

Moderators Message

Dear Disciples Family,

I am a true believer that God works in many ways to show he never leaves us. To name a few of those ways, I believe he sent a number of angels to help move furniture so our carpets could be cleaned and more angels to help patch and paint the minister's office. He also has healing powers during this time when we cannot be there with our family & friends to hug and comfort them in person. We have prayer warriors in our congregation who pray without ceasing for healing & comfort. He sent us Pastor David to get us through this interim period and ready when the search committee has a new pastor for us. All I can say is Thank You!

LeAnn Budeski, Moderator

Newsletter Changes

Beginning in May "The View" will be sent out electronically to your email address. Please sign up now at www.gfccc.net if you would like to continue to receive the monthly church news. Be aware that your email address will not be put on any other list, published or given out

We will continue to send out a few hard copies to those who request it. Please give us a call at the church office if you prefer to receive "The View" by mail.

THE VIEW

**Central Christian Church
1025 Central Avenue
Great Falls, Montana 59401**

Church Office (406) 453-4317
web page www.gfccc.net
e-mail: cccgf1025@gmail.com

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Great Falls, MT

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Rev. David James, Interim Minister
Ruth Lindabury, Church Administrator**

The mission of Central Christian Church is to empower people for Christ's ministries in their daily lives: home, school, workplace, church, and Community.

VISION STATEMENT

To be an inclusive people living God's radical love that challenges all to grow in faith and mission.

March 2021



Handicap Accessible

Church Building Reopens with Precautions! 10:00am Worship

You are welcome to gather at a safe social distance in the sanctuary if you are feeling healthy and are wearing a mask for everyone's protection. We ask that if you are planning to attending that you adhere to the precautionary guidelines during the COVID-19 Pandemic that are located inside the newsletter.

WE WILL ALSO ZOOM WORSHIP in order to make our church accessible to those at risk, our homebound, and people away from Great Falls. The church will continue to send emails with the Zoom link and the code will be posted on our website. If you don't have access to the internet, you can still participate in worship by calling one of the numbers on any telephone.

March Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

1 Charlie Novak
2 Lynn Yahraus
3 Shayla LaVallie
9 Casey Hunter
10 Ron Greene
11 Landon Carroll
15 Sheryl Knowles
21 Karen Frank-Plumlee
22 Earl Batchelor
25 Gwen Kakalecik

27 Judy Kenmir
28 Arlene Morrison
30 Glenn McKerrow
30 Donna Low

Anniversaries

16 Jim & Sherry Freeman





Well, yesterday, I finished moving several files on my computer to my archive folder. Most of them were related to Advent and Christmas. It really seems as though that

season of the church year just finished. Now, we are in the midst of the Lenten season, and Easter is quickly approaching. Time is moving forward indeed. I do have to admit that I was not ready for Lent. I hadn't yet contemplated what might be my Lenten spiritual practice this year. Often, when Lent arrives, people consider what they might "give up" for Lent. Usually, I hear jokes about giving up chocolate or some other typically silly "sacrifice." Too often, I think that Lent is seen as a time of deprivation and even misery. Yet there is another way to look at Lent – as an opportunity to grow, both spiritually and personally. Suppose we want to grow in this way. In that case, we need to focus on "giving up" something entirely different from chocolate or some other "bad" habit. Focusing on positive change is an opportunity for growth. Now, I would admit that giving up chocolate could be seen as a positive change. However, we can go much deeper – we can embark on a fasting season – but not in the ordinary sense of fasting. I recently received an email that contained suggestions of what we might "give-up" for Lent, of how we might "fast." The recommendations come from Pope Francis:

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with patience.
- Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints; contemplate simplicity.

	OUR WORSHIP SERVICES	
Sunday, March 7 10:00 Worship		
Sunday, March 14 10:00am Worship		
Sunday, March 21 10:00am Worship		
Sunday, March 28 Palm Sunday 10:00am Worship		

- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness; fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words; be silent and listen.

There, now I have some ideas of what my Lenten spiritual practices could be. I hope you find something useful here as well.

Pastor David

PASTOR'S SCHEDULE

Pastor David will be working Sunday to Thursday each week. Saturday is his study/retreat day, and Friday will be his day off. Pastor David is available at all time for emergencies. For urgent matters please call or text him at 510-461-0791. You may also contact him by email at pastor@gfccc.net.

Community Joys and Concerns

Janet McDonald's mother, Hilde Grimes has been placed in hospice. Please pray for her and her family.

Sidney Skaer still needs our prayers for healing.

Joys

Joey Taylor's ear surgery went well and he is now recovering.

Kathryn Vessels is in remission! We rejoice with Kathryn & Ellie on the wonderful news!

