

# Mountain Proclamations

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

[www.mhfirstcongregational.org](http://www.mhfirstcongregational.org) April 2026 [mhfccucc@gmail.com](mailto:mhfccucc@gmail.com)

Volume 56 - Issue 4

## Raise (the money for) the Roof!!!

Our faithful roof is feeling her age. She has been keeping us safe and dry for 30+ years. It's time for us to show her a little love.

A new roof over the Sanctuary was installed in March. This roof cost approximately \$60,000. Women's Fellowship will match donations for this project up to \$5,000. Please consider giving generously to this Capital Improvement Campaign. For the donations you give by check, please write "For the Roof" on the memo line. If you are giving cash in an envelope, please write "For the Roof" on the envelope.

Thank you so much for helping care for the building that offers us a place to gather for support, fellowship, and fun.

If you have any questions about this project, ask any member of the Board of Trustees.

## Spring Clean

The Annual Spring Clean will be **Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 9 a.m.** This event is open to *all* members/attendees of the church, not just the Trustees. Come on out and help clean windows, woodwork, the nursery, and, weather permitting, the flower beds in preparation for Easter. Bring your favorite cleaning equipment and come join the fun.

## Easter Breakfast

As our Lenten draws to a close, we continue to prepare for our Easter breakfast, which is Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>. The drop off date will be April 4<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM – 12 PM. at the church.

There are lists in the Fellowship Hall for those who would like to donate the items needed, and for those (men only please) who would be interested in cooking the food on Easter Sunday.

If you have any questions, please feel free to get in touch with Curtis Carlin either at church, by email or over the phone.

*Sincerely,*  
Curtis Carlin  
Easter Breakfast Chairman

## Holy Week Schedule

**Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>** – Palm Sunday and the conclusion of **One Great Hour of Sharing and The Maurie Townsend Underwear Offering. Worship** is at 11 a.m.

Easter Eggs will be filled after worship. Anyone who wishes to help is welcome.

No Lenten potluck and study on Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**6 p.m. Maundy Thursday worship**

**Good Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> –7 p.m.**

**Easter Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>**

7 a.m. Sunrise Service with Communion

8 a.m. Easter Breakfast with Easter Egg hunt afterwards

11 a.m. Worship with Communion

## One Great Hour of Sharing

*"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7 (NIV)*

**Where does the offering go?**

Here are a few examples of organizations supported through gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing. Your gifts travel to East Asia and the Pacific, Europe, Africa, the Middle East, South America, and beyond. Mediterranean Hope - Italy Refugee and migrant service ministry International Assistance Mission - Afghanistan Eye care, prosthetics, mental health, and rehabilitation efforts Children's Future International - Cambodia Community development and anti-human trafficking program

The One Great Hour of Sharing Lenten Offering will be taken on **Palm Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>.**

## The Maurie Townsend Memorial Underwear Offering

The Annual Maurie Townsend Memorial Underwear Offering will conclude on **Palm Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>.**

This very different, and oddly named, offering accomplishes a wonderful and not often thought

of service for the disadvantaged in our community. Any time during Lent, bring in *new* packages of *any* type of undergarments - socks, underwear, t-shirts, foundation garments - for any age group or gender. When all the offerings are collected, they will be taken to El-Ada for distribution to the disadvantaged in our area.

There will be a hamper by the bulletin table for you to place your offerings in.

## *Women of the Church*

### *Women's Fellowship*

Women's Fellowship theme this year is "*My Cup Runneth Over*". The Women's Fellowship potluck and meeting for April will be on **Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 12 p.m.**

All women of the church are invited to attend. If you have any questions about Women's Fellowship, please call the church office.

### *Red Cross Blood Drive*

Mark your calendar for **Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.** to schedule your blood donation. If you have the Red Cross Blood Donor app, this makes it *very* easy to set up your appointment time. If you have any questions or want to help with this event, check in with Rick Parks. Walk-ins are always welcome

### *Annual Rummage Sale*

The Women's Fellowship Annual Rummage Sale **set up will be on Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The sale will be on Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup> 3 – 6 p.m. and 25<sup>th</sup> 8 a.m. to noon.**

Get those closets, garages, storage units, attics and kitchen cabinets cleaned out for a good cause and bring all that good, clean, sellable stuff to the church and let them turn it into something wonderful for the church.

