

Shalom

Red Lodge Community Church, UCC



January, 2022 *Notes from the Sky Pilot's Page* Red Lodge, Montana

As we enter into the New Year, we follow the journey of the magi into Epiphany, the revelation of the story of God's love to the world. One of the many Christmas songs that reveals the meaning of Epiphany is the carol, "Do You Hear What I Hear?" written in 1962 by Noel Regney and Gloria Shayne in response to the Cuban Missile Crisis. What better song for us to look to as we enter into yet another year of the pandemic crisis.

I would like all of us to ask ourselves this question – **"Do we think that other people in the world (in Red Lodge specifically) need to hear the message that we hear on Sunday mornings in worship?"** If the answer is **"Yes!"** (and I hope that it is), then we need to figure a way forward so that as many people in the world (especially those in Red Lodge) can hear this message. How we do this will be a community effort. In the song it is the night wind that points to the sky and the star that the magi follow. It is up to all of us to point the way forward for our worshipping community.

While the song features a leader who speaks a message of peace, goodness, and light, our church is a congregational church where it is up to each and every one of us to share that message, not just the preacher. In March of 2020, the morning after I returned home from visiting my family in Western New York, the **first morning "working" after the official shut down, I shared this thought with my dearest friend, "We've closed down the church. We will never get them all back, no matter what. People will not come back once they have stopped coming. What are we going to do?"** And true to that prophecy, we have gone from a worshipping community of 150 down to 75, and only a few of those are losses due to death or emigration.

I believe that our church is called to be the prophets crying out in the desert of a post-COVID world, **"Do you see what we see? Do you hear what we hear?!"** In order to be those prophets, we must be transparent in naming the difficulty that we are having in gathering our folks back for in-person corporate worship. We must name the difficulty that we are having in finding our way forward in the most unknown time in history. And we must name our way forward in a way of trust, instinct, and community. Our way forward will be to trust the creator, listen to the instinct of the redeemer, and sustain our worshipping community.

In the song, the night wind talks to the lamb, the lamb talks to the shepherd boy, the shepherd boy talks to the king, and the king talks to the people. This is the way that churches are built – one person talks to the next who shares with the next and so on, until the message reaches the masses. Our message is one of welcome and inclusion, peace and goodwill. As we find our way forward and begin the process of rebuilding our worshipping community in this post-COVID world, let the night wind point you in the direction of the star, in the direction of worship, in the direction of returning to our community of worship.

Peace,

Pastor Pam

A graphic of a spiral-bound notebook with a green cover and a white page. The spiral binding is orange and yellow. The text is centered on the page.

To Do List:

Red Lodge Community Church Annual Meeting & Potluck

January 16, 2022

11:00 am after our Worship Service

This year's meeting will include

“RLCC 2022 Goal Setting”

for our church. All ideas and questions will be shared using the

“Gracious Space” model, led by Pastor Pam.

If you cannot attend and would like to share your thoughts on goals for our church, please e-mail them to Pastor Pam by January 15.

Please bring your favorite Potluck dish to share!

*****Thank you to all the Committee members who worked so hard this last year. Your energy and dedication is admired and recognized. Please remember to get the year end report into the office by January 7, 2022.

Email: Janet; rlccassistant@gmail.com*****



Pastor Pam's December Schedule

Preaching Sundays Jan 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Jan 2 Preaching via Zoom from Colorado

Holiday Schedule

Off January 1-4, except 2

Working remotely Jan 5-6

Off Dec 25-27

Office Hours after Jan. 6: Mondays 10-3

Available for appointments

Sunday-Thursday, days and evenings after January 6

**Pastoral emergency coverage available while working remotely
and for vacation days; please call the church office**

MOMENT FROM THE MODERATOR



To the congregation from Bill Cords

As the incoming Moderator for our church it is an honor, privilege and challenge.

Jim Brown provided terrific service and leadership in helping us get through very difficult times.

Pastor Pam has developed a very positive and welcoming environment for us all while working hard to involve our church in the community and making our church available to the community in very good ways.

We need to build on that.

We have challenges but every challenge presents an opportunity.

I look forward to working with each and every one of you going forward.

Each person has a role to play.

