

Mountain Proclamations

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

www.mhfirstcongregational.org **May 2026** mhfcucc@gmail.com

Volume 58 - Issue 5

Women's Fellowship meeting

The Women's Fellowship potluck and meeting for May will be in the Fellowship Hall at **12 p.m. on Friday, May 8th**.

This year's theme is "My Cup Runneth Over" The hostesses will be Doreen Solum and Gail Banner.

This is open to all the ladies of the church and their women friends.

Mother's Day

Come join us as we celebrate Mother's Day, **Sunday, May 10th**.

Blanket Sunday

Blanket Sunday is May 10th. We are collecting donations of \$10 a blanket for Church World Services. We ARE NOT collecting blankets; just donations.

From Cleveland to Moldova, your love reaches farther than you know. In Cleveland, a young mother received four CWS Blankets for her children. "These blankets will help keep my children warm through the coldest nights," she told us

Thousands of miles away in Moldova, families displaced by conflict and hardship face brutal winters. Because of generous congregations like yours, Church World Service provides locally purchased blankets and emergency supplies to help them endure the cold with dignity and hope.

These acts of love – near and far – are powerful reminders that when we care for someone in need, we are living out the Gospel.

Because when you do it for them – you do it for God.

"I was in need, and you cared for me." Matthew 25:40

For more about what Church World Services does or to donate online, go to www.cwsglobal.org. They do so much more than blankets.

Last Sunday School Celebration

On **Sunday, May 17th**, we will celebrate the last Sunday School class for the season with cake **AND a potluck barbecue** after worship.

Christian Ed and the Social Committee will provide hamburgers, hotdogs, and buns, and, of course, cake. **We bring yummy side dishes and desserts to share.** All are welcome to the table!

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.

Children's Church

Children's Church is starting again! Children fourth grade and younger are welcome to come back to the Children's Church room with Jennifer Andersen. **We will take the children back to the Children's Church room after Offertory.**

We will need one other adult to be in class with them. If you are interested in being an assistant on any given Sunday, please contact the church office or Jennifer and we'll get you on the schedule.

If you would like to help on a Sunday in May, please call Jennifer or the church office to pick your Sunday. Currently most Sundays are open – May – 3, 10, 24 and 31 as well as the rest of the summer.

Thank you

Lenten Meals

Thank you, Social Committee and helpers for making the Lenten Meals a wonderful time of fellowship and worship. Thank you to all who brought food to share. A wonderful growing time was had by all.

Spring Clean

We had a great turnout for the church's annual Spring Clean on Saturday, March 28th. The Trustees would like to thank those who came out to help, both inside the church and outdoors.

The attendees were Roger Fogleman, Lee Wright with Ellie, Eddie Bush, Wade Baumgardner, Lars Hansen, Rita Olson, Judy Case, Linda Ramsey, Curtis Carlin, Tina Hutton, Roger and Gail Banner, Christina and NovaLee Hammond, the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, and Frank Marsh.

A special thanks to Judy Case for spending several hours on the Rose Garden before the Spring Clean. Girl Scout Troop 1076 (the Monday group) worked on the iris bed before the Spring Clean, as they had other commitments on March 28th. Thank you Nekeia and girls!

*Roger Fogleman,
Trustee Chair*

Raise the Roof funds

Thank you to all who have contributed to the Roof Fund so far. As of March 29th, donations for the new roof are \$10,310. This includes the matching donations from Women's Fellowship toward the \$61,164 it took to pay for the roof. These donations will help replenish our Building Fund for future upgrades and repairs. The new roof was installed the week of March 16th.

Easter Lilies

Thank you to all who brought Easter Lilies and other spring flowers to the church to share with the church family. The Sanctuary was beautiful.

A special Thank You to Lee Wright who came in several times during Holy Week to pluck the stamens off and trimmed tired blossoms so they continued to look beautiful.

Easter Breakfast

We had our annual Easter Breakfast on Sunday, April 5th, and it was a huge success. We served pancakes, omelets, sliced ham, etc. A great time was had by all 55 people in attendance.

A huge THANK YOU goes out to our cooks Rick Bush, Mike Moehn, Gene Mussler, and our omelet master Ken Andersen. Our servers were Eddie Bush, Paul Ingram and Frank Marsh. These gentlemen put on one heck of a breakfast, and no one went away hungry. So again, THANK YOU to all of you for all your hard work.

THANK YOU to everyone who stayed and helped with the cleanup, it made the job go by that much quicker.

