

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

230 NE Ninth Street
Bend, OR 97701
Phone: 541.382.4401
Fax: 541.317.2838
www.bendfp.org

Worship

Sunday

9:00 a.m.

Contemporary Worship

10:45 a.m.

Traditional Worship

5:30 p.m.

Sunday Evening
Gathering

Wednesday

6:30 p.m.

Contemplative Service

Child care provided at all
worship times

CHURCH OFFICE

CLOSURE

Monday, April 13

Next Faith Notes

Deadline

March 9 at Noon

Next Publication:

March 18, 2009

Choose to Love

Message Series for the Season of Lent

Rev. Dr. Steven H. Koski

March 8 - Choose Compassion: Can I make a difference?

March 15 - Choose to Care: Can I hang on?

March 22 - Choose to Forgive: Can I really let go?

March 29 - Choose to Trust: Can I find a faith I can believe in?

Palm Sunday

April 5 - Choose to Accept: Can I be a true friend?

Holy Week

April 8 - 6:30 p.m. Contemplative Worship

April 9, 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service of Communion

April 10, 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Fauré's "Requiem"

April 12 Easter Sunday

6:30, 9:00 and 10:45 a.m.

Choose Hope!

Coat Collection

Did your kids outgrow a coat this winter? Do you have a coat in the back of your closet that just doesn't get worn? We are collecting coats and jackets for Palm Sunday. Bring a coat to Sunday Service on Palm Sunday, April 5. The coats will be donated to help keep those in need warm. Early donations will be collected by Janet Pearson in the church office. Luke 3:11



HELP OLDER ADULTS AND ADULTS LIVING WITH DISABILITIES

Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers provides volunteer services to older adults and adults living with disabilities. The services volunteers provide assist care receivers as they perform daily tasks, such as food shopping or getting to medical appointments. Other services, such as friendly visits and reassurance telephone calls, enable the care receivers to stay connected to their

community.

IVC is always seeking volunteers, but the special volunteer need right now is for people interested in planning and outreach as board members. Board meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Expect to have one more meeting each month - a "working meeting."

Please contact First Presbyterian members

Carol Smalley (306-6883) or Jim Norton (318-0407) if you would like more information.

IVC Board members will be in the Commons on March 22. Please stop by to say hello and learn more about IVC and its program.

Girl Scout Sunday

March 8 is Girl Scout Sunday. If you still have your pins or are a current Scout, please wear them that day. We will be greeting and lighting candles during worship that Sunday. Please join us.

Call Stephanie Seed if you have any questions.

News from Bolivia

To read Brad's letters from Bolivia, copy this link to your browser:

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20090126/ap_on_re_la_am_ca/lt_bolivia_referendum

Make a Joyful Noise

First Presbyterian Children's Choir, for all interested musicians grades K-6, is meeting again between services on Sundays from 10:15-10:45a.m. downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. Rehearsals will continue through the end of the school year. Come join us and bring a friend!

The Children's Choir is directed by Julie Cash with the assistance of Lori Brizee. Feel free to contact Julie with any questions: 549-1663 or julie@thecashs.com

"A TASTE OF SILENCE" -- A Half-day Prayer Retreat

This retreat, "A Taste of Silence," invites us to make Psalm 46.10 our own: "Be still and know that I am God." The psalmist knew something that few of us have an opportunity to know or experience, that God is present in a powerful way in silence.

For most of us, the world we live in is a world bombarded by noise and one that pulls us into addictive busyness. Much of busyness is good, but silence offers something

deeply mysterious and creates a quiet oasis not found in busy schedules. If you feel the nudge to experience God's presence in a deeper way, perhaps the opportunity to experience times of silence in community might speak to that need.

On Saturday, March 21, come to Heritage Hall from 9:00 until noon for a time to experience a form of prayer that may prove life changing for you. If Centering Prayer is a new prayer form for you, a

short time of instruction will be provided before you have an opportunity to experience the prayer. There will be three times of prayer joined together by a meditative walk and an opportunity to have your own time of quiet.

This retreat is sponsored by Contemplative Outreach (www.contemplativeoutreach.org). For more information, contact Rita (382-0086), Elizabeth (382-4401) or Lorraine (318-0384).

Presbyterian Women

THE POWER OF STORIES - Saturday, March 14

Heather McNeil, author and internationally recognized storyteller, will present "The Power of Stories" at 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 14, in the sanctuary of the church. Presbyterian Women, sponsors of the event, are inviting the congregation and friends in the community to attend. There is no charge.

McNeil will tell family stories as well as stories from throughout the world. She maintains that our voices and hearts are able to bridge connection gaps between cultures and between individuals.

