

Mountain Proclamations

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

www.mhfirstcongregational.org

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Stewardship Letters

Watch your mail for the Stewardship 2020 letter and pledge cards. These are the lifeblood of the church – time, talent, and treasure. Please give prayerful consideration to the gifts and blessings you have received and how you might return a portion of them to God’s service.

Happy Crafters!

All crafters are invited to come to Craft Day at the church! It will be held on **Fridays, November 1st and 15th at 1 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. We will be working on the Quiet Books and other items to sell at our Christmas Bazaar. Bring your own project (there's lots of room and table space) or help someone else with theirs.

This is not a closed group or exclusive to just the ladies of the church. Feel free to bring a friend to join in the fellowship and fun.

Fall Time Change

Sunday, November 3, 2019
Turn your clock **back** one hour.

Don't Forget to Vote

November 5, 2019 is Election Day

Annual Budget and Election meeting

Budget and Election meeting will be held on **Sunday, November 10th, at 12:15 p.m.**

Officers, Board, and Committee Members Nominated for 2020

ONE YEAR OFFICE

Moderator: Phil Miller*
Assistant Moderator: Maurice Townsend*
Clerk: Betty Ashcraft
Treasurer: Eddie Bush
Financial Secretary: Frank Marsh
Historian: Kitty Singleton
Youth Coordinator: Frank Marsh
Parliamentarian: Maurice Townsend
Pilgrim Cove Rep.: Vacant
Auditor: Appointed by Trustees for bi-annual review

Three Year Term

Diaconate Board: Ann Carlin Tony Deal
Jennifer Dillenbeck Allen Harris*
Heidi Harris C.D. Houston
Linda Thomsen* Terry Lindquist*
Gail Corlett-Trueba Rick Parks*
Diane Venski Lee Wright*
Curtis Carlin will become a mentor to the Acolytes and is not a voting member

Trustees Todd Paille Judy Case*
Billy Roeder Gene Mussler*
Mike Keas Linda Ramsey

Christian Education:
Joyce Allgood* Linda Miller
Kelli Collett Susan Mussler

Social Committee
Mollie Marsh Kelli Collett
Allen Harris Heidi Harris
Patti Getner* Gary Getner*
Kay Eilebrecht Beth DeVore
Nadine Roberts

*Nominated members of each office, board and committee for the year 2020 are designated with an asterisk. We would like to thank everyone who volunteered and/or said “yes” to serve as officers, board members, and committee members and to all of those who agreed to finish their current terms.

Nominating Committee;
Grace Townsend, Chair; Wade Baumgardner;
Judy Case; Nadine Roberts

Remember our Veterans

Veteran’s Day is **Monday, November 11th**. If you can, send a card to say “thank you” to a vet in the V.A. Hospital or Home.

Women of the Church

Women’s Fellowship

The next meeting for Women’s Fellowship is scheduled for **Friday, November 8th** at noon in the Fellowship Hall. There will be a potluck luncheon hosted by Betty Parks. Nominations for next year’s officers will be announced. Plans for the Annual Pie Auction and Christmas Bazaar will be finalized. All women of the church and their friends are welcome to attend.

Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study will meet the second and fourth Wednesdays in November, **November 13th and 27th**. We will continue with our study of the book *Falling Upwards*. Reading schedule and thought questions are available from the office.

Get ready for the Raffle

The Christmas Bazaar Raffle will be held **throughout November** during Fellowship Hour. Tickets are \$1 a piece or 6 for \$5. A list of Raffle items will be forthcoming soon. As always, all proceeds go to support our church, buy nursery supplies, and support Our Churches Wider Mission (OCWM).

Giving Tree

There will be a Giving Tree again this year. Ann Carlin should have the gift tags approximately the first or second Sunday of November.

Important! The Giving Tree is collecting names for *receiving* gifts. If you know someone who is in need, direct them to the Chamber of Commerce to add their name to the list.

It's a Pie Auction!!

