## March Greeting from Presbyterian Women

### 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.

**Women of the church** are invited to attend the **PW luncheon this Wednesday, March 5 at noon** in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is encouraged to wear green for fun and prizes. The program will be presented by Kari McMeans on **The Food Group\*** and its role in our community.

**A Reminder:** Women are encouraged to visit Circles which meet monthly on the third Wednesday. Circles are small fellowship gatherings open to all women in the congregation desiring fellowship and study opportunity.

### THANK YOUS RECEIVED FROM PW MISSION GIVING 2024

**Lagniappe (a little extra)** *"Dear Presbyterian Women, thank you for your generous gift to Lagniappe! Your support has been a blessing to our ministry, and we're excited to allocate it toward our upcoming Luncheon fundraiser in April. We're also grateful for your sponsorship of our grant application for the PW Thank Offering. Thank you for advocating for Lagniappe! Your kindness and partnership means so much as we work to transform lives in our community. Blessings, Crystal"*

**Uprising** *"Presbyterian Women of Sheridan, thank your women so much for choosing Uprising to be your local recipient of your local mission funds from this year. This helps us to support our ongoing efforts to combat human trafficking within our community and across Wyoming. We at Uprising believe that education is a crucial weapon in the fight against human trafficking."*

*By raising awareness and empowering individuals we can create a safer and more just society for all. Thank you again for your compassion and commitment to making a difference. Uprising Board and Staff, Terri Markham."*

**Everything Beautiful Thrift Store** *"Dear Sisters, Greetings in the name of Christ! We trust that your New Year has begun well! I am writing to thank you for the Christmas gifts which you sent to the Everything Beautiful Thrift Store and which were shared with our community. They were a tremendous boost and deeply appreciated. We continue to believe in our philosophy that a **"hand up is better than a handout."** Your gifts helped us work toward that end. We had a special Christmas toy sale on December 10 and it was a tremendous success. We had parents lined up for 30 minutes waiting to come in and shop. The gifts that you chose and sent really went over well. As usual, the balls (basketball, football, soccer) were a big hit. Even as we move into the new year our store is doing very well. You have been a very important part of that. Thank you again for your generosity! Wishing you God's continued blessing in 2025. Sincerely, Willis Busenitz, President."*

**Thank you to all in the Congregation** who supported the Christmas Angel Tree toy gifts for the children and families in Lame Deer and surrounding communities. Thank you to the Mission Committee for partnering with PW and providing funds to make this effort especially impactful in maintaining the dignity of giving and receiving with our northern neighbors.

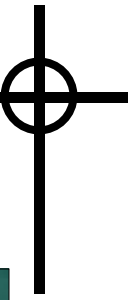
**FYI:** the 2025 PW yearbooks are available to anyone who has yet to receive one. See Circle leaders or any PW leader to get yours.

**\*The Food Group:** PW volunteers meet at 10:00 on the second Wednesday at FG new location 1141 Crook St. All are welcome to join in packing bags. As Nancy Elliot says, "It is everyone's problem when children and adults go hungry in our community." Thank you volunteers.

Sherry Laughton  
Nancy Cook  
Co-Moderators







# FPC in Action!



We celebrated Scout Sunday during the month of February. Cub Scouts participated in worship that day.



Rachel Mathews-Landis' Pre K Sunday School class had a visitor one Sunday. Everyone enjoys Sunday school.



Lots of prizes, lots of fun, and lots of laughs! Annual Bingo Night at FPC with our caller Erica Bainter.



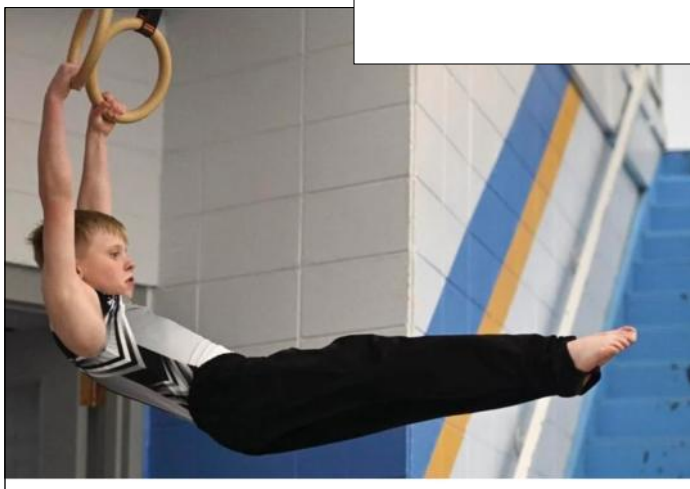
Thank you to all of you who take pictures at FPC activities!  
Please continue to share with the office.

# Good News at FPC !

Prakash shared his musical talents during Sunday morning worship.




