

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

“Fear, Pruning, Vines, and Love”



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

535 North Ewing Street
Helena, MT 59601

April 29, 2018

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

APRIL 29, 2018

Lay Liturgist – Les Cramer

* *Please stand if you are able*

PRELUDE: “Awake, My Heart, with Gladness” by *Flor Peeters (1903-1986)*

WELCOME

PREPARING OUR HEARTS *a time of silence*

OPENING PRAYER

*UNISON CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Lord is risen! Alleluia!

People: Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

Leader: Beloved, let us love one another.

People: We love because God first loved us.

* GATHERING HYMN: “The Strife Is O’er” See screen

CALL TO CONFESSION:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

God of all hope and joy, we confess that we continue to live in fear. You make us branches of your vine, but we fail to abide in you. You extend your promise to all, yet we seek to cut off and exclude. Forgive us, God of grace. Sanctify us in your perfect love, the love that casts out all fear, so that we may truly love one another; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *(time for silent confession)*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

CHIOR ANTHEM

“Shut De Do” by Randy Stonehill, arr. Mark Hayes

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

EPISTLE READING:

1 John 4:7-21

Page 1902

GOSPEL READING:

John 15:1-8

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SERMON:

“Fear, Pruning, Vines, and Love” Rev. Scott Wiperman

*RESPONSE HYMN:

“As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought” See screen

THE OFFERING

INVITATION TO OFFERING

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

“Minuet and Trio K.1” by Wolfgang A. Mozart,
Madisyn Gard, flute; Hezekiah Rowland, clarinet

*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:

“Thine Is the Glory”

See screen

*BENEDICTION

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

#232

POSTLUDE:

“Allegro” by Flor Peeters

CALENDAR OF THE WEEK

Sunday	29	8:30 am	Sunday Morning Small Group Study
		10:00 am	Worship Service / Education Hour
		11:15 am	Church Pot Luck
		12:00 pm	Inquirers Class
		12:30 pm	AA Study Group
Monday	30	6:00 pm	Helena X-Press Singers
		7:00 pm	Girl Scouts
Tuesday	1	9:30 am	Abigail Circle
		9:30 am	Esther Circle
		11:00 am	Bridge Club – ACBL Unit 411
		5:30 pm	Personnel Committee meeting
		7:00 pm	Elizabeth Circle
		7:00 pm	AL-ANON meeting
		7:00 pm	Boy Scouts
Wednesday	2	9:30 am	Willing Workers
		7:00 pm	Choir practice
Thursday	3	9:30 am	Rebekah Circle
		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	4	12:00 pm	Friday Study Group
		1:00 pm	Hand & Foot - Ruth Room
Sunday	6	8:30 am	Sunday Morning Small Group Study
		10:00 am	Pentecost Worship Service / Education Hour
		12:30 pm	AA Study Group

**Esther Circle will meet May 1st at 9:30 AM at the home of Charlotte Meyer
(900 Menlo Park Rd. - 449-3030)**

Deacons-On-Call

Need a ride, a meal or a home repair? Call a Deacon on Call: Art & Rena Bumgardner (468-8341 or 468-8342)
Ward & Mary Stiles (443-4953)

Ushers

Ushers Today ⁽²⁹⁾

Sheryl Eriksen, Carol Stebbins
Corky Lord

Ushers Next Week ⁽⁶⁾

Linda Bench, Judy Birch
Mary Wright

Prayers for Strength and Healing

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

Newell Anderson
Jennifer Massman
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

Rick Kosticki

Barry Mattson

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.

The Parables of Jesus

This is the Next SFTS class being presented at Glacier Camp. It will be led by Rev. Dr. Eugene Eung-Chun Park. Rev. Dr. Park has been a professor of New Testament Studies at SFTS since 1996.

Dates: *May 6 - 8* **Location:** *Glacier Presbyterian Center (the camp!)*

Professor: *The Rev. Dr. Eugene Eung-Chun Park*

Description: *This lecture series explores the rich reservoir of meanings of the parables of Jesus in the synoptic gospels. We will place the parables of Jesus in the socio-economic realities of the advanced agrarian society and interpret them through the perspectives of the target audiences as they are suggested in the gospel narratives. We will also experiment various forms of reader-response criticism on the parables to see what new meanings have emerged or can be generated over and beyond the "original" meaning.*

Cost:

Commuters

(includes Sunday Dinner, Lunch on Monday and Tuesday) \$55/person

Single Room (all meals included) \$160/person

Double Room (all meals included) \$97/person

First Presbyterian Church is having VBS again!

June 11th - 15th, 12PM – 3PM

Weird Animals VBS connects with children when they feel different by introducing them to wonderful and weird animals around the world. When "weird" means special, unique, and one-of-a-kind, kids are reminded of Jesus' special love for them and that being different is a GOOD thing!



Available for all children entering grades 1-5

Contact Lexsey Carpenter at 406-442-4775 to register

Accepting early registration NOW!

