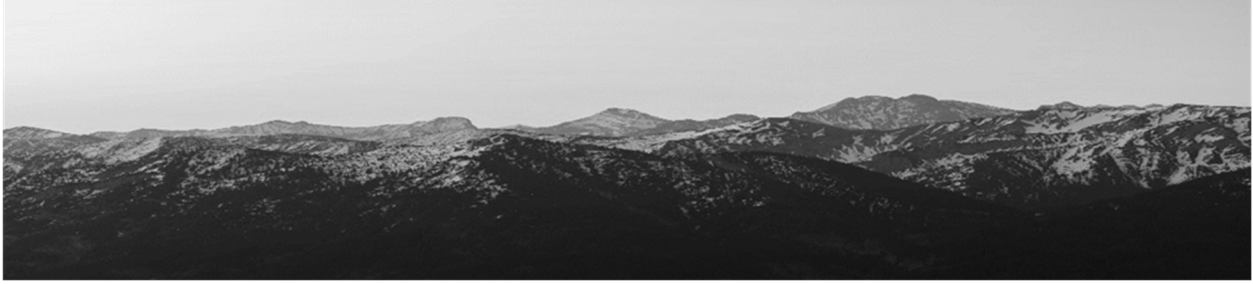


Shalom

Red Lodge Community Church, UCC



January 2021 **Notes from the Sky Pilot's Page** Red Lodge, Montana

Isaiah 43: 18-19 "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past, See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs, up; do you not perceive it?"

"Happy New Year!" Oh, how we have waited and waded through 2020 to be able to say, "Happy New Year!!" And with it, we call on this wonderful prophet Isaiah for the reassurance that God will indeed do a new thing. God will do a new thing, and, in that newness, we must not dwell on the past. Remember where we came from and what we've come through? Yes, for we cannot forget the suffering and grief of the year that we've just come through. And as the new year springs up before us we will put our "perceiving" to good use.

The art of perception has three dynamic parts. How we perceive ourselves, how others perceive us and how we perceive what others are perceiving of us. Reread that last sentence and let it soak in. It is through the work of understanding perception that we will take our church into the new year. How do we perceive our church? How do others perceive our church? How do we perceive what others are perceiving of our church? And remember, as the children's song goes, "You are the church, I am the church, we are the church together."

The "togetherness" of the United Church of Christ is based on the foundation of "covenant." My perception of covenant is that it is a promise with God, myself and our church. We are the church together. And together we will go forward into 2021 with the promise that we will pray together, worship together, learn together, struggle together, and strive to be God's people together in new ways. What is your perception of covenant? What do you think is other people's perception of our covenants? Do these three perceptions of covenant match up? Those are the guiding questions for our church in 2021.

Borrowing from Martin Luther King Jr.'s covenantal foundation, our "Beloved Community" has much work to do in both perception and covenant. We will be reviewing our By-Laws and Standing Rules; committee covenants and programming will direct the focus of this work. Going into 2021 we will draw on the strength of our "Love in Action" successes from the past and apply that strength to the work set before us. God is doing a new thing; I invite you to perceive it with me.

Happy New Year to my Beloved Community,

Pastor Pam

Moment from the Moderator



"Getting over a painful experience is much like crossing monkey bars. You have to let go at some point in order to move forward."

— C. S. LEWIS

The time has arrived for each of us to "let go and move forward." A new year is beginning. The year 2020 allowed our congregation to experience, embrace, and learn the benefits of technology. Regular services, special services, committee meetings, coffee hours, prayer times, and a multitude of other meetings were all conducted in an online manner without the benefit of hand to hand and face to face contact. Shortly, we will return to a more normal worship situation. Our church building will again ring with sounds of laughter and excited voices. Technology will continue to enhance our worship experience at the Red Lodge Community Church. New challenges will continue to arise. So, three questions will have to be addressed. How do we proceed? What happens when we fail? When do we begin?

I offer three quotes as guidance for our endeavors in the year 2021. First, how do we proceed?

➤ *"Take the first step in faith. You don't have to see the whole staircase. Just take the first step."*

- MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

Second, what happens when we fail?

➤ *"Failure is the opportunity to begin again more intelligently."* - HENRY FORD

Third, when do we begin?

