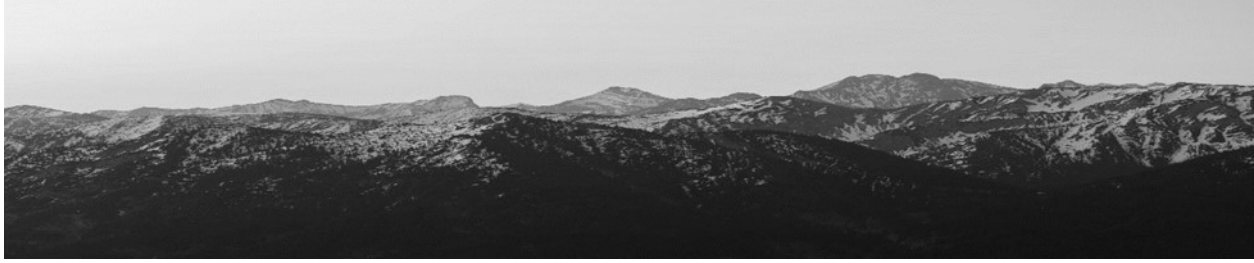


Shalom

RED LODGE COMMUNITY CHURCH, UCC



Notes from the Sky Pilot's Page May 2020

The May "Notes from the Sky Pilot's Page" is my report to the Church Council, which I want to share with each of you, the community of Red Lodge Community Church.

As the Apostle Paul wrote to the church at Philippi, "I thank God every time I think of you." Without each and every one of you, the Church Council, the Deacons, the Stewardship and Mission Ministry, the Facilities Ministry, the Christian Education ministry and the Pastor Parish Relations Ministry, this church would not be the beacon of hope that it is in this time of world-wide crisis. You gathered together on March 15, in my absence, and made the painful decision to cease meeting together for public worship and then gave me the time and grace that I needed to create our online church ministry.

The Deacons have pulled out all the stops to assure that every attempt is being made to contact every person who is in any way connected to our worshipping community. We have learned how to Zoom and be live on Facebook as we have been persistent in our charge to spread the Gospel in this time when that is the message most needed.

When I look back to March 15, I try to remember what we were doing and what we need to return to with as much immediacy as possible. While it feels like our lives hit the "pause" button, they really didn't. It is more like our life's GPS system simply said, "re-routing...re-routing..." And together we patiently waited for the new road to open up before us. My days have been filled with learning technology, reading, writing, Zooming, attending to pastoral care needs by phone and Zoom, offering support as best I can from home for the continued operations of the business of the church. My heartfelt thanks goes out to the Facilities Ministry for their quick action on replacing the furnace, to our Administrative Coordinator, Mia, for stepping up when our Office Manager, Lynette, was injured at home, for Mark Schubert in responding quickly to every question Mia had regarding our bookkeeping and especially to our Moderator, Jim Brown, for being there. For just plain being there to help me process our church's needs during this time of crisis.

Easter Sunday was the toughest day for me so far. Sitting in our Sanctuary all alone it finally sank in that this is what our life had become; separate from each other and yet never separate from God. It sank in that we truly are *community* in every sense of the word. *Community* as God's intent has been from the beginning of creation. We are God's *WHY* and God is ours.

And finally, as I might have stood alone to grieve the loss of my niece, you would not allow me to be alone. Calls, texts, e-mails, food and prayers abounded in the weeks that followed Britney's glorious entrance into heaven. I thank God every day for each and every one of you. Alleluia, you are my church.

Peace,
Pastor Pam



Worship Services

Join Pastor Pam Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. for **Live-Stream Worship Services** on Facebook. Just go to her "[Pam Peterson](#)" timeline and you'll find the live-stream video there.

The bulletins can be found on the Red Lodge Community Church website under the "Getting Involved" menu, then off the "Worship and Choir" option, you'll see "[Weekly Bulletin](#)." You can follow along with the bulletin online or download a PDF version to print off at home.

