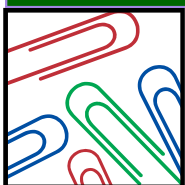




**9:00 AM—Brady** 1st & 3rd week

**9:15 AM—Dutton** 2nd & 4th week

**11:00 AM—Choteau**



# Office Hours

Mon—Thurs 9am—Noon



## Take Time

Old English Prayer

*Take time to dream,  
it is hitching your soul to the stars.*

*Take time to work, it is the price of success.*

*Take time to think, it is the source of power.*

*Take time to play, it is the secret of perpetual youth.*

*Take time to read, it is the foundation of knowledge.*

*Take time for worship, it is the highway of reverence  
and washes the dust of the earth from your eyes.*

*Take time to be friendly, it is the road to happiness.*

*Take time to help and enjoy friends,  
it is the source of happiness.*

*Take time to love and be loved,  
it is the sacrament of life.*

*Take time to laugh, it is the music of the soul.*

*Take time for beauty, it is everywhere in nature.*

*Take time to look around,  
it is too short a day to be selfish.*

*Take time for health, it is the true treasure of life.*

— via Apple Seeds

JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL  
**FOURTH OF JULY WORSHIP**



**SUNDAY JULY 4TH AT 8:00 AM  
 OUTSIDE AT CHOTEAU UMC**

*please bring a lawn chair or similar*

The 4th of July is a busy, fun day in Choteau, and we invite **ANYONE** in town for the weekend to come join us for a special worship service on the front lawn of Choteau UMC!

We will have coffee, special music, communion, and a wonderful message. Please bring a lawn chair (or something similar) to sit on, come as you are, and worship with us!

The service will start at 8:00 a.m. so that you will be done in time for the parade and festivities to kick off later that morning! *(Feel free to leave your vehicle parked here as you walk down for the parade after worship!)*

## Independence Day Humor



Independence Day humor is hard to come by.

Rev. Dr. Karl R. Kraft, a UMC pastor, came up with these July 4 offerings:

What is the Declaration of Independence?

- A note excusing you from school.

Why did Paul Revere ride his horse from Boston to Lexington?

- Because the horse was too heavy to carry.

What are the last two words of the national anthem?

- "Play Ball!"

What dance was very popular in 1776?

- Indepen-dance.

Which one of Washington's officers had the best sense of humor?

- Laughayette.

Who wrote, "O say, can you see? "

- An eye doctor."

How is a healthy person like the United States?

- They both have good constitutions.

What did King George III think of the American colonists?

- He thought they were revolting.

What ghost haunted King George III?

- The Spirit of '76.







## Bible Readings for the Month

### LECTIONARY

#### July 4:

2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10  
Psalm 48  
2 Corinthians 12:2-10  
Mark 6:1-13

#### July 11:

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19  
Psalm 24  
Ephesians 1:3-14  
Mark 6:14-29

#### July 18

2 Samuel 7:1-4a  
Psalm 89:20-37  
Ephesians 2:11-12  
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

#### July 25:

2 Samuel 11:1-15  
Psalm 14  
Ephesians 3:14-21  
John 6:1-21

## Opportunities for Your Spiritual Growth During the Summer

### Summer Sermon Series

# Our Favorites!

Choteau UMC – Brady UMC – Dutton UMC

[www.umchoteau.net](http://www.umchoteau.net)  
[facebook.com/ChoteauUMC](https://facebook.com/ChoteauUMC)

### OUTDOOR WORSHIP

JULY 4—8:00 AM—AT CHOTEAU UMC FRONT LAWN

JULY 25—11:00 AM—BENEFIS TETON MEDICAL CENTER



### “Beautiful Flowers”

A few weeks ago while watching *Family Feud* on TV, the survey question was “Name a common spring flower.” The contestant quickly answered during the “Fast Money” round, “Dandelion.” If you are a fan on Steve Harvey and *Family Feud*, you can probably imagine the laughter that instantly began as Steve reacted to the answer.

I have been thinking about that dandelion answer as I have witnessed the wildflowers blooming this Spring in Montana. Since this is my first Montana wildflower season, I have been quite intrigued by each flower. I wonder often what the name of each flower

might be and if they bloom in a variety of areas. I wonder how long the blossoms last and if they are truly a flower or a flowering weed.

Dandelions are certainly bright and beautiful when the yellow flower emerges. But we all know that the “wishing flower” (as my children call it while they make a wish and blow seeds into the breeze) is not much of a flower at all. It is a weed. I was reminded of the parable of the weeds found in Matthew 13. I began thinking about how so many times in our own life, we can have a variety of beautiful flowers blooming and it can be quickly taken over by beautiful flowering weeds. The good and love and pureness of ourselves and life, of course, is the flowers – those parts of our life that are pleasing to God. But temptation and sin can often appear beautiful and easily pull us astray; these are the dandelions and flowering weeds.

This month, I would encourage you to read “The Parable of the Weeds” (Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43) and reflect on your own life. Do you have weeds taking over? How will you get rid of the weeds?

