

# Mountain Proclamations

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

[www.mhfirstcongregational.org](http://www.mhfirstcongregational.org)

**October 2025**

[mhfccucc@gmail.com](mailto:mhfccucc@gmail.com)

Volume 58 - Issue 9

## Neighbors in Need

“Bear one another’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.” Galatians 6:20

Joining together in the struggle for justice and peace, the Neighbors in Need offering, which we will receive on **October 5**, supports the UCC’s ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. With your assistance, together we can help our Neighbors in Need. Please give generously. And remember, contributions to Neighbors in Need can be made online at any time: [ucc.org/nin](http://ucc.org/nin)

## Office Closed

In observance of Indigenous Peoples Day (Columbus Day), the church office will be closed on **Monday, October 13<sup>th</sup>**.

## October’s Potluck Sunday

The October potluck is on **Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup>** after worship. Bring your favorite potluck dish to share – main course, side dish, salad or dessert. All are invited to the table.

## Mid-Year 2025 Treasures Report

As of mid-September, we have received General donations of \$79,866 with General expenditures of \$110,645. This compares with last year’s General donations of \$70,288 and General expenditures of \$81,198 at the same time. We have also received \$1,094 in Special Offerings; \$1,900 to the Building Fund; and \$5,025 in Memorial donations.

As you can see, donations are up slightly from last year, but expenditures have increased much more. We have been covering for the shortfall with savings from previous years - where General expenditures were less than spending. These savings may last us through the rest of this year, and we are fortunate to have additional funds available in our endowment accounts if needed. With that said, we cannot continuously operate relying on those endowments. Your donations are needed and greatly appreciated.

Thank you for generously supporting the church.

*Eddie Bush*  
Treasurer

## Third Quarter Statements

Third Quarter Giving Statements will be compiled the last week of October and mailed on during the first week of November. Questions? Contact Frank Marsh.

## Women of the Church

### *Women’s Fellowship Potluck and meeting*

All women of the church, neighbors, friends and kinfolk are invited to the October meeting of Women's Fellowship on **Friday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, 12:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. We will have a pot-luck luncheon preceding the meeting. Hostesses this month are Bobbi Bergh and Polly Sanders.

Come help us make plans for our Samaritan’s Purse Shoebox Project, Annual Pie Auction, and Christmas Bazaar!

We look forward to seeing you there!

*Nancy Sobien*

### *Samaritan’s Purse Christmas Shoeboxes*

Helping children experience God’s love through Christ Jesus!

It’s time again to start our Samaritan’s Purse Christmas Shoebox Project!

Women’s Fellowship is asking you, the church, to help us pack shoeboxes full of exciting, fun, needed items for children across the world who haven’t had the opportunity to hear about Jesus! Children are required to attend two “classes” to hear about our Lord and then are given a book in their native language about Jesus and a shoebox filled to the brim with goodies!

Please donate a new item or two to the basket located in the back of the sanctuary. Monetary donations are also welcomed!

### NEED

Dolls (can be Barbie sized)

Small stuffed animals

Flashlights and batteries (please don’t put the batteries in the flashlight, just tape them to it.)

Balls (that will fit into a shoebox!)

Boy’s and Girl’s socks  
Small toys  
Little cars and trucks  
Note pads  
Jump ropes  
Slinkys  
Play Doh  
Hair accessories (ribbons, clips, bands, bows...)  
Toothbrushes  
Pencils  
Grooming accessories (combs, brushes, fingernail clippers, files)

*Home Communion*

The Diaconate Board provides Home Communion to our church family that cannot get out to church any more. If you are one of these church family members and you would like Home Communion brought to you, please contact the church office and we will put you on the list.

*Pictorial Directory*

The Church Council would like to do another Pictorial Church Directory. We are looking for someone who is willing to find a photographer and set up the necessary times and dates to get this done. You can put together a group of folks to help you, if you would like. Get in touch with the office if you would like to share your gift of organizing such an event. Thank you!!

*Bulletin Sponsors for 2026*

It is time to start signing up to sponsor a worship bulletin for 2026. The sign-up sheet is on the back table in the sanctuary. This is how it works - choose the worship service you would like to sponsor and write your name next to that date; please note if you wish to remain anonymous. You may make your donation of \$10 per Sunday sponsored any time before the end of 2026. Please mark your check for the bulletin date that you are sponsoring. If you have any questions about how this works, contact the church office at 587-4969.

*Community Outreach Committee*  
*update*

Outreach Committee says THANK YOU to all who participated with AFAD! Collectively YOU made it fun and happy for our visitors.

Please give Sandra Moehn a big hug next time you see her! Sandra coaches First Congregational Church’s Parks & Rec fall 10-12 girls soccer team! Our team would love to see you cheering for them at their games. Schedules are available from the church.

