



# The View

February 2025

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

## Finding Hope in Uncertain Times

*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."*

— Jeremiah 29:11



As we settle into this new year, many of us are feeling a deep sense of unease. Since the inauguration, tensions have continued to rise in our country and around the world. The divisions we had hoped might heal seem to have deepened. The weight of injustice, the uncertainty of leadership, and the fears for our collective future can feel overwhelming. But as followers of Christ, we are called to see beyond what is immediate and trust in the greater movement of God's justice and love.

The prophet Jeremiah wrote to a people in exile, a people who had lost everything familiar and found themselves in a foreign land, unsure of what lay ahead. And yet, in the midst of their displacement, God spoke words of reassurance: *I have plans for you. I have hope for you.* That same promise speaks to us today.

The hope we hold as Christians is not passive optimism but an active, faith-filled conviction that God's love is still at work. We see hope in the communities standing up for justice, in the voices calling for peace, in the hands reaching out to help the most vulnerable. We see it in the work of reconciliation happening in small but meaningful ways—across dinner tables, in church sanctuaries, and on the streets where people gather to demand a better world.

As a church rooted in the love and grace of Jesus Christ, we are called to be agents of this hope. We are invited to be peacemakers, bridge builders, and truth tellers. In what ways can we as the members of Central Christian Church continue to share hope, mercy, peace, and truth to this community, the country, and the world? Now is the time. We are called. We are equipped. We know what our purpose is. Now is the time to really put that in action. And I truly want to hear your ideas. Do we need to make phone calls? Protest? Write letters? Without a doubt one thing we need to do is continue to make this space a safe space for all who wish to encounter God.

We may feel discouraged, but we are not abandoned. We may struggle, but we are not without purpose. The road ahead may be uncertain, but God is still guiding us forward.

Let us continue to pray, to act, and to love boldly. The future is not yet written, and as Disciples of Christ, we are co-creators with God in shaping a world where justice, mercy, and hope abound.

May we be strengthened by this promise and move forward in faith.

Blessings,  
Pastor Mandy

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# Joys/Concerns

*Our thoughts and prayers go out to:*

## *Our World*

- For the administration to act with mercy and compassion.
- For all of those dealing with the aftermath of natural disasters.
- For all of those affected by gun violence.
- 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 the local agencies working on food insecurity.
- For our unhoused neighbors that may be struggling with the cold.
- For those suffering from mental health issues and addiction.

## *Our Church*

- For Carl Donovan, who is having surgery.
  - For Sherri Freeman who is awaiting surgery.
  - For Marjorie Kohler who is celebrating her 90th birthday!
  - For Summer McKerrow in her job search.
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# Lydia Group

The Lydia Group raised \$639 from the potato bake. Thank you to all that supported this fundraiser!

The Annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner will be held on March 16, 2025. We hope everyone will join us for the dinner and auction.

Lydia Group will be meeting on February 20 at 1:30pm. The Evening Lydia Group will meet on February 27th at 6:00pm.



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## This and That!

### Financial Corner

You can create a plan to advance your beliefs into the future – Ask our endowment and trust chair, Randy Knowles.

### Financial Independence As Easy as 1, 2, 3

This will be held on February 20, 2025 from 7pm-9pm at Central Christian Church (Please enter at the alley)

Bring your financial questions and see if you can stump the speaker

RSVP Randall Knowles  
406-799-1547

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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.



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

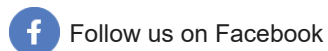
- 6 Marjorie Kohler
- 19 Carl Donovan
- 26 Chris Hunter
- 26 Kota Gosik
- 27 Kathy Asich

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### February Calendar

- 2 Board Meeting
- 14 **Valentine's Day**
- 17 **President's Day**
- 20 Financial Independence
- 20 Lydia Group
- 27 Evening Lydia Group

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



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