



OCTOBER 2019



9:00 AM—Brady 1st & 3rd week

9:15 AM—Dutton 2nd & 4th week

11:00 AM—Choteau



**Office
Hours**

Mon—Thurs 9am—Noon

The SPARK

Newsletter of the Choteau & Brady/Dutton UM Parish

Open Hearts, Open Minds, & Open Doors

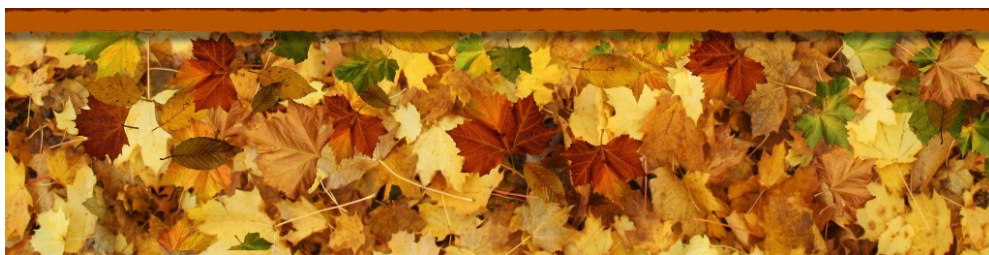
Brown Bag Worship

We will be trying something fun and different for worship on October 20th in Brady and October 27th In Dutton and Choteau. Starting Sunday October 6th, you may sign up to have your name placed in the drawing to provide the mystery item.



The sermon will be written while you watch based on a surprise item brought in by someone whose name was drawn. If you want your name to be placed in the drawing to bring the surprise item, please email the office (umc@3rivers.net) by Thursday, October 17th by 12:00 pm. The persons (1 Brady, 1 Dutton, & 1 Choteau) whose name is drawn will be contacted with details no later than Friday, October 18th.

A Brown Bag Sermon is like preaching without a net...there is meaning in everything. Come watch it unfold!



October is our Stewardship Month!

Stewardship month is upon us. This is a time when we as a church reflect upon this past year of ministry we had together and begin to pray and dream for the year to come and reflect on how the ministry of the church made a difference in your life this last year. Also, reflect upon where you made an impact in someone else's life because of the ministries you supported through your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.

Stewardship is not just focused on your financial gifts. As a matter of fact, stewardship is much more than money. Stewardship is how we respond to God's call in our lives to share the gospel; it is a response

as we actively live out our vows as Methodists to be good stewards through our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness.

It is because of our faithful stewardship for the church that lives in our communities are changed. As you consider your contributions to the church for 2020, pray and think about how our church can impact our community through our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.

**Consecration Sunday:
October 27**

CHOTEAU, BRADY & DUTTON UMC PARISH

**Saturday, November 2
2:00 pm
at Brady UMC**

CHURCH CONFERENCE



ALL parishioners (newer and long-time) are encouraged to attend our Annual All-Church Conference. Our District Superintendent, Rev. Jan Whitman, will facilitate us as we celebrate this past year and look ahead to where God is calling us as a parish and conference in 2020!



**"And I'm afraid I'm going to have to ask
for an increase in congregation tithing!"**



Bible Readings for the Month

October 6

Lamentations 1:1-6
Psalm 137
2 Timothy 1:1-14
Luke 17:5-10

October 13

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7
Psalm 66:1-12
2 Timothy 2:8-15
Luke 17:11-19

October 20

Jeremiah 31:27-34
Psalm 119:97-104 or Psalm 19
2 Timothy 3:14—4:5
Luke 18:1-8

October 27

Joel 2:23-32
Psalm 65
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18
Luke 18:9-14

Materials for your Spiritual Formation September / October

Available in the front entryway
and the Upper Room rack
at the top of the ramp
(with a slot for donations)

- Upper Room
– regular & large print

BAR+CHURCH

**Tuesday, October 8
6:00 pm**

**Stage Stop Inn @ Choteau
Meet in the Livery**

*Come as you are!
Bring a friend!*

*No previous
knowledge required.*

Opportunities for Your Spiritual Growth



SOMETHING NEW HAPPENING!

Beginning Wednesday, October 9, Choteau UMC will be partnering with Trinity Lutheran in providing a children's ministry for children in preschool through grade 5.

Children are invited to "Connect" at Trinity Lutheran Church:
5:15 - 6:15 pm—gathering and then split into two groups by age;
Christian education and activities

6:15-6:45 pm— Dinner

6:45-7:00 pm—Music and Worship

For more details, please contact Pastor Zach Bechtold 466-2641.

**Regular Kids' Club on October 2 at Choteau UMC
3:45 - 5:00 pm**



Time : 12:00-12:45 pm

Wednesday Youth Lunch

This fall we will continue to provide Jr. & Sr. High Youth (grades 7-12) a time to gather for lunch. We realize our youth are busy with school, extracurricular activities, family, work, social activities and church, so finding time in the evenings to gather is always tricky. Starting September 4, we will host our Jr. & Sr. High students for lunch and a devotional each Wednesday throughout the semester. We hope this will provide a space for us to gather our youth and continue to build our relationship around food and the Gospel.