Kick back and let Women's Fellowship help take some of the work out of Thanksgiving Dinner for you! Delicious, delectable, homemade pies will be auctioned off the Sunday before Thanksgiving, **November 24th, during Coffee Hour**. Join the fun and take home your little piece of heavenly pie. As always, all proceeds go to support our church, buy the coffee, and support Our Churches Wider Mission (OCWM).

If you would like to bake some pies for the Pie Auction, Women's Fellowship would be delighted to have the help. You may bring your pies with you to church Sunday morning, November 24th. Please note what kind of pie it is. If you have any questions, please contact Nadine Roberts.

Annual Church Thanksgiving Dinner and Pledge

On **Sunday evening, November 24th**, we will hold our annual Thanksgiving dinner and ingathering of pledges. The festivities begin at **6:00 p.m.** with dinner in the Fellowship Hall.

The Church will provide turkey, stuffing, potatoes, gravy, rolls and beverages. You provide your good company, your own table service and a dish to share for the potluck table.

If you know of any of our members who are unable to attend but would like to receive a meal, please let the office know so we can add them to our list for deliveries. There is also a sign-up sheet for shut-ins on the table in the Fellowship Hall. If you would like to help deliver these meals, please contact the office.

Immediately following our Thanksgiving Dinner, approximately **6:30**, we will be having our **Pledge Blessing Service** where we dedicate and bless our pledges for 2020. This may be a short service, but it is an important one.

Community Thanksgiving Service

This year's Community Thanksgiving Service will be held on **Tuesday, November 26th at 7 p.m.** at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints on Haskett Street.

If you can help provide cookies for fellowship time after the service, please contact our church office at 587-4969.

Monetary offerings will go to help the Elmore County Ministerial Association help those in need. Donated canned goods will go to the Grace Lutheran Food Bank.

Hanging of the Greens

On **Saturday, November 30th**, at **9 a.m.** we will begin decorating the church for the coming Christmas season. All are welcome to come and help. This is not just a Diaconate Board function.

Beginning **Sunday, December 1st** you may start bringing in your live (no silk ones, please) poinsettias. Those being shared as memorials or dedications, will be listed in the Christmas Eve bulletin so be sure to give this information to the church office by **Tuesday, December 17th**. Forms will be available on the back table beginning **Sunday, November 24th**. Poinsettias may be dropped off at the church office Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. or brought in on Sunday mornings. **If you want your poinsettia back after Christmas, please be sure to put your name on it.** You may take your plant home any time after our Christmas Eve candlelight service.

Thank you

From the Ronald McDonald House

"First Congregational Church;

Families staying at the Idaho Ronald McDonald House have traveled far for their children's medical care.

Thank you for helping to make their stay a little more comfortable with your generous donation of new clothing.

Our families thank you!

Kim

Jennifer Dillenbeck

Thank you, Jennifer, for sharing your considerable talent on the violin by accompanying the choir on the Sunday, September 29th Choral Anthem. The addition of the violin added so much beauty to the music.

Kelli Collett

Kelli Collett has shared her awesome quilting talents with us yet again. There is a new banner on the back wall of the chancel that is the result of her creative talent. Thank you so much, Kelli, for contributing to the beauty of our Sanctuary.

Ink Pens

Thank you to whoever it was that left a package of ink pens on the office bulletin board around Sunday, October 6th. Pens have a way of growing feet and wandering away. It's good to have an extra package handy for when that last pen packs up and leaves home. Thank you, Kind Person.

Neighbors in Need

The Neighbors in Need offering was collected on Sunday, October 6th. Our generous collection for our neighbors was \$229. Thank you for spreading your generosity far and wide.

From Fred and Sylvia Sisneros

Sylvia and Fred send their many thanks to all those who remember them with cards and prayers each week. Sylvia is very thankful to be able to still take care of Fred and that she has a church family to support them. Sylvia and Fred, we love and miss you very much.

Extra Helpers

Thank you to those who came in before the Rice Brothers concert to ensure that the church was ready for our guests attending the concert. Sherry Bush, Linda Ramsey, Mollie Marsh and Ken Andersen made time to come do a few extras to ensure everyone's comfort. Thank you!!