A special thank you goes out to Curtis Carlin who organized the event for the 23rd year, and to Lee Wright for supplying all the beautiful flowers that adorned the centers of each table in the Fellowship Hall.

*Respectfully submitted by,
Ann Carlin
Secretary of Curtis Carlin*

Easter Egg Hunt

On Easter Sunday, while breakfast was being served, 3 of the older teens (Zoe, Rachel, and Cassidy) took many candy-filled eggs and hid them on the front lawn.

After breakfast (or as soon as they could get outside), the children went searching for those eggs. In what seemed like a minute, they were back with full buckets and BIG smiles.

A big Thank You to those teens for volunteering not only to place the eggs, but also for filling them. Thank you to all who made monetary and candy donations. Without these, the hunt could not go on.

*Ken Andersen and Diane Venski,
The Christian Ed Committee*

Three Crosses

Thank you to Lee Wright for placing the three crosses on the church lawn for Holy Week and beyond. The symbol of hope is an inspiration to many.

Maurie Townsend Memorial Underwear Offering

The Maurie Townsend Underwear Offering went even better than last year! There were **over 350** individual undergarments, and two large boxes of Depends.

These items were delivered to El-Ada by Grace Townsend. They are always so appreciative of our help.

Thank you to everyone for contributed to this worthy project. Your caring is most appreciated.

One Great Hour of Sharing

The final total for the One Great Hour of Sharing offering has come to **\$355** to be sent to the national church office to be used in a myriad of ways. This is an increase over last year. Way to go, Church Family!!

Thank you, Everyone, for your continued generosity and concern for those near and far.

AED Training

Thank you Bill Negri (and trusty assistant Christine) for providing the AED training March 31.

Eleven folks attended and are ready to respond as necessary. We pray there will be no need to use the AED but better safe than sorry.

Attendees were: Heidi and Allen Harris, Rick and Eddie Bush, Grace Townsend, Jan Chriske, Judy Case, Rick Parks, Ken Andersen, Roger Fogelman, Mike Keas, and Frank Marsh.

Ink Cartridges

Another ink cartridge story! A package of labels used by the Outreach Committee was purchased for .52 cents. The labels listed for \$17. So, YES, those ink cartridges help! **Thank you to all who bring in their empty ink cartridges.** If you have empty ink cartridges, please drop them by the church office.

Stamp Mail Box

Thank you to all who put their extra change in the green mail box at the back of the Sanctuary. The most recent offering brought in \$124. This money buys stamps for the Outreach Committee's Card Ministry.

Sprinkler Repairs

Signs of Spring – robins nesting, trees budding, flowers blooming . . . and sprinkler systems breaking. Thank you Eddie Bush and Lee Wright for all your hard work replacing sprinkler heads and locating and repairing broken sprinkler lines. This can be some seriously backbreaking work and these two gentlemen take it on every spring and throughout the summer.

If you have the time and ability and would like to lend a hand, please give your contact information to the church office of Eddie Bush. Thank you!

Red Cross Blood Drive

Greetings Beloved Church Family!

On the 21st of April the church hosted another wonderfully successful, well-attended Red Cross

blood drive! We broke a church record by collecting 29 units of blood products! A great big thanks and attaboy/attagirl to Eddie Bush, for helping with the setup/teardown, and Lorraine Stewart, Tina Hutton, Jo Gridley and Lori Levisé for running the front desk. And once again Domino's Pizza for their AMAZING support with some wonderful Pizza and Cinnamon Knots!

A HUGE thanks to all the Church members who rolled up a sleeve; you folks were truly the "Hands and Feet" of our Lord. Again, thanks to all who showed up on both sides of the desk for another great drive!

Blessed,
Rick Parks

Women's Fellowship Rummage Sale 2026

Our Annual Women's Fellowship Rummage Sale was a big success! \$2092.10 was received by our wonderful cashiers which were organized by Betty Ashcraft. Many hours were put in setting up, working, and cleaning up over three days. To all who donated items, purchased items, spread the word (the newspaper accidentally left our ad out!) or helped in any way...our sincere thanks to you! Our many, terrific workers included Eddie Bush, Lee Wright, Frank Marsh, Lars Hansen, Gene Mussler, Rick Bush, Mike Bush, Roger Banner, Pastor Derrick, Sherry Bush, Linda Ramsey, Gail Corlett-Trueba, Erika Brandt, Tina Hutton, Judy Case, Betty Celaya, Vickie Armstrong, Polly Sanders, Grace Townsend, Alice Craft, Susan Broemeling, Heidi Harris, Rita Olson, Mary Ann Hamilton, Mollie Marsh, Doreen Solum, Barb Fogleman, and Jennifer Andersen for the brownies!

