

Mountain Proclamations

a publication of the First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, of Mountain Home

www.mhfirstcongregational.org July/August 2019 churchinfo@mhfccucc.org

Volume 52 - Issue 7

Summer Craft Days

Mark your calendar for **July 12th and 26th** and **August 9th and 23rd** Craft Day. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall at **1 p.m.** to work on crafts with friends, old and new, in the comfort of the adult Sunday school room – with air conditioning! **We are going to be working on Quiet Books** again this year, so if you would like to come help with that, you are most welcome to come join in. Many hands make light work. Or just bring your favorite take-along craft and enjoy the fellowship. **This is not a closed group, so bring a friend! The more that merrier!**

Summer Music

If you or someone you know would like to share a musical talent with us on any Sunday during the summer, please contact the church office to let us know which Sunday you would like to do this.

Combined Worship in the Park

On **Sunday, July 14th at 10 a.m.** we will join with our local sister churches, Grace Lutheran, Christian and Baptist, and St. James Episcopal Church for a combined worship service at **Legacy Park** at the lower gazebo. This wonderful event will be **followed by a potluck luncheon** and a chance to meet the Vacation Bible Day Camp counselors from Luther Heights. Please join us for this special event. The churches will **not** be bringing chairs, so please bring lawn/camp chairs for you and your family/friends. If possible, bring a covered dish to share.

Vacation Bible Day Camp

Vacation Bible School (Day Camp) will be a whole new experience this year. It will be conducted by Luther Heights Bible Camp with trained college students coming in to conduct it. It will be here at First Congregational in cooperation with Grace Lutheran and Christian and Baptist churches. The dates for VBS are **July 15 through 18, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (bring a sack lunch!)** and the **Friday, July 19** session is from 9 a.m. until noon, followed by a program and a hot dog lunch.

The Day Camp is for elementary age kids. There is a pre-school program for 4 and 5-year-olds that runs from 9 a.m. until noon. We are limited to 40 kids, so get those registrations in soon. Feel free to bring friends and neighbors. This is a community event.

What you can do to help VBS

There are a number of things that you may consider doing to help with this year's Vacation Bible Day Camp.

1. Even though we have a team coming in to conduct this, we still need some local help. Each of the 3 – 5 facilitators needs at very least one assistant, high school age through adult.
2. We are handled the snacks locally. Each church is taking a couple of days. First Congregational has Tuesday and Thursday. Christian Education Committee is coordinating our snack day. They will let us know what they need.
3. Many of you donate money each year for VBS. This is still *most* welcome. Having an outside organization help us conduct Vacation Bible Day Camp comes with a price tag. Any and all monetary donations are welcome.
4. If you have some extra sleep space in your home, the 3 – 5 college students need a place to sleep, rest and plan. If you can put up a couple of these young people, see the church office.
5. **ADVERTISE!!!** There are flyers on the bulletin table. Take a couple and see if your favorite shop or store will let you put it up for the town to see. Tell your neighbors. Bring your kids/grandkids and their friends.

Women's Fellowship Summer Project

This summer the Women's Fellowship group will lead the church in a three-month project. We will be collecting items for the Boise, Idaho Ronald McDonald House on Warm Springs Avenue. Our project is called, "FEED MY PEOPLE, CLOTHE MY PEOPLE, LOVE MY PEOPLE".

The month of **June**, was "FEED MY PEOPLE".

In the month of **July**, we will collect **NEW** clothing (sizes 2 years to adult) for the

“CLOTHE MY PEOPLE” portion of our project. Ronald McDonald House has a closet of clothes for the participants to *have*. For example, some are whisked away via LifeFlight and only have the clothes on their backs.

In **August** we will finish up with “LOVE MY PEOPLE”. For this part we will accept gift cards to gas stations, grocery stores (Alberton’s and Wal-Mart) and just cash cards from \$5 on up.

We will have the opportunity (hopefully) to tour the facility as a group this summer. It is a very nice place and so very worthwhile.

