



The Good News of United Spirit Community Church



A Federation of Christ United Methodist Church & First Congregational United of Christ

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*like us on Facebook: First Congregational United Church of Christ-Great Falls, MT
Christ United Methodist Church Great Falls*

**June 7, 2026
Worship Service
10:00 A.M.**

**HOLY
COMMUNION**



Worship Leader: Pastor Laura Ymker
Lay Reader: Peter Johnson
Ushers: Terry Roemmich, Heather Weibel
Helping with Communion: Lois Baker,
Dale & Nancy Dallmann, Calvin Storle
Accompanist/Music Director: Melissa Gilbert
Special Music: Electric City Youth Choir
directed by Jennifer Cantley
Nursery: May Harris, Lily Yelvington
Coffee Fellowship: Doris Motley, Peggy Seeley, Heather Weibel
Treats: Mende Kloppel, Sandy Nicolai
UCC Tellers: Paul Haffeman, Nancy Zadick
Christ UMC Tellers: Rosemary Neilsen, Jeanne Nobbs

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.

New Member Class

Pastor Laura will be holding new member classes on June 14 and June 21 after worship. To become a new member, you only need to attend one of these classes. Each class will involve learning about the **United Church of Christ** and the **United Methodist Church**. **Rev. Paul Holland will share more about the Methodist Faith.** For planning purposes, if you are interested in attending either class, **please let Holly in the office know.** Thank you.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers



† *For those experiencing violence around the world. For protection of those experiencing violence and a change of heart for those causing it.*

Dear Congregation,

The Naming Committee is delighted to announce that **United Spirit Community Church** has been chosen as the new name of our united congregation.

We are deeply grateful to everyone who participated in this meaningful process- by completing the survey, submitting name ideas, sharing thoughtful comments, and voting. Your prayerful involvement, creativity, and support have helped bring us to this important milestone in our shared journey.

After reporting the election results to the congregation in the Fellowship Hall, the committee discovered that not all ballots had been included in the vote totals. Once all ballots were re-tabulated, the outcome remained the same. **United Spirit Community Church remained the top choice**, receiving a majority with 41 ranked votes in the fourth round. River of Grace Community Church received 38 votes. In earlier rounds, Disciples Quest Church was eliminated in round one, Harmony Church in round two, and First Congregational United Church of Christ – Christ United Methodist Church in round three. The voting pattern remained consistent in both the initial count and the re-tabulation. **Anyone with questions or who wishes to review the supporting data is invited to meet with Naming Committee representatives in the Parlor after worship on June 7.**

We look forward to embracing this new chapter as United Spirit Community Church and continuing our ministry together in love, service, and faith.

With gratitude and joy,

The Naming Committee



Handbell Adventure

First, I would like to thank the congregations of our church for the support and applause we received for the “**Cantabellé Ringers**” this past year in church. Maintaining an active/performing choir continues to be my biggest hurdle. In the past, we have opened our doors to new members, but getting by the initial learning stage has been challenging and very few have become regular members. To try a new direction, I would like to offer a **Handbell Adventure Class** for interested church members and friends, old or young. **This will be a summer offering and all you need to do is contact Holly in the church office and express your interest.** You will be contacted and a time will be determined to try handbells with a real hands-on experience. Show your interest and come try it out! - **Dennis Dell, Director**

Members In Need

Several folks who would like a **ride to and from church.**

There is also a **member in need of house cleaning.**

The first bit is coming up fast as a bedroom needs deep-cleaning (dusted, carpets cleaned, windows washed) before an upcoming surgery. After that, the schedule could change to **one day a week, 2-3 hours per day. If you can, or know of someone able to help, please call the church office.**

Jesus Loves the Little Children...



Christian Education News

June 7 is Communion Sunday. Since it is summer, there is no Sunday School, and Sunday School aged children attend worship with their families. We practice “open communion” which means all people- young and old, members and friends- are invited to participate in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Resources for children can be found in the “Pray Ground” on the far right of the sanctuary and in the “Christ’s Kids Bags” hanging on a rack at the back of the sanctuary. **Nursery care is provided for children through age 5.**

“Fun in the Sun” Summer Water Party

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, July 11 from 2:00 -5:30 P.M.!** This intergenerational event has **water fun for kids, shade for grownup conversation, and a pizza dinner** to top of the day!

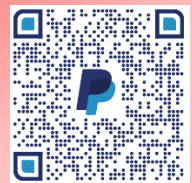
Stock the West Elementary Food Pantry Now through June 19

Donations are piling up! Just a few weeks remain before the pantry closes for the summer and we’d like to make sure the shelves are full before the doors shut. You can help by donating **non-perishable, kid-friendly foods** that store well through the summer:

- Chef Boyardee meals (pop-top)
- Canned tuna or chicken
- Canned stew or chili
- Mac & cheese
- Pasta & sauce
- Rice
- Cereal
- Shelf-stable milk
- Jelly
- Peanut-free snacks
- Manual can openers



Donations can be dropped off at the church in the West Elementary box outside the sanctuary. **OR scan the QR code** and enter **West Elementary Food Pantry** in the memo. **Your Christian Service board thanks you, as your generosity helps ensure local children enter summer with the food security they need and deserve.**



You are invited to the **Installation Service of Pastor Laura Ymker** as the called minister of First Congregational United Church of Christ/Christ United Methodist Church. **This service will be held in our sanctuary on Saturday, June 27, 2026 at 2:00 P.M. with a pie social to follow in Fellowship Hall.**

Please sign up to bring a pie! A sign- up sheet is on the table in the narthex. Thank you!