Community Dinner Helpers

On Thursday, October 10th, the Ministerial Association hosted the monthly Community Dinner held at Our Lady of Good Counsel Hall. Each church that is a member of the Ministerial Association provided helpers. The helpers from

First Congregational Church were Allen Harris, Mary Ann Hamilton, Joyce and Harris Allgood, Eddie Bush, Linda Ramsey, Gail Banner, and of course, Pastor Gary Smith.

Thank you so much for being there for the Church and the community.

Nominating Committee

I would like to extend a big "THANK YOU" to the members of the nominating committee (Wade Baumgardner, Judy Case, and Nadine Roberts) who donated their time and talents on this committee. You are all very much appreciated.

We would also like to give a special thank you to all of those who considered taking and accepted a position as an officer, board member or committee member. We look forward to another wonderful year in the life of this church body.

Grace Townsend
Chairman
Nominating Committee

Editor's Note: Thank you, Grace Townsend, for chairing this very important committee.

Upcoming Notes

Christmas Bazaar Set up

Set up for the 2019 Christmas Bazaar will be **Friday, December 6th**, from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. This is the time to bring in your handcrafted items and baked goods. **This is also when some muscle is needed to help set up tables** and transform the Fellowship Hall into a holiday wonderland of really nifty items for a unique Christmas celebration.

Women's Fellowship Christmas Bazaar

The Women's Fellowship Christmas Bazaar will be held on **Saturday, December 7, 2019**, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 pm. There will be homemade goodies of all kinds and pies and cinnamon rolls with coffee and tea in Horner's Corner. Besides goodies to eat, handmade crafts and needlework and gift items will be available for purchase.

Come join us and bring friends and neighbors. Get your Christmas baked goodies here and unique gift items for those very special people on your Christmas list.

If you have something to contribute to the Bazaar, contact the church office or one of the ladies from the Women's Fellowship.

!Christmas Eve Candlelight Service!

☼☼ There is a change to our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. We will begin our Christmas Eve worship at **7 p.m.** instead of 8 p.m. this year. ☼☼

All Boards and Committees

Year-end Annual Reports are due in the office by **Wednesday, January 8th**, earlier if possible, so they can be prepared for distribution at our Annual Meeting on **Sunday, January 19th**.

Birthdays in November

2 – Nancy Allen	8 – Cara Grindle
2 – Alexis Parks	12 – Allison Duty
2 – Samantha Pearsall	15 – Allen Harris
4 – Joe B McNeal	17 – Luke Estes
4 – Sue Stanek	19 – Mike Keas
4 – Phil Gridley	22 – Fred Sisneros
5 – Layla Brumley	23 – Harris Allgood
5 – Don Thoen	23 – Grace Townsend
6 – Helena DeWeerd	26 – Katie Parks
8 – Gloria Gaub	28 – Philip Miller

Anniversaries in November

6 – Linda and Randy Ramsey

Special Angels for November

LITURGISTS (Maurie Townsend)

3 – Jennifer Dillenbeck
10 – Grace Townsend
17 – Heidi Harris
24 – Maurie Townsend

GREETERS (Gail Corlett-Trueba)

3 – Grace Townsend - Gail Corlett-Trueba
10 – Diane Venski and Family
17 – Curtis and Ann Carlin
24 – Todd and Chris Paille

FELLOWSHIP HOUR (Sign-up Sheet)

3 – Kay Eilebrecht
10 – Heidi and Allen Harris
17 – Gene and Susan Mussler
24 – Pie Auction – *Host needed*

USHERS (Curtis Carlin)

FLOWERS (Lee Wright and Sherry Bush)

PARAMENTS (Allen and Heidi Harris)

COMMUNION (Jennifer Dillenbeck)

NURSERY (Debi Deal)

From our Interim Pastor

From: The Interim Pastor

To: All the Saints of First Congregational Church of the United Church of Christ

Happy Halloween, Hallows' Eve, All Saints Day Nov. 1, Nov. 2 All Souls Day, the commemoration of all who have passed before us. This day was originally celebrated so that the deceased were not forgotten and their values and faith were remembered which have been passed from one generation to the next.

