

Spreading the Good News of Christ  
Through Our Love, Words, and Actions

## “Keeping Score”



~ The Gospel of Matthew  
18:21-22

“Then Peter came up and said to him, ‘Lord, **how often** will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?’ Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but **seventy times seven.**”

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)**

535 North Ewing Street  
Helena, MT 59601

**September 17, 2017**

**CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP**  
**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**SEPTEMBER 17, 2017**

*Lay Liturgist – Les Cramer*

\* *Please stand if you are able*

PRELUDE: “Fugue in G Major” by Johann L. Krebs (1713-1780)

WELCOME

PREPARING OUR HEARTS *a time of silence*

OPENING PRAYER

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

**People: God’s steadfast love endures forever.**

Leader: Whether we live or die, we belong to God.

**People: Christ is Lord of the dead and the living.**

\* GATHERING HYMN: “Earth and All Stars!” See screen

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

**God of all races, nations, and religions, You know that we cannot change others, nor can we change the past. But we can change ourselves. We can join You in changing our only and common future where you 'reign' the same over all. Help us not to say, "Lord, Lord" to any tribal gods, but to hear the One God of all the earth, and to do God's good thing for this One World.**  
*(time for silent confession)*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you,

**People: And also with you!**

Leader: Let us share signs of Christ’s peace with one another.

\*GLORIA PATRI

ANTHEM: “Sing To The Lord A New Song” by Albin C. Whitworth, based on Psalms

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

EPISTLE READING: **Romans 14:1-12** **Page 1765**

GOSPEL READING: **Matthew 18:21-35** **Page 1527**

SERMON: **“Keeping Score”** **Rev. Scott Wipperman**

\* RESPONSE HYMN: **“Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive”** **See screen**

INVITATION TO OFFERING

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY: **“Fantasia in B minor”** *by Georg P. Telemann (1681-1767)*

\*DOXOLOGY

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

UNISON LORD’S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and glory forever. Amen.**

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

\*SENDING HYMN: **“How Firm a Foundation”** **See screen**

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE **“God Be With You”** **#232**

POSTLUDE: **“Festival Postlude”** *by Domenico Zipoli (1688-1726)*

# CALENDAR OF THE WEEK

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>17</b>	10:00 am	Worship Service / Education Hour
		12:00 pm	AA Study Group
<b>Monday</b>	<b>18</b>	11:00 am	Staff meeting
		6:00 pm	Helena X-Press Singers
		7:00 pm	Girl Scouts
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>19</b>	11:00 am	Bridge Club – ACBL Unit 411
		6:30 pm	Session meeting
		7:00 pm	AL-ANON meeting
		7:00 pm	Boy Scouts
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>20</b>	9:30 am	Willing Workers
		7:00 pm	Choir practice
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>21</b>	11:00 pm	Bridge Club – ACBL Unit 411
		4:00 pm	Praise Band
		7:00 pm	“It’s In the Book - AA Group
<b>Friday</b>	<b>22</b>	1:00 pm	Hand & Foot - Ruth Room
		7:00 pm	AA - Friday Night Speaker
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>24</b>	10:00 am	Worship Service / Education Hour
		12:00 pm	AA Study Group

## Deacons-On-Call

Need a ride, a meal or a home  
repair? Call a Deacon on Call:

Joy Edgar (202-2200)  
Ward & Mary Stiles (443-4783)

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## Ushers

### Ushers Today <sup>(17)</sup>

Elroy & Lucille Letcher  
Matthew Richards

### Ushers Next Week <sup>(24)</sup>

Kathy Chambers, Carole Massman  
Mary Wright

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## PRAYER REQUEST

This week we pray for students, teachers, administrators, school staff members, and parents. With yet another school shooting, this time in the state of Washington, and threats forcing the closing of dozens of schools, pre-schools, and colleges in NW Montana, we pray for Christ’s peace to rest upon all affected. We pray that all may know of God’s presence, God’s love for them, and his care for all.

## Prayers for Strength and Healing

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Bob Burns  
Sally Luke  
Linda Bench  
Donna Carey  
John Gneckow  
Doris Casebolt  
Mazie Radcliffe  
Yvonne Moody  
Steve Granzow  
Linda Granzow  
Louise Cramer  
Jennifer Massman

Gale Johnson  
Newell Anderson  
Toston LaFournaise  
Heather Voeller Waters  
Court Bourne, Pastor Scott's son  
Vella Raucy, Susan Steffens' mother  
Susan Byasson, Rose Leavitt's sister  
Terry Heinecke, Barrie's sister-in-law  
Jamie Heinecke, Barrie's daughter-in-law  
Heather McAllister, Pastor Scott's daughter  
Cathy Leavitt, Rose Leavitt's daughter-in-law

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### Please keep the Military in your Prayers

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Dan Boyer  
Barry Mattson  
Grant Demaree

Rick Kosticki  
Robbie McCain

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## Prayer Request Cards

If you have PRAYER NEEDS, please take advantage of our Prayer Chapel after worship, a peaceful place to commune with God. And, should you desire, Prayer Request Cards are available in the Prayer Chapel (leave the card in the chapel, and it will be picked up), as well as in the back of the pews (place card in the offering plate). If you would like someone to pray with you, please see the pastor or any deacon or elder.

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## Adult Studies

**Friday Noon** at the Church: The Coefields will be resuming their Bible study sessions on the book of Acts very soon. All are welcome to join. Contact John at 465-5308 for the starting date.

