

FIRST WORD  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH | 235 S 5TH ST W | MISSOULA, MT 59801 | 406-549-5144  
[WWW.FPCMISSOULA.ORG](http://WWW.FPCMISSOULA.ORG)  
SEPTEMBER 17th, 2023

**Worship with FPC | September 17th, 2023 | Gal 1.11-17; Acts 9.1-19**

Do you believe people can change? Really change?

Do you believe that *you* can?

In both Acts and Galatians we hear the story of a man who was murderously invested in destroying the fresh movement of persons coming to entrust their lives to the good news of Jesus Christ.

Saul became *Paul*. He had an encounter with unfailing love. He got a new identity (belonging to Jesus Christ) and a new mission (representing Jesus Christ to the world) on the same day.

He was a changed man, sent to proclaim the good-news message: people can change. You can.

*Pray: What might you ask the Lord to change in you even now?*

We will be together in the Sanctuary for worship this week. You can also click this link **to live-stream** our worship service (or view it afterward):

<https://youtube.com/live/SkWNfAz1Cg8?feature=share>

**To listen by phone** to the live 9:30am worship service on Sunday via Zoom, call 253-215-8782. You will be asked to enter three codes:

Meeting ID: 84025131691 (then #)

Participant ID: (just press #)

Password: 658627 (then #)

You will also be able to join worship by clicking the link on FPC's web page at [www.fpcmissoula.org](http://www.fpcmissoula.org), or find it on Facebook at 'First Presbyterian Church Missoula.'

**Youth Group: Sunday Evenings in the Youth Room**

4th-8th Grade Students meet for Youth Group from 4:30-6pm in the youth room. 9th-12th Grade Students meet for Youth Group from 6:30-8pm in the youth room. For more information, contact Austin at [austin@fpcmissoula.org](mailto:austin@fpcmissoula.org)

**Babies-at-Cravys Brunch: September 17th, 11:15am, Cravy Home (330 Agnes Ave)**

Dear families of babies and toddlers, we are overjoyed to have so many of you investigating and/or coming to find your community as part of the First Presbyterian Church family! This is to invite you to the home of Dan and Tracey Cravy for brunch on Sunday, September 17, at 11:15am with our child-loving ministry staff team (330 Agnes Ave). We will enjoy conversation about forming community for families with littles, baptism, church discipleship/membership, and whatever you care to discuss.

**September Sending Sunday: Sunday, September 24th, 11:00am, Missoula Food Bank**

Every fourth Sunday during the school year, we gather as a church community following worship to engage in some form of community outreach as we seek to extend Christ's love into the world around us. This month, we will be going to the Food Bank (1720 Wyoming St) to put together Empower Packs, which are sacks of food that students who might not have enough to eat will take home for the weekend. This opportunity to serve is open to persons of all ages and abilities, and it is a really meaningful way to build community while serving those who are vulnerable. We will meet at the Food Bank at 11:00am (following worship) on Sunday, September 24th. Please join us!

### **Alpha Omega Homecoming BBQ & Bingo Bash: Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 5:00-7:00pm**

Join the Alpha Omega House for a Homecoming BBQ & Bingo Bash on Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-7:00pm at the AO House (501 University Ave)! This is a fundraiser for student programs. Bingo cards are \$25 or 5/\$100. We are also seeking donations of gift cards for \$25 value or more for bingo prizes! Please contact Laura Lympus: 509-319-4645 or [laura.lympus@aohouse.org](mailto:laura.lympus@aohouse.org).

### **New Member Interest Meeting: Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 10:30am, Chancel Room**

Interested in becoming a member of First Pres? We will have a short info meeting Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, following worship in the Chancel Room (room behind the sanctuary) for those interested in becoming members and what the process looks like. Come meet with us and see how meaningful it can be to become part of our membership family!

