

Mountain Proclamations

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

www.mhfirstcongregational.org June 2020 churchinfo@mhfccucc.org

Volume 53 - Issue 6

Summer Worship Schedule

Sunday, May 24th, we began our summer worship schedule with **worship at 10:00 a.m.** There will not be communion until September

Worshiping together

As we begin worshipping together again. *Please know that if you do not feel safe coming to worship, we understand and support you if you decide to stay home.* We will continue to email and snail mail the bulletin and sermons to everyone as we have been doing for the past few weeks, so you will have worship material should you decide to continue to shelter-in-place.

In an effort to comply with state guidelines –

- We are asking that each person attending worship please bring and wear a facemask and observe social distancing. We will attempt to have some facemasks available, but there is no guarantee that they will be available. Please be prepared.
- Weather permitting, we will prop the doors open so no one need touch the handles. If the weather is cold or wet, an usher will open the door for you.
- The bulletins will be on a table as you come in for you to pick up. No greeter will shake your hand or hand you a bulletin.
- **NO NURSERY CARE WILL BE PROVIDED**
- Every other pew will be closed off to help facilitate social distancing
- The sign-in books will not be passed around. Only one person will note attendance.
- The bulletins will contain the music so you will not need to pick up the hymnals.
- We will not have any physical contact during the passing of the peace, nor will we move from our pew area.
- The offering plate will be on the table as you come in so you may drop your offering off either on the way in or the way out.
- There *will not* be Fellowship Hour after worship
- Visiting in the aisle or in the building is discouraged. You may chat in the parking lot for as long as you wish.

Some of this may sound a bit extreme, but this is what we need to do to keep each other safe and those we love at home safe.

Search Committee

Thank you to everyone who returned the survey. This gave the Search Committee valuable insight into what the majority of the members would like to have as a pastor.

If you look at the UCC website, you will see that our denomination is known for its liberal mission. While our church is more on the conservative end of that mission, we are still a part of the UCC. In our search for a settled pastor, several of the applicants have been either gay or lesbian. Less than half have been male, white heterosexuals which seem to be what many of you want. We were very surprised and disappointed that several of your responses were that you didn't feel a woman would be a good pastor. In the UCC over 50% of the pastors are women. Quite a few are either gay or lesbian.

One of the main tenants of the UCC is that we are open and affirming, which make a public covenant of welcome into their full life and ministry to persons of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions. Many of you agreed with that and yet were not accepting of a gay, lesbian or woman pastor. While our church is on the more conservative side, we would hope that you would at least accept a female pastor. Our choices are very limited so far, and we have been diligent in weighing every factor of those applications that we have received. Of those that have applied, one, that we were very interested in, chose to stay in the position he had and another decided that we were not the right fit for them. Our prayer is that the majority of our members will trust that we will consider the candidate that we feel is best for us. The final decision will be up to the majority of the church members. Please keep the Search Committee in your prayers.

Exterior Siding Repair Project

Trustees update

By the time you read this our exterior siding project should be complete. The only thing remaining now is the final color layer and the contractors are just waiting for a good day to

apply it. While doing the project we found that the large roof trusses were getting in rough shape and they were scraped, filled, and repainted as well. Since the substructure to the wall did not need as much work as originally planned, there was no additional cost for the truss work. We want to thank everyone who has contributed. It is not too late if you still desire to contribute.

In addition to the church residing project the board of trustees approved a project to replace the carpet in the church entry way (between the sets of double doors). The carpet will be replaced with a hard surface flooring called Citadel tile. This surface will be much easier to clean and maintain. In addition, entryway mats will be used to keep outside dirt from being tracked into the sanctuary.

Thanks to Women's Fellowship who have agreed to cover ½ of the cost of the project.

Treasurer's Note

At our annual congregational meeting we voted to replace the exterior siding on the east side of the building (next to the grass area). Trustees have decided to track "exterior siding" donations separate from regular "building fund" donations. If you care to financially support this important and needed exterior siding repair, simply note on your check or donation envelope "Exterior Siding".

Congratulations, Graduates

Lucas Brumley, Children's House Montessori Kindergarten

Reminder!

The July and August editions of the *Mountain Proclamations* come out as one edition. If you have any information, articles, or Special Angels to be included in the **August** edition as well as the July one, please make sure that it is into the office by **1 p.m. Thursday, June 18th**. Bring it in during office hours (10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Monday through Thursday), call it in (587-4969), or email it to (churchinfo@mhfccucc.org.)

Fellowship and Flowers for July and August

While we do not yet know if there will be Fellowship in July and August, it's always good to be prepared. On that note, if you would like to host a Fellowship Hour in July or August, please check the sign-up sheet in the Sanctuary or call the church office at (208)587-4969 and we'll get you set up with a Sunday.

