

Elders Serving on Session

Christian Education	Terry Nelson
Finance	Randy Duhrkopf
Facilities	Bruce Fraser
Personnel	Rodger Hankins
Worship	Jean Duncan
Marketing/IT	John Barr
Fellowship	Ross Doty & Cassie Camut
Missions	Kathryn Duncan

Deacons Serving

Chris Washer	Nancy Kerry
Kim Kerry	Lisa Harris
Susie Moore	Susan Tate
Ann Dahlberg	Mary Ellen Barr
Joe Fagan	Miriam Foster
Mary Ann Duhrkopf	Marlene Barnes

Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Tim Dalstrom	Office Manager: Erin Kingsolver
Treasurer: Leslee Washer	Music Director: Alma Ramlow
Keyboardists/Piano: Kathy Murphy & Dan Kohnstamm	

Corner Connection

December

2017



Sunday School

We offer Sunday School for 2 year olds thru 3rd grade. The class will be studying from both the Old and New Testament this year with Jesus' Miracles and Messages central to each lesson. This will be reinforced through simple art projects that accompany each lesson.

Lesson Schedule:

December 3, 10 and 17 –
Advent/Christmas Activities

John & Merri Williamson

December 24 and 31 –
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

Christmas Stroll

It is that time again to call all cookie bakers! We will be handing out our annual hot cocoa and homemade cookies to the festive strollers, on **Friday, December 8th** from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. A sign up sheet is on the table in the back of the Church. Please bring cookies in to the office on Friday before noon. Thank you.



December Worship Helpers

December 3rd

Greeters: Phyllis Bjorsness & Dale Bax
Ushers: Nancy & Kim Kerry, Joe Fagan, Jean Duncan

December 10th

Greeters: Mary Schwada & Cassie Camut
Ushers: Art & Lynn Bennett, Ross & Patte Doty

December 17th

Greeters: Karen Rosenberg & Phil Waddell
Ushers: Conny & Larry Miersma, Joe Mock, Jean Petersen

December 24th

Greeters: Dewey & Sandra Hartman
Ushers: Jerry & Janet Jones, Terry & Lynda Nelson

December 24th 6pm & 8pm Candlelight Communion Service

Halloween

Thank you to all who came to hand out candy to the faithful trick or treaters in downtown Whitefish. Thank you to Ann Dahlberg for set up and to the Barr's for clean-up, couldn't do it without you! We handed out 800 lollipops. Our DIY Photo Booth was a "tradition" some families informed us! Way to go FPC!

Dear Friends,

As I'm sitting here writing this letter it's Cyber Monday. Black Friday is over and the pursuit of Christmas shopping is well under way. I don't know about you, but I've got my list together. I kind of know what I'll be getting family this year and just so I don't forget, I keep it safely tucked away in my wallet. After all, what if my list should fall into the wrong hands or worse yet, I forgot what I had already been told at least 10 times!

But Christmas makes me wonder. What about the things God wants for our lives. Do we keep them safely tucked away in our hearts so that we don't forget? Luke tells us that when Mary heard all that God was doing, "she treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart." (Luke 2:19)

Maybe that's the real point behind Advent and Christmas. We hold in our hearts all that God desires for us and then we constantly review them. This Advent, take the time to stop and review the life lessons God has taught you and to check and see where you are really following him in your life. And then most importantly of all, take the time to revisit the manger and celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. After all, how much more could God give us than the gift of himself?

See you in church!

Peace,
Tim



Operation Christmas Child

Thanks to all of you for making Operation Christmas Child such a tremendous success. This year we packed a record 206 shoeboxes! What a tremendous effort from everybody. And also, a very special thank you to a wonderful crew of folks who showed up to pack and deliver. God is good all the time! Again, thanks so much for your faith, hope and love. We have such a tremendous church!
Mickey

Worship

Sunday, December 3rd begins the season of Advent and with it so much is happening in our church. We invite you to take advantage of all the blessings that Advent and Christmas offer us.

12/3 The season of Advent begins with communion during Sunday worship.

12/8 The Whitefish Christmas Stroll will feature the North Valley Music School at **5:00pm** and the Alpine Ringers at **6:15pm**.

Both will be in the Sanctuary.

