

The Good News of First Congregational UCC and Christ United Methodist Church

Volume 2024

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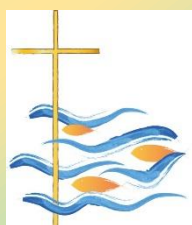
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Christ United Methodist Church Great Falls*



Worship Notes For October 13, 2024 9:30 A.M.

Rev. Lynne preaching
Scripture: Matthew 6:26-30
Lay Reader: Hank Branom
Ushers: Steve Gettel, Noël Walker
Acolytes: Jullian Valley, Kaeden Dunn
Choir Director: Jason Webster
Accompanist: Victor Tsai
Sunday School: Janet Koostra
Nursery: Gracie Kuszmaul, CJ Mollohan
Fellowship: Verna Kessner, KimKay McCarty Martin, Doris Motley
Tellers: Steve Gettel, Carol Shipley

We will rejoice in the baptism of Bailey and Chase Schrader.
Come help us celebrate with them!

The service will be live-streamed on both church Facebook pages
and a recording of the livestream will be available on YouTube
later in the day and on the UCC website.

Christian Education News

Children begin in worship this week. October 13 is our monthly Theme Day. October's theme is "Caring For . . .Unhoused People". **Kids age 5 through grade 8 are invited to join the class to organize bags of essential items such as lip balm, lotion, tissues, toilet paper etc. to share with members of the Unhoused Community in Great Falls as part of outreach ministry at First United Methodist Church.** A Bible story, our service activity and time together make a fun, educational and fulfilling class for all.



will

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

† Our sympathy to family and friends of **Julie Fabrega**. Julie passed away peacefully at her daughter's home October 3 at the age of 90. A service is being planned for some time in January.



Mental Health Justice For All UCC Neighbors In Need Special Offering

Neighbors In Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion in the United States. Your support goes to the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM) and Justice and Witness Ministries, which provide grants to UCC churches for justice and direct service initiatives. **Our church will formally collect the offering on October 27, and contributions are welcome anytime in October.**

The 2024 Neighbors In Need theme is “Mental Health Justice for All!”, recognizing that a just world for all is one where the human rights and well-being of all people with mental health challenges are respected. You are invited to join God's mental health justice work by supporting NIN this October. Please mark your check in the memo line with NIN or follow the prompts in the QR code.



Imagine Together Our Efforts in Building a More Just World.

Welcome, Victor!

This week, we welcome Victor Tsai to our church staff as accompanist/organist. Victor is the interim co-concert master with the Great Falls Symphony. He also plays with the Cascade String Quartet. He is a graduate of Indiana University School of Music and National Taiwan Normal University. Victor sat in with our choir last Sunday and will be accompanying portions of the service this week. **He plans to be fully on board on October 20.** Because he doesn't have a lot of experience playing in a church like ours, **Barb Swaby will be coaching him for a few weeks** to help him get the swing of things. Thanks to the interview team of **Karen Spencer, Dick Kloppel, Carol Davidson, Jason Webster** and **Lynne Spencer-Smith** and to **Dennis Dell** for letting us know about the new symphony member who plays piano and was looking for some additional gigs!



Turkey Time!

It's time to ramp up our Thanksgiving Basket Ministry for West Elementary! **Sponsored by the UCC Christian Education Board and Christian Service Board, food & monetary gifts from Sunday School families and the entire congregation make seven Thanksgiving dinner baskets possible for families in need from West Elementary School.** But it isn't just a Thanksgiving dinner! Extras like fresh fruit, milk, cereal, peanut butter and more augment the traditional holiday feast. **Look for the Turkey Display in the narthex beginning Sunday, October 20.** Choose one or more paper turkeys which will list a variety of nonperishable food items or monetary donations. **All donations need to be in by November 10.** Children will organize items during Sunday School on November 17 for delivery to West the following week. ***For donations of money, please write checks to “FCUCC” and mark “Thanksgiving Baskets” in the memo line. For cash, please place it in an envelope marked “Thanksgiving Baskets” and place it in the offering plate.*** Questions? Contact Janet Koostra, 406-727-8443 or janetkoostra@gmail.com. By filling a few baskets, we can fill some hungry tummies!

Youth Group News

Youth Group will meet downtown at First United Methodist Church for Mission Night on Tuesday, October 15 from 5:00-7:00 P.M. There is no Youth Group on October 16.

A Note From West Elementary

Dear Karen,

Please share with your congregation, as we are so thankful for your continued support of West Elementary School. The beginning of year school supplies are always needed, as many of our families show up to open house or the first day of school without supplies. We were able to put your donated materials on tables during the first week of school for many families in need. Many people expressed appreciation for the school supplies to our office staff, as they were unable to afford them on their own. Some teachers also made use of the supplies for students who had not brought any, relieving them of spending their own money.

The food pantry items were also a blessing. Last year, we dispersed over 250 complete food boxes from our West pantry to families in need. This does not include the many holiday meal boxes your church and other organizations provide for our families. Many of our students depend on our pantry services, and because of this our shelves were bare after last spring. You have helped us replenish our shelves and we have already started dispersing food boxes to families requesting them. Thank you so much again.

Lyndsey Stulc, West Elementary Principal

Reminder



Women's coffee is this Saturday, October 12 at 10:30 A.M. Join us at Miss Kitty's (2501 6th Ave. N) and share one of your earliest childhood memories!

