

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

# “This Will Be A Sign”



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

535 North Ewing Street  
Helena, MT 59601

**December 24, 2017**

# **CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP**

## **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT / CHRISTMAS EVE**  
**DECEMBER 24, 2017**

*\* Please stand if you are able*

### **WE GATHER**

GATHERING MUSIC    **“He Whom Shepherd Men Came Praising”**  
*by Paul Manz (1919-2009)*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THRESHOLD MOMENT:        ***#MoreLove***

\*OPENING HYMN:        **“While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks” #272**

THE PEACE OF CHRIST

**I invite you to pass the love of Christ with your neighbors, for each time we connect with one another, love grows.**

GLORIA PATRI

### **WE PROCLAIM**

SCRIPTURE:                    **Luke 2:1-20** *(adopted from The Voice translation)*

THE WORD IN MUSIC        **“O Quit Your Pastures”** *arr. by Mary A. Strrong*

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD                    **“This Will Be A Sign”**  
**Rev. Scott Wipperman**

## **WE RESPOND**

\*RESPONSE HYMN:           **“Angels We Have Heard on High”**           **#278**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS

CONFESSION

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY           **“Lo, How a Rose Is Growing”** *by Paul Manz*

\*DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## **WE GO FORTH**

\*CLOSING HYMN           **“The First Noel”**           **#265**

THE MISSION TO THE MESSENGERS

BENEDICTION

MUSIC FOR GOING OUT

**“Postlude on O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”** *by Robert J. Powell (b. 1932)*

# CALENDAR OF THE WEEK

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<b>Sunday</b>	<b>24</b>	8:30 am	Sunday Morning Small Group Study
		10:00 am	Worship Service / Education Hour
		12:00 pm	AA Study Group
		7:00 pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
<b>Monday</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>OFFICE</b>	<b>CLOSED</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>26</b>	11:00 am	Bridge Club – ACBL Unit 411
		7:00 pm	AL-ANON meeting
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>27</b>		
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>28</b>	11:00 am	Bridge Club – ACBL Unit 411
		4:00 pm	Praise Band
		7:00 pm	“It’s In the Book - AA Group
<b>Friday</b>	<b>29</b>	12:00 pm	Friday Study Group
		1:00 pm	Hand & Foot - Ruth Room
		3:00 pm	Youth Lock-In
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>NEW</b>	<b>YEARS EVE</b>
		10:00 am	Worship Service / Education Hour
		12:00 pm	AA Study Group

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## Deacons-On-Call

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

Jim & Charlotte Meyer (449-3030)

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## Ushers

### Ushers Today <sup>(24)</sup>

Kathy Chambers, Carole Massman  
Mary Wright

### Ushers Next Week <sup>(31)</sup>

Sheryl Eriksen, Corky Lord  
Carol Stebbins

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We would like to congratulate Rose Leavitt and Greg & Ainsley Holz, on the birth of Rose’s great grandson, Oliver Finn Holz, 20”, 10 lbs., 5.3 oz., on Monday, December 18, at 4:27 am. Ainsley is the granddaughter of Rose, and Oliver is her 7<sup>th</sup> great grandchild.

## Prayers for Strength and Healing

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Sally Luke  
Bob Burns  
B. J. Burns  
Donna Carey  
John Gneckow  
Doris Casebolt  
Mazie Radcliffe  
Yvonne Moody  
Steve Granzow  
Linda Granzow  
Louise Cramer  
Toston LaFournaise  
Amanda Grimmatt

Gale Johnson  
Newell Anderson  
Jennifer Massman  
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  
Cathy Leavitt, Rose Leavitt's daughter-in-law  
Heather McAllister, Pastor Scott's daughter  
Nicole McAllister, Pastor Scott's granddaughter  
Annaliese Rose Hammerschmidt - Amanda  
Grimmett's daughter

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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) or next to the cross in the Youth room, 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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## Prayer Request

This week, as we prepare to re-welcome the Prince of Peace, we pray for peacemakers. In this world that is so fractured and divided, may God help us to become peacemakers in our homes, offices, congregations, communities and the world. May God help us to be the children of God who seek to peacefully resolve conflicts and restore relationships.

## **2017 Per Capita**

If you pledged to offer a Per Capita contribution for 2017 and have yet to do so, this would be a great time to make that donation! And, even if you didn't pledge to do so, FPC would appreciate it if you made such a donation. The Per Capita rate for 2017 was \$40 per member. Thanks to all who have made Per Capita donations in 2017! If you are making your 2018 pledge, please consider pledging to offer the Per Capita donation - \$45 dollars per member for this coming year. Per Capita funds the operations of our connectional church from the Presbytery, up through Synod, to the General Assembly.

