

Shalom

Red Lodge Community Church, UCC



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

*"Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."
Matthew 11: 28*

*"Only by going alone in silence, without baggage, can one truly get into the heart of the wilderness."
John Muir*

I think that Jesus and John Muir were saying the same thing, in just slightly different ways. Traveling alone for most of my vacation gave me the opportunity to evaluate my burdens, and to appreciate that I travel light. With little baggage, both physically and metaphorically, I was able to **spend a great deal of time getting to the "heart" of both wilderness and true rest. I drove 1800 miles in 10 days, and for the most part, it was in complete silence.** Every now and then I would try to find a radio station, but alas, the Wyoming and Colorado wilderness do not offer consistent radio coverage. I listened to parts of a podcast and an audible book on my way home, but I did not like the distraction from the wild landscape, so I opted for the silence without the baggage of distraction.

Jesus' beckoning to cast our burdens, or baggage, onto him is an act of complete agape love. A love so pure and unconditional that it offers all the room that we need to take on every burden, every piece of life's baggage of distraction that we carry around with us. This simple act of "giving up" our distractions take more effort than we realize. Giving myself permission to let go of life's distractions in order to fully engage in my wilderness observations and meditations was freeing, and I accomplished it through simple prayers and mantras. To be able to stop along my route to inquire, observe, and rest renewed my energy reserves. When I would find my mind wandering back to work thoughts, I would give those thoughts up to Christ with a simple, "Jesus, put that on my list and if it's meant to be, you'll nudge me when I get home," kind of prayer. This gave me the peace of mind and heart to take in the vast wilderness before me, to feed my curiosity about roads untaken, parks yet explored, and searches for monarchs, milkweed, and pelicans richly rewarded.

Traveling light, frequent stops, and rich silence brought me to a deeper sense of the burdens that I carried and the unmerited grace that Christ gives to cover every one of those burdens. **This wilderness traveling is something that I've always been aware of, it had simply been far too long since I had made the commitment to God and myself to take Jesus up once again on his offer to be the best traveling companion... ever.**

Peace,

Pastor Pam

RLCC Council Meeting Minutes for Thursday, July 21,2022

Meeting was held in the Upper Room with two attending via Zoom. Members present were Jay West Pastor Pam Peterson, Bill Cords, Steve Hanson LuAnn Brown, Linda Hanson, Lori Floyd. Others attending were Desmond Driscell, Norma Scheidecker, Doreen Nearpass.

Meeting was called to order by Moderator Bill Cords. Pastor Pam opened with prayer.

Motion was made by Jay West to approve June's minutes. Seconded by Bill Cords. No discussion. Motion approved.

Motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Lori Floyd. Seconded by Jay West. No discussion. Motion approved.

Motion to approve the verification of the Council officers has elected by the Congregation to have the ability to sign checks from the RLCC bank account, with the limit of \$5000 requiring one signature and over \$5000 to require two signatures. This motion was made by Steve Hanson and seconded by LuAnn Brown. Motion approved.

Motion to approve the financial report was made by Lori Floyd and seconded by Jay West. Discussion was held. Motion passed.

Jay West updated the council on the repairs to the basement. Discussion was held. Motion was made by Steve Hanson to allow the Facilities Committee to move forward with work and accept contracts for repair as they see fit. If uncertain, then they can call a special council meeting. Motion seconded by LuAnn Brown. Motion carried.

Linda Hanson reported on the Stewardship and Outreach Committee meeting regarding the Hazel Chamberlain Endowment disbursements. It was decided to wait until spring to do this.

Norma Scheidecker asked the council to donate \$3500 from the former Women's Group funds to the Red Lodge City Pool Fund. She contacted 30 of the previous attendees with 26 voting for and 4 against the proposal. Motion was made by Linda Hanson and seconded by Jay West to allow \$3500 from the former Women's Group to be donated to the Red Lodge City Pool Fund at the RLACF. The remaining \$114.96 is to be given to the new Women's group. Motion carried.

Norma also asked that the Prayer Shawl monies be moved to the general fund.

