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Online giving platform offers an easy way to donate

Our online giving platform through Abundant Ministries is up and running. Simply text fpcbillings to the number 73256 and it will take you into our secure giving portal. You can also access our giving app online on our church's website at fpcbillings.org. Look for the Give tab at the top of the home page. We appreciate your ongoing and faithful support of our ministry!



2026

Pastor's Pen

Fall Fun, Faith, and Fresh Beginnings

Fall is here and it's like God decided to throw a giant art show in our backyards! The trees are dressed in gold, orange, and red, and fall can be felt in the air. But beyond the cozy sweaters and leaf piles, autumn reminds us that change can be beautiful. Just like the leaves let go, God invites us to release the things that hold us back and step into the new season He's prepared for us.

Here at church, we're seeing some amazing changes too! Our Awana Kids Program is buzzing with energy with more kids, more laughter, and more hearts learning about Jesus every week. It's incredible to watch these young lives grow in faith and joy and am so glad our church can be a place where that takes place.

And for the grown-ups? We've got eight small groups meeting regularly, where people share life, dig into God's Word, and sometimes even share snacks (because snacks make everything better). These groups are helping friendships blossom and faith deepen—kind of like spiritual leaf piles you can jump into! Let me know if you would like to join one of these groups and we will find the right group and time for you.

Speaking of food, our Taste of Grace meal happens the second Friday of every month. It's a chance to gather, eat something delicious, and share God's love in a warm, welcoming space. This group has room for more and I appreciate Russ and Janet Kline who organize this gathering every month.

Be sure to mark your calendars for our church retreat on October 24–25! Think of it as a spiritual getaway, a time to recharge, laugh, reflect, and maybe even discover something new God is doing in your life. In this retreat you will discover ways to deepen your faith and connection with the Lord. Norma Smith and her team have been working hard to make this retreat a memorable and life-changing event.

We continue to find ways to give to our community. The youth group will be making sandwiches for the Montana Rescue Mission and our church provides volunteers to help with Family Promise on October 6 and 7. Join us on Thursday, October 15 from 4-6 PM for our "Drive-Thru Prayer" and on Sunday, October 18 at 2 PM for our "Bless the Pets" event where we will honor our pets through song and blessings.

Our church continues to grow with more and more people coming through our doors to worship, participate in our children's and youth programs, connect with a small group, or fellowship together. I love being a part of such an active and vibrant place where faith is being nurtured and developed!

Blessings,
Dave



New members' class coming October 4 and 11

Our next new members' class will be offered on Sundays October 4 and 11 at 9:30 AM in the Fireside Room. This class is open to anyone wishing to learn more about our church and or those wishing to become a member of FPC. This two week class will be led by Pastor Dave, Bill Lorentz, and Ernie Watters. All are welcome to join us!



Send Ruth Ewen a card for her 103rd birthday

Ruth Ewen will be turning 103 years old on October 14. She would love to receive a card from you on her birthday. Her address is 3920 Rimrock Road #114, Billings 59102. Ruth is our oldest church member!

Upcoming events:

Taste of Grace meal in the Fireside Room on Friday, October 9 from 5-7pm
Drive-Thru Prayer in our church parking lot of Thursday, October 15 from 4-6 PM
Youth gathering at the Corn Maze on Friday, October 16 from 7-9 PM
"Bless the Pets" event in our church's parking lot on Sunday, October 18 at 2 PM
Girls Night Out at the church coming Thursday, October 22 from 7-9pm
Walking Pathways church retreat coming October 24-25
Children's Halloween Party coming on Wednesday, October 28 from 4:45-6 PM
Annual pie auction and lunch coming on Sunday, November 1 at 11:30 AM



Church Info
Office Hours:
Mon—Thurs
8:30 AM— 4 PM
406-252-3434
mainoffice@fpcbillings.org
www.fpcbillings.org
Sunday Worship: 8:30am
& 10:30am
Sunday school @ 9:30am
Livestream at face-
book.com/fpcbillings

