

MISSOULA FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
WELCOMES ALL PEOPLE OF ANY AGE, GENDER, COLOR, ETHNICITY, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, ECONOMIC STATUS,
OR PHYSICAL ABILITY INTO THE FULL LIFE AND MEMBERSHIP OF THIS CONGREGATION.

TOWER TIDINGS

PRIDE PARADE - FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CELEBRATION - 2024

"To all who weren't there, and the wonderful First UMC souls who marched but couldn't hear through the cheering crowds, here is a near re-creation of our representational statement written to be read over the Bear-Paw Bridge loudspeaker as we passed by:

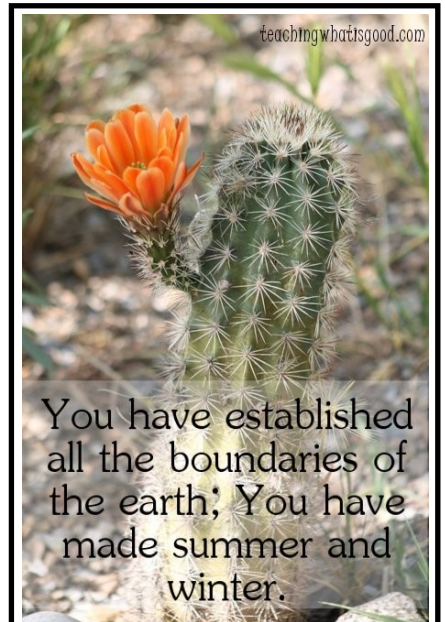
"At Missoula First United Methodist Church we have been thrilled to support and be a part of Montana Pride since it began, especially this year **at Missoula Pride** as we celebrate the new era that was established by the world-wide United Methodist General Conference this spring."

"The second largest Christian denomination on Earth, the United Methodist Church was finally able to convene in Charlotte, NC, on April 23 through May 3, to vote on the major sticky issues that had been delayed by Covid. The international attendees' votes there were overwhelmingly loud and clear as votes for self-determining conferences, non-discrimination, and full inclusion for all in Ministry and Membership."



"Missoula First United Methodist has been fully inclusive by congregational vote since 2012, and always fully inclusive in Communion for all who wish to partake.

JULY 2024



You have established
all the boundaries of
the earth; You have
made summer and
winter.

LECTIONARY

- **July 7, 2024**
7th Sunday after Pentecost
2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10
Psalms 48
2 Corinthians 12:2-10
Mark 6:1-13
- **July 14, 2024**
8th Sunday after Pentecost
2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19
Psalms 24
Ephesians 1:3-14
Mark 6:14-29
- **July 21, 2024**
9th Sunday after Pentecost
2 Samuel 7:1-14a
Psalms 9:20-37
Ephesians 2:11-12
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56
- **July 28, 2024**
10th Sunday after Pentecost
2 Samuel 11:1-15
Psalms 14
Ephesians 3:14-21
John 6:1-21

Our money was well-spent in our recent building remodel for safer meeting, kitchen and conference spaces, all sharable with the larger Missoula community, including added non-gendered bathrooms. We are also a proud solar powered and green-focused congregation and very active in problem solving and hands-on working alongside Missoula's interfaith, social needs, and governmental communities."

"From its start in the cold and rain, to its end under sunshine and rainbow, we were very proud to join in this year's PRIDE parade as part of Missoula's celebrating itself as a community that affirms and supports everyone who lives here, with floats, firemen/ EMT's, police, the women's roller derby gang, Jeannette Rankin, Civilian Conservation Corps, United Way, other faith communities, and many more organizations, all marching in support. It was a truly uplifting expression of Missoula's spirit." - Karen Loos



A Great Date Night Idea!

Picture this: You and your partner/spouse/sweetie have signed up to be the clean up crew for the Methodist Burger (and homemade pie!) booth at the Western Montana Fair one night from August 6 to 11th. But do you just drag yourself out of the house at 9:45pm to spend an hour cleaning the fair booth? Heck no! You make it an awesome date night! You spend all evening at the fair, enjoying the crowds, the sights, the exhibits, the rides, and, of course a burger and pie a la mode! Wrapping it all up at the end, you put in an hour or so cleaning up the booth, but it's no longer a chore, it's your thanks for a great time, and a chance to be part of a great community effort that helps our two churches with both budget and money to put toward some of our community engagement efforts.

Want to sign up for a night's shift, or maybe even for the final after-the-fair daytime cleanup crew on August 12th? The sign up list is in the church office or the narthex after church. Just call (406-549-6118) or email: fumcmissoula@gmail.com, and let us know which time slot you want to fill.



Sending mail to the church? Please make sure you have our P.O. Box on the address! Our P.O. Box is 7646, Missoula, MT 59807. We often do not get our mail if it addressed to our street address. Thank-you!!



Inspiration Tool Box

“Your day doesn’t have to be perfect to have meaning. Showing up matters. Giving matters. Trying matters. Loving matters. Being there matters. Perfection doesn’t matter. You matter.”

Rachel Marie Martin

SUMMER EVENTS:

Every Friday at noon, weather permitting, keep in touch by bringing your lunch to Bonner Park, and gathering near the band shell for a good time of visiting. All the women are invited!



Celebration of Life for Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson

A celebration of Lisa's life will be held Sunday, July 7, 2024, 1:30-4:30 p.m., Missoula Public Library, 455 E. Main St., Missoula, MT (4th floor, Cooper A/B). Please join us! In lieu of flowers, those wishing to honor Lisa are asked to please consider a donation in Lisa's memory to AniMeals (<https://www.animeals.com>) or the Humane Society of Western MT (<https://myhswm.org>).



Church Pledges and Donations

The donation page via the Breeze website can be found at: <https://firstumcmissoula.breezechms.com/give/online>

If you give online there is a dropdown menu under the line with the amount that allows you to designate where the money goes. You can also text to give at (406) 998-1982 with a donation amount and keyword like pledge or building. You are also welcome to mail in your donation. Leslie Uhlenbruck, Financial Secretary

Tower Tidings August Deadline:
July 9th
Special thanks to Nancy Eik and April Padget for helping edit *Tower Tidings*.

HOW TO CONTACT

THE OFFICE

Weekday Hours

Monday-Thursday 9-12

Phone: 406- 549-6118

E-Mail: FUMCmissoula@gmail.com

Website: www.firstumcmissoula.org

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/1stumcmissoula

Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/missoula1stumc/>

PASTOR JOHN

Office: Available Monday-Friday

By phone: 406-549-6118 or 406-396-8966 (cell)

E-Mail: john@FUMCmissoula.com

Hospital visits: Please call John or the office if you know of someone in the hospital.

Home visits: upon request

CHURCH STAFF

- John Daniels, *Pastor*
- Genevieve Padget Slote, *Administrative Assistant*
- Cheryl Bauer, *Administrative Assistant Sub*
- Jim Bauer, Donna McCammon, and Cara Lightfield *Office Volunteers*
- Leslie Lindley, *Treasurer*
- Leslie Uhlenbruck, *Financial Secretary*
- Craig Gohl, *Custodian*
- Greg Boris, *Chancel Choir Director*
- Jason Triche, *Hand Bell Choir Director*
- Luke Larson, *Organist and Pianist*
- Cindy Ekstrand, *Sunday School Director*
- Haley Koble, *Nursery Attendant*

For more information or to reach First UMC staff, please call the church office, 406-549-6118, or E-Mail us at FUMCmissoula@gmail.com



Arizona Immigration Law and Justice (AZJFON)

We are needing only \$750 more to meet our 3 year commitment of \$2000 per year to Arizona Immigration Law and Justice (AZJFON). This Methodist ministry is vital in assisting refugees/migrants in their desperate need for asylum in a broken immigration system. If you are able to help us complete this goal, please indicate your contribution as AZJFON. To all who have contributed, thank-you very, very, much! Gail Gilman

Tzedakah Pocket Offers Hope

This month brought us a wide variety of requests for assistance. Help with storage unit costs was needed by some who are housed but can't stretch their current income far enough to cover storage unit costs and help was needed by those who have been recently non-renewed and need to put their belongings in storage while they search for new housing. We had a request for temporary lodging for a couple waiting for their new rental unit to be ready for them to move in and we have had quite a few requests for help with utility bills as financial assistance available during the fall and winter ends and renters face the need to pay more.

As you enjoy all the wonderful things summer has to offer, we just ask that you remember the Tzedakah Pocket when you can as well as all those who come to us for assistance. All who seek our help are grateful for your help and generosity. We can't predict when we will get assistance requests or how much will be needed to satisfy each request but we are here to help and, as always, we do as much as we can with what we have.

A recap of assistance provided by our church's Tzedakah Pocket ministry is shown below.