"Young people are hungry for connections with their elders," said McNeil, "and family stories are one way to create bonding, give and take, and trust."

Storytelling techniques—use of silence, humor, differences and similarities—that empower stories will be pointed out. Audience participation will be part of McNeil's program.

McNeil has written two collections of folklore: *Hyena and the Moon: Stories to Tell from Kenya* and *The Celtic Breeze: Stories of the Otherworld from Scotland, Ireland and Wales*. Both books will be for sale after her presentation, and she will be signing books as requested.

McNeil is currently Youth Services Coordinator for Deschutes Public Library. For information, call Wanda Cashwell, 383-1506 or email ggwanda@bendbroadband.com.

Children's Ministry

To volunteer, register or get more information, contact Janet Pearson, Director of Children and Family Ministry (382-4401 or jpearson@bendcable.com).

Children's Choir Appreciation

Thank you to the Children's Choir for sharing their gift of singing with the congregation on Sunday, March 1. Julie Cash and Lori Brizee were awesome in their leadership. The Children's Choir will continue to practice in Fellowship Hall between services for the rest of the school year. Children in Kindergarten through fifth grade are welcome to join in the fun.

Family Resource

Families are the essential component of faith development for children. This can seem like a daunting task. It is the mission of Children's Ministry at First Presbyterian to provide practical resources for families. In addition to dynamic Sunday morning opportunities, we send home and make suggestions for caring conversations, devotions, service and rituals and traditions. DAVEY AND GOLIATH'S DEVOTIONS for families on the go is a quarterly publication that has great ideas for home use. The Spring 2009 edition is available in The Commons. Pick one up for your family.

LENT Idea for families

Crown of Thorns devotion.

Begin with a grapevine wreath. Poke about 40 toothpicks per family member around the wreath. Each day during Lent take time to talk about random acts of kindness or seeing Christ at work in the world and pull out a toothpick. By Easter the wreath will be ready to decorate to create a true crown.

March Treasure Quest

Kindergarten through fifth graders will be studying the Last Supper at first service during March. We will spend time looking at Communion traditions and the relation to the Passover meal celebrated by Jesus and his disciples at the Last Supper. Students will experience the Last Supper through movement and art. Seeing the story from many different vantage points will allow them to integrate this story into their own developing faith.

SAVE THE DATE—VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, JULY 27-30

Thank You Bethlehem Inn Volunteers

Dan Klingler and I would like to thank all of the volunteers for the Church's two weeks at the Bethlehem Inn in late January and early February. The cooks provided an excellent variety of great food which was very appreciated by the residents of the Inn. The servers' friendliness made all of the meals so pleasant. We were very pleased at the families who participated. The young are always enjoyed at the Inn.

Some of us may cook some breakfasts or dinners before next year. If you're interested, please contact Jim Smith. If not, see you next year, and again, many thanks to all!

Jim Smith

Dr. Donna Beegle to Speak at First Presbyterian during Lent

Dr. Donna Beegle, a nationally known poverty expert, will speak at our church on Tuesday, March 10, from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

If you are old enough to remember, just before the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King he changed the focus of his organization from civil rights for blacks to a more generalized focus on poverty. Here is a quote from Dr. Beegle's book that sounds remarkably close to Dr. King's last campaign:

“For more than one hundred years, gender and race have dominated discussions of diversity. When class or issues of poverty enter the conversation, it is generally assumed that people are making choices that determine their ‘lot’ in life. This myth of choice continues even with astounding evidence that children born into poverty in the United States (regardless of their race and gender) face dramatically different futures than children born

to affluence.”

Dr. Beegle's book will be available after the lecture. The book is entitled, *See Poverty...Be the Difference: Discover the missing pieces for helping people move out of poverty.*

Mentoring can counteract these kinds of attitudes. Dr. Beegle says this about mentoring: “Students and families who move out of poverty rarely attribute their success to a program or a curriculum. They almost always describe a

person who cared enough to mentor them on their journey. If we want to make a difference, we all have to be the mentors.”

Don't miss this important event! Dr. Donna Beegle will speak at First Presbyterian on Tuesday, March 10; 7 to 8:30 p.m. There is no admission fee, but please bring canned goods or a check to benefit the local food bank, make out to First Presbyterian Church Deacons.

Guest Speaker, Karen Alford

Sunday, March 8, we will gather at noon in Heritage Hall to learn about Indonesia. Karen Alford, Les and Judy Alford's daughter, will make a presentation about her life and work there.

