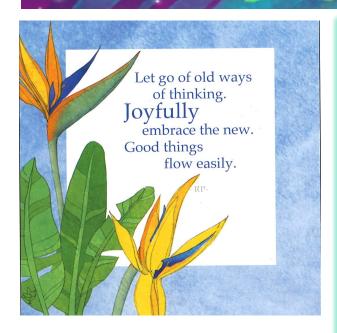
The SPARK

A spark is a small thing, yet it may kindle the world. -Tupper

Newsletter of the Choteau—Brady—Dutton UM Parish-June 2021 Issue No. 225





9:00 AM—Brady 1st & 3rd week
9:15 AM—Dutton 2nd & 4th week
11:00 AM—Choteau



If You Could Only Know

You who are letting miserable misunderstandings run on from year to year, meaning to clear them us some day;

You who are keeping wretched quarrels alive because you cannot quite make up your mind that now is the day to sacrifice your pride and kill them;

You who are passing men sullenly upon the street, not speaking to them out of some silly spite, and yet knowing that it would fill you with shame and remorse if you heard that one of those men were dead tomorrow morning;

You who are letting your neighbor starve, till you hear that he is dying of starvation;

Or letting your friend's heart ache for a word of appreciation or sympathy, which you mean to give him someday;

If you only could know and see and feel, all of a sudden, that "the time is short," how it would break the spell!

How you would go instantly and do the thing which you might never have another chance to do.

— Phillips Brooks

Time Is

Too Slow for those who Wait,
Too Swift for those who Fear,
Too Long for those who Grieve
Too Short for those who Rejoice;
But for those who Love,
Time is Eternity.

- Henry Van Dyke

In-person Worship Updates!

We have updated our Covid-19 guidelines for in-person worship! Please note that we will continue to make updates as we are able to in compliance with our Health Department and the CDC's recommendations, as well as our Christian principles.

The following safety guidelines have been established and will be followed each week:

- Masks are optional for anyone who is <u>fully vaccinated</u>.
- Masks are required inside the building for anyone who is <u>not fully vaccinated</u> when social distancing is not available masks may be removed once you are seated with your family unit and social distanced.

 (Please note: whether you are vaccinated or not is on the honor system we do not ask for any type of proof of vaccination.)
- Social distancing is expected. Please keep at least 6 feet of distance between families.
- We will not be passing the offering plate at this time; please place your tithes and offering in the plate on the table at the back of the church.
- Communion cups will be individual, disposable cups. Please come forward one family at a time and practice social distancing.
- Fellowship/Hospitality Time will resume when we have a safe positivity rate in our County, and we have received the "OK" from our health officials; or when 100% of our congregation members are fully vaccinated. You may continue to bring your own coffee from home until fellowship time resumes.

If you are unable to attend in-person, our service will continue to be posted on our YouTube channel and website each week <u>on Sunday afternoons</u>. We will continue to email the links to the service after it is posted, as well.

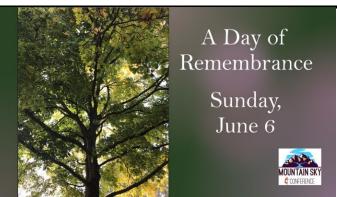
Please stay home if you have any symptoms of illness or have potentially been in contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19. We also encourage anyone who is in the "high risk" category to practice safe decisions regarding attendance. Following safety guidelines and moving forward with an abundance of caution helps to keep *everyone* in our congregations healthy and safe.

We thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation to ensure that we are protecting each person in our church family!

Pastor's

Ordinary People, Ordinary Time

We are moving into the season of "ordinary time" in our liturgical calendar, and I have to admit that sometimes this season feels much like our own lives. It's a season that can often feel like it's "just another Monday" or the "same stuff, different day." We tend to look forward to the next big celebration or moment that lies ahead: birthdays, anniversaries, holidays, graduations, new babies, vacations, or other fun moments that we photograph and fill our albums and social media timelines with "Kodak Moments" of the memories that were made. But there is a lot of time that happens in between each of those big moments in our lives – that time is the ordinary time. What if we recognized that during each day – those ordinary days – we have the opportunity to make it extraordinary? An opportunity to focus our own lives on God and the people around us in ways that are beyond the usual. I encourage you to be an extraordinary person when time just seems to be going by day by day.



PLEASE JOIN US!

The Conference has set aside this day as a day of coming together after over a year of being apart to remember everyone and thing that was lost throughout the Pandemic. We invite you to participate in A Day of Remembrance on June 6th. Below is the link with all of the info.

https://www.mtnskyumc.org/!