Tzedakah Summary

2024 Donations: \$4,952.99

Assistance Paid	June 2024			Year- To- Date 2024		
	Amount	Fam.	Child.	Amount	Fam.	Child.
<i>Lodging</i>	\$ 118.00	1	0	\$ 2,606.23	12	7
<i>Rent/ Sec. Dep.</i>	\$ 0	0	0	\$ 1,510.00	7	10
<i>Other</i>	\$ 521.41	4	6	\$ 3, 102.52	29	27
TOTAL	\$ 639.41	5	6	\$ 7,218.75	48	44

Wanted: Socks & Underwear!!



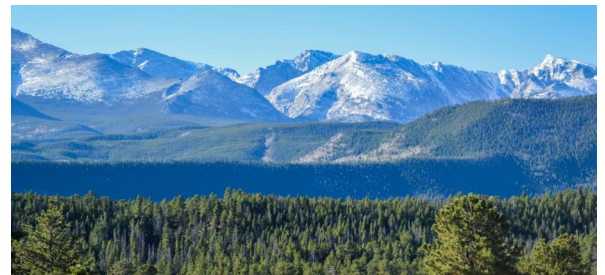
The *Gary Turbak Memorial* Back to School Clothing Project has been held at St. Paul Lutheran Church since 1987! Social agencies

in Missoula are contacted for the names of needy families in the valley who have children ages 4-12. The families are invited to

the church basement to the “store” where **new** clothes are arranged by size and gender. Last year more than 400 children got a pair of jeans, a top, a whole package of socks & underwear and a pair of shoes!! **Several churches will be collecting the new socks and underwear during June and July! THANK YOU! Please place items in the bin outside the church office in the hallway.**

Come and enjoy dinner with a view!

Friday Night Out is back on July 12th at Jim and Cheryl Bauer’s home at 6:00 p.m. Please bring a dish to share if you are able and your own place setting. It is always good fellowship and good food! The address is 16535 Folsom Rd. If you have any questions, please call 760-379-0375. Looking forward to seeing you there!



2024 Summer – Free Virtual Adult Mission u Study: “Welcome Home”

Dates: July 9, 16, 23, 30 (Four Consecutive Tuesdays) – 7:00 to 9:30 p.m.

Study Leader: Janeen Hill

Study Book: “[Welcome Home](#)”

Study Description: This study explores how we can know God as an intimate friend who welcomes us. The study leads participants outward so that what starts with our personal homes, expands to welcoming others to join us in our work as co-creators to establish God’s kin-dom on earth.

Online Registration Form: <https://mtnsky-reg.brapp.com/>

[MissionuSummer2024WelcomeHome](#)

It's summertime! Could you please see if there is a Saturday (or two) when you might be able to sign up to make sack lunches for the POV? We would appreciate it very much. We always have a good time and welcome newcomers! If you are new and would like to join the team please send me an email message: madamecarlson@gmail.com.

IN OUR PRAYERS...

~Healing and Comfort ~

- ✚ Prayers for peace and safety for the people in Gaza, Israel and the Ukraine.
- ✚ Continued prayers of healing for Rocky as she awaits a pacemaker implant, scheduled for July 5th. Prayers of safe travel for her daughter Cynthia, who will be arriving from South Dakota.
- ✚ Prayers that Rocky can find some help to move her bedroom furniture around the first of July so restoration work can be completed.
- ✚ Prayers that Brad, and other residents of Eagle Watch, will be able to influence the building's owner to provide improved safety and building maintenance.
- ✚ Prayers for adequate health care, food, and affordable housing for our veterans.
- ✚ Prayers for those seeking solutions for rising housing costs. Divine assistance to the decision makers.
- ✚ Prayers for a successful outcome for Elaine W.'s brother-in-law as he faces health concerns and upcoming surgery.
- ✚ Prayers of strength and comfort for Genevieve's Aunt Dona who was hospitalized with poor kidney function.
- ✚ Prayers that our District Superintendent's husband will be found, and that he has not been harmed.
- ✚ Prayers of thanksgiving for all those who serve on juries and support justice and democracy.
- ✚ Prayers of healing for Don R., who is recovering from pneumonia. Strength and comfort for Eula.
- ✚ Prayers for a successful diagnosis and treatment for Graham B., who is again suffering from auto-immune issues.
- ✚ Prayers of support for all those going through transitions.
- ✚ Prayers for successful chemo treatment for Teresa H., and that her tiredness will abate soon.
- ✚ Prayers that the doctors can find the cause of the infections that have been recurring in Hollie C.'s mom, Aggie, during the last few months, and resolve it.
- ✚ Prayers of success for Rio and her upcoming job interview.
- ✚ Prayers that a congregants' friend Alva can get a plumber to address the issue with a backed up sink.