New Business. A request for a new I-Pad for the music department to store music. Motion was made by Steve Hanson to allow the purchase the I-Pad now to exceed \$1500 from the Tech Fund (6329). Seconded by Bill Cords. Motion passed.

Discussion was held on how to make the congregational meetings better. This includes the use of written agenda, schedules, microphones. Also, to keep an updated report to the congregation concerning the repairs.

Meeting adjourned at 6:07pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Floyd

A Word from our Deacons



Happy September! The beginning of change. Change in weather. Change in activities. Change is good, but also can make one apprehensive. In Acts 6: 1-7, the first Christian church needed to make a change. The apostles were trying to do everything. The preaching, healing, baptizing, and serving tables. So they appointed the first deacons to do the serving.

Today, the deacon ministry revolves mostly around the Sunday services. Greeting people, offertory, and of course, serving the Lord's Supper. We, as deacons, are there to serve the congregation. Are there any changes or ideas that you, as the congregation, would like to suggest to make the services more spiritually meaningful? We are willing to consider any suggestion or ideas.

Remember the Wednesday morning walks as the weather gets cooler and more comfortable. This is not only a time for recreation, but also a time of conversation and explorations. Peace!

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:

9/4:

9/11:

9/18:

9/25:

Coffee Hour

9/4: Sharyn & Lori

9/11: JoAnn Eder

9/18: N/A

9/25: N/A

Liturgist:

9/4: Martha Sobral

9/11: N/A

9/18: Helen MacKay

9/25: Martha Sobral

Announcements



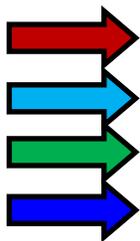
Monthly women's ministry: The next event will be on Saturday Sept 24 with Brunch at 11:00 a.m. here at the church. The focus of this group is self-care and celebration as an outreach ministry to the women of Red Lodge. Please bring a dish to pass and plan on celebrating the birthdays of those born in June . Please bring your lady friends! For more information please contact Lori Floyd at lorifloyd02@gmail.com.



Saturday Sept 10, 3pm-8pm

Come enjoy the Art displayed & Music being performed!

Committee Meetings: *All Meetings subject to change, please communicate with all parties & office. It's much appreciated.*



Stewardship & Outreach Sept 12 at 10:00AM

Church Council Sept 8 at 5:30 pm

Facilities Sept 15 at 5:00 pm

Deacons Sept 19 at 10:00 am

Facility Committee

FOR THE SEPTEMBER 2022 SHALOM

Notes from Facilities Management on the Status of Flood Restoration Work.

To summarize, about 2/3 of the restoration work has been completed. The Preschool Room is completely done and the playground is back to being fully functional. We are waiting on carpet for the Fellowship Hall but the room is otherwise usable despite the bare floor. The carpeting is supposed to arrive in mid-September. The Kitchen and Main Downstairs Restrooms are fully functional but still need baseboard trim and a couple other cosmetic tasks. The biggest expenses have come in (those being Alpha Omega's remediation work, the carpeting, the replacement mulch for the playground, and the elevator repairs. The following is a more detailed room-by-room report on the work done since last month's report.

