

Mountain Proclamations

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

www.mhfirstcongregational.org

July/August 2020

churchinfo@mhfccucc.org

Volume 53 - Issue 7

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Meadow Fogleman who graduated from high school in Twin Falls in May!

July Office Hours

July office hours will be **Tuesday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.** This is for July only. August will return to Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

No Fellowship for July and August

We will continue to hold off on Fellowship Hour throughout July and August. We will discuss September at our August Church Council meeting. It's all about the numbers and keeping the church family safe.

If you signed up to do Fellowship Hour in July or August, you do not have to do this now.

Worshiping together

As we continue to worship together, below are the guidelines we will observe through July and August –

- We are asking that each person attending worship (including children over 2 years of age) to 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.
- The bulletins will be on a table as you come in for you to pick up
- **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.

Summer Craft Days

Mark your calendar for **July 10th and 24th** and **August 7th and 21st** for 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 Fellowship Hall – with air conditioning! We will not be working on Quiet Books this year. **This is not a closed group, so bring a friend! The more that merrier!**

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.

Search Committee Proclamation Update

We are grateful we have such a caring congregation and we thank you for your prayers, feedback and support.

We have updated our church's profile. This is a 38-page document of narrative, statistics, budgets and more; it has been received and reviewed by the UCC Central Pacific Conference and is now available to interested candidates. Members of the church may contact the office and request a copy or go to the website's "Staff" page to view it.

We are in the process of evaluating a candidate whose resume we received prior to the posting of our updated profile. All candidate profiles are confidential.

Search Committee members: Gail Banner and Ken Andersen, co-chairs, Mildred McNeal, Phil

Miller, Chris Paille, Rodger Fogelman, and Mollie Marsh.

Women's Fellowship Summer Project

Greetings Women's Fellowship and members of the church!

I know many of us are missing our monthly gatherings, but we are still on hold until further notice. And the same goes with our Annual Rummage Sale. We may or may not be able to hold our sale in September. If you are saving wonderful new and used items for the sale...keep holding on to them. If that is not an option, please feel free to donate them to the Idaho Youth Ranch or wherever you see fit. Hope to see all in the near future...or whenever!

Nancy Sobien

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 (208)587-4969 and we will give your name and number to the Nominating Committee and someone will contact you.

Pilgrim Cove Camp news

Since the UCC kids' camps have been cancelled, Pilgrim Cove Camp has cabins to rent for your summer get-away. Below is a description of each cabin and the price per night. Contact Pilgrim Cove for when each cabin is available.

Governor's Mansion - \$85 – 1 Queen, 1 twin bunk bed, 1 camp bunk bed, restroom, microwave and mini fridge.

Charlottie Cabin \$75 – 1 queen, 1 twin bunk bed, love seat, restroom, microwave and mini fridge

Director's Cabin \$75 – 2 camp bunk beds, couch, restroom, microwave and mini fridge.

New Plymouth Cabin \$50 – 1 queen with a top camp bunk, 1 camp bunk bed, restroom – NO microwave or fridge.

On July 27th – 30th – you are invited to join Wright Church for their Wright UCC Camp. Come join them and experience “family camp” with campfires, sing-a-longs, talent show, and Dutch-oven dinners. Cost is \$125 per person. Contact the camp to reserve your space.

RV/Camper spaces are \$50 per night. There are 4 spaces with water, sewer and power included. Must be less than 34 feet and power is 110.

Grills/campfires outside of camper are not permitted. Call for reservations.

Pilgrim Cove Camp
Ph: 208.634.5555
www.pilgrimcovecamp.org
manager@pilgrimcovecamp.org

This will be a particularly hard year for Pilgrim Cove Camp. If you would like to help our camp make it through this time of financial uncertainty, please send your donations to:

*Pilgrim Cove Camp
P.O. Box 867
McCall, ID 83638*

Thank You!

