

**Yellowstone Currents**  
**A Newsletter of Yellowstone Presbytery**  
**July 2018**

**A Prayer for Joy**  
**by Joseph E. McCabe**

O God, restore to me the joy of your salvation. I have sought and found so much in life, but I have missed all if I miss you. I confess to you that I am hesitant about that warm word Joy, but I long for it with all my heart.

You are God, and you will be forever. That's where I want to stand. My days will pass away like the grass and the place thereof will know it no more. That's in the Bible, and it's reality, your reality.

The deepest meaning of my life is that I belong to you, O God. Keep that before me I pray.

Jesus said that whoever sees him sees the Father. He is my Saviour, and he has saved me into your presence forever.

O my God, may my life be a praise to you, for you are my joy and my salvation. Amen.

Presbyterian pastor Dr. Joseph McCabe spent most of his career in church and college work.  
He served as a navy chaplain, pastor, faculty member, and President of Coe College.  
For many years, he was the summer minister at St. Timothy's Chapel.  
This prayer is from his book *Strength From St. Timothy's Chapel*.

## **Israel Pilgrimages**

Dave Thompson and George and Kathy Goodrich recently returned from trips to Israel. George and Kathy traveled with a group from Whitworth University and Dave Thompson led a group from First Presbyterian, Billings.

Here are Dave Thompson's responses to a few questions posed by Currents. George and Kathy's responses will be featured another month.

### **Can you describe a time when you especially felt God's presence during your visit to Israel?**

A group of 44 from First Presbyterian in Billings traveled to Israel from June 11-22. We had a great time taking in many sights, including Galilee, Mt. Carmel, Tel Aviv, Masada, Bethlehem, Nazareth, the Jordan River, and Jerusalem. God's presence was especially felt in the Garden of Gethsemane as we had some time to do our daily Dwelling in the Word in this special place. We were struck with God's grace as we pondered the road that Jesus took for our salvation. The depth of his sorrow and anguish was realized when he asked several times if this cup could be taken from him. Being able to look out from the Garden across the Kedron Valley to the Temple Mount, you can visualize the path that Jesus took for our forgiveness.

### **Is there a particular scripture that came alive to you during your time there?**

Many scripture passages came alive during our trip, but one that stood out among the others was at the Pool of Bethesda in Jerusalem where Jesus asks the crippled man if he wanted to be healed (John 5). As we had our Dwelling in the Word beside that ancient pool we pondered what keeps us from being well. Some in our group shared how pride, attention, and comfort can stand in the way of seeking healing through God's grace. This was a powerful scripture and message that is still relevant today.

### **What surprised you during your trip?**

The greatest surprise came in the Golan Heights, along the northern border with Syria. Within five miles from where we had stopped, we could see and hear bombings taking place due the civil war in Syria. Life in Israel continued on unimpeded by the war. Commerce and tourism continued in the face of violence, which came as a surprise to all in our group.

### **Are there any other highlights you would like to share?**

Two members of our group had never been baptized and we welcomed them into the family of God in the Jordan River. This was a special occasion as we gathered around them in the waters, giving praise to God for this invitation into the larger body of Christ. Overall, we had a wonderful experience and hope to offer another trip in several years.

Thanks to Dave Thompson for these reflections!

## **St. Andrew Celebrated 50 Years!**



Paul and Doris Krebill



Susan Barnes and Mikey and Danny Cannon

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church in Billings celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> birthday on June 9 and 10, 2018! Highlights included a concert featuring current and former musicians, dinner together, and Sunday worship.

Former pastors Paul Krebill, Doug Nettleton, and Brent Long participated in worship. Members from afar came for the celebration and rejoiced in reunions with pastors and friends in a sacred place. We give thanks for St. Andrew Presbyterian Church and its years of worship and service!

## **Westminster Spires Camp Update**

We are finalizing plans the 2018 Summer Camp Season at Westminster Spires. Revamp the Camp was a success with camp facilities painted and cleaned.

Camp registrations are arriving each day. We have funding available for scholarships from Yellowstone Presbytery thanks to the Presbytery offering and donations from a number of individuals. Contact Curt Kochner at [ckochner@mcn.net](mailto:ckochner@mcn.net) or at 406-672-4547 if you have a camper that needs financial assistance to attend camp.

As we build for the future of our program, we are offering scholarships for friends of Elementary campers. If a camper has a friend they would like to bring along to camp, we will cover the registration fee for their guest. We have a very experienced staff returning this summer and we are looking forward to another great camp season!

Please encourage your youth to consider joining us for camp at Westminster Spires. Camp brochures and registration forms are available on the Yellowstone Presbytery website. Contact Curt Kochner if you would like copies of the brochures to distribute to youth in your congregation.

## **Westminster Spires Camp Dates**

July 5 – 7     Camp Staff Training  
July 8 – 12    Elementary Camp  
July 15 – 20   Junior High Camp  
July 22 – 27   Senior High Camp  
Aug. 31 – Sept. 2   Highland Holy Days sponsored by St. Andrew Presbyterian

If you need camp registrations, please see the presbytery website or contact Curt Kochner at [ckochner@mcn.net](mailto:ckochner@mcn.net).

## **Upcoming Events**

July 12    PMT    First Presbyterian, Billings

## **Yellowstone Presbytery Clusters**

Our clusters typically meet each month. If you have not been a part of a cluster and would like to explore the idea of joining in, please contact one of the following coordinators.

Miles City Cluster - Neva Rathbun     ([msrev@midrivers.com](mailto:msrev@midrivers.com))  
Billings Cluster – Dave Thompson     ([pastordave@fpcbillings.org](mailto:pastordave@fpcbillings.org))  
Butte Cluster - Teresa Kendall         ([teresakendall@mac.com](mailto:teresakendall@mac.com))  
White Sulphur Cluster - Debbie Funke ([funkepastor@yahoo.com](mailto:funkepastor@yahoo.com))

## **Presbytery Meetings for 2018:**

Nov. 2 – 3     First Presbyterian, Bozeman

# The Cannon Family Singers



The Cannon Family Singers Music Ministry is available  
for Sunday morning worship  
to provide special music (piano, trumpet, vocal), testimonies, and sermons.

For Scheduling or Questions, call Paul Cannon at (406) 679-2252

*Donations Appreciated to Cover Travel Expenses*

## **Remember our Round of Prayer as we keep our churches, ministries, and leaders in prayer:**

Sunday, July 1:	Presbyterian Church Manhattan, Pastor Deborah Funke
Sunday, July 8:	Rev. Neva Rathbun, Honorably Retired, Terry
Sunday, July 15:	Rev. Rusty Craig, Honorably Retired, Anaconda
Sunday, July 22:	First Church Bozeman, Co-Pastors Dan Krebill and Jody McDevitt
Sunday, July 29:	Rev. Paul Krebill, Honorably Retired, Bozeman

Please send news and announcements to Susan Thomas at [ckochner@mcn.net](mailto:ckochner@mcn.net).