

# The Pinnacle

The Presbyterian Church of Jackson Hole

October, 2015

Where every member is a minister!



## BRRRRRRRRRR .....KILL THE CHILL

Now through the month of October, the PCJH Caring & Sharing Team (Mission Team), is collecting kids to adult sized gently worn and clean coats, hats, gloves and mittens for our Community. We have all seen individuals waiting for the bus or walking to school on cold days without warm coats. Let's check our closets for those items listed that we are no longer using or that our kids have outgrown. The items will be distributed by the Community Resource Center to needy individuals. There will be labeled baskets in the church lobby, where you can donate your items. Thanks so much.

Questions? Contact Irene.lund13@gmail.com or call 734-9733.

From the PCJH Caring & Sharing Team (Mission Team)



The Jackson Hole Youth Alliance is hosting a Christian concert for all ages at River Crossing on Wednesday, October 7th at 7:00pm. The main act is Shawn MacDonald (GREAT singer/songwriter).

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, LOOK FURTHER INSIDE THIS PINNACLE AND YOU WILL FIND A FULL PAGE FLYER ABOUT THIS EVENT !**



GAMES BEGIN  
October 2, 6pm  
JHMS  
October 3, 9am  
PCJH

Come see what this Upwards craze is all about!

Contact Linda Hanlon for more information at 739-9591 x 124 or upward@pcjh.org

### Every Member a Minister

Dear PCJH Family,

As the leaves begin to turn orange and yellow, and the mornings turn crisp and cold, we are reminded of the changing seasons. It is autumn and we have a few weeks left before the snow starts to fly. Many of us begin to move indoors as we hunger for God and community within the church family. I find that the fall season is often a time of recommitment to God as we seek to study God's word and serve the church. I hope that you will consider how you will get involved in the life of PCJH in 2015-2016.

1 Corinthians 12 reminds us that we are all important members of the body of Christ... the church.

*"Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it."  
~1 Corinthians 12:27*

I want to recast the vision of **Every Member a Minister**. I truly believe this continues to be an important vision for us as a church as we seek to grow deeper in Christ. Each and every one of us has gifts to use outside the walls of the church *and* inside the walls of the church. I'd like you to consider how God is calling you to serve *within* the church. There are numerous opportunities and there is much need for people to step up and serve on our various ministry teams.

Please consider joining a PCJH team by contacting the team leaders below. Here are the various teams that are open to **members and regular attendees**.

1. **Worship Team** – This team meets about once a month and provides feedback and suggestions for our Sunday worship services. They are instrumental in planning big worship events during the high seasons of Advent/Christmas, Lent/Holy Week/Easter, and other special occasions. [Please contact Nancy Dunlap at ngdunlap@gmail.com](mailto:ngdunlap@gmail.com) for more information.
2. **Adult Ministries Team** – This team meets about six times a year and provides feedback and suggestions for our adult ministries which includes adult classes, 20s & 30s ministry, retreats, and small groups. [Please contact Kathy Robertson at krbertson@bresnan.net](mailto:krbertson@bresnan.net), [Ken Blount at blountkr@gmail.com](mailto:blountkr@gmail.com), or [Alli Lane at alli.lane603@gmail.com](mailto:alli.lane603@gmail.com) for more information.
3. **Children, Youth and Family Teams** – This area of ministry consists of several different teams that serve our children and youth programs, including Sunday School, Wednesday After School Program, Wednesday Night Youth Group, Parent's Night Out, Middle School Lock-Ins, High School Mission Trip, Upward Basketball, Little Lambs Preschool, JOY Summer Camp, and other programs. [Please contact Karen Fox at karen.fox1@usbank.com](mailto:karen.fox1@usbank.com) or [Ricky Emlyn remlyn@pcjh.org](mailto:remlyn@pcjh.org) for more information.
4. **Finance Team** – This team meets for an hour on the third Tuesday of every month at 4:00pm to review

PCJH's financial statements and to make financial recommendations to Council when needed. [Please contact Alan Lund at alan.lund32@gmail.com](mailto:alan.lund32@gmail.com) for more information.