Once again, we are seeking volunteers to assist with nutritious snacks for the Children's Ministry and lunch-time meals for the Youth. See Zach for details. Thank you for your support of these ministries.

Skyline Lodge Bible Study

Monday mornings - 10:30 a.m. Skyline Lodge, 2nd floor
study continued with "The Stories Jesus Told"

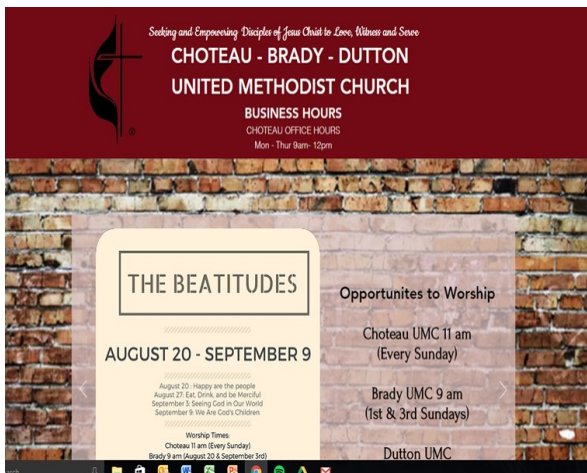
Everyone is welcome to join us at Skyline for CCC.

Coffee, Conversation, Communion

**Thursday, October 24
2:00 p.m.**

Social Room of Skyline Lodge





Website address: www.umchoteau.net

Bookmark the address above to your own computer (add it to your "favorites" list) so you can quickly click on it and stay connected! Use the website to check what's going on and what's coming up in the life of our parish.

Check out the new additions to the website:

- Sermons—video
- Zach's Blog—"Bearded Theologians"

And don't forget our email address: umc@3rivers.net

Choteau UMC has an adopted family!

The adopted family, with children, resides in Teton County and has few wishes but some definite needs.

Thanks to the continued generosity of our congregation, we will be able to continue doing some important things for this family during the approaching holidays and the coming year. God bless each of you for contributing to this very worthwhile "at home" mission.



If you would like to contribute to this mission, please make your checks out to Choteau UMC and make special notation that this is for the "Adopted Family" mission.

Kelly DeBruycker is our coordinator for this special mission and will give periodic updates to the congregation.



Your food donations are appreciated. Donations may be left at the church office or narthex. Please remember that food items are to be nonperishable and commercially wrapped.

Please review expiration dates on items.

Thank you for not donating expired or soon to expire items to the Food Pantry.

TOWN PUMP GRANT

Town Pump Foundation is again offering Teton County Food Pantry a \$2,000 matching grant for donations between September 1st and November 30th. This is a wonderful opportunity for our Food Pantry.

**Donations can be made to:
Teton County Food Pantry,
PO Box 534, Choteau MT 59422.**

Trick – or – Treat So Others Can Eat

Please support the 4-H Food Drive for the Teton County Food Pantry

Monday, October 28



Meet in the Alice Gleason Room at the Choteau Teton Public Library directly after school dismissal. The food gathering will begin at 3:30 pm. Certified volunteers are needed to drive 4-H members around town!

You may leave nonperishable and commercially-wrapped food items at your front entrance for the 4-H youth to collect.

Thank you for your generosity!



SPECIAL THANKS

**Big
Thank
You!**

A special thank you to all the volunteers who assisted in making the Choteau UMC 2019 Annual Fall Dinner a successful event. Details to follow in the November newsletter.

☺ ALL who assisted with setup, cleanup and delicious variety of food for the "No Excuse Sunday" Potluck.

☺ Those responsible for winterizing outdoor systems and landscaping of the church properties in preparation of an unusually early, severe snow storm.



Mark Your Calendar . . .

**Dinner Church
Thursday, November 14
6:00 pm at Choteau UMC**

Details to follow in upcoming bulletins and November newsletter.

**Don't
Forget**

College Students:

Please remember to update the church office with new mailing and email addresses for Fall semester! Thanks!



Do you have a car, truck, tractor or other vehicle? Do you love Halloween, dressing up, and creating fun for our community? Good news! Our friends at the **Choteau LDS church** have invited us to join them for Trunk or Treating this year on **Thursday, October 31st**. The evening starts with a **chili feed at 5:30 pm** (feel free to bring your best recipe) followed by Trunk or Treating in the parking lot. You are invited to come and decorate your trunk and hand out candy, or to bring your little (and big!) ones for a fun, safe, convenient form of trick or treating!

