

First Presbyterian Church

Faith Notes

Pastor's Column

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Worship

- Sunday, 9:00 am
Contemporary Worship
- Sunday, 10:45 am
Traditional Worship
- Sunday, The 5:01
Music.Message.Meal
- Wednesday, 6:00 pm
Contemplative Worship

Child care provided at all
worship times

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSURE

- November 25–26

Next Faith Notes Deadline

- November 8 at Noon

Next Publication Date

- November 17, 2010

Some years ago, Marshall Field's mother (of the famous department store Marshall Fields) gave one million dollars to the University of Chicago. When the Board of Trustees at Northwestern University heard about her generous gift, they wondered why a similar gift hadn't been made to Northwestern. A representative was sent to investigate. Mrs. Field's answer was simple, candid and straight to the point. She said, "Northwestern never asked me."

Well, I have become significantly more bold since putting on the Batman costume last Sunday. So let me never be accused of making the Northwestern mistake.

I'm asking you! I'm asking you to join me in giving God the very best we have of our time, talent and treasure—not what's left over, not what we have to spare, not what we have carefully and cautiously calculated—but giving God our absolute best. I am asking you to put your whole selves into investing in God's purposes! I am asking you to join me and the Session and take a leap of faith and increase your financial pledge for 2011. God is asking for nothing less than the fullness of your heart that God's heart might be generously shared with a hurting world. I am asking that we not be defined by our fear and sense of scarcity but by the boldness of our love. I am asking that you make it possible for our church to reach out to our community and love like we've never loved before through the generosity of your giving. I am asking for your whole-hearted commitment in helping your church be an agent of God's love in these challenging times.

G.K. Chesterton said, ". . . From a family reunion to a political revolution, from the calling of a committee to the founding of a nation, from the development of a city to the building of the kingdom of God, it all depends on commitments."

Every year as we near Stewardship Sunday, I have an irrational fear, "What if no one makes a commitment?" After all, we ask a lot of you. We ask

you to not just put your right foot in, but put your whole self in.

Gratefully, every year you decide that generously investing in God's purposes through the life, mission and ministry of First Presbyterian is a big commitment worth keeping. Every year make a commitment to:

The children we love and teach,
The families we feed,
The pain we seek to heal,
The growth we experience,
The lives we touch,
The difference we make in seeking to build a different world,
The relationships that are strengthened,
The youth whose faith develops,
The children who are mentored and tutored,
The grieving hearts that are comforted,
The inspiration that is felt through worship and community life,
The spiritual lives that are deepened,
The unconditional love and compassion of Jesus that is shared.

Without your generous commitment-making and commitment-keeping we cannot possibly be the Body of Christ that God intends us to be. Without the ALL-IN commitment of each one we cannot be the blessing to others that God desires us to be in these challenging times.

So, yes, I'm asking! I'm asking that we move beyond our fears, put our whole selves in and love like never before!

Yours in Partnership to Love Like Jesus,



Frequently Asked Questions About Stewardship

What is stewardship?

We make the mistake of thinking stewardship is primarily about meeting the goals of the church budget. Instead, stewardship reflects on how we live in relationship to God. It's about asking yourself, "Am I more generous today than I was a year ago?"

Stewardship is a spiritual discipline that shapes us into generous people who live extravagantly—not in our spending—but in our loving! Stewardship is a spiritual discipline that deepens our faith and trust in God. Giving generously and sacrificially is fundamental to our spiritual health and well-being.

Can we really afford to call an Associate Pastor?

The Session is convinced we simply can't afford not to in order to faithfully live our calling. In the last five years, worship attendance has grown from 300 each week to over 500. In the last five years, we have welcomed 278 new members. This is extremely exciting and evidence God's Spirit is truly present and working in our midst. However, our purpose is not to become comfortable and pat ourselves on the back. Our purpose is to be a place of hope and love where people's lives are transformed that we might whole-heartedly participate in God's work of transforming the world in love.