Small items that can fit in a box can be brought to the church anytime the church is open. Larger items, such as furniture, should be brought in during the week of the sale, but before noon on Friday.

Please remember, no tires, computers, or old television sets.

All help is welcome. Contact Nancy Sobien, if you can lend a hand setting up, taking down, or with the sale itself.

## *Idaho Virtual Academy*

The Idaho Virtual Academy will be using our church to test their students from **8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup> through Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup>.**

Please limit your access to the Fellowship Hall during these times and dates so that these children will have the best possible atmosphere to take their tests in.

Thank you so much for supporting the youth of our community in this way.

### *2026 Church Directory*

The 2026 Church Directory is ready and printed. You may pick one up from the bulletin table on Sunday or stop by the church office during the week to pick one up. If you are unable to get to the church or live out of town and would like one, please contact the church office at (208)587-4969 to make arrangements to receive a Directory.

### *Are you graduating this year?*

Are you graduating from high school or college this year? Please let the church office know by **Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>.**

### *First Congregational Church* *Scholarship*

If you are graduating from high school this year and plan to go on to college, contact the church office, a member of the Diaconate Board or a member of the Women's Fellowship to get a Scholarship application. **These are due by Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>.**

### *Part time job opening*

**The position of Church Secretary is coming open.** Jennifer's retirement date is December 31, 2026. However, it will take 3 – 6 months to train someone for the job, so resumés can be submitted anytime. She can retire earlier if the new secretary is ready earlier.

If you or someone you know would like to shadow us in the office to see what it's like, contact us and we'll set you up for a week to tag along.

A copy of the job description is available from the office.

### *Hosting Fellowship Hour*

If you are thinking about doing Fellowship Hour, here is what it entails:

You may provide cookies or any kind of snack that sounds good to you for a least 60 – 70 people. These can be homemade or store bought, whatever is easiest for you. There are also cookies in the pantry for you to use as well. You will also need to get to church a little early on the Sunday that you pick so that you can set up your snacks and make the coffee and hot water for tea. You will also need to clean up after yourself when the snacks are eaten. If you have any questions or concerns about how this is done, I am available to answer them and if I don't have the answer, I can find out for you.

*Erika Brandt*  
*Social Committee Chair*

## *Thank You!*

### *Eddie Bush*

Thank you to Eddie Bush for the many things you do to keep the church in good repair.

Eddie helped the electrician, Chris Parks, replace the ceiling fans in the Sanctuary when one of them gave out on Ash Wednesday. He met with various roofing companies to get the best bid for the best roof for over the Sanctuary.

These are just a couple of the many things he and the Trustees do around the church to take care of the structure so we have a place to gather to refresh our souls.

### *Rose Garden*

Thank you to Judy Case and Lee Wright for all their work on the Rose Garden getting it ready for spring. Thank you, Ellie for supervising these hard workers.

## *One Great Hour of Sharing And Maurie Townsend Underwear Offering*

We will have these numbers for you in the May edition of Mountain Proclamations.

## *Looking Ahead*

### *Blanket Sunday*

Blanket Sunday will be on **Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, Mother's Day.**

For over 75 years, Church World Service has been helping people of faith bring God's hope and healing to people in the U.S. and around the world. When difficult times happen, a kind and loving response can make all the difference. That's why the CWS Blankets program was created—to give a kind, loving and tangible response to someone facing a difficult time,

reminding them that they are not alone. Through the generosity of CWS partner organizations, congregations and individual supporters, our most vulnerable neighbors around the world can feel safe and keep warm with fresh linens and clean sleeping quarters. **When our neighbors are in need, even \$10 for a single blanket goes a long way.**

**Please note! We are collecting *donations of \$10 a blanket.* We *are not* collecting blankets themselves.** These blankets are special blankets that are water resistant, warm and durable. For more about what Church World Services does, go to [www.cwsglobal.org](http://www.cwsglobal.org). They do so much more than blankets.

