

Shalom

Red Lodge Community Church, UCC



Notes from the Sky Pilot's Page December 2020

Ephesians 5:19 "...speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord..."

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6).

One of my favorite things about Christmas, and believe me, I have a lot of favorite things about Christmas, is the music. Memories of my dad's baritone voice singing in the candlelit pews and my sister and I attempting to play a duet for worship brings a gentle smile to my heart. The hymns that remind us that the reason for the music is to tell the story of how Christ came to dwell among us. The music that prepares us for an incarnate God who walks along side of us on our faith journey. The music that brings back memories of forgotten celebrations with the saints who shaped our lives. The music that we teach our little ones so that they, too, can make memories for generations to come.

This Advent we are focusing on those favorite songs and learning about songs that are new and different to us. As we come into this season in a quieter and more intimate way, it is the music that will be the same. As we come into this season with a curiosity for learning, it is the psalms that will teach us. As we come into this season with hurting hearts, it is the Christ child who will heal us.

With hope we will hear the music; with faith we will sing our songs; with love we will open our hearts to the One who we celebrate. My prayer for you is that you will find time to sit with the Advent and Christmas songs from our worship services and light candles in celebration of the holiest of nights. In the calm of snow and stars, may the music of our faith guide us to a place of peace in accepting that while we sing of gatherings and community, this Christmas our focus will be not only on the journey to the stable, but from the stable to the cross, for that is where our faith journey truly begins.

May the music of Christmas bring you tremendous comfort this holiday season.

Peace,
Pastor Pam

Moment from the Moderator



✓ “Friendship is the hardest thing in the world to explain. It’s not something you learn in school. But if you haven’t learned the meaning of friendship, you really haven’t learned anything.” — Muhammad Ali

✓ Don’t make friends who are comfortable to be with. Make friends who will force you to lever yourself up.” — Thomas J. Watson

✓ “Each friend represents a world in us, a world possibly not born until they arrive, and it is only by this meeting that a new world is born.” — Anais Nin

Folks, this is the time for THANKSGIVING! One of the few feelings that give me comfort throughout the year is the memories I share with true friends. One who “*gets you.*” One who “*supports you.*” One who “*needs you as much as you need them.*” I encourage you to take a moment this week to reach out to someone who fits this bill for you. If you do, your life will be richer for the effort. Always remember the quote which follows.

✓ “The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched — they must be felt with the heart.” — Helen Keller

~ Jim Brown

Moderator for Church Council

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



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....

Your Deacons are continuing to keep us connected with our congregation through these days of Covid 19. We are holding the Wednesday 9:00 AM Zoom time and several are attending. We enjoy one another's company with varied conversation and invite you to join us. If there is a better time that people are needing for their schedules, please let your deacons know and another time can be arranged for Zoom gatherings in addition to the Wednesday time. We are preparing for Advent and have the church decorated. We are looking forward to the wonderful services and music that Pastor Pam, Jay West, Mia Talon, and our choir have been working on. We hope everyone is able to watch the services and if not, have contacted the church office for assistance. Advent devotionals are available for either pickup at the church, mailing, or we can deliver if requested. We are joining Pastor Pam on Thursday AM Zoom for prayer and hold each member of our congregation in our thoughts. We are working on a project for those who are homebound during these times for Advent. If any of our members are in need of errands, meals, or other assistance, please contact one of your deacons. Your deacons are Debbie Awes, Bill Cords, Don Kinney, Lori Floyd, Sharyn McKenzie, Helen Mackay, and Renee Gabrian.



Deacon's Zoom Meeting Schedule



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



Wednesday Evening Advent Meditations

Beginning December 2
6:00 pm via Zoom

If you'd like to join, please email Pastor Pam at pastorpam-peterson@gmail.com for the Zoom link.

Have a candle on hand!