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CONFERENCE OFFICE IS MOVING TO A NEW SITE

Just like the local church, the Mountain Sky Conference has learned a great deal during COVID. As all our staff moved to home offices at the beginning of COVID, we realized:

- We were able to efficiently serve the conference with staff working remotely;
- As a large conference, we have been able to have meetings more inclusive of our geographic area via Zoom than if we met in person;
- Remote staff means that we can draw from talented, potential employees from across our four+ state footbrint:
- Daily 15 minute check-ins with the full staff has meant greater alignment with the values, mission, and vision of the MSC across the organization and less siloing of our work; like local church members, we've still been able to connect and bond!

As we reflected on what we learned, we realized that our building has outlived its service to us. The vast expanse of our conference geography requires a new, decentralized business model. As a result, we put the building up for sale and began to find a suitable location for the conference office. We also recognized we needed far less square footage for a physical office and we could be located anywhere in the conference. The requirements for the office included proximity to an international airport, easily accessible from major highways, excellent internet, storage space, and flexible use space for small and larger gatherings as restrictions loosen.

After exploring several site possibilities, the decision was made to move the conference office to Smoky Hill UMC in Centennial, CO. Currently, Denver area staff are busy digitizing records, paring down personal property, and preparing for a June 1 move date.

We will be letting you know more in the coming weeks, but our new mailing address is PO BOX 462200 Centennial, CO 80015, and our new physical address is 19491 E Smoky Hill Rd, Centennial, CO 80015.



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 taxdeductible donation you can send in a check to our church office, or contribute on Sundays during the Financial statements are available upon request at the church office.

VITAL STATISTICS - Choteau

2021 Budget for Choteau \$111,025 Needed to meet budget –May \$46,260 Received through May 16 \$41,276

Thank you for your on-going support!



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

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

Like us on Facebook:



UPCOMING MEETINGS—MARK YOUR CALENDAR

PARISH—Choteau-Brady-Dutton Leadership Board Meeting

> w/Dist. Sup. Jan Witman Sunday, June 20 4:00—5:30 pm at Choteau UMC

Choteau UMC Leadership Board Meeting

Monday, June 21 6:30 pm at Choteau UMC

Quilt Raffle Update



A special thank you to **ALL** who supported us through buying raffle tickets and helping to sell them. Kim Wiest was the winner of the quilt. Proceeds in the amount \$1,555 were received.

We truly appreciate it! Brady United Methodist Church



Dear Choteau UMC,

Thank you all so much for your amazing help with the Gunther fire relief! From meals to clothes sorting, you stepped up to the plate and provided our community a testimony to God's love. Thank you for being amazing partner in ministry!

Pastor Kim, Trinity Lutheran Church



LECTIONARY

June 6: 1 Samuel 8:4-20

Psalm 138

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

Mark 3:20-35

June 13: 1 Samuel 15:34-16:13

Psalm 20 or Psalm 72

2 Corinthians 5:6-10;14-17

June 20 Father's Day

1 Samuel 17:32-49

Psalm 9:9-20

2 Corinthians 6:1-13

Mark 4:35-41

June 27: 2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27

Psalm 130

2 Corinthians 8:7-15

Mark 5:21-43

Materials for your Spiritual Formation May / June

Available in the front entryway and the Upper Room rack at the top of the handicap ramp.

► Upper Room – regular & large print

Opportunities for Your Spiritual Growth

SUMMER SERMON SERIES



Skyline Lodge

CCC—Coffee, Conversation & Communion
Thursday, June 24—2:00 pm

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil and Jeff Keane





to the families and friends of

Kathy Gottlob

Sister of Jaynie Gollehon Death – May 19, 2021

Pastor Julie King's Family:

Elsie Mildred Conine

Great Grandmother Death – April 14, 2021

Edward Lee Conine

Grandfather Death – May 3, 2021

Jacky Leroy Conine
Great Uncle



CHRISTIANS

Caring for each other

Please contact

Pastor Julie (office 466-2641; cell 785-443-0475)

when one of our UMC family members needs a card or visit because of loneliness, illness or other crisis in their lives.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

