



The First Presbyterian Church Courier

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
901 W. Platinum
Butte, MT 59701
Phone: 406-782-6595

AUGUST 2009



Sunday Schedule:

9:00 AM—Adult Sunday School
10:30 AM—Worship Service

Join us for VBS!!

**Monday, August 10th —Friday August
14th**

9 a.m. to noon

Please invite your children, grandchildren, friends and neighbors to **Camp E.D.G.E.** Join us for bible stories, games, crafts and fun! We welcome all children Preschool to 6th grade to join the fun. Please call Cindy at 494-0022 to register.

We are still looking for volunteers for decorating, registration & more. Please consider helping us out.

Please mark your calendars with the following dates:

Volunteer meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 28th

Decorating the church at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 30th

Decorating the church at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, August 6th

YOUTH MINISTRY



VBS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

??Are you a current Junior or Senior Youth Group Member? ??Looking for something fun to do? ??Like to help others? ??Work with kids?

Then join the VBS Youth Volunteer Team!

If you haven't already talked with Traci call today!

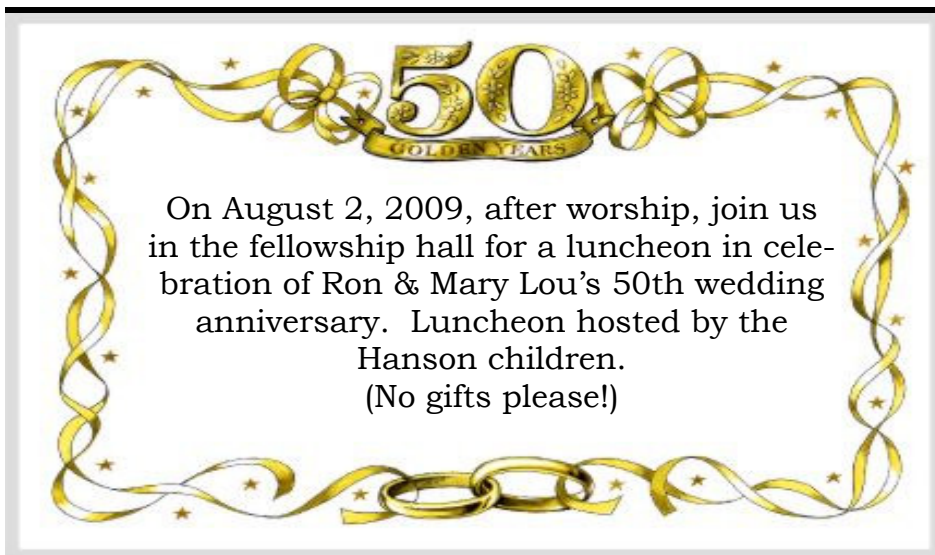
VBS WATER WARS

Welcome NEW Youth Group Members!
Friday, August 14th 1:00-3:00pm WATER WARS (after VBS cleanup)

Those entering the 6th – 12th Grade in the fall are invited to join us for some Fun in the Sun! Slip & Slide, Wading Pools, Pizza & Pop
Bring: *Appropriate* swim wear, towel, squirt guns



Youth Group kickoff info will be available in late August
FMI about these or other events, contact: Traci Blackwood 490-7918 or traci.blackwood@YouthAtFPC.org



SECOND QUARTER CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

Second Quarter Statements have gone out. If you have questions regarding your statement, you should have received a statement but didn't, or if you would like your statement emailed to you, please call the church office.



Laurie Shuttlesworth graduates from PA School in August.

You are invited to come and help celebrate her graduation at a Drop-In Open House

On Saturday, August 22, 2009

From 2:00 to 5:00

At the Rounds' Home

(401 Montrose, Butte, MT)



Please RSVP to either kmrounds@gmail.com or Nathan Shuttlesworth at (406) 860-3615

AUGUST CALENDAR

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2

9:00—Adult Sunday School
10:30—Worship Service
Coffee Host: Hanson Family

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4

5:00—Deacons
5:30—Support

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5

6:30—Prayer Meeting

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9

9:00—Adult Sunday School
10:30—Worship Service
Coffee Host: Deacons

MONDAY, AUGUST 10-14

9:00-Noon—VBS

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12

6:30—Prayer Meeting

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16

9:00—Adult Sunday School
10:30—Worship Service
Coffee Host: Education

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19

6:30—Prayer Meeting

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23

All Church Picnic

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26

6:30—Prayer Meeting

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

9:00—Adult Sunday School
10:30—Worship Service
Coffee Host: Witness

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast.” – Ephesians 2:8-9

On July 10, 2009 the reformed and protestant world celebrated an historic milestone: The 500th Birthday of John Calvin. John Calvin was a French reformer who labored in the city of Geneva, Switzerland, in the mid 1500’s to apply his reformed principles to both the church and to the daily life of its citizens. Calvin was both a theologian and a pastor. He was the principal figure in the development of the system of Christian theology known today as Calvinism.

Today, depending on the historical reports you read you can get several different impressions of John Calvin. One take is that Calvin was very strict in his approach to life and to God. Another viewpoint shows him to be an innovator in social reform. Still yet another viewpoint paints him as a genius in the arena of viewing the biblical perspective from within a unified theological premise. That premise was that “Humanity has been redeemed in Jesus Christ for the purpose of glorifying the Sovereign God with all we do and say”. Many of his ideas are also believed to have contributed to the rise of capitalism, individualism and even representative democracy in Europe and the Americas in later centuries.

