



# THE FUMC NEWSLETTER

October 2015

Volume 10

*Follow Jesus, Make Disciples, Transform Lives and Communities.*

## Notes from the Preacher Woman—October 2015



I attended my very first High School class reunion this summer. There have been others, but I somehow never managed to get to any before now. It was the 42<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the class of 1973. Somehow our 40<sup>th</sup> had slipped by without anyone noticing, so better late than never.

I wondered if I would recognize anyone, but the minute I came in the room I realized that some people somehow remain themselves no matter how much time passes. There was Grace, her bright red hair now mixed with grey, but still the smartest person in the room, and class president. And Mary, whose love of life and infectious laugh were undimmed by whatever the last decades had thrown her way. And Phyllis! She and I had spent one memorable summer working together at my step-dad's real estate office. Back then I remembered Phyllis as a shy natural blond. My jaw nearly hit the floor when Phyllis walked into the room on the arm of her conservatively dressed husband sporting an asymmetrical precision cut neatly divided into gothic black and platinum blond. Wow. (Now there was a story I would have liked to hear...) For the most part conversation was awkward and consisted of a 2-3 minute exposition of "what I have been doing the last 40 years..." But I enjoyed seeing some of the people I hadn't seen since we walked into the gym in pairs. I am not all that comfortable in big groups, so I found a place to sit and watch various interactions going on around the room. There were many people that I had absolutely no clue about, but then my scanning eyes rested on a familiar face—ah, Carla.

Carla had aged gracefully. The only lines I could detect on her still engaging face were the kind that tend to come from a lifetime of smiling and laughter. My mind flashed on a moment Carla and I had shared—not in high school, but in 7<sup>th</sup> grade. I wondered if she would remember.

Back in the *Stone Age*, 7<sup>th</sup> graders were offered an opportunity to experience something previously unknown in our grade school years—electives. For an entire quarter, we could sample offerings such as French or Spanish, Wood Shop, Home Economics—and a few others that I can no longer recall. Back in the day, of course, it was expected that the boys would take Wood Shop and the girls would avail themselves of the

Home Economics course. After all, women were expected to at least be acquainted with the "feminine arts" if we were to one day marry and raise healthy families. (For the younger crowd, that would include cooking, sewing, meal planning, and generally keeping the home fires burning while the man of the house went out to bring home the bacon. *I know, I know*, but that is just how things were back then.)

On the first day of Home Ec, we girls were herded into a room laid out in work stations: kitchen station, sewing station, family life station, and a wall where each of us would have our own cubby in which to tuck our projects still in process. The first day or so our teacher, Mrs. Whitman lectured on things like measurements and equivalents, the basics of home cooking, etc. This was very boring, and we couldn't wait to be set loose in the little individual kitchens to do some *real* stuff. And the day finally came. We were to be allowed to cook our first dish: scrambled eggs. How hard could it be, right?

Mrs. Whitman demonstrated--crack the eggs, add a touch of milk and beat until frothy, a dash of salt--then pour the liquid into a sauté pan that had been warmed up on a medium heat with a bit of butter in it—and ta da! (or voila if you had taken the French sample) a perfectly cooked scrambled egg. We knew we could do this.

There were only four cooking stations, so we had to take it in turn to prove our expertise around a stove. We were excited, with the only moment of uneasiness coming as Mrs. Whitman walked slowly from station to station to watch how we were doing. When it was my turn at the stove, I noticed that Carla was in the station next to mine.

I must pause here to explain that Carla was everything I wished I could be at 12, going on 13. I was short and stick thin (emphasis on "stick.") whereas Carla (although short) could only be described as "petite" and had miraculously managed to be a front-runner in the transformation that allowed her to actually look good in a sweater. Her dark shoulder length hair flipped up perfectly on the ends and the bangs cut across her forehead were nothing less than adorable. She was a miniature Marlo Thomas (for a cultural reference, check "*Google*.") If that weren't bad enough, it was impossible to be jealous of Carla, her natural friendliness and open smile were completely disarming. She liked everyone and everyone just couldn't help but like her in return.