~ June ~

Karli Clark Johnson

▼ Blake & Joni Haug

Tom Rogers

5 Leah McDonald

6 Ethan King

7 Sue Schilling8 Donna Bemis

Gwen Goodell Janet Goodell

9 Blayne Gameon Larry Schilling

Charles & Marsha Hinch
 Cheryl Maurer
 Mason Meier

11 ▼ Tom & Liz Maltby Darby Yeager
 12 Helen Hodgskiss

12 Helen Hodgskiss
Kurtis Styren
13 Fred Christensen

Adlai Sporkin-Morrison Coltyn Styren

16 Pinky Thaut

17 Jerry Dunckel Linda Quilling

18 Barbara Nauck Chambers
Jeff Farkell

Darlene Ferris

▼ Mike & Nikki Ley

▼ Stan & Tootie Rasmussen

Bruce & Sara Coccoli
 Cecil Cole

♥ Ross & Lorran Depner

▼ Jeff & Janice Farkell

January Lindage Parkell

January Lindage

26 Joyce Lindgren
David Robles

29 Kelly DeBruycker 30 Donna Dunn

▼ Jeff Howard & Stacy Reynolds

Methodist Church Family,

During a time like this, we realize how much our friends and relatives really mean to us. Your expression of sympathy will always be remembered. Thank you for the flowers you sent to the service. They were beautiful. Thank you for remembering mom.

The Family of Theone Christman

Thank you so much for all of the cards, texts, and prayers for our family this past month after the loss of my Great-Grandma, my Grandpa, and my Great-Uncle. Your outpouring love means the world to us, and we are so great for all of you!

In Christ's Love.

Pastor Julie, Robert, Xander, Ethan, Bella, & Kyndal



Garrett Depner—MSU Northern. Degrees: a Bachelor's Degree in Ag Operations Technology, an Associates degree in Ag Mechanics Technology and an Associates Degree in Agricultural Technology.

21

24

Katie Kostelnik— MSU Northern, Magna cum laude. Elementary Education. She will be teaching Kindergarten in Conrad next year.

The SPARK JUNE 2021, Issue 225

Intermountain Welcomes A New Chaplain

Let us introduce you to Rev. Sami Pack-Toner

Intermountain is excited to welcome Rev. Sami Pack-Toner to our Helena Residential Campus. Recently we asked Sami about this new calling to serve the children and families of Intermountain Residential.

What drew you to consider the chaplaincy at Intermountain?

I have always admired the work that Intermountain offers and strives to offer. Being a "cradle Methodist" from Montana, it has always been a place I knew about. In my adulthood and ministry, I have learned more about the intentional work that has evolved through the generations. I have always felt a spiritual nudge toward the intersection of mental health and ministry and social work. Recently, that nudge has turned into a call. I am thrilled and honored to serve the residential kiddos on their own spiritual journeys.

What unique gifts, skills, or passions do you hope to employ in your service to the children?

My experience with service toward children has been constant through my teen years and adulthood. I lifeguarded and taught swimming lessons all through high school, college, and grad school. I also worked at a preschool and taught gymnastics between college and grad school. Though the crowd of kiddos was varied as far as mental health needs, those jobs helped me practice the important skill of communicating with kids. I have been in charge of, and helped with, a variety of children's ministries, and it is one of the most joyous pieces of my current job. It causes me to grow in my faith and challenges my theology. I look forward to working with the teams at Intermountain as I learn how to serve the residential kiddos.

How can we be praying for you and Shane as you transition into this new role?

We appreciate your prayers for our transition from a ministry at Helena United Methodist Ministries and for the congregations I have served. I am grateful for everyone's support as we adjust to new challenges and adventures.

Sami will continue to serve Helena United Methodist Ministries until her new appointment as Intermountain's chaplain, effective July 1. Sami is a go-getter though, and has already found time in her busy schedule to begin the necessary trainings essential for working with the Residential children. Sami and her husband, Shane, live in Marysville, MT, and love to spend time outdoors and skiing.

Road to Intermountain

MONTANA NATIVE grew up in Sheridan, MT

U OF GREAT FALLS Psychology & Criminal Justice/ Social Work 2010

DUKE UNIVERSITY Masters of Divinity 2014

PASTOR Choteau **United Methodist** Church 2014 - 2017

HELENA UNITED METHODIST MINISTRY 2017 - present

I am so honored to serve the children in Intermountain's care, and I look forward to continuing strong relationships with congregations and faith communities that support

-Rev. Sami Pack-Toner

this vital ministry.

Father's Day History

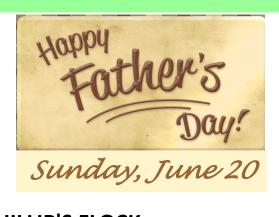
Father's Day is a celebration honoring fathers and celebrating fatherhood, paternal bonds, and the influence of fathers in society. It was first proposed by Sonora Dodd of Spokane, Washington in 1909. It is currently celebrated in the United States annually on the third Sunday in June.