5. **Stewardship Team** – This team meets for an hour on the second Wednesday of every month at 5:00pm to provide feedback and suggestions on how to create a culture of generosity at PCJH through our time, talents, and treasure. The team is instrumental in raising the funds needed to operate the church. [Please contact Greg and Patricia Wright at gregorywright@mac.com](mailto:gregorywright@mac.com) for more information.
6. **Congregational Life Team** – This team meets about six times a year to provide feedback and suggestions on how best to welcome and assimilate people into the life of the church. This team also plans fun fellowship events throughout the year in order to cultivate relationships among the congregation. [Please contact Cindy Dahlin at cdahlin@pcjh.org](mailto:cdahlin@pcjh.org) for more information.
7. **Buildings and Grounds Team** – This team meets periodically to review and make decisions about PCJH's buildings and grounds as needs and issues come up related to the properties owned by the church. [Please contact Larry Huhn at jackfoodwy@gmail.com](mailto:jackfoodwy@gmail.com) for more information.
8. **Mission Team** – This team meets about six times a year to oversee PCJH's mission efforts locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally. The team makes decisions regarding PCJH monetary gifts given to our mission partners and to coordinate special mission projects like the monthly Good Samaritan Mission dinners, special offerings, disaster relief efforts, and our Agros International partnership. [Please contact Katie-Chloe Stock at katiechloe1@gmail.com](mailto:katiechloe1@gmail.com) for more information.
9. **Personnel Team** – This team meets as needed throughout the year and is responsible for the church's oversight of pastors and staff. They are involved in discussing confidential information as it relates to the human resources of the church. [Please contact Patty McDonald at pattyamcdonald@gmail.com](mailto:pattyamcdonald@gmail.com) for more information.
10. **Hospitality Team** – This team meets as needed throughout the year in order to provide hospitality to grieving families. The team's main focus is to provide support at funerals and memorial services. [Please contact Robyn Jones at jonesrobyn123@gmail.com](mailto:jonesrobyn123@gmail.com) for more information.
11. **Music Teams (Praise Band & Choirs)** – These teams meet regularly to practice music together and prepare for Sunday worship. The Praise Band practices on Wednesdays at 5:00pm while the Choir practices on Wednesday nights at 6:45pm. We also recently started a Children's Choir that practices on Sundays at 11:45am. [Please contact Kenny Hadden at music@pcjh.org](mailto:music@pcjh.org) for more information.

(continued on next page)



12. **Sunday Morning Teams** – Each and every Sunday we need teams of volunteers such as Greeters, Lay Readers, Ushers, Snack Providers, Gift Counters, Sunday School Teachers, and more. Please contact Pam Flores at [pflores@pcjh.org](mailto:pflores@pcjh.org) for more information.
13. **Wednesday Dinner Teams** – Each and every Wednesday we need a team of volunteers to prepare, serve, and clean for our Wednesday Fellowship Dinners. We are always in need of extra hands to set up tables and chairs, put out silverware, prepare food in the kitchen, greet people, serve dinner, and wash dishes. Please contact Pam Flores at [pflores@pcjh.org](mailto:pflores@pcjh.org) for more information.
14. **Special Event Teams** – These teams form for special events such as the Rummage Sale, Fine Furniture Sale, and Peach Sale.

We also have three teams that use a formal nomination process in order for people to serve on the team. The nomination process happens only once a year. Only official members of PCJH may serve on these teams.

