

FIRST
CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST (UCC)

SPECIAL
POINTS OF
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- Fall Worship
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THE *Congregationalist*

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From the Moderator: Mic Dawson

WORDPLAY

There's an old Andrews Sisters song that contains the line "You put the em-PHA-sis on the wrong sy-LA-ble"

At the recent Conference Annual Meeting of the Montana-Northern Wyoming Conference, our featured speaker the Rev. Sue Artt introduced us to thinking of "conference" as a verb rather than a noun. Breaking the word into parts with "con" meaning together and "fere" to move (as in ferry), conference as a verb means "to move together" so we move in con-FER-ence rather than meet in CON-fer-ence.

Throughout the meeting those who attended the workshops worked to discern the ways in which the Conference and local congregations could work together to move forward. We discussed the importance of acknowledging the past, without dwelling in it, before moving headlong into the new. But we also recognized the need to try new things and that if they don't work, to fail fast, assess the failure and move ahead.

We defined core purpose and core values as well as where the work should be done – Conference level or local congregations. Look for movement in these spaces as the information gathered is distilled and delivered out to us in our local congregations.

There are exciting new things brewing on the horizon. Get on the ferry together with the rest of the United Church of Christ working to live out the mission of Christ in our world.

THANK YOU!!!! To all Billings First members who did so much to pull off the annual meeting. Each of you played a vital part in making the meeting a success.

All Church Picnic September 13th!!!!

The Board of Outreach has planned this year's All-Church Picnic at North Park to be a totally potluck meal with an emphasis on local food and "going green." We suggest that you wear your picnic clothes to church and bring your dish with you to place in the warming oven or refrigerator as needed until time to go to the picnic site. What to bring:

1. Food: A-G, Main dish; H-M, Salads & Sides; N-Z, Dessert. Please provide a serving utensil to go with your dish. Let's celebrate our local garden and market harvest as you are able!

2. Table service: Reusable plates, cold beverage cups, and utensils. A word of grace - Outreach will provide paper and plastic for guests and those who forget. Paper napkins will be provided!

3. Blankets or chairs on which to sit. Table seating is limited.

4. Games: Croquet, badminton, and corn hole. If you have one of these, or another safe outdoor game, please bring it for some after-dinner fun. Congregations need to play as well as pray!

5. A grateful heart: grateful for harvest bounty and for the opportunity to come together as a community of faith to share a meal with each other and to extend hospitality to guests.

Time With Teresa

- Silence "Then Pilate said to him, "Don't you hear how many things they testify against you?" But he answered him not one word..." - Matthew 27:12-14 An outspoken friend of mine used to be a loud presence on social media. But she grew to distrust her talky self, so quick with the wise or witty word, so satisfied whenever some 'deep' or 'powerful' post of hers stole the scene. So she quit, went radio silent, disappeared. Her silence upsets her friends. They understand her cautions, but they deeply mistrust silence—too many bad things disappear into it. Silence is death, a haven for the oppressor. The last thing the suffering world needs is more of it. She knows what they mean, but it doesn't feel quite so straightforward to her. Not all silence is the same. There's the silence of ignoring, and the silence of seeing. The silence of indifference, and the silence of awe. The silence of the unmoved, and the silence of those too moved to speak. The silence of giving up, and the silence of gathering oneself for the struggle. The silence of secrets, and the silence of discretion. The silence of withholding, and the silence of forbearance. The silence that silences, and the silence that makes room. The silence of the dormant conscience, and the silence of prayer. The silence after showy speeches end, and the silence of the modest who claim little and say less. The silence that evades, and the silence that convicts. The silence of the hollow question, of the illusion of innocence, of Pilate washing his hands. And the sovereign silence of Jesus, vanquishing the powers without a single word. Prayer Truthful Word and Sovereign Silence, teach us to speak and not to speak, for the sake of the world God loves. By Mary Luti
May His Spirit Fall Afresh on you (In Silence!) Teresa
- **Worship opportunity at West Park. 9/12 @ 2:00pm We are leading out a new time of worship at West Park every month (except Holiday months) at 2:00pm with Holy Communion. Join us Sept 12th in the Lower Level in the Chapel. If you would like to provide music or participate in worship, or help serving communion, let me know. Thank-you**
- **Primetimer's Older Adult Lunchtime!** 11:30am Sept. 17th at the Olive Garden. If you don't want to drive at night, how about during the day? Monthly on the 3rd Thursday at 11:30am. All Older Adults 50+ are welcome to meet at a local restaurant to share fellowship and lunch! RSVP the church office or me by Wednesday. **TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE**
- **GRIEF EDUCATION AND SUPPORT GROUP MONDAY'S @ 4:00pm @ Conference Office. All are welcome. No charge.**
- **FYI-END OF LIFE CARE PLANNING WORKSHOP Has been postponed until Fall.**
- **Primetimer's Studytime begins Sept. 23 @ 10:00 in Teresa's office. Curriculum focus is what God would want for us as we pass from middle-age towards the final quarter of our lives, according to scripture references.**
- **Primetimer's Dinnertime 5:30 pm at Guadalajara's Mexican Restaurant on Grand Ave. All 55+ are welcome to come enjoy a time of Fellowship & FUN! Transportation available**
- **Primetimer's Winetime 5:30 pm at Paula Walter's new home @ 1141 Hardrock Lane in the heights. If you haven't attended a Winetime, you are missing out! Wine/beverages provided, bring an appetizer to share. Come make some new friends. All Primetimer Older Adults (55+) are welcome! TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE**
- **PRAYER CONCERNS:** Families of Terisa Hawk, Lois Ramsett, Bonnie Wamsley, and Charles Lundgren. Prayers of healing and comfort for Alice Roberts, Bob Stagmiller. Michael Brown, Myrle Theimer, Jean MacLeod.
- Our **Prayer Chain** can always use more prayers! Call Bonnie Conn 373-6740 if you would like to be a prayer or to request prayers for someone.
- **Home Communion-If you would like to share communion in your home, please let Pastor Teresa or the Rev. Mike know. We'd love to see you!**
- Home-Bound? Need A RIDE? It's SUPER easy to use our Transportation Ministry. A cabbie will show up just when you request~ Please call the church office to get a voucher. Suggested rides: Church, Primetimer events, funerals, doctor, senior lunch program? **HOME-BOUND Older Adult Primetimer's 55+)**