Outreach, through the efforts of Diane Venski and Vicki Armstrong, participated in the 9/11 National Day of Service and Remembrance. They took cookies & a message of gratitude from First Congregational to our Mountain Home VA Clinic.

We appreciate our congregation's support, active involvement and donations. Thanks also for making us aware of community activities where First Congregational can reach out and help others.

*Thanks*

*AFAD Booth*

The Outreach Committee wants to thank everyone who helped with the AFAD booth. Whether you helped set up the booth or gave prize donations – some of you made beautiful gift baskets. Thank you to those who worked a shift and, of course, helped take the booth down. We had the very young helping to the “young at heart” helping this year.

The purpose of this booth is to bring awareness of our church to the community and as always, to honor and glorify our God.

Thank you again to all of you!

*Blessings to you all,  
The Outreach Committee*

*From the Red Cross*

Dear Rick,

Thank you for showing your support of the community by sponsoring an American Red Cross blood drive. The need for blood is constant and your efforts help ensure a safe and stable blood supply is available for people in need.

Your blood drive results are below, and we encourage you to share this information with donors, volunteers, and members of your organization along with our heartfelt thanks. Examples of the types of people helped by blood donors can be found on our website at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org).

**First Congregational Church,  
September 2, 2025**

Collection Goal: **20 units**  
Actual Units Collected: **17 units**  
Percent of Goal: **85%**  
First time donors: **2**  
Actual Sign Up: **13**

Actual Presenting Donors: **15**  
Power Red Donors: **4**  
Potential Lives Saved: **51 lives**

Thank you for your support of the American Red Cross and being so welcoming. We look forward to seeing you again soon. We truly appreciate your partnership and willingness to host. Your drive made a huge difference in meeting patient needs.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. We look forward to visiting again soon.

Thank you!

**Eloisa Cruz**

**Account Manager - Boise/Twin Falls**

### ***Rally Day!***

Rally Day, Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, was a successful beginning to the Church's new year.

We had 10 kids of all ages in Sunday School and 12 adults in Adult's Sunday School.

Thank you, Diane, for teaching the younger kids, and Pastor Derrick for teaching those big kids in Adult Sunday School.

### ***Rally Day Potluck Barbecue!***

On Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> we had our annual Rally Day Potluck BBQ to kick off the new Sunday school classes.

We had burgers, sausage, salads, etc. Everyone who attended had a great time of food and fellowship; there were 74 people in attendance.

Thank you to our Master Chefs Curtis Carlin & Mike Moehn. A huge **THANK YOU!!!!** to **EVERYONE** that helped to set everything up and take everything down, many hands make for light work.

*Sincerely,  
Ann Carlin*

### ***Pilgrim Cove Camp Work Weekend***

Good Day Pilgrim Cove Camp Families and Friends,

Everyone is invited to our upcoming work weekend on October 10-11, 2025. Come and stay Friday night, and then help us close up camp for the winter season on Saturday. Our work day will be from 9am to 4pm and breakfast and lunch are provided and Friday and Saturday lodging. It is because of our volunteers that we are capable of doing all the work and projects to

keep the camp in top operations. I thank each and everyone in advance for your continued support of the mission and ministry of Pilgrim Cove Camp.

To sign up just call the camp office at 208-634-5555 or email [office@pilgrimcovecamp.org](mailto:office@pilgrimcovecamp.org). We hope to see you all on work weekend. Thank You.

Take Care,  
Jeremy

**Jeremy N Force - Executive Director  
Pilgrim Cove Camp & Retreat Center  
Phone: 208-634-5555  
Web: [www.pilgrimcovecamp.org](http://www.pilgrimcovecamp.org)**

### ***Community Involvement***

#### ***Desert Sage Health Centers***

Desert Sage Health Centers is now a Diaper Hub for Elmore County, providing diapers to families who cannot afford them.

If you would like to donate money or diapers to this cause please contact Anna Estella, Community Health Worker, Desert Sage Health Centers, at (208)696-7211.

### ***Coming Events***

#### ***Daylight Savings Time Ends***

**Sunday, November 2, 2025, 2 a.m.**, turn those clocks back one hour.

#### ***GriefShare – Surviving the Holidays***

**Sunday, November 2, from 2 – 6 p.m.**

GriefShare will be presenting a 2 hour workshop on Surviving the Holidays at **MH Church of the Nazarene 950 N 7<sup>th</sup> East** – (208)587-3093  
[www.mhnazarene.org/griefshare](http://www.mhnazarene.org/griefshare)

#### ***Annual Budget and Election Meeting***

The Annual Budget and Election Meeting will be after worship on **Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup>**. All members of the church are strongly encouraged to attend so that we have a quorum to vote the Budget and new elected officers of the church.

