

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

Volume 2025

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Issue 02

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Christ United Methodist Church Great Falls*

## Worship Notes For January 19, 2025 9:30 A.M.



Minister: Rev. Lynne Spencer-Smith

Scripture: Isaiah 62:1-5, John 2:1-11

Lay Reader: Ray Young

Ushers: Lois Baker, Betsy Rogstad

Acolyte: Zurie Goss

Accompanist: Barb Swaby

Sunday School: Liz Lee, Carol Shipley

Nursery: Gracie Kuszmaul, May Harris

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.

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### *Annual Meeting Sunday, January 19*

This will be an abbreviated worship service. **Following the service, everyone is encouraged to go to Fellowship Hall for the first Unified Congregational Meeting of Christ United Methodist Church and First Congregational United Church of Christ.** We will conduct business, vote on the 2025 unified budget, install board members and officers, and discuss other items of interest. **Lunch will be served by the Fellowship Board.** The UCC Memorial Fund Corporation Annual Meeting will be held after the conclusion of the Congregational Annual Meeting.

#### **Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89832724920?pwd=AwjVZtsI0HtCEeOITqOANr4PYpMPxS.1>

**Meeting ID: 898 3272 4920**

**Passcode: 424264**

## *In Our Thoughts and Prayers*



- † Memorial Service for **Julie Fabrega** is Saturday, January 18 at 11:00 A.M.
- † **Linda Holland** is experiencing some medical issues.
- † **Steve Gettel's** brother, **Roger**, is being treated for ALS and pneumonia.



### *Christian Education News*

Children age 5-8<sup>th</sup> grade begin in Sunday School on January 19. Due to the Annual Meeting, worship will be abbreviated so children will remain in Sunday School. **Please remember that children must be signed out of Sunday School by an adult.** Teachers for January 19 are Carol Shipley and Liz Lee. This week's lesson is the "Baptism of Jesus". Nursery care is provided for children through age 5.

**\*\*Childcare will be provided during the Annual Meeting, after children eat.\*\***

### **Soup-er Bowl of Caring**

Huddle up! It's time for the Soup-er Bowl of Caring! Our Soup-er Two-Church team is ready to take on a really tough opponent—Hunger! On February 9, children will lead the team with two major plays: **first, they will collect monetary donations at the end of worship. Then they will run a bake sale where they will hand of Soup-er Treats for a free-will donation. All money raised will help fight hunger in Great Falls.** Plan now to join our team so we can score a win against local hunger.

### **Secret Pen Pals Return!**

The Christian Education Board would like to sponsor a Secret Pen Pal intergenerational activity. An adult would be paired with a child or youth. **Identities remain anonymous during the letter exchange.** On "Reveal Day", the pen pals meet and do an activity together during Coffee Fellowship. **Adults and kids needed! Please contact Janet Koostra at 406-727-8443 or [janetkoostra@gmail.com](mailto:janetkoostra@gmail.com) to sign up. The program will begin March 2 and wind up April 6.** But we need your help to make this fun activity a reality. Please join in!



### *You Imagined together and delivered together.* **Gratitude Overflowing: A Heartfelt Thank You to First Congregational United Church of Christ and Christ United Methodist Church.**

As we reflect on the holiday season, we are overwhelmed with gratitude for the incredible generosity shown by our congregations. The outpouring of support for our

Thanksgiving baskets, Christmas Angel gifts, and Christmas Eve offering was truly heartwarming. It was also heartwarming to see the Sanctuary overflowing at the Christmas Eve Service.

**Thanksgiving Baskets:** thank you to everyone who contributed to our joint Thanksgiving basket drive with Christian Education. Christian Education does much of the heavy lifting in organizing this effort. All your donations helped provide meals for seven families in need, ensuring they could enjoy a warm and nourishing holiday feast. The smiles and gratitude from the West Elementary staff were a testament to the profound impact of your kindness.

**Christmas Angel Gifts:** the Christmas Angel Tree program for three families, was a resounding success, thanks to your generosity. Children who might have gone without gifts experienced the joy and excitement of receiving thoughtful presents. Your contributions brought light and happiness to their holidays, creating memories that will last a lifetime.

Your Christian Service members are incredibly grateful for your unwavering support and generosity. Together, we have made a meaningful difference in the lives of many. Thank you for being a beacon of hope and kindness. You imagined together and delivered together. Wishing you all a blessed and joyful year ahead!

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### ***Coming Up***

#### **Thursday, January 16**

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

#### **Friday, January 17**

Youth Group Lock In, First UMC

#### **Saturday, January 18**

11:00 A.M. Julie Fabrega Memorial Srvc.

#### **Sunday, January 19**

10:00 A.M. Annual Meeting, FH

3:00 P.M. Stewardship Board, Zoom.

**UCC FISH week is January 21-24, 9:00-11:00 A.M.  
If you'd like to volunteer and distribute food to  
families in need, call Carol Davidson at 836-1862.**

#### **Wednesday, January 22**

10:00 A.M. Book Study, Parlor

1:30 P.M. Pinochle, FH

6:00 P.M. Youth Leaders

6:00 P.M. Handbells

7:15 P.M. Choir Rehearsal

#### **Thursday, January 23**

1:00 P.M. Safety Committee, Parlor