## *Last Sunday School*

**Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>** will be the last Sunday School class for the summer. We will celebrate the wonderful year of learning, playing and getting to know each other better by having a potluck barbecue after worship.

Hamburgers, hotdogs, and buns will be provided. Please bring side dishes or desserts to share. Remember, all God's children are welcome to the table.

## *Pilgrim Cove Camp*

We are excited to announce all of program opportunities for the summer camp season in 2026. All of our camp and retreat programs are available to any that would like to attend one of our programs. Registration information will be posted on our website and sent to our local churches as the registration information becomes available.

To ensure the highest quality youth camp programs, we need folks to volunteer to be camp counselors and leaders to make sure we can meet the needs of our campers. Volunteers will be provided appropriate training and will have the chance to make a difference in young people's lives. Camp allows both campers and counselors the opportunity to create a loving and welcoming environment while enjoying all the outdoor experiences that the lake and mountains offer. Please let us know if you are available to make a difference.

The camp programs for 2026 will include our Youth Summer Camp July 5-10 for campers in Grades 5th-12th, [Women's Retreat](#) July 20-23, 2026 and our work weekends on May 15th-16th and October 9th-10th, 2026. Our local churches also offer camp and retreat experiences, so please check with your local United Church of Christ.

To register for a program opportunity, you can simply fill out the [Summer Camp Registration](#)

[Form](#) and [Welcome Packet](#) and either email to the camp office at [director@pilgrimcovecamp.org](mailto:director@pilgrimcovecamp.org) or mail it to:

Pilgrim Cove Camp, PO Box 867, McCall, ID 83638.

A minimum of a \$50 deposit is due at the time of registration and the balance is to prior to the event. You can mail a check to the above address or [pay online](#). If you have questions, please email us or call the camp office at 208-634-5555. Thank you.

We are so excited to see you at Pilgrim Cove Camp throughout this year. Please remember, you can also come rent a cabin for the weekend, have a family event or just come for the day.

Note: Scholarships are available from the church for the Youth Camp.

### *Directory update*

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

### *Condolences to*

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

### *April Birthdays*

- |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 2 – Roger Fogleman    | 16 – Hailey Townsend  |
| 2 – Landon Case       | 17 – Patricia Urbick  |
| 4 – Vickie Armstrong  | 18 – Tori Case        |
| 6 – Rose Pearsall     | 20 - Barbara Fogleman |
| 10 – Sandra Meohn     | 22 – Linda Miller     |
| 15 – Char Kaufman     | 26 – Linda Thomsen    |
| 16- Mildred McNeal    | 27 – Amanda Thompson  |
| 16 – Stephanie Osgood |                       |

### *April Anniversaries*

- 10 – Mike and Alice Keas

### *Special Angels for April*

#### LITURGISTS (Jay Leonard)

- 5 – Betty Ashcraft
- 5 – Betty Ashcraft
- 12 – Rita Olson
- 19 – Jean Leonard
- 26 – Jay Leonard

#### FELLOWSHIP HOUR – (sign-up sheet)

- 5 – Easter
- 12 – Vickie Armstrong
- 19 – Gene and Susan Mussler
- 26 – Sherry Bush

#### FLOWERS (Sign-up Sheet)

- 5 – Easter Lilies
- 12 – Mildred McNeal
- 19 – Barb Fogleman
- 26 –

#### USHERS (Polly Sanders)

#### PARAMENTS (Allen and Heidi Harris)

#### COMMUNION (Curtis Carlin 7 a.m. Susan Mussler 11 a.m.)

### *From Pastor Derrick*

Blessings to all as we enter this resurrection season and transition into to the spring season. I am reminded of a very popular scripture listed below:

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 ESV

[1] For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: [2] a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; [3] a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; [4] a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; [5] a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; [6] a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; [7] a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; [8] a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.