Father's Day was inaugurated in the United States in the early 20th century to complement Mother's Day in celebrating fathers, fathering, and fatherhood.

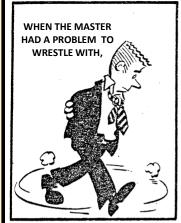
Father's Day was founded in Spokane, Washington at the YMCA in 1910 by Sonora Smart Dodd, who was born in Arkansas. Its first celebration was in the Spokane YMCA on June 19, 1910. Her father, the Civil War veteran William Jackson Smart, was a single parent who raised his six children there. After hearing a sermon about Anna Jarvis's Mother's Day at Central Methodist Episcopal Church in 1909, she told her pastor that fathers should have a similar holiday honoring them. Although she initially suggested June 5, her father's birthday, the pastors of the Spokane Ministerial Alliance did not have enough time to prepare their sermons, and the celebration was deferred to the third Sunday of June.

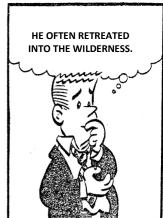
It did not have much success initially. In the 1920s, Dodd stopped promoting the celebration because she was studying in the Art Institute of Chicago, and it faded into relative obscurity, even in Spokane. In the 1930s Dodd returned to Spokane and started promoting the celebration again, raising awareness at a national level. She had the help of those trade groups that would benefit most from the holiday, for example the manufacturers of ties, tobacco pipes, and any traditional present to fathers. Since 1938 she had the help of the Father's Day Council, founded by the New York Associated Men's Wear Retailers to consolidate and systematize the commercial promotion. Americans resisted the holiday during a few decades, perceiving it as just an attempt by merchants to replicate the commercial success of Mother's Day, and newspapers frequently featured cynical and sarcastic attacks and jokes. But the trade groups did not give up: they kept promoting it and even incorporated the jokes into their adverts, and they eventually succeeded. By the mid-1980s the Father's Council wrote that "(...) [Father's Day] has become a Second Christmas for all the men's gift-oriented industries."

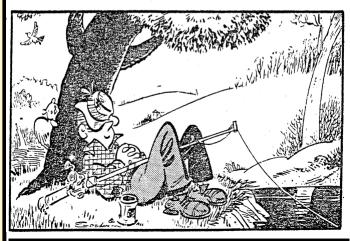
A bill to accord national recognition of the holiday was introduced in Congress in 1913. In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson went to Spokane to speak in a Father's Day celebration and wanted to make it official, but Congress resisted, fearing that it would become commercialized. US President Calvin Coolidge recommended in 1924 that the day be observed by the nation, but stopped short of issuing a national proclamation. Two earlier attempts to formally recognize the holiday had been defeated by Congress. In 1957, Maine Senator Margaret Chase Smith wrote a proposal accusing Congress of ignoring fathers for 40 years while honoring mothers, thus "[singling] out just one of our two parents". In 1966, President Lyndon B. Johnson issued the first presidential proclamation honoring fathers, designating the third Sunday in June as Father's Day. Six years later, the day was made a permanent national holiday when President Richard Nixon signed it into law in 1972.



PHILLIP'S FLOCK By Doc Goodwin







The father of 14 children was known as "Mr. Fix-it" because of all the broken windows and screen doors he fixed. The dad's favorite saying was, "If it can't be fixed with WD-40 or duct tape, you need to buy a new one."



When the father died, his boys placed a can of WD-40 and a roll of duct tape in the casket with him. And as they closed the casket, the boys duct-taped it shut.

The pastor, unable to control his laughter, had to get his camera to validate what he had seen, knowing no one would believe it.

- Columnist Smiley Anders Baton Rouge (LA) Advocate

The SPARK JUNE 2021, Issue 225

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!



PRE-K - 6TH GRADE **MONDAY - THURSDAY JUNE 7TH - 10TH** 2:00-4:30PM AT CHOTEAU CITY PARK

Pre-Registration Required

Parents are welcome to participate with their child!

Trinity Lutheran Church 466-2291 choteautlc@yahoo.com

Supplies needed for upcoming **VBS** June 7 - 10:

Choteau UMC is asked to provide:

- 5 bunches of bananas
- 3 large bags of Veggie Straws
- 3 bunches Celery (Cut into sticks)
- 4 pkgs Cheese sticks
- 2 boxes Honeycomb cereal
- 30 oz package of Raisins
- 2 pkgs of Blue Jello
- 1 Large tub of Whipped Cream

Also need used plastic water bottles and cardboard cereal boxes for crafts

Please bring into the basement of the Trinity Lutheran Church the week before VBS. Thank you!

