

# Mountain Proclamations

a publication of the First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, of Mountain Home

[www.mhfceucc.org](http://www.mhfceucc.org) **November 2016** [churchinfo@mhfceucc.org](mailto:churchinfo@mhfceucc.org)

Volume 49 - Issue 10

## Welcome and Hello!

On Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, we welcomed two new members into the congregation. Please welcome

Beth DeVore  
Jennifer Dillenbeck

## Tables for Sale!

The Women's Fellowship has some 8 ft. tables for sale for \$15 each. Buyer must haul! The tables for sale are loaded onto the table carrier in the room behind the adult Sunday School room. Contact any of the ladies from Women's Fellowship or the church office.

## Church Halloween Party

This year's Halloween Party will be on **Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.** here at the church. Hot dogs will be served at noon. There will be Trunk or Treat, Halloween costume walk, games, music, food, and fun for kids of all ages (yes, that means the adults too). Bring the kids, their friends, etc. and let's have a great afternoon of fun. If you have any questions or wish to volunteer your help to set up, run a game, or clean up, please contact Curtis Carlin.

## Fall Time Change

**Sunday, November 6, 2016**  
Turn your clock **back** one hour.

## Congregational Meeting

**Sunday, November 6, 2016**, immediately following our 11:00 a.m. worship service, we will hold our Annual Budget and Election meeting. Please plan to attend. Everyone's presence is needed!

## Treasurer's Report

The working budget used at the annual meeting for this year includes the anticipated budget for next year (2017) as approved by the Trustees. This is just a guideline for our expenses and income.

I also wanted to remind everyone that any pledges paid for this year must be received by the church before December 31, 2016, or

postmarked by the end of that day. Any funds received or postmarked after that date are considered into the new year.

Grace Townsend  
Treasurer

## All are invited!

Everyone is invited to come to Craft Day at the church! It will be held every Friday (except November 18<sup>th</sup>) from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will be working on items to sell at our Christmas Bazaar. Bring your own project (there's lots of room and table space) or help someone else with theirs.

## Don't Forget to Vote

**November 8, 2016** is Election Day.

## Women of the Church

### *Women's Fellowship*

The next meeting for Women's Fellowship is scheduled for **Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m.** (please note the change) in the Fellowship Hall. There will be a potluck luncheon hosted by Dorraine Aggen and Mildred McNeal. The worship leader will be announced at the meeting.

Nominations for next year's officers will be announced. Plans for the Annual Pie Auction and Christmas Bazaar will be finalized.

All women of the church are welcome to attend.

### *Women's Bible Study*

Kim Cran will be leading us in a study of women in the Bible, starting with Judith. Materials will be provided. Please feel free to come into this study at any time.

We meet at **11:30 a.m.** the 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays in November (due to holidays) **November 2<sup>nd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>.**  
Note change: Bible Study - November 9<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>.

## Get your Raffle Tickets

Raffle tickets will be sold **throughout November** during Fellowship Hour for the drawing to be held at this year's Holiday Bazaar,

**December 3<sup>rd</sup>**, or you can also buy tickets from a member of Women's Fellowship. Raffles will be: 1/3 cord of wood, a crisp \$100 bill, a painting, and a silver round. Come see what there is to be won just for supporting Women's Fellowship, who supports our church. Tickets are 6 for \$5 or \$1 each. As always, all proceeds go to support our church, buy nursery supplies, and support Our Churches Wider Mission (OCWM).

### Remember our Veterans

*Friday, November 11, 2016*

### Giving Tree

For those who have asked, I will be getting the Giving Tree tags on November 14th, and will have them in church on **Sunday, November 20th**. I have asked for 15 boys and 15 girls. All tags that are taken must be back to the church no later than **December 15th**. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the phone number shown below. Let's make this another great year in giving deserving children a great Christmas. Thank you.

*Sincerely yours,  
Ann Carlin  
Giving Tree Coordinator, First Congregational Church*

### It's a Pie Auction!!

Kick back and let Women's Fellowship help take some of the work out of Thanksgiving Dinner for you! Delicious, delectable, homemade pies will be auctioned off the Sunday before Thanksgiving, **November 20<sup>th</sup>, during Coffee Hour**. Join the fun and take home your little piece of heavenly pie. As always, all proceeds go to support our church, buy the coffee, and support Our Churches Wider Mission (OCWM).

If you would like to bake some pies for the Pie Auction, Women's Fellowship would be delighted to have the help. You may bring your pies with you to church Sunday morning, November 20<sup>th</sup>. Please note what kind of pie it is. If you have any questions, please contact Nadine Roberts.

