

# The Presbyterian Post



## Inspiring peace, acceptance, and caring action.

Pastor Bruce McBurney

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### WORSHIP

Sundays 11 a.m.,  
followed by Adult Bible  
Study 12:15 p.m.

2

### BIBLE & BREWS

Every Wednesday at 6  
p.m. at the Corner Bar  
in Lingle.

3

### PICNIC & ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Sunday, Aug. 18, 5 p.m.  
FWUPC front lawn.

### Hello

*Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, whom alone we worship and serve.*



### Sept. deadline

Email news items to [officefwupc@gmail.com](mailto:officefwupc@gmail.com). The deadline is Friday, August 23.



### Session members

Erin Estes -2019  
Nancy Hayes -2019  
Rhonda Estes -2020  
Jane Iddings -2021  
Ellen Preston - 2021



Photos from  
Vacation Bible  
School: *Who Is My  
Neighbor?*

## Church news

### A Million Thanks

to the many, many volunteers who helped to make this year's Vacation Bible School a resounding success! Over 30 kids from our community enjoyed singing, games, bible study, drama and worship for 5 days in our church. Our members came through like champs- providing snacks and meals, teaching, leading games and providing a multitude of logistics behind the scenes. This is the work that we need to be doing- demonstrating to our neighbors the love of Christ by nurturing All God's Children. Blessings on each of you.

### August Events

Through Aug. 5- Pastor Bruce Study Leave- Big Tent Event in Baltimore

Aug. 4- No Sunday Bible Study

Aug. 5- Nurture 4:30 Torrington

Aug. 7- Bible and Brews 6 p.m.- The Corner Bar; Mary/Marthas- 1:30 p.m.

Aug. 8- PW Coordinating Team meeting- 9:30 a.m.

Aug. 9-11- PWP in Sheridan

Aug. 11- Fellowship at the McBurney's

Aug. 14- Bible and Brews 6 p.m.- The Corner Bar

Aug. 15- Third Thursday- Booth downtown- Volunteers needed!

Aug. 18- FWUPC Dinner and Ice Cream Social

Aug. 19- Session- FWUPC

Aug. 21- Bible and Brews- 6 p.m. Corner Bar, Lingle

Aug. 25- Potluck on Main- Wear your Presbyterians in Service Shirts!

Aug. 28- Bible and Brews, 6 p.m. Corner Bar, Lingle.

## **General News**

Bible and Brews will be offered weekly on Wednesdays at Corner Bar, Lingle.

Coffee Order- July orders are in! See Carolyn to place a Fair Trade coffee order for August from our Presbyterian partners at Frontera de Cristo (Café Justo orders placed monthly).

## **PW News- Torrington-August**

Bible Study will begin in September.

Rummage Sale is scheduled for October 5-6. Start collecting items to donate!

## **Church-wide Picnic and Ice Cream Social**

Invite your friends and family to join us for a church-wide picnic and ice cream social at 5 p.m. Sunday, August 18 on the FWUPC lawn! Meat, drinks and ice cream will be provided- you bring the side dishes and toppings! The nurture committee will be reaching out to all members- past and present- and you should do the same! Let's extend the hand of fellowship to our neighbors and enjoy some time together!

## **Adopt A Book!**

Presbyterian Women cleaned out the library and found a lot of books that need a good home. Please help yourself to the books in tubs in the narthex. Share them with friends and relations! Any not collected by the end of August will be donated to the library.

## REFLECTIONS WITH PASTOR BRUCE MCBURNEY – OUR JOURNEY THROUGH CHANGE



As the Pastor of a pair of congregations in 2019 part of my job is to shepherd us through any changes that are happening in our local community as well as the larger church. I'm going to try to help everyone see what the latest movement is and how it will impact us.

I'm sure that you have heard all the talk about change, how it is happening now and will continue, how it can be difficult to deal with. Change has been so natural in your life that you probably don't give it a thought. Well done. As we grow and mature how we see the world is different and that seems natural to us. So also is the life cycle of the institution of the Church. The early church, like from the time of the book

of Acts, was based in peoples homes. There were no large buildings for hundreds of years and how the administration of the church worked was different also.