1. **Ruling Elders (Church Council)** – This team meets on the third Tuesday of every month at 5:30pm and consists of the Ruling Elders elected by the congregation. They provide the overall spiritual leadership and direction of the church and review the work of the other teams and are responsible for making big decisions on behalf of the congregation. Please contact Pastor Ben at [bpascal@pcjh.org](mailto:bpascal@pcjh.org) for more information.
2. **Deacons** – This team meets about six times a year and consists of Deacons elected by the congregation. They provide care for the membership of the church. Each Deacon has a flock of members who they keep in touch with and provide care when needed. Please contact Karen Brennan at [Karensandvik@hotmail.com](mailto:Karensandvik@hotmail.com), or Donna Barrett at [donna@garyshockeylaw.com](mailto:donna@garyshockeylaw.com) for more information.
3. **Nominating Team** – This team consists of members elected by the congregation and they are in charge of the nominating process for Ruling Elders and Deacons and for any other special teams that need to be formed in the life of the church, such as a pastor search committee. Please contact George Scarlett at [scarlettgeorge@hotmail.com](mailto:scarlettgeorge@hotmail.com) for more information.

If you have any further questions about these various ministry teams and how you might use your time and talent to serve, please contact the team chairs above. Remember... every member a minister!

Serving alongside you,

Pastor Ben

## October Anniversaries 2015



© Can Stock Photo

October 1, 1966  
Bill & Sharon Schoen 49 years

October 3, 1992  
Ralph & Jeanne Hudelson 23 years

October 3, 1964  
Frank & Judy Scarborough 51 years

October 4, 2013  
Steve & Sharon Fralin 12 years

October 7, 1995  
Mitch & Angela Lewis 20 years

**October 7, 1950**  
**Bill & LaFon Ward 65 years**

October 8, 1994  
Brad & Barb Andrews 21 years

October 13, 2012  
Shawn & Katie Robertson 3 years

October 15, 1994  
Brett & Gaylyn Frantz 21 years

October 17, 1981  
Bill & Celia Dillon 34 years



PEACEMAKING OFFERING

October 11, 2015

There are four Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (USA); the *Peacemaking Offering* is one of those four. It supports the peacemaking efforts of the Church at every level, and provides an opportunity to witness to God's Peacegiving in the world. We are called to be agents of reconciliation for individuals, for families and for communities, as well as in the international arena. We are called to do what we individually and collectively can do to build a culture of peace in the world.

Each congregation is encouraged to keep 25% of this offering for its own peacemaking efforts ... 25% will be used to support Presbytery and Synod peacemaking, and 50% will be forwarded to the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program of the General Assembly (the national level of PC(USA)). You may visit [www.pcusa.org](http://www.pcusa.org) to learn more.

We, who enjoy so much peace in our lives compared to most of the rest of the world, have an opportunity with this offering to share some of our good fortune with so many others in need. We hope you will wish to participate! You may use *Peacemaking* envelopes from the display or your Bulletin on Sunday, October.

Thank you so much.

The Mission Team

**FINE FURNITURE SALE:** The volunteers were amazing and it was a fun event. The community appreciated the sale and felt the support of our church. Pamela Stockton was so generous and made the sale a success with her donations. This event brought in \$11,627.00 I would like to continue with the sale next year. Thanks! Tiffany Tate







4-k Sunday school students with The Story for Children and their "Five ways God has helped me craft". We will be going through the bible chronologically with all classes for the next 29 weeks!

## NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL SERIES!

The News on the street is that PCJH is starting a new series on Sundays called The Story. If you haven't heard, The Story will follow the Bible Chronologically over the course of 31 weeks. On Sunday the 20<sup>th</sup> PCJH's Sunday School program completed week two of the series. We are so excited to get to share the story of God from the beginning of creation to Jesus calling us to Go and make disciples with the children of PCJH. Every week Sunday school teachers get to participate in reading The Story (books are provided) to their class on top of puppet shows, games, and crafting fun. This week students learned about trusting and obeying God and how they can trust him in everyday life. If you are interested in helping on Sunday mornings feel free to contact our new intern Aubrey at her email, [ahoffman@pcjh.org](mailto:ahoffman@pcjh.org). We need more Sunday school teachers to volunteer! Help grow our children in Jesus' love and in faith so that they will be inspired to Gather and Go as they learn about what it means to be rooted and established in love!