Strengthen the Church

Through the generous donations of the church family \$218 was collected for the Strengthen the Church offering taken on Sunday, May 31st. Your generosity helps spread the healing words of Christ.

From Nancy Sobien

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I want to take this opportunity to thank you all for remembering me when I was laid up in the hospital, rehab, and at home following my pickleball fall. I so appreciated every card, gift, flower, visit, phone call and prayer that came my way. I have just returned from my annual doctor's checkup and in spite of my torn meniscus and ruptured ACL, I am doing well and got a great report from the doc. So, my broken ankle is well and bumpy with the seven screws in it, but I'm ready to go get a pedicure!

Thank you all so very much!

Nancy Sobien

Can you say “thank you” too many times?

The answer is – NO!

Thank you again and again to Kelli Collett, who, again and again, has provided face masks for the safety of the church family. **Sixty-six masks in all!!** Thank you, Kelli, for the blessing that you are and your generous spirit.

Office goodies!

There are church elves, I know there are! I just haven't found them yet. Thank you, Church Elves for the bag of heavy-duty rubber bands left on my desk one day and the 2 packages of printer paper left on my desk over the weekend

of June 20/21. We are going through a whole lot more paper with the mailed-out bulletins and copied hymns used to keep everyone safe and connected. Also, 2 rolls of wafer seals showed up for the office. These are the Post Office approved seals that hold the newsletter together. Thank you all for your generosity and care for the church family.

Rose Garden Help

Thank you, Frank and Mollie Marsh!! Frank and Mollie have offered their time and talent to take care of the Ethel Wolfe Rose Garden for the *whole summer!* What a generous blessing this is to the church family and a welcome break for those who have done it tirelessly for years – many, many thanks to Linda Ramsey and Lee Wright.

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

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.acevents.org/goto/AnnMCarlin>, or mail your tax-deductible check to: Relay For Life of Elmore County. The event itself was postponed; the new date has not yet been set.

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

Looking Ahead

Rally Day

Rally Day will be the second Sunday of September, **September 13th**. This marks the beginning of our Sunday school program with **Sunday school at 10 a.m. and Worship with Communion at 11 a.m.**

At this point, we do not know what Rally Day will look like. Sunday School classes will follow the protocols of the public school system here in Mountain Home. If they meet, we meet. Which protocols (facemasks, social distancing, etc.) will be used will be determined in August by the Christian Education Committee.

At this point, we do not know if there will be a barbecue/potluck. Again, that determination will be made in August at the Church Council meeting.

Public Service Announcement

**Friday, July 10th – Food for 200 families
Railroad Park 3 – 6 p.m.**

Please stay in your car and follow all directional signs and volunteer flaggers. There are no qualifications for food boxes beyond a stated need for food assistance. Only household size and city/zip code information will be collected for data purposes.

- Each household will receive two boxes of food (until food runs out).
- These boxes contain a variety of dairy, pre-cooked meat, and produce items.
- All boxes are the same.

In Loving Memory

*Mary Ethel Langfitt
March 20, 1932 – June 25, 2020*

July Birthdays

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1 – Vicki Eckenrod | 19 – Stephanie LaClair |
| 5 – Dorraine Aggen | 21 – Kelli Collett |
| 7 – John Hooley | 23 – Carl Case |
| 8 – Terry Lindquist | 23 – Chris Albright |
| 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

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

Special Angels for July

LITURGISTS (Rick Parks)

5 – Betty Ashcraft
12 – Rick Parks
19 – Frank Marsh
26 – Mollie Marsh

GREETERS No Greeters for July

FELLOWSHIP HOUR (Not in July)

FLOWERS (Sign-up Sheet)

5 – Linda Ramsey
12 – Mollie Marsh
19 – Mollie Marsh
26 – Mollie Marsh

USHERS (Lee Wright)

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 – Frankie Guerre
15 – Cynthia Van Blaricom	30 – Kenneth Hill
20 – Kay Eilebrecht	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 (Linda Thomsen)