**Sunday Evening**: Marsha Davis will be leading an 8-session study called "The Prayers of the Old Testament" beginning October 1<sup>st</sup>. Location is to be determined based on the size of the group. Contact Marsha to reserve a book and indicate your interest at 443-1287.

**Sunday before Worship**: There are a couple people who have expressed interest in a Bible study before worship. A group of 6-8 would be ideal to facilitate discussion. Contact Marsha at 443-1287 to indicate your interest to go forward with setting something up. Time would probably be 8:30 - 9:30 so choir members could attend.

# Heavenly Harvest Bazaar

Our annual “**Heavenly Harvest Bazaar**” will be held on Friday and Saturday, October 20th and 21st. Thanks to all of you who have been so generous in contributing to the bazaars in the past. As you know it takes the entire church to make a successful bazaar. **We need your help and donated items.**

Wednesday Willing Workers spend much of their time throughout the year working on a variety of Mission sewing projects which include sewing baby layettes, making stuffed dolls, knitting prayer shawls and lap robes for nursing home occupants and making quilts, just to name a few. We would greatly welcome any sewing or crafts that **you** might have been working on at home.

Be thinking about what you could contribute to the Bakery. (Best sellers are: pies, candy, bread, rolls and **LOTS** of cookies)! We need at least 50 pies for lunch to go along with the homemade soups that the kitchen crew will be preparing. Extra pies will be sold in the bakery.

If you have been making jams, jellies, pickles, etc., in your own home, they would certainly be welcome.

**Thanks to all for your help!**

Lucille Letcher  
Bazaar Chair

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## Mission Committee News

The Mission Committee would like to thank everyone for donating items/money for Intermountain Children's Home. We will be delivering items for the kids, along with a check for..... We appreciate all the support and know the kids will love all of these items for years to come.

We will be wrapping up the **Giving Catalog** giving the end of September. Our current total for piglets and jerry cans is \$160. We want to thank everyone who has given, and if you would still like give, please do so by the end of the month.

**One of our four Special Offerings is happening this month** and will be collected now until World Communion Sunday on October 1st. This is the Peace and Global Witness Offering. Ministries supported by the Peace & Global Witness Offering are working around the world to proclaim Christ's peace - from local churches to war-torn villages to tables where global leaders meet, such as the United Nations. With this offering, 25% stays locally, and we can choose where our money goes.

# CONGREGATIONAL FELLOWSHIP NEWS

◆> "Another **Bingo Night** is coming your way -- **Friday, September 22nd, 6pm** at the Church. **Pizza, pop, snacks** -- and.....**prizes!**

This is a fun event for kids and adults of all ages!"

◆> "Your ever-busy Congregational Fellowship Committee has been brainstorming! We've got some fun ideas, but before going ahead with any of them, we'd like your input. Please check out the information sheet on the coffee table, writing your name after any of the events that interest you. There's bowling, an exercise class, a Christmas tea, and Christmas caroling. Feel free to add your own idea for a fun fellowship activity. Thanks!"

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## Memory Verse

**You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.**

**- Leviticus 19:18**

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## Thought for the Week

**When the mask falls and the core of our being is revealed, it soon becomes obvious that we are religious by nature, that religion is the secret dowry of our being.**

**- Johannes Metz (German Catholic Theologian)**

# Welcome, Guests!

Thank you for choosing to worship with us. We pray for all of us a spiritually satisfying and challenging encounter with the Living Christ. If you would like to know more about the people and programs of this church, be in touch with our pastor, Rev. Wipperman, 442-4775, visit our website: [www.fpchelena.com](http://www.fpchelena.com), or take a copy of our monthly church newsletter, *The Mustard Seed*. If possible, return next Lord's Day!



## STAFF

Ministers  
Pastor  
CRE of Pastoral Care  
Director of Christian Education & Financial Coordinator  
Director of Music and Media  
Administrative Assistant  
Outside Custodian  
Organist

Every Member  
Rev. Scott Wipperman  
Arlyn "Butch" Plowman  
Lexsey Carpenter  
Les Cramer  
Bruce A. Luke  
Kelly Craigle  
Ann Swisher

## ELDERS

Marsha Davis - 2018  
John Gneckow - 2018  
Melissa Stiles - 2018  
John Warren - 2018  
Linda Bench - 2019  
Kathy Chambers - 2019  
Marvin Carpenter - 2019  
Dianna Goodman - 2019  
Judy Birch - 2020  
Marshall Gingery - 2020  
Matthew Richards - 2020  
  
Elaine Gingery, Clerk

## DEACONS

Carol Gneckow - 2018  
Corky Lord - 2018  
Carole Massman - 2018  
Jim & Charlotte Meyer - 2018  
Rena Bumgardner - 2019  
Joy Edgar - 2019  
Arlyn "Butch" Plowman - 2019  
Ward & Mary Stiles - 2019  
Art Bumgardner - 2020  
Patti Borsberry - 2020  
Rose Leavitt - 2020  
Judy Patton - 2020  
Pearle Plowman - 2020

**First Presbyterian Church of Helena  
535 North Ewing Street  
Helena, MT 59601**

**Sunday Worship: 10:00 AM  
Church Office: (406) 442-4775**

**E-mail: [admin@fpchelena.com](mailto:admin@fpchelena.com)  
Website: [www.fpchelena.org](http://www.fpchelena.org)**