Rev. Michael Mulberry, Sr. Minister

Last month I shared how good leaders make it their task to spread health in the community. In healthy congregations, leaders challenge people. The old English word *laeden* is the word from which we derive the word leader. *Laeden* means to stand beside or in front of people to enable them to move forward. One position a leader never takes is to stand behind. Leaders challenge people to move forward, either by standing beside them (participation) or by standing in front of them (initiation). Challenge is necessary for the health of a congregation. It is the special task of the leader.

If the congregation is the Body of Christ, we can make many analogies to cellular processes and the emotional processes of a congregation. The human body is a purposeful organization, seeking equilibrium, such as sleep and activity, inhaling and exhaling, balances in blood sugar level and temperature. It operates through a complex feedback system composed of chemical messengers and other parts. Change in one part of the body brings changes in other parts. From countless assaults to its integrity, the body gains “wisdom.” Immunologists even talk about people who have “wise blood.” Molecular biologists note: “Cells that do not find antigens die.” Healthy cellular development requires challenge.

Relationship systems need both stability and change. All relationships exist in tension: a need to be separate and a need to be close. We seek to find that balance to maintain some kind of coherence in organization. Besides diversity, change is the second threat to a relationship system. Without change, however, no significant growth happens. It is a part of our biology. It is a part of our theology as we remember the cost of discipleship. Change and challenge are necessary parts of the Christian life.

Surgeon Sherwin Nuland notes, “Stability demands change to compensate for changing circumstances. Ultimately, then, stability depends on instability.”

We should be honest and aware that people naturally react to change. Sometimes something new can seem threatening and we react automatically to get a “quick fix” and relieve the stress of challenge or we reject change because we believe stability is tied to a continuation of what has been. When challenge is presented, sometimes our system can give in to instinctive, lower-brain survival reactions.

Chronically anxious congregations focus on their anxiety rather than on the challenge that change poses. They do not stop to think and plan. They react.

Good leaders use challenge as the spurring of growth. They have the capacity to tolerate pain both in themselves and in others because their decisions will bring pain to others. Leaving a comfort zone is painful. Effective leaders, however, do not take people’s “emotional temperature” before deciding a course of action. They function on the basis of their beliefs and convictions. They are not led by their pain or others. They are led by their sense of direction.

As Billings First faces the challenges before us, what are the ways we are plotting and planning for a new direction. How are we **all** included in charting that path so that we participate and lead out to a new day? Everything is changing around us. How do we find our balance within that ever-changing world?

