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

Volume 2024 Rev. Lynne Spencer-Smith (406) 453-4316 greatfallsucc@bresnan.net www.greatfallsucc.org December 24, 2024 PO Box 6303, 59406

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> Worship Notes For January 5, 2025 2nd Sunday after Christmas Celebration of the Epiphany of the Lord Celebration of Holy Communion 9:30 A.M.

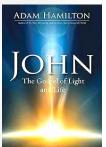
Worship Leader: Rev. Lynne Spencer-Smith Scripture: Isaiah 60:1-6, Matthew 2:1-12 Acolytes: Bailey & Chase Schrader Accompanist: Victor Tsai Nursery: May Harris, Gracie Kuszmaul Sunday School: Janet Koostra Coffee Fellowship: Dennis & Sue Turton, Bill Tiskus Treats: Dean Jardee, Sandy Nicolai Tellers: Carol Shipley, Nancy Zadick

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

Sunday School and nursery care will resume on January 5. Children will begin in Sunday School, then join their families for the Sacrament of Holy Communion and the conclusion of worship.



Bible Study to Begin

The bible study group that has been meeting for years on Wednesday mornings will begin again on January 8 at 10:00 A.M. We meet in the church parlor for 1.5 hours and all are welcome. The next session will be led by Retired Pastor Paul Holland. We are going to look at Adam Hamilton's study of John. The book is entitled *John: The Gospel-Light and Life* by Adam Hamilton. Please purchase your own book for the class. Cost is \$15.52.

Women's Coffee

Saturday, January 11 at 10:30 A.M. at Miss Kitty's (2501 6th Ave. N). What one small thing brings you happiness every day?



The next newsletter will be mailed on January 8. Office hours may be reduced December 24-January 3. Before stopping by the church, please call ahead of time to make sure we are open.

Rev. Lynne will be out of town December 27 – January 2. She will be available by email, phone and text. For immediate pastoral care needs, contact Rev. Eric Finsand (Our Savior's Lutheran Church) 406-799-7788.

UCC Congregational Meeting and Conversation

All members of First Congregational United Church of Christ are encouraged to attend a special Congregational Meeting on Sunday, January 5, following worship in the sanctuary. The purpose of the meeting is to provide feedback on the unification of ministries with Christ United Methodist Church. There will be updates from leadership conversations. We will discuss and vote on establishing an exploration committee to explore some of the technical aspects of formalizing a unification of the two congregations. This is the only item of business.

Call to Annual Meeting

First Congregational United Church of Christ-Great Falls Council has scheduled the 2025 Annual Meeting for Sunday, January 19 following worship. We will conduct the business of the congregation, vote on the 2025 unified budget, install board members and officers, and discuss other items of interest to the congregation. The meeting will be followed immediately by the annual meeting of the Memorial Fund Corporation. All members and friends of First Congregational United Church of Christ and Christ United Methodist Church are strongly encouraged to attend and participate, keeping in mind that only members are able to vote.

Coming Up

Monday, December 30 Annual Reports Due Wednesday, January 1, 2025 Happy New Year! Office Closed Thursday, January 2 4:00 P.M. Joint Facilities, FH

5:30 P.M. Search & Call Comm., Parlor

Sunday, January 5

10:30 A.M. UCC Conversation, Sanctuary

Monday, January 6

- 1:00 P.M. Church Growth, FH
- 1:00 P.M. Christian Service, Parlor

Wednesday, January 8

10:00 A.M. Bridge, SS Wing

10:00 A.M. Book Study, Parlor

1:00 P.M. Prayer Mtg., Parlor

- 1:30 P.M. Pinochle, FH
- 6:00 P.M. Youth Group

6:00 P.M. Handbells

7:15 P.M. Choir Rehearsal