It’s nomination time

Have you considered being on one of the boards or committees that help keep our church running smoothly? Now’s your chance! If you are interested in serving on one of the boards or committees, please contact the church office at 587-4969 and we will give your name and number to the Nominating Committee and someone will contact you.

Women’s Camp2019 *Blessing and Letting Go*

In a world full of daily change, sometimes being able to see the blessings through the transitions isn’t always easy. Come join us here at Pilgrim Cove Camp as we take a look at how change CAN be a good thing. Linda Jaramillo, Conference Moderator, will be joining us this year as we have a round table discussion Wednesday evening.

WHO: ALL women ages 18 – Methuselah (I guess 120?)

WHEN: Tuesday, August 6, 2019 – Thursday, August 8, 2019

Check in is from 3 – 5 on Tuesday with the first activity starting at 5
(If you are traveling from out of state, let us know if you would like to come in a day earlier. Meals are not provided on Monday but we will have lodging available.)

WHERE: Pilgrim Cove Camp in McCall, Idaho on beautiful Payette Lake

WHAT TO BRING: You will need to bring your own bedding, towels, clothing and toiletries. Bug spray and sunscreen are highly encouraged.

HOW DO I REGISTER? Registration forms are found at our website, www.pilgrimcovecamp.org or contact us at the camp, manager@pilgrimcovecamp.org and we can get that to you. The cost is \$65 which covers materials, 2 nights lodging, and 5 meals. We do

have scholarships available so please do not let cost stop you from joining us. See you soon!

Thank You!

Mollie Marsh

A huge Thank You to Mollie Marsh for all the work she does to coordinate with her team all the social events of the church. Her leadership is invaluable to this important ministry.

Beth DeVore

Thank you, Beth, for using your extraordinary gift of on-line savvy to get the word out about this year’s Vacation Bible School. Your willingness to donate your time and talent is a true blessing to us and the community.

Strengthen the Church

Through the generous donations of the church family \$274 was collected for the Strengthen the Church offering taken on Sunday, June 9th. Of this amount, \$137 will stay in the Central Pacific Conference to help UCC churches here expand their programs and even start new churches. Your generosity helps spread the healing words of Christ.

Eddie and Sherry Bush

Thank you to Eddie and Sherry Bush for coordinating the delivery of our donations in the Big Blue Bucket to Grace Lutheran for Food Bank distribution.

Going away for the Summer?

Will your summer adventures be taking you away from town for a while? You don’t have to be out of the loop on what’s happening in the church. Every Monday, the church website, www.mhfirstcongregational.org, is updated with upcoming events. Just pull up the website on your mobile device or laptop and stay in touch even while you are away.

Also, please remember that expenses do continue throughout the summer. If you are going to be away for the summer and you don’t want your pledge offering to fall behind, you can mail it directly to the office at:

First Congregational Church, UCC
ATTN: Frank Marsh
P. O. Box 659
Mountain Home, ID 83647.

Relay for Life

As everyone knows Curtis and I participate in the Relay For Life, and this year is no different. Curtis and I have officially started our fundraising for the 2019 Relay For Life season, and we are hoping that we can count on the

support of our wonderful and loving church family. No donation is too small for this worthy cause. Here is why we participate in the Relay For Life. Curtis was a cancer survivor of 7 years when his cancer came back May of 2017. He underwent 8 grueling weeks of radiation and has been cancer free since then. We also lost our son-in-law Nicholas Tomsic October 19, 2017 to cancer. We Relay for many reasons, but our main reason is so others, such as Curtis, can have many more birthdays. Please help us to help the American Cancer Society rid the world of this dreaded disease called cancer.

If you are interested in making a tax-deductible donation, please see Curtis or I either before or after church every Sunday until the Relay which takes place on August 3rd at Carl Miller Park from 11 AM to 11 PM. We hope to see you there.

*Thank you & God Bless,
Ann & Curtis Carlin*

Public Service Announcement

Free food! Free summer meals are being provided for kids and teens from June 3rd through August 2nd at Carl Miller Park (American Legion and 10th Ave) and Skyview Apartments (945 W. 5th North).