**First United Methodist Church**

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**Office Hours**

Mon.~Thurs. 9 am~Noon & 1~3 pm  
Friday 9 am~Noon

**Sunday Worship Services**

9:30 am in the Sanctuary

**Staff**

Pastor: Reverend Nancy Slabaugh Hart  
Administrative Assistant: Hollie King  
Musician: Sharman Tokerud  
Custodians: Ed & Patty Taylor

**Visit us on the web**

[www.umcgreatfalls.org](http://www.umcgreatfalls.org)  
[www.facebook.com/1stumcgreatfalls](http://www.facebook.com/1stumcgreatfalls)



**Taxi Service Available**

Diamond Cab Taxi Service is available for Sunday worship service and all church meetings. It is paid for by the church. Call Diamond Cab at 453-3241. Give them enough time to make an appointment for you. Once you are at the church, just sign a voucher for their records.

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**ATTENDANCE**

Sunday	9:30 a.m.
Sept. 6	66
Sept. 13	77
Sept. 20	65
Sept. 27	86

**Please consider donating unused Christmas cards for the Prison Help Ministry.**

They are aiming for 3,000 cards to be taken to the women's prison in Billings (300), Shelby (400), Deerlodge (1,482), and the PreRelease Center here (250).

They would like the cards by mid October so they have time to write in each card. That address is across from the Half Time Bar.

Go to: [afterprisonhelpministry.com](http://afterprisonhelpministry.com), 1101 8th Ave NW. or Call [406-403-3074](tel:406-403-3074) and ask for Joy.



## Holding in Prayer



**For Healing:** Corb Browne, Jill Storbakken, Gary Stuart, Dorothy Holman, Clarence Borske, Beckie Frisbee, Sue Eppers (friend of Eleanor Scurlock) Isabella & Olivia Goldsmith (daughters of Sarah & Jeff Goldsmith), Pete Cladouhos, and Clarence Borske Jr..

**For Continued Prayers:** Hal Scurlock (father of Jay Scurlock), Barbara Rooney, Bud Rooney, Barry Bilbro (friend of Jere Cater), Taylor Brown (grandson of Lee Mattingly), Trevor Atcheson (friend of Beverly Constan), Gary Bender (Uncle of Beth Morrison), Jean Guile, Darrold Martin, Ernest Hampton, Claire Stone (Granddaughter of Ruth Stone), Linda Stuart, Lou Bryant, and Jeanne Evenson.

# Thank You!!

—To My Church Family,  
Thank you so much for all the prayers, calls, cards, visits and goodies, since I have not been as well as usual. Everything is so appreciated. God Bless our church and each one of you.  
Madeline McCracken

—Dear First UMC,  
Thank you very much for all of the school supplies for our students. Your support is so welcomed and appreciated! It is through great people and organizations that we can really make a difference! Thanks again. Great Falls High School Staff

—I would like to thank all for their prayers, phone calls, visits, gifts and food while I was in the hospital and Grand View. All was appreciated.  
Clarence Borske. Sr.

—Congregation of First UMC,  
Frank Ghee joins Great Falls Transit in thanking you for your contribution of \$300.00 to the Disabled American Veterans Free Rides program. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Together with other contributions received, Great Falls Transit is able to keep this program running.  
Sincerely, James Helgeson

## October Birthdays

Laurae Allen Headley 10/2

Debbie Roberts 10/5

John Frisbee 10/6

Martha Heberle 10/6

Patty Taylor 10/8

Jean Guile 10/10

Bill Haug 10/13

Maryellen Bindel 10/14

Jeanne Evenson 10/17

Taylor Rodger 10/21

Michael Kohut 10/23

Dorothy (Dotti) Kohut 10/23

Peter Landsiedel 10/23

Chris Abbas 10/24

Ruthann Knudson 10/24

Pete Cladouhos 10/25

Helen Spurgin 10/31

## Our 90+ Birthdays

Jean Guile will be 101 on 10/10

&

Pete Cladouhos will be 92 on 10/25

# Happy Birthday!!!

## Anniversaries this month

Gary and Lynda Stuart 10/01



## You're Invited!

Suzanne Waring will be reading from her new book, *Preacher Lady*, at the Great Falls Public Library on Saturday, October 17, 2015, at 11 a.m. Five additional regional authors will also be reading from their recently published books. An opportunity to purchase books will follow the readings. This event is free for your enjoyment.