1. **Preschool Room:** Preschool Room is finished and ready for classes.
2. **Nursery:** The sill plate in on the south wall of the Nursery room was replaced, the remaining drywall and insulation put up, and the walls have been repainted. Replacement cabinets for the room will be had by repurposing the base cabinets that made up the "L" shaped service counter that was in the Brother Van Room. We will buy new countertops for those cabinets, install new baseboard trim, and hope to have the room fully restored for use by the first week of September.
3. **Kitchen:** The room is now usable and all the equipment supplies put back. The freezer is defunct and will be replaced shortly. (In the meantime, there is freezer space in the fridge in the Bell Tower Party.) The remaining work will be reinstalling the lower sections of Fiber Reinforced Paneling (FRP) and installing waterproof baseboard trim on the wall below the washing station. We also will need veneer covers for the toe-kicks on the base cabinets.
4. **Fellowship Hall:** The biggest remaining task will re-carpeting. The carpet is expected to arrive in mid-September when it will be installed by Gene Olson. Once the carpet is in, we can bring back the cabinets on the south wall and install new baseboard trim around the room. In the meantime, the room is usable despite the bare floor.
5. **Main Downstairs Restrooms:** Are now fully usable with all wall repairs completed and painted. The remaining tasks are cosmetic: replacement baseboard trim plus, in each room's end stall, we will put back up the panel with the grab bars and diaper changing stations.
6. **Children's Restroom:** The walls will be painted by the end of August. Then, we will be looking at baseboard trim, door casing trim, some FRP coverings on the walls, and a replacement vanity and sinktop. The toilet has been "re-habbed" and is ready to go back in as soon as the baseboards and wall panels are up. For the wall just outside the doorway, at the end of the south hallway, where there has been a low sink set at small-child height --- we are debating whether to try to reinstall that heavy old one, replace with a new one, or just cap the plumbing and leave the wall blank. Input and opinions on this decision are welcome.
7. **Brother Van Room:** The wall repairs have been done and will be painted by the end of August followed by replacement baseboard trim and door casings. Open shelving will be installed on the walls at the south east corner, in the area formerly blocked off by the "L" shaped service counter from the Head Start days.
8. **Hallways:** The bottom edges all wall boards have been fixed and will be re-painted shortly. Then, we new baseboards can be installed. The hallways are all usable in the meantime.
9. **Harvest Dinner Pantry:** Ready for use with most of the shelving and supplies already back in place. It needs replacement baseboard trim and door casings.
10. **Playground:** was restored to usable status with delivery on August 18 of 100 cu. yds. of certified playground mulch by Rocky Mountain Compost. Special thanks to Cy Baldwin and Baldwin's Customized Landscaping for donating their time and the use of a large capacity front end loader to move the bulk of the chips onto the playground. There's pile of extra chips at the southwest corner. Those will fill any low spots that develop as the rest of the mulch settles over the next month. The only remaining "outside" project will be fixing the grade of the ground along the southeast part of the exterior wall. There may be some FEMA "mitigation" funding to help with that but we might not get to that project until next spring.
11. Special thanks are owed to the many who have volunteered their time & skills and tools. Among them are the nine kids from Salem UCC Church who stayed in the Community Church while in town to help with flood recovery work from August 7 through 13. In one day, they finished hanging half the drywall, helped with taping and mudding, and did a lot of clean up work. Special thanks are also owed to Lori and Stan Floyd for their excellent drywall finishing work including the texturing. And, of course, Baldwin's Customized Landscaping.

12. So far, the Church has received about \$10,000 in financial contributions for flood restoration work. By mid-August, we had paid out approximately \$19,000 for specialist work and purchased materials, the carpeting for the Fellowship Hall, the elevator repairs, and a \$5000 down-payment to Alpha Omega Restoration. The playground mulch cost approximately \$5000 and was paid on delivery. Alpha Omega Restoration has sent a final bill with a balance owing of just under \$21,000. We hope to have the final restoration costs tallied by the end of next month. FEMA reimbursement is uncertain but possible and remains in process.



The family and friends of Tom Rieger, Shawn Goenen, Tyler Boitano, Rachel Wright.



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 copy. Thank you for your understanding!

A Note from the Office :

Please check with calendar for church usages

Council & Committee Minutes are available for review in the church office.



In an effort to make Red Lodge Community Church comfortable and welcoming for everyone we ask that your refrain from using strong personal scents or perfumes Thank You!



Red Lodge City Pool Committee
P.O. Box 525
Red Lodge, MT 59068

The Women of Red Lodge Community Church
c/o Norma Scheidecker
PO Box 327
Red Lodge, MT 59068

August 5, 2022

Dear Women of the Church,

Thank you for your recent donation of \$3500 to the Red Lodge City Pool Fund. Your contribution will be used to finish payment on the pool's slide with the balance going toward a shade pergola, which is much needed for parents to sit under while they watch their kids splashing in the pool. It has been wonderful to watch the kids of our town enjoying the pool....after our 3 year hiatus! The slide will be installed in September.