The Church Council met for a special meeting on Thursday, April 23, to consider the Governor's recommendations for phasing back into "normal" routines. After much discussion and looking at the information at hand, the Church Council came to the consensus that Red Lodge Community Church will not yet return to public worship. We will continue with our on-line worship as we have been doing, followed by our **Zoom coffee hour**. The Deacons will continue with their weekly Zoom meetings. The church building will remain closed except for necessary church business. The Church Council will reconvene on Thursday, May 14, to continue discussing the best re-opening plan for our congregation. If you have concerns about this decision, please direct them to either Pastor Pam or our Moderator, Jim Brown.

Remember, if you have a pastoral emergency, please call Pastor Pam at: 1-203-631-9994.



Deacon's Zoom Meeting



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 your 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.

Helen Mackay	Monday 11 am	hmackay49@gmail.com
Renee Gabrian	Monday 3 pm	rrgabrian@hotmail.com
Debbie Awes	Wednesday 11 am	debawes51@hotmail.com
Don Kinney	Thursday 3 pm	dlkinney65@gmail.com



Moment from the Moderator

Greetings All,

My hope is that this note finds each of you healthy and happy! The workings of our Church are progressing in a different but efficient manner. *Zoom* has been used to conduct regularly scheduled meetings of the Council, Executive Council, and our various Church Ministries. Our Pastor has discovered the benefits and challenges of conducting our worship services by way of *Facebook*. We all owe her a prayer of thanks for the worship and prayer opportunities she has provided! My wish for each of us is that by this time next month, we will be sharing face to face conduct (at appropriate social distance) one with the other. In closing, I share with you one of my favorite quotes. It may give you additional insight into just who I am.

Life is short, break the *Rules*,
Kiss slowly, *Love* truly,
Laugh uncontrollably,
and never *Regret*,
anything that makes you *Smile*.

~ Jim Brown
Moderator for Church Council

AS MUCH OR MORE THAN YOU MIGHT WANT TO KNOW ABOUT OUR RECENT HVAC WORK

The Church had to replace its oldest furnace system last month. The system was a Lennox “double furnace” that was installed in 1969. One side heated the downstairs classrooms, the other side heated the Upstairs Room, the offices, and the main Narthex. It broke down in mid-March, right about the time social distancing went into effect. Both of its cast iron heat exchangers cracked after fifty one years of service. That was the cause of the bad odors and fumes we suddenly noticed.



For background, the Church was not without heat because there also is a furnace (with an air conditioning unit) for the Sanctuary, which was added in 1994, another furnace for the fellowship Hall (added in 1999), as well as hot water radiators serving the north side additions from 2003. All of those are in good shape. The offices were chilly but a couple of borrowed space heaters took care of that.

The old double Lennox model has been out of production so long that replacement heat exchangers are no longer available. We contracted with Red Lodge’s A & S Heating and Air Conditioning for a new furnace. They were able to get it delivered and installed quickly. The new system is much more efficient and sized properly for the church according to modern standards. The cost was a little over \$2800. Because the Church’s insurance provides “equipment breakdown coverage,” and our net out-of-pocket cost was the \$1000 deductible. The Church has financial reserves that easily covered that expense.

~ Jay West,
Facilities Committee



HELP FOR OUR COMMUNITY

The Stewardship and Missions Committee is happy to report on this year's allocation of the **Hazel Chamberlain Endowment Funds**. We are very grateful for all the diligent guidance given by Jim Brown towards assessing the amount of the funds to be granted and the current guidelines. This year \$14,000 is available for dispersal. In accordance with current endowment guidelines, \$700 each has been allocated to the following:

- **The Pastor's Sabbatical Fund**
- **RLCC Youth Education Committee**
- **Intermountain Home in Helena** for general support
- **Rocky Mountain College**, specifically in support of their Native American Outreach and Programming
- **CUE (Chicago-United-Eden) Seminaries**, specifically to support seminarians from our conference who are pursuing their education

