

**Presby Cats Collegiate Ministry at Montana State University
First Presbyterian Church, Bozeman, Montana
Update for the Leadership Cabinet - September 29, 2015**

The Presby Cats collegiate ministry began its 4th year in August. After promoting Presby Cats at the summer freshman orientation events as well as at the Catapalooza semester kick off event, we have enjoyed the participation of 20 new students this fall in at least one event. Of these, 13 have become part of our ongoing weekly events of Sunday morning worship with First Presbyterian Church or in our weekly luncheon, fellowship and Bible study meetings. Thirteen continuing students remain a regular part of our fellowship.

The centerpiece of our ministry is our weekly gatherings where a meal is provided by a church member after the 10:30 worship service on Sunday. After eating, we play a game before our Bible study. This fall's Bible study theme is "God's forgiveness."



In addition to our weekly gatherings on Sunday, we have already had a number of other events, including a movie night, 9/11 commemorative service and dinner, and a fall retreat at Rockhaven. Upcoming events yet this semester include a murder mystery dinner and party, a couple more movie nights, a night at the hot springs, the leading of worship at First Presbyterian Church on November 22, and a Christmas party at the end of the semester.

Our upcoming spring break mission/study trip to the Corrymeela Community in Northern Ireland continues to generate a lot of interest, energy and enthusiasm. On October 4, students will be given the details of this trip. They'll be asked to commit to the trip in early November. Because the actual cost of this trip approximately \$2,500 per participant, and because each person is being asked to contribute \$550 toward that cost, there is a lot of fund raising that is already taking place to make up the difference. One of the most successful projects is our Rent-a-Cat service where students will help someone with just about anything they need in exchange for a donation to the mission/study trip fund. Grant funding requests will also be submitted to the Presbytery of Yellowstone and to First Presbyterian Church.

One interesting spin-off of last year's mission/study trip was the invitation by the First Presbyterian Church in Butte to send a group of students to lead worship and share about last spring's trip. A group of 5 students did just that on September 27. They were well received. The Butte church had provided a large financial donation to the cost of the trip.



The leadership team for Presby Cats is a group of 5 students who work closely with me in planning and carrying out the Presby Cats program. It is a blessing to work with them as they provide leadership within the church.

Many thanks to the Presbytery of Yellowstone for this support of this ministry that is carried out on behalf of the presbytery by First Presbyterian Church in Bozeman.

Dan Krebill, co-pastor