> Sign-up sheet at the back of Choteau UMC sanctuary.

VBS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please contact Danae Isakson.

Registration

Games (all ages) Arts & Crafts (all ages)

Music Helper (all ages) Group Leader—Preschool

Group Leader—Kindergarten Last Day BBQ Server Group Leader—1st grade

Group Leader—2nd & 3rd Group Leader—4th, 5th, 6th

Photographer Group Helper

Snack Team Last Day BBO Clean Up

REGISTRATION & VOLUNTEER FORMS AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICES OF TRINITY LUTHERAN &UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES.



Thursday, June 10th following VBS at 4:30 p.m. VBS/Trinity/UMC BBQ in the park!

All food will be provided and carefully prepared/distributed in order to be Covid-safe.

A free-will offering will be taken to cover the cost with any excess going in the VBS budget for next year. All you need to bring is a lawn chair!

If you are willing to help grill, please contact Jason Asselstine (750-1342); if you are willing to help set up, serve or clean up, please contact Trinity Lutheran Church office (466-2291) or Pastor Kim. Thanks!

This will be our first fellowship event in over a year, so we hope all of you will be able to join us!

Group _____

TLC, in conjunction with Choteau Area Churches presents

Vacation Bible School 2021

June 7 – 10 2:00-4:30 PM at the Choteau City Park

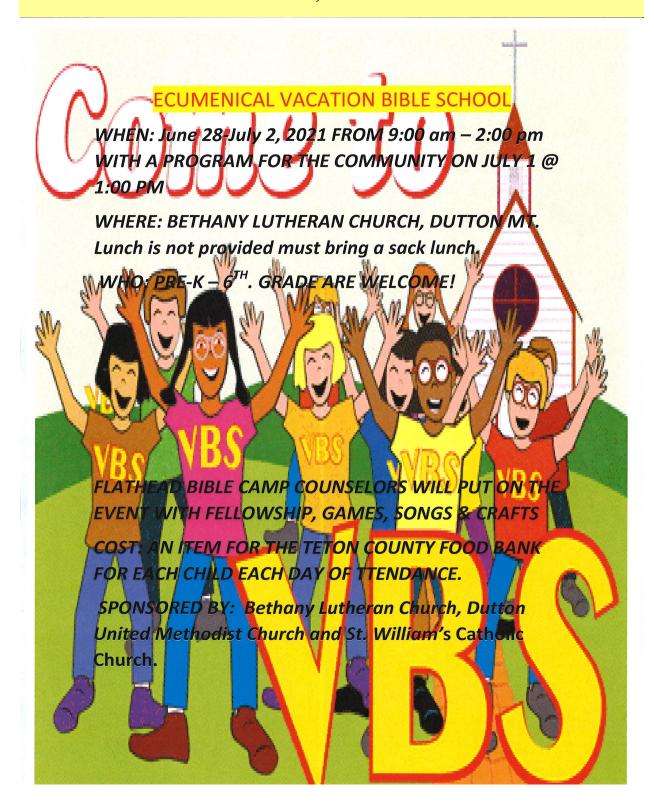
For: Children 4 years old through 6th Grade

STUDENT REGISTRATION FORM

Child's Name	
Child's Birth Date	Child's Grade Entering
Parent/Guardian Name(s)	
Home Phone	Work Phone Mobile
EMERGENCY INFORMATION_	
Emergency Contact 1	Phone
Emergency Contact 2	Phone
Doctor	Phone
Allergies or Special Needs	
DISMISSAL	
Who may pick up your child at the end of each VBS day?	
Name	Relationship
Name	Relationship
PHOTO RELEASE: I give my permission for my child to be photographed at this event and understand that the photos may be used for publicity, church Facebook page, website, etc. Yes No	
EMERGENCY AUTHORIZATION: In the event I cannot be reached, I give permission to medical personnel to order X-rays, routine tests and treatment for my child. If I cannot be reached, I give permission for a qualified physician to hospitalize, secure proper treatment for, and to order injection and/or anesthesia and/or surgery for my child.	
Parent/Guardian Signature	
	Date
Please complete and retu	rn to Trinity Lutheran Church prior to June 4th (PO Box 110)