- ✓ Free to kids and teens ages 1 – 18
- ✓ Low cost meals for adults
- ✓ Healthy meals based on USDA nutrition guidelines
- ✓ Fun, safe place for kids and teens to be active and visit with friends
- ✓ Helps families save money
- ✓ No application or proof of income needed

For more information, go to www.fns.usda.gov/summerfoodrocks

Looking Ahead

Rally Day

Rally Day will be the second Sunday of September, **September 8th**. This marks the beginning of our Sunday school program with **Sunday school at 10 a.m. and Worship with Communion at 11 a.m.**

If you've been considering being a Sunday school teacher or assistant, this is when it all starts. Contact the church office to get your name added to the list.

Change of Address

Ms. Beverly Davis
[REDACTED]

July Birthdays

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1 – Vicki Eckenrod | 14 – Pedro Celaya |
| 5 – Dorraine Aggen | 19 – Stephanie LaClair |
| 7 – John Hooley | 21 – Kelli Collett |
| 8 – Terry Lindquist | 23 – Carl Case |
| 10 – Johanna Mori | 26 – CD Houston |
| 12 – Ken Andersen | 28 – Ann Carlin |
| 13 – Roger Banner | 28 – Ruth Schreiner |
| 13 – Judy Case | 31 – Cassie Duty |

July Anniversaries

- 9 – Alan and Carolyn Estes
- 10 – Nancy & Skip Sobien
- 11 – Betty and Pedro Celaya
- 21 – Genera & Henry Toy

Special Angels for July

LITURGISTS (Tony Deal)

- 7 – Rick Parks
- 14 – Combined Worship in the Park
- 21 – Jennifer Dillenbeck
- 28 – Susan Mussler

GREETERS (C.D. Houston)

- 7 – Mollie Marsh
- 14 – Combined Worship in the Park
- 21 –
- 28 –

FELLOWSHIP HOUR (Sign-up sheet)

- 7 – Todd and Chris Paille
- 14 – Combined Worship in the Park (**potluck**)
- 21 – Rita Olson and Nancy Sobien
- 28 – Kelli Collett and Helena DeWeerd

FLOWERS (Sign-up Sheet)

- 7 – Linda Ramsey
- 14 – Combined Worship in the Park
- 21 – Nadine Roberts
- 28 – Nadine Roberts

USHERS (Judy Case)

PARAMENTS (Heidi and Allen Harris)

August Birthdays

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 – Shirley Curt | 27 – Sandy O'Connell |
| 2 – Jocelyn Loosli | 28 – Madilynn Carlton |
| 8 – Gail Corlett -Trueba | 29 – Ramona Yrazabal |
| 12 – Nathan Parker | 30 – Kenneth Hill |
| 15 – Cynthia Van Blaricom | 31 – Lori Albright |
| 25 – Jan Jensen | 31 – Marty Veldman |

August Anniversaries

- 3 – Debi and Tony Deal
- 9 – Jean and Jay Leonard
- 13 – Barbara and Roger Fogleman
- 14 – Terri Jones and Truman Parker
- 17 – Jo and Phil Gridley
- 22 – Sally and Harold Henderson

Special Angels for August

LITURGISTS (Aaren Brumley)

- 4 – Betty Ashcraft
- 11 – Mildred McNeal
- 18 – Heidi Harris
- 25 – Wade Baumgardner

GREETERS (Gail Corlett-Trueba)

- 4 – Wade Baumgardner and Ken Andersen
- 11 – Nadine Roberts and Friends
- 18 – Gail Corlett-Trueba and Grace Townsend
- 25 – The Sanders Family

FELLOWSHIP HOUR (Sign-up Sheet)

- 4 – The Fogleman Family
- 11 –
- 18 –
- 25 –

FLOWERS (Sign-up Sheet)

- 4 –
- 11 –
- 18 –
- 25 – Frankie Guerre

USHERS (Diane Venski)

PARAMENTS (Heidi and Allen Harris)

COMMUNION (Aaren Brumley)

From the Interim Pastor

One Nation under God- A few thoughts as we Celebrate July 4

Psalm 33 says, “Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.”