We don't want anyone to fall through the cracks. We want everyone to know they are loved, equipped and empowered to live out their true purpose in the world. The Session is committed to calling an Associate Pastor in 2011 whose focus will be Mission, Congregational Life and Spiritual Growth. We passionately believe, for such a time as this, we need to focus our energy and resources strengthening our relationships, deepening our faith and empowering each person to live out our mission sharing the unconditional love and compassion of Jesus with a suffering world.

Where does my pledge money go?

It takes a significant amount of resources to run a church ranging from paying salaries to keeping the lights on. We have been extremely vigilant in being responsible stewards of our physical resources keeping expenses down wherever possible.

The Session set a goal of becoming a 50:50 church where more of our resources are directed outside of ourselves serving others than coming in serving ourselves. This number is difficult to precisely measure because we are such a generous church. There is a significant amount of giving, like Kits for Kids for example, that don't appear in our books. In the last five years, we have used a consistent process of measuring. And over that time, our mission giving has increased from 29% to 40%. We are passionately committed to keep moving in that

direction toward being a 50:50 church.

How much should I give? How much do others give?

The average pledge in our congregation is about \$2,700 per household. The national average for Presbyterians is \$2,200. We are a generous congregation. Many of us give substantially more than the average. Many give much less.

More important than "How much should I give?" are the questions: "Do I give to God first, or do I give to God what is left over? Am I growing in generosity? How does my giving reflect my relationship with God? Is my giving sacrificial? Is my giving based on fear and scarcity or faith and trust in God?"

Remember the Bible story about the widow's gift (Mark 12:41-44). Her gift was one penny, but Jesus said she gave more than all the others put together. The others gave what they'd never miss. She gave all she had. The widow's gift is mighty, not because of the amount of money, but because of the amount of her faith. You may only be able to give one penny more this year than last but if that penny expresses faith and trust in God, it is a mighty gift. C.S. Lewis wrote, "No one can tell us how much we ought to give. The only safe rule is to give more than we can spare. If we give what is comfortable we may not be giving enough." Every member of your Session has committed to increase their giving in 2011. Please join us.

What if we aren't sure how much we can give in 2011? Should we pledge?

Financial pledges are a goal and an expression of our commitment to faithfully live as followers of Jesus. They are not binding agreements. We urge you to pledge because it helps the church's leadership plan for the future. Circumstances may prevent some people from fulfilling their pledges, while others may be able to give well beyond their pledges due to changing situations. Pledges are extremely important to allow our church's leadership to step out in faith, pursuing the dreams God intends for us. Currently, approximately 65% of possible giving units make a pledge. Our goal is 100%. In these troubled times the church must step out and love like never before. Everyone's commitments, generosity and love are necessary.

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

An interfaith Thanksgiving service will be held on Thursday, November 18, at First United Methodist Church, 680 Wall Street. Pastor Steven will be doing the wrap-up and closing prayer after a service put on by a diverse selection of faith groups. Thanksgiving is a time for everyone, no matter what their religion, to unite in thanking God for our blessings. The Gospel Choir promises to make this a joyous event!



Do You Know Your 5 Greatest Strengths?

October 31, November 7 and November 14, there will be a class during both worship hours in the Adult Center focusing on **"Discovering Your Strengths."** Using the book StrengthsFinder 2.0, participants will use a code found in the book to take an online survey that will identify their five greatest strengths. The three classes will then provide an opportunity to explore how those strengths can be used and developed in all areas of life and how they can be an integral part of the life of faith as we reach out to others to "Love Like Jesus."

If you would like to participate in the class, contact Lorraine Stuart (541-318-0384 or ldstuart@bendnet.com) or Mary Anna Swinnerton (541-383-3588 or luvmaps2@bendcable.com) so that a book can be ordered for you (\$12). If you would like to do this but do not have access to a computer, we will make arrangements to have one available for you to do the assessment. Also, if the \$12 is not in your budget, don't let that stop you from signing up.

Presbyterian Women - Books (&more) Sale - Open to the Community

Where: Heritage Hall

Sale Hours: Friday & Saturday, November 12 & 13, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Special Bag Sale on Sunday, November 14, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Set-Up Days: Wednesday & Thursday, November 10 & 11, starting at 9 a.m. - TBD!