STAFF
Pastor: Dave Thompson
Office Manager: Ann Klug
Financial Secretary:
Lisa Hall
Children's Ministry:
Lane Smith
Music Director:
Sandi Rabas
Choir Director:
Janie Sutton
Custodian:
Kent Fellingham
Preschool Directors:
Karen Gerbase and
Karen Norsworthy
Nursery Care:
Morgan Appelt and
Lauren Bauer

<i>Birthdays</i>		
1 Aubrey Rector	12 Sue McCunn	30 Don Harr (103 years)
Marcia Spalding	13 Scott Murray	Jerry Koch
Erin Thompson	Jennifer Burns	Riley Martinez
3 Sharon Lincoln	14 Ruth Ewen (103 years)	31 Steve Stokke
Marilyn Wheeler	Cody Gravenhof	
4 Cassandra Harr	18 Travis Harr	<i>Anniversaries</i>
6 Joe Roy	19 Shari Dayton	5 Lewis & Sandi
7 Bill MacIntosh	20 Molly Buffington	Schoenberger
Stacey Gravenhof	21 Megan Lorentz	Joe & Betty Roy (50 yrs)
Connie Holle	22 Mary Lou Kappert	11 Scott & Anne Campbell
8 Barbara Gullard	26 JoAnn Jones	15 Steve & Diane
Bob Zent	27 George Rosenfeld	Ascheman (50 years)
Laurel Linde	29 Joel Spring	20 Mike & Pat Hastings
9 Ethan Waller	Rhonda Stennerson	24 Gordon & Dodie Cox
11 Judy Cuff	Jim Ausk	26 Mark Parker & Carlene
Kyle Buffington	Melanie Irwin	Taubert

Financial snapshot

2026	Income	Expenses	Net	Total Income	Expenses	Net Income
September	\$48,756	\$42,064	\$6,692	YTD: \$565,059	\$389,972	\$175,087

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
 Hello October		2026		1 9-11 Bible Study Fellowship 7 Square Dancing	2 9 Preschool	3 9-3 Junior Women's grp 3-9 Square dancing
4 Communion 8:30 Worship 9:30 New Memb 10:30 Worship 4 Small group 6 Small group	5 9 Kiwanis Club 9 Monday crew 2 Small group 7 Christian Ed meeting	6 9:30 Women's Bible Study 11 Zoom group 11:30 Small grp 12 PEO Fireside 7 Young adults grp	7 10 Grief support 10 Men's Group 4:45 Awana Club 6 Youth Group 6 Small Group 7 Small Group	8 9-11 Bible Study Fellowship 7 Square Dancing	9 9 Preschool 5 Taste of Grace meal in Fireside Room	10 3-9 AA Hallow- een party in Gym 7 Square danc- ing in C & S
11 8:30 Worship 9:30 New Mem- bers class 10:30 Worship 4 Small group 6 Small group	12 9 Preschool 9-12 Kiwanis 9 Monday crew 10 Worship Com- mittee 2 Small group	13 9:30 Women's Bible study 11 Zoom small grp 11:30 Small grp 12 Finance Mtg 7 Session Mtg 7 Young adults grp	14 9:30 PW Board 10 Men's group 4:45 Awana Club 6 Youth Group 6 Small Group 7 Small Group	15 9-11 Bible Study Fellowship 12 PEO group 4-6 Drive-Thru Prayer in parking lot	16 9 Preschool 7-9 Youth out- ing to the corn maze	17 12-3 Sons of Norway Dinner 7 Square danc- ing
18 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday Sch 10:30 Worship 2 Bless the Pets 4 & 6 Small grps	19 9 Preschool 9 Kiwanis 9 Monday crew 2 Small group 5:30 Deb Circle	20 9:30 WBS 10 Grief support 11 Zoom small grp 11:30 Small grp 7 Young adults grp	21 PW groups 10 Men's grp 4:45 Awana Club 6 Youth Group 6 Small Group	22 9-11 BSF 7 Girls Night Out 7 Mission Com- mittee meeting	23 9 Preschool	24 9-5 Church retreat 7 Square Dancing
25 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday Sch 10:30 Worship 1-5 Church Re- treat	26 9 Preschool 9 Kiwanis 9 Monday crew 2 Small group	27 9:30 WBS 11 Zoom small grp 11:30 Small grp 6 Stephen Ministry 7 Young adults grp	28 10 Men's grp 4:45 Awana Club 6 Youth Group 6 Small Group 7 Small Group	29 9-11 Bible Study Fellowship 7 Square Dancing	30 9 Preschool	31 Happy Halloween

Presbyterian Women's Organization:

The Presbyterian Women's organization in our church has four different groups which meet monthly for study, fellowship, and often food. Consider joining one of our groups to grow in your faith in God and one another. For more information about the Presbyterian Women's organization, please talk with either Pat Hastings or Diane Ascheman.