When we think about change we should consider that there are two different types of change. According to the experts, Continuous and Discontinuous, are the types of change that happen in the world. Continuous change is that which we expect, like as you age you expect a change in your mobility. Some of us will change from the crawling stage to the standing and walking stage, others will find that they can't run like they could some years ago.

Discontinuous change is not anticipated. Things like the backlash running though our culture to the often overbearing authoritarian stances of the institution of the Church. The authority of the Church has been exhibited in many different ways and some of them were loving and kind, but others were abusive. The number of people who have left the church due to their experiences with the church rose dramatically over the past few decades and while we may have been able to foresee that happening it has not been part of the experience of our history. So this is a change that is considered discontinuous.

There are many different parts of our culture that are affected by technology and the closeness of globalization that have changed in ways that were not expected. As the author of Ecclesiastes said, "There's nothing new under the sun." However we are each affected by all the change that is going on in the world. So what's a congregation to do?

Awareness is the first step along this path. Being aware of the change and being aware of how that change has affected each of us is of the utmost importance. Dealing with our feelings takes many different forms and as you know each of us will deal with them in different ways. How we deal with our feelings can be healthy or unhealthy. One of the more healthy ways to deal with our feelings is to discuss them. This can be private or in a group setting but verbalizing them is very important. Some people journal and others may want to share with a group of trusted friends. Each of us are on the path toward wholeness, we just need to keep moving forward.

We will look at the stages of change within congregations next month.

# GIFT Needs You!

## Each of You is a GIFT

Every person who is a part of this congregation has something to offer. We come together regularly to celebrate the gifts we have been given. This is a generous congregation who has chosen to work together to serve a God that we love and a church that we cherish. Most of us have been worshipping together for a very long time. We exemplify **Generations in Faith Together**. As you probably know, First Wyoming United Presbyterian Church is blessed to have an endowment to support the Christian nurture of the youth of Goshen County. For years, our church has provided a Wednesday night meal and Bible Study for our young people, but participation, both by youth and by adult volunteers has declined. The Nurture Committee is committed to honoring the legacy and intent of the Likins Trust in providing stimulating programming for our youth, but we need to look at making some changes to keep up with the changing environment.

### Let's take a look at some of the issues we are facing:

- 1) Declining numbers of families with school-aged children
- 2) The aging of our congregation- many of our older members cannot drive to evening activities
- 3) Competition from programming offered by sports, classes and other church youth groups on weekday nights- Wednesdays in particular
- 4) A reduction in willing volunteers
- 5) The departure of a full-time youth leader

These are all facts that we can no longer ignore. If we are to hope to effectively serve our youth, we need to take a hard look at what we are willing to do to uphold our promise to our children. It's time to re-package G.I.F.T.

And we need each and every one of you to play a role in the lives of our children.

### What does that mean, exactly?

Beginning in September, we will move G.I.F.T. to Sunday mornings. Following the Children's Ministry time during worship, our youth will be released for their own Bible study and activity.

We will recruit heavily from the congregation to find a core of leaders to teach and lead crafts with our young people. We will rotate leadership so that no one person bears the responsibility every week.

Following the 11 a.m. service every Sunday, we will gather as a church community, ages birth to 101 to share a meal. We will provide opportunities for sharing our faith stories between generations in a fun and productive way, drawing upon the rich heritage of our members' faith and life's work. Again, this fellowship feast is for all generations!

Following the meal, the adult Sunday School class will meet at 1 p.m.

We will provide support and organization to build a solid foundation for the G.I.F.T program with the goal of increasing excitement about what we have to offer the youth of our church and beyond.

The Nurture Committee will be spending the summer working on the details and beginning recruitment. Please prayerfully consider the role you will play in this ministry. Our church needs your gifts. Our Lord requires our service. Our young people covet your love.  
Amen.

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

Meal planners  
Shoppers  
Cooks  
Set up/clean up

Program directors- 2 to work with Pastor  
Teachers – 2 per week  
Aides- 1 per teacher

Craft planners/prep  
Craft leader- 1-2 per week

To sign up, contact Carolyn McBurney at [480-329-8998](tel:480-329-8998) or [carolynmcburney@gmail.com](mailto:carolynmcburney@gmail.com) . There will be a sign up sheet available each Sunday at church.



**First Wyoming United Presbyterian**