Submitted By: Aubrey Hoffman

## MIDDLE SCHOOL LOCK-IN

Fall season has finally arrived and that means that our middle school programs are up and running. On Saturday the 19<sup>th</sup> a group of middle schoolers and the Children Youth and Family team had a lock in at the church! To start the evening everyone piled into one of PCJH's busses and headed to Victor to watch the Minion's movie at the drive in. It was an action packed event and the sight of a school bus parked at a drive-in was truly one to be seen. The rest of the evening was full of fun. The group stayed up until almost 5:00 am playing hide and seek in the dark, participating in a boy's verses girls pizza challenge, playing 500 and volleyball, and closing with another movie. One of PCJH's new interns Aubrey led a talk on Matthew 14 where Jesus calls Peter to walk on water, asking students to consider what areas of their life is Jesus calling them to "step out of the boat into a storm?" The CYF team is so excited to kick the school year off with a bang and start inviting more Middle schoolers to join in on the fun! If you are interested, Middle school and high school youth group is happening again on Wednesday nights at 6:45 pm, come hang out with the team!

Submitted By: Aubrey Hoffman

## High School Ministry

This year is going to be a very transformative year for our youth groups! We moved High School Youth Group to Wednesday nights at 6:45pm – 8:00pm. We are really excited about the upcoming High School Mission Trip; we will be having an information meeting about it in late October/ early November. Those trips are for any graduating 8<sup>th</sup> graders through 12<sup>th</sup> graders. There is also a trip in the summer called Triennium, which youth from Presbyterian churches across the country come to grow in their relationship with Jesus, and worship together with over 3000 youth. There will be more information in the months to come.

## Wednesday After-School

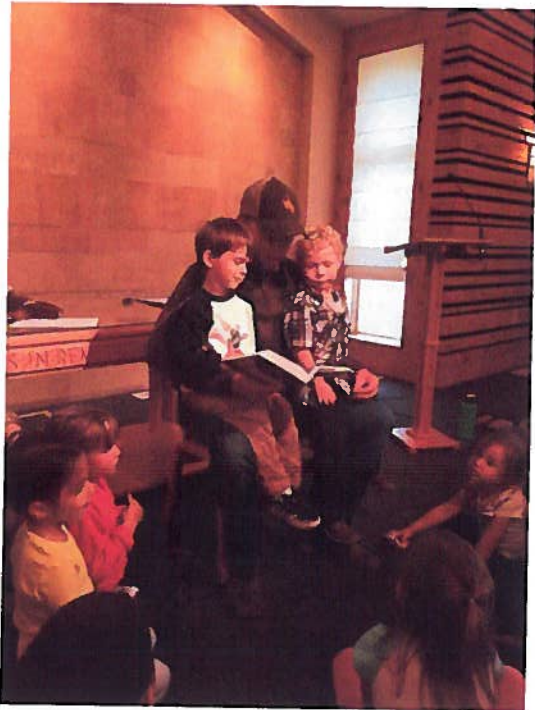
We have had a great start to our Wednesday After-School ministry Program. We have 42 children signed up, which is doubling last year! It is a part of our Children's ministry, for any children in the Jackson valley in grades Kindergarten through fifth grade. We are excited to be going through The Story like the rest of our church! We have added a music component, where we will begin teaching how to read music with the hope of beginning piano lessons. For more information about this ministry or to sign up, please visit our PCJH website! We are currently in the need of volunteers for this awesome ministry. Contact Jordan Shive at [jshive@pcjh.org](mailto:jshive@pcjh.org)



## LITTLE LAMBS

We had a great first month of school! We are looking forward to Fall and learning all about our families in the month of October. Also, we are anticipating our 2nd Annual Donuts with Dads, October 14th & 15th. Chapel Time with Mr. Ricky has been a blast and next month we will talk about how Jesus is our Superhero and to “be strong and courageous!”