Any way that we look at John Calvin we realize that he was very influential in the history of the church. Even if one disagrees with Calvin’s teaching he is being influential still prompting people to think through what it is that they do believe the work of God in Jesus Christ was all about for this world.

The truth is John Calvin has had a 500 year influence upon the Church of Jesus Christ – but the other equally important point is that John Calvin was just another human being – who, quite sincerely, committed himself to the ministry and service of God.

You and I are regular human beings too. But the question for us is: Have we committed ourselves to the ministry and service of God to the degree that God can take our common lives and use them to influence the direction and thinking of the Christian church 500+ years into our future?

We are all VIPs – Very Influential People – but will our influence be for God’s Kingdom and God’s best? Or will it be for some lesser, perhaps even openly selfish purpose of our own? Let’s pray daily for God’s lead and our prompt and sincere obedience to Him in all things.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Lanny

DIRECTORY UPDATES:

John & Laura Clark: jclark@buttemail.com
Don & Debbie Fisher; 1625 Schley; Butte, MT 5970; Son—Don
Bill Slaughter; 2005 Washoe Street; Anaconda, MT 59711; 563-3812
Rich & Norma Pylypuw; PO Box 481, Butte, MT 59703; 723-3164

Take out with prayers for their families:
Barbara McKenzie, Lucille Bieti



AUGUST

- 3 FranMatkins
- 11 Charlie Cloonan
Susie Neill
- 13 Ron Hanson
- 14 Paul Thurston
- 15 Shaine Bumgarner
- 17 Nancy Sexton
- 18 Andrew Helming
- 19 Jay Gray
- 21 Ellen Bumgarner
Joe Murray
- 23 Vernon Opp
- 24 John Clark
Ashlee Robison
- 26 Bill Penn
- 28 Gary Jones
- 29 John Leland
- 30 Laura Clark
Diana Morris

ALL CHURCH PLAY & PRAISE PICNIC

The All-Church Picnic is on August 23, 2009 at Dave and Lorrie Gates’ home starting at 10:30 and running until...(we’re done) We will have a Communion Worship Service followed by a Potluck Dinner. Games will follow dinner. Consider the following guidelines as you plan for the picnic:

A-E: Salad; F-O: Main Dish;
P-Z: Dessert

Each family brings their own: lawn chairs, blankets, drinks, tableware & food to share. Maps to the Gates’ home are available in the Parlor.

Annual Budget Forecast Update
First Presbyterian Church
AUGUST 2009

In January, you approved the 2009 annual budget forecast with a \$5,220 shortfall. We talked about ways to deal with this minor shortfall. You may also recall that the annual budget was not final because all of the 2009 pledge cards had not been received. Since January it has become clear that

Annual Budget Update			
June 2009			
	1/14/09 Budget	Revised Budget	Change
Revenues:			
Pledges	\$ 125,723	\$ 106,154	\$ (19,569)
Regular Gifts	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000	\$ -
Other	\$ 3,270	\$ 7,770	\$ 4,500
Investment Revenue	\$ 7,940	\$ 7,940	\$ -
Endowment Income	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ -
Total Revenue	\$ 181,933	\$ 166,864	\$ (15,069)
Expenses:			
Personnel	\$ 126,535	\$ 129,314	\$ 2,779
Other	\$ 60,617	\$ 60,617	\$ -
Total Expense	\$ 187,153	\$ 189,931	\$ 2,779
Net Operating Gain	\$ (5,220)	\$ (23,067)	\$ (17,848)

this year's pledge amounts and number of pledging units would not be equal to last year's as was assumed. As can be seen from the table, Session has adjusted the annual pledge down from \$125,723 to \$106,154. This is a major unexpected revision. You will also note that the other revenues have increased by \$4,500 to account for a one-time gift. That is partially offset by the personnel expenses increase of \$2,779 for the new church secretary salary increase. With no other changes to the annual budget forecast, the shortfall has grown to \$23,067.

You may be confused by this shortfall if you have been reviewing the Treasurer's Report in the Sunday Bulletin each week because that report suggests that the year-to-date revenue is on track with the revised budget revenue. It is true that the money coming in is on track with the **revised** year-to-date revenues. In other words, the church is receiving revenues at a rate to reach the \$166,000 of total revenue in the revised budget column above. However, as can be seen at the bottom of that same column, the **revised** annual revenue forecast is less than the annual expense forecast by \$23,067. Therefore, if we do not increase revenues and/or decrease expenses by year end, we will be short \$23,067. The bulletin's year-to-date representation does not provide you with a true picture of the "health" of the annual budget forecast. To the contrary, it leads you to a misunderstanding of the true picture. We are in the process of revising the Sunday Bulletin financial summary to be a better representation of the "health" of our annual budget.

Finally, Session is working to address the forecast revenue deficiency. At our Session meetings we have discussed this situation and are trying to identify ways to increase revenues and/or control expenses. There is no easy answer to this situation, but we seek your input and suggestions. In the coming months, Session will be formulating ways to address the shortfall and we will be providing additional information to you. Please feel free to talk to your session members and provide your input. Together we will find an answer.

Your Session Board:

Treasurer's Report
 July 26 (week 31)
 General Fund

Receipts: \$78,122
 Needed: \$78,897

We are \$775
BEHIND

In these summer months, let's work to keep up our giving!

- | | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| John Leland | Kevin Shuttlesworth | Gregg Gollehon | Gary Helming |
| Dixon Robison | Jack Shipley | Bill Rhoads | John Printy |
| Chris Sherman | Toni Robison | Bill McGladdery | |
| Ron Hanson, Clerk of Session | Gary Rowe, Treasurer | Pastor Lanny Rounds, Moderator | |