Donations like yours have helped to make the pool extra special for our community, including the new and expanded bathhouse and the splash deck.

Thank you again,

Judith Gregory, for the City Pool Committee

Administered by the Red Lodge Area Community Foundation

****This donation was made by the women's Group that was active in the Church from 2008 through 2015. The money is what remained from their Harvest dinner Bazaar activities. ****



Fall Bible Study Coming!

We will be studying the New Testament book, Epistle to the Romans, this fall. The Epistle to the Romans is the sixth book in the New Testament, and the longest of the thirteen Pauline epistles. Biblical scholars agree that it was composed by Paul the Apostle to explain that salvation is offered through the gospel of Jesus Christ. **We will be using a selection from the “Interpretation Bible Studies” series on Romans, by Art Ross and Martha Stevenson.** The books are available from Amazon and on Kindle. We will meet on Monday evenings at 6:00 pm in the Upper Room, beginning September 26. If you need assistance ordering your copy of the study guide, please let Pastor Pam know.



New Hymnal Considerations

One of the consistent messages that I have received since my arrival over 4 years ago is that our congregation is not happy with our current hymnal, The New Century Hymnal, which is produced by the United Church of Christ. The reasons are consistent, and as your pastor I do not feel that anyone is complaining for the sake of complaining. Our church just does not do that. Our identity as the Community Church deeply values traditional worship with traditional words to traditional hymns and the NCH simply does not fit that part of our identity. The staff has been reviewing **other hymnal options and we would like to present the “Chalice Hymnal” for consideration.** This hymnal was produced by the Disciples of Christ and is available for purchase. During the month of September (almost) all our hymns, refrains, **and choruses will be taken from the “Chalice Hymnal.” This means that the worship music will be produced in sheet music form and shown on the screen for September.** We value your input, both complementary and concerning, as we move forward in selecting a new hymnal. We do have the option of not using a single designated hymnal; we could simply create the music sheets for each Sunday from a variety of hymnals. Please share your thoughts on that option as well. We are also in the process of producing new Songbooks which will hold **fewer selections as we have edited out songs that we don’t use, songs produced by unethical musicians, and songs that are duplicated in other hymnals and easily accessible sources.** Many thanks to everyone who has shared their thoughts and efforts in helping us with our hymnal situation.

Peace,

Pastor Pam



September 2022



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

				1 <i>American Chess Day</i>  9:30 am Prayer Zoom	2 <i>Shirley Petersen</i>	3 <i>Mary Copeland</i>
4 10:00 Live Worship	5 Church Office closed no meeting	6	7	8 9:30 am Prayer Zoom 5:30 pm Church Council Meeting	9 <i>Phil Robertson</i>	10 3-8 pm Art Walk
11 10:00 Live Worship <i>Mark Sechler</i> <i>Sharyn McKenzie</i>	12 1:00 pm Staff Meeting 10:00 am Stewardship Meeting National Chocolate Shake Day 	13	14	15 9:30 am Prayer Zoom 5:00 pm Facilities Meeting	16	17 11:00 am Lady's Brunch 
18 10:00 Live Worship	19 10:00 am Deacon Meeting 1:00 pm Staff Meeting	20 <i>Mike Tomicich</i>	21	22 9:30 am Prayer Zoom <i>Rebecca Hardy</i>	23	24 <i>Carol Saunders</i>
25 10:00 Live Worship <i>JoAnn & Bert Eder</i>	26 1:00 pm Staff Meeting	27 <i>Dan Brown</i> <i>Sarah Childs</i>	28 National Good Neighbor Day 	29 9:30 am Prayer Zoom <i>Cocto Rieger</i>	30	Birthdays Anniversaries

Shalom

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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 (subject to change)
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Pamela J. Peterson, DMin
Cell: (406) 426-8715
Email: pastorpampeterson@gmail.com