(Book Study will resume after January 5)





*Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service*



*As much as we wish
that we could join together for our traditional candle-
light Christmas Eve service,
that simply will not be possible this year.*

*We are making every effort
to create a memorable music-filled
candlelight Christmas Eve video
to share with our community this year.
Our plan is to have the video posted on December 24
for you to enjoy in the calm of the Holy Night.*



Christian Education



Greetings Parents,

We are really trying to get this "Virtual Christmas Pageant" going. I would like, if possible for all of you to encourage your children. We think this could really be a fun play and know that the congregation is really looking forward to it.

Thank you all for participating in our month of GRATEFULNESS and GRATITUDE in November. We are now moving on to Advent! From them November 29th-December 20th, we will be focusing on hope, peace, joy and love. Also we will be working on our special Christmas Pageant! Happy Holidays!

Thank you,

Zina General,
Director of Christian Education



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



Frank Pirtz
Mary Rogers
Phil Schneider

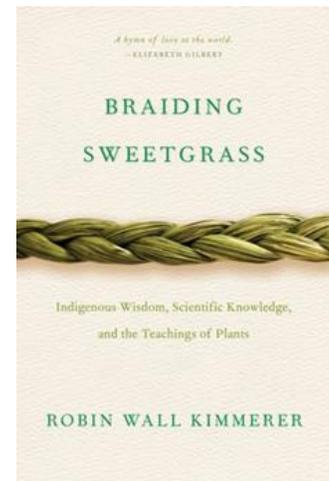


Sunday Morning Adult Education Book Study

"Braiding Sweetgrass" by Robin Wall Kimmerer
Led by Pastor Pam, Russ and Denece Lord

December 2, 9, 16, 23
9:00 a.m. via Zoom

See the Monday Memo and Weekly Wrangler
or email pastorpampeterson@gmail.com for the Zoom link.



LOVE *in Action*

**VIRTUAL
HARVEST DINNER**



Thank you Red Lodge!

The Harvest Dinner at Red Lodge Community church was cancelled this year, but members didn't want to pass up a chance to share Love in Action altogether. Enough funds were raised to buy 78 gift cards to our Beartooth IGA grocery store. In cooperation with the RLACF and the Boys and Girls Club we distributed the cards to friends, neighbors, community front line workers, and to some who could use a little financial help.

Sharing good thoughts and thanks to all our community during these difficult days, there is hope and strength that connects us. Happy Thanksgiving to you all, and we hope to see you next November for a real Harvest Dinner celebration.

**Thanks from Red Lodge Community Church
and Committee members Patty Schuessler, Karen and Don Kinney**



A Report from Facilities Management on Refreshing the Fellowship Hall



We are making headway on the Fellowship Room. The painting is completed and the new carpet is scheduled to arrive around the middle of December. The installation will commence shortly thereafter. That will involve removing the old glued down carpet, prepping the floor and then gluing down the new carpet squares. The cabinets will be removed and then reset with new tops once the carpet is installed. Hopefully all before year end. All depends on what kind of curve balls the Covid might throw at us. Naturally the well-being of everyone involved comes first.



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.



Directory Update

Well, here we are in December and we still haven't been able to share our new directory with you. :(It can't be a photo directory without your photos. So, please upload your picture on the directory form or just email it in to the office. You can use a photo you already have or take a new one. If you're having trouble getting your own photo, give **Debbie Awes** a call at 425-3985 or email her at debawes51@hotmail.com. She'd LOVE to take your photo for you!! She'll email it in to the office, too! :) Let's start the new year with a new directory for all of us!

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

Jim Young	12/3
Steve Hanson	12/13
Edward Terry	12/18
Pamela Carter	12/19
Jon Stradtman	12/19
Lou "Skip" Aleksich	12/22
Leonor Carbajal	12/22
Denece Lord	12/23
Duane Estelle	12/26
Renee Gabrian	12/30

ANNIVERSARIES

Dave & Donna Ritter	12/16
Bob & Becky Tirrell	12/16
Steve & Lin Hanson	12/27
Don & Sharyn McKenzie	12/29
John & Dixie McCampbell	12/29

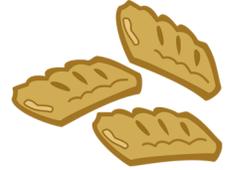
December 21 – Longest Night of the Year



December 31 – Make Up Your Mind Day



December 2 – National Fritters Day



December 5 – Bathtub Party Day



December 8 – National Brownie Day



December 10 – Human Rights Day



December 17 – National Maple Syrup Day



December 20 – Go Caroling Day



CAROLING



SORRY, SON...THERE'S NO APP FOR THAT

For the young
and young-at-heart!