United  
Methodist  
Women

## News & Events

September United Methodist Women's' meeting hosted by Sarah Circle focused on our World Thank Offering. The program was presented by Athlene Stokke and \$170.00 was given by members and has been sent to support Mission Projects of UMW.

### On the Calendar

Oct. 21, 9:30 a.m. **Sarah Circle** Will meet in Van O Hall 1:00 p.m. **Rebecca Circle** will meet in van O Hall, Lee Mattingly and Luella Welsh will host and Carol Perry will lead the study.

### Upcoming Events;

Nov 15 Cinnamon Roll, ETC. sale  
Dec. 2 Christmas Tea

### Western Mountains District United Methodist Women News

Forty Eight UMW members from around the Western district, which includes churches from Great Falls area to Salmon, ID as well as Flathead Valley to Bozeman, gathered at Corvallis UMC on Sep 19. We had a very delightful and inspiring day while also enjoying the company of our UMW sisters. Our Mission in Action project was an offering to support a local ecumenical initiative which provides free dinners three times per week at a local church where they feed an average of 60-80 people. Much of our time was spent on program, 'One Step at a Time--Harvesting God's Gifts'. A portion of both morning and afternoon sessions was spent working on a "shortened" (?) version of the Spiritual Gifts Inventory. discussion was led by Rev. Deb. Wacker, Pastor of the Corvallis UMC.

Mission Projects highlighted were UMCOR School Bags and the UMW Legacy Fund. Did you know UMW will celebrate 150 years of mission work in 2018! New District Officers were elected and installed for the coming year. Yellowstone Conference UMW Annual Fall Meeting will be held Oct, 3rd at Lewistown UMC.

Notes from the Preacher Women Continued.....

As Carla and I worked feverishly in our separate stations, we were all too aware of Mrs. Whitman hovering in the background. Finally, Mrs. Whitman walked over to Carla's stove. I glanced over my shoulder to see Mrs. Whitman smiling broadly as she gushed: "Well, I can see someone really knows how to make scrambled eggs! Beautiful." My heart began to beat a little faster, imaging Mrs. Whitman looking into my sauté pan and being moved to eloquence by the beauty of my perfectly cooked eggs. Carefully, I took the eggs out of the pan and gently, humbly, laid them on the clean plate. I felt Mrs. Whitman's presence behind me.

I held my breath.

She spoke:

"Well. These look like something someone chewed up and spit back out." That was it. She turned and walked on.

My little 12 year old heart was crushed. For days after what I remember as my moment of *humiliation* I practiced making scrambled eggs after school. No big brother was safe—I insisted they eat my experiments. I can no longer remember when the eggs started to look less like pre-eaten and leaned toward fluffy—but it did happen eventually. But I never forgot that moment marked "traumatic" in my long term memory.

Back at the reunion, I approached Carla and introduced myself. I could see that she was still the stylish, engaging person she was all those years ago. Her hair was now cropped short—and was a gorgeous salt and pepper that had no need of chemical enhancements. I asked if she remembered that Home Ec class.

She laughed her lovely musical laugh and said she remembered that day well. And then she told me her version. At the very moment Mrs. Whitman lavished complements on her scrambled eggs, Carla didn't have a clue that it would be "the last time I did anything right in that class." We both laughed at the memory of our 12 year old selves and our shared incompetence and vulnerability. She was glad I shared the memory, and I will tuck away and cherish our conversation that so enriched and put in perspective that moment of prepubescent angst.

Stories are so important. But how difficult to remind myself that my story is often someone else's as well. Over the years I have recalled to family and friends the story of my humiliation in front of a friend who seemed to be living a charmed and perfect life. It took forty-odd years to hear the whole story. What would it be like if I paid more attention to the stories we share. What if we all listened and shared alike. How deep and how rich our lives would become. Why, it sounds like a very gospel thing to do.