\$10.00 Fee (*No child turned away if fee cannot be paid*)



CHURCH POTLUCK

You're invited to First Presbyterian's potluck today at 11:30 am, followed by Inquirers' Class. Join in the fellowship and hear Pastor Scott and our Session for an informational talk about the life of our church and how we came to be Presbyterians. This event is open to everyone, whether you're thinking about joining the church, have recently joined, or have been a member for a long time. Attending this class is not a pre-requisite for becoming a member. It promises to be informal, relaxed, and Pastor Scott and Session will be there to answer any questions that you may have.

Prayer Opportunity

This week we are praying for San Francisco Theological Seminary (SFTS).

San Francisco Theological Seminary's partnership with Glacier Presbytery began a few years ago. Several times each year they send a seminary professor to Glacier Presbytery to offer a class for us. These classes are held at our camp and are for everyone, no previous seminary training needed! Many people have attended this unique opportunity to learn and grow their faith. We are very grateful for SFTS's partnership with our presbytery!

To learn more about the upcoming class (The Parables of Jesus) go to glacierpresbytery.org, and look under "Upcoming Events" for May 6-8 SFTS class. Please keep SFTS in your prayers this week.

* Brush your teeth, comb your hair, put on a colorful shirt, it's Directory Picture Time! Our own Les Cramer will be photographing us for the new Church Directory, so be sure to sign up next time you're in church. The sign-up sheet will be at the coffee table. **May 6**, after the church service and continuing until approximately 12:30 pm. If this date doesn't work for you, call Les at the church office and he will arrange a different time with you. Bring your kids and/or grandkids to be in the picture with you, the more, the merrier! Picture packages are going to be offered at reasonable rates!



Just a little FYI for your calendars, more info will follow as these events get closer.

***Bingo Night -- May 18th -- 6pm** at the church! Food, fun, fellowship and prizes! Bring the whole family -- Bingo is a great game for kids!

***Lost Soles Hike -- Sunday, May 20th.** Meet at the Church at **2pm**, and join in an "easy", approximately 1-to-2-hour hike with your church family. Destination: to be announced.

Memory Verse

The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?" Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture [Isaiah 53:7-8] and told him the good news about Jesus.

-Acts 8:34-35

Thought for the Week

I am the product of many whose lives have touched mine, from the famous, distinguished, and powerful to the little known and the poor.

- Dorothy Height

30 Years of Presbyterian Women

Women in Presbyterian churches have always found ways to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God. (Mic.6:8) They have long organized to serve, support, love & empower – locally & globally - people whom much of the rest of society ignores or has forgotten. For 30 years we have been doing what needed doing – working through differences & difficulties & getting on with being the presence of Christ in the world.

Participants in PW interact, integrate & innovate; embrace, encourage & empower; challenge, collaborate & celebrate. We follow in the footsteps of the women disciples who used their resources to minister to Jesus & later to help spread his teachings worldwide; who met in homes for prayer, & Bible study, then stepped out & stepped up to help those who were hungry or homeless to secure food & a place to rest. We follow in the footsteps of faithful, bold women who made their voices heard – even if just in a whisper – when they were told to be silent.

We, the PW of First Presbyterian Church, Helena, along with Presbyterian Women around the world, are celebrating our work of the last 30 years! As a part of our celebration, we will be installing our Elected Leaders for the following year during the regular church service on Sunday, May 13, 2018.

Please attend & join in our “Celebration of 30 Years of Presbyterian Women”.

75 Years of Giving to FPC- Helena Continues

Lona Albright has been attending First Presbyterian Church of Helena for 75 years & has been a member for 73 of those years. Throughout that time she has faithfully tithed, & has given of her time & talents, not only to this congregation, but to the Presbytery, the Synod & the General Assembly. And she has filled roles of leadership at all these levels!

Lona has been a part of Willing Workers Group from it's very beginning. Over the years, she has made hundreds of Layettes for our Mission Sewing. It would fill the pages of a book to document all her contributions to Willing Workers, to Presbyterian Women (from our local group to the National level) & to our own local Congregation – all of these in many different roles of leadership!

And her generosity continues! Lona has moved from the home where she lived for 67 years. The gift that she is now giving to FPC-Helena is both exceedingly loving & generous! The proceeds from the sale of her house will be given to First Presbyterian Church – Helena, & the proceeds from her Estate Sale will be given to the local Presbyterian Women.

Enter YOU, our Church Family & Friends!! To make all this happen we need your help - to sort, pack & move the items still in her house to the church - where they will be stored until the Estate Sale in June.

Everything needs to be cleared out so that the house can be cleaned & placed on the market.....as Lona, herself, says, “Better sooner than later”!

There is a chart that will be either outside the Sanctuary door or in the Vestibule of the church where you can sign up to help us with this daunting task. When you sign up, please indicate both the date & the time that you will be at Lona's house (2060 Breckenridge) so we can have someone with a key to be there both to let you in & to give you some direction as to what needs to be done at that time.

Thank you so very much for your help!

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 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
Website: www.fpchelena.org