PUZZLE

WHITE AS SNOW

Jesus, our Savior, came to earth to purify sinners.

Directions: Figure out which path through the puzzle is correct. Guess one to try, starting at the first picture under the "Path" box. Follow each picture's directional cue to see if the words make sense when placed in order in the blanks below. If not, try a different path until you figure out the Bible verse.

PATH 1	PATH 2	PATH 3	PATH 4	PATH 5	PATH 6
jar	gift	come	together	around	after
self	kids	sells	lateral	finds	happier
kind	lent	says	without	Christ	warmth
love	aims	resist	after	light	prison
red	star	white	snow	winter	peace

“_____ now, let us _____ the matter,” _____ the
 _____. “Though your _____ are like _____,
 they shall be as _____ as _____.”

ISAIAH 1:18, NIV

Answer: Path 5; coming, sells, says, Lent, aims, resists, winter, snow, peace

Puzzle!

Use the code to complete Isaiah's prophecy about Jesus, our Savior.



CODE:

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

10 23 13 17 14 6 18 21 21

11 14 12 10 21 21 14 13

6 24 23 13 14 1 15 4 21

12 24 4 23 2 14 21 24 1

22 18 16 17 3 8 16 24 13

14 5 14 1 21 10 2 3 18 23 16

15 10 3 17 14 1 25 1 18 23 12 14

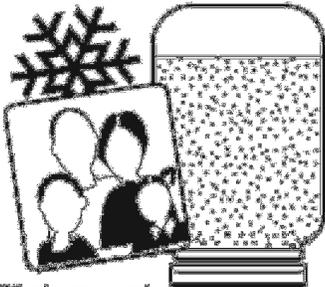
24 15 25 14 10 12 14

ISAIAH 9:6, NIV

Answer: And he will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6, NIV

LET IT SNOW!

Create a winter wonderland with this fun craft.



What you need:

- Glass jar with lid but no label
- Laminated photo (that will fit in the jar)
- Small plastic Christmas

trinkets

- Hot or waterproof glue
- Container with spout
- 1 cup distilled water
- 3 tsp. glycerin
- Glitter

What you do:

1. Unscrew lid and flip jar upside down. Glue the photo and trinkets to the inside of the lid, standing upright.
2. In a container, mix water and glycerin. Pour the mixture into the jar, leaving space at the top.
3. Spoon in some glitter.
4. When glue is dry, attach the decorated lid tightly. Shake the jar to see "snow" swirl and settle.



Bible Quiz

In the story of the Magi, what word is used to give a sense of Jesus' age when the wise men visited? What does it tell us?

- “baby”; Jesus was still a newborn in a manger
- “child”; when the wise men visited, Jesus had grown past infancy
- “youth”; Jesus was probably between 10 and 14
- No word is used to suggest Jesus' age at the time of the wise men's visit.



Answer: B (See Matthew 2:1-12.)

Fill Your World with Color!



December 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1		2	3 9:30am Zoom Prayer 5:15pm Exec. Com. Meeting	4	5
6 9am Adult Ed. Book Study 10am Virtual Worship & Communion 11:30am Sunday School	7 11am Staff Meeting 1:30pm Stewardship & Outreach	8	9 9am Deacon Zoom—Debbie Awes, Helen Mackay, & Renee Gabrian 6pm Advent Meditation	10 9:30am Zoom Prayer	11	12
13 9am Adult Ed. Book Study 10am Virtual Worship & Communion 11:30am Sunday School	14 11am Staff Meeting	15 10am Deacons 1:30pm Stewardship & Outreach Meeting	16 9am Deacon Zoom—Debbie Awes, Helen Mackay, & Renee Gabrian 6pm Advent Meditation	17 9:30am Zoom Prayer	18	19
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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 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