Veteran's Day Spaghetti Dinner Hosted by Christ United Methodist

November 8, 2024

5:30-7:00 P.M.

Fellowship Hall

Come and honor a military loved one

Cost is \$15.00/individual or \$30.00/families

Take-out meals available

Tickets for sale after church



UCC Stewardship Campaign for 2025 is underway! 141 pledge cards and Opportunities to Serve forms were mailed. To date, we have received 43 pledge cards totaling \$92,285. Last year we received 83 pledges for a total of \$187,162. Consecration Sunday is October 20 and we ask that pledge cards and Opportunities to Serve forms are turned in by then.

*Christ United Methodist Church
Financial Report
September 2024*

Income	\$10,829.37
Expenses	\$12,189.88
Net Loss	\$ 1,360.51

Checking Balance September 30	\$53,367.05
Year to Date Income September 30	\$ 4,865.59

4 th quarter property insurance paid in the amount of	\$1,516.25
Mission Shares will be paid in October	\$1,200.00

Thank you to everyone for your continued support. Blessings to each of you.
Jeanne Nobbs, CUMC Treasurer



Service of Remembrance- Sunday, November 3, 9:30 A.M.

Names are read. A bell is rung. A candle is lit. We remember.

Our All Saints observance is an annual remembrance of those who have died over the past year and also a time to remember those who have gone before us at other times in our lives. **If you would like to remember someone special who has died during the last year (November 2023 – November 2024) please contact Holly and let her know the name and your relationship to them. Requests will need to be received by October 30.** Then, join us in worship the morning of November 3. The names will be read. A bell will be rung. A candle will be lit. You will also have time to come forward and light a candle for those who have been important in your lives.

Carpet Repairs – Done!

Several weeks ago, the carpet in the center aisle of the sanctuary developed a rather notable “bubble” and had become a bit of a tripping hazard. **Big thanks to Steve Gettel for doing some research and taking the time to get things glued down again.** It’s so wonderful to have folks who are willing to take the time to keep our church home in good (and safe) order. Thanks, Steve!

2024 Adopt-A-Project

It’s autumn! That means it’s time for Joint Facilities Committee’s Annual **ADOPT-A-PROJECT!** This is just one way that you can help Joint Facilities be good stewards of our building. This Sunday, the Adopt-A-Project Board will be up in the Narthex. Find the card that lists your project, write your name on the small section and drop it in the basket. Take the larger section home with you as a reminder. When the project has been completed, mark the large portion and return it to the church. **All projects should be completed no later than December 1.** Keep in mind that winter is fast approaching so you’ll want to get those outdoor projects done quickly.

Below is a list of the projects for this year.

2024 Adopt-a-Project Projects

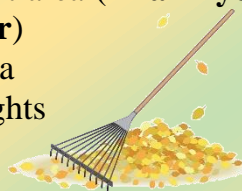
Windows:

- Exterior Windows: Conference Room, Pastors' offices, Janet's Office, (inside out)
- Exterior Windows: Nursery, Parlor, Choir Room (inside & out)
- Exterior Windows: Sunday School Rooms #1, 3, 5 & 7 (south side-inside & out)
- Exterior Windows: Sunday School Rooms #2, & 4 (north side- inside & out)
- Interior Windows: Front Office/Narthex
- Interior Windows: Sunday School Rooms/Hallway
- Interior Windows: Nursery and Parlor
- Fellowship Hall Windows – inside only
- Clean blinds in main office



Exterior Projects:

- Clean and re-mortar missing mortar on brick wall in front of church (**Time Sensitive – to be completed before winter**)
- Scrape, prime and paint bench facing behind brick wall in front of church
- Fashion and install support for long downspout outside west entrance (by Choir Room)
- Clean debris out of columbarium and front court area (**Thank you Bob & Carolyn Dowdy for taking care of this throughout the summer**)
- Clean leaves and debris out of west entrance area
- Clean inside covers of main entrance exterior lights



Interior Projects:

- Check interior door stops. Replace missing rubber stops, tighten if needed
- Hang quilts in nursery (**Coordinate with Janet Koostra**)
- Wash tables and chairs in Fellowship Hall (**Thank you Women In Faith for taking care of this project**)
- Dust out chairs in sanctuary, make sure each chair has a pen or pencil
- Clean main level kitchen
- Vacuum furniture in the parlor
- Dust Nursery (**Thank you Janet Koostra for taking care of this project**)



Coming Up

Friday, October 11

1:30 P.M. Grief Support, Parlor

4:00 P.M. Fellowship Board, Fellowship Hall

Saturday, October 12

10:30 A.M. Women's Coffee, Miss Kitty's (2501 6th Avenue N.)

Sunday, October 13

10:45 A.M. Christian Ed. Board, Parlor

Monday, October 14

1:00 P.M. Church Growth & Vitality, Fellowship Hall

6:00 P.M. Business Affairs, Zoom

Tuesday, October 15

5:00 P.M. Youth Group Mission Night, First United Methodist Church

Wednesday, October 16

10:00 A.M. CUMC Bible Study, Parlor

10:00 A.M. Bridge Players, SS Wing

1:30 P.M. Pinochle, Fellowship Hall

6:00 P.M. Handbell Rehearsal, Sanctuary

7:15 P.M. Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Thursday, October 17

1:00 P.M. United Women in Faith, FH

4:00 P.M. CUMC Leadership, Parlor