I am only one but I am one and as one I can do at least one thing very, very well.

Let's have a great year!

God Bless

Bill Cords

A Word from the Deacons....

Our Deacons would like to thank Marie Shirley Jones and Grazia Giacomelli for the beautiful sanctuary decorations during our Advent and Christmas Season. Pastor Pam's soul touching services, Lynell's, Marty's, and every choir member's beautiful music filled our hearts with joy and spiritually prepared us for Christmas. Our

We are also grateful for the addition of Mark Sechler to our Deacon Committee. He will bring new thoughts and ideas to our group. We will continue to have a signup sheet for Coffee Hour and Greeters and appreciate your service to these activities. Please contact one of your Deacons if you have suggestions for improving your

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Love and Peace, Your Deacons

Renee Gabrian	rrgabrian@hotmail.com
Debbie Awes	debawes51@hotmail.com
Don Kinney	dlkinney54@gmail.com
Lori Floyd	lorifloyd02@gmail.com
Helen MacKay	hmackay49@gmail.com
Sharyn McKenzie	sharyn@nemont.net
Bill Cords	billcords81@yahoo.com
Mark Sechler	sechlermc@gmail.com



Deacons:

1/2: Lori Floyd, Helen Mackay

1/9: Renee Gabrian, Mark Sechler

1/16: Bill Cords, Don Kinney

1/23: Lori Floyd, Renee Gabrain

1/30: Renee Gabrain, Don Kinny

Greeters:

1/2:

1/9: Brent & Marge Nearpass

1/16: Nancy Krekeler

1/23:

1/30: Kiyoko Carlson

Facility Committee

Notes on our Church's History from Facilities Management.

The photo for this month (January of 2021) is the oldest photograph we've found that shows the Church building with people. This photo, taken 103 years ago in January of 1918, shows a gathering at what was then **the Church's front entryway**. This was taken while the building housed the Odd Fellows Lodge as you can see from the sign and the plaque over the entranceway through the Bell Tower. For architectural history, the photo shows the original big steps and the entryway through the bell tower. On the right, you can see our building's big stained glass window with its original panels, the ones that matched the stained-glass side windows.



The “people history” of this photo reflects one of the odder and little remembered aspects of the US involvement in World War I after we joined the Allied side in April of 1917. There was a lot of enforced patriotism, as one might expect, but some of it took on a disturbingly familiar anti-immigrant turn. The local “Liberty Committee” lobbied hard to keep some immigrants from being allowed to join the American Army serving

in France. For a while, they managed to block enlistment by Serbian immigrants who resided in Red Lodge even though Serbia was one of the Allies. The Odd Fellows somehow found a recruiting officer for the Serbian Army and brought him to Red Lodge. He is the fellow on the bottom step in the gray uniform and riding boots. In the crowd are 39 young and not-so young Serbian immigrants who have just signed up to serve with the Serbian army which, with British and French allies, were fighting the German, Austrian, and Bulgarian armies on the “southern front” in the Balkans. Most people will remember that there was a Western front in France where Allies armies fought Germans, and an Eastern Front where Russians fought Germans and Austrians. Movies have taught us about the Allies fighting the Turks (Peter O’Toole in “Lawrence of Arabia” and Mel Gibson at “Gallipoli”), and maybe some will remember (thanks to having to read Ernest Hemmingway novels) that the Italians fought the Austrians in the Tyrolian Alps. Hardly anybody remembers that rest of the southern front in the Balkans but that’s where War War 1 actually started in 1914. In 1918, it was grinding on there as terribly there as elsewhere. In January of 1918, when this photo was taken, the end of the War was still another 11 months in the future.

So, what you see in the photo are Red Lodge’s Serbian volunteers coming in to a send-off dinner and dance organized for them by the Odd Fellows. Another historical note to this photo. Those older men wearing what look like band uniforms --- they are members of the Red Lodge chapter of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), a veterans organization like today’s VFW and American Legion except that its members were veterans of the Union Army in the Civil War. That war had ended only fifty years before this photo was taken during World War I which, for us, ended more than a century ago. Lots to reflect on when looking at this photo, eh?