There are still a few spots in the Toddler class.  
Please contact Miss Effie if interested at  
[eedwards@pcjh.org](mailto:eedwards@pcjh.org)



Please take note....  
**NO SCHOOL**  
October 9th & 30th





## Stewardship

Stewardship is a word that tends to pop up about this time of year. To some of us it can be negative, meaning only capital campaigns, expectations, guilt, and/or pressure toward opening our wallets. How can a word that has represented God's trust in us cause so much squirming in the pews?

Tell you what, in order to better understand Stewardship, how about taking a trip back to medieval times. Castles and lands were typically owned by Lords (and Kings in a larger region). Wealth of the Lord was largely based on the amount of land owned and the bounty of harvests. But, as you can imagine, sometimes Lords had to be away doing whatever Lords did: military service, managing another property, sailing off for adventure. So they left the responsibility of their wealth with a Steward, an administrative official who oversaw the affairs of the Lord while they were away. They didn't own any of it, yet were in charge of seeing that everything was taken care of and managed well.

In modern terms, it would probably be best to describe the position of Steward as an Asset Manager. Picture someone owning "assets", money is perhaps the easiest to picture, passing control of them to an Asset Manager trusting that they will manage it well. What would you look for in a good Asset Manager?

Jesus tells His followers the "Parable of the Talents" in Matthew 25:14-30. The story unfolds with a man leaving some money in the hands of his servants or, by the definition we are examining, Asset Managers. One he gave 5 talents, another he gave 2, and still another a single talent. Now these were significant sums. Some commentaries say a talent was worth 20 years of a laborer's pay! When the man returned he commended the first two for putting the money to good use saying, "Well done." The third Asset Manager failed to make a return on any investment because of fear and his talent was given to the first.

It is an important shift to recognize that God owns *everything* and we are merely His Asset Managers. Our time is God's. Our gifts or talents are God's. Our "hard-earned" money or treasures are His. It is through what we do with these "assets" that shows God's character in our lives and extends God's hand to the world around us. For me, this adds purpose to things like balancing my checkbook or how I spend my free time. Let the fact that we are Stewards of the riches of the Creator of the Universe embolden and empower you to live for God as never before.

Submitted By: Colter Lane, a Member of the Stewardship Committee

## Finance Update

As you may recall, PCJH has a budget of approximately \$1,000,000, with expenses expected to be greater than revenues by \$27,175.

As of the end of August, PCJH is eight months into the 2015 Budget. Expenses continue to be below expected levels for this time of year by \$50,365. As you may have observed, sealing and restriping the parking lot took place in August which brought us closer to our budgeted expenses.

Tithes and offerings may be made on-line at [PCJH.org](http://PCJH.org) by clicking the yellow "Donate" button at the bottom right of your screen.