Youth and Young Adults

Welcome back everyone!! We had an amazing summer between our Older Youth Mission trip to Monterey, CA, Vacation Bible School and Camp Mimanagish. Now we are ready to hit the ground running with our program year! We have new and exciting things and ideas this year!! We will be starting our Wednesday night youth groups this month. Our Older Youth will be starting on Wednesday, September 9 at Mayflower at 6 pm. We will be meeting on Sept. 16 at the Mulberry's house for a back to school bbq at 6:30. We will begin Younger Youth Group on Wednesday, September 23 by going bowling at Sunset at 3:30 and then going back to Mayflower for dinner at 6pm where we will meet up with the Older Youth Group and they will have their meeting at 6:30-8 pm. Please RSVP for the bowling by Monday, September 21. I am looking for volunteers to lead the younger youth group in weekly meetings. Please contact me if you would like to sign up for a Wednesday or two! I'm also looking for individuals that are interested in leading a Wednesday evening discussion with our Older Youth. Again contact me if you are interested. The Older Youth Group will be having an outdoor Harry Potter Movie Marathon at Kim's house on Saturday, September 12 starting at noon. Please RSVP by Friday, September 11.

We will be having our program year kick-off with Rally day on Sunday, September 20! This day will focus on our Faith Formation programs including Sunday School, Adult Forum, Mission Sundays and much more! Come learn about all the exciting Faith Formation offerings we have and sign ups for youth dinners, leading youth groups, helping with youth events, melody choir and much more!! We will kick things off at 10 am in the narthex. We will again be doing our Faith Formation classes before Church from 10-10:45. I am looking for teachers for a 6 week rotation for our Pre-Readers, Readers and Older Youth. If you are interested in the Fall or Winter rotation please contact me!

We are also starting an Oatmeal ministry this fall. This idea came from our monthly mission Sundays on the 1st Sunday of the month. Since serving oatmeal was one of our most popular missions it was suggested that we try serving every Sunday....so we are! We will be serving oatmeal outside every Sunday from 9:15-10 am. All our supplies and food will be supplied by the Billings Food Bank. We are looking for people to sign up to prepare and serve the oatmeal for one Sunday a month for September-January and/or February-May. Please contact Kim if you are interested in signing up.

We are looking at starting 3 new programs this year. The first one is a monthly Family Fun Night that will be the 2nd Friday of every month from 6-8 pm. Each activity will be range from free-very minimal cost and is for all ages and families whether you are a family of 1 or 20, whether you have young children, grown children or no children please join us! Please watch your mail for a detailed calendar for the year, I will ask that we have an RSVP by the 2nd Wednesday of each month. The first one will be Friday, September 11. We will be having a family game night at Mayflower from 6-8 pm. This one is free and snacks will be provided! This is offered to families from both First Church and Mayflower! Come share in a great evening of fun and fellowship! Our second new program is for our Older Youth Group. On the 3rd Sunday of every month we will be having a 'Mystery' Activity. The youth will be receive clues and cost of the event, but won't know exactly what the activity is until they get there! I will need an RSVP by the 3rd Saturday of each month for each activity. The first one will be on Sunday, September 20 and will be \$5/youth. We will meet at Mayflower at 5 pm and dinner will be provided. Dress to Make a Mess!!! The Third new programming is we will be starting up a monthly Young Adult Gathering again starting in October. If you are interested in this please let me know. More information will be coming out later this month. Later in the year I am also looking at starting up an every other month intergenerational coffee hour after church for discussion and sharing and a weekly lunch with the older youth.

I'm so excited for what this programming year is shaping up to be!! Please contact me if you are at all interested in helping with any of the younger or older youth groups or activities, Sunday School and Faith Formation or to cook a meal!

We will also be offering K-2, 4-6 and High School Our Whole Lives classes this year, but we need more teachers!!! If you are interested please consider attending the facilitator training in Bozeman, MT September 25-27. It is rare that we have a facilitator training so close to home, please take advantage of this opportunity. Wholistic Human Sexuality Classes are one of the most important gifts we can give our children and youth.



New Address for Bill & Jan Hawk

Important Dates This September

- 9/6 **Worship time changes back to 11:00 am**
- 9/13 **All Church Picnic**, following worship at North Park
- 9/15 **Diaconate Meeting** 7:00 pm Library
- 9/17 **Primetimer's Lunch Time** 11:30 a.m. at Olive Garden. RSVP to Teresa.
- 9/17 **Newsletter Deadline**
- 9/19 **Handbell Workshop** 9-1pm
- 9/22 **Council Meeting** 7:00 p.m. Library
- 9/17 **Primetimers Dinnertime** 5:30 pm at the Guadalajara's Mexican Restaurant on Grand Ave. RSVP to the church office or Teresa.
- 9/24 **Primetimers Winetime** 5:30 pm at the home of Paula Walter 1141 Hardrock Lane. Bring an appetizer to share.