### Annual Church Thanksgiving Dinner

On **Sunday evening, November 20<sup>th</sup>**, we will hold our annual Thanksgiving dinner and ingathering of pledges. The festivities begin at 6:00 p.m. with dinner in the Fellowship Hall.

The Church will provide turkey, stuffing, potatoes, gravy, rolls and beverages. You provide your good company, your own table service and a dish to share for the potluck table.

If you know of any of our members who are unable to attend but would like to receive a meal, please let the office know so we can add them to our list for deliveries. There is also a sign-up sheet for shut-ins on the table in the Fellowship Hall. If you would like to help deliver these meals, please contact the office.

### Pledge Service

On **November 20<sup>th</sup>**, immediately following our Thanksgiving Dinner, we will be having our **Pledge Blessing Service** where we dedicate and bless our pledges for 2017. This may be a short service, but it is an important one.

### Community Thanksgiving Service

This year's Community Thanksgiving Service will be held at **7 p.m. on Tuesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>**, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints stake center on Haskett.

Monetary offerings will be shared by the Elmore County Ministerial Association and St. Vincent De Paul's Food Pantry. Donated canned goods will go to the Grace Lutheran Food Bank.

### Hanging of the Greens

On **Saturday, November 26<sup>th</sup>**, we will begin decorating the church for the coming Christmas season. We will gather in the Sanctuary at 9:00 a.m. and decorate until it's all Christmas-y inside. All are welcome to come and help.

Beginning **Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup>**, you may start bringing in your live (no silk ones, please) poinsettias. Please note: the church will **not** be purchasing poinsettias this year.

Those being shared as memorials or dedications, will be listed in the Christmas Eve bulletin so be sure to give this information to the church office by **Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup>**. Forms will be available on the back table beginning Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup>. Poinsettias may be dropped off at the church office Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. or on Sunday mornings. Please be sure to put your name on them if you want them back after Christmas. You may take your plant home any time after our Christmas Eve candlelight service.

### Children's Christmas Program

Practice for the Children's Christmas Program will be the following Sunday mornings during Sunday school: November 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> and December 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. **The program, "Christmas Spirit? Let's Hear it!", will be presented on Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>**. All children are welcome to participate.

## Christmas Bazaar

### *Christmas Bazaar Set up*

Set up for the 2016 Christmas Bazaar will be **Friday, December 2nd**, from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. This is the time to bring in your handcrafted items and baked goods. This is also when some muscle is needed to help set up tables and transform the Fellowship Hall into a holiday wonderland of really nifty items for a unique Christmas celebration.

### *Women's Fellowship Christmas Bazaar*

The Women's Fellowship Christmas Bazaar will be held on **Saturday, December 3, 2016**, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 pm. There will be homemade goodies of all kinds and pies with coffee and tea in Horner's Corner. Besides goodies to eat, handmade crafts and needlework and gift items will be available for purchase. Come join us and bring friends and neighbors. Get your Christmas baked goodies here and unique gift items for those very special people on your Christmas list.

If you have something to contribute to the Bazaar, contact the church office or one of the ladies from the Women's Fellowship.

## Annual Crèche Exhibit of Nativities

The Annual Crèche Exhibit of Nativities at the LDS Stake Center at 790 S. Haskett Street will be Thursday and Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Our Bell Choir will be performing approximately 8 p.m. on Friday and the Community Choir will be performing on Friday at 7 p.m. and Saturday at 3:30 p.m.

## Bulletin Sponsors needed

Sign-ups are well under way for sponsoring bulletins for 2017. Best hurry if you want to get your Sunday! Over half the bulletins are already signed up for. Sign-up sheets are on the back table in the Sanctuary or you can contact the office Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Sponsoring bulletins is a way to help make our financial resources go just a bit farther. Last year we filled every Sunday. Each sponsorship costs \$10, payable when you can between now and the end of 2017. Your name will be printed in the bulletin you choose to sponsor. If you wish to remain anonymous, please be sure to note that.

## All Boards and Committees

Year-end Annual Reports are due in the office by **January 4, 2017**, earlier if possible, so they can be prepared for distribution at our Annual Meeting on January 15<sup>th</sup>.

## Celebrating 40 years of Dedicated Service

As everyone knows Truman will be retiring at the end of December and we will be throwing him a retirement party to thank him for his 40 years of Ministerial service. He has blessed our church for the last 23 years, and he and his lovely wife Terri will be deeply missed by each and every one of us. If you would like to attend, please see Ann or Curtis Carlin to purchase your ticket(s).