#### ***Thanksgiving events***

Our Pledge Blessing Service will be during the 11 a.m. worship service on **Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>**. We will bless our pledge offerings and our Time and Talent offerings at this time. Please be sure to bring your filled-out pledge cards with you. Thank you so much for generously giving back to God with your time, talents, and treasure.

The Annual Pie Auction will be after worship on **Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>**. If you would like to bake some pies for this, please contact Nadine Roberts.

In the evening of **Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6 p.m.** we will have our annual Thanksgiving potluck dinner. More details to follow.

*The Community Unity Worship Service*

The annual Thanksgiving Community Unity Worship Service will be held on **Tuesday, November 25<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.** It is tentatively scheduled to be held at the LDS Church located on Haskett Street (behind the Airbase Road McDonalds) More information to come.

*The Christmas Bazaar!*

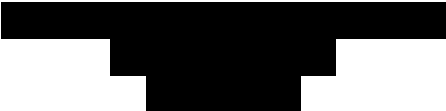
The bazaar will be held on Saturday, **December 6<sup>th</sup> from 8am until 12 noon**. All members of the church are asked to participate! **We need donations of gift-worthy items and crafted items.**

Whether you're a man, woman or child and your craft is wood, yarn, thread, cloth or recycled items, or you bake, can or pickle the bounty from your garden, please share your talent and your art with the Christmas Bazaar. Remember, the proceeds from the bazaar go to support many church programs!

More information will be available in the November Mountain Proclamations.

*Directory Updates*

Truman Parker and Terri Jones



*Our Condolences*

*To Jan Chaney on the loss of her husband*

*October Birthdays*

- |                     |                        |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 2 – Suzanne Dillard | 13 – Mary Ann Hamilton |
| 4 – Lauren Tomsic   | 16 – Henry Toy         |
| 7 – Joyce Allgood   | 19 – Howard Walker     |
| 7 – Jay Leonard     | 21 – Karen Townsend    |
| 8 – Kyle Arnold     | 23 – Mariah Parks      |
| 9 – Rick Parks      | 25 – Mollie Marsh      |
| 10 – Terri Jones    | 26 – Linda Ramsey      |
| 12- Adalyn Ralls    | 28- Booker Parker      |

*October Anniversaries*

- 8 – Jeremy and Michaela Loosli  
18 – Ann & Curtis Carlin  
30 – Anne Parker & Paul Taggart

*Special Angels for October*

LITURGISTS (Rick Parks)

- 5 – Gail Banner  
12 – Grace Townsend  
19 – Betty Ashcraft  
26 – Vickie Armstrong

FELLOWSHIP HOUR (Sign-Up Sheet)

- 5 – Vickie Armstrong  
12 – Susan Broemeling  
19 – POTLUCK  
26 – The Moehn Family

FLOWERS (Sign-Up Sheet)

- 5 – Jan Chaney  
12 – Susan Broemeling  
19 – Vickie Armstrong  
26 – Barb Fogleman

USHERS (Polly Sanders)

PARAMENTS (Allen Harris)

COMMUNION (Susan Walker)

*A Word from Pastor Derrick*

As we approach the Autumn season and we transition from summer to fall we must stop and pay attention to what God has instructed us to do.

We are reminded that the Bible says: Psalm 100:4 “Enter His gates with thanksgiving And His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him, bless His name.”

Regardless of what we are going through let's always remember to give Him praise

**NOTE:** October is Breast Cancer Month please remember to keep those people in prayer who were affected by cancer or lost love-ones to cancer.

We will celebrate **Cancer Awareness Day Oct. 26<sup>th</sup> 2025** during Sunday morning services. Please help us appreciate those who have survived this horrible illness.