2 – Grace Townsend
9 – Maurie Townsend
16 – Gail Banner
23 – Tony Deal
30 – Betty Ashcraft

GREETERS No Greeters for August

FELLOWSHIP HOUR (Not in August)

FLOWERS (Sign-up Sheet)

2 –
9 –
16 –

23 –
30 –

USHERS (Diane Venski)

PARAMENTS (Heidi and Allen Harris)

COMMUNION (No Communion)

From the Interim Pastor

I recently watched a movie I want to recommend to you. It is *The Two Popes* and is factually based on the relationship of Pope Benedict the 16th and Pope Francis. They seem to be opposites with Pope Benedict’s scholarly approach wanting to move the Catholic Church back or at least keep it to its historical and theological roots and holding it to its fundamental doctrines. Pope Francis had spent his life and ministry with the poor, giving them hope, preaching a theology liberation and wanted to move the church forward. The two Popes’ relationship is more complicated than that but this gives you an idea of their differences.

The message I received from watching the movie was the two different approaches to church and ministry. Pope Benedict sought to keep the church the way it was, keep it pure of cultural and modern influences. Pope Francis wanted to make the church relevant to our world and times, especially addressing the issues of the younger generation. I found these approaches to the life and ministry of the church to be the same ones every congregation must discern.

On the one hand we want to keep the church true to the gospel, to our Lord’s sacred teachings and remain faithful to the sacraments. On the other hand, we want the church to be relevant to life today, meeting the needs of and being attractive to our community. I am reminded of Karl Barth, a Christian Theologian who wanted to make his preaching relevant. He advised preachers to “read the Bible in one hand and the newspaper in the other.” I once belonged to a Sunday School class in which each member brought a newspaper article with them and then the class would discuss how the gospel would respond to it.

In my denomination we have a saying that goes, "In essentials-unity; in nonessentials-liberty; and in all things love."

I appreciate the opportunity to serve this fine church that seeks to make the gospel relevant to life.

Pastor Gary E. Smith

July 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 7 p.m. Troop 19 7 p.m. Search Committee meeting	3	4 Independence Day
5 10 a.m. Worship	6 Office Closed 7 p.m. Venture Crew	7	8	9 7 p.m. Troop 19	10 1 p.m. Craft Day in the Fellowship Hall	11
12 10 a.m. Worship	13 Office closed 6:30 p.m. Trustees 7 p.m. Venture Crew 7 p.m. Troop 57	14	15	16 7 p.m. Troop 19	17	18
19 10 a.m. Worship	20 Office Closed 7 p.m. Venture Crew 7 p.m. Troop 57	21	22	23 7 p.m. Troop 19	24 1 p.m. Craft Day in the Fellowship Hall	25
26 10 a.m. Worship	27 Office Closed 7 p.m. Venture Crew 7 p.m. Troop 57	28	29	30 7 p.m. Troop 19	31	

August 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 10 a.m. Worship	3 7 p.m. Diaconate 7 p.m. Venture Crew 7 p.m. Troop 57	4	5	6 7 p.m. Troop 19	7 1 p.m. Craft Day in the Fellowship Hall	8
9 10 a.m. Worship	10 6:30 p.m. Trustees 7 p.m. Venture Crew 7 p.m. Troop 57	11	12	13 7 p.m. Troop 19	14	15
16 10 a.m. Worship 11:10 Christian Ed	17 7 p.m. Venture Crew 7 p.m. Troop 57	18	19	20 7 p.m. Troop 19	21 1 p.m. Craft Day in the Fellowship Hall	22
23 10 a.m. Worship	24 7 p.m. Church Council 7 p.m. Venture Crew 7 p.m. Troop 57	25	26	27 7 p.m. Troop 19	28	29
30 LAST 10 a.m. Worship	31 7 p.m. Venture Crew 7 p.m. Troop 57					