12/10 The Chancel Choir will lead worship with a cantata arranged by our own Alma Ramlow and the Alpine Ringers will provide our prelude to worship.

12/15 Local Christian group Flannel Graph will be performing their Christmas concert here at **7:00pm**.

We have had the opportunity to host them for past concerts and we think you will find this a real treat!

12/16 The Glacier Chorale will be performing the Messiah at **7:30pm** in the sanctuary. Seating is limited and we invite you to contact either Alma regarding tickets or the Glacier Symphony and Chorale at 407-7000 or online at gsmusic.org.

12/17 3rd Sunday of Advent worship

12/24 CHRISTMAS EVE. 4th Sunday of Advent worship at **10am**. Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion services will be at **6 and 8pm**.

With the exception of special music, both services will be the same.

12/31 On this last Sunday of the year, New Year's Eve, we will celebrate moving into the new year with communion.



Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Again this Christmas season FPC will be joining with the Salvation Army in their annual "Ring Those Bells" drive. Our day will be **December 7th from 10:00am-6:00pm at Super 1 Whitefish**.

A signup sheet with available times is in the Sanctuary.

Christmas Offering

This year's Christmas offering with will go to assist our sister church the Mountain Lakes Presbyterian Church in Seeley Lake in providing ongoing relief to those who lost their homes and businesses during the recent summer fires. Checks should be made payable to First Presbyterian Church and earmarked "Fire Relief."

Shepherd's Hand

On November 13th we served a White Bean and Ham Soup, Green Salad, French bread and a cutie to 79 hungry, dedicated community members! We will again be serving a yummy holiday meal on Monday, December 11th, please come by and say hi!



Happy Birthday in December

Flora Baker 1
Paul Gillman 1
Dan Kohnstamm 2
Kathleen Duncan 3
Dale Bax 5
Judy Smith 7
Erin Kingsolver 11
Kathy Murphy 11
Aldo Kuntz 19
Ryan Lewis 20
Teri McDonald 21
Merri Williamson 22
Randy Duhrkopf 30
Vivian Harrison 31
Jaime Yacko 31

A Special Thank You To Our Volunteers

Bruce & Jessie Fraser - for keeping the inside & outside of the church functioning and looking great!

Leslee Washer & Mary Schwada - for giving your time every week to handle the finances.

Bob McConnell & Bob Paulus - for video taping the sermon every week.

Bob Paulus - for posting the sermon to our website every week.

Conny Miersma and Allen Foster - for leading worship services when Pastor Tim is unavailable.

Karen Rosenberg - for taking care of the flowers by the front sign.

Phyllis Galloway -for making several rooms in the church brighter with your wonderful flower arrangements.

Willo Harris & Merri Williamson – for helping with almost everything that anyone needs help with!

Shelle Kuntz & Jeanette Cheney - for making sure we are streaming the service live so no one misses a Sunday!

Bill Tarr, Terry Nelson and Jeanette Cheney - for making our music during worship all that more special!

Mary Ellen Barr- for your beautiful table center pieces in Fellowship Hall.

John Barr - for your help with maintaining the Church's website.

Diana Stevens - for donating coffee to FPC for fellowship time.

Vicki McConnell - for help preparing the Sanctuary for Sunday, making the communion wafers and scheduling the Salvation Army Ringing of the Bells.

Ross Doty - for organizing and preparing all of our potlucks and luncheons.

Presbyterian Women - for donating to missions in FPC's name.

Kathryn Duncan - for your help with mission education.

Mickey Dalstrom - for your help with organizing Operation Christmas Child.

Jean Duncan - for serving as our Clerk of Session.

Committee Members - for volunteering to serve FPC.

Sunday School Teachers - for teaching our children about God.

The Prayer Chain - for uplifting those in need of prayers.

Deacons - for providing and preparing the refreshments for fellowship time and preparing meals for those in need.

Elder - for volunteering to help FPC in so many ways.

And thank you to everyone else not mentioned that volunteers their time to this wonderful Church.



Each Sunday at least 30-50 people give of their time so that others can experience life change through the ministry of the church. The truth is the structure and workings of a church are only as good as the church's volunteers. We serve an incredibly amazing God, who builds His church with people who are willing to love and serve others. The staff can and should do much to lead this, but regardless the size of the church, paid staff is never enough to accomplish the mission.