Fellowship or not, we do like our Flowers! So, if you would like to provide or set out flowers on the altar sometime during the month of July and/or August, again, check the sign-up sheet at the back of the Sanctuary or contact the church office. Thank you to all who help with these two ministries.

Summer Music

With the Chancel Choir taking their summer break, it would be wonderful to have other musicians or singers add to our worship time by sharing their talents with us on any given Sunday during the summer. If you or someone you know would like to share this talent with us, please contact the church office to let us know which Sunday you would like to do this.

It's nomination time

If you are interested in serving on one of the boards or committees in 2021, 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.

WELCOME HOME WAYNE!

On a Tuesday afternoon 28 people, 18 vehicles and 7 dogs welcomed WAYNE BRUMLEY home from his deployment to the Middle East. Betty Ashcraft and the American Flag led a vehicle parade from the church parking lot to the Brumley house. Music played, horns honked, flags waved and Wayne was welcomed back to Mountain Home in style by his fellow church members. Thanks for everyone who participated and thanks, Wayne, for your service to our country. Aaren, Layla, Lucas, Hayden and your church family are so happy to have you back!

Thank you

To the Church Family

Thank you, Church Family, for your immense patience as the church leadership navigates through these very unique times we are all going through. Thank you for your input, ideas, faith, and continued support. We are all learning how to do life in these new times and your walking with us through it all is of great comfort.

From Sylvia and Fred

"Dear Church
May 9, 2020

All is well here, I really want to thank you for everything. I loved the sermon, so well written, by Pastor Gary, my thanks to him. Stay well.

We love you all
Sylvia and Fred Sisneros"

Acolytes for the 2019/2020 Sunday School Season

Thank you to all the children who opened and closed our worship service with the duties of the Acolytes for the 2019/2020 season:

Allison duty, Zoe Duty, Hunter Dillenbeck, Kassidy Carpentier, Addilyn Searls, Korie Searls, Autumn Fogleman, Annabelle Fogleman, Layla Brumley, Lucas Brumley; and Hayden Brumley

Maurie and Grace Townsend

A colossal **Thank You** to Maurie and Grace Townsend who have tirelessly sent out cards to various members of the church in the church family's name to help us all stay connected and know that we are all in each other's hearts. Your efforts have put a smile on the face of many, many church members. Thank you for your love and care.

Nancy Sobien

Parade organizer and morale booster extraordinaire – Nancy Sobien, thank you so much for looking out for the special moments in people's lives and seeing that they get celebrated in high fashion.

Blanket Offering

The donations from the church family on Sunday, May 10th will provide over 44 people in crisis with a blanket to wrap up in or build a shelter with. Thank you so much for your donations of \$444. That is a good increase over last year. Awesome love!!

Curtis Carlin

Thank you to Curtis Carlin for providing the carnations that were given out on Mother's Day, May 10th. Your thoughtfulness is much appreciated by many!

To our musicians

To all those who donated their time and talent to our music program throughout the year, thank you so very much.

Organists: Marlene Osborn and Dorraine Aggen

Pianists: Dorraine Aggen, Doreen Solum, and Andrea Moseley

Bell Choir: Bell Director Mike Keas Alice Keas, Betty Ashcraft, Chris Paille, Doreen Solum, Dorraine Aggen, Frankie Guerre, Gail Banner, Jason Keas, Jennifer Dillenbeck, Kate Johnsrud, Mike Keas, Nancy Sobien, Patty Dalrymple, Ted Burgess, Shasta Hochstrasser, and Truman Parker

Chancel Choir: Chancel Choir Director Jennifer Dillenbeck, Alice Keas, Doreen Solum, Frankie Guerre, Gail Banner, Kate Johnsrud, Mike Keas, Nancy Sobien, Nadine Roberts,

Grace Townsend, Robbie Smith, Gary Smith, Phil Miller, Ted Burgess, Becky Hall, Shasta Hochstrasser

Linda Ramsey and Lee Wright

Thank you, Lee and Linda, for tending to the Rose Garden – cleaning it up after winter, pruning and feeding and all the other things that roses require to return your efforts with a beautiful display of blossoms. Your work is appreciated by all who walk by this garden.

Going away for the Summer?

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
P. O. Box 659
Mountain Home, ID 83647

The Big Blue Bucket

Please do not forget the Big Blue Bucket while out shopping for your own household needs. Items most needed lately are personal hygiene items, second most needed are household cleaning items. These are items that cannot be gotten on the SNAP card. As always, thank you so much for helping those in need attain or maintain a higher degree of dignity.