St. Patrick's Day Dinner Canceled

Until further notice the Lydia Group will be canceling St. Patrick's Day Dinner and the Annual Potato Bake. The rummage is still tentative for the Spring, however, we are still accepting donations. Please watch for news about a date.

Thank You!

A **BIG THANK YOU** to the work crew who moved furniture for carpet cleaning and for the crew that painted the minister's office:

Barb & Jerry Kakalecik, Brett Fagenstrom, Kevin McCafferty, Jean Muir, Chris Hunter, LeAnn Budeski, and Clint and Margaret Houge.

Central Christian Church Video

Please take a moment to view the Search Committee's Video about the community of Great Falls and Central Christian Church. It is located on the webpage at www.gfccc.net. A big thanks to Charlie and Jacob Novak for putting it together.

Volunteers Needed

Please sign up for snow removal at the church. A sign up sheet is located in the church or let Brett Fagenstrom know you can be available.

March 28 and April 4, 2021

Easter Offering

a special day offering of
Disciples Mission Fund



Several times a year, congregations receive a special offering to support the ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). These gifts are given above and beyond the regular core support of Disciples Mission Fund.

The Easter Offering, received by most congregations on March 28 and April 4, 2021, supports several of the general ministries of the Christian Church. Your gift supports college students in leadership development programs, global mission partners, health and social service ministries, the formation of new congregations, support for pastors and chaplains, and so much more.

Your gift has the power to change lives around the world

Pastoral Search Committee Report

Work continues apace with your Pastoral Search Committee. We have reviewed and discussed profiles of ten candidates thus far. We then narrowed the field down to two. Last Monday we interviewed both candidates. After discussion and prayer, we unanimously voted to contact our top candidate and request a sample service and sermon recording. As we review it, we are also contacting the candidate's references as another step in our process. Please keep the Search and Call Committee in your prayers.



Your Pastoral Search Committee: Jeremy Comstock, Elaine Higgins, Viv Hunter, Yessie Jarvey, Sheryl Knowles, Kevin McCafferty, Ken Palisin, Chair

COVID Vaccine

We are now in the second year of the COVID pandemic. While it has been difficult for all of us, there does appear to be some light at the end of the proverbial tunnel. With the COVID vaccines becoming available, there is a reason for hope. If you have already received your vaccination, YEAH! If not, you can find information about the current phases in Cascade County and, when able, schedule your vaccination at <https://www.benefis.org/coronavirus/covid-19-vaccine> or by calling 406-455-2500. If/when you have been vaccinated, it would be helpful if you would let Pastor David know (pastor@gfcc.net). Knowing the ratio of vaccinated members will help us in future planning around COVID safety. In the meantime, stay well!



Guidelines for Attending In-person Worship

We ask people to adhere to the following considerations:

- Everyone entering the building must wear a face mask/covering.
- Please maintain a social distance of at least 6 feet from others.
- People at elevated risk should not enter the church.
- Anyone experiencing fever, cough, or cold/flu-like symptoms should stay at home.
- People are encouraged to bring their face masks; a limited number of extra masks will be available from greeters for anyone arriving without one.
- Family members should sit together, at least 6 feet away from other families or individuals.
- Everyone is encouraged to bring their own small bottle of hand sanitizer and wash or sanitize hands and avoid touching their face or mask.
- Everyone is asked to follow the verbal instructions of those leading in the worship service.

MARCH 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 10:00am AA 1:00pm Alanon 7:00pm Search Committee	2 10:00am AA 6:30pm ACA	3 10:00am AA	4 10:00am AA	5 10:00am AA	6
7 9:00am Elders 10:00am Worship 6:00pm ACA	8 10:00am AA 1:00pm Alanon 7:00pm Search Committee	9 10:00am AA 6:30pm ACA	10 10:00am AA	11 10:00am AA	12 10:00am AA	13 3:00pm MT Blind & Low Vision
14 9:00am Elders 10:00am Worship 6:00pm ACA	15 10:00am AA 1:00pm Alanon 7:00pm Search Committee	16 10:00am AA 6:30pm ACA	17 10:00am AA 	18 10:00am AA 7:00pm Lydia Group	19 10:00am AA	20
21 9:00am Elders 10:00am Worship 6:00pm ACA	22 10:00am AA 1:00pm Alanon 7:00pm Search Committee	23 10:00am AA 6:30pm ACA	24 10:00am AA	25 10:00am AA	26 10:00am AA	27
28 9:00am Elders 10:00am Worship 6:00pm ACA 	29 10:00am AA 1:00pm Alanon 7:00pm Search Committee	30	31			