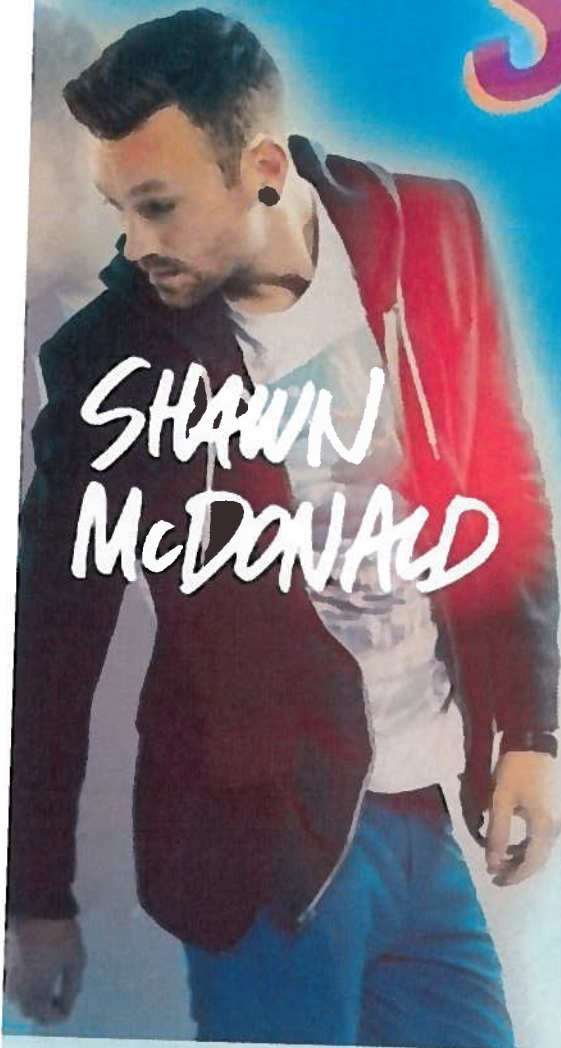
ONE CHILD MATTERS

hope. trust. life. love. mercy.

PRESENTS

# SHINE LIGHT TOUR

SHAWN  
McDONALD



*Jonathan Thulin*



*Jeremy Vanderloop*

Date: Wednesday, October 7th, 2015

Time: 7:00pm

Location: The Chapel at River Crossing  
(3205 Big Trails Dr. Jackson, WY 83001)

**Tickets \$10 presale  
available at:**

[www.shinealighttour.com](http://www.shinealighttour.com)



The Pinnacle  
The Presbyterian Church of Jackson Hole  
Box 7530  
1251 South Park Loop Road  
Jackson, WY 83002  
Published Monthly  
Issue #10-2015

Would you like to be a part  
of the Agros Mission Trip  
in November, but can't go?

If so, here's a way:

The team would like to purchase Spanish to English dictionaries for the children AND purchase some medical supplies they find are needed when they get there. The team also provides arts and crafts and other activities with the children and families that can be purchased before they leave.

If this sounds like a way that you would like to be a part of the team. Please write a check to PCJH and make a special notation that it is for the November Agros Trip or you can drop off cash to the front office, again making sure that it is noted that it is for the November Agros Team.

Thank you for your consideration.  
Any size donation is a blessing  
for the team and the Agros Community.

#### **Email Address Privacy**

PCJH is committed to protecting everyone's email address privacy. Please do not use PCJH as a way to acquire email addresses for soliciting purposes. If you should receive emails about church business where email addresses have been inadvertently listed rather than BCC'd, we kindly request that you do not use those addresses for purposes other than church business communications.

Should you receive an unwanted solicitation email from a PCJH member or affiliate, please notify the church office at [office@pcjh.org](mailto:office@pcjh.org).

## **Meet the PCJH Staff & Ruling Elders**

### **Pastoral Staff**

Rev. Ben Pascal – Senior Pastor  
Rev. Steve Weber – Temporary Associate Pastor

### **Worship Staff**

Kenny Hadden – Worship Coordinator  
Keith Phillips – Pianist

### **Administrative Staff**

Cindy Dahlin – Operations Manager  
Lindsey Parr – Communications Coordinator  
Pam Flores – Congregational Life Coordinator  
Barb Huhn – Pinnacle Newsletter Publisher  
Kim Bogen – Bookkeeper  
Sanchez Family – Custodial Crew  
Bill Fox – Maintenance Specialist

### **Kitchen Staff**

Steve Murphy – Wednesday Fellowship Dinner Chef

### **Children, Youth and Family Ministry**

Ricky Emlin – Director of Children, Youth and Family  
Jordan Shive – Intern  
Aubrey Hoffman – Intern  
Grant Wright – Intern  
Darla Jackson – Nursery  
Renee Knutson – Wednesday After School Teacher

### **Little Lambs Preschool**

Effie Edwards – Director & Teacher  
Diane McGee – Assistant Director & Teacher  
Amy Dahmen – Teacher  
Martha Davila – Teacher  
Mrs. Cho – Teacher  
Barb Huhn – Teacher  
Pat Wright – Teacher