Allow this season to be a moment of transformation towards what God has designed for you.

Blessings 🙌  
Pastor Derrick and Latasha Wilcox

# April 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		*4/2 5 p.m. Choir 5:30 p.m. Girl Scout 1064 6 p.m. Bells?	1 1 p.m. PEO 5:30 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 1077	2 6 p.m. Maundy Thursday worship ★	3 <i>Good Friday</i> 10 a.m. First Friday Quilters 7 p.m. Good Friday Worship	4 7 p.m. AA
<b>Easter 5</b> 7 a.m. Sunrise Worship w/Communion 7:45 a.m. Easter Breakfast/Egg Hunt <b>NO Sunday School</b> 11 a.m. Worship w/Communion	6 5:30 p.m. Girl Scout troop 1076 7 p.m. Diaconate Board mts 7 p.m. BSA	7 5:30 p.m. Women's AA	8 5:30 p.m. Girl Scout troop 1077	9 5 p.m. Choir 5:30 p.m. Girl Scout 1064 6 p.m. Bells	10 12 p.m. Women's Fellowship potluck and meeting	11 7 p.m. AA
12 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship AW Christian Ed mtg	13 5:30 p.m. Girl Scout troop 1076 6:30 p.m. Trustees 7 p.m. BSA	14 5:30 p.m. Women's AA	15 1 p.m. PEO 5:30 p.m. Girl Scout troop 1077	16 5 p.m. Choir 5:30 p.m. Girl Scout 1064 6 p.m. Bells	17	18 7 p.m. AA
19 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	20 5:30 p.m. Girl Scout troop 1076 7 p.m. Church Council 7 p.m. BSA	21 5:30 p.m. Women's AA	22 Earth Day 5:30 p.m. Girl Scout troop 1077	23 <b>Rummage Sale set-up 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.</b> 5 p.m. Choir 5:30 p.m. Girl Scout 1064 6 p.m. Bells	24 Rummage Sale 3 p.m. – 6 p.m.	25 Rummage Sale 8 a.m. to noon 7 p.m. AA
26 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship AW Outreach Committee	27 5:30 p.m. Girl Scout troop 1076 7 p.m. BSA	28 5:30 p.m. Women's AA <b>8 a.m. – 4 p.m.</b>	29 5:30 p.m. Girl Scout troop 1077 <b>Virtual</b>	30 5 p.m. Choir 5:30 p.m. Girl Scout 1064 6 p.m. Bells <b>Academy</b>		

# May 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 10 a.m. First Friday quilters	2 7 p.m. AA
3 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship w/ Communion	4 5:30 p.m. Girl Scout troop 1076 7 p.m. Diaconate Board mts 7 p.m. BSA	5 5:30 p.m. Women's AA	6 1 p.m. PEO 5:30 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 1077	7 5 p.m. Choir 5:30 p.m. Girl Scout 1064 6 p.m. Bells	8 12 p.m. Women's Fellowship potluck and meeting	9 7 p.m. AA
Mother's Day 10 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship AW Christian Ed meeting	11 5:30 p.m. Girl Scout troop 1076 6:30 p.m. Trustees 7 p.m. BSA	12 5:30 p.m. Women's AA	13 5:30 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 1077	14 5 p.m. Choir 5:30 p.m. Girl Scout 1064 6 p.m. Bells	15	16 7 p.m. AA
17 10 a.m. <b>LAST</b> Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship End of Season Potluck BBQ	18 5:30 p.m. Girl Scout troop 1076 7 p.m. Church Council 7 p.m. BSA	19 5:30 p.m. Women's AA	20 1 p.m. PEO 5:30 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 1077	21 5:30 p.m. Girl Scout 1064 6 p.m. Bells	22	23 7 p.m. AA
24 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	25 Memorial Day	26 5:30 p.m. Women's AA	27	28	29	30 7 p.m. AA
31 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship						