

To Our Visitors, Welcome!

To all who are weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are idle and look for service; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to whosoever will come – this church opens wide her doors and offers her welcome in the name of Jesus her Lord.

We are delighted that you are worshiping with us this morning, and we invite you to join us for fellowship, coffee, and cookies after the service in the parlor.

Children are welcomed and encouraged to remain in the Worship service, however a nursery is available for infants and pre-school-aged children. Ask anyone with a nametag for directions. Denim activity bags are available in the Narthex for children to use during the service.

Announcements

Our annual **Courtyard Picnic** will be **Wednesday, August 19th, at 5:30 P.M.** Chicken will be provided. Donations will be welcome towards that. Bring a side dish, salad or dessert (something that goes with chicken!), and a lawn chair or blanket. Table service is also provided.

We are planning a **baby shower for Meagan Vreeman** on **Saturday, August 22nd from 2-4 P.M.** in the church parlor. Everyone is welcome to come join in the fun! (The baby's gender will be a surprise, so no pink or blue!) Meagan says that Target gift cards would be a much-appreciated and easy gift!

Church Vitality Seminar

If you are an elder, deacon, member of any committee, Sunday School teacher, or liturgist, then you are not only invited but encouraged to attend our **Church Vitality Seminar**.

There will be a special session just for us at First Presbyterian on **Friday, Sept. 18th, at 7:00 P.M.** The main seminar will begin **Saturday, Sept. 19th at 9:00 A.M.** and will run until approximately 3:00. Lunch and a continental breakfast are provided.

The cost of the seminar, including the meals and a resource manual, is \$30.00. Please join us as we take the initial step toward a renewed and transforming congregation. Register by emailing or calling the church office or through our Facebook page. The seminar will be lead by the Rev Bob Stauffer, who is part of a team that helps churches reestablish vitality.

If you need to reach Pastor Mark at any time and he is not at the church, feel free to call him at 724-651-7960.

New Membership Class – Come and explore whether or not God is calling you to become a member of First Presbyterian Church. We will look at several areas of what it means to be a Christian and an active disciple of Jesus Christ as a member of Casper First. If you are not certain whether or not you are ready to join, this is the place to go to help you make that decision. We will meet for approximately 7-8 weeks during the Sunday School hour in the small conference room on the second floor beginning on September 13. Please call the church office to inform us of your intention to join us, or e-mail the church office. This will allow us to know who is coming and also helps us to know the quantity of materials needed for the class.

Prayer Concerns

† For Matt Martin, Johnny Ussery, Justen Christensen, Bobbie Waldram, Sue Robertson, Carol Palomo, Jan Capps, Heather Milliken, Marielle Bondurant, Margarete Krans, Joanna Volker, Barbara Scifers, Jo Moreland, Barb Matthews, June Ann McDaniel, Kathryn Clark, Fern Olsen, Isaiah Vreeman and the entire Vreeman family, Pastor Mackylas' wife Ruth in Kenya, Jacque Moss, Marella Burch, Brooke, Taylor, family of Dusty Pope, Howard Krans, Elisha and Eli (our new CWRM Family Rescue Initiative family)

† For our country, the President, Cabinet, government officials, and staff; for our Congressional Delegation: Senators Mike Enzi and John Barrasso, Representative Cynthia Lummis; for Judge Brian D. Christensen

† For all military men and women and their families, including Brian Barksdale, and especially for those serving in dangerous positions

† For the Presbytery of Wyoming; the EPC Presbytery of the West; our Elders and Deacons; Christ Reformed Presbyterian Church (EPC), Lingle; Kenya's Chogoria South Presbytery, the four churches of the Kamwangu Nendini, and Pastor Mackylas; Ali Arhab and Channel North Africa's outreach to new Christians and to Muslims; our EPC missionaries and their families

† For Christians suffering persecution in Libya, Iraq, Syria, Pakistan; for Christians at risk in Nigeria, Kenya, Algeria, Jordan, Egypt and elsewhere

Upcoming Events for the week of August 17-23

Monday

8:45 A.M. Worship Committee
6:15 P.M. Deacons
7 P.M. Session

Wednesday

5:30 P.M. Courtyard Picnic

Sunday
11:00 A.M. Worship

First Presbyterian Church (EPC)

August 16, 2015



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Order for the Worship of God

August 16, 2015

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Passing of the Peace

Leader: Grace and peace to you.