### **J.O.Y. Summer Camp**

Diane McGee – J.O.Y. Summer Camp Director

### **Upward Basketball**

Linda Hanlon – Upward Basketball Director

### **PCJH Church Council (Ruling Elders)**

Ken Blount – Adult Ministries  
Kathy Robertson - Adult Ministries  
Alli Lane - Small Groups  
Nancy Dunlap - Worship  
Karen Fox - Children, Youth & Family  
Larry Huhn - Buildings & Grounds  
Larry Jorgenson - Clerk  
Alan Lund - Finance  
Patty McDonald - Personnel  
George Scarlett - Nominating  
Katie-Chloe Stock - Mission

# OCTOBER, 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>4</b></p> <p>The Story Chapter 4 Special Peace Offering 8am—Worship Service 9:00am Adult Classes 10:15am Intergenerational Worship Service Children's Choir to sing (no practice this week)</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>8:45am—Women's Covenant Group 4:30-9:00pm Upward Practice</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>6:45am—Mens' Breakfast at the Virginian 12 Noon Women's Bible Study 1:15pm Staff Meeting</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>After School Program Begins 5:15 Praise Band Rehearsal 6:00pm-Fellowship Dinner 6:45-7:45—Programs for all ages 6:45 Adult Choir</p>	<p><b>1</b></p> <p>12 Noon Men's Group @ Jackson Whole Grocer Community Room 7:00pm Young Adult Fellowship</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>Office Closes at 1pm 5:00pm Women's Retreat @ PCJH 6:00pm Upward Games Begin at the JHMS</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>8:00am Men's Discussion Group PCJH Youth Lounge 8:30am-5pm Women's Retreat @ PCJH 9:00am Upward Games Begin at PCJH</p>
<p><b>11</b></p> <p>The Story Chapter 5 8am Worship Serv. 9:00am Adult Classes 10:15am Worship Service w/ Children's Sunday School 11:30-2—CHURCH INFORMATION CLASS 11:45-12:30 Childrens' Choir Practice</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>8:45am—Women's Covenant Group 4:30-9:00pm Upward Practice</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>6:45am—Mens' Breakfast at the Virginian 12 Noon Women's Bible Study 1:15pm Staff Meeting</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>After School Program 5:15 Praise Band Rehearsal 6:00pm-Fellowship Dinner 6:45-7:45—Programs for all ages 6:45 Adult Choir</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>12 Noon Men's Group @ Jackson Whole Grocer Community Room 7:00pm Young Adult Fellowship</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>Office Closes at 1pm 6:00pm Upward Games Begin at the JHMS</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>8:00am Men's Discussion Group PCJH Youth Lounge 9:00am Upward Games Begin at PCJH</p>
<p><b>18</b></p> <p>The Story Chapter 6 8am Worship Service 9:00am Adult Classes 9:00-Confirmation Class 10:15am Worship Service w/ Children's Sunday School 11:30—Stephens' Ministry 11:45-12:30 Childrens' choir PCJH Outside Bike Ride</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>8:45am—Women's Covenant Group 4:30-9:00pm Upward Practice</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>6:45am—Mens' Breakfast at the Virginian 12 Noon Women's Bible Study 1:15pm Staff Meeting</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>After School Program 5:15 Praise Band Rehearsal 6:00pm-Fellowship Dinner 6:45-7:45 —Programs for all ages 6:45 Adult Choir</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>12 Noon Men's Group @ Jackson Whole Grocer Community Room 7:00pm Young Adult Fellowship</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>Office Closes at 1pm 6:00pm Upward Games Begin at the JHMS</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>8:00am Men's Discussion Group PCJH Youth Lounge 9:00am Upward Games Begin at PCJH</p>
<p><b>25</b></p> <p>The Story Chapter 7 8am Worship Service 9:00am Adult Classes 9:00-Confirmation Class 10:15am Worship Service w/ Children's Sunday School 11:30-1:30 Safe Church Training 11:45-12:30 Childrens' Choir</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>8:45am—Women's Covenant Group 4:30-9:00pm Upward Practice</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>6:45am—Mens' Breakfast at Virginian 12 Noon Women's Bible Study 1:15 Staff Meeting</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>After School Program 5:15 Praise Band Rehearsal 6:00pm-Fellowship Dinner 6:45-7:45—Programs for all ages 6:45 Adult Choir</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>12 Noon Men's Group @ Jackson Whole Grocer Community Room 7:00pm Young Adult Fellowship</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>Office Closes at 1pm No Little Lambs 6:00pm Upward Games Begin at the JHMS</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>8:00am Men's Discussion Group PCJH Youth Lounge 9:00am Upward Games Begin at PCJH</p>



