



# The View

August 2024

1025 Central Avenue  
Great Falls, MT 59401  
(406) 453-4317

## Isaiah 43:19 (NIV)

See, I am doing a new thing!

Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?

I am making a way in the wilderness

and streams in the wasteland.



What a whirlwind the last month has been. Under normal circumstances I would never take a vacation within two months of starting a new job. But, nothing in the last year has been normal. When we planned this trip it made sense for us to drive. After all, we were in Missouri and it is only 15 hours from St. Louis to Port Canaveral, FL (where we were getting on the cruise ship). It made a lot less sense driving from Montana. But it is not necessarily the most cost effective for a family of 5 to fly. So 5,050 miles in a car together and we have arrived safely back home.

In the scripture I included from Isaiah the prophet speaks about doing a new thing. That is life for my family and I right now. Everything is new. Through the energy and excitement of the move there were few emotions. And mostly just excitement. The kids had not visited here yet. And they had seen pictures.

They were excited to see the town, the house, and the church. I would say excitement was the word that most described that time of “new” in our life.

Here we are just 2 months later and I think that word has changed to “fear” or “uncertainty”. That is not to say that there is not excitement still, but things are definitely different. New schools. Loss of friendships (though thank God for social media and phones so they can stay connected). New church family.

Everything is new. Even telling our family goodbye this time was harder because there isn't a scheduled plan in place for when we might see them again.

And in just 2 short weeks, as a family we will undergo another big change. Emma and Jerry will be flying out of Great Falls on August 14 to take her to college. This is scary, sad, exciting, and all kinds of other emotions rolled into one major change. She is ready. I know she is. But I do ask for grace for

myself. If you see me randomly crying, I promise everything will be ok, I just know I will be sad for a while.

I know that God is in control. That with God myself, Jerry, and the kids will see the new way that God is creating for us. God is making a way in the wilderness (or, uhm, mountains). And there is definite excitement in that. I pray that you all feel that excitement as well. That we all are walking the new path together and know that it is God that is guiding us if we allow it. Let's go with excitement. And let's go with God.

Pastor Mandy

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# Joys/Concerns

*Our thoughts and prayers go out to:*

## *Our World*

- For the safety of all the Olympic Athletes competing in France.
- For **Jews, Muslims, and Arabs** across the world facing persecution and violence.
- For a permanent ceasefire and the return of all **Israeli** and **Palestinian** hostages.
- For the people of **Ukraine** and **Russia** as the ongoing conflict continues to disrupt lives

## *Our Community*

- For all the students and teachers as they return to school at the end of the month.
- For the local agencies working on food insecurity.
- For our unhoused neighbors that may be struggling with the heat.
- For those suffering from mental health issues and addiction.

## *Our Church*

- For those traveling over the Summer to have safe journeys.
  - For LeAnn Budeski's son-in-law Charlie who had successful surgery and is waiting for follow-up treatment.
  - For the volunteers at our church who do all the hidden chores that make our church a beautiful facility. Thank you!
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# Thank You!

A few years ago I made it a habit of sending well written personalized thank you cards to anyone that I needed to say thank you to. I learned when I started that practice how great it was to take the time to thank others and how big of an impact that had on me. I need to thank everyone for the tremendous support we received when we arrived in Great Falls. However, things arrived and all happened so quickly that it is impossible for me to remember or know who gave us what. Thank you to those that provided food, gift cards, kitchen items, plants, and the many other ways that we were supported. You all made the move so much smoother (especially since we did not have our own items for so long). My family and I are grateful for all of you! Thank you!  
Pastor Mandy

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## Cane Ridge West 40th Anniversary

Registration is now open for the Cane Ridge West 40th Anniversary on August 30th to September 2. There will be festivities and events going on each day with a church service, baptisms, and free-will offering lunch on Sunday. Come for a day, or stay the weekend! Register at [www.caneridgewest.org](http://www.caneridgewest.org).

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Discover the  
path to financial well-being

2 opportunities each month on the 3rd Thursday starting on August 15

**“Wills, Trusts, Powers of Attorney  
& Other Confusing Stuff!”**

Senior Center  
1004 Central Ave  
Great Falls, MT  
3rd Thursday of each month 1-3 PM

**“Financial Independence”  
It is as Easy as 1,2,3!**

Central Christian Church  
1025 Central Avenue  
Great Falls, MT  
3rd Thursday of each month from 7-9 PM

Presented by Randall Knowles

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# Financial Corner

It doesn't take a fortune to leave a legacy. Ask our endowment and trust chair, Randy Knowles.

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## 12 Step Programs Available

### ACA

(Adult Children of Alcoholics and Dysfunctional Families)

This groups meets on Sundays at 6:00pm in the Youth Room.

For more information contact Teresa M. at (406) 590-7959.

### The Road to Wellbriety in the Native American Way

This group meets on Wednesday's at 11:00am in the Youth Room. This 12-step program in based on the 4 laws of change, Medicine Wheel Teachings and Natural Laws.

**All are Welcome!**

For more information contact Teresa M. at (406) 590-7959.

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Wishing a very **Happy August Birthday** to our members celebrating soon:

- 6 Calissa Field
- 8 Kevin McCafferty
- 9 Jory Fuentez

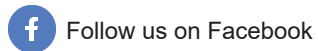
Wishing a very **Happy August Anniversary** to our members celebrating soon:

- 9 Gary & Kathy Asich
  - 10 Jeremy & Emily Comstock
  - 15 Brad & Tory Reynolds
  - 19 Rob & Rachel Buley
  - 28 Brett & Shelly Fagenstrom
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## August Calendar

- 15 Financial Independence Class
- 25 Blessing of the Backpacks
- 30-Sept. 2 Cane Ridge West 40th Anniversary
- 28 School Start

For entire church calendar go to: [Church Calendar](#)



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