

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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Fall Time Change

Sunday, November 6, 2022
Turn your clock **back** one hour

Stewardship Letters

Watch your mail for the Stewardship 2023 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. *If you are a couple and would like an extra Time and Talent card so y’all can sign up for things separately, please contact the church office.*

3rd Quarter Donation Statements

Third quarter Donation Statements will be mailed around October 31st. Monetary donations are an important part of keeping our church fully functioning. Your Donation Statement includes your financial contributions from January 1, 2022 through/including October 23, 2022. Thank you for your support of our church and church family. If you have any questions about your Donation Statement please contact the Financial Recording Secretary, Frank Marsh, at [REDACTED].

Happy Crafters!

All crafters are invited to come to Craft Day at the church! Craft Days in November will be held on **Friday, November 4th and 18th at 1 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall.

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.

Don't Forget to Vote

November 8, 2022 is Election Day

Annual Budget and Election meeting

Budget and Election meeting will be held on **Sunday, November 13th, after worship.** Members nominated are listed in the next column.

Officers, Board, and Committee Members Nominated for 2023

ONE YEAR OFFICE

Moderator: Polly Sanders*
Assistant Moderator: Susan Broemeling*
Clerk: Grace Townsend*
Treasurer: Eddie Bush*
Financial Secretary: Frank Marsh*
Historian: Kay Eilebrecht*
Youth Coordinator: Frank Marsh*
Parliamentarian: Maurice Townsend*
Auditor: Appointed by Trustees for bi-annual review

THREE YEAR TERMS

Diaconate Board:
Curtis Carlin* Jay Leonard*
Susan Walker* Allen Harris*
Linda Thomsen* Lee Wright*
Jo Gridley* Rick Parks*
Susan Stanek Sandy O’Connell
Heidi Harris C.D. Houston

Trustees:
Roger Fogleman Judy Case*
Rita Olsen Gene Mussler*
Mollie Marsh Richard Broemeling

Christian Education:
Joyce Allgood* Susan Mussler*
Betty Ashcraft* Vickie Armstrong

Pilgrim Cover Representative: Jay Leonard*

ONE YEAR TERMS

Pastoral Relations:
Gail Banner* Lee Wright* Phil Miller*

Music Committee:
Doraine Aggen* Gail Banner*
Note: Gail has agreed to represent until a director is chosen.

Social Committee:
Beth Devore* Kelli Collett*
Nadine Roberts* Kay Eilebrecht*
Lars Hansen* Curtis Carlin*

*Nominated members of each office, board and committee for the year 2023 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 and/or start their second term.

Nominating Committee

Richard C. Broemeling, Chair
Susan Mussler
Judy Case
Nadine Roberts

Editor's note: Thank you, Richard Broemeling, for chairing this very important committee.

The Pie Auction is Back!

On **Sunday, November 20th**, Women's Fellowship will once again host a Pie Auction in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the church service. Roger Fogleman will be the auctioneer for this fun event.

Pie bakers are needed! A sign-up sheet will be available on the back table beginning on **Sunday, October 30th** or call Nadine Roberts at [REDACTED] to sign up.

Women of the Church

Women's Fellowship meeting

November's Women's Fellowship Luncheon Meeting will be held **at noon on November 11th** in the church Fellowship Hall. Dorraine Aggen is hostess. Plans will be finalized for our upcoming Annual Pie Auction and Christmas Bazaar.

Samaritan's purse

Women's Fellowship is once again participating in the Children's Shoebox project.

We will be collecting items to send to needy children in foreign countries. Donations of toys, school supplies, and hygiene items are requested...just remember...everything must fit in a shoebox!

We will be sending these out the third week of November. A ten-dollar shipping fee is required per shoebox...we hope to pack 20 shoeboxes...so monetary donations are also accepted.

There will be a basket at the back of the church for your wonderful donations.

Items not allowed are:

Candy; toothpaste; gum; used or damaged items; scary or war-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures; chocolate or food; seeds; fruit rolls or other fruit snacks; drink mixes (powdered or liquid); liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.

If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Sobien, [REDACTED]

Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study is starting up again! The book is *Grace* by Max Lucado. We will meet on **the 1st and 3rd Thursday at 10:30 AM. The first meeting will be on November 3rd.** We will have some books available at the office for \$12.71. It is also available on Kindle and Audio.

Please let the office know if you would like to be added to our email group.

Women's Fellowship Christmas Bazaar

The Bazaar will be held on **Saturday, December 3rd, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.** Fresh baked cinnamon rolls and pieces of pie will be available along with many homemade items, bakery items, decorations . . . old and new! Items to sell are greatly encouraged . . .

Please contact Women's Fellowship if you have any questions! All sales (monies) become the property of Women's Fellowship.

Editor's note: The Women's Fellowship spends these monies on the church – coffee, tea, and other condiments for Fellowship Hour and potlucks. They also make contributions toward other needed items around the church as well as donations to charitable organizations around town. Come support those who support us.

Pledge Blessing

Our Pledge Blessing Service will be incorporated in the **November 20th 11 a.m.** worship service, where we will bless our pledge offerings and our Time and Talent offerings. Please be thinking about the ways you can give back to God with your time, talents, and treasure.