New Year's Word Search

J A N U A R Y F R I E N A C E
F R I E N D S Y A S R I L A H
N E Y S E R T I E M O W B L C
B S I L Y F A E N E I Y A E O
N O C R N V N V E Y D L B N U
A L D C L O C K L T I E Y D N
R U V E W M I D N I G H T A T
V T O A S T W S N O L Y I R D
G I A N I N G S E V E U A R O
C O N F E T T I T M I N G S W
R N O L C E L E B R A T I O N
A J A N U E L V E I M K E R A
Y P A R T Y H A A P Y S E V W
N E W Y E A R C L O K S O R Y
S H A P P Y E B A L L R E S O

BABY

BALL

CALENDAR

CELEBRATION

CLOCK

CONFETTI

COUNTDOWN

EVE

FAMILY

FRIENDS

HAPPY

JANUARY

MIDNIGHT

NEW YEAR

NOISEMAKER

PARTY

RESOLUTION

TOAST





Friends & Family of Jack Burns, Linda Fellows, Dennis Howe, Morgan Humble, Randee Leason, Evelyn Rolshoven

Mail Chimp Mailings

Have you been missing your Monday Memo and Weekly Wrangler that are sent out through Mail Chimp? If so, you may have been accidentally unsubscribed from the email list. If you'd like you re-subscribe, you can do so by [clicking this link](#). You can also email



Enjoying the Directory ?

We hope you are all enjoying the new church directory! We have had some folks who experienced issues accessing, downloading, and/or printing the directory. If you're one of those and you haven't emailed or called in for some help yet, please do. For those of you who still need to get your photos in, or if you need to update your information, you can send an email directly or you can use the directory form on the website. If you have questions or issues email or call Janet at the church office. Enjoy!

**If you had recently received a copy of the Directory via mail or stopping by please take a quick look to see if a few pages are missing. It's been brought to our attention that a misprint occur on a few request. Call, email or stop by and Janet will be happy to reprint you a new*



A Note from the Office :

- * Please check with calendar for church usages
- * Council & Committee Minutes are available for review in the church office.



January 2022

Happy
New Year

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Loretta Sironan Jean Bullock
2 10:00 LIVE Worship Alicia Angell	3 No Staff Meeting	4	5 9:30am Coffee Klatch Patty Schuessler Julia Childs Brent Nearpass LuAnn & Dan Brown	6 9:30am Zoom Prayer 3:30 Girl Scout Meeting	7 Debbie Tomicich	8
9 10:00 LIVE Worship	10 1:00pm Staff Meetings	11	12 9:30am Coffee Klatch 11:00am Stewardship Meeting	13 9:30am Zoom Prayer 3:30 Girl Scout Meeting 5:30pm Church Council Meeting David & Donna Ritter	14	15 Linda & Jim Young
16 10:00 LIVE Worship 11:00am Annual Meeting w/Potluck 3:00 4H meeting	17 1:00pm Staff Meetings	18	19 9:30am Coffee Klatch	20 9:30am Zoom Prayer 3:30 Girl Scout Meeting	21	22
23 10:00 LIVE Worship	24 1:00pm Staff Meetings	25	26 9:30am Coffee Klatch Tamara Childs	27 9:30am Zoom Prayer 3:30 Girl Scout Meeting	28 Suzann Anderson	29
30 10:00 LIVE Worship	31 1:00pm Staff Meetings					Birthdays Anniversary

Shalom

Red Lodge Community Church, UCC
308 S. Broadway
P.O. Box 786
Red Lodge, MT 59068

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Our Mission Statement

The Red Lodge Community Church, UCC welcomes all people to worship, fellowship and to **study God's word. We seek to be servants of our Lord in the care of all people."**

How to Reach
RED LODGE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.
(Website pre-recorded services continue to be available)

Church Phone: (406) 446-1444
Church Address: 308 S. Broadway
P.O. Box 786, Red Lodge, MT 59068
www.redlodgecommunitychurch.com
Email: rlccassistant@gmail.com or rlccdirector@gmail.com
Office Hours: M-F 10am-3pm & and by appointment
Pastor: Pamela J. Peterson
Office Hours: by appointment only
Cell: (406) 426-8715
Email: pastorpampeterson@gmail.com

