

Shalom

Red Lodge Community Church, UCC



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

Hosea 6:3 (NRSV) *Let us know, let us press on to know the LORD; God's appearing is as sure as the dawn; God will come to us like the showers, like the spring rains that water the earth."*

"April showers bring may flowers!" This familiar phrase that we teach our children carries us into our next season. We know, of course, that the flowers do not just "magically" appear. The bulbs and dormant seeds that lie under ground all winter, while seemingly taking a long winter's nap, are doing some work. They are conserving, germinating and preparing to receive the spring rains that will give them the ability to sprout as soon as the snows are gone and longer days give warmth for the ability to bring their growth into action – to "re-act"- and live yet again. The rain meets the bulb and seeds right where they were left in the fall.

In our spiritual lives we have the same journey on a daily basis. We say our evening prayers, ask God to give us another good try in the morning, and take our rest. In the morning we greet the day with God's promise of another season to "re-act" to grace. We shake off our dormancy, our rest, where the Spirit has whispered to us throughout the night, "conserve, germinate and prepare." God comes to meet us in the morning right where God left us; so what is our "re-action" to that?

Do we find new energy from what we have conserved? Do we begin to grow a new way? Do we prepare our way using God's guiding light, strength and promise? Or do we try to bury ourselves deeper in the doubt that we took into our rest? Do we ignore the light and continue to lean into our shells and husks that are left as a dormant remnant of old habits and denial? If the bulbs and seeds were to do that... well, our landscapes would be nothing more than dismal sand. We are fortunate to live in a place where spring flowers abound trees flourish with new growth. Our spiritual lives give us that same opportunity, and thankfully, not just for one season a year.

Every morning we start fresh. As God comes to us and awakens us we are just as sure of our ability to grasp the promise of a new day as we are that God will come again tomorrow. Ask yourself, "How do I re-act to each new day?" Are your actions abounding with the promise of new, fresh and bright? Are they representative of your understanding of grace? Flowers and trees do not come back in the spring as the exact same flower that they were last year. They are always a little bit different. Brighter, different hues, taller, shorter, the scent a little stronger. Allow your understanding of God's promise of grace to bring you into your tomorrows like that... different from today and looking forward to tomorrow.

Peace, Pastor Pam



Hazel Chamberlain Endowment Funds Now Available

[Application Deadline Extended to April 1!!!](#)

The Stewardship and Outreach Committee invites you to submit an application for Hazel Chamberlain Endowment funds on behalf of a Red Lodge or Carbon County non-profit near and dear to your heart.* As the pandemic continues, prayerfully consider where the greatest needs lie in our local community and how our gifts can do the most good. Requirements are included on the application form below.

Presentations will be made during Mission Moments on upcoming Sundays, and then people of RLCC will have the opportunity to vote on which non-profits most need our support this year.

Applications may be printed from the Shalom or the church website, picked up in the church office or by calling the church office (446-1444) to request a form by mail.

Again this year RLCC is blessed through the generosity of Hazel Chamberlain to be able to reach out to our community and demonstrate our Love in Action. We look forward to receiving your applications.

*We cannot accept applications for capital campaigns.

Application for 2021 Hazel Chamberlain Endowment Fund Grant

Requirements:

1. Application must be made and championed by an active participant of RLCC
2. The organization for which application is made must be a registered non-profit (501c3) in the Red Lodge/Carbon County area. No capital campaigns. Our focus is local this year.
3. A Mission Moment video must be submitted representing the organization *
4. Applications must be received at the church office no later than **April 1, 2021**

Name of Organization _____

Mailing Address _____

Telephone _____ EIN# _____

Website Address _____ Contact Person _____

Please explain in one paragraph why you believe this organization is deserving of our support. This paragraph will be included on the ballot for congregants' voting on distribution of the funds.

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*The video is to be no longer than four minutes to inform us of the mission and current needs of the organization and will be shown during a recorded Sunday worship service. It may be submitted in various ways including coming to the church to have it recorded by Jay West. The organization or the nominating individual is encouraged to do a further promotion during the Zoom coffee hour on a scheduled Sunday morning at 11 am. Once presentations have been made by all applicants, ballot voting will be opened to the people of Red Lodge Community Church to decide where the available funds go. Questions? Call the church office (446-1444).

Application submitted by _____
Phone _____

Adult Education Bible and Book Study
Will resume after Easter
9:00 a.m. Sundays via Zoom

- The Stewardship and Outreach Committee would like to encourage the congregation to view each of the videos that have been submitted in response to the Hazel Chamberlain Funds.
- In April we will be mailing the ballots for you to vote for the nonprofit(s) you feel are most in need of the funds.
- This church is so fortunate to be able to distribute these funds and we want your input!

Thanks .

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

Christian Education

Greetings from the Christian Education Department! We have been up to so much. We have done an Easter Pageant and have learned the story of Easter thoroughly. The next thing we are working on (besides Sunday School) will be Vacation Bible School!

We are in need of some volunteers to pass background checks and be helpers during the week of July 12th-16th! We would need assistance with meals for our young ones as well as helping with teaching a few different centers. Please feel free to fill out a background check.

