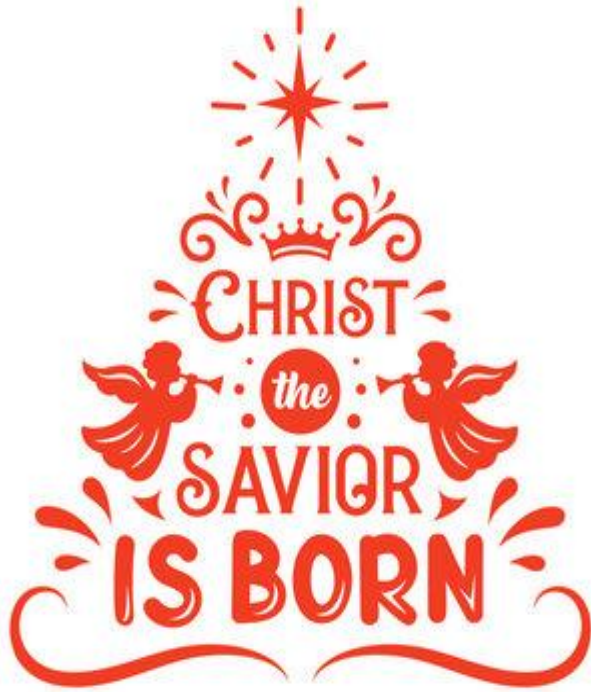




First Presbyterian
Church of Sheridan

The Good News

December 2025



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Lunch Together

We started serving today Monday, December 1st through Thursday, December 4th for Lunch Together.

Advent Study

Our adult Sunday school session has begun its Advent study, "Voices of Advent", *The Bible's Insights for a Season of Hope* by

Matthew L. Skinner.

See more details of the study in Pastor Karl's article on page 2.

Congregational Meeting

On Sunday, December 14th there will be a brief congregational meeting immediately following the morning worship. The purpose of the meeting is to elect elders.

Longest Night Service

On Wednesday, December 17th at 7 pm there will be an ecumenical Longest Night Service at the United Methodist Church, 215 W. Works St. Sometimes called a Blue Christmas Service, it is offered especially for those hurting during the holidays. Some come to the service because they are mourning the death of a loved one. Some are far from home. Some suffer from illness, addiction, or estrangement. Some are lonely, struggling financially, or in conflict with another. The reasons for attending are many.

Children's Christmas Program

You are invited to a special Christmas Program Celebration on December 21st at 10am. Come and celebrate the birth of Jesus with music, storytelling, and a beautiful reenactment of the Holy Night presented by the youth of First Presbyterian.

Christmas Eve Worship Services

Join us for candle light Christmas Eve worship at 5 pm and 8 pm on December 24th.



Dear Ones,

It's a joy to be writing to you again. I will offer a full recap of my sabbatical at the annual meeting in January, but it suffices to say that I feel rested and also energized by the research and writing I undertook during October and November. Thank you, again, for the amazing gift of a sabbatical. I would also offer a round of applause to all of you who stepped up in various ways to lead worship, to preach, to offer care to one another, and to take care of administrative tasks behind the scenes. You are an incredible congregation!

Now that we are in the Advent season, I want to remind us what we conversed about in worship yesterday. Advent is a time of *active waiting, not passive. Christ is in our midst even as we wait for his final coming so we participate in the kingdom that is here even as we wait for its final unveiling. As we seek to wait in an active manner, here are two opportunities for this month:*

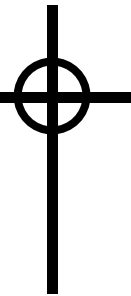
Our ecumenical **"Longest Night" service** will be on December 17th at 7 PM and will be held at First United Methodist. This service is an opportunity to gather together as a community and make a space in the season for those who are grieving, hurting, or just need to slow down. Our culture rarely offers such space for people in its hustle and bustle, but our faith is about meeting one another where we are and sitting with each other in joy and in pain. This service is about just that to give yourself space or to help others find support.

Yesterday, we began our Advent study during the 9 AM adult Sunday school time. It was a terrific conversation! We are utilizing the book **"Voices of Advent"** for the study which guides us through the scriptures we normally hear in this season that are proclaiming the coming of the Savior or the coming of the Lord's day. Yesterday, we looked at Jesus's own words about his future coming, and in the upcoming weeks we will read from John the Baptist, the prophets, and characters from the first Christmas story like Mary and Zechariah. Even if you missed the class yesterday, it's an easy study to jump in at any point and there are a few books still available in the office to be claimed. If you have questions, let me know.

Again, it's a joy to be back with you, and I look forward to catching up with all of you and continuing this journey of faith together.

In the name of the One who holds us all and holds us all together,

Pastor Karl



Hello First Presbyterian Church,

I can hardly believe November is over and December is here! I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving filled with God's love through family and friendship.

Here are some youth and family ministry updates for you.

Youth Ministry Updates

- Christmas Program Rehearsals have Begun! Our Youth Sunday school is rehearsing every Sunday for our Christmas pageant from 9:00 am—9:50 am. Preschool through 12th grade are welcome to join in on the fun! Please contact me if you have children who would like to participate.
- Christmas Program Cast Party: Families, please stick around after church on Sunday, December 21st, for our Youth Ministry Christmas party!
- M3 Group Meeting: Our M3 high school group is meeting on December 15th at 6:45 am—7:30 am. Location: Java Moon on Main St. Did you hear the great news? Pastor Karl is back, and we look forward to having meaningful conversations over coffee and cinnamon buns. If you know a high schooler who would be interested in sharing the “highs and lows” of High School with us, please send them our way!

Family Ministry Highlights

- Parents Night Out: Our recent Parent's Night Out was a wonderful evening. Thank you to everyone who joined us for great company and delicious food from Himalayan Kitchen—a true town favorite!
- Bridge Fall Season: Thank you to everyone who served and participated in our fall season of Bridge! It was a perfect addition for the whole family, with delicious meals and special game time with the youth. If your child attended, I would love to hear about their experience!
- Family Fellowship Music Night: If you missed our first family fellowship music night, please keep an eye out for the next date! All are welcome, from beginners to experts. We had a lot of fun playing instruments and sharing our time and music.

That's all from me for now. Please take care of one another and hold each other close this holiday season!

Blessings and happy holidays.

Chantelle Boostrom





Presbyterian Women are pleased to share that the results of our 2025 mission funding efforts allow us to support two local non-profit organizations, **Compass for the Family and Advocacy and Resource Center**, with \$1000 each. **These non-profits directly support families in our community. Compass offers support to local families through the schools. Advocacy and Resource provides emergency help in cases of abuse.**

THANK YOU to all who have supported PW's mission giving. Our work continues with the following two projects:

The Angel Tree provides NEW TOYS for our Northern Cheyenne neighbors in Lame Deer, MT. PW is partnering with the Mission Committee and the FPC congregation to make this happen. **Balls of all kinds are the biggest hit.** Toys that are popular with most children are appropriate. Less desirable items are puzzles, books, weapons, or toys with small pieces. If you purchase battery operated toys, consider including replacement batteries. **Unwrapped toys** will be delivered the first week in December in time for parents to purchase and wrap gifts for their own Christmas giving. This opportunity happens in partnership with **Everything Beautiful Thrift Store**. The idea is giving with dignity by allowing parents to purchase new toys at thrift store prices for their children. Thank you to all of those who have already generously placed toys under the tree. If you are interested in participating in the trip to Lame Deer to deliver the toys please contact Sherry Laughton.

PW's new project is **Messy Bracelets** which are available for \$12. Orders are being taken for sizes already sold out to be available in early December. These bracelets are made with non-plastic beads that are strung in no specific pattern, each bead is different. Each bracelet includes a Cross. No two bracelets are alike. The wearable reminder is that 'Life is

There are a variety of sizes including some designed for guys. All are packaged ready for gifting with the printed message. Contact Sherry Laughton for more information.