## A WORD FROM ASSOCIATE PASTOR STEVE WEBER

### Tree Skiing and Decision Making

A few years ago *Outside* magazine ran a piece by Tim Etchells entitled, "The Trees: Lovely, Dark and Deep." Of course, if you are familiar with *Outside*, you know the article was about skiing off the groomed runs in the trees. And if you are a skier then you know this is most often where the powder remains untouched in the days following a storm. Etchells wrote, "Tree skiing may sound like a death wish, but some skiers love the risk of skiing virgin powder through a stand of aspen or spruce." The key, he said, is not hitting the trees. He went on to observe that it is all about what you focus your eyes on that becomes critical when descending through the woods.

"Look at the spaces between the trees," he coached, "the exits where you hope to be traveling." Or, he went on, "in the words of extreme skiing world champion Kim Reichelm, 'Don't stare at what you don't want to hit.'"

It's October. Those who know me well know that October's arrival means my mind switches gears and begins to play old ski movies and think cold, deep thoughts. Days gliding through snowy trees are not too far off. I've never thought of skiing in the trees as looking at the spaces between the trees and not staring at what I don't want to hit, but I like the idea. I wonder if it is true for more than tree skiing. Could it also help as we glide through a life with all sorts of possible distractions and obstacles? Is it valid to say, our lives are frequently steered by what we are focused on?

This past Sunday I tried to explain my recent decision to not accept the invitation of the congregation to be installed as the full-time associate pastor. This was a difficult decision to make. I hope you all know how much I have been enjoying my time with you all. This decision was simply about finding the space between the trees, if that metaphor fits. When the idea of moving from a temporary pastor to a more permanent installed pastor was first discussed my thought was, "Why not? This has been such a good experience working with Ben, the staff and the whole congregation, there is no reason not to go forward." But then, in recent days, I couldn't shake the notion that I was going to lose my focus on the space between things in life. Thank you for your understanding. So many people have assured me they know exactly what this decision is about.

So, come November the ski hills will open and I will transition my time here at PCJH to part-time. It may not look much different as I will still be involved on Sundays and Wednesdays. Cindy and I are grateful for the opportunity to continue on as part of the PCJH family and I'm thrilled to continue to serve with Ben and the rest of the staff. The personnel committee, headed by Patty McDonald, deserve a huge thank you for the gymnastics I have put them through in recent days. They have all been so supportive and accommodating, reminding me once again how good a church this is.

Spiritual discernment has never been a clear, dot-to-dot process for me. God seems to nudge me along a little at a time and it usually means thinking and praying intentionally about the focus of my life. And many times the peace God gives comes when I begin to see the spaces between the trees. May God nudge us all to glide into some beautiful spaces.

### PCJH OUTSIDE

Bring your bike to church on Sunday, October 18, and ride the new bike path from PCJH to Teton Village and back to the church. We will depart at 11:45 a.m. and find some lunch in the village before heading back. The new pathway will keep us off the roads for the entire trip. This is a good ride for all ages.



*The Presbyterian Church  
Of Jackson Hole  
P. O. Box 7530  
1251 South Park Loop Road  
Jackson, WY 83002  
October, 2015*

Address Service Requested

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Jackson, WY  
83002



*The Mission of The Presbyterian Church of Jackson Hole is*

*PASSING ON THE FAITH*

*as we GATHER to love God;*

*GROW to know and follow Jesus; and*

*GO and make a difference.*

*All are welcome and all are needed as we advance this significant mission for the  
21st Century.*

*[www.pejh.org](http://www.pejh.org)*