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## **Year-End Donations**

As you consider making year end donations, please keep FPC in mind! Session began 2017 with a \$62k "faith budget", meaning that we moved forward in faith that the \$62k gap between our anticipated income and our budgeted expenses would be closed.

Through the generosity of members, friends, and guests and careful stewardship of our budget, FPC's expenses through November are just \$23,190 greater than our income (had we not been meeting our faith budget at all, we'd be \$57k in the red through November). December is starting out to be a strong month financially; help that continue by making a gift before the end of the year, which will likely earn you a deduction on your taxes if you itemize. So, please consider the ministries of FPC in your year-end giving!

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## **YOUTH GROUP LOCK-IN**

The FPC Youth Group will be holding a "Lock-In" here at the church on Friday, December 29<sup>th</sup>, at 3:00 pm until Saturday, December 30<sup>th</sup>. For more information, please contact the Director of Christian Education, Lexsey Carpenter at 442-4775.



**Come and enjoy a low-impact exercise that's easy,  
free and available to EVERYONE!**

Each Tuesday & Thursday, at 10:00 am in Centennial Park by the flagpole next to the YMCA, a group from our church family ventures out into the fresh open air to enjoy a time of exercise and fellowship as they walk along the park walking path. Come and join them if you're looking for walking partners...or even if you're not because **EVERYONE** is welcome to join and it's **FREE!!**

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The residents of Touchmark here in Helena would like to say thank you to the carolers who visited on December 15<sup>th</sup>. They greatly appreciated and enjoyed the singing and the joy it brought to their hearts. Thank you so very much.

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**ATTENTION LADIES**

Willing Workers will not meet on Wednesday, December 27, 2017. We will resume our regular schedule on January 3, 2018 at 10:00 AM.

**PLEASE JOIN US!**

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**Memory Verse**

The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

**- John 17:22-23**

**Thought for the Week**

Ubuntu ... speaks of the very essence of being human. ... It is to say, "My humanity is caught up, is inextricably bound up, in yours." We belong in a bundle of life. We say, "A person is a person through other persons."

**- Desmond Tutu**

# FLOWER MEMORIAL



<b>Name</b>	<b>In memory of</b>	<b>In honor of</b>
Jennifer Massman, Drew, Tyler and Zach Kaiser	Randy Kaiser	
Matthew & Diane Richards	Donald G. Richards Richard & Ilse S. Doscher	
Joy Edgar	Phil Boucher; Grandparents Bill & Florence Stanfill	
Elaine Cooper Power	Morley Cooper & Tom Power	
Trena Gama & Rose Leavitt	Don Gama & Jerry Leavitt	
Ward & Mary Stiles	Karen Stiles & Bob Roderick	
Marvin & Carol Carpenter	Marvin Carpenter Sr.	David & Ellen Westenbarger
Carol, Eric, Polly, Tom Stebbins	“Wink” Stebbins	
Art & Rena Bumgardner	Bill & Eula Jewell, William H. Jewell, Ned & Genevieve Bumgardner, John Bumgardner, Cathy Boheim	
Tonna & Joe Strasko, Jim Moses	Esther & Jim Werst Josephine Strasko	
Belden sisters	Curtis Belden	
Michael & Ann Swisher	Our parents	
Bob & Merle Korizek	Arnold & Edna Quammen Bill & Rena Korizek	
Jake & Libby Blade and family	Art Blade	
Cathy, Bonni, Ann, J. Lee	Harry & Dorthy Belden	
Mary Craigle	Bill & Lucille Samson Dave Samson Jay & Alice McLeod	



# FLOWER MEMORIAL



## CONTINUED

<b>Name</b>	<b>In memory of</b>	<b>In honor of</b>
Jane Ogle	Clayton Ogle, Angie & Emory Vetsch	
Carolyn Anderson & Family	Brent Anderson	
Marie Fuhrmann	Bob Fuhrmann	
Carol Gneckow	Mary & Andy Knight	
Corky Lord	Bob Lord	
Deb Whitcomb	Gloria Whitcomb Jessie Healow	
Keith & Dawn McCallum	Elizabeth McCallum Hokanson	
Carole Massman	Joe Massman	

# 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

Director of Music and Media

Financial Coordinator

Administrative Assistant

Outside Custodian

Organist

Every Member

Rev. Scott Wipperman

Arlyn "Butch" Plowman

Lexsey Carpenter

Les Cramer

Jill Lloyd

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

Mary Craigle - 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)**