The Fold will serve a spaghetti lunch and receive donations for lunch for the Youth Mission Trip fund. No reservations are necessary, but there will be a sign-up sheet in The Commons to give The Fold an idea of how much food to prepare.

This will be an exciting event in that Karen and

her family are long-time members in our church family. Many people will be interested in Karen's story. Young people will also be inspired by hearing her commitment to service and adventure in another part of the world.

Karen Alford became a member of First Presbyterian Church shortly after she and her family moved to Bend in 1987. She graduated from Bend Senior High School in 1991 and from the University of Montana in 1995 with a degree in Wildlife Biology. She then entered the Peace

Corps and spent the next three years in Morocco, living with a Berber tribe and working as a biologist in the High Atlas Mountains. During this time she developed an interest in providing medical care in Third World countries. After her return to the U.S., she entered Nursing School in Tampa, Florida, and, in 2007 completed her Nurse Practitioner degree.

Through her church, Bayshore Baptist Church in Tampa, Karen became affiliated with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, which is a non-Southern Baptist

umbrella organization for Baptist missionary work. CBF commissioned her for missionary service in late summer 2007 after she accepted a job on a medical riverboat in Southeast Asia. Since March 2008, she has served as the director and senior medical person on the riverboat, seeing upwards of 100-170 patients per day. She is currently in the U.S. to visit the many people who provide financial support for her and for the operation of the medical riverboat.

Youth Ministry

To volunteer or register or for more information, contact Greg Bolt, Director of Youth and Family Ministry (382-4401 or gbolt@bendfp.org).

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL (10:30-11:30)

The Flock (6 th -8 th Grade)	Youth Center
The Fold (9 th -12 ^h Grade)	Heritage Hall
Confirmation Class (8 th and up)	Prayer Room (10:30-11:30)

QUILT RAFFLE!

The quilt, donated by Irene Dudley, is displayed in TheCommons. The drawing will be held Easter Sunday, April 12, between services. Tickets are \$5 or 3 for \$10.

NEED SOME YARD WORK DONE?

The Fold will do odd jobs for you to raise funds for their mission trip. For questions or scheduling, contact Greg (gbolt@bendfp.org).

LOGOs Schedule

- March 4 The Fold--Meet John Calvin Session 1
(We want to do this two-session series because 2009 is the 500th anniversary of John Calvin's birth. Since he played such a big part in how we came to be as Reformed Christians and Presbyterians, we think it might be neat to learn about him.)
- March 7 Parent's Night Out (4 p.m.-10 p.m.) RSVP to Greg (gbolt@bendfp.org) for more information.
- March 8 Spaghetti Lunch with Karen Alford speaking (proceeds benefit 2009 Fold Mission Trip)
- March 11 The Fold--Meet John Calvin Session 2
- March 18 LOGOs Closing Ceremony
- March 25 No Meeting (Spring Break)

YOUTH WANT YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS!

If you are interested in what is going on, send Greg an email at gbolt@bendfp.org so that he can compile a list for electronic updates.

LOGOS Summer Plans

The LOGOS season typically ends at Easter and begins each year in the fall after school is in session. This year, however, we plan to continue meeting throughout the summer with the middle school and high school youth. This will help us continue to build and nourish relationships with our young people. There will also be weeks planned for the learning and spiritual growth of the entire church community.

This is a call for parents of youth (and other adults as well) to volunteer to bring a convenient meal for one of the weeks. We are looking forward to a summer of learning, fun and friendship. Please contact Greg Bolt (382-4401 or gbolt@bendfp.org) or Charlotte Brady (330-6500 or cbradyappraiser@aol.com) to sign up for supplying a meal.

Prayer Chain

If you would like to place a member or attendee of the congregation or an immediate family member on our church's prayer chain, please contact Elizabeth Stephan in the church office. If you would like to join this prayer ministry and be added to the e-mail or call list in order to pray for others, Elizabeth will see that your name is added to the prayer chain list.

Prayer Ministry

Write your prayer requests on the blue cards found in the pews or on the shelf under the prayer request box at the back of the sanctuary. The confidential requests intended for the pastors only should be placed in the prayer box and all others placed in the offering plate during worship.

Choosing to Love

The other night I had a strange dream; I was helping to lead a worship service that just happened to be taking place at the camp where I used to work. (Start your own interpretations here.) During a pause in the worship service, a group of loud folks came pouring out of the woods surrounding us jumping, skipping, smiling, all wearing the same t-shirt and pronouncing their love for us. I recognized their leader as he said to anyone who could hear, “Hey, I’m _____ (I can’t remember the name he said, but anyway...) and we just want to share some love with you!”