Our new address which can be used now is:
 Bill and Jan Hawk
 4215 Montana Sapphire Dr. Billings, MT [59106](tel:59106)

Forum, Sunday September 13

Forum: Painting the Stars
 Van Gogh said something to the effect that when he got tired of religion, he would go outside and paint the stars.
 Beginning Sunday, September 13 at 10:00, we will take a look at the heavens from the standpoint of the evolution of the cosmos and the earth. What is a contemporary way of relating science and our Christian heritage? For seven Sundays we will examine and discuss this question from different perspectives using a DVD series produced by Living the Questions as our beginning point. Come enjoy the visuals (including the fabulous Hubble photographs). Come join the conversation as we ponder the role of humans in the cosmos.

Tuesday Morning Book Group

The Tuesday morning Book Group will start again on September 15. We will discuss the first 3 chapters of Atul Gawande's Being Mortal.



Family Promise Coordinators Meeting Minutes

New day center: \$400,000 has been committed/raised. Family Promise board has a goal of \$600,000 to be raised before construction begins. Hardy Construction's bid has been accepted. When solid information is available about matching funds, Lisa and Jenn will get the word out to congregations.

Yard sale: A young man (10 years old) from First United Methodist church organized a yard sale and raised \$500 for Family Promise.

Volunteer training: September 1 at Faith Chapel for new and not new volunteers who want training and to connect with other volunteers. Time will be announced soon.

Golf tournament: September 4 at Peter Yegen golf course. More information soon. Congregations are encouraged to have teams.

Lourdes the entrepreneur (former Family Promise participant): Lourdes is supporting herself and 3 grandsons with her food delivery business. Jenn recommends her tamales. Lourdes takes orders and delivers and Jenn is her contact

person-Family Promise 294-7432

Notes from recent hosting week

Fellowship Hall couch: Let's replace the couch we use during our hosting week with a more comfy one. Does someone have a couch to replace our uncomfortable one? If you do, kindly call Dan or Penny Struckman at 256-3588. We may be getting a flat screen TV donated from FUM church. We could make that area more enjoyable.

Portable changing table: We're looking for a way to set up a diaper changing area for families. Is there a table out there? Let's keep our babies clean and healthy. Again, please call D. or P.

Would the congregation at First Congregational church like to put together monies for the new day center. Right now the FCC kitty has a \$500.00 donation. Contact you know who.....D. or P.

Many people helped make July 26 to August 2 hosting week a success. Our next opportunity is November 1st to 8th.
 Dan Struckman



“Up from the meadows rich with corn,
Clear in the cool September morn”

~John Greenleaf Whittier

“When people are ready to, they change. They never do it before then, and sometimes they die before they get around to it. You can't make them change if they don't want to, just like when they do want to, you can't stop them.”

~ Andy Warhol

Mayflower Circle

Mayflower Circle will meet September 15, 2015 at Conference Office 2016 Alderson Ave. The meeting begins at 1:00 pm. Teresa Kennedy will be speaking about “how to manage stress”. Guests are always welcome and you are encouraged to bring a friend. Call Myrle Theimer at 245-3650 with questions. Please bring cookies for the Day Care.

Reserve January 8-9, 2016! The Jesus Seminar is coming to Billings First!

FREE Handbell Workshop September 19th

Handbell Musicians of America is providing the workshop, and I am the Montana Chair for that organization. I will come to Billings to assist the workshop presenter, Wendy Goodheart who is from Billings. Wendy directs the community choir called “bellissimo!”

A handbell workshop to be held at First Congregational UCC Church on Sept. 19 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. The workshop is free, and is intended to provide training for people who would like to start or re-invigorate a handbell program. If you would like to sign up please call Breanna 245-6477.

Spiritual Director-In-Residence

Every Wednesday at 12:10 p.m., the Chapel is the setting of a gathering for “Rest.” We focus on a passage of a few verses in Mark’s Gospel. Relying on the prompting of the Holy Spirit, we take turns reading and listening to that passage for the word or phrase that calls our attention. During another reading of the passage, we reflect on how we see God active in the passage, and then we read it again, this time focusing on what we hear God calling us to be or to do during the coming week. This particular way of reading Scripture is called “Lectio Divina” or “Holy Reading.” Granted, there are a lot faster ways of reading Mark’s Gospel, but we are not reading for information to see what happens next. We are reading for transformation to see how our hearts can be changed. I belong to a group that is reading Pope Francis’ encyclical, “Laudato Si”, both for information and for transformation, using the steps of “Lectio Divina.” Spiritual reading goes beyond reading for information or to see what happens next. It is reflective reading that may begin with prayer, be interrupted by reflection, and end with journaling. The reading material does not have to be “spiritual” because God is present in all of life. Such reading informs the mind and transforms the heart, leading to doing things differently as “a new creation.” Proceed at your own risk!