Ecumenical Vacation Bible School

June 28 – July 2 9:00 am – 2:00 pm Bethany Lutheran Church Dutton, Montana



SUMMER CAMPS @ FLATHEAD LAKE CAMP

Middler Camp (Campers Grades 7-9th), June 20 - 25

Tween Family Camp (Families with Campers Grades 4-6th), June 25 - 28

Rising Leaders (Counselors in Training), June 25 - 28

Intergenerational Family Camp, June 30 - July 5

Senior High Camp (Campers Grades 10-12th and recent 2021 & 2021 Grads), July 25 - 30

flatheadcamp.org/unitedmethodist-camps/

SUMMER CAMPS @ LUCCOCK PARK CAMP

Middler Camp (Campers Grades 7-9th), & Senior High Camp (Campers Grades 10-12th, recent 2020 & 2021 Grads), July 25 - 30

Elementary Camp (Campers Grades 3rd-6th), Aug 1 - 4

luccockpark.org/umc-camps



Flathead Camp Dates, Registration Fees and Cancellation Policy Please register before June 15th.

2021 FLUMC Camps have a 3-tier registration fee for the MAIN CAMPER (4th-6th Grade). As you consider your family's financial situation, please also consider the true cost of camp. You get to choose the tier that best fits your ability to pay. Each camper receives the same high quality experience, regardless of the amount paid.

Tier 1 — \$249 (Tier 1 is the actual cost of camp and provides an additional \$50 to help other campers register at a discounted rate.)

Tier 2 — \$199 (Tier 2 is the actual cost of the camp.)

Tier 3 — \$175 (Tier 3 is a discounted rate thanks to those who generously register at the Tier 1 rate.)

FAMILY STYLE CAMP FEES:

Participating Youth \$199 each (or pay a higher tier level if you choose)

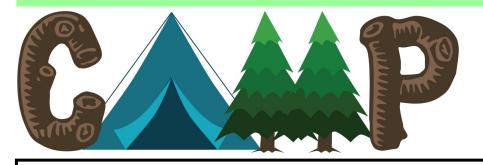
Youth + 1 parent: \$275 (plus designated adult's meals only \$76)

Youth + 2 parents \$325 (plus designated adults+ meals only \$126/\$63 per adult)

Children younger than participants age group will be charged for meals only at \$15/day

Scholarships are available. Please contact your local church first and then FLUMC for more information manager@flatheadcamp.org

(Additional Camp Information—page 13)



Flathead Camp Dates, Registration Fees and Cancellation Policy

Family Style Tween Camp starts Friday June 25 at 5pm ends Monday June 28 at 11am:

Families: Now is the time to register to join us for a 4 day/3 night family style Tween camp. Join us at Flathead Lake this Summer for Camp - our Tween Camp Staff will provide activities for registered campers entering 4-6th grade (registered with a participating designated adult/parent/grandparent/guardian) during the day and provide family-style activities in the morning & evenings. Family-time, structured & fun camp activities and a time of relaxation for all ages!

Register your family here (family payments can be made via PayPal in donation link):

http://flatheadcamp.org/event/tween-camp-2/

We will provide a COVID-safe and fun camp/retreat for families and activities for their kids (K-6th grade) this summer. That's right younger siblings of Tween Campers can participate in the camp fun too!

All staffed activities for K-6th will be during the day while parents/grandparents/designated adults and any 0-5 year olds could enjoy playing on the playground, playing games, going on walks, taking naps, time at the lakeshore, reading or even catching up on quality time with your partner/spouse. Morning Worship & Nightly Campfires will be a whole family gathering time. Meal times are with your family in small pods provided by the camp - special food needs must be communicated with the camp manager: manager@flatheadcamp.org

Any related Families/Familiar Friends & Neighbors can ask to share a living space (Cabin space with an exit) as a pod. If a parent cannot attend but wants to register their camper to come with Grandma, Grandpa, Aunts/Uncles or another designated adult - please register and mark who the designated adult will be! Meals and activities are provided. Plan to bring your own sleeping bags/blankets/pillows/ towels and toiletries!

Camp Dean Contacts:

Sarah Kisthart: 406-224-8632 sarahkisthart4@gmail.com

Janna Lauver: 406-698-0810 janbanmarie@hotmail.com

Choteau-Brady-Dutton
United Methodist Parish
P.O. Box 108
12 First Ave NW
Choteau, MT 59422

Phone: 406-466-2641
Email: umc@3rivers.net
Web: 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:

Chas Crane

IN MEMORY OF TONI CRANE

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!

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

Submit your sponsor information to the parish office.