Daren Bainter recently took 1st place in all events and 1st place overall in Sheridan's "Be Kind" Gymnastics Meet. Daren also broke records in being the 1st boy gymnast in Tongue River Twister's history.




Sheridan High School Presents


March 6, 7:15 PM  
March 7, 7:15 PM  
March 8, 2:00 PM  
March 8, 7:15 PM

USE THE QR CODE BELOW, OR VISIT [DOFAN.CO](http://DOFAN.CO) & SEARCH SHERIDAN HIGH SCHOOL.



Directed by AJ Longhurst  
Music Direction by Jason McArthur  
Choreography by Joy McArthur  
Tickets \$12



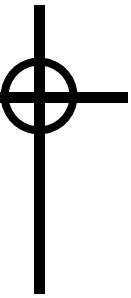
**LEGALLY BLONDE**  
*The Musical* 

Music and Lyrics by Laurence O'Keefe and Nell Benjamin  
Book by Heather Hach

Based on the novel by Amanda Brown  
And the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer motion picture

Lucy Brock and Prakash Landis will be participating in the musical production at Sheridan High School.





# 2025 SCHEDULE

Session	Grade completed	Dates	Price by 4/15	Price After 4/15
LIT	9th - 11th grade	6/5-6/13	\$150	\$175
You & Me	4 yr - 1st grade	6/6- 6/8	\$225	\$250
June Day Camp	K-5th grade	6/9-6/13	\$250	\$275
Starters 1	2nd - 4th grade	6/15-6/18	\$225	\$250
Hands, Heart & Soul	any age	6/19-6/22	adult \$225 under 17 \$115	adult \$250 under 17 \$130
Roots & Wings	9th-12th grade	6/22 - 6/27	\$375	\$400
Starters 2	2nd - 4th grade	6/29-7/2	\$225	\$275
July Day Camp	K- 5th grade	7/7-7/11	\$250	\$275
Wild Faith	5th -8th grade	7/13 - 7/18	\$375	\$400

Register today at [campstory.org!](http://campstory.org)

**Congratulations CJ!**  
CJ is the new Executive Director at Camp Story and will begin her new position there on March 3rd.



**Session Members and Committee**

**Budget & Finance**  
Karen Burtis, Gary Laughton

**Clerk of Session**  
Gary Joy

**Christian Education**  
Tori Milne

**Fellowship**  
Becky Motsick

**Congregational Care**  
Bobbie Spahn, Jean Morgen

**Mission & Outreach**  
Rachel Mathews-Landis

**Personnel**  
Nancy Cook, Gloria Dierking

**Properties**  
Larry Apple, Rex Arney

**Worship**  
John Jackson, Tracey Burke

**Tech**  
Craig Clem

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

**Musicians:** Miriam Nance, Ryan Landis, Mary Apple, FPC Choir, Prakash Landis, FPC Bells

**Worship Leaders:** Loren Ruttinger, Judy Merriott, Jon Botten, Rachael Milne

**Ushers:** Tina Anderson, Karen Fosher & Steve Kitto, Mary Ludemann & Scott Davis, Erica Bainter, Dave & Catherine Engels, Cub Scouts, Marigene Vogt, Kim Wells, Jody Roberts, Shelley Cundiff, CJ Clem and Dave, Becky & Nate Motsick

**Communion Prep:** Denise Mueller

**Communion Servers:** John Jackson, Karen Burtis, Scott Davis, Mary Ludemann

**Audio/Visual Systems Operators:** Ted Knapp, Craig & CJ Clem

**Coffee Sponsors:** Karl & Kendra Heimbuck, Larry & Mary Apple, Ryan & Rachel Mathews-Landis, Doug & Kathy Beagle, Tom & Miriam Nance



## Keep them in your prayers



**Ongoing Prayers:** Karen Townsend, Kathleen Shafer, Robert & Jeannette Ruttinger, and Carol Davis.

**Prayers for Peace & Healing:** Howie Fitzpatrick, Jae Satterlee, Diana & Bob Miller, Pat Gallagher, Rebecca White (Carla White's daughter-in-law), Jim Wilhelm, Margie Elkins, Arlene Herrboldt, Barb Finch, Pat Harden's sister, Elizabeth Wilner, and Greta Johnson.

**Prayers for Mission Partners:** United Presbyterian Church (Riverton) and CASA.

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

## Lenten Study

On Sunday, March 9th we will begin our Lenten Study during the 9 am adult Sunday school time. We will be reading "Entering the Passion of Jesus: by Amy-Jill Levine.

Books are \$15 and can be picked up in the church office.

Even if you haven't done adult Sunday school, you are welcome to join for this study.





## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

March 2—Tod Windsor, Harper Jo Heimback  
 March 3—Steve Kennedy  
 March 4—Becky Motsick  
 March 7—Brett Burtis  
 March 12—Louann Hamstreet, Dick Warren,  
                   Denise Mueller  
 March 13—Troy Price  
 March 19—Ron Patterson, Alivia Denzin,  
                   Craig Vogt  
 March 20—Prakash Landis  
 March 21—Baer Ruttinger  
 March 22—Dusty Ledgerwood  
 March 23—Joyce Meling  
 March 25—Su Rappleye  
 March 25—Galen Tipton  
 March 30—Cole Steidley, Mary Jo Stresky



## Happy Anniversary! March

March 6—Sandy & Marilyn Michelena  
 March 14—Mike & Teresa Williams  
 March 19—Robert & Jeannette Ruttinger  
 March 29—Jon & Rene Botten



### 2025 Financial Summary Through January

	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Revenue	32,500.00	31,126.85	(1,373.15)
Expenses	34,341.08	33,617.06	(724.02)
Profit/(Loss)	(1,841.08)	(2,490.21)	649.13

Large donations received at the beginning of the year are divided evenly and recorded in the remaining months so that revenue is not skewed at the beginning of the year.

### Per Capita

	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Revenue	291.67	715.00	423.33
Expense	1,128.00	1,128.00	-
Profit/(Loss)	(836.33)	(413.00)	423.33

### SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

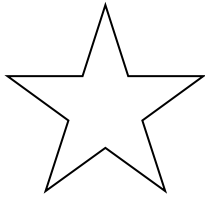
The monthly Session meeting for February was held on Tuesday the 18th at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

News of Interest –

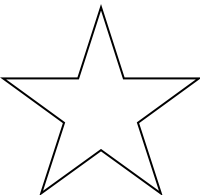
- Thanks to those who participated in the Silent Auction. It raised \$2,400. Also, the Chili Cookoff raised \$405. Funds go to Triennium and Camp Scholarships.
- Trivia Night will be March 9 @ 6:30 PM.
- Start getting ready for the Talent Show. It's coming up on May 9.
- There will be just one service on Sunday, March 2. It is CJ's last day on the FPC staff.
- Session is considering going to one service permanently on May 25. Sunday School at 9AM, Worship at 10AM and Fellowship at 11AM. Let a Session member know your thoughts on this.

Gary Joy, Clerk of Session

*How cool is it that the same God who created mountains and oceans and galaxies thought the world needed one of you, too!*



**P  
r  
a  
y  
f  
o  
r  
o  
u  
r  
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 Foshier)

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

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

**Maria Heller** (Granddaughter of Carol Maloy)

**National Guard**

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

**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.

# March 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> 9 am Sunday School 10 am Fellowship Time 10:30 am Worship w/Communion 11:45 am Luncheon Honoring CJ 6 pm AA	<b>3</b>  5:30 pm Working Women Circle 4	<b>4</b>  6:30 pm Cub Scouts	<b>5</b> <b>Ash Wednesday</b>  12 pm PW Luncheon 5:30 pm Soup & Bread 6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service 6 pm AA	<b>6</b> 7 am Bible Study 10 am Bible Study	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> <b>Day Light Savings Begins</b> 8 & 10:30 am Worship 9 am Sunday School (all ages) 10 am Fellowship 11:45 am Choir 12 pm New Members Class 6 pm AA 6:30 pm Trivia Night	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 9 am Properties 12 pm Personnel 4 pm Worship 4:45 pm CE 5:15 pm Fellowship 5:45 pm Mission 6:30 pm Budget/Finance	<b>12</b> 10:30 am Congregational Care Committee  5:30 pm The Bridge 6 pm AA 6:30 pm Bells	<b>13</b> 7 am Bible Study 10 am Bible Study	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Omaha Mission Trip  →
<b>16</b> 8 & 10:30 am Worship 9 am Sunday School 10 am Fellowship 11:45 am Coir  6 pm AA ←	<b>17</b>  6 pm AA District Mtg.	<b>18</b>  6:30 pm Cub Scouts	<b>19</b> 10 am Circle 1 & 2 12 pm Circle 3  6 pm AA 6:30 pm Bells	<b>20</b> 7 am Bible Study 8:30 am Free Tax Prep 10 am Bible Study	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 8:30 am Free Tax Prep
← <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Omaha Mission Trip</span> →						
<b>23</b> 8 & 10:30 am Worship 9 am—Sunday School 10 am Fellowship 1:45 am Choir  6 pm AA	<b>24</b> 	<b>25</b>  6 pm Session	<b>26</b>  5:30 pm The Bridge 6 pm AA 6:30 pm Bells	<b>27</b> 7 am Bible Study 10 am Bible Study	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 8 & 10:30 am Worship 9 am—Sunday School 10 am Fellowship 1:45 am Choir  6 pm AA	<b>31</b>					



*First Presbyterian Church*

2121 Colonial Drive  
Sheridan, WY 82801

Return Service Requested

Mailing label goes here

