

## **A blessing as Lent begins**

*Blessed are you, ready to open yourself to a new joy, a doorway that until now has been hidden.*

*In this culture of acquisition and gain, blessed are you who desire fresh ears to hear what might be a bit too loud. Who take the next step to turn it down a notch and make more space for God.*

*Who discipline yourself, with time, intention, and hope, anticipating God to show up in your discomfort. Trusting that when we need God, God promises to be there.*

*God, give me courage, give me strength, give me hunger for You. Let this set time of less be a chance for more of You.*

*Let this fast be an entrance into the discernment I desire, the divine presence I'm longing for, and the hope to will what You will, oh God, to be who You've called me to be.*

*-Kate Bowler*

*(from Day 4 of Lenten Journal attached below)*

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We will be together in the Sanctuary for worship this Sunday at 9:30am. You can also click this link to **live-stream** our worship service (or view it afterward) <https://youtube.com/live/PoldunckgPA?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 & Parent Gathering – March 8**

All middle and high school students and their parents are invited to a gathering immediately following worship on Sunday, March 8. We'll share food and spend time in conversation as we listen to students, gather input, and begin discerning the direction of our youth ministry for the coming season. Students are encouraged to come even if they haven't been involved in youth group before. We hope you'll join us!

## **March 10th Senior Luncheon**

Beautiful March where flowers bloom and so does hope. Come and enjoy the Senior Luncheon on March 10th in the Fellowship Hall. We will be gathering at 11:15am. **Please RSVP to Barbara Miller @ 406-239-7999.**

## **Sending Sunday - Empower Packs: March 22, 2026 Following Worship**

We will be helping at the Missoula Food Bank (1720 Wyoming Street, Missoula) building Empower Packs for school kids. The food bank provides meals for the children needing meals for the weekends. The Missoula Food Bank has graciously opened on Sunday to accommodate FPC on Sending Sunday. The event should be completed by 1:30 - 2:00 including clean up. This event is family friendly and a great way to get to know your fellow members. If you have any questions, please contact the FPC office. We are looking forward to seeing you there.

## **Lenten Devotionals**

As we enter into the season of Lent, we invite you to consider the ways in which the Lord is calling you to practice returning to God with your whole heart. The three practices of Lent are fasting, prayer and generosity. We fast from – set aside – what gets in the way of God, in order to incorporate and practice closeness to God (prayer) and generosity in our lives. What will you wish

to set aside? How will you wish to practice prayer? How will you wish to practice generosity? (A Lenten Spiritual Practices card can be found in the Narthex or attached to your email.)

You may be glad to be guided by Emily Huff's 'Forty' Lenten Devotional. Emily is Dan and Tracey's sister-in-law. Each year she draws together a profound and lovely book of Scriptures and quotations for each day of Lent that invite reflection, prayer, and the riches of returning to the Lord with all your heart. The PDF version of the Devotional is an attachment to your email.

We also invite families with young children to make space for Jesus during the season of Lent. Click [here](#) to access a simple resource to help you and your child notice God's presence in everyday moments. Over the course of Lent, your family will create a simple paper home. This home serves as a symbol of the space we are making for Christ in our own lives. There's no right or wrong way to do it—just an invitation to slow down, make room, and notice God.

### **Help FPC Find our new Manager of Operations!**

FPC is looking to hire a new Manager of Operations – a full time salaried position with medical and other benefits. Can you help spread the word?!

The position description and instructions for application are posted on our website ([www.fpcmissoula.org](http://www.fpcmissoula.org)) and can be found by clicking [here](#)!

We're searching for a committed administrator and steward of all things finance, facilities, personnel, office, and grounds – a person who, in the Lord's service, will care for this congregation and honor our larger mission to surprise Missoula with Christ's astonishing love.

### **SAVE THE DATE! March 27th - 28th Rummage Sale!**

The Rummage sale this year will be the week of March 22.

Set up will be 4:00pm, Sunday, March 22

Donations will be taken and sorted Wednesday, 9-5 and Thursday (donations 9-11) (sorted til 5pm), March 25-26.

The sales will be Friday 9-5 and Saturday Half Price 9-11:30, Bag sale 12-2:30. March 27-28.

This year, we are trying something a bit new, we will be taking early donations (Monday and Tuesday of that week) **of Estate type (think Boutique!) items**. We will not take clothing, bedding, books, children's items that go into the large room until Wednesday. This is to give our Boutique ladies a head start on sorting their room. If you have items that you feel can go into that room and can be brought early, please contact Jo. [jo@fpcmissoula.org](mailto:jo@fpcmissoula.org) If you have things like dishes, jewelry, silver, collectables, furniture (nice) etc. please contact Jo.

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

#### **March**

- March 1 - March 1 - Glass Recycling @ Big Sky High School 9am - 2pm (3100 South Ave West)
- March 1 - 7 Family Promise Week
- March 8th - Youth and Parent Gathering
- March 8th - FPC Bunko Night
- March 10th - Senior Luncheon
- March 22nd - Sending Sunday Empower Packs following church service
- March 26-28 - Lamb of God
- March 27-28 - Rummage Sale
- March 29th - Palm Sunday

#### **Prayer List**

**Ongoing Prayer Support:** Victor Schlimgen, Tom Tucker, Kelley Nicholson, Nick Bailey, Peggy Schalk, Mike & Mary Fussell, Tyler Winchell, Ray and Susie Risho, Lois and Jack Puckett, Jean Johnson, Sarah Shepard

**Prayers for Health and Healing:** Jill Gilliam, LeeAnn Meloche-Porter, Betty Winchell, Mike Hickey, Becky Tucker, George Lightner, Carole Finkinger, Jane Bahls