**December Birthdays**

01 Tyler Robart  
03 Cody Sevier  
05 Kasidi Walker  
07 Cheryl Allen  
10 Harold Heafield  
10 Martha Cash  
11 Lori Hilbert  
11 Klaire Nemitz  
16 Rick Fisher  
21 Bruce Raymond  
24 Kayla Allen  
25 Mark Michael

**December Anniversaries**

03 Ed and Lori Hilbert  
23 Chuck and Shirley Mohr

**January Birthdays**

05 Jeff Privratsky  
11 Maleri Sevier  
18 Myrna Kintz  
21 Pam Allen  
24 Guy Pontoriero  
30 Clarice Utgaard

**January Anniversaries**

22 Harold and Renasue Heafield  

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The Advent Christmas Concert will be held at the First Congregational Church Sunday, December 5 at 2:00PM. Come and enjoy the music. Refreshments will be served after the concert.

**What’s going on at our Church**

**Sunday, December 5**  
Second Sunday of Advent  
Food Bank Sunday  
10:00am: Worship with communion and Sunday school  
11:00am: Fellowship Hour  
2:00pm: Advent Music Concert

**Sunday, December 12**  
Third Sunday of Advent  
10:00am: Worship and Sunday school  
11:00am: Fellowship hour  
Board meetings

**Sunday, December 19**  
Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Christmas Program  
Christmas Fund Offering  
10:00am: Worship  
11:00am: Fellowship Hour – potluck

**Friday, December 24**  
7:00pm: Christmas Eve and Candle Lighting Service

**Sunday, December 26**  
10:00am: Worship Service  
11:00am: Fellowship Hour  
Annual reports are due

**Thursday, December 30**  
10:30: Adult Bible Study  
12:00: Men's Group at CC's

**Sunday, January 2**

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10:00am: Worship with communion and Sunday school
11:00am: Fellowship Hour
    Food Bank Sunday

**Sunday, January 9**
10:00am: Worship and Sunday school
11:00am: Fellowship Hour
    Board meetings

**Sunday, January 16**
10:00am: Worship and Sunday school
11:00am: Fellowship Hour
11:15am: Council meeting

**Sunday, January 23**
10:00am: Worship and Sunday school
11:00am: Fellowship Hour
    PACE articles are due
    Annual meeting

**Thursday, January 27**
10:30: Adult Bible Study
12:00: Men's Group at CC's

**Sunday, January 30**
10:00am: Worship and Sunday school
11:00am: Fellowship Hour

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**For September**

Income for the month: $5077.38
Expenses for the month: $8215.18
Income for year: $60515.84
Expenses for year: $59665.70
Checking account balance: $4950.14

**Treasurer’s Report**

**For October**

Income for the month: $6015.09
Expenses for the month: $6005.75
Income for year: $66590.93
Expenses for year: $65671.45
Checking account balance: $4959.48

**FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR**

If you would like to share your poinsettias or Christmas flowers with the congregation, you may do so by placing them on the altar. If you wish the poinsettia or Christmas flower to be in memory of a dear one, please let Vicki know by Sunday, December 12 so it can be listed in the bulletin. Thank you.

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**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**

The Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be held at the First Congregational Church, Friday, December 24 at 7:00pm.

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**Treasurer’s Report**

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

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**It's ANNUAL REPORT time again.**

Annual reports are due Sunday, December 26 from the following: Minister, Moderator, Christian Education Board, Diaconate/Mission Board, Trustees, Pastoral Relations, Activities Committee, Memorial Committee, Stewardship Committee, and Men's Group.
December 2021

Sunday, December 5
Ushers: Team 1
Mike Cash
Nancy Pedersen
Coffee Hour: Rick & Rosella Fisher

Sunday, December 12
Ushers: Team 2
Ilene Robins
Robin Robins
Coffee Hour: No host coffee hour set up
Bruce and Andeen Raymond

Sunday, December 19
Ushers: Team 3
Bruce Raymond
Dick Michael
Coffee Hour: Christmas Potluck

December 24
Christmas Eve Service
Ushers: Team 4
Ed Hilbert
Adam Hilbert

Sunday, December 26
Ushers Team 5
Ron Yakel
Chris Robart
Coffee Hour: Robin & Ilene Robins

WORSHIP SCHEDULE
January 2022

Sunday, January 2
Ushers: Team 1
Mike Cash
Nancy Pedersen
Coffee Hour: No host coffee hour set up
Ron & Karen Yakel

Sunday, January 9
Ushers: Team 2

Robin Robins
Ilene Robins
Coffee Hour: Bruce & Andeen Raymond

Sunday, January 16
Ushers: Team 3
Bruce Raymond
Dick Michael
Coffee Hour: Ed & Lori Hilbert

Sunday, January 23
Ushers: Team 4
Ed Hilbert
Adam Hilbert
Coffee Hour: Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 30
Ushers: Team 1
Mike Cash
Nancy Pedersen
Coffee Hour: Chris & DeeDee Robart

Merry Christmas
Food Bank
The Diaconate/Mission Board challenges families to donate a food item to the Food Bank each day of Advent. Items may be dropped off at the church, Reynolds or Albertsons.

LADY’S TEA AND COOKIE EXCHANGE

****The date and time of the Tea and Cookie Exchange is still in the works. Please keep your eyes and ears open for updates!****
PRAYER CHAIN
The prayer chain is a vital part of our church ministries. If you would like to be part of the Prayer Chain, please let Vicki (406-939-1453) know.

If you would like to place someone on the prayer chain call Bonita Keel (406-377-3662) or Donna Heinrich at (406-377-3437).

Christmas Fund Offering
The Christmas Fund Offering is one of four Special Mission Offerings of the United Church of Christ. It is an important way of sharing our joy at God's renewing and life-giving grace. The offering, which is administered by the Pension Boards on behalf of the UCC, is an expression of joy and gratitude for those who serve the church. Gifts to the Christmas Fund help provide pension and health premium supplementation to low-income retirees, emergency assistance to the families of clergy and lay employees and Christmas gift checks to hundreds of annuitants. Your gifts are needed more than ever to help the growing number of retirees whose low-income annuities make it difficult to meet increasing living costs. This is your opportunity to participate in God's promise of renewal by enabling this ministry of compassion and care. (Information taken from their web site: magiproject.org)

The offering will be taken during regular worship service on December 19.

Energy Share of Montana
Energy Share of Montana is a statewide, private nonprofit organization dedicated to helping Montanans overcome energy emergencies and move towards self-reliance. This can include help with heating bills and furnace replacement or repair regardless of income or heating source. Local communities review applications from their area and make decisions based on need. To apply for help, call the Human Resource Development Council and ask for Energy Share. The number to call for this area is 377-3564 or 1-800-227-0703.

Council Notes for October/November 2021
The church check book is in the black due to the sale of the MDU stock this summer. Members will be asked to pledge a giving in the Stewardship letters that will be mailed out.

The Bible Study Group will meet the last Thursday of each month at 10:30 am, at the church. Then Brother Guy can meet with the Men's Group at noon. Brother Guy has mentioned that maybe once in awhile they could meet at the Senior Citizen's Center. The meals are only $6 and it would be a form of a social outing for our members.

Decorating for the Christmas season will take place on Sunday, November 28th.

We will be hosting an Advent Musical on December 5th at 2pm, with refreshments served afterwards. Our organist/pianist, Susan Strehlow, will be heading it up again.
The Sunday school teachers and students are preparing a Christmas program, which will be during the church service Sunday, December 19th. There will be a potluck meal to follow in the Fellowship Hall.

The Christmas Tea and Cookie Exchange will be held later in January or February.

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The time is right to wish everyone a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year. 'Tis the holiest season of the year. May you be touched by its magnificence.

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Did You Know This?

(Song 12 days of Christmas)

The partridge in a Pear Tree is Jesus

Two Turtle Doves represent the old and new testaments.

Three French Hens represent faith, hope, and love.

Four calling birds are the four gospels - Mathew, Mark, Luke and John.

Five golden rings recall the Torah or law, the first five books of the old testament.

Six geese a laying represent the six days of creation.

Seven swans a swimming represent the seven-fold gifts of the Holy Spirit: prophesy, serving, teaching, exhortation, contribution, leadership, and mercy.

Eight maids a milking are the eight Beautitudes.

Nine ladies dancing are the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self control.

Ten lords a leaping are the ten commandments.

Eleven pipers piping are the eleven faithful disciples.

Twelve drummers a drumming represent the twelve points of belief in the Apostles Creed.

So there is your history for today. Merry Christmas
Thank you, God, for your many blessings over the last year.
Amen