I will admit that I was more than a little upset that these folks had busted in during a worship service, but I was trying to let that go as I approached the leader. As I began to talk to him, the people with him continued to be disruptive, and I asked him who he was and why he had come. He told me that they were just looking to share their joy and minister to us. The more he talked, the more agitated I became, so I called over my colleague (who was also helping to lead the service and a person significantly more level headed than I) to take over this discussion, and I walked away.

By this time, the rest of the group of people with them had moved into a building near our worship space and were making a mess of the whole thing. There was trash everywhere, and they were just laughing and joking with each other and in my eyes being generally disrespectful of the worship space that we were in before they arrived. I looked around and put on my “camp counselor/youth director” hat trying to discern if this group was “on something.” I found nothing and then abruptly I woke up.

This dream got me to thinking, especially in regards to our Lenten groups’ experience, about “choosing to love.” If we come into a situation in hopes of changing the other person, are we really choosing to love? It is true that through love we can change and we can affect change in others, but if our goal is to change them, I don’t know if we actually love them.

When we choose to accept someone for who they are, faults and all, we are choosing to love them. That does not mean that we have to agree with all of their decisions or to think that maybe they should try things a different way, but it does mean that we can accept them for who they are, where they come from, and try to understand why they make the choices they make.

I know this isn’t an easy thing to do. In fact, I don’t know if I do it very often, but I do know that in many cultures dreams are visions from God. So I thought I would share with you one of my dreams and hope that together we can figure out how to “Choose to Love.”

Blessings, Greg

2009 Kits for Kids

Last year First Presbyterian provided almost 550 kits; this year the number of homeless students has already exceeded 600 and is still growing.

It is our vision to invite other faith groups to join this effort and make it truly a community project.

This year we plan to tackle this project in phases. Phase I, now under way, is to inform

and get commitments from other churches and faith groups in Bend.

Phase II (which will run from now until mid-June) will be to gather material for the bags and get them assembled for the last phase.

Phase III in August is when the bags will be filled and given to FAN.

Your enthusiastic support last year ensured its success. We again ask

your support by:

- Making financial contributions
- Donating material for bags
- Sewing bags and/or filling a bag (or bags) with hygiene items

Because of storage problems, we will not be actively seeking items for the kits until the latter part of July. If individuals want to fill the bags

earlier and store them in your homes, that is certainly welcomed.

Harriet Langmas (langmas@bendcable.com) has invited any/all who would like to come to her home (she has five sewing machines) on Thursdays anytime between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. for bag sewing parties.

For additional information/questions, contact Helen/Jim Smith at 382-8502 or hsmith@bendcable.com.

Deacons need your help

1. We need to re-supply our cookies/quick breads/bars to be used for memorial services.
2. We need food items that can be taken to families in need. If you are making a big batch of soup, casseroles, chili, etc. please consider making enough for a couple of additional people. When we know of a need within our church family, we can deliver prepared items from the freezer.

Your contributions should be placed in the Heritage Hall chest freezer. Please be sure to label the food with the Deacons name and the date you are placing the items in the freezer.

3. If you are willing to occasionally supply a struggling family with a full meal, please call or e-mail Elizabeth Stephan, Care Ministry Coordinator, and she will put your name on a call list that she will use when she becomes aware of a need for a meal. 382-4401 or estephan@bendfp.org
4. Rides to the 10:45 church service for a woman who lives at Bend Villa Court. If you can't make this commitment every Sunday, please consider making the commitment one Sunday out of the month.

Please contact Elizabeth Stephan (382-4401) if this is a way you can serve.

Outdoor Ministry Adventures

On Saturday, March 6, please join Iain and Shoshana Foxwell in the first outdoor ministry adventure. We will meet at 9 a.m. at DiLusso's on Galveston and will go to Virginia Meissner Snow Park for a cross country ski.

If needed, we will break up groups into different abilities. No one will be left behind. The first outing will be about 2 hours long, but please come along no matter your skill level. We aim for fellowship outside to celebrate the glory of God in nature.

If you do not have skis, they can be rented at Sunnyside Sports and REI

and other sport stores in town. The cost is about \$11 for boots and skis and poles for 24 hours. They can also be purchased for cheap at Repeat Performance on Lava Street.

On March 21, we will be meeting again at 9 am at Strictly Organic Coffee Shop on Arizona. We will go snowshoeing at Swampy Snow Park. Plan on about 2-3 hours total. Again, all levels welcome. No one will be left behind. This is not a race. Rentals are at the same stores.

Please call Iain at 520-909-5167 or Shoshana at 520-909-5718 for any questions. People can

carpool out to save the environment, gas and just to have more fun.