NOTE: There is NO Sunday School on November 20th.

Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner!

We are having our Thanksgiving Dinner this year! Can I get an "AMEN"?!

Sunday, November 20th at 6 p.m. we will have our first Thanksgiving potluck dinner in 2 years. Sign-up sheets for cooking turkeys and providing side dishes will be out soon.

Community Thanksgiving Worship

The Elmore County Ministerial Alliance will be hosting their annual Community Thanksgiving Worship service here at First Congregational on **Tuesday, November 22 at 7 p.m.**

Please make plans to come and take this time to worship and reflect on all the blessings we have received over the past year.

Hanging of the Greens

On **Saturday, November 26th**, at 9 a.m. we will begin decorating the church for the coming Christmas season. Anyone who wishes to come help the Diaconate Board set up the Christmas Trees and hang the wreaths and garland is more than welcome to join in the fun.

Poinsettia Dedications

Beginning **Sunday, November 27th** 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 **Monday, December 19th** Forms will be available on the back table beginning **Sunday, November 20th**.

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

To Kelli Collett

Thank you to Kelli Collett who donated the quilt that was given away at our booth at Air Force Appreciation Day. Kelli, your generosity is appreciated beyond words. Thanks you.

From The Backpack Bridge

“Congregational Church,

Thank you for your generous giving to the Backpack Bridge. This school year we have already provided over 60 backpacks, school supplies, clothing and food to children in need.

Thank for helping to make a difference. God Bless”

Neighbors in Need

The Neighbors in Need offering was collected on Sunday, October 2nd. Our generous collection for our neighbors was \$185. Thank you for spreading your generosity far and wide.

Nominating Committee

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the members of the 2023 Nomination Committee, Susan Mussler, Judy Case and Nadine Roberts for their work this year! The committee met on two occasions and conducted

most of its work via phone and email. I would also like to thank Jennifer Andersen for assisting me with questions and my report for the Church Council. It was a joy to work with each of you. You made it fun and enjoyable accomplishing this task! Thank You!

The committee also thanks all of the nominees for continuing the important work of our Church!

Richard C. Broemelng
Chairman, Nominating Committee

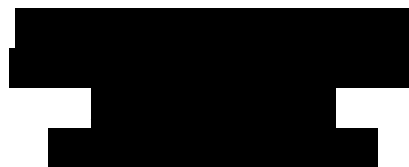
From the Osgoods

“Well, it's hard to believe that as of this coming Saturday, three weeks in our new home! We are slowly but surely finding good furniture, which means going over to the nearby town of Elk City, as there is no furniture to be found in Sayre. We are planning on sending our Devin and Heather to public school. We were quite surprised to find that we actually have a college in Sayre, so we're thinking that we will send Devin over there during the summers, to obtain some early college credits. After all, at 14, he is already doing college level math. We want to thank all those that have phoned or sent texts to say hi over the last three weeks.

Best wishes to all our brothers and sisters in Christ in Mountain Home, Idaho!

Sincerely, the Osgoods!”

Their new address is:



Upcoming events

Giving Tree

There will be a Giving Tree this year. More to come as they work out the details. As always, Ann Carlin will be our point of contact for this project. Thank you, Ann!

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service!

Our Christmas Eve worship service will be at 7 p.m. on **Saturday, December 24th**.

Christmas Day

There will *not* be a worship service on **Sunday, December 25th**. We celebrated Christ's birth with our church family during the Christmas Eve worship the night before; now we will celebrate Christ with our families at home.

All Boards and Committees

Year-end Annual Reports are due in the office by **Wednesday, January 4th**, earlier if possible, so they can be prepared for distribution at our Annual Meeting on **Sunday, January 15th**.

In Loving Memory

Joseph Clifton Armstrong
January 30, 1961 – October 8, 2022

Memorial Service
3 p.m. Sunday, December 4, 2022

Birthdays in November

2 – Alexis Parks	8 – Gloria Gaub
2 – Samantha Pearsall	8 – Cara Grindle
4 – Joe B McNeal	15 – Allen Harris
4 – Sue Stanek	19 – Mike Keas
4 – Phil Gridley	23 – Harris Allgood
5 – Layla Brumley	23 – Grace Townsend
6 – Helena DeWeerd	26 – Katie Parks
	28 – Philip Miller

Special Angels for November

LITURGISTS (Linda Thomsen)

6 – Polly Sanders
13 – Gail Banner
20 – Mildred McNeal
27 – Grace Townsend

FELLOWSHIP HOUR (Sign-up sheet)

6 – Gene and Susan Mussler
13 – Ann and Curtis Carlin
20 – Pie Auction
27 – Helena DeWeerd and Nadine Roberts

USHERS (Curtis Carlin)

FLOWERS

October 30 – November 20
Lee Wright and Sherry Bush
13 – Phil and Jo Gridley

PARAMENTS (Allen and Heidi Harris)

COMMUNION (Sandy O'Connell)

From Pastor Deral

Operation Christmas Child

For the past few years First Congregational has been participating in 'Operation Christmas Child' – the shoebox ministry of Samaritan's Purse. It's an exceptionally caring and dynamic ministry for us to be personally involved with.

