

FPC NEWS

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Happy New Year! Can you believe 2012 is over already? We must be having too much fun because time has flown by. The beginning of a new year often causes people to reflect on the year that has ended. Taking time to reflect on the year that has passed leads many to regret all we wished we had done, but did not do, and then resolve to make it happen this year. We create our own lists but have you ever noticed that many people have the same resolutions; lose ten or so pounds, read more, travel, go to the gym, clean out that closet, etc. As you remember your list from 2012, did you make any resolutions about your faith? Will strengthening, challenging, or growing your faith be on your list for 2013?

Many churches have worship services on New Year's Eve or New Year's Day that are designed to help people reflect on the year that has passed and look forward to the year ahead, making resolutions to act upon their faith, to follow Christ's example and make a real difference in the lives of others, to move from keeping faith in one's heart and mind to the arenas of everyday life. Sometimes this list includes: going to church more often, setting aside time every day to read scripture, to pray more, or to serve the community. The practical genius behind resolutions, including those we make about our faith, is that by forcing ourselves to follow a new routine, if we will stick to it, eventually the new practice will become second nature. Even the simplest resolution can cause your faith to grow when you do it every day.

As the sun rises on this new year, consider your hopes and resolutions for our church and congregation. Start by looking back at 2012, remembering the ministries and projects that exemplified the mission of our church and identifying areas that could use some attention. This will help us create goals and order our priorities so we will move toward realizing our mission as God's church. We need your input. What is God calling us to do in 2013? What areas of our common ministry need attention? How is God calling our congregation to serve the needs of this community? How can we continue to live into God's mission for us?

It is wise and beneficial to begin a new year by carving out some time for personal reflection. Questions invite our reflection. Here are a few for starters. Think

about 2012, what was the highlight? What was the low point? Is there a person you failed to thank or someone who could have used more of your attention? Is there any unresolved circumstance for which you need to forgive someone or to be forgiven? Is an apology standing in the way of a restored relationship? When and how did you feel most connected to God? When did God feel most distant? What resolutions or goals can you make for the year ahead that will help reconnect or reconcile you with people you love and with God? If you'd like a pastor's help working through any of these questions, please don't hesitate to call us or stop in. It is our resolution to pray you would know God's presence and hear God's voice everyday of this new year. May the creative power of God's Spirit bless each of you and this congregation in 2013.

Blessings,
Pastors Kristin and Brandon Willett



Secretary:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday
8 a.m. - Noon
&
Wednesday
8 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Pastors:

Brandon: Monday - Thursday
9 a.m. - Noon
Afternoons by appointment
Kristin: Monday & Wednesday
9 a.m. - Noon
Afternoons by appointment

The Willetts will be on vacation from Dec. 27th through Jan. 3rd.

For Pastoral care issues please call them at 852-2015 and they will be able to direct the needed care to you.

Mark your calendars:

A Congregational Meeting will be held January 20, 2013 at 12 noon. The purpose of this meeting will be to update the By-Laws and elect officers. Please make plans to attend.

The Annual joint meeting of the Session and Deacons will be Monday, January 21, at 6 p.m., with the Deacons hosting.

Roast beef will be served.

The estate of Pauline Bigelow will be holding an auction sale tentatively scheduled on January 13th. More information will be provided in the weekly bulletin as it becomes available.



Thank you to all the ladies that helped prepare for the Christmas Luncheon on Dec. 13th. We also thank all that attended. We had 39 guests including 3 from Terry. We had a wonderful lunch and then celebrated Pastor Kristin's birthday with a lovely cake. Sue Stanton gave a presentation on a recent trip she took to Croatia. We thank her for sharing this with us.

We also want to thank everyone that helped out on Dec. 21 for the Birthday party at Holy Rosary Extended Care.

Merry Christmas from the PW Coordinating Team!

PW Fellowship is held weekly on Thursdays at 9:00 a.m.

The PW Coordinating Team meets monthly on the 2nd Monday at 9:30a.m. This month's meeting will be January 14.

Deborah Circle meets monthly on the 2nd Thursday at 10:00 a.m. January's meeting will be held on January 10 at Friendship Villa.

Elizabeth Circle meets monthly on the last Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. The next meeting will be January 29.

“So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!”

2 Corinthians 5:17



Best Wishes to all who are celebrating this month!

- 1 – John & Kira Niece
- 3 – Betty McCourt
- 7 – Buford & Phyllis Griffin
- 9 – John Rex
- 23 – Gus Glasscock
- 26 – Eleanor Hartmann
Bill Mitchell
- 30 – Currie Corbin
Mary Jo Younglund
Mark Zimmerman
- 31 – Lucille Shipman

(If I missed someone, my sincere apologies, please let me know so that you can be added to the list for next year!)