Donations of Books, DVDs, Videos, Puzzles, and other Gift Items are being accepted through the time of the sale in the Commons at the PW table. (also bring tote, paper, and plastic bags).

Help with setting up our "Book Store" and smiling sales personnel (cashiers, baggers, greeters, courtesy clerks) are greatly appreciated. Proceeds support our local and global Presbyterian Women missions. Please contact Brigitte (541-385-5342 / brigdysart@att.net) or Susan Shuck (541-382-7110 / sshuck2@yahoo.com) for additional information or if you need items or large quantities picked up. After our successful sale and mission accomplished, help with "take-down" is also needed. **Thank you all for your help and generous donations!**

Session Highlights from the October 16 Meeting

At its October 16 special meeting held during the fall retreat, Session:

- Heard a presentation by the Green Team and passed a motion that FPC Bend apply to become an Earth Care Congregation and that we sign the Earth Care Pledge. This will require that annual environmental audits be performed. The first audit has already been done, and the results of that audit were presented to Session during the presentation.
- Heard an update on the planning of the stewardship campaign.
- Unanimously passed a motion that Session send a message to the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC) that Session is committed to hiring an associate pastor in 2011 and beyond.
- Concurred with the understanding of the APNC that the new associate pastor will guide Mission Ministry, Congregational Life, and Spiritual Development with vision and leadership, empowering the coordinators and ministry members to follow the Holy Spirit's guidance, but that the pastor will not take on the role of coordinator for any one of the three areas.
- Passed a motion on recommendation from the Finance Committee that in light of the current shortfall of income and the general economic conditions, Session suspend the monthly payments of \$4,500 from the operating budget to the Presbytery

of the Cascades for October, November, and December, much as it did in 2008 and 2009. After the year-end close in early January, Session will consider sending any year-end excess in net income to Presbytery to in part make up or restore the 2010 pledge prior to the end of January.

- Voted to sign a memorandum of understanding between FPC Bend and Common Table. The memorandum is good for one year and can be reviewed and renewed at that time.

A copy of the October 16 Session minutes are on file in the Session notebook in the Library. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the clerk or one of the Ruling Elders. The next Session meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 16, at 6 p.m. in the church library.

Sharon Lichti, Clerk of Session (388-9982 or

slichti@bendcable.com)

Ruling Elders:

Todd Ainsworth, 598-9210

Betty Bullis, 389-8108

Brian Cash, 549-1663

Tim Conlon, 388-0292

Ralph Delamarter, 388-2128

Maggie Hanson, 678-5953

LeBron Hardie, 550-7541

Clay Higuchi, 388-2746

Sarah Holtzclaw, 318-7496

Scott Nelson, 306-6057

Chuck Piersee, 312-1628

Sue Nell Phillips, 817-3131

Deacons Christmas Basket Food Drive

Last year we served 125 families, the goal for this year is 135 families! To meet this goal we need donations of non-perishable foods and cash. The following items will be taken from the food carts to be saved for the Christmas Baskets:

Canned soups, vegetables, fruit and applesauce; Dry cereal and oatmeal; Peanut butter, jelly or jam; Pancake or muffin mix, syrup; Rice and other side dishes; Spaghetti and sauce; Tuna.



An Interesting Read

I came across the following blog the other day, and I wanted to share it with you all. I want to see what you think about the challenging words that it has for parents and for us as a church. Please let me know what you think. (gbolt@bendfp.org or 541-350-8074). Greg

Posted by Scott Linscott, March 10, 2010

Your kid's an All Star? Wow! Someday he'll be average like the rest of us.

The church in America is puzzled. Young adults are leaving in droves. Magazines, books and blogs are wagging the finger of blame to point out who is responsible. Some say it is a failure of youth ministry, some point to church budgets and some nail the blame on outdated, unhip worship services. We parents are shocked that our kids just really aren't all that into Jesus. When I look for someone to blame, I head into the restroom and look into a mirror. Yupp, there he is. I blame him. That parent looking back at me is where I have to start.

If you're a parent, I might tick you off in this post. But, hear me out. I think that we, as parents, are guilty of some things that make it easy for our kids to put faith low on their priority list.