➤ *"Every moment is a fresh beginning."* - T. S. ELIOT

OK! It is time to **let go, take the first step, embrace failure** as an opportunity to move forward intelligently, and **treat each day as a new beginning.**

~ Jim Brown

Moderator for Church Council



Worship Services

Please join us for our pre-recorded [video service on our website](#). The "[Weekly Bulletin](#)" can be found via the link on the home page or the drop down "Getting Involved" menu on the website. You can follow along with the bulletin online or download a PDF version to print off at home. Our services are really creative and beautiful these days, so join us and enjoy!

If you are having trouble getting the videos to open up with your Internet service, we are providing flash drives or DVDs with the service video loaded onto them for your convenience. Just call the church at 446-1444 or email us at rlccassistant@gmail.com to make arrangements to pick one up.

Remember, if you have a pastoral emergency, please call Pastor Pam at:

1-406-426-8715.



A Word from the Deacons....



Advent calendars, devotionals, Christmas greetings, and music CDs, were either delivered or mailed to those members who are homebound due to the pandemic by your deacons. Thank you to Mia Talon and Jay West for their idea of this Christmas gift and their assistance in the production of the event. Our Wednesday 9:00 AM Zoom gathering has been named the Church Chat and Coffee Klatch. All members are invited to join by sending an email to hmackay@gmail.com, debawes51@hotmail.com, or rrgabrian@hotmail.com. We prepared the sanctuary for Advent and the Christmas seasons and hope that you are all enjoying the wonderful services and music that are being recorded. Happy New Year!

Church Chat and Coffee Klatch



If you would like to be included in a weekly Zoom gathering with other church and community folks, here are the options. Please feel free to e-mail the appropriate Deacon to receive you Zoom invitation. The groups vary in their meeting agenda, some include prayer, readings and poetry. Others enjoy social time and catching up with one another. This is a great way to stay in touch, socialize and share your stories.



Debbie Awes, Helen Mackay, & Renee Gabrian

Wednesday 9 am

debawes51@hotmail.com
hmackay49@gmail.com
rrgabrian@hotmail.com

Minutes from Council meetings are available on the website's "[Shalom & Council Meeting Minutes](#)" page.

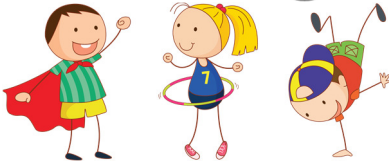
In December, we grieved with the family and friends of:



*Mary Rogers
Phil Schneider
Joan Planty
Tony Krumheuer
Francis Jones*



Christian Education



What I learned from my first Christmas Pageant

As most of you watched, we produced our first virtual pageant last week. I was unsure of what the outcome would be, but I had faith that we would get it done. Here are some of the things that I learned.

Jay West is on top of all things technical and is extremely humble while doing so. Jay works many hours a week, recording and editing videos for the church. He is the reason that the church school could have this pageant. Thank you Jay.

Our confirmation kids were super helpful in helping the little ones with their lines and keeping them in the right place of the script. Our church school children were very flexible in having to play double parts at times. None of the kids complained, not even once!

The parents were flexible with their time and brought the children to record in a very prompt manner. If some of them were late, it would have thrown off production. All in all, we have a wonderful group of young ones. Great support from parents. And Jay West deserves something nice! Now we will be working on Easter...Wish me Luck!

Zina General,
Director of Christian Education



The January Congregational Meeting of the Red Lodge Community Church will take place via Zoom on Sunday January 10 at 11:00 a.m.

The purpose of this meeting is to complete the election of the slate of officers via nominations from the floor and to vote on the following motions which have been recommended by the Church Council:

To change the wording in the Standing Rules as well as the By-Laws. The wording change is to replace the word Ministry with Committee, as the Ministries do function as Committees.

Motion suggestion.

Each Committee shall have at least three members but not limited to three.

Motion suggestion.

As to Article II: in the by-laws, The Ministry of the Executive Council

B. The purview of this ministry includes managing the affairs of the council, the budget, church finances, and acts as the personnel ministry for all church employees. Therefore the need for a separate finance ministry is recommended to be absorbed into the Executive Council, the Executive Council has the ability to request advice from financial specialists.