Birthdays & Anniversaries

OCTOBER

2	♥	Rod & Heather McCartney Duty
6	♥	Bob & Joann Snodgrass
8		Herb Bingham
9		Chris Field
		Stella Plachetka
		Mary Pourroy
10		Laurie Jorden
11		Peggy Guthrie
		Jean Harman
12	♥	Larry & Jean Harman
	♥	Nick & Jaime Stubblefield
14		Dillon Field
15		Slade Stubblefield
16		Gerry Yeager
18		Jonnie Conatser
19		Bernice Wilt
	♥	Norman & Sharon Haug
20	♥	Bob & Rosemary Snodgrass
21		Jaynie Gollehon
22		Elizabeth Graf
	♥	Steve & Terrie Nylund
		Jay Rice
25		Shirley Hodgskiss
27		Shirley Stordahl
28		Steve Haynes
		Arlene Woodahl
29		Trig Zwerneman

October is Be-Kind-To Your-Pastor Month

some suggestions:

- * Thank your pastor.
- * Pray for your pastor.
- * Encourage your pastor.
- * Invite your pastor to dinner flavored with good humor.
- * Tithe



~ UPCOMING MEETING ~

PARISH LEADERSHIP MEETING
(Choteau, Brady & Dutton United Methodist Churches)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24
6:30 PM

AT DUTTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Salad Buffet
& Bake Sale**

Sunday, October 20
11:30 am—1:30 pm

@ Dutton UMC
\$8.00

German Dinner

Sunday, October 6
12:00 – 3:00 pm

St. Paul Lutheran Church
4th Lane between 4th & 5th Roads
Fairfield Bench – follow signs

Ticket prices
\$10 – adults;
\$5—ages 6-12
Under 6—free
\$25—Family

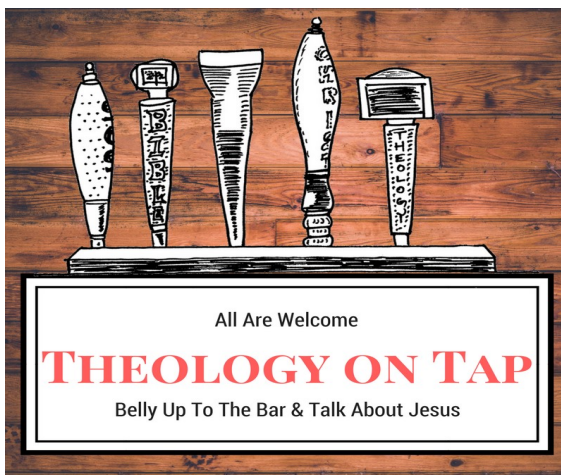


Ticket prices
\$15 for adults;
\$6 for grades 1-6
Preschoolers—free

LUTEFISK DINNER
TRINITY LUTHERAN
CHURCH

Sunday, October 27
12:30—3:00 p.m.

Takeout meals available.
Handicap and wheelchair
accessible seating.



Thursday, October 10
5:30 pm

@ Dusty's Bar & Eatery
in Brady

Come as you are! Bring a friend!
No previous knowledge required.

**"He that is of the opinion
money will do everything
may well be suspected
of doing everything
for money."**

— Benjamin Franklin

YOUR MONETARY GIFTS AT WORK

The ministries of Choteau United Methodist Church are made possible by your on-going financial contributions. Our congregation is 100% self-funded; we receive no outside funding. Your gifts enable us to provide weekly worship, pastoral care, educational opportunities, youth group, Sunday school for children and adults, mission opportunities, the opportunity for us to provide responsible charitable contributions to help those in need, etc. I hope you will consider making a financial contribution to Choteau UMC to support our life-transforming mission. To make a tax-deductible donation you can send in a check to our church office, or contribute on Sundays during the offering. Financial statements are available upon request at the church office.

VITAL STATISTICS – Choteau

2019 Budget for Choteau	\$109,636
Needed to meet budget –September	\$ 82,227
Received through September 29	\$ 75,050

Thank you for your on-going support.



Choteau UMC 11:00 am worship

October 6 – Roger & Carol Kelly
 October 13 – Chas Crane / Jerry Herman
 October 20 – Don & Olive Passmore
 October 27 – Nancy Moorhouse / Terry Dunn

LAY READERS

October 6 – Wendy Clark
 October 13 – Ross Depner
 October 20 – Gene Sentz
 October 27 – To Be Arranged

Communion Stewards

October

Choteau—Rachel Christensen
 Brady—Jeanie Long
 Dutton—Jean Harman



OCTOBER 6

In 1940 the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America established World-wide Communion Sunday as a global, interdenominational event.

United Methodist congregations celebrate church-wide Special Sundays with offerings. Your support is critical to the survival of important ministries and for sharing God's gifts around the world.

**** This offering is considered second-mile giving: in addition to your regular tithes and gifts to the local church. ****



"No, I don't make change."

 Choteau
United Methodist Church
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Choteau, MT 59422
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Email: umc@3rivers.net
Web: www.umchoteau.net
[Facebook.com/Choteau UMC](https://www.facebook.com/ChoteauUMC)

Zach Bechtold, Pastor
Lila Dunn, Admin. Assist.

First Std
U.S. Postage

Seeking and Empowering Disciples of Jesus Christ to Love, Witness and Serve

This month's newsletter is sponsored by:
Charlie & Marsha Hinch
In loving memory of Kara Jeanne Hinch

Please continue to consider sponsoring an issue of
The Spark for \$40, and your sponsorship
will be noted in the newsletter.

*What a nice recognition in honor or
memory of someone, or as a gift!*

Submit your sponsor information to the parish office.

Live to shed joy to others.

—Henry Ward Beecher

*Practice random acts of kindness . . .
today . . . this week . . . always !*