

Mountain Proclamations

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

www.mhfirstcongregational.org

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churchinfo@mhfccucc.org

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§Sunday School is Back!§

We are back to having Children's Sunday School beginning **Sunday, October 4th at 10:15 a.m.** Children's Sunday School is from Kindergarten to 6th grade.

Miss Betty Ashcraft will be teaching the kids again this year with the help of Mr. Kevin Osgood. Get those younguns' out of bed and to the church for a time of learning and growing in Jesus. Please send them with a face mask. We will be practicing physical distancing (as best you can with active children!)

The Adult Sunday School class will be waiting just a bit longer before they start. We will let you know as soon as a date is set.

Welcome, Doreen Solum

Most of us have met Doreen Solum. She sings in the Choir, rings bells, plays the piano, spreads sunshine and always has a smile to spare. Now, she's playing the organ for us.

Marlene Osborn has been playing the organ for us since 1991 and feels that it's time to step down. Doreen has graciously agreed to step up to fill this great void.

From a grateful church family, thank you Doreen.

Thank you, Marlene Osborn

Thank you, Marlene for almost 30 years of sharing your considerable talents on the organ and piano for the church family. Weddings, funerals, special services, Sunday services – you played them all and we have been truly blessed by the care and attention you give to each piece you have played for us since 1991.

You will be missed at the organ bench, but we will see you in the pews. Thank you beyond words.

Your grateful Church Family

Communion for EVERYONE

Please read carefully - Communion will be on **Sunday, October 4th in the same manner as it was served in September, including the drive-**

up communion from 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. See below for a refresher

Wafer is in a compartment on top. Another seal below the wafer separates it from the wine. **If you move the tab up and down a few times, it will separate more easily.**

For those who are sheltering-in-place:

Self-contained, self-serve communion cups will be handed out, drive-through style, from 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. A masked and gloved member of the Diaconate Board will be out front handing out the communion set and Pastor Gary will be there to speak the words of institution over the cup. Please follow the cones to the place of pick-up.

For those who will be attending in – church worship:

You will pick up your Communion cup as you come in and save it for the regular communion service during worship.

Neighbors in Need

The Neighbors in Need offering, which we will receive on **Sunday, October 4th**, supports the UCC's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to fund a wide array of local and national justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. Through ucc.org/justice, our national Justice and Witness Ministries office offers resources, news updates, and action alerts on a broad spectrum of justice issues. Working with members of the UCC Justice and Peace Action Network (a network of thousands of UCC justice and peace advocates), Justice and Witness continues its strong policy advocacy work on issues such as the federal budget, voting rights, immigration, health care, hate crimes, civil liberties, and environmental justice. Neighbors in Need also supports our American Indian neighbors in the UCC. One-third of the offering supports the UCC's Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM). Historically, forebears of the UCC established churches and worked with Lakota, Dakota, Nakota, Mandan, Hidatsa, Arickara, and Hockak in North and South Dakota, Wisconsin, and northern Nebraska. Today there are 20 UCC congregations on reservations and one urban, multi-tribal UCC congregation in Minneapolis, Minnesota. These churches and their pastors are supported by CAIM. CAIM is also an invaluable

resource for more than 1,000 individuals from dozens of other tribes and nations who are members of other UCC congregations in the U.S.

For more information about what the Neighbors in Need offering does, go to www.ucc.org/nin

Craft Days for October

Craft Days will continue through October with the gatherings being on **Friday, October 2nd, 16th and 30th at 1 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall

Bring your supplies and create with good friends and fellow crafters. **Feel free to bring a friend!**

Office Closed

In observance of Columbus Day, the church office will be closed on **Monday, October 12th.**

Women of the Church

Women's Fellowship Potluck and meeting

There will **not** be an *in-person* Women's Fellowship and Potluck on **October 9th.** However, it is possible that we will be having a Zoom Women's Fellowship meeting. Watch the bulletin, *In the Loop* and the website for more information as it becomes available.

If you are a member of the Women's Fellowship and you are interested in participating in a ZOOM meeting, please be sure that the church office has your email address so that the sign-in information can be forwarded to you.

Women's Bible Study

We have decided to have a ZOOM-only Women's Bible Study. An email with the invite and sign-in link will go out before the meeting.

This first meeting will be a test to see how comfortable everyone is. Below is a link to a video showing how to attend a Zoom meeting. You will also be given the choice to join the meeting from your browser if you don't want to download the app to your phone or tablet. You do need a camera on your computer, but you can also use your phone or tablet. There is also an option to join the meeting with your phone and just have audio.

Help is available to anyone who is still having trouble understanding to program.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6fIYWnfTc5o>

Coming Soon!

With the help of the Church Family, the Women's Fellowship will be working with Samaritans Purse doing up Christmas Shoeboxes. This project will begin in November.

So, save those good shoe boxes!! We will let you know when to bring them to the church.

The Christmas Bazaar!