Mission Committee Special Offerings for 2013

- January: DEAP**
- February: CNADA
- March: Suicide Prevention in Eastern Montana
- April: One Great Hour of Sharing
- May: Pentecost Offering
- June: Local Mission
- July: EMI
- August: ROCKS Program
- September: Theological Education Fund
- October: Peacemaking Offering
- November: Empty Stocking or Salvation Army
- December: Christmas Joy Offering



Checking - Beginning Balance, October 31, 2012 = \$3,712.47

Checking - Ending Balance, November 30, 2012 = \$425.46

November Income - General Fund = \$16,260.00

(includes transfers from Organ, Building, and Memorial funds)

November Expenses - General Fund = \$18,562.20

YTD Income - General Fund = \$98,460.31

YTD Expenses - General Fund = \$116,310.22

November Income - Special Funds = \$819.70

November Paid Out - Special Funds = \$9,200.00

(includes transfers to General Fund)

YTD Income - Special Funds = \$30,701.97

(does not include Stained Glass Repair activity / net zero)

YTD Paid Out - Special Funds = \$13,330.93

If anyone is a stamp collector, Jessica found a stack of older stamps in her office and rather than throw them away, she would like to give them to someone who can use them. If you are interested, please contact her in the Church office.

A Prayer for the New Year

Starting the Year Off in God's Hands

By Kelli Mahoney, About.com Guide

Lord, thank you so much for all that you have done for me, my friends, and my family. Your hand on our lives is so much more than we could ask for, and your blessings are so greatly appreciated. I know, Lord, that you have seen our challenges, wept at our weaknesses, and rejoiced in our successes.

As you know, we are now coming up on a new year. You know I have made resolutions to change the areas of my life that need it, and I ask for your strength to make those changes. I ask for your continued blessings and guidance to make me more like you, to walk better in your path, this year.

I also ask, Lord, for your continued blessings on those around me. I ask that this year be one of peace and joy for my family and friends. I ask that you continue to be a presence in all of our lives. I ask that you give each of us a heart for you and a desire to serve to make the world a better place. I also ask for peace and blessings on those far from home, for those who suffer, and for those who need you a little more each day.

Thank you, Lord, for all you do in my life and for all your continued blessings and love.


In your name, Amen.



BABYSITTING DAY

We had our first Free Babysitting Day on December 16th and we had a blast! One of our hopes as a congregation is to live into our calling to bless others. We know that the Christmas season can be crazy and stressful, especially for young working parents. In order to bless their season we offered a day of free babysitting as a Christmas gift. We had 11 children participate, some connected to FPC but many not. We had a great response from church members to help with the day. We made crafts, played games, and just played with the kiddos for 6 hours. Thank you to those who helped, you were a huge blessing. We hope to offer free babysitting more often since it seemed to be so well received by our members and the community.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>Anniversary: John & Kire Niece Church Office closed 12/24 - 1/1 New Year's Day</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:00 AM PW Fellowship Birthday: Betsy McCourt</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>		
<p>6</p> <p>11:00 AM Worship with Holy Communion & Sunday School 12:00 PM Worship Committee meeting 2:00 PM Home Communion deliveries Epiphany of the Lord  Food Bank Sunday</p>	<p>7</p> <p>2:00 PM Communion at Eagles Manor 3:00 PM Building & Grounds Committee Anniversary: Buford & Phyllis Griffin</p>	<p>8</p> <p>1:45 PM TLC Communion 2:30 PM Friendship Villa Communion 7:00 PM Deacons</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Birthday: John Rex</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9:00 AM PW Fellowship 10:00 AM Deborah Circle @ Friendship Villa 1:30 PM Alzheimer's Support at Friendship Villa</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13</p> <p>11:00 AM Worship and Sunday School Baptism of the Lord Pauline Bigelow Estate Auction - time TBA</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:30 AM PW Coordinating Team 4:00 PM Membership Committee</p>	<p>15</p> <p>12:00 PM CISM Executive Committee</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9:00 AM PW Fellowship</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20</p> <p>11:00 AM Worship and Sunday School 12:00 PM Congregational Meeting</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:00 PM Joint meeting of Session & Deacons Martin Luther King, Jr.</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>4:00 PM HRH Extended Care Communion Birthday: Gus Glasscock</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9:00 AM PW Fellowship</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Newsletter Deadline</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Birthday: Eleanor Harimann Bill Mitchell</p>
<p>27</p> <p>11:00 AM Worship and Sunday School</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>7:00 PM Elizabeth Circle</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Birthday: Currie Corbin Mary Jo Younglund Mark Zimmerman</p>	<p>31</p> <p>9:00 AM PW Fellowship Birthday: Lucille Shipman</p>	<p>Special Offering - DEAP</p>	

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30	31					

Feb 2013						
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24	25	26	27	28		

January 2013

<http://mc1stpres.org>

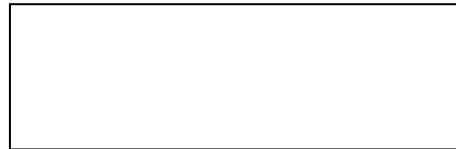
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



January Special Offering:



The Developmental Educational Assistance Program (DEAP) is a not for profit organization that provides a variety of family education, support, childcare, health nutrition and residential services to families, children and adults. DEAP was organized in 1976 to provide family education and support services to families whose children had developmental disabilities or were at risk of developmental delays. Since organization, DEAP has expanded services and programs to include evaluation and diagnosis, caregiver, early intervention, supported and community living, family preservation, childcare resource and referral, and health education / nutrition (WIC) services. Services are provided in 17 eastern Montana counties. Satellite offices are located in Colstrip and Glendive. DEAP successfully administers services through contracts awarded by the State of Montana's Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) including Developmental Disability Services, Child and Family Services, Health Policy and Services, Human and Community Services. DEAP continues to respond to opportunities to expand services, and to seek other private and public funding sources that can support people's essential needs in ways they choose.