Keys to Making Your Kids Apathetic About Faith

1) Put academic pursuits above faith-building activities. Encourage your child to put everything else aside for academic gain. After all, when they are 24 and not interested in faith and following Christ, you'll still be thrilled that they got an A in pre-calculus, right? Instead of teaching them balance, teach them that all else comes second to academics. Quick ... who graduated in the top 5 of your high school class? Unless you were one of them, I bet you have no idea. I don't.

2) Chase the gold ball first and foremost. After all, your child is a star. Drive 400 miles so your child can play hockey but refuse to take them to a home group bible study because it's 20 minutes away.

2b) Buy into the "select," "elite," "premier" titles for leagues that play outside of the school season and take pride in your kid wearing the label. Hey now, he's an All-Star! No one would pay \$1,000 for their kid to join "Bunch-of-kids-paying-to-play Team." But, "Elite?!?" Boy, howdy! That's the big time!

2c) Believe the school coach who tells you that your kid won't play if he doesn't play in the offseason. The truth is, if your kid really is a star, he could go to Disney for the first week of the season and come back and start for his school team. The determined coach might make him sit a whole game to teach him a lesson. But, trust me, if Julie can shoot the rock for 20 points a game, she's in the lineup. I remember a stellar soccer athlete who played with my son in high school. Chris missed the entire preseason because of winning a national baseball championship. With no workouts, no double sessions, his first day back with the soccer team, he started and scored two goals. Several hard-working "premier" players sat on the bench and watched him do it. (Chris never played soccer outside the school season but was a perpetual district all-star selection.) The hard reality is, if your kid is not a star, an average of 3 new stars a year will play varsity as freshmen. That means there's always 12 kids who are the top prospects. Swallow hard and encourage your kid to improve, but be careful what you sacrifice to make him a star at little Podunk High here in Maine.

2d) By the way, just because your kid got a letter inviting him to attend a baseball camp in West Virginia does not mean he is being recruited. You'll know when recruiting happens. Coaches start calling as regularly as telemarketers, they send your kid handwritten notes and they often bypass you to talk to your kid. A letter with a

printed label from an athletic department is not recruitment. When a coach shows up to watch your kid play and then talks to you and your kid, that's recruiting.

3) Teach your kid that the dollar is almighty. I see it all the time. Faith activities fly out the window when students say, "I'd like to, but I have to work." Parents think jobs teach responsibility when, in reality, most students are merely accumulating wealth to buy the things they want. Our kids learn that faith activities should be put aside for the "responsibility" of holding a job. They will never again get to spend 100% of their paychecks on the stuff they want.

3b) Make them pay outright for faith activities like youth retreats and faith community activities while you support their sports, music, drama and endeavors with checks for camps and "select" groups and expensive equipment. This sends a loud and clear message of what you really want to see them involved in and what you value most. Complain loudly about how expensive a three-day youth event is but then don't bat an eye when you pay four times that for a three-day sports camp.

4) Refuse to acknowledge that the primary motivating force in kids' lives is relationship. Connections with others is what drives kids to be involved. It's the reason that peer pressure is such a big deal in adolescence. Sending kids to bible classes and lectures is almost entirely ineffective apart from relationship and friendships that help them process what they learn. As kids share faith experiences like retreats, mission trips and student ministry fun, they build common bonds with one another that work as a glue to Christian community. In fact, a strong argument can be made that faith is designed to be lived in community with other believers. By doing all you can to keep your kids from experiencing the bonds of love in a Christian community, you help insure that they can easily walk away without feeling like they are missing anything. Kids build friendships with the kids they spend time with.

Continued on page 6

5) Model apathy in your own life. If following Jesus is only about sitting in a church service once a week and going to meetings, young adults opt out. Teenagers and young adults are looking for things that are worth their time. Authentic, genuine, relevant relationships where people are growing in relationship with Jesus is appealing. Meaningless duty and ritual holds no attraction. There are no guarantees that your children will follow Christ even if you have a vibrant, purposeful relationship with Him. But, on the other hand, if we, as parents, do not do all we can to help our children develop meaningful relationships in Jesus, we miss a major opportunity to lead them and show them the path worth walking. I want my kids to see that their dad follows Jesus with everything. I want them to know that my greatest hope for them is that they follow Him too.