Cost: Tickets are \$15.00 each

Location: The Elks Lodge

Date: January 28, 2017

Time: 5 pm to 9 pm with dinner being served promptly at 6 pm

Attire: Semi-Formal

Deadline: Tickets must be purchased no later than Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>

## Thank you

### *For copy paper*

Thank you to those who have left copy paper in the office throughout October. This has happened twice and I have no idea who y'all are, but I can assure you that it will go to good use. Donations like this help the church budget go even farther.

### *From the National Church Office and the Central Pacific Conference*

"Thank You! To the members of First Congregational UCC, Mountain Home for being a 5 for 5 Congregation of the United Church of Christ in 2015. 5 for 5 Congregations support Our Church's Wider Mission Basic Support and the Neighbors in Need, One Great Hour of Sharing, Christmas Fund, and Strengthen the Church Mission Offerings of the United Church of Christ"

*John C. Dorhauer*

General Minister and President  
United Church of Christ

*Walter John Boris*

Conference Minister

## Birthdays in November

2 – Nancy Allen

12 – Allison Duty

2 – Alexis Parks	15 – Allen Harris
2 – Samantha Pearsall	17 – Luke Estes
3 – Anya Lichdi	19 – Henry Bergstol
4 – Joe B McNeal	19 – Mike Keas
4 – Sue Martin	21 – Rebecca Straley
4 – David Biggs	22 – Fred Sisneros
4 - Phil Gridley	23 – Harris Allgood
5 – Don Thoen	23 – Grace Townsend
6 – Helena DeWeerd	26 – Katie Parks
8 – Gloria Gaub	28 – Philip Miller

### *Anniversaries in November*

6 – Linda and Randy Ramsey  
27 – Rebecca and Scott Straley

### *Special Angels for November*

#### LITURGISTS (Mickie Betts)

6 – Wade Baumgardner  
13 – Mildred McNeal  
20 – Chris Paille  
27 – Mickie Betts

#### GREETERS (Gail Trueba)

6 – Nancy Allen and Gail Trueba  
13 – Terri Jones  
20 – Joe and Mildred McNeal  
27 – Al Foster and Betty Ashcraft

#### ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTERS

27 – Joe B. and Mildred McNeal

#### FELLOWSHIP HOUR (Sign-up Sheet)

6 – Susan and Gene Mussler  
13 – Carrie Roeder  
20 – Rose Pearsall  
27 –

#### CHILDREN’S CHURCH (Sign-up Sheet)

6 – Communion – No Children’s Church  
13 – Heidi Harris  
20 – Betty Ashcraft  
27 – Ken Andersen

#### USHERS (Mike Marten)

#### FLOWERS (Lee Wright and Sherry Bush)

#### PARAMENTS (Allen and Heidi Harris)

#### COMMUNION (Tony Deal)

#### NURSERY (Debi Deal/Sarah Duty)

### *From the Pastor*

One of my favorite hymns is “All Beautiful the March of Days.” The opening line is: “All Beautiful the march of days as seasons come and go. The hand that shaped the rose hath wrought the crystal of the snow.”

It’s a hymn that always comes to mind as one season makes its steady transition into the next.

These times of transition also put me in mind of Ecclesiastes’ poetical musing, “For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven: A time to be born and a time to die; A time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted.”

From the earliest human civilization, the changing seasons have been seen as evidence of a universal chronology: time passes. Modern psychology suggests that just as there are seasons in the chronological year, there are also well-defined seasons in human existence, from infancy on up to advanced old age. Each of these seasons carries its own anxieties and complications, its own varieties of irritation and discomfort, but each also has numerous opportunities for learning as well as pleasures to savor and enjoy.

Nostalgia always grows out of selective memory. We remember the romance of our teenage years, the excitement of that first date and later that first crush; we forget the anxiety and stress over tests, acne, popularity, fitting in, and acceptance.

I was long past middle age before I learned that one of the secrets of a happy life is being open and receptive to the beauty and pleasures of the season while gliding through the inevitable irritations and discomforts with as much poise and grace as possible.

In any season, life is a delicate balancing act.

There are no seasons as we know them in the twenty-degree belt that parallels the equator. Each day is more or less like the next, the weather is almost as predictable as the phases of the moon.

I can’t imagine living in a place like that. Part of the fun of life is watch the unfolding of our march of days, whether those days form the seasons of the year or the seasons of our lives.

Each season is fleeting. Even as I write this piece most of the leaves have been stripped from the trees and the world awaits the annual icy embrace of winter. But winter, too, brings its own crystalline beauty.

We are in a time of transition in the cyclical seasons, the secular calendar, and the life of the church. Take time to enjoy the march of days as our seasons come and go.

*TEP*