Blessings and peace, beloved. Pastor Nancy

## Service Opportunities

**Coffee Fellowship**~Hosts are needed for Coffee Fellowship gatherings. The coffee makers are always ready to plug in. Tea, ice and cold drink mixes are available for hosts who wish to prepare them. Beyond that, a host is asked to provide a simple treat for about 30-35 people. Help is always available for anyone who doesn't feel they "know the ropes." To take a turn, please sign the sheet on the wall outside Van O. Hall. Thank you to Coffee Fellowship Hosts!

**Liturgist**~A liturgist, who participates in the worship service, may read announcements, scriptures and calls to worship, while the minister preaches the sermon, offers prayers and blesses sacraments. To volunteer please call Jeanette Butts at 453-5291.

Oct. 4— Lee Mattingly  
 Oct. 11—Beckie Frisbee  
 Oct. 18—Louise Falk  
 Oct. 25—Ruthann Knudson

**Communion Stewards**~To volunteer, call the church office at 453-3114.

(October) Amanda Kohut & Athlene Stokke

**Worship Greeters**~To volunteer, please call Cheryl Kingery. You will need to be at your post by 9:15 am.

Oct. 4  
 Oct. 11  
 Oct. 18  
 Oct. 25

## To Be Announced

**Kitchen Laundry**~Sign-up sheets for monthly kitchen laundry duties can be found outside of the kitchens in Van O. Hall on the first floor and the Social Hall on the second floor.

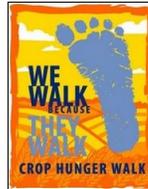
October laundry is Lee Mattingly

**Loaves & Fishes Fund**~This fund is for short-term assistance for members of the congregation and people in need in the community. If anyone is interested in making a donation to this fund, please send it to the church office.

**Mission Outreach**~We are collecting school supplies for the area high schools in October. Bins are at the elevator entrance to the Sanctuary.



**Did you know?** First United Methodist Church has an active hospital visitation program that has been in place for more than 15 years. The program consists of two teams and we do the visitation on Mondays and Fridays. When one of our church friends is in the hospital, a member of the visitation team will drop by to say hello and let them know they are in our prayers. It is always helpful to Pastor Nancy and to our visitation teams to know if we have church friends in the hospital. The Visitation program is just one way that we nurture and care for our "flock." Please contact the church office at 453.3114 to let us know when someone is in the hospital.



## CROP WALK

**The CROP Walk is October 4, 2015 at 12:30.** we will be gathering at the Paris Gibson Band Schell and begin walking, running or strolling at 1:00 p.m. (10K route with a Sunday Stroll option around the Gibson Park trail, taking shortcuts as needed).

Remember the CROP Walk raises money for Church World Services, supported by our denominations to provide disaster relief, self help development and refugee resettlement. 25% of what is raised stays in Great Falls and this year it will be going to My Neighbor In Need.

Please contact the church office if you are interested walking 406-453-3114.

### Office volunteers needed

We are requesting volunteers to be in the church office 1-2 hours every morning, Mon-Fri. to help with the daily office tasks.

Some duties include: helping stuff the sack lunches, birthday cards, organizing our bulletin boards/welcome desks, fill altar candles, and helping with children packets.

We would like to have a system in place to help when Hollie needs to be out for medical issues with Darian.

Please call Hollie if you would like to help.

## STRETCH YOUR FAITH AND YOUR MIND

### Learning opportunities this fall:

**Our Sunshine Sunday School Class** is every Sunday, from 8:30-9:30am in the Stephens Ministry room on the second floor of the Social Building. We'll be discussing C. S. Lewis' *Mere Christianity*, which looks to be very interesting. Lewis wrote this book in 1952, a compilation of his 1930s to early 1940s radio shows. There will be a DVD presentation and discussion. Study guides will be available, the cost is \$18, plus Lewis book which is available online. Ruthann

&

**COMING SOON ON WEDNESDAY EVENING @ 7:00 p.m. beginning October 7th.** ARE YOU...a seeker, looking to understand what this whole Christian thing is about? A new Christian wanting to get a better grounding in faith? A long-time follower of Jesus who would like a refresher about some of the basics of our faith? A new member of the church who would like to know what is the same or different about this church compared to other churches you have attended? All this and more...ask the questions you have always wanted to ask. The Bible--how did it come about, why some books and not others...What about all these versions? How do I choose? Church Roots--what was the early church like--how did we get all these flavors, denominations, faith traditions? Where did the Methodists come from? How about a little Methodism 101? What is the United Methodist Church like today? What is the difference between being a member and being a disciple? Is there a difference? Come and see!