If anyone has any ideas of what types of outings they would like to have, please email us at

ijfoxwell@hotmail.com with feedback. We will be doing mountain biking, road cycling, hiking, kayaking and any other activities you suggest. We are so excited to be able to serve God in this way! Thanks so much.

In Service.
The Foxwells

Remember in Prayer

Judy Beam

Gathered Together

All are invited to gather together for prayer, silent and spoken, for our church, community, and God's world. We meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesday mornings, 11:15-12:00 noon in the Prayer Room.

Green Idea

Check the Church Library for the current issue of *National Geographic*. There is a great article with suggestions on reducing your carbon footprint.

Study and Fellowship

CIRCLE 3 will meet on Monday, March 9, at 1:15 p.m. in the Adult Center. Join us for our enlightening study of the books of Ruth and Jonah. Call Ginny Boone (389-3128) if you would like additional information.

CIRCLE 2 will meet at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 10, in the Adult Center continuing with the fifth lesson of the Gospel of Luke, led by Cathy Casebolt. All women in the church are invited. For more information, call Betty Armer (388-2347).

MEN'S BOOK STUDY GROUP meets in the Library every Monday from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. We're beginning a new study of the book What Jesus Meant by Garry Wills. Come join us.

MEN'S DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY Tuesday mornings, 9:45 - 11:00 a.m. at the home of Chuck Piersee in the Touchmark Community. It's an open discussion based on ideas and texts from the Bible. As the name suggests, we try to discover what the Bible is saying to us. This year we are studying the

Gospel of John. All are welcome. Call 312-1628 for directions.

THURSDAY CENTERING PRAYER GROUP meets on Thursdays, 12:00-1:00 p.m. in the Prayer Room. For more information, please call Linda (318-0407).

LISTENING HEARTS is a contemplative prayer group practicing centering prayer together and reflecting on the spiritual journey. We meet Tuesday evenings, 7:00 - 8:15 p.m., in the Prayer Room (we don't meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month). For more information, please call Lorraine (318-0384).

EARLY BIRD BIBLE STUDY - Wednesday mornings 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. in the ADULT CENTER. - "Who Do You Say That I Am?" This was the question that Jesus asked his disciples. We too may ask that question, or it may be asked of us. What answer would we give? The study is focusing on this question as we look at the answer through the different lenses of the gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. How do these gospels tell

the same story, but each from their own unique perspective?

THE TILTERS is a group of women who meet to read and discuss books related to faith. We are beginning to read *Same Kind of Different As Me: A Modern-Day Slave, an International Art Dealer, & the Unlikely Woman Who Bound Them Together* by Ron Hall & Denver Moore with Lynn Vincent. Join us on Thursday mornings, 8:00-9:15am, in the library. Call Cheryl Shay at 526-0964 with questions.

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS meets from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. in the Youth Center on the first and third Tuesday of the month. We invite you to join us as we study the book of Ruth and grow as friends in Christ. For more information, contact Leslie at 330-6932.

THE TRAVELER'S BIBLE STUDY Women, as you plan your winter and spring activities, consider The Traveler's Bible Study, which meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday at 1:30 p.m. in the Youth Center. For more information, call Carol Piersee (312-1628).

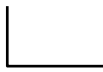
First Friday Fellowship Most know about Habitat for Humanity. Come and hear Director Sophie Paez tell about another "face" of this organization. The date is Friday, March 6, at 11:30 in Heritage Hall for soup and salad. We welcome guests, new members, visitors and friends.

Don't forget: Sign up on the easel in The Commons or call Ray and Joyce Ownby (388-1334) or Joyce Purcell (383-2573).

Next Meeting—April 3 with guest speaker Kevin Lair owner of Wild Birds Unlimited.

- Every day men, women and children in our community go to bed hungry.
- Our church takes your non-perishable food donations to local food banks for distribution year-round.
- Thank you for continuing to keep our shopping cart in the Commons full!
- Checks are always welcome made out to St. Vincent De Paul Food Bank.

First Presbyterian Church
230 NE Ninth Street
Bend OR 97701



Community Bulletin Board

Faith Notes will include a community bulletin board section for the listing of events not related to church activities. The bulletin board will contain a disclaimer that these activities do not necessarily represent the theology of the church and that they are not necessarily endorsed by the church. The listings will be brief and will be informational only; they will not contain position statements of the party submitting them.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY— Wednesdays, 9:30 to 11:00 a.m., in the Adult Ed. Room.

FLASHBACKS – A service to document your family history. Free consultation. Susie Burns
541-788-5936, davidandsusie@bendbroadband.com