



Montana - N. Wyoming Conference
United Church of Christ

CONFERENCE NEWS

Together in Spirit - January 9, 2025



DEPTH OF FAITH

Rev. Dr. Tony Clark, Conference Minister

Happy New Year! There is a quietness in this early January, perhaps because of the snow, perhaps because of the cold, perhaps because of the short days. The holiday hubbub has passed, decorations are coming down, family and friends have gone back to their work-a-day lives, and our government is returning to its performances of certifying elections, swearing in officials, and mourning a president.

During President Carter's funeral, I heard favorite words from Paul's letters that I have read at many funerals. Carter's grandson read Romans 8:38-39, telling us that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Rev. Andrew Young, who is an authorized minister in the United Church of Christ, read Ephesians 4: 31-32, telling us to be kind, tenderhearted and forgiving as Christ was.

The quietude of early January will not last forever. The day of national mourning closes with the setting sun, and our nation's next weeks will include honoring one of

our nation's greatest prophets, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., on the same day of the inauguration of a president who seems unaligned with either King or Carter. How that Monday is spent, and whatever our nation faces after that day, like Paul, I am convinced that neither rulers nor powers will separate us from the love of Christ. How we display that love to neighbors, friends, frenemies, and even enemies will reveal the depth of our faith.

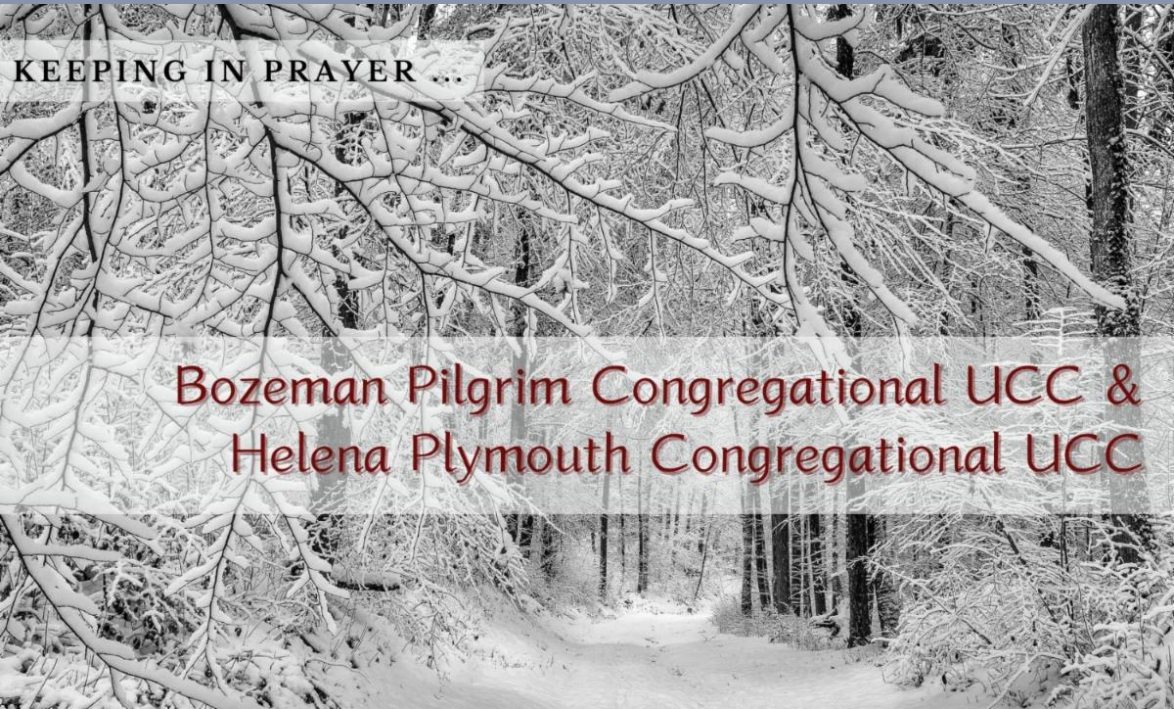
My faith has often been challenged by the actions of our government. I cry out to God, praying for humane actions toward those living under the injustices of a powerful government. I pray that Christians of all stripes will find their ways into kindness, tenderheartedness, and forgiveness, and that we all might put away falsehood, and speak the truth to our neighbors (Eph. 4:25).

Blessings on your 2025; may you live in the love of Christ,
Pastor Tony

JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

JANUARY

- January 9 - Contribution Cutoff for 2024
- January 17 - President's Day - Office Closed
- January 20 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Office Closed
- January 21 - Green Team @ 3:00 pm
- January 22 - Board of Directors @ 6 pm
- January 28 - Church and Ministry @ 3:30 pm



A Creation Justice Webinar

FROM A TOXIC MEDIA TO A TOXIC ENVIRONMENT

Wednesday, January 15th, 1:00 PM Eastern



READING INTO THE NEW YEAR:

*Wild Coin Hunting: The Recovery of Joy while
Living with Depression by: Robert Griggs*

Thursday, January 23rd | 3:30 PM Eastern





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