## Making Connections

**Coffee and Conversation** meets every Tuesday at 10 a.m. in the Van O. Hall. Please join us for coffee, treats and fellowship. Questions, please call John or Linda Lewis at 454-3103.

**Masters Men** meets Wednesday mornings at 8 am in the Van O. Hall with a light breakfast and fellowship. Questions, please call the church office at 453-3111.

**Chatty Hatters** will meet October 12 & 26 in the Van O Hall at 1:00 p.m.

**Youth Group** meets every Wednesday at 6:00 in the Van O hall. If you have any question, please call Beckie Frisbee.

**TGIF Flock Group** will meet on October 23. We will be going to the Montana Club for dinner at 6:00 p.m. All are welcome, please call Sue Watson at 406-268-1093 to RSVP.

**Faith & Film** will be Sunday, October 25 at 6:00 pm at Shirley Tonkin's house. We will watch *The Rookie* starring Dennis Quaid. Please join us and bring a snack to share!

**Neighbor In Need** is looking to fill their closets with new winter coats and sweatshirts for all ages. Any size or color is needed. We will have a box in the elevator entrance on Sunday October 4, 11 & 18 to help with this wonderful mission. If you have any questions feel free to contact Tom Duffy.



# OCTOBER 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
<b>SH~Social Hall</b> <b>Van O~ Van O. Hall</b> <b>Brown~Brown Parlor</b>					<b>1.</b> 12:30pm GF Symphony (Brown) 5:30 pm Yoga (Sanctuary) 6pm Linda's School of Dance (SH)	<b>2.</b> 6pm Linda's School of Dance (SH) 6pm Leadership Mtg. at the home of Patti Ashmore (118 Woodland Estates)	<b>3.</b> 8am Memorial feed (SH) 9am Leadership Mtg. at the home of Patti Ashmore (118 Woodland Estates)
<b>4.</b> <b>9:30 am Worship</b> Fellowship following service	<b>5.</b> 4-7pm Cello-(Sanc) 6pm Girl Scouts (SH) 6:30pm GF Daycare Acc. (Van O) 7 pm Al Anon (Brown)	<b>6.</b> 10 am Coffee & Conversation (Van O) 4-7pm Cello-(Sanc) 5:30 pm Yoga (Sanctuary) 6pm Linda's School of Dance (SH)	<b>7.</b> 7:30 am TOPS (Brown) 8 am Masters Men (Van O) 4pm Cello (Sanctuary) 6:00 pm Youth Group (Van O) 7pm Bible Study (Brown)	<b>8.</b> 5:30 pm Yoga (Sanctuary) 6pm Linda's School of Dance (SH)	<b>9.</b> 6pm Linda's School of Dance (SH)	<b>10.</b> 12-3 pm Linda's School of Dance (SH) 4-7pm NDM Productions (SH)	
<b>11.</b> <b>9:30 am Worship</b> Fellowship following service 1-4pm Friendship Force (Van-O)	<b>12.</b> 1pm Chatty Hatters (Van O) 3:45-6pm Horn (Brown) 4-7pm Cello-(Sanc) 6pm Girl Scouts (SH) 7 pm Al Anon (Brown)	<b>13.</b> 10 am Coffee & Conversation (Van O) 4-7pm Cello-(Brown) 5:30 pm Yoga (Sanctuary) 7pm Maintenance Mtg. (Brown) 6-9pm NDM Productions (SH)	<b>14.</b> 7:30 am TOPS (Brown) 8 am Masters Men (Van O) 4pm Cello (Sanctuary) 6:00 pm Youth Group (Van O) 6-9pm NDM Productions (SH) 7pm Bible Study (Brown)	<b>15.</b> 5:30 pm Yoga (Sanctuary)	<b>16.</b>	<b>17.</b> 9-4 Media Room (Wadman) 4-7pm NDM Productions (SH)	