Mt. 6:33 Steep your life in God-reality, God-initiative, God-provisions. Don't worry about missing out. You'll find all your everyday human concerns will be met. (The Message)

<http://scottlinscott.wordpress.com>



A Different Take on Thanksgiving

At our house Thanksgiving means more than turkey and pumpkin pie, though we like good food a lot, too. Because sharing our blessings is an important part of our lives, we have made this into an occasion to help our family discover the joy of giving.

We began this practice several years ago when our grandsons were in junior high and high school, and we included their parents in the ritual so all of us around the table would be participants. After our plates are licked clean and the table is cleared, we present each of them with a check for \$500 with the instructions that they are to give the money away by Christmas. They are free to distribute it any way they like – to needy friends or to non-profits. All we ask is that they tell us what they did with the money. That's their Christmas gift to us.

I'd like to say the gifts are one of the best ideas we've ever had, but they weren't our idea at all. We borrowed the concept from a friend who told us about it. Now we tell others because it's too good an idea to keep it a secret.

The size of the gift doesn't matter; it's the act of giving that is important. If the kids had been younger when we started the practice, the checks would have been much smaller to be age appropriate. Besides, when they were younger we had less to give.

On Christmas Eve each family member tells what organizations or individuals they helped with their checks. It's interesting to hear what influenced their decisions. Last year our oldest grandson said he really appreciates the fact that the checks give him the opportunity to be more generous than he could be otherwise at this point in his life. That was great feedback for us that our gifts will keep on giving – to us, to him, and to the recipients of his generosity. But the best gift of all is the fact that giving has become an important part of his life.

Judy & Dave Osgood

Children's Ministry

The purpose of our ministry with children at First Presbyterian is to love them and to nurture their love of God. If you feel called to this ministry and would like to volunteer or to get more information, contact Janet Pearson, Director of Children and Family Ministry (541-382-4401 or jpearson@bendfp.org).

Faith4mation @ home - Children's Stewardship

Four ideas for helping young people experience/understand stewardship.

1. Have them divide their allowance into spend/save/share categories
2. Keep a "Cents-ability" bank on the dining table and bring it the last Sunday of the month to church.
3. Order children's pledge envelopes when you make your pledge.
4. Sit down and talk about your family's values and priorities.

Handbell Choir

Would you like to try ringing handbells? A perfect opportunity is approaching. We are in need of six ringers to support the choir at the late service on Christmas Eve. You need not have bell ringing experience, but some musical knowledge would be helpful. Rehearsals will begin on Thursday, November 4 at either 4:30 or 5:30, depending on individual schedules and what time is most convenient for all. This is a short-term commitment - ringing some wonderful Christmas music. Come join the fun. Please contact me at jhbarr@bendcable.com I look forward to hearing from you. Joan Barr

Head Ushers Needed

Head Ushers help make the worship services run smoothly, see that everyone gets a bulletin and a seat of their choice, takes attendance, and lines the ushers up to receive the offering. At the end of the service, the Head Usher helps prepare the Sanctuary for the next service or locks up the church as the services and coffee fellowship conclude. Head Ushers serve about once a month, have time off as needed for family activities and trade with those who might need to change the Sunday they usually serve. Call Jane at the church office for more information or email her at jwilson@bendfp.org and she will send you more detailed instructions.



Green Ideas

As many of you are aware, First Presbyterian has been purchasing cups, plates and silverware that are "compostable." This means they are made from sugarcane fiber and corn. They become organic material when composted back into the soil. On Sundays you will now see a blue plastic bin next to the garbage can. Please put your used disposable coffee cups into this bin. Your napkins can be put into the garbage can. Each week we take these to Fields Farm, and

New @your Church Library!

Thank you, members of Circle II for gifting the following two books in memory of a gracious lady, Grace Rea!

Life After Grace: daily reflection on the Bible by Carol M. Bechtel (242.5 Bc). A collection of thirty reflections based on her monthly column in *Presbyterians Today*. Each entry includes a scripture passage and questions for reflection, making *Life After Grace* ideal for private devotion, group or individual study.