In light of the seriousness of the current COVID-19 outbreak and its impact on our community, we judged that the best use of the remaining funds would be to help our friends and neighbors survive the serious economic consequences. We thus allocated \$1,500 to a **Pastor's Discretionary Fund** for emergency needs that come to Pastor Pam's attention, relying on her insight as to which needs could be satisfied with other community resources (such as the Ministerial Alliance, RLACF, etc.) and which needs require immediate relief from RLCC. The committee envisions this becoming recognized as a church fund to which people can contribute, perhaps as memorials, for ongoing community relief.

The remaining \$9,000 is directed to the **Carbon County COVID-19 Relief Fund** managed by the Red Lodge Area Community Foundation. These funds are allocated by an independent anonymous committee of citizens. The current priority is on providing funds to nonprofit organizations providing disaster relief efforts and to individuals negatively affected by COVID-19 who are in need of assistance. Half of the funds collected are set aside for needs that may appear in the next few months as other resources are exhausted.

The Stewardship and Missions Committee has confidence that these allocations are the best means for extending our helping hand to the people of our community who are being most desperately impacted by this pandemic. We are grateful to Hazel Chamberlain for being able to offer help to our friends and neighbors in these challenging times.



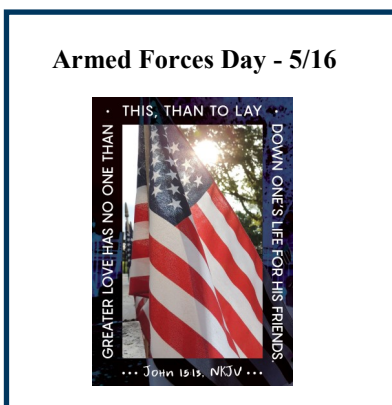
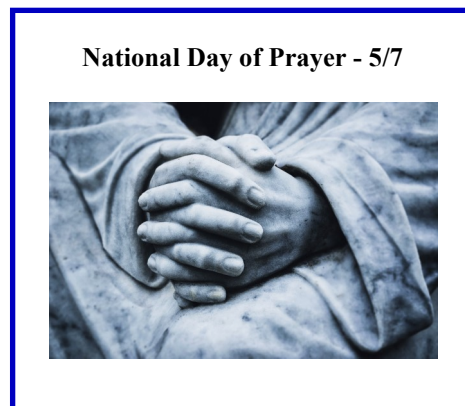
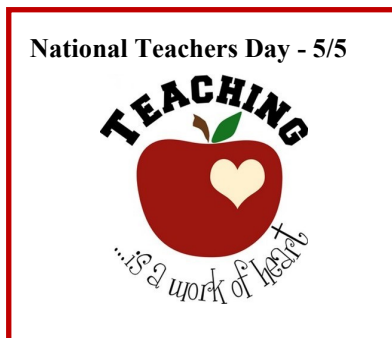
CELEBRATE!!!



May 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



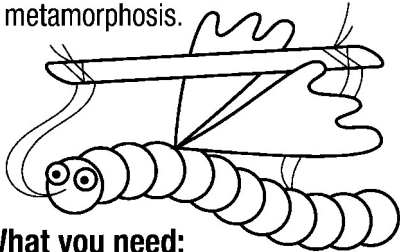
Christine Kohley	5/2
Adam Lynn	5/2
Skip Bratton	5/3
Emily Hilderman	5/3
Lynette Coleman	5/8
Dan Seifert	5/8
Marshall Metcalf	5/9
Amy Monjeau	5/9
Rodney Hyvonen	5/10
Cassandra Schubert	5/10
Marjory Ackley	5/11
Christian Olson	5/11
Colin Bratton	5/12
Demi Abbey	5/13
Hailey Metcalf	5/14
Miranda Boughey	5/16
Sophia Boughey	5/16
Tess Hellerud	5/18
Charlotte Munson-Young	5/20
Barb Croston	5/21
Tesa Sironen	5/21
Zoey Abbey	5/22
Don Kinney	5/23
Eliza Seifert	5/24
Erinn Ackley	5/26
Dax LeDoux	5/27
Michael White	5/28
Dick Forehand	5/29
Ruth Van Fossen	5/29
Martha Brown	5/30
Jaye Hellerud	5/30
Andrew Gabrian	5/31



For the young and young-at-heart!

