

# Shalom

Red Lodge Community Church, UCC



September 2021

*Notes from the Sky Pilot's Page*

*Red Lodge, Montana*

**Ecclesiastes 3:1 (NRSV) “ For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven...”**

The crisp mornings of fall are upon us! While I know that I will miss the long days of light and activity of summer, I revel in the autumn season. There is, as the scripture says, a time for everything, and for me, autumn is a time for new starts. **New course work, new programs, new faces in the pews, new mornings laced with pumpkin spice coffee... all new, every day.**

**This fall I am looking forward to one more new thing... a whole new decade in my life. I turn 60 on October 6, and I have a few goals for this 6th decade. So, September will be my “ramping up” for that celebration and a time to take stock of the “matters under heaven” that await this new decade of my life.**

**Fall is also a time for our church to take stock in matters of the future. We work on nominations for next year's councils and committees, develop our budget for the next year and kick off our pledge campaign. These three things all go hand in hand. As we look forward in our nominations, we will also be looking at re-developing our leadership structure. As we look forward in our budgeting process, we know that the addition of new staff this year will require tremendous generosity on the part of our donors. As we look forward in our pledge campaign we will focus not on dollars, rather we will focus on participation.**

Our human nature can easily lead us to a place of dread and despair with all of this work coming at us, all in one season. I encourage you to take heart; see this not as a place of drudgery and exhaustion; rather see this as a time of harvest. A time to reap what we have sown in the past 3 years. We have new members, new attenders, new excitement. We have tilled the soil and planted the seeds for new ways of worship, prayer, communion, and community. Those seeds are now coming into a season of harvest.

Our investment in technology gives us the ability to reach almost every member of our church and worshiping community at the same time; both in person and virtually. Our investment in staff has brought back former attenders and **welcomed new faces. Our commitment to engage the community in the use of our facilities has children's laughter filling our building on an almost daily basis.**

I invite you to look at this new season in a new light. With excitement, promise and vision. Our hearts are full and overflowing with ideas and energy. Working together to reap the wonderful harvest of our faith is what this autumn season is **for. A time for reaping... a time for joy.**

Peace,

Pastor Pam

## Ad-Hoc Restructuring Committee

to make recommendations to the Church Council

The Ad-Hoc Restructuring Committee was formed some months ago to look at how we as the church might need to re-create our structure of leadership. We currently have a cumbersome design that requires 7 officers and we have only been able to fill 3 of those positions this year. It is also unclear in job descriptions and roles and responsibilities of the staff and pastor.

The Ad-Hoc Restructuring Committee consists of a representative from each of the Standing Committees, working with Pastor Pam in discovering the history and creation of the current leadership structure, and polling the committee members and other worshipers as to the reasons why they cannot fill the current leadership roles in the church. The committee also asked for suggestions on how to move forward in re-creating the leadership structure in such a way that **the officers' positions could be filled.**

The results of those conversations were shared, and the Ad-Hoc Committee is recommending that the Executive Council and Church Council be merged to include only 3 officers (as required by law), that those officer positions be co-positions and that the Church Council be the recommending body to the congregation. **The job descriptions for the 3 officers' positions (Moderator, Secretary and Treasurer) would be pared back from the current By-Laws and Standing Rules; staff would be paid to assume some of the officer's responsibilities, more Ad-Hoc Committees would be used for specific annual tasks, and the pastor's job description would clearly include the role of Executive Director.**

The Ad-Hoc Restructuring Committee has recommended a series of “educational gatherings” to define the roles of the officers, the responsibilities of the staff, and the clarification of the job descriptions. Those gatherings would also lead to a streamlining of the By-Laws and Standing Rules, with the creation of a new Ad-Hoc Committee to recommend re-writes of the rules for congregational approval.

The Educational All-Church Gathering will be held on September 26 at 11:00a. m. following worship.



# Come One come all!

## All-Church Gathering

(non-members are strongly encouraged to attend!!)

**When:** Sunday September 26, 11:00a.m. following  
worship

**Purpose:** to educate and envision our  
leadership structure for the future

**Agenda:** coffee fellowship, education, feed  
back

### Education:

Legal Requirements of our church (501c3)

The roles of Church Council, Moderator, Secretary and Treasurer

Shared Roles

Formula for Meetings

By-Laws

### Feedback:

Focusing on the future

Yes, we Can!

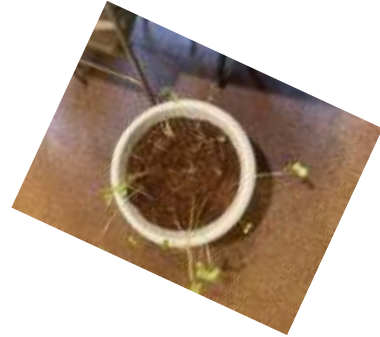
Please note that this is not a formal congregational meeting, no motions will  
be entertained)

## **Worship Services**

We have begun offering both LIVE and Pre-Recorded worship . The Live Worship Service is at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Pre-Recorded Worship is available on the website.

Watch for masking updates! As the COVID Delta Variant becomes more predominant in our area, the Deacons encourage you to wear masks for worship and when visiting the church. Please watch for masking updates here in the Weekly Wrangler, in separate emails, and be sure to read any new signs on the church doors. As always, we will happily provide masks for you at the church in case you happen to leave home without one. We will be using a visualization of communion for our communion services for the next few weeks in order to provide the safest possible way to share our meal together. Please respect social distancing for anyone wearing a mask.

# Christian Education



Sunday School has been suspended for the Summer. Hope to see everyone back in the Fall!