### **Casas Por Cristo Interest Meeting: Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 6:00pm, Youth Room**

If you are interested in going on our all church Casas por Cristo mission trip next June, come to our info meeting! Middle schoolers (with a parent)-adults (friends, families) are all welcome to come on this amazing experience! Come join us this evening to find out more about this trip next June and all it entails.

Questions? Contact Jo: [jo@fpcmissoula.org](mailto:jo@fpcmissoula.org)

### **The Meal and the Message**

The Second Sunday of each month, babies, children, youth, families, young adults, and anybody with a heart towards that ministry is welcome to join us for *The Meal and the Message*. We'll gather at 4:30pm for a meal, a group activity, and age-appropriate opportunities to dive into Scripture. Our first meeting will be **October 8<sup>th</sup>** at the Graef household! For more information, contact Austin at [austin@fpcmissoula.org](mailto:austin@fpcmissoula.org)

### **Join a Roots Group!**

Please see attached form for more information on how to get involved in a Roots Group.

### **Session Proposes Bridge from Sanctuary to Fellowship Hall**

The Session at its last meeting in July approved the concept of a Bridge / Walkway, with an estimated cost of \$500,000, to connect the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. Jack Chambers, Neil Shepard and Noah Hill were charged with individually sampling the congregation both for your thoughts / concerns, and questions, and for your interest in making 3-year pledges toward the goal of half the cost of the project. In addition, a full communication of the Session's vision and proposal will be made to the congregation in three steps:

- On September 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, Jack, Neil and Noah will continue to be available during coffee hour to answer questions.
- Early in October, a congregational meeting will be held to present details of the Bridge / Walkway including a formal bid to seek a consensus from the congregation regarding moving ahead with the project.

### **Upcoming Dates for FPC Gatherings:**

#### **September:**

- Babies-at-Cravys Brunch: September 17<sup>th</sup>, 11:15am, Cravy Home (330 Agnes Ave)
- Sending Sunday: Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, 11:00am, Missoula Food Bank

#### **October:**

- New Member Interest Meeting: Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 10:30am, Chancel Room
- Casas Por Cristo Interest Meeting: Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 6:00pm, Youth Room
- The Meal and the Message: Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 4:30pm, Graef Home
- Senior Luncheon Bible Study: Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, 11:15am, Fellowship Hall
- Bunco & Potluck: Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 5:00-7:00pm, Fellowship Hall
- Sending Sunday: Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 10:45am, Fellowship Hall
- Middle School Adventure: Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 4:30pm
- High School Retreat: October 28-29

### **Announcement Guidelines and Office/Staff Hours**

Announcements for FPC's Friday News Emails and for Sunday Worship must be sent to [secretary@fpcmissoula.org](mailto:secretary@fpcmissoula.org) and [emma@fpcmissoula.org](mailto:emma@fpcmissoula.org) by Wednesday.

- FPC Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday, 9am - 3pm, 406-549-5144
- FPC Staff Meeting: Tuesdays, 9:30am - 11:30am
- Pastor and Ministry Directors (Dan Cravy, Emma Thackston, and Austin Graef) work Mondays; unavailable Fridays
- Operation Manager (Becky Kress) and Secretary (Haleigh Adair) work Tuesday - Fridays; unavailable Mondays
- Program Support Administrator (Jo Ruby) typically works Tuesdays & Thursdays

### **Helping Hands**

For questions related to emergency assistance, please contact our Helping Hands Team: Jan Everett (jeverett53@gmail.com), Jane Hogan (2jhogan@gmail.com) or Krista Hellem ([kristahellem@yahoo.com](mailto:kristahellem@yahoo.com)).