Saints, sometimes we have the wrong impression of them. Who wants to be a saint, otherworldly, perfect, goody two shoes, holier than thou, those who go to heaven that you don't want to spend an eternity with. The word saint has the image of Mark Twain's description of heaven. In his Letters from the Earth he writes, "In man's heaven everybody sings. The man who did not sing on earth sings there, the man who could not sing on earth is able to do it there. This singing is not casual, not occasional, not relieved by intervals of quiet but goes on all day long and every day during a stretch of twelve hours. The singing is of hymns alone. It is of one hymn alone. Meantime every person is playing on a harp those millions and millions where as not more than twenty in a thousand of them could play in instrument in the earth or ever wanted to. Consider the deafening hurricane of sound, millions of voices of harps gritting their teeth at the same time. By now you will have noticed the human being heaven has been thought and constructed upon an absolutely definite plan and what this plan is, that it shall contain in labored detail each and every imaginable thing that is repulsive to man and not a single thing he likes."

The Biblical word for saint does not refer only to perfect individuals but includes those who attend worship services, "The heavens praise your wonders, O Lord, your faithfulness too in the assembly of the saints." Psalm 149:5 says, "Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in the assembly of the saints." The word holy is used interchangeably for saints, 1 Peter 1:15, "Just as God called you to be holy, be holy in all that you do." The word means to be set apart, different from your environment, set apart for God's purpose and to do God's will, to bring the kingdom of God on earth as it is in heaven. We are all saints because we have been made holy by Christ Jesus, not by our own efforts, but through his sacrifice. Saints are not superior Christians but just redeemed sinners.

Pastor Gary

November 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 1 p.m. Craft Day	2 Turn Clocks back one hour when you go to bed!
DST ends ³ 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship w/ Communion	4 7 p.m. Diaconate Board meeting 7 p.m. BSA	5 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Voting	6 7 p.m. Venture Crew	7 6 p.m. Bell 7 p.m. Choir	8 12 p.m. Women's Fellowship Potluck and meeting	9
10 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship Budget and Election meeting	11 Veterans Day Office Closed 6:30 Trustees' meeting	12 7 p.m. Cub Scouts	13 11 a.m. Women's Bible Study 7 p.m. Venture Crew	14 6 p.m. Bell 7 p.m. Choir	15 1 p.m. Craft Day	16
17 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	18 7 p.m. BSA	19 7 p.m. Cub Scouts Pack meeting	20 7 p.m. Venture Crew	21 6 p.m. Bell 7 p.m. Choir	22 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Children's House annual chili feed	23
24 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship A.W. Pie Auction 6 p.m. Thanksgiving Dinner 6:30 Pledge Blessing	25 7 p.m. Church Council	26	27 11 a.m. Women's Bible Study(?)	28 Thanksgiving Day Office Closed No Choir Practices	29	30 9 a.m. Hanging of the Greens

December 2019 (subject to change)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>1st Sunday Advent</i> 1 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship with Communion	2 7 p.m. Diaconate Board meeting 7 p.m. BSA	3 7 p.m. Cub Scouts	4	5 6 p.m. Bell 7 p.m. Choir	6 1 – 5 p.m. Set up for the Christmas Bazaar	7 8 a.m. – noon Women's Fellowship Christmas Bazaar!
<i>2nd Sunday Advent</i> 8 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	9 6:30 Trustees meeting 7 p.m. BSA	10 7 p.m. Cub Scouts	11 11 a.m. Women's Bible Study	12 6 p.m. Bell 7 p.m. Choir	13 12 p.m. Women's Fellowship Potluck and meeting	14
<i>3rd Sunday Advent</i> 15 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship Christmas Potluck	16 7 p.m. BSA	17 7 p.m. Cub Scouts – Pack Meeting	18	19 6 p.m. Bell 7 p.m. Choir	20	21
<i>4th Sunday Advent</i> 22 11 a.m. Worship Christian Ed meeting (?)	23 7 p.m. Church Council meeting	24 7 p.m. Candlelight Christmas Eve Service	25 Christmas Office Closed	26 No Choir Practices (?)	27	28
29 11 a.m. Worship	30	31 New Year's Eve				