If you have the gift of music to share with the congregation, and would like to be part of Pastor Laura’s Installation Service, please let her know so that a variety of music and musicians can be incorporated.



From the Pastor

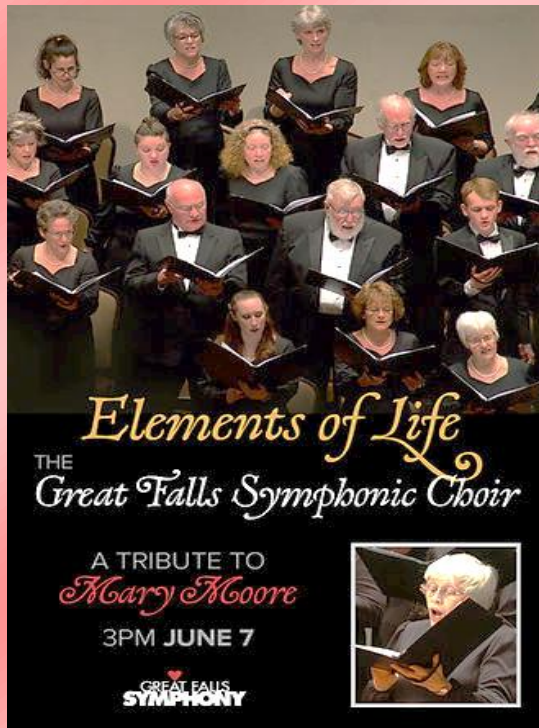
What a great finale to the naming process for our federated congregation! **Just over 70% of those voting received their 1st or 2nd choice as the name for our congregation.** Less than 3% received their least favorite name. As we celebrate, let's keep in mind that some may be disappointed in the new name. **Let's**

treat each other with kindness, seek to understand those different than ourselves, and choose to move forward together with joy.

This coming Sunday I will be preaching on the prophet Elijah's experience of God on Mount Sinai/Horeb. **Elijah's encounter with the Divine is incredibly different than Moses'.** Moses just led the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt when he climbed this mountain to discover how they should worship their God who delivered them. Elijah comes to this mountain for a different reason. The Israelites did reach the land promised to them by their God, but their kings have taken on the ways of the Egyptian pharaohs, turned to other gods, and become oppressive. As Moses went before Pharaoh, Elijah goes before the Israelite kings. He comes to Mount Sinai, tired, discouraged, disillusioned, and wishing to die. **How will God meet him on the mountain?**

This week, like Moses, **may you gaze on God's glory with an "unveiled" face.** As you contemplate the glory of God's incarnation in Christ, may you be transformed with ever-increasing glory into the image of Christ.

Pastor Laura



Special Tribute to Mary Moore

After more than a year, the Great Falls Symphonic Choir returns to the spotlight with a standalone performance, **Elements of Life.**

On June 7 at 3:00 PM, the choir takes the stage at First Congregational United Church of Christ under the direction of Jon Harney. The concert honors the legacy of Mary Moore while celebrating the return of a dedicated choral tradition in Great Falls.

From the grandeur of Handel and Bruckner to the haunting beauty of Pärt and Whitacre, the program explores **love, faith, grief, joy, and connection** through some of the choral repertoire's most compelling works!

Tickets available now at

www.gfsymphony.org/elements-of-life.

***In Paul's second letter to the Corinthians,
he writes that God loves a cheerful giver!***

Your donation of hand-made bags and pillows given last month was so deeply appreciated. I know it was given with joy in your heart, knowing the joy your act of kindness would bring to others.

The Great Falls Rescue Mission relies on in-kind donations of all

sorts to care for our homeless and needy neighbors. Contributions of food, clothing, computer equipment, books, and many other material goods- help offset our budget and have a direct and positive impact on the men, women & children in our care. Your generous spirit demonstrates your mercy for those who are homeless without hope. Thank you again for your ongoing support. May God bless you for your cheerful giving! Carrie Matter, Executive Director



Pride Service

Sunday, June 7, 2026

7:00 P.M.

First United Methodist Church (610 2nd Ave. N.)

Pastor Laura is preaching and Dean Jardee is providing music. There will be a Broadway Sing Along. Drag welcome.

Sponsored by

The Progressive Ministerial Association

Coming Up

Thursday, June 4

12:00 P.M. Facilities, Fellowship Hall

5:30 P.M. Book Discussion with
Pastor Laura, Fellowship Hall

Sunday, June 7

9:00 A.M. Fellowship Board, FH

10:00 A.M. Worship Service

11:00 A.M. Coffee Fellowship

11:15 A.M. Worship Board, Parlor

3:00 P.M. Mary Moore Tribute Concert

7:00 P.M. Pride Service, First United
Methodist Church, 610 2nd Ave. N

Monday, June 8

1:00 P.M. Christian Service Board

Tuesday, June 9

5:00 P.M. Memorial Board, Parlor

Wednesday, June 10

1:30 P.M. Prayer Circle, Parlor

1:30 P.M. Pinochle, Fellowship Hall

Holly will be out of the office June 10-12