<b>18.</b> <b>9:30 am Worship</b> Fellowship following service <b>Vets Offering</b>	<b>19.</b> 3:45pm Horn (Brown) 4-7pm Cello-(Sanc) 6pm GF Symphony (Sanc) 7 pm Al Anon (Brown) 6pm Girl Scouts (SH)	<b>20.</b> 10 am Coffee & Conversation (Van O) 4-7pm Cello-(Brown) 5:30 pm Yoga (Sanctuary) 6-9pm NDM Productions (SH)	<b>21.</b> 7:30 am TOPS (Brown) 8 am Masters Men (Van O) 9:30 Sarah Circle (Van O) 1pm Rebecca Circle (Van O) 4-7pm Cello-(Brown) 7pm Bible Study (Brown) 6:00 pm Youth Group (Van O)	<b>22.</b> 5:30 pm Yoga (Sanctuary) 6pm Linda's School of Dance (SH)	<b>23.</b> 6pm TGIF Flock Group will meet at The Montana Club. 6pm Linda's School of Dance (SH) 6pm GF Symphony (Sanc)	<b>24.</b> 9-4 Media Room (Wadman) 12-3pm GF Symphony (Sanc) 4-7pm NDM Productions (SH)	
<b>25.</b> <b>9:30 am Worship</b> Fellowship following service 1pm Great Falls Symphony concert (sanctuary & SH)	<b>26.</b> 1pm Chatty Hatters (Van O) 3:45pm Horn (Brown) 4-7pm Cello-(Sanc) 7 pm Al Anon (Brown) 6pm Girl Scouts (SH)	<b>27.</b> 10 am Coffee & Conversation (Van O) 4-7pm Cello-(Brown) 5:30 pm Campfire (SH) 5:30 pm Yoga (Sanctuary)	<b>28.</b> 7:30 am TOPS (Brown) 8 am Masters Men (Van O) 10am UIMW Meeting (Van O) 4-8pm Cello-(Sanc) 7pm Bible Study (Brown) 6:00 pm Youth Group (Van O) 6-9pm NDM Productions	<b>29.</b> 5:30 pm Yoga (Sanctuary)	<b>30.</b>	<b>31.</b> 9-4 Media Room (Wadman) 4-7pm NDM Productions (SH) <b>5:30 pm TRUNK OR TREAT (parking lot)</b>	



It's our Family Promise host turn again, this time October 25-Nov. 1. We need evening and overnight hosts, including food for evening meals (entr ee, salad, dessert), breakfast, and lunch supplies for the Great Falls Family Promise Hub at Central Christian Church. Please join us in this wonderful venture with your time and gifts. We need people who have been through our Family Promise orientation to serve the evening meal (5-8pm) and to stay with our guests overnight (8pm-7am, the easiest task and the beds are comfortable!). There will be orientation sessions at the Hub on Tuesday, October 6 (6pm), and on Saturday, October 17 (10am), and please attend one of these so you can be of greater help to the program. We also need folks to help unload and set up beds on Sunday, Oct. 25 and then break down and load beds on Sunday, Nov. 1 (we'll let you know the times); you don't need to attend orientation for this. Please contact Ruthann Knudson (216-2676, [paleoknute@paleodesigns.com](mailto:paleoknute@paleodesigns.com)) or Linda Lewis (454-3103, [Llewis0213@gmail.com](mailto:Llewis0213@gmail.com)) if you can help with any of this, or if you have questions. We probably will have a full house of 14 guests this week, and let's help make their stay comfortable and enjoyable!

*Sunday Worship Services is  
at 9:30 a.m.*

Postmaster send address changes to:  
The FUMC Newsletter  
P.O. Box 1444  
Great Falls, MT 59403

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.  
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