The PW board will meet on Wednesday, October 14 at 9:30 am in the Fireside Room. The three PW circles will meet on Wednesday, October 21 and the Deborah Circle will meet on Monday, October 19 at 5:30 PM.



Children's and Youth News

Our programs for children and youth are well underway as the fall semester began. Our Awana Kids Club meets every Wednesday afternoon from 4:45-6 PM for children ages 4 years old through the 5th grade. Each evening includes open gym time, worship, snacks, games, and Bible memory time. Our program is growing and we could use more help from adults. Talk with Lane Smith or Pastor Dave if you have an interest in helping.

Youth group for all middle and high school youth is underway on Wednesday evenings from 6-8 PM. We meet every week and have a full dinner, games, worship, and small groups. We are looking for volunteers to provide meals to our youth group on Wednesday nights. A sign-up list is available on the youth bulletin board. Thanks to the Appelt and Thompson families who provided meals during the month of September.

We will host our annual Halloween carnival on Wednesday, October 28 from 4:45-6 PM in the gym. Games, food, candy, and prizes will be given out to all kids who want to join us for this special event.

Our annual pie auction and lunch will be held on Sunday, November 1 at 11:30 AM. Thanks to our wonderful group of volunteers who help with our children's and youth ministry programs on a weekly basis. The time you give is invaluable in training up kids in the ways of the Lord! Thank you.

Church retreat coming October 24-25

Register for the *Walking Pathways Retreat* held on October 24-25! Explore ways to strengthen your connection with God while learning about yourself and fellow attendees in a relaxed atmosphere. Doris Backus will talk about simplifying your life to give space for God. Pastor Dave will tell you about work inside and outside our church and later talk about Christian symbols and rituals, showing how these undergird our faith. Frank Pott will discuss secret acts of devotion and centering prayers. Fred Barthel will share how a sense of expectancy can heighten our connection to God and how movement can heighten our worship. Learn about apologetics and systematic theology and celebrate what you already know from the Bible with Rhonda Stennerson. For those who prefer to be outside, Shirley Shirley will show you how to bring the outdoors inside to feel closer to God through His creation. And together we will worship through our senses with Brooks Buckwalter and her team by celebrating a Christian Seder meal. Time is growing short, **REGISTER NOW** by contacting the church office or register forms are available in the gallery! The cost is \$25 per person or \$40 for couples and includes the *Sacred Pathways* book and meals.

MSU-B Dinner coming October 6

United Campus Ministry celebrates its 59th year of ecumenical ministry at MSUB. Please support UCM by attending or sponsoring a student ticket at our fundraising dinner featuring Bishop Kristin Stoneking, Mountain Sky Conference, United Methodist Church, on Tuesday, October 6 at 5:30 PM in the Glacier Room of the Student Union on the campus of MSUB. The cost is \$50 per person. Please contact Betty Roy at 940-453-8129.

Flowers donations

We invite you to sign up for a particular Sunday to sponsor the flowers either in honor or memory of someone or a special event such as an anniversary, birthday, etc. Suggested donation is \$30. You can also sign up by contacting the church office.

Thanks to those who donated flowers during the month of September. They were: Barb Eichenberger in honor and memory of her husband Ken and her parents; Suzanne Braun in memory of her parents, Milous and Marily Repka; Linda & John Luse in honor of Sarah's birthday; George Rosenfeld in celebration of Heather's birthday; Russ and Laura Gause in memory of Melissa Darling's birthday and in honor of all domestic violence survivors; Bret Bennett in celebration of his twin brother, Brian Bennett's birthday; and Avice Hoff in honor of the 20th anniversary of husband, Ivan, receiving a kidney from their daughter, Cami.