December PW Luncheon:

Wednesday December 3 at 11:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Notice that this is a change. Spectrum chorale group from Sheridan High School will be performing at 12:30 in the Sanctuary. The change is due to schedule changes at the school. All women in the church and guests are invited to attend. After the 11:30 lunch there will be a brief business meeting to vote on the 2026 PW leadership. Wear your Christmas festive attire.

Women in the congregation are encouraged to participate in prayer, study, fellowship, and mission support with Presbyterian Women by joining a Circle, attending the monthly luncheon, helping serve at the fellowship hour after worship or in other PW events and activities. All are welcome.

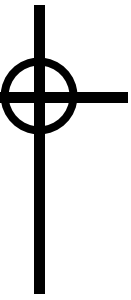
Circles 1, 2 and 3 meet on the third Wednesday of each month for morning study and fellowship. Evening Circle 4 meets for a Monday evening supper and study to be announced. Check the church calendar for times.

The Food Group continues packing bags on the second Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. Men and women of the congregation are encouraged to help with this project. Call Nancy Elliott or Kathy Beagle for further information.

With appreciation and gratitude,

Nancy Cook and Sherry Laughton, PW Co-Moderators





FPC in Action!

Thank you to Scott Davis for designing and building our coffee mug wall in the fellowship hall. The cups are all in place and being put to good use!



Gift Idea
Remember someone on your Christmas list with the gift of an FPC coffee mug! Great as a remembrance of connections with First Presbyterian.
Mugs are \$15/each and can be purchased from Jean Morgen or Bobbie Spahn.

Come be a part of the FPC team that competes in the Salvation Army kettle competition. The FPC team will ring Saturday afternoon, December 20th starting at 1 pm.

There will be 2-hour slots to sign up for. Contact Dave Engels at 307-751-2009 if you are able to ring any time that afternoon.



You're invited to a special

Youth Christmas Program

Come and celebrate the birth of Jesus with music, storytelling, and a beautiful reenactment of the Holy Night.

Dec 21st 10am
First Presbyterian Church
2121 Colonial Dr.

Good News at FPC !

From the Sabbatical Support Committee

Joshua 21:45:

"Not one of all the Lord's good promises to Israel failed; every one was fulfilled"

As I look at our church family over the past two months, I see God's faithfulness written in so many ways—some large, some small. I see a cairn built rock-by-rock, testimony by testimony, at the front of our sanctuary. A cairn that leads to table where Christ calls us into communion and to the cross where God resets his covenant and makes heartbreakingly clear the extent of his faithfulness. I see His faithfulness alive in the routines of the church, individuals making their faith manifest in their actions, day-after-day and week-after-week.

A cairn needs to meet three criteria. First, it must be rightly placed to be helpful to those who need direction. Second, it must be built with a stability to last and withstand the challenges of nature—random and persistent. Finally, it must be built to such a height as to be visible for those in need of guidance, direction and reminding. A cairn, such as the one erected by the Israelites or the one set in place by our church family, serves to remind us of God's faithfulness. The cairn also serves to focus our faithfulness to God—a visible reminder of promises kept to God and to each other through this unique time in our church body.

There are so many individuals who have stepped forward to help faithfully guide the church—in worship, in bible study, in fellowship, in service within the congregation and in service to our neighbors. There are so many people to acknowledge and thank that any list of individuals would be incomplete, just as the cairn takes on a new life independent of the many rocks from which it is built.

Let us all experience the cairn as a reminder of how this congregation has come together in faithfulness to God and that God is forever faithful to us.

In peace,
Rob Milne



Jam Session & Potluck!

There was music everywhere during the first family fellowship music night. The group enjoyed a meal together and then brought the instruments out for a wonderful time of playing music with one another! Watch for a repeat of the evening at a future date.

