

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

“The Harvest is Ready!”



Painting of well in John 4 by Lisa Gwynn Garrity

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

535 North Ewing Street
Helena, MT 59601

February 11, 2018

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
FEBRUARY 11, 2018

Lay Liturgist – Dianna Goodman

* *Please stand if you are able*

PRELUDE

“Praludium” by *Hans Friedrich Micheelsen (1902-1973)*

WELCOME

PREPARING OUR HEARTS

a time of silence

OPENING PRAYER

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

Leader: Ho, everyone who thirsts,

People: Come to the waters

Leader: And you who have no money,

People: Come, buy and eat.

Leader: Come buy wine and milk without money and without price.

People: Why do we spend money for that which is not bread, and labor on that which does not satisfy?

Leader: Listen carefully to me and eat what is good...

People: Come before the living waters. Listen. God is speaking.

*GATHERING HYMN

“Creator of Mountains”

See insert

CALL TO CONFESSION:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Out of mighty chaotic waters, You created all things, all people. Many days, we have lost touch with the Source of Life. Often, we are dehydrated people. In Sudan, Syria, California and Montana the battle is on over water rights. We keep water from thirsty people and waste water without thought. We bottle up our pain. We ladle out grace to those we can stand to love. Forgive us for the dams we erect in the name of You, Holy God. We cannot control, confine or define the limits of your waters of mercy and grace. (*time for silent confession*)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: The prophet Amos speaks to those who control the highways of migration, the waterways of justice, and the doorways to worship: God is not pleased in trickling justice and dripping faucets of mercy. Rather,

People: “Let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever flowing stream.” For in Jesus Christ, God holds nothing back in reservoirs, but pours himself out to satisfy the weary and exhaust the proud. In Christ, may we become watersheds on peace, floodplains of love.

PASSING THE PEACE

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

CHOIR ANTHEM

“How Good, Lord, to Be Here!” *English folk melody, arr. Hal H. Hopson*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING:

Ruth 2:2-10

Page 413

NEW TESTAMENT READING:

John 4:3-42

Page 1651

SERMON:

“The Harvest is Ready!”

Rev. Miriam Mauritzen

*RESPONSE HYMN

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

#11

THE OFFERING

INVITATION TO OFFERING

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

“At the River” *from Old American Songs, arr. Aaron Copland, Art Bumgardner, bass*

*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

“My Life Flows On/How Can I Keep from Singing?”

See screen

*BENEDICTION

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Rev. Scott Wipperman

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

“God Be With You”

#232

POSTLUDE

“Finale” *by Hans Friedrich Micheelsen*

CALENDAR OF THE WEEK

Sunday	11	8:30 am	Sunday Morning Small Group Study
		10:00 am	Worship Service / Education Hour
		11:15 am	Annual Congregational meeting
		12:00 pm	AA Study Group
Monday	12	11:00 am	Staff meeting
		6:00 pm	Helena X-Press Singers
		7:00 pm	Girl Scouts
Tuesday	13	10:00 am	Worship Committee meeting
		11:00 am	Bridge Club – ACBL Unit 411
		12:00 pm	PW Birthday Luncheon
		5:30 pm	Administration Committee meeting
		6:00 pm	Mission Committee meeting
		7:00 pm	Building & Grounds Committee meeting
		7:00 pm	AL-ANON meeting
		7:00 pm	Boy Scouts
Wednesday	14	9:30 am	Willing Workers
		5:00 pm	Ash Wednesday meal
		6:00 pm	Ash Wednesday worship service
Thursday	15	11:00 am	Bridge Club – ACBL Unit 411
		4:00 pm	Praise Band practice
		6:30 pm	Youth Group
		7:00 pm	“It’s In the Book” - AA Group
Friday	16	12:00 pm	Friday Study Group
		1:00 pm	Hand & Foot - Ruth Room
Sunday	18	8:30 am	Sunday Morning Small Group Study
		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: Arlyn “Butch” Plowman (449-8702)
Ward & Mary Stiles (443-4953)

Ushers

Ushers Today ⁽¹¹⁾

Sheryl Eriksen, Corky Lord
John & Carol Gneckow

Ushers Next Week ⁽¹⁸⁾

Elroy & Lucille Letcher
Matthew Richards

Prayers for Strength and Healing

Sally Luke
Bob Burns
B. J. Burns
Donna Carey
John Gneckow
Bev Donaldson
Elroy Letcher
Doris Casebolt
Mazie Radcliffe
Gale Johnson
Yvonne Moody
Steve Granzow
Linda Granzow
Louise Cramer

Newell Anderson
Jennifer Massman
Amanda Grimmett
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
Cathy Leavitt, Rose Leavitt's daughter-in-law
Heather McAllister, Pastor Scott's daughter
Dave Westenbarger, Carol Carpenter's father

Please keep the Military in your Prayers

Dan Boyer
Barry Mattson
Grant Demaree

Rick Kosticki
Robbie McCain

Prayer Requests - let us know how we can help:

If you have PRAYER NEEDS, please take advantage of our Prayer Chapel after worship, a peaceful place to commune with God. If you would like to have someone pray with you, please seek out an Elder, Deacon or the Pastor, and they will join you or find someone who will pray with you. Other options to make your prayer needs known are:

1. Prayer request cards are found on the shelves behind each pew in the sanctuary, in the Prayer Chapel, and in the youth room. Completed cards can be put in the offering plate, dropped in the prayer request box in the Prayer Chapel, or nailed to the cross in the Youth Room. If you wish to remain anonymous, you can—God knows! If you want the youth of our church to pray for you, nail the prayer request to the cross in the Youth Room.
2. Online prayer requests – go to fpchelena.com and select the button for “prayer” OR send an e-mail to admin@fpchelena.com . Your request will be directly sent to the coordinator of our prayer chain for distribution.
3. Call the church – Anyone who answers the phone can either pray with you, direct you to the Deacon on call, and/or pass on the prayer request to the prayer coordinator.