~Sympathy~

- ✚ Prayers for the family and friends of Linda A., who passed in May and who had services at FUMC on June 4th.
- ✚ Prayers of comfort peace, and strength for Lisa M-J.'s husband Scott, daughters Anja and Rane, and Lisa's extended family and friends as they mourn her passing. She left us far too soon, and is greatly missed.
- ✚ Prayers of comfort for Dave R.'s family and friends in his passing in late June.



~Praises and Joys~

- ✚ Prayers of joy for the lovely flowers that have graced our altar!
- ✚ Prayers of thanksgiving for John T.'s presentation in worship and also for the two students who provided input.
- ✚ Prayers of joy for Chantrelle's and Joe's wedding in June!
- ✚ Prayers of thanksgiving for all the educators and substitutes teachers; may they have a restful and renewing summer.
- ✚ Prayers of joy that Gabriel is now an Eagle Scout!
- ✚ Prayers of gratitude that Jim B.'s knee replacement rehab is underway.
- ✚ Prayers of thanksgiving that Jeff M.'s lungs are recovering and his breathing capacity continues to increase.
- ✚ Joy for all the college and high school graduates! Well done!
- ✚ Prayers of joy that Frederick and Jennifer are settling into their new home.
- ✚ Prayers of joy and thanksgiving to all who participated in the Pride Parade.
- ✚ Happy Father's Day to all dads, step-dads, and grandfathers!
- ✚ Prayers of joy and thanksgiving for meeting with the Mayor at lunch and the positive and meaningful conversations.
- ✚ Prayers of thanksgiving that our congregation provides safe and welcoming worship and fellowship for LGBTQ+ individuals.
- ✚ Prayers of joy that Meghan's surgery was successful and she's recovering at home.



Missoula First United Methodist Church Climate Covenant



As people of faith, we have an obligation to care for God's creation. How we live in this world has meaning and consequences for all beings.

We find our planet in a dire climate crisis. All life forms are at risk because of humankind's abuses of the earth, sky and water. Millions of plant and animal species face extinction. Humans are suffering, especially those who already are oppressed and therefore less able to cope with the changes brought by a warming world.

We are called to action that reflects our abiding love for God, for one another and for the natural world. We pledge ourselves – as individuals and as the congregation of Missoula First United Methodist Church – to the interconnected responsibilities of caring for creation and seeking justice for the oppressed. All aspects of our congregation's life will reflect these deep and unwavering commitments.

Therefore:

1. We resolve to accept our moral obligation to be responsible stewards of God's creation and advocates for social justice. We will transform our despair, anger and sadness about climate change and human suffering into action that helps to heal our world and all of humanity.
2. We resolve to conduct a review of our church's carbon footprint, and to develop and enact practices that reduce our impact on the Earth. We will educate our congregation and community on these efforts, and will work to inspire change at all levels.
3. We resolve to elevate climate action, and with it social justice, as a primary focus of our ministry. We will take a multi-faceted approach that includes education, communication, direct action and worship.

First United Methodist Church
300 E. Main Street
P.O. Box 7646
Missoula MT 59807

PH:406-549-6118

E-Mail: FUMCmissoula@gmail.com

Website: www.firstumcmissoula.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/1stumcmissoula

Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/missoula1stumc/>

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

July Events

7/7: Celebration of Life for Lisa Jackson, Missoula Public Library, 4th floor, 1:30 p.m.

Fridays - UWF meet at band shelter and bring your lunch

7/12: Friday Night Out: The Bauer's, 6:00 p.m., 16535 Folsom Rd., Florence



Weekly Events via Zoom and in person

Sunday Worship - Worship 10:00 a.m. and via Zoom (recordings on Facebook or the church website).

Sunday School - during the worship service in the nursery for kids age 4 and up. **(on summer break)**

Tuesday - Pastor John's class 10:00 a.m. via Zoom. All are welcome! Please contact the office for the Zoom link. **On summer break.**

Wednesday - Lectionary Bible Class 10:00 a.m. in the Parlor. Contact Rev. Barry Padgett at barryumc@yahoo.com for more information. All are welcome to attend! **On summer break.**