## Facility Committee

**Volunteer Lawn Care:** We have a **signup sheet located on the Greeter's desk**. Please stop by anytime and sign up for a day that is convenient for you. We greatly appreciate you taking time out of your day to helping the church look its best! You all are awesome!!

Thank you for caring for our church yard. The preferred lawn care rotation is to mow and trim towards the end of the week. Please mow the entire boulevard from the corner to the **south end of the neighbor's yard and please do the neighbor's front lawn**. The **mower and weed whacker** are in the shed by the alley. The shed is not locked, the padlock merely hangs on the latch.

Looks like we are all set with volunteers! Thanks to all who signed up, we appreciate your time & enthusiasm!

If you have any questions, please call: Marge Nearpass --406-425-4936, Jay West--406-425-0496, Skip Bratton--406-425-5411 or Mair Shirley-Jones--406-425-0713.



## A Word from the Deacons....



Covid has created alternative thinking for communion. We have been partaking in bread and the cup at the front of the church and leaving the disposable cups and toothpicks there. We are aware of the environmental impact the plastic creates. Our local recycling center does not accept the plastic cups we are using so we are investigating if they can be recycled in Billings. We are also using paper cups for Coffee Hour rather than Styrofoam. You are welcome to bring your own cups from home for coffee and free refills! Our Wednesday Coffee Klatch group will be meeting around the Gazebo at the Lions Club Park to walk in the Fun Run on Saturday, September 4th. Please join us! You can register:

1. Online: [www.rlacf.org/register](http://www.rlacf.org/register)
2. Mail: PO Box 1871, Red Lodge, MT. 59068
3. In person: Red Lodge Area Community Foundation

Thank you to the recent Greeters and Coffee Hour providers. We are open to suggestions and want this to work for everyone. It is a once-a-year service to our church and we appreciate your giving of your time and energies. If the assigned time doesn't work for you,

Peace and Good Health,  
Your Deacons

Debbie Awes—425-3985  
Renee Gabrian—446-2047  
Sharyn McKenzie—664-3160

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

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

### Greeters:

9/5: Samarra Quick & Julia Childs  
9/12: Dennis Elo & Audrey Clark  
9/19: Russ & Denece Lord  
9/26: Sharyn McKenzie & Lori Floyd

### Deacons:

9/5 : Lori Floyd, Helen MacKay  
9/12: Debbie Awes, Renee Gabrian  
9/19: Debbie Awes, Lori Floyd  
9/26: Renee Gabrian, Helen MacKay

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*In August we grieved with the family and friends of:*

*Tatum Morrell, Ryan Pless, Jess Hanson,  
Martha Anne, Beverly Morgan,*



## MOMENT FROM THE MODERATOR



Decisions! Decisions! Decisions! There are those we make. Those we should have made. Those made by others that affect us. Those that are understandable and those that are not. No matter what life has to offer each of us, a decision will be required to make it happen. We are facing several important decisions that will influence the direction of our church—a possible reorganization of our **church's administrative structure, election of new officers**, commitment to our annual pledge drive, and approval of a new operating budget. So, investigate, prepare, thoughtfully consider, and participate. Your personal decision is important! Now, here are a few of my favorite quotes. Maybe sometimes the hardest decisions we have to make are the ones that God wants us to make ourselves. —**Unknown It's not hard to make decisions when you know what your values are.** -- Unknown When you have collected all the facts and fears and made your decision, turn off your fears and go ahead! -- George S. Patton All decision-making is a values-clarifying exercise. –Tony Robbins Stay committed to your decisions but stay flexible in your approach. –Tony Robbins



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.

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## 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



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## 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 re-print you a new copy. Thank you for your understanding!\**

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## A Note from the Office





# SEPTEMBER

# 2021

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
1	2	3	1 9am Coffee Klatch	2 9:30am Executive Council Meeting Zoom Prayer	3	4
5 10:00 LIVE Worship 3:00 4H meeting	6 Staff Meetings	7	8 9am Coffee Klatch	9 <b>Pam out of town</b> 9:30am Zoom Prayer Phil Robertson	10 Pam out of town	11 <b>Pam out of town</b> Mark Sechler Sharyn Mckenzie
12 <b>Pam out of town</b> 10:00 LIVE Worship	13 <b>Pam off</b> Staff Meetings 1:30 Stewardship Meeting	14 <b>Pam out of town</b>	15 <b>Pam out of town</b> 9am Coffee Klatch	16 <b>Pam out of town</b> 9:30am Zoom Prayer	17 <b>Pam out of town</b>	18 <b>Pam out of town</b>
19 <b>Pam out of town</b> 10:00 LIVE Worship	20 <b>Pam off</b> Staff Meetings Mike Tomicich	21 <b>Pam out of town</b>	22 9am Coffee Klatch Rebecca Hardy	23 9:30am Zoom Prayer	24 Carol Souders	25 <b>Jo Ann &amp; Bert Eder</b>
26 10:00 LIVE Worship 11:00 a.m. All-Church Gathering 3:00 4H meeting	27 Staff Meetings Dan Brown Sarah Childs	28 10:00 a.m. Deacons Committee Meeting	29 Coeta Rieger	30 9:30am Zoom Prayer		
* Birthdays + Anniversary						



## 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 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](http://www.redlodgecommunitychurch.com)

Email: [rlccassistant@gmail.com](mailto:rlccassistant@gmail.com) or [rlccdirector@gmail.com](mailto:rlccdirector@gmail.com)

Office Hours: M-F 10am-3pm & and by appointment

Pastor: Pamela J. Peterson

Office Hours: by appointment only

Cell: (406) 426-8715

Email: [pastorpampeterson@gmail.com](mailto:pastorpampeterson@gmail.com)