A Report from Facilities Management on Refreshing the Fellowship Hall



The Fellowship Hall refresh is close to done. The room was repainted in November. The old carpet was removed and the new carpet was installed during the week of Dec. 13 to 18. We think it looks very nice now and is a big improvement! Skip was able to do some repairs that were needed on the old cabinets and thinks we can get several more years out of them. We are planning to reinstall the cabinets with new countertops after the holidays. That should be no problem as the building is pretty much shut down and there are no events taking place. Stop down and check out the face lift. Here are a couple of snapshots of the room with new carpet and new paint.



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 Mia and ask her to sent the link to you.



The Directory is Ready!



Just in time for the new year, we have our new directory ready for you! We still need lots of photos for the directory, and you can send those in anytime, but for now, the directory is ready! We will be sending out an email with instructions on how to access the directory on our website. If you don't receive an email or would like a printed copy of the directory, please contact the church office and let us know. 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 with either, call Mia at the church office. Enjoy!

Notes from the Office...

If you or your committee have a project or some other need for assistance from the RLCC staff members, please let us know. We have staff meetings every Monday at 11am. We won't be answering the phone during our meetings, but we sure can discuss how best to help you with your requests. So, let us know if you need something that we can help with.



As always, please remember to get your articles and/or announcements for the Shalom and the church calendar in by the 20th of the month.

CELEBRATIONS!!!



BIRTHDAYS

Alicia Angell	1/2
Harris Gabrian	1/3
Patty Schuessler	1/5
Julia Childs	1/5
Brent Nearpass	1/5
Jim Hilderman	1/6
Debbie Tomicich	1/7
Peggy Lynn	1/13
Deb Bratton	1/18
Shirlee Quinn	1/20
Denis Elo	1/25
Joyce Miller	1/27
Suzann Anderson	1/28

January 4 - National Spaghetti Day



January 11 - Houseplant Appreciation Day

January 13 - National Rubber Duckie Day

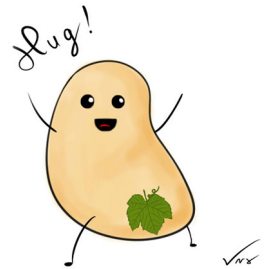


January 17 - Ditch New Year's Resolutions Day

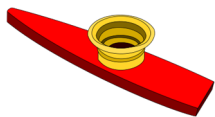
ANNIVERSARIES

Don & Jane Stone	1/1
Russ & Jeni Born	1/5
Dan & LuAnne Brown	1/5
Alan Goldin & Judith Gregory	1/6
Sid & Barbara Herbert	1/14
Jim & Linda Young	1/15
David & Cheryl Whitcomb	1/16

January 21 - National Hugging Day



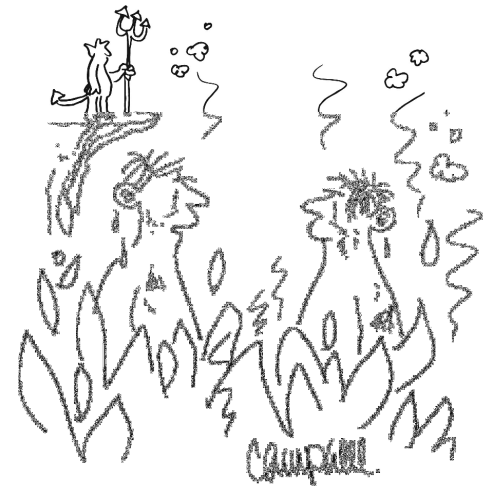
January 24 - Global Belly Laugh Day



January 28 - National Kazoo Day



January 31 - Inspire Your Heart with Art Day



"Who knew St. Peter had fact checkers?"



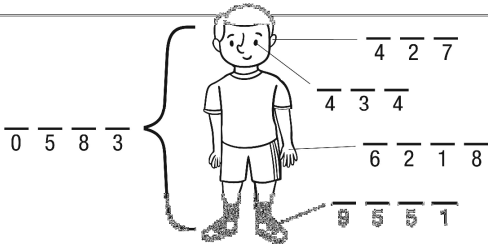
For the young
and young-at-heart!

PUZZLE

WORKING IN UNISON

Just as body parts work in unison, the church — the body of Christ — is to work together for God's purposes.

Directions: Fill in the letters for each body part. Add up each part's number total, and use those totals to complete the Bible passage.