Nancy Sobien,
President

Pilgrim Cove Camp

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 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.

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

Upcoming Events *Pentecost Sunday*

Pentecost Sunday comes on **Sunday, May 24th**, this year.

Strengthen the Church

Strengthen the Church helped fund the Congregational Assessment, Support, and Authorization (CASA) grant received by the Service Learning Community Fellowship Program at Kailua Christian Church.

Thank you for your gifts that make this possible! We will receive the Strengthen the Church offering on **Pentecost Sunday, May 24th**.

American Cancer Society Relay for Life

When: July 4th, 2026
Where: Carl Miller Park
Time: 11 AM – 10 PM

If you'd like to donate to our team, please see Ann before or after church services. Ann will also have information on how to donate online.

Sincerely,
Ann & Curtis Carlin
Event Leads
Relay for Life of Elmore County
American Cancer Society
208-519-1687

relay4life.elmorecounty.idaho@gmail.com

May Anniversaries

- 1 – Gail and Roger Banner
- 2 – Rebeca and Bradley Arnold
- 5 – Jay and Karen Townsend
- 9 – Merrilee and John Hiler
- 20 – Joyce and Harris Allgood
- 27 – Kristy and Jim Blanksma
- 31 – Patricia Urbick and Chris Rowl

May Birthdays

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 4 – Luna Moehn | 14 – Pedro Celaya |
| 4 – Gene Mussler | 15 – Lincoln Case |
| 5 – John Hiler | 19 – Rose Ann Tagg |
| 9 – Curtis Carlin | 23 – John DiGuido |
| 13 – Nancy Mason | 28 – Jeremy Loosli |
| 29 – Kathy Mori | |

Special Angels for May

LITURGISTS (Diaconate Board)

- 3 – Susan Walker
- 10 – Curtis Carlin
- 17 – Polly Sanders
- 24 – Rick Bush
- 31 – Susan Mussler

FELLOWSHIP HOUR (Sign-up Sheet)

- 3 –
- 10 – Ann and Curtis Carlin
- 17 – End of Sunday School potluck barbecue
- 24 – Heidi and Allen Harris
- 31 –

FLOWERS (Sign-up Sheet)

- 3 – Mildred McNeal
- 10 –
- 17 – Helena DeWeerd
- 24 –
- 31 – Jo Gridley

USHERS (Jo Gridley)

PARAMENTS (Allen and Heidi Harris)

COMMUNION (Curtis Carlin)

From Pastor Derrick

Dear FCC Family,

It is easy to feel overwhelmed by the news and challenges surrounding us. Yet, I am reminded that our hope is not built on shifting sand, but on the solid rock of Jesus Christ. Even when the future feels uncertain, God is in control. '...He is faithful in all things, and that He will surely do all that He has promised'.

In God's eyes, you are a beloved child, a temple of the Holy Spirit, and a uniquely gifted member of the Body of Christ. I pray that you find renewed purpose this season knowing that you are cherished not for what you do, but for who you are.

The Bible says in Jeremiah 29:11
11 For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Trust God, obey his plan and believe his word, God loves you and is very concerned about you.


Love
Pastor Derrick & Latasha Wilcox

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. Troop/Crew 57 meets	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 BLANKET SUNDAY 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. Troop/Crew 57 meets	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. LAST 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. Troop/Crew 57 meets	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 Office Closed	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						

June 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7 p.m. Diaconate Board mts 7 p.m. Troop/Crew 57 meets	2 5:30 p.m. Women's AA	3	4	5 10 a.m. First Friday quilters	6 7 p.m. AA
7 11 a.m. Worship w/ Communion	8 6:30 p.m. Trustees 7 p.m. Troop/Crew 57 meets	9 5:30 p.m. Women's AA	10	11	12	13 7 p.m. AA
14 Flag Day 11 a.m. Worship AW Christian Ed meeting	15 7 p.m. Church Council 7 p.m. Troop/Crew 57 meets	16 5:30 p.m. Women's AA	17	18	19	20 7 p.m. AA
21 Father's Day 11 a.m. Worship	22 7 p.m. Troop/Crew 57 meets	23 5:30 p.m. Women's AA	24	25	26	27 7 p.m. AA
28 11 a.m. Worship	29 7 p.m. Troop/Crew 57 meets	30 5:30 p.m. Women's AA				