*Blessing,  
Pastor Derrick*

# October 2025

| Sun                                                                                               | Mon                                                                              | Tue                        | Wed                                                 | Thu                                                                                      | Fri                                               | Sat                                                    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                   |                                                                                  |                            | 1<br>1 p.m. PEO<br>5:30 p.m. Girl Scout troop 1077  | 2<br>9:30 a.m. Men's Bible<br>5:30 p.m. Girl Scout 1064<br>5 p.m. Choir<br>6 p.m. Bells  | 3<br>10 a.m. First Friday Quilters                | 4<br>7 p.m. AA                                         |
| 5<br>10 a.m. Sunday School<br>11 a.m. Worship with Communion<br><b>Neighbors in Need Offering</b> | 6<br>5:30 p.m. Girl Scout troop 1076<br>7 p.m. Diaconate Board mts<br>7 p.m. BSA | 7<br>5:30 p.m. Women's AA  | 8<br>5:30 p.m. Girl Scout troop 1077                | 9<br>9:30 a.m. Men's Bible<br>5:30 p.m. Girl Scout 1064<br>5 p.m. Choir<br>6 p.m. Bells  | 10<br>12 p.m. Women's Fellowship potluck and mtg. | 11<br>7 p.m. AA                                        |
| 12<br>10 a.m. Sunday School<br>11 a.m. Worship<br>After worship Christian Ed                      | 13<br>Columbus Day<br><b>Office closed</b><br>6:30 p.m. Trustees                 | 14<br>5:30 p.m. Women's AA | 15<br>1 p.m. PEO<br>5:30 p.m. Girl Scout troop 1077 | 16<br>9:30 a.m. Men's Bible<br>5:30 p.m. Girl Scout 1064<br>5 p.m. Choir<br>6 p.m. Bells | 17                                                | 18<br>7 p.m. AA<br>8 a.m. – 4 p.m. ESA                 |
| 19<br>10 a.m. Sunday School<br>11 a.m. Worship                                                    | 20<br>5:30 p.m. Girl Scout troop 1076<br>7 p.m. BSA                              | 21<br>5:30 p.m. Women's AA | 22<br>5:30 p.m. Girl Scout troop 1077               | 23<br>9:30 a.m. Men's Bible<br>5:30 p.m. Girl Scout 1064<br>5 p.m. Choir<br>6 p.m. Bells | 24<br>1 – 5 p.m. Arts Council practice            | 25<br>5 – 9 p.m. Arts Council performance<br>7 p.m. AA |
| 26<br>10 a.m. Sunday School<br>11 a.m. Worship<br>After worship Outreach mtg.                     | 27<br>5:30 p.m. Girl Scout troop 1076<br>7 p.m. Church Council<br>7 p.m. BSA     | 28<br>5:30 p.m. Women's AA | 29<br>5:30 p.m. Girl Scout troop 1077               | 30<br>9:30 a.m. Men's Bible<br>5:30 p.m. Girl Scout 1064<br>5 p.m. Choir<br>6 p.m. Bells | 31<br>Halloween                                   |                                                        |

# November 2025

| Sun                                                                                                  | Mon                                                                              | Tue                                                      | Wed                                                 | Thu                                                                                      | Fri                                               | Sat                                                              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                      |                                                                                  |                                                          |                                                     |                                                                                          |                                                   | 1<br>7 p.m. AA<br><br>Set clocks <b>back</b> one hour before bed |
| 2<br>10 a.m. Sunday School<br>11 a.m. Worship with Communion<br><b>2 a.m. DST ENDS</b>               | 3<br>5:30 p.m. Girl Scout troop 1076<br>7 p.m. Diaconate Board mts<br>7 p.m. BSA | 4<br>8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Voting<br><br>5:30 p.m. Women's AA | 5<br>1 p.m. PEO<br>5:30 p.m. Girl Scout troop 1077  | 6<br>9:30 a.m. Men's Bible<br>5:30 p.m. Girl Scout 1064<br>5 p.m. Choir<br>6 p.m. Bells  | 7<br>10 a.m. First Friday Quilters                | 8<br>7 p.m. AA                                                   |
| 9<br>10 a.m. Sunday School<br>11 a.m. Worship<br>Annual Budget and Election meeting                  | 10<br>5:30 p.m. Girl Scout troop 1076<br>6:30 p.m. Trustees<br>7 p.m. BSA        | 11<br>Veterans Day<br>5:30 p.m. Women's AA               | 12<br>5:30 p.m. Girl Scout troop 1077               | 13<br>9:30 a.m. Men's Bible<br>5:30 p.m. Girl Scout 1064<br>5 p.m. Choir<br>6 p.m. Bells | 14<br>12 p.m. Women's Fellowship potluck and mtg. | 15<br>7 p.m. AA                                                  |
| 16<br>10 a.m. Sunday School<br>11 a.m. Worship                                                       | 17<br>5:30 p.m. Girl Scout troop 1076<br>7 p.m. BSA                              | 18<br>5:30 p.m. Women's AA                               | 19<br>1 p.m. PEO<br>5:30 p.m. Girl Scout troop 1077 | 20<br>9:30 a.m. Men's Bible<br>5:30 p.m. Girl Scout 1064<br>5 p.m. Choir<br>6 p.m. Bells | 21                                                | 22<br>7 p.m. AA                                                  |
| 23<br>10 a.m. Sunday School<br>11 a.m. Worship w/ Pledge Blessing<br>AW Pie Auction<br>6 p.m. Dinner | 24<br>5:30 p.m. Girl Scout troop 1076<br>7 p.m. Church Council<br>7 p.m. BSA     | 25<br>5:30 p.m. Women's AA                               | 26                                                  | 27<br>Thanksgiving Day<br><br>OFFICE CLOSED                                              | 28                                                | 29<br>7 p.m. AA                                                  |
| 30<br>10 a.m. Sunday School<br>11 a.m. Worship                                                       |                                                                                  |                                                          |                                                     |                                                                                          |                                                   |                                                                  |