CHANGED!

Make this cute puppet to show and tell the amazing story of metamorphosis.



What you need:

- Needle and string
- 12 small pom-poms
- Wooden craft stick
- Scissors
- Googly eyes
- Glue
- Coffee filter
- Markers

What you do:

1. Sew pom-poms together to make a caterpillar body. Tie off that string.
2. Thread another string up through the first pom-pom, leaving 12 inches to dangle. Repeat with the ninth pom-pom, leaving two dangling strings.
3. Wrap those strings around opposite ends of the stick, adjusting their length to about 6 inches. Tie in place.
4. Glue on eyes.
5. Flatten the coffee filter and draw a symmetrical design on it. Pleat in the center to create wings.
6. Move the caterpillar puppet by holding the stick. Glue on the wings as you describe the transformation into a butterfly.



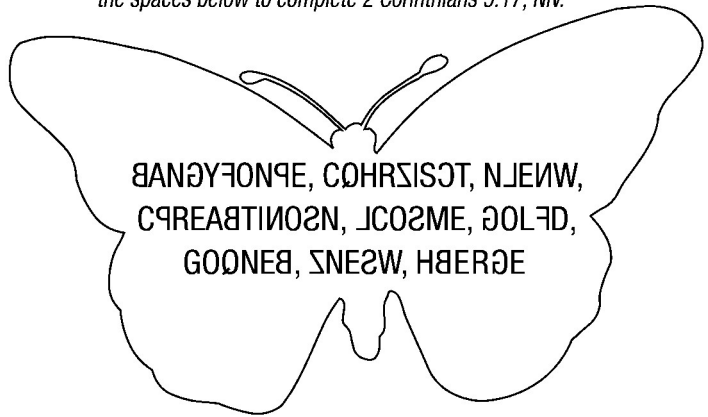
Transformation **POWER**



Just as the caterpillar becomes a butterfly, God transforms us from old to new.



Directions: Cross out the backward letters. Write the remaining letters in order in the spaces below to complete 2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV.



Therefore, if _____ is in _____ ,
the _____ has _____ :

The _____ has _____ ,
the _____ is _____ !


2 CORINTHIANS 5:17, NIV

Answer: anyone, Christ, new, creation, come, old, gone, new, here

Bible Quiz

While 70 Israelite men were commissioned as prophets at the tent of meeting, two others, Eldad and Medad, were reported to have prophesied in the camp — not following “proper” protocols. Who defended them?

A. Moses
B. Joshua
C. Jethro
D. The Lord



Answer: A (See Numbers 11:24-29.)



Fill Your World with Color!



SHALOM
RED LODGE COMMUNITY CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
308 S. BROADWAY
P.O. BOX 786
RED LODGE, MT 59068-0786

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Our Mission Statement:

The Red Lodge Community Church, United Church of Christ, 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**

Church Phone: (406) 446-1444

Sunday Worship Service: 10:00 am (*Facebook Live-Stream Only for now*)

Church Address: 308 S. Broadway
PO Box 786, Red Lodge, MT 59068-0786

Email: rlccofficemanager@gmail.com

Pastor: Pamela J. Peterson

cell: (203) 631-9994

email: pastorpampeterson@gmail.com

Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 8:00 am to 1:00 pm
Wednesday and Friday 8:00 am—noon and
1:00-5:00 pm (*Church Office can
only be reached by email for now.*)