CAMP STORY
EST. 1917

Camp Story 2026

Session	Grade completed	Dates	Price by 4/15	Price After 4/15
LIT	9th - 11th grade	6/3-6/10	\$175	\$200
You & Me	4 yr - 1st grade	6/5- 6/7	\$225	\$250
Starters 1	2nd - 4th grade	6/7- 6/10	\$225	\$250
Hands, Heart & Soul	any age	6/11-6/14	adult \$225 under 17 \$115	adult \$250 under 17 \$130
Roots & Wings	9th-12th grade	6/21 - 6/26	\$375	\$400
Starters 2	2nd - 4th grade	6/28- 7/1	\$225	\$275
July Day Camp	K- 5th grade	7/6-7/10	\$250	\$275
Wild Faith	5th -8th grade	7/12 - 7/17	\$375	\$400

REGISTRATION OPENS
NOVEMBER 15!
CAMPSTORY.ORG

SIGN UP BY APRIL 15 & SAVE \$\$\$

Making Christ Known in the Great Outdoors

The Perfect Christmas Gift

If you're looking for a Christmas gift that means more than another gadget or another toy, consider giving the Camp Story experience. Camp offers adventure, spiritual growth, laughter, learning, and a lifetime of memories—wrapped into one extraordinary gift. It's a present that doesn't break, fade, or get misplaced. Instead, it grows with the person who receives it.

Whether you're gifting a child, a teen, a grandchild, or even an adult looking for a weekend retreat, camp is a meaningful way to share love and joy this holiday season. You can purchase/register for a camping experience at campstory.org.

Something to Unwrap Under the Tree

For those who need something a bit more tangible under the Christmas tree, we also have a limited selection of Camp Story merchandise still available. These items make wonderful gifts for campers, families, alumni, and anyone who holds Camp Story close to their heart.

Available while supplies last:

- Adult and youth Camp Story T-shirts
- Adult and youth hoodies
- Ceramic Camp Story mugs
- Nalgene water bottles

Each item carries a piece of the mountain magic that makes camp so special. They're cozy, practical, and perfect for reminding someone of their favorite place.

To purchase merchandise or inquire about gift certificates, simply contact the Camp Story office. We're happy to help you find the perfect gift—whether it's an experience, a keepsake, or both.

From my house to yours, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

CJ

CJ Clem

Executive Director

Camp Story

www.campstory.org

(307) 763-0919

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

Musicians: Miriam Nance, Ryan Landis, Mary Apple, Doug Moore, Prakash Landis

Worship Leaders: Nancy Elliott, Jeri Joy, Judy Merriott, Rachel Mathews-Landis

Time for Young Disciples: Rev. Bob Miller, Chantelle Boostrom, Loren Ruttinger, Prakash Landis

Ushers: Gloria Dierking, Marilyn Michelena, Nancy Cook, Jean Morgan, Bobbie Spahn, Shelley Cundiff, Loren Ruttinger, Nancy Elliott

Communion Prep: Denise Mueller

Communion Servers: Larry Apple, Nancy Cook, Beth Thurow, Jeri Joy

Audio/Visual Systems Operators: Ted Knapp, Craig Clem, Ryan Landis, Erica Bainter, Doug & Pam Moore

Coffee Sponsors: Mission Committee



**Monday
Morning
Meet up**

Hey,
High Schoolers
Lets Get
Together!

**MONDAY,
DECEMBER 15TH**

6:45-7:30am

EVERY THIRD MONDAY,
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH YOUTH
GATHER TO SHARE
THE HIGHS AND LOWS OF
HIGH SCHOOL !!!!

@ Java Moon
170 N Main St,
Sheridan, WY 82801

**Keep them in
your prayers**



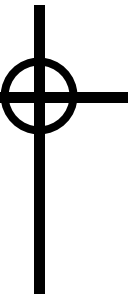
Ongoing Prayers: Karen Townsend, Kathleen & Thayer Shafer, Arlene Herrboldt, Phyllis Reasoner, and Robert & Jeannette Ruttinger.

Prayers for Peace & Healing: Howie Fitzpatrick, Jae Satterlee, Bob Miller, Mary Hutton, Jim Wilhelm, Margie Elkins, Barb Finch, Tod & Marjorie Windsor, Julie Norris, Jennifer Satterlee, River Osborne, and Mary Otteson's daughter Hope.

Prayers for those Grieving: Family & friends of Sharon Basse.

Prayers for Mission Partners: First Presbyterian (Gillette) and the Food Group.