- Pastor Julie King



*to the families and friends of*  
**Kenneth Hart, Sr.**

*Death – May 25, 2021*

**Gordon “Ray” Mills**

*Death – June 18, 2021*

*“They say that if God wants to get your attention, he will toss a little pebble into your life. If that doesn’t work, he will throw a rock. As a last resort, he will heave a brick!”*

-Ward Brehm

# Birthdays & Anniversaries

~ July ~

- |    |                             |
|----|-----------------------------|
| 1  | ♥ Lew & Christy Clark       |
| 5  | Mike Maples                 |
| 7  | Isabella King               |
| 8  | Mike Ley                    |
| 9  | ♥ Craig & Janie Zwerneman   |
| 10 | Joan Elser                  |
| 11 | ♥ Roger & Carol Kelly       |
|    | Edith Hanson                |
| 12 | Terrie Nylund               |
|    | Doug Yeager                 |
| 15 | Madi Gameon                 |
|    | Juli Kostelnik              |
|    | Vickie Maurer               |
|    | Connie Rogers               |
| 16 | Kevin Halverson             |
| 17 | ♥ Tom & Connie Rogers       |
| 19 | Patti Blauer                |
|    | Cathy Sessions              |
| 20 | Brooks Coffland             |
| 24 | Logan Howard                |
|    | Kirsten Passmore            |
|    | ♥ Lee & Rita Reynolds       |
| 25 | Cody Schilling              |
| 27 | Lila Dunn                   |
|    | Wayne Gollehon              |
| 28 | Kristen Inbody              |
|    | Peggy Nutter Kimmet         |
|    | ♥ Roy & Diane Inbody        |
|    | ♥ Steve & Shellie Mellinger |
| 29 | Jeff Martinsen              |
|    | Bud Olson                   |
| 31 | Charles Allen               |



**Happy 100th Birthday**

**Bud Olson**

**July 29, 2021**

**70-year Member of Choteau UMC**

**We will worship outside at Benefis Teton Medical Center on Sunday, July 25, at 11:00 a.m. to allow Bud to attend and to acknowledge and celebrate his 100th birthday.**

**Please bring a lawn chair for seating.**

## Newsletter Co-Sponsors

**Larry & Cheryl Maurer**

**In celebration of  
Joan Elser’s  
91st Birthday—July 10**

Joan’s new mailing address:  
Highgate / Joan Elser  
3980 Park Hill Drive, Apt. 103  
Billings, MT 59102



"Happiness is a skill that can be learned. The essential factor whether or not you will live a happy life is based less on external factors such as wealth, success and fame, and more on your attitude toward life, toward yourself, toward other people, and toward events and situations. Regardless of your attitudes in the past, you have the ability to change and become a master of happiness."

– Rabbi Zelig Pliskin, via *Apple Seeds*



## 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

2021 Budget for Choteau	\$111,025
Needed to meet budget –June	\$ 55,513
Received through June 20	\$ 46,998

**Thank you for your on-going support!**



😊 Chuck & Jami Gameon, Juli & Al Kostelnik, Connie Bradley, Ronda Reiding, Clint Reiding, Deanna Styren, Leah McDonald, Pastor Julie and others for your assistance in providing snacks and craft needs for the June Vacation Bible School hosted by Trinity Lutheran Church.

A very special thank you to Danae Isakson for all her efforts in organizing Vacation Bible School this year.

## Last words of a billionaire

The last words of Steve Jobs, the billionaire American founder and CEO of Apple, Inc, who died of pancreatic cancer at age 56:

"I reached the pinnacle of success in the business world. In other eyes, my life is an epitome of success. However, aside from work, I have little joy. I realized that all the recognition and wealth I accumulated and took so much pride in have paled in the face of impending death."

– via Risa Samra, Saginaw, MI



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

**CHOTEAU - BRADY - DUTTON**

**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**BUSINESS HOURS**

CHOTEAU OFFICE HOURS

Mon - Thur 9am - 12pm

**Website address: [www.umchoteau.net](http://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

And don't forget our email address:

**[umc@3rivers.net](mailto:umc@3rivers.net)**

Like us on Facebook:



## THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil and Jeff Keane



"These vegetables will taste better than store ones 'cause we planted them ourselves. Right, Mommy?"

from JoyfulNoiseletter.com ©Bil & Jeff Keane Reprinted with permission



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Web: [www.umchoteau.net](http://www.umchoteau.net)  
Facebook.com/Choteau UMC

Julie King, Pastor  
Lila Dunn, Admin. Assist.

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

**This month's newsletter is sponsored by:**

**Rich Clough & Mary Sexton**

*In loving memory of*

***Lois Mae Gustafson***

***Death - 01-15-21***

**Lois Mae was determined to live  
long enough to vote in the 2020 election.**

***Thank you for your sponsorship !***

*For \$40 you can sponsor an issue of The Spark.  
What a nice recognition in honor or memory of someone, or as a gift!*

**Submit your sponsor information to the parish office.**