People: And also to you.

*Opening Hymn *Holy God, We Praise Your Name* #103

*Call to Worship Psalm 63:1-4

Leader: O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you.

**People: I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,
beholding your power and glory.**

Leader: Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

**People: I will bless you as long as I live; in your name I
will lift up my hands.**

*Invocation

*Hymn *He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought!* #600

Psalter Psalm 33

Pew Bible [Blue] p. 463, [Red] p. 587

Reading alternate verses

Prayer of Confession (in unison) *From II Chronicles 6:39-42*

Hear us from heaven, your dwelling place, hear our prayers and our pleas, and maintain our cause. And forgive your people, who have sinned against you. "Now, our God, may your eyes be open and your ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place." Now arise, O LORD God, and go to your resting place, you and the ark of your might. May your saints rejoice in your goodness, O LORD God, do not turn away the face of your anointed one, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray and by whose stripes we are healed.

~ Silent confession ~ Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (responsively)

Leader: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

All: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Thanks be to God!

*Gloria Patri

#734

Anthem *How Precious Is the Book Divine* #143

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Text Acts 17:22-34

Pew Bible [Blue] p. 926, [Red] p. 1178

Old Testament Text 1 Samuel 7:1-12

Pew Bible [Blue] p. 230, [Red] p. 293

Sermon *Raise Your Ebenezer* Pastor Mark Tippin

*Hymn *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* #457

Prayers of the People

Thanksgiving

Intercession

For the Church

For the Ministry

For the Nation

For all People

The Lord's Prayer



Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

*Doxology

#731

*Confession of Faith

Westminster Confession 1.6

The whole purpose of God about everything pertaining to his own glory and to man's salvation, faith, and life is either explicitly stated in the Bible or may be deduced as inevitably and logically following from it. Nothing is at any time to be added to the Bible, either from new revelations of the Spirit or from traditions of men. Nevertheless we do recognize that the inward illumination of the Spirit of God is necessary for a saving understanding of the things which are revealed in the word. We also recognize that some provisions for the worship of God and the government of the church are similar to secular activities and organizations; these are to be directed according to our natural understanding and our Christian discretion and should conform to the general rules of the word, which are always to be observed.

*Hymn *Be Still, My Soul* #689

*Benediction

*Postlude

*Please stand if you are able

Participants in Today's Service

Pastor	Mark Tippin
Organist	Zach Vreeman
Choirmaster	Zach Vreeman
Liturgist	Henry Groenenberg
Head Usher	Janis Hall
Greeter	Mike Fankhauser
Nursery	Kim Brattis, Lexie Tippin

Information

- † Please call the church office (237-9509) ...
 - ✓ If you or a member of your family would like a visit while recuperating in the hospital or at home.
 - ✓ If you would like your name added to the Prayer Band.
 - ✓ If you would like your name in the Bulletin for prayer.
- † The Session would like for each member to have a copy of the EPC Leadership Training Guide. You can pick up a free copy from the literature rack by the office door.
- † Session is asking for a per capita payment of \$48 for 2015 (above and beyond your pledge)

Our Mission Statement

Out of humble gratitude for the free and undeserved gift of grace we have received through Christ, the mission of First Presbyterian Church (EPC) is:

To proclaim, with boldness, God's glory, truth, and love revealed to us in his Word through the Holy Spirit. We seek to worship Him with our entire lives, being continually reformed to Scripture, our only guide in faith and practice.