It is looking very doubtful that there will be a Christmas Bazaar this year. But don't let that stop you from crafting bazaar items for the 2021 Christmas Bazaar! Just keep on making those wonderful items that make our bazaar so much fun and the 2021 Bazaar will be our best ever!

Bulletin Sponsors for 2021

It is time to start signing up to sponsor a worship bulletin for 2021. The sign-up sheet is on the back table in the sanctuary or you can call the church office.

Choose the worship service you would like to sponsor and write your name next to that date; please note if you wish to remain anonymous. You may make your donation of \$10 any time before the end of 2021. Please mark your check for the bulletin date that you are sponsoring. If you have any questions about how this works, contact the church office at 587-4969.

Pilgrim Cove Camp Closing Camp Weekend

Reservations should already have been made, but if you would like to go up and help, contact Kari to see if you can still register.

Come join us at Pilgrim Cove Camp **October 2nd – 4th** as we say "Goodbye to the 2020 Summer Season!"

Please contact Kari as soon as you get your calendar marked so we can make sure to have plenty food: manager@pilgrimcovecamp.org or 208-634-5555

October's Potluck

No potluck for October.

Church Halloween Party

The Annual Church Halloween Party has been cancelled for the health and safety of Church Family and Friends.

Thanks

Special Music

Thank you to Betty Ashcraft and the Congregational Suffragette Chorus, consisting of Doreen Solum, as pianist and singers Rainy Smyth, Amy Boyack, Gail Banner, Jennifer Dillenbeck, Grace Townsend, and Dorraine Aggen. On Sunday, August 31st, these lovely ladies presented a tribute song, "Sisters Suffragette", to the Suffragettes that worked to win the women the right to vote. Thank you for your musical gift to the Church Family!

Janet Langfitt

Thank you, Janet Langfitt, for the generous donation of household items from your mother, Mary Ethel's, estate for the Women's Rummage Sale. Your thoughtfulness at such an emotional time is much appreciated.

Wade Baumgardner

I don't think he meant to get "caught in the act", but thank you, Wade, for edging and sweeping the sidewalk in front of the church and the walk way by the church office. Such care for the church is much appreciated.

Lars Hansen

Thank you, Lars Hansen, for stepping up to help in the office while Mickie Betts is unable to come during this pandemic. And also Lars will be substituting for Linda Thomsen as custodian whenever she needs to take some time off.

Thank you, Lars, for jumping right into church life here. We are blessed to have you here.

Share Table

It's been there faithfully for several years and occasionally someone will stop and visit it and see what it has to offer. *It* is the Share Table. Generally, it sits by the door leaving the Fellowship Hall. It has books, pamphlets, magazines and sometimes calendars and planning books, free for the taking. Please avail yourself of some of its wealth.

If you have something to share, feel free to add it to the table.

Community Involvement

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: **Ann Carlin, 1755 Challis Drive, Mountain Home, ID 83647-4319**. 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.

Coming Events

Daylight Savings Time Ends

Sunday, November 1, 2020, turn those clocks back one hour. Like we need another hour of 2020.

Annual Budget and Election Meeting

The Annual Budget and Election Meeting will be after worship on **Sunday, November 8th**.

Thanksgiving events

All of the following events are very subject to change!!

There will not be a Pie Auction this year, *BUT* there will be something going on to help you with your pies. Details coming soon.

Sunday evening, at **6 p.m.** is our Annual Thanksgiving Dinner followed at **6:30** by our Annual Pledge Blessing service.

More information to come in the November newsletter.

Giving Tree

Due to the current Covid-19 pandemic, the Giving Tree program has temporarily changed. This year, we will directly match a limited number of families with sponsors. We will provide basic information to the sponsors including the child's first name, age, sex, clothing size, and likes/dislikes.

Please Note:

*Items gifted will be at the discretion of the sponsor.

*Only sponsored families will be contacted.

*Once contacted, families will have 48 hours to pick up items at the Chamber of Commerce, located at

205 N. 3rd E., Mountain Home, Idaho

Because we are trying to limit the amount of contact between donors, volunteers, and families, we are asking for donors to purchase items for all children in the selected family. This also means the items and the number of items will be at your discretion. Wrapping is optional but all items must be boxed per family. The committee will not be sorting items.

More details to come as we work out this new way of doing this. As always, Ann Carlin will be our point of contact for this project.