Putting the Amazing Back in Grace, by Ann Weems (811.54). The author, a Presbyterian elder, lecturer, and popular poet, reflects on the church of her childhood and youth, writing about her personal faith story as it developed amid the influences of family, culture, and religion. She goes on to reflect on the contemporary church—mourning eloquently the condition of the church today, charging that it has put process over people, division over unity, and corporate strategizing over conversation and consultation with God.

☪

Two new selections by authors appearing in Bend this week for *The Nature of Words*.

Anne Lamott's, *Imperfect Birds: A Novel*, a powerful, honest, heartrending and redemptive story of love and family; re-introducing

Candles in the Sanctuary

If you have a child in grades 1-5, you may have wondered how the children are chosen to light the candles in the Worship Services. Or maybe your child has mentioned it to you. Just call Jane! She is in charge of getting Acolytes, children in grades 1-5, to light the candles. You can even choose the service that you and your family prefer to attend. Call Jane at the church office – 541-382-4401. Or you can email her at jwilson@bendfp.org. She will send you the instructions and sign up your child(ren) and a friend if they wish for the worship service that fits your family's plans.

Grounds Clean Up "Thank You"

To those who helped with the grounds cleanup last Saturday, we accomplished nearly 80% of all the individual jobs I had on my list, a great success considering the weather. I meant to give each of you a personal "THANK-YOU!" and hope you can appreciate the change in appearance of the church grounds.

Paul

they compost them for us. This will be much easier for the Green Team than going through the garbage to obtain these cups.

Even better, bring your own cup from home and don't use a paper cup. We are using up to 200 cups per Sunday. We are planning for more space to hang your own personal cups, so be a witness for caring about God's Earth. Let's consume less and alter our habits of using products strictly for our convenience.

avid fans to the characters: Rosie, now a 17-year old; her mother Elizabeth; and stepfather James. Lamott, who has written nonfiction about being a single parent ("Operating Instructions"), writing ("Bird by Bird") and finding faith ("Grace, Eventually"), uses her fictional characters to examine similar real-life questions. She says, "My book is a cautionary tale, that as a parent you need to agree with yourself that the family is going to operate from a place of truth and not in denial. So you can't be best friends with your kid." All of Anne Lamott's books are in our library. (Request a Hold if not on THE shelf!)

Kent Haruf, author of *Plainsong*, one of the most beloved novels in recent years, has wisely continued the franchise in ***Eventide***, another foray into the prairie town of Holt, Colorado, meeting some of the same people. April Henry, from the *Oregonian*, writes, "*Eventide* is a spare, delicate and beautiful book [that is] set in a world where an 11-year-old boy and an old bachelor rancher can both experience the wonder of a first kiss ... Haruf has created another poignant meditation on the true meaning of family." Both of Haruf novels are in our Fiction section.

Good Reading and Check Us Out.

Coffee Hour

The following groups are scheduled for November:

November 7	-	Presbyterian Women
November 13	-	CPR Circle
November 21	-	Mariners Cruisers
November 28	-	Spiritual Formation

Sign-ups are needed for December!

Cookie Schedule: November - S, December - T-Z

More church groups are needed for coffee hour so the burden doesn't fall on just a few groups. Thanks to Mary Anna, the process is easy and a way for people in your group to work together. Families and friends are welcome to get together and host also. Call Charleen McKee (541-382-0483) for more information.



Study and Fellowship

CPR CIRCLE will be meet on Tuesday, November 66, at the home of Meg Brookover (1895 Newport Hills Drive – 541-382-1283) for a baked potato dinner followed by an evening of fellowship and prayer. This is an open circle; all women of the church are invited. Please bring a baked potato topping to share. Please RSVP to Meg at megbrook@bendbroadband.com if you plan to attend.

CIRCLES 2 & 3 will meet Tuesday, November 9, at 1:00 p.m. in the Adult Center. Led by Marg Gorton we will study Lesson 3. All women are invited. For more information, contact Betty Armer at 541-388-2347.

For December, Circles 2 & 3 will have their Christmas Potluck on December 14 at Noon. Please bring a dish to share and your own table setting.