Prayer Opportunity

This week we are praying for the Office of the General Assembly (OGA). The OGA encourages us to be people of hope: to seek together the mind of Christ, to work for justice and mercy in our neighborhoods and throughout the world, and to participate in God's continual reformation of the church. The OGA is responsible for the ecclesiastical activities of the church as outlined in the Book of Order, and communicates and carries out assignments made by each General Assembly (GA).

Please pray for all the good people working in the OGA. And pray for the Committee on the Office of the General Assembly, too. They are meeting this week in St. Louis. You can learn more about the OGA at: <http://oga.pcusa.org/>

Annual Congregational Meeting today after worship service

Our Annual Congregational Meeting will be immediately following worship today. Please stay and participate in this part of the life of the church where you elect Elders and Deacons for the class of 2021, nominate and elect congregational members for the Nominating Committee, approve the pastor's Terms of Call, review the budget Session passed for 2018, and more. And after this relatively short meeting, you can gather for Fellowship Time. ***Copies of the 2017 Annual Report are available outside the sanctuary.***

GLACIER PRESBYTERY RETREAT

On the **24th and 25th of February** (Saturday and Sunday), FPC will be hosting the **Glacier Presbytery Retreat**. All are welcome to attend the retreat gatherings - a great way to see friends from around the Presbytery again. Mark your calendars.



Family Promise of Greater Helena

COMFORT FOOD CHALLENGE

TODAY

4:30 – 6:30 pm

This is the main Fundraiser for Family Promise. Churches and restaurants supply a mini serving of a comfort food, and the participants go from table to table to sample the offerings. A fun activity for a winter afternoon and for a good cause. Tickets are \$15 and are available from members of the Mission Committee.



**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!!**

New Email Prayer Chain Coordinator

I'm pleased to say that Pearle Plowman is the Email Prayer Chain Coordinator as of February 1. Pearle's contact information is: home (406) 449-8705 or cell (406) 459-6332. Her email address is pearlynp@msn.com. In addition to the electronic prayer chain, you may click on the church website, <http://www.fpchelena.com/>, click on the link, PRAYER, and a new page will open, Prayer Requests. When the prayer request is entered, click Send, and the message will appear in Pearle Plowman's inbox.

The electronic prayer chain provides information for prayers for people in our community and in our world. We use this ministry for the greater glory of God and thank you for your confidentiality and for your time in prayer for our loved ones. Blessings and Praises, Carol Gneckow.

Memory Verse

... but [the Lord] said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

- 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

Thought for the Week

I conceive of God, in fact, as a means of liberation and not a means to control others.

- James Baldwin

P.W. Birthday Luncheon

Tuesday, February 13, 2018, at 12:00 Noon

Presbyterian Women (PW) invite you to attend the annual Birthday Luncheon on Tuesday, February 13. Please call Mary Stiles at 443-4953 for reservations no later than Sunday, February 11. The price is \$5.00.

The Birthday Offering, which will be dedicated at the luncheon, was started in 1922 when PW members were asked to give one penny for each year of their lives to help fund a school for girls in Kochi, Japan. Over the years, that tradition has become known as the Birthday Offering, and Presbyterian Women have given more than 29 million dollars in support of mission projects throughout the world.

Each year these funds are used to help fund up to five mission projects. This year the recipients are: Cottage Village, a Tiny-House Community for low-income residents, Cottage Grove, Oregon; Village of Grace Center for physical and spiritual health, Tegucigalpa, Honduras; and The Dwelling Place, Minneapolis & St. Paul, Minnesota, which was established to provide for the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of women and their children following their escape from a violent partner.

Please join us for a time of fellowship, good food and entertainment!

Rev. Miriam Mauritzen hails from South Carolina and has a Master's of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary, having also studied at the School of Divinity at University of St. Andrews, Scotland, and Presbyterian College in Clinton, South Carolina. She has been part of the PCUSA her whole life.

Her husband Clayton is an English Teacher at Flathead High School, and they have a 2½ year old daughter, Eleanor. Now in her 7th year of ministry in Kalispell, Rev. Mauritzen splits her time serving as both the Community Pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Kalispell, and Serious JuJu Skateboard Ministry, an 1001 New Worshipping Community sponsored by the PC(USA).



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, 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
Administrative Assistant
Financial Coordinator
Organist
Nursery Care Attendant

Every Member
Rev. Scott Wipperman
Arlyn "Butch" Plowman
Lexsey Carpenter
Les Cramer
Bruce A. Luke
Jill Lloyd
Ann Swisher
Nicole Carpenter

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 Craige - 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
Website: www.fpchelena.org