The Women’s Spiritual Growth Book Group meets on the first and third Thursdays of the month in homes for lunch at 12:30 p.m. followed by discussion of a chapter or so of the current book. This year we are focusing on books by women authors. We begin and end the year with a retreat day at the Eagle Rock Sanctuary from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. At our retreat on Thursday, September 17, we will discuss our summer work of fiction, Stacia Brown’s “Accidents of Providence.” Our next book is yet to be selected. For further information, contact me at 259-3622 or bjgulick@bresnan.net. **Barbara Gulick, MRE, DASD**

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Helen Fergus Charles Lechner	2 Paloma Whitworth Sophia Whitworth	3 Cheryl Degges Gary Grocholski Thomas Hughes	4 Derek Reichenbach Lydia Stratford	5 Jenny Moodie
6 Carol Hagan	7 Andy Reichenbach	8 Fern Meseberg	9 Steve Tobin Molly McCallum Nathan Reichenbach Donna Dobson	10	11 Lynda Handeland Pete Lacounte	12 Pat Baker Laurie Howell
13 Carolyn Williams	14 Ted Williams	15	16 Stuart Conner	17	18 Myrle Theimer	19 Carol Lubbers
20 Hannah Brown Jazten Lokken	21	22 Autumn Banks Shelby Reichenbach Jeffrey Rhoades	23 Jackson Royer	24 Dennis Olson Trent Krieger	25	26
27 Aidan Dowling Robert Doolen Cathleen Kuras	28	29 Barbara Dobesh	30			

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Billings First Church

First Congregational United Church of Christ (UCC)

*Theologically progressive, radically inclusive,
committed to justice!*

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**An "Open & Affirming/Peace with
Justice" Church**

Our Staff

Rev. Michael Mulberry, Senior Minister

Teresa Kennedy, Pastoral Care Associate

Kimmie Harris, Youth/Young Adults

Laura Blodgett, Chancel Choir

Jo Lokken, Melody Choir

Barbara Dobesh, Organist/Pianist

Steve Plaggemeyer, Assistant Organ/Piano

Susan Ogden, Parish Nurse

Jan Duffy, Bookkeeping

Breanna Rolandson, Administrative Assistant

Barbara Gulick, Spiritual Director-In-Residence

Our Ministers

Every member of the congregation!



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Worship ~ Autumn

Hard to believe that summer school vacation has come to an end, and we will return to our regular worship time at 11:00 a.m. on the first Sunday in September. With that regular schedule come some creative ways to participate in our upcoming worship. Here are those opportunities.

One more artist needed!

Rev. Mulberry will be using the Creation lectionary this autumn. That lectionary contains four separate themes: earth, humanity, sky, and mountain. Anyone who would like to offer any medium to do an interpretation of the Scripture for those Sundays is welcome to do so. Rev. Mulberry is willing to supply an 8" X 10" blank canvas to get you started. We only need one more artist!

Here are the Scripture verses for each Sunday:

Sunday, September 6	Humanity	Psalm 8	Brian Bross
Sunday, September 13	Earth	Psalm 33:1-9	Virginia Bryan
Sunday, September 20	Sky	Psalm 19:1-6	Susan Betz
Sunday, October 4	Mountain	Isaiah 65:17-25	

Contact Rev. Mulberry at revmikemul@firstchurchbillings.org or call 406-245-6477 if you are interested.

Casting Call for all actors to be part of The Ready for Prime Time Players

Actors are still needed for one more Readers' Theater in the middle of October (October 20). This production requires three practices and absolutely no memorization.

Ages (Junior High to Adult): Three more people are needed for "Job and The Suffering of the Innocent." This Readers' Theater will be performed on Sunday, October 18.

Contact Rev. Mulberry at revmikemul@firstchurchbillings.org or call 406-245-6477 if you are interested.

Worship Highlights

Rest: Every Wednesday at 12:10 p.m. Join us for this ½ hour service.

***Note: September begins our schedule change to worship at 11:00 a.m.**

Sunday, September 6, Creation 1, Humanity

Artist: Brian Bross

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Sunday, September 13, Creation 2, Earth

Worship followed by potluck (Please bring a dish and your own table service!) at North Park, corner of N. 22nd St. and 6th Avenue North.