We hope you loved our Easter Pageant! Look forward to seeing all of you in church!

Zina General, Director of Christian Education



A Word from the Deacons....



Your Deacons are happy to be returning to services in our church building with you! Debbie Awes has agreed to be on an **ad-hoc committee to assess our church's problems getting members to serve in administrative roles.** A congregational meeting will be held to discuss the ad-hoc committee's findings. Pastor Pam and Lori Floyd will be leading the Wednesday Coffee Klatch Zoom in Helen Mackay's absence. If you don't get your Zoom invitation, please call Renee at 446-2047. We have prepared our sanctuary for the Easter season and look forward to seeing you as we all gradually are returning from our year apart from one another.

Peace and Good Health,
Your Deacons

Debbie Awes—425-3985
Renee Gabrian—446-2047

Bill Cords—446-1901
Don Kinney—446-1670

Lori Floyd—671-0982
Helen Mackay—425-0101

Worship Services

We have begun offering both LIVE and Pre-Recorded worship . The Live Worship Service is at 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary, with COVID Protocols in place. Pre-Recorded Worship is available on the website. For those gathering in person, the children will be led to Sunday School following Communion and A Message With the Children.

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 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.

Debbie Awes, Helen
Mackay, & Renee Gabrian

Wednesday 9 am

debawes51@hotmail.com
hmackay49@gmail.com
rgabrian@hotmail.com

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

*Richard Barefield
Kurtis Higgins Stutz*



MOMENT FROM THE MODERATOR

As you have heard from Pastor Pam, our church is having difficulties filling the elected and appointed positions of leadership – Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Secretary, and Clerk. An ad-hoc committee composed of one representative from each recognized committee/ministry reporting the Church Council has been established to help address this issue. The process envisioned for solving this problem consists of the following steps:



The ad-hoc committee solicits information from recognized committees/ ministries for the following four areas:

Education – I do know the responsibilities for each position.

Obstacles – I cannot accept one of these positions for the following reasons: List reasons.

Streamlining – Is there a way to combine, streamline, or eliminate responsibilities of positions? List suggestions by position.

Other – Are there other parameters that influence the issue under consideration?

The ad-hoc committee then develops a matrix of information gathered to share with an open meeting of the congregation. Format for this meeting will be determined by and led by the ad-hoc committee.

The open congregational meeting provides additional input for solving the problem.

The ad-hoc committee assimilates all the information gathered and proposes a solution to the problem to the Church Council and ultimately to a special meeting of the congregation.

The goal is that our Church will have a more efficient and effective means of governing the business of the Church. Here are three of my favorite quotes concerning “*problem-solving*.”

“We cannot solve our problems with the same level of thinking that created them.” – Albert Einstein

“A problem well stated is a problem half solved.”— John Dewey

“It is better to solve one problem five different ways, than to solve five problems one way.” – George Pólya

There are new things going on in the Fellowship Hall!

What's all that blue material on the walls in the Fellowship Hall, you ask? It's a living time-line! Part of the work of our church's transition process is to establish a working time-line from our beginnings in 1890 to today! You will have the opportunity to add to the time-line soon. Why the blue material? It represents Rock Creek, flowing through Red Lodge, the community that our church has been a part of all these years. Many thanks to Marie Shirley-Jones for sharing her gift for creating beautiful visuals using fabric art.



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 the church office and we will send the link to you.



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 Mia at the church office. Enjoy!



A Note from the Office about your Shalom...

The Shalom will look a bit different in the coming months. You will find the **birth-day and anniversary dates are now on the monthly calendar in italics**. The 'fun' pages are being re-developed by Zina General, so they will connect with the lessons that the children are doing in Sunday School. There might be a little less artwork and more content...please be patient as we are "under construction!"

Fill Your World with Color!





April 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Staff Meetings		9am Deacon Zoom	1 9:30 am Zoom Prayer S&O Committee 5:30pm Exec. Com. Meeting	2	3
4 Easter Sunday 10am Virtual Worship 11:00 LIVE Worship and Sunday School Norma Scheidecker Claira Bernhardt	5 Staff Meetings	6 Marie Shirley-Jones	7 9am Deacon Zoom Evelyn Brown	8 9:30am Zoom Prayer Janis Williams Don & Becky Hardy	9	10
11 10am Virtual Worship 11:00 LIVE Worship and Sunday School	12 Staff Meetings	13 10am Deacons	14 9am Deacon Zoom	15 9:30am Zoom Prayer	16	17
18 9:00 Book Study 10am Virtual Worship 11:00 LIVE Worship and Sunday School	19 Staff Meetings CE Committee 6:30 pm	20	21 9am Deacon Zoom	22 9:30am Zoom Prayer 5:30 Church Council	23	24
25 9:00 Book Study 10am Virtual Worship 11:00 LIVE Worship and Sunday School	26 Staff Meetings	27	28	29	30 Marshall & Libby Gardner	

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: 11:00 a.m. with Sunday School
(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 8am-12pm & 1-5pm by appointment only

Pastor: Pamela J. Peterson

Office Hours: by appointment only

Cell: (406) 426-8715

Email: pastorpampeterson@gmail.com