Now if the _____ should say, "Because I am not a _____, I do not belong to the _____." ... And if the _____ should say, "Because I am not an _____, I do not belong to the _____," it would not for that reason stop being part of the _____. If the whole _____ were an _____, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole _____ were an _____, where would the sense of smell be? ... As it is, there are many parts, but one _____.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:15-17, 20, NIV

Answer: body = 16, eye = 11, ear = 13, hand = 17, foot = 20



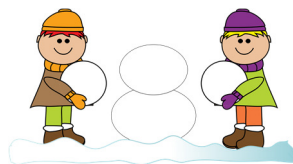
A COLORFUL body

Melt crayons to show how the body of Christ works together.



What you need:

- Crayons
- Metal baking sheet
- Adult help
- Metal gingerbread man cookie cutter



What you do:

1. Remove labels and break crayons into 1-inch pieces.
2. Scatter pieces on the baking sheet, about two layers thick.
3. Bake for 10 minutes at 350 degrees until melted. Allow to cool 15 minutes.
4. When melted crayons are the consistency of playdough, press the cookie cutter through them (while still on pan).
5. Cool the pan in freezer for 15 minutes until crayons are hardened.
6. Remove from pan and break apart the shapes.

Puzzle!

Complete each saying below. Then place the words from these blanks in the correct order to complete Proverbs 23:4.

1. When the going gets tough, the tough _____ going.
2. People who live in glass houses should _____ throw stones.
3. If the shoe fits, _____ it.
4. "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is _____ to enter the Kingdom of God."
5. Good things come _____ those who wait.
6. When in Rome, _____ as the Romans do.
7. Don't wear _____ your welcome.
8. If you want something done right, do it _____.

Write the unscrambled proverb here:

PROVERBS 23:4

Answer: Do not wear yourself out to get rich. Proverbs 23:4



Bible Quiz

According to Matthew, who was present at Jesus' baptism? (Choose as many as apply.)

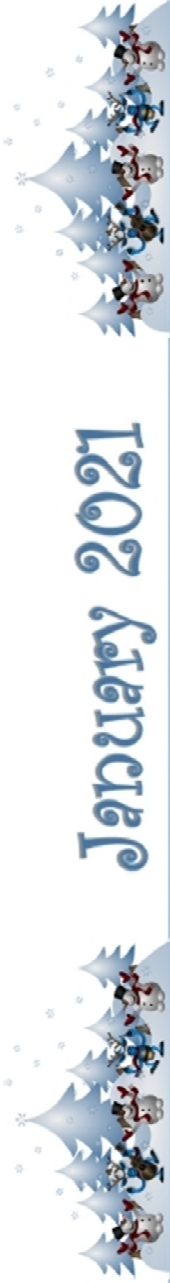
- A. John the Baptist
- B. The Spirit of God
- C. Jesus' mother, Mary
- D. His first disciples






Answer: A and B (See Matthew 3:13-17.)

Fill Your World with Color!





January 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						
3 10am Virtual Worship & Communion 11:30am Sunday School	4 11am Staff Meeting	5	6 9am Deacon Zoom—Debbie Awes, Helen Mackay, & Renee Gabrian	7 9:30am Zoom Prayer 5:15pm Exec. Com./ Church Council meeting (special)	8	9
10 10am Virtual Worship & Communion 11am Annual Meeting	11 11am Staff Meeting 1:30pm Stewardship & Outreach Meeting	12	13 9am Deacon Zoom—Debbie Awes, Helen Mackay, & Renee Gabrian	14 9:30am Zoom Prayer	15	16
17 10am Virtual Worship & Communion 11:30am Sunday School	18 11am Staff Meeting	19 10am Deacons	20 9am Deacon Zoom—Debbie Awes, Helen Mackay, & Renee Gabrian	21 9:30am Zoom Prayer 5:15pm Church Council Meeting (quarterly)	22	23
24 10am Virtual Worship & Communion 11:30am Sunday School	25 11am Staff Meeting	26	27 9am Deacon Zoom—Debbie Awes, Helen Mackay, & Renee Gabrian	28 9:30am Zoom Prayer	29	30
31 10am Virtual Worship & Communion 11:30am Sunday School						

Shalom

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

January



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 am
(Website pre-recorded services only for now)

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 8am-12pm & 1-5pm by appointment only

Pastor: Pamela J. Peterson

Office Hours: by appointment only

Cell: (406) 426-8715

Email: pastorpampeterson@gmail.com