Since 1993, over the past 29 years, Samaritan's Purse has delivered more than 198

million shoebox gifts to children in more than 170 countries and territories. It's the prayer that by 2024 over 250 unreached people groups will have heard the Gospel through Operation Christmas Child. Last year 10.5 million shoeboxes were delivered world-wide, with 9.5 million of those coming from the United States. The goal this year is that 11 million will be delivered. One of the exciting aspects of the growth of this outreach ministry is that now 10 other countries have joined in this partnership: Canada, the United Kingdom, Finland, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Spain, Australia, New Zealand, and South Korea.

I have personally talked with adults who received a shoebox as a child, and they have told me of the impact that such a simple box of unanticipated gifts of love made in their lives.

Beyond the toys, each shoebox is a tangible expression of the love of God, always given in the name of Jesus. They not only bless the children – their families, villages, towns, and cities are impacted as well. It's estimated that each shoebox impacts approximately 15 people. Globally, because of Operation Christmas Child, every 24 hours over 30,000 people hear the Gospel. Over 2000 churches have been started in the last three years, in part because of this ministry of caring.

With every box that's packed, a Gospel message in that child's language, is shared; with each child receiving their own copy of "The Greatest Gift", that tells the story of Jesus. They can also enroll in a 12-week follow-up discipleship program called "The Greatest Journey". This discipleship program is now available in 95 languages; and since 2009, 30.9 million children have participated, with 21.7 million graduating! Over 15 million decisions to become followers of Christ have been recorded!

Samaritan's Purse continues to monitor local, state, and national guidelines and make adjustments to help protect the health of those involved in collecting, processing, and delivering shoeboxes at all of the locations.

You can pick up a shoebox at the back of the sanctuary after worship or during the week for you to pack. Children love to help pick out the toys and items that go into a box! Or, you can bring items to the church and our Women's Fellowship will receive those collected toys and items, and pack additional boxes. We have lists that we've assembled that tell us what to pack and what not to include; and you can designate your gift to a boy or girl of a particular age.

We'll be collecting boxes and items up to November 13th. This year let's all join in this simple, yet profound, ministry of love. Let it be our prayer that every child that receives a shoebox will know that God loves them and has not forgotten them. Together – we all make a difference!

Pastor Deral

November 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 2 p.m. Bell practice 3 p.m. Choir practice 7 p.m. Troop 19	4 10 a.m. First Friday Quilters 1 p.m. Craft Day	5 7- 9 p.m. AA
DST Ends 6 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship with Communion	7 7 p.m. Diaconate Board 7 p.m. Troop/Crew 57	8 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. Voting in the Fellowship Hall	9	10 2 p.m. Bell practice 3 p.m. Choir practice 7 p.m. Troop 19	11 Veterans Day 12 p.m. Women's Fellowship mtg	12 7- 9 p.m. AA
13 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship Budget and Election Mtg.	14 6:30 p.m. Board of Trustees 7 p.m. Troop/Crew 57	15	16	17 2 p.m. Bell practice 3 p.m. Choir practice 7 p.m. Troop 19	18 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Children's House Chili Feed 1 p.m. Craft Day	19 7- 9 p.m. AA
20 11 a.m. Worship with Pledge Dedication After Worship – Pie Auction 6 p.m. Thanksgiving Potluck dinner	21 7 p.m. Troop/Crew 57	22 7 p.m. Community Thanksgiving Service	23	24 Thanksgiving Day Office Closed	25	26 9 a.m. Hanging of the Greens 7- 9 p.m. AA
<i>First Sunday of Advent</i> 27 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship 12:30 p.m. Church Council	28 7 p.m. Troop/Crew 57	29	30			

December 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 2 p.m. Bell practice 3 p.m. Choir practice 7 p.m. Troop 19	2 10 a.m. First Friday Quilters 1 – 5 p.m. Christmas Bazaar Set-up	3 8 a.m. – Noon Christmas Bazaar 7- 9 p.m. AA
<i>Second Sunday of Advent</i> 4 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship with Communion 3 p.m. Joseph Armstrong's memorial service	5 7 p.m. Diaconate Board 7 p.m. Troop/Crew 57	6	7	8 2 p.m. Bell practice 3 p.m. Choir practice 7 p.m. Troop 19	9 12 p.m. Women's Fellowship	10 7- 9 p.m. AA
<i>Third Sunday of Advent</i> 11 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	12 6:30 p.m. Board of Trustees 7 p.m. Troop/Crew 57	13	14	15 2 p.m. Bell practice 3 p.m. Choir practice 7 p.m. Troop 19	16	17 7- 9 p.m. AA
<i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i> 18 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship Christmas Potluck luncheon	19	20	21	22 2 p.m. Bell practice 3 p.m. Choir practice	23	24 7 p.m. Candlelight Christmas Eve service
25 Christmas NO Sunday School OR Worship	26 7 p.m. Church Council	27	28	29 2 p.m. Bell practice 3 p.m. Choir practice	30	31 New Year's Eve 7- 9 p.m. AA