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 2020 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. If you are interested in making a tax-deductible donation, please see Curtis or me at church, go to my fundraising link at <http://main.acsevents.org/goto/AnnMCarlin>, or mail your tax-deductible check to:

Please make the check payable to: Relay For Life of Elmore County. The event itself has been postponed; the new date has not yet been set.

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

Pilgrim Cove News

Because of the decision to cancel the UCC Youth Camp, Lori and I would like to bring a bit of Youth Camp to the Youth. (everyone is of course invited as well)

Monday's, in June, July and the first three weeks in August, we will be live on Facebook at 8 p.m. for "MONDAYS WITH MAMA BEAR".

You can visit the camp website for more details:
<https://sites.google.com/pilgrimcovecamp.org/home/mama-bear>

Or you can follow us on

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PCCYouthCamp/> We look forward to seeing you all this summer on Monday's evenings!

Stay Safe and Healthy until we meet on Monday!

Lori Roberts & Kari Roberts, Camp Manager

Pilgrim Cove Camp

Ph: 208.634.5555

www.pilgrimcovecamp.org

[@pilgrimcovecamp](https://www.facebook.com/pilgrimcovecamp)

[@PCCYouthCamp](https://www.facebook.com/PCCYouthCamp)

manager@pilgrimcovecamp.org

June Birthdays

3 – Wade Baumgardner 19- Dustin Paille
5 – Elaine McCalley 20 – Victory Gaffin
5 – Dan Mori 22 - Nancy Sobien
9 – Leon Gaub 24 – Anita Christianson
11 – Sherry Bush 27 – Pauline Marten
14 – Mimi Carlton 27 – Katherine Singleton
18 – Beverly Davis 28 – Diana Hooley
19 – Gail Banner 28 – Polly Sanders

June Anniversaries

22 – Polly and Bid Sanders
23 – Nick and Jennifer Dillenbeck
25 – Judy and Carl Case
29 – Heidi and Allen Harris

Special Angels for June

LITURGISTS (Heidi Harris)

7 – Gail Banner
14 – Susan Mussler
21 – Mike Keas
28 – Heidi Harris

GREETERS (Diane Venski)

No Greeters for the month of June

FELLOWSHIP HOUR (Sign-up Sheet)

No Fellowship Hour until further notice

FLOWERS (Sign-up Sheet)

7 – Gail Banner
14 – Volunteer needed
21 – Volunteer needed
28 – Volunteer needed

USHERS (Ann Carlin)

PARAMENTS (Allen and Heidi Harris)

COMMUNION - No communion

From Our Interim Pastor

I'm sure you have heard the adage, "If you build it they will come," made famous by the movie, *Field of Dreams*. It may be true in some circumstances. Each time we accomplished a visible construction project at Red Rock Christian Church, we witnessed growth and new interest and enthusiasm. Seeing how a community of faith cares for their center of worship is a witness to their faith. Since I have been here, I have been moved by the care and treatment not just of the building but of the concern for each other.

If you haven't been by to First Congregational Church, you may have missed a completed project or two. New stucco on the East side of the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. It matches so well some members don't notice it is new. As you enter the building there are windows in the doors so that you can see what is transpiring on the inside of the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. In the near future a new floor covering will be installed at the entrance. There is new carpet on the chancel and a repositioned altar giving additional space for the communion table and for the bell choir. Beautiful banners, altar and pulpit cloths have been made for each liturgical season. Even the lawn and flowerbeds are lovely. Many thanks to all who have made these upgrades possible. It is my hope and prayer that we will all be able to worship together in the near future.

God bless each and every one of you and stay well. As the Apostle Paul said, "I thank God every time I think of you." (Philippians 1:3)

Gary Smith

June 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7 p.m. Diaconate Board meeting	2	3	4	5	6
7 10 a.m. Worship	8 6:30 p.m. Trustees meeting	9	10	11	12	13
14 10 a.m. Worship	15	16	17	18	19	20
Father's Day 21 10 a.m. Worship	22 7 p.m. Church Council	23	24	25	26	27
28 10 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Christian Ed meeting	29	30				

July 2020 (*may change)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 *7 p.m. Venture Crew 57	2 *Troop 19	3	4 Independence Day
5 10 a.m. Worship	6 *7 p.m. Troop 57	7	8 *7 p.m. Venture Crew 57	9 *Troop 19	10	11
12 10 a.m. Worship	13 6:30 p.m. Trustees' mtg.? *7 p.m. Troop 57	14	15 *7 p.m. Venture Crew 57	16 *Troop 19	17	18
19 10 a.m. Worship	20 *7 p.m. Troop 57	21	22 *7 p.m. Venture Crew 57	23 *Troop 19	24	25
26 10 a.m. Worship	27 *7 p.m. Troop 57	28	29 *7 p.m. Venture Crew 57	30 *Troop 19	31	