#### **Prayer List**

**Ongoing Prayer Support:** Victor Schlimgen, Eva Tsosie and son Chaske, Tom Tucker, Sheryl Tegelberg

**Prayers for Health and Healing:** Carol Farmer, Kelly Nicholson, Lou Power, Peggy Schalk,  
Betty Winchell, Irene Smith

# FPC CALENDAR 2023-2024

## AUGUST

- 1 Deacons Meeting
- 15 Session Meeting
- 25-27 All-Church Campout
- 28 U of M First Day
- 29 MCPS First Day of School

## SEPTEMBER

- 4 Labor Day
- 5 Deacons Meeting
- 10 Fall Kick Off/Fall Ministry Fair  
Youth Group Kick Off
- 12 Senior Luncheon
- 17 Small Groups Kick Off  
Babies at Cravy's
- 19 Session Meeting
- 24 Sending Sunday

## OCTOBER

- 1 Casas Por Cristo Initial Team Meeting
- 3 Deacons Meeting
- 8 Second Sunday Gathering
- 10 Senior Luncheon
- 15 All-Church Bunko Party
- 22 Sending Sunday  
Sunday Evening Middle School Adventure
- 24 Session Meeting
- 28-29 High School Retreat
- 29 Casas por Cristo Breakfast
- 31 Halloween

## NOVEMBER

- 7 Deacons Meeting
- 10 Veterans Day
- 12 Bible Sunday, Second Sunday Gathering  
Kitchen Talk - Financial Overview
- 14 Senior Luncheon  
Session Meeting
- 22 Thanksgiving Eve Worship, 7:00pm
- 23-24 Thanksgiving Break: Office closed
- 26 Sending Sunday - no youth groups

## DECEMBER

- 5 Deacons Meeting
- 10 Second Sunday Gathering
- 11-15 U of M Finals Week
- 12 Senior Luncheon
- 19 Session Meeting
- 21 The Longest Night Worship, 7:00pm
- 24 Christmas Eve Worship, 9:30am & 8:00pm
- 25 Christmas Day
- 31 Lessons and Carols Worship

## JANUARY

- 2 Deacons Meeting
- 7 Epiphany  
Casas Por Cristo Team Meeting/BID Orientation
- 9 Senior Luncheon
- 12-14 High School Ski Retreat
- 14 Second Sunday Gathering
- 15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 16 Session Meeting
- 21 Kitchen Talk - Financial Overview
- 28 Sending Sunday

## FEBRUARY

- 6 Deacons Meeting
- 4 Congregational Celebration/Annual Meeting
- 11 Second Sunday Gathering (Super Bowl Party)
- 13 Senior Luncheon
- 14 Ash Wednesday Worship, 6:30pm
- 18 Casas Por Cristo BID Meeting
- 20 Session Meeting
- 25 Sending Sunday

## MARCH

- 2 Casas for Cristo BID Dinner & Auction
- 5 Deacons Meeting
- 10 Second Sunday Gathering
- 12 Senior Luncheon  
Session Meeting
- 18-22 Spring Break
- 24 Palm Sunday  
Sending Sunday
- 29 Good Friday Worship, 5:30pm
- 31 Easter Sunday

## APRIL

- 1 Rummage Setup Starts
- 2 Deacons Meeting
- 5-6 Casas Rummage Sale  
Rummage Take Down
- 14 Second Sunday Gathering
- 16 Session Meeting
- 20 Toppers Party
- 21 Congregational Mtg to Elect Officers
- 28 Sending Sunday

## MAY

- 6-10 U of M Finals Week
- 7 Deacons Meeting
- 12 Mother's Day  
Baby/Grad Sunday  
Second Sunday Gathering
- 14 Senior Luncheon
- 19 Pentecost  
Casas Por Cristo Team Meeting
- 21 Session Meeting
- 27 Memorial Day

## JUNE

- 1 MCPS Graduation Day (Sentinel, Hellgate, BS)
- 4 Deacons Meeting
- 6 All-Church Picnic
- 7 MCPS Last Day of School
- 9 Ordination and Installation of Officers
- 16 Father's Day  
Commissioning of Casas Por Cristo 2024 Team
- 18 Session Meeting
- 19 Juneteenth
- 23-29 Casas Por Cristo 2024