Phone number update

Harold has been having some problems with his cell phone, so for those of you who have been trying to get in touch with him or Sally, here is their house number –

Address Update

Wayne and Aaren Brumley

In Loving Memory

Ray Havlicak
Husband of Pastor Charlottie Havlicak
McCall Community Church, UCC

October Birthdays

1 – Dale Hooley	13 – Mary Ann Hamilton
2 – Suzanne Dillard	16 – Henry Toy
4 – Lauren Tomsic	21 – Karen Jumonville
7 – Joyce Allgood	22 – Cindy Lindquist
7 – Jay Leonard	23 – Mariah Parks
9 – Rick Parks	25 – Mollie Marsh
10 – Terri Jones	26 – Linda Ramsey
13 – Kristy Blanksma	28 – Booker Parker
	29 – Jonathen Deal

October Anniversaries

8 – Jeremy and Michaela Loosli
18 – Janet & Bud Weise
18 – Ann & Curtis Carlin
30 – Anne Parker & Paul Taggart

Special Angels for October

LITURGISTS (Jennifer Dillenbeck)

4 – Jennifer Dillenbeck
11 – Mollie Marsh
18 – Polly Sanders
25 – Grace Townsend

GREETERS (Diaconate Board)

FELLOWSHIP HOUR (Not in October)

FLOWERS (Sign-Up Sheet)

4 – Lars Hansen
11 – Gail Banner
18 –
25 –

USHERS (Ann Carlin)

PARAMENTS (Allen Harris)

COMMUNION (Heidi Harris)

From our Interim Pastor

As we begin our Sunday School program for children this Sunday I want to share with you the importance of Christian education.

God bless the woman who took credit for the Christian growth of her child. She said to me the reason her daughter was a Christian leader was because when she was little she, the mother, would drop her off at the church for Sunday school. I wish we had more such parents. At least she understood where a spiritually hungry child could find bread. There is a resurgence of the importance of Christian education in the church for all ages. Our goal is similar to William James, the founder of Christian education, “So teach the children at an early age so that they may never know when they were not Christian.”

Plato taught, “The beginning is the most important part of the work.” It is incredible how many people wander through life with a handful of good intentions but with no beginnings. The empty space in life needs filling. That spiritual temple needs building. A college professor used to say to his class, “You can forget everything I’ve taught you but remember these four words, ‘Beginning is half done.’”

Will you commit yourself this Fall to building your spiritual life?

Isn’t it strange that common people like you and me are builders of eternity?

Each is given a bag of tools, a shapeless mass and a book of rules.

Each must make what life has flown, a stumbling block or a stepping stone.

We will continue to email and snail mail our worship resources in hope that it assists you in your spiritual development. God bless you while we are apart from one another.

Pastor Gary

Both months are subject to change

October 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6 p.m. Bell Choir 7 p.m. Chancel Choir 7 p.m. Troop 19	2 1 p.m. Craft Day	3
Neighbors in Need offering 10 – 10:30 a.m. Drive up Communion 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship with Communion	5 7 p.m. Diaconate Board 7 p.m. Troop 57 7 p.m. Venture Crew 57	6	7	8 6 p.m. Bell Choir 7 p.m. Chancel Choir 7 p.m. Troop 19	9 12 p.m. ZOOM Women's Fellowship Potluck and meeting - <i>maybe</i>	10
11 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	12 Columbus Day Office Closed 6:30 p.m. Trustees	13	14 11 a.m. ZOOM Women's Bible Study	15 6 p.m. Bell Choir 7 p.m. Chancel Choir 7 p.m. Troop 19	16 1 p.m. Craft Day	17
18 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship After worship: Christian Ed. mtg.	19 7 p.m. Troop 57 7 p.m. Venture Crew 57	20	21	22 6 p.m. Bell Choir 7 p.m. Chancel Choir 7 p.m. Troop 19	23	24
25 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	26 7 p.m. Church Council 7 p.m. Troop 57 7 p.m. Venture Crew 57	27	28 11 a.m. ZOOM Women's Bible Study	29 6 p.m. Bell Choir 7 p.m. Chancel Choir 7 p.m. Troop 19	30 1 p.m. Craft Day	31 Halloween No Halloween Party this year

November 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10 a.m. Drive up Communion 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship w/ Communion	2 7 p.m. Diaconate Board 7 p.m. Troop 57 7 p.m. Venture Crew 57	3 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. Voting	4	5 6 p.m. Bell Choir 7 p.m. Chancel Choir 7 p.m. Troop 19	6	7
8 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	9 6:30 p.m. Trustees 7 p.m. Troop and Crew 57 meets	10	11 11 a.m. ZOOM Women's Bible Study	12 6 p.m. Bell Choir 7 p.m. Chancel Choir 7 p.m. Troop 19	13 12 p.m. Women's Fellowship Potluck and meeting - <i>maybe</i>	14
15 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. Worship Christian Ed. mtg.	16 7 p.m. Troop 57 7 p.m. Venture Crew 57	17	18	19 6 p.m. Bell Choir 7 p.m. Chancel Choir 7 p.m. Troop 19	20	21
22 NO Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Dinner 6:30 p.m. Pledge Blessing Service	23 7 p.m. Church Council 7 p.m. Troop 57 7 p.m. Venture Crew 57	24	25 11 a.m. ZOOM Women's Bible Study?	26 Thanksgiving Day Office closed	27	28 9 a.m. Hanging of the Greens
1st Sunday of Advent 29 10 a.m. Sunday School – maybe	30 7 p.m. Troop 57 7 p.m. Venture Crew 57					