2 Chronicles 7:14, “If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and heal their land.”

1 Peter 2:9 “You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.”

I believe the Bible’s teachings that we are blessed as a nation believing in God; that God hears our prayers for the people of our land and forgives us and heals our wounds. What makes this country a nation under God? Some say it is the pledge of allegiance. Did you know that those words, “one nation under God” were not in the original pledge and were not officially added until 1954? In saying that pledge we are acknowledging that a higher power is over us.

Some say it is the Constitution that describes us as a nation under God, quoting Thomas Jefferson, “We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.” But the name of the creator, God, is not in the Constitution. Some, over the years, have sought to add God’s name but have failed. If God’s name was added, would that make us a nation under God?

Others say that it was the founders and their faith in God that makes our country under God. The pilgrims certainly professed faith but they also punished people who did not attend church and set a strict code of conduct with consequences for those who violated them that would not be considered Christian today. What about the writers of the constitution? Some were Christians but others were not, most were deists who believed in God but were not Christian. It might be the leaders. Our Presidents have all taken oaths of the office that invoke the name of God. Historians have indicated that some were Christian and others were characters.

There is a point made that the Constitution itself sets forth Christian ideals, that we all are created equal and have rights of life, liberty and pursuit of happiness. Of those we can document from scripture, God liberates and desires freedom for his creation. Freeing the Israelites from Egypt is an example, as is Paul’s emphasis on freedom, “Christ has set us free.”

Most importantly, what make us a nation under God is the not the Constitution of the U.S. but the constitution of its people, not the history of America but Americans. Some Christian ideals and virtues can be legislated but until they are believed and lived by the people they do little good. Our nation is under God when its people are.

Every presidential election I hear how great our country will be if we just elect the right candidate. To which I want to reply, “how great our country will be when we the people become the people of God and then and only then will we fulfill the pledge, ‘one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.’”

Pastor Gary

July 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 Independence Day Office Closed	5	6
7 10 a.m. Worship – NO Communion	8 7 p.m. BSA UCC	9 5 – 8 p.m. Cub Scouts Youth (3rd – 12th)	10 Camp grade)	11 12:30 – 2:30p.m. Family Advocate In	12 1 p.m. Craft Day McCall	13
14 10 a.m. Combined Worship at Legacy Park	15 9 a.m. to 3 P.M. 6:30 Trustees (?)	16 VACATION (preschool	17 BIBLE 9 a.m. until	18 DAY CAMP Noon)	19 9 a.m. – Noon Vacation Bible Day Camp	20
21 10 a.m. Worship	22 7 p.m. BSA	23	24	25 12:30 – 2:30p.m. Family Advocate	26 1 p.m. Craft Day	27
28 10 a.m. Worship	29 7 p.m. BSA	30	31	12:30 – 2:30p.m. Family Advocate		

August 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 12:30 – 2:30 p.m. Family Advocates	2	3
4 10 a.m. Worship with Communion	5 7 p.m. Diaconate Board meeting 7 p.m. BSA	6 UCC	7 Women's	8 12:30 – 2:30 p.m. Family Advocates Camp	9 1 p.m. Craft Day	10
11 10 a.m. Worship	12 6:30 p.m. Trustees meeting 7 p.m. BSA	13	14	15 12:30 – 2:30 p.m. Family Advocates	16	17
18 10 a.m. Worship	19 7 p.m. BSA	20 7 p.m. Cub Scouts	21	22 12:30 – 2:30 p.m. Family Advocates	23 1 p.m. Craft Day	24
25 10 a.m. Worship After worship: Christian Ed meeting	26 7 p.m. BSA 7 p.m. Church Council	27 7 p.m. Cub Scouts	28	29 12:30 – 2:30 p.m. Family Advocates	30	31