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



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- December 1—Mary Hutton
- December 4—Laurie Paronto
- December 7—Roger Porter
- December 8—Judy Garber, Shelley Cundiff
- December 9—Ron Spahn, Myrna Saunders
- December 10—Kim Wells
- December 12—Karen Schreffler
- December 13—Arlene Herrboldt
- December 15—Graeme Ford, Ryan Landis
- December 17—Brian Morgen
- December 18—Carla White
- December 19—Marilyn Koester
- December 20—Cindy Hamel
- December 22—Rick Semino, Dorothy Johnson
- December 23—Lois Trujillo
- December 28—Sherry Laughton,
Patricia Urso, Nancy Cook



Happy Anniversary! December

- December 3—John Jackson & Su Rappleye
- December 4—Dave & Becki Youngren
- December 16—Rob & Tori Milne
- December 22—Jack & Nancy Elliott
- December 27—Bob & Marilyn Koester
- December 30—Mike & Cheryl Madden

Session Highlights

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

News of Interest –

- The Perishables Distribution for October served 37 families.
- The final Bridge meal for the fall semester was served on Wednesday, with the staff serving a delicious spaghetti dinner. Thanks to all who have volunteered to cook and provide meals, and thanks to all who helped with clean up.
- The moderator for Session meetings while Pastor Karl has been on sabbatical has been Reverend Jeromy Howard, General Presbyter.

Gary Joy, Clerk of Session

Walk on the mountain of God's marvelous grace, with warm gentle breezes and wide-open space, refreshed in His goodness with peace from above, surrounded by blessings of mercy and love.

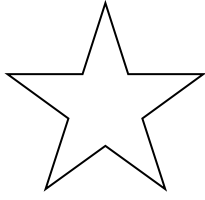
2025 Financial Summary Through October

	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Revenue	325,000.00	312,775.55
Expenses	343,410.80	305,662.56
Profit/(Loss)	(18,410.80)	7,112.99

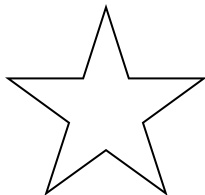
Large donations received at the beginning of the year are divided evenly and recorded in the remaining months so that revenue is not skewed at the beginning of the year.

Per Capita

	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Revenue	2,916.70	3,820.00	903.30
Expense	11,280.00	11,280.00	-
Profit/(Loss)	(6,690.64)	(5,404.00)	1,286.64



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Space Force

Ryan Laughton (Son of Gary & Sherry Laughton)

Air Force

Sydney Negrete (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)

Maria Heller (Granddaughter of Carol Maloy)

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 Hall (Grandson of Carol Maloy)

Navy

Samual Martin, (Grandson of David & Helen Campbell)

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.

December 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 6 pm WW Circle 4	2 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	3 11:30 am PW Luncheon	4 7 am Bible Study 10 am Bible Study	5	6
7 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship w/ Communion 11 am Choir 11 am Fellowship 11 am Tech 6 pm AA	8 6 pm Working Women Circle 4	9 9 am Properties 12 pm Personnel 4 pm Worship 4:45 pm CE 5:15 pm Fellowship 5:45 pm Mission Committee 6:30 pm Budget/ Finance	10 10:30 am Cong. Care Committee 6 pm AA 6:30 pm Bells	11 7 am Bible Study 10 am Bible Study	12	13
14 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship 11 am Choir 11 am Fellowship Time 6 pm AA	15 6:45 am M3 7 pm AA District Mtg	16 6 pm Session	17 6 pm AA 7 pm Ecumenical Longest Night Service at the Methodist Church	18 7 am Bible Study 10 am Bible Study	19	20 1 pm Salvation Army Bell Ringing
21 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship 11 am Choir 11 am Fellowship Time 6 pm AA	22 	23	24 5 pm Christmas Eve Service 8 pm Christmas Eve Service	25 Christmas Day Office Closed 	26	27
28 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship 11 am Fellowship 6 pm AA	29	30	31 6 pm AA			
						

First Presbyterian Church

2121 Colonial Drive
Sheridan, WY 82801

Return Service Requested

Mailing label goes here