MEN'S BOOK STUDY GROUP meets in the Library every Monday from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. We're studying Making Democracy Work, by Justice Stephen Breyer. Come join us.

MEN'S DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY GROUP meets Tuesdays at 9:45 a.m. at Chuck Piersee's house in Touchmark. Phone: 541-312-1628. This year's study will be on the book of Hebrews.

TOUCHMARK BIBLE STUDY meets Tuesdays at 3:00 p.m. in the small dining room in the Terrace Lodge. The Rev. Dr. Brad Kent will lead the discussion.

THURSDAY CENTERING PRAYER GROUP meets on Thursdays, 12:00 -1:00 p.m., in the Prayer Room. For more information, please call Elizabeth (541-382-4401).

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).

Support Groups

Depression Recovery Support Group

Meets in the Prayer Room at 1:30-3:00 p.m. on the following Wednesdays: November 10 and 24.

Care Givers Support Group

Meets at 2:00-3:30 p.m. in the Prayer Room on the following Mondays: November 8 and 22.

Grief Support Group

Meets at 3:00-4:30 p.m. in the Prayer Room, Thursdays, through December 12. Facilitators are Joyce Purcell and John Oliveira. Please sign up in advance by calling Elizabeth Stephan (541-382-4401).

EARLY BIRD BIBLE STUDY - Wednesdays, 8:00-9:00 a.m. beginning September 22. This class, led by Dan Klingler, will begin a year-long study of the Wisdom Literature of the Old Testament. We will begin with Proverbs, then proceed to Job, Ecclesiastes and the Song of Solomon. Depending upon the time remaining in the school year, there be a briefer review of two later Wisdom Books found in the Apocrypha: The Wisdom of Ben Sirach and the Wisdom of Solomon. **TILTERS** is a group of women who discuss books related to faith. We invite all women to join us in reading an older Henri Nouwen book, Reaching Out: The Three Movements of the Spiritual Life. We meet Thursday mornings, 8:00-9:30 a.m., in the Library. Welcome! 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 continue our study of Acts and grow as friends in Christ.

WOMEN'S AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY The group meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month at 1:30 p.m. in the Youth Center downstairs. We will begin a new study with the Book of Acts. The group completed their study of the Gospel of Matthew and will now look into how the church grew; how the Holy Spirit empowered the early Christians and how this applies to our lives today.

Traveler's is a discussion type study in which you may participate, discuss as much as you wish or just listen. We welcome anyone interested in learning more about the Scriptures who would enjoy an afternoon study. Our goal is to learn and encourage one another as we journey the road of faith.

For more information, contact Carol Piersee at 541-312-1628 or carolpier@aol.com

TRY TRANSFORMATIVE YOGA ON THURSDAYS AT 9:45 A.M. IN YOUTH CENTER

Central Oregon Mastersingers presents "Cathedral Classics"

On November 19 & 20, 7:30 PM at Church of the Nazarene in Bend, the 45-member Central Oregon Mastersingers directed by Clyde Thompson will present a program of sacred choral works, featuring the 40-minute *Dixit Dominus* by George Frederick Handel, a setting of Psalm 110 for chorus and orchestra.

Members of the Central Oregon Symphony will take part in the performances of this music, most of which has never before been heard in Central Oregon.

Tickets are \$15 general admission, available on-line at www.co-mastersingers.com, or by calling 541-385-7229. Tickets are also available at Visit Bend, located at 917 NW Harriman Street in downtown Bend; phone: 541-382-8048.





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.

HOLIDAY CRAFT SHOWS – Eldon & Jane Wilson invite you to attend the two craft shows that they participate in. *Snowflake Boutique* will be Friday, November 5, 1-8 p.m. and Saturday, November 6, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.. *Bee Crafty Holiday Show* will be Friday, November 12, 12-7 p.m. and Saturday, November 13, 10 a.m. – 5 pm. Both will be at the Deschutes County Fairgrounds.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT with 30 plus years administrative office and management experience looking for full-time, long-term office work. Will be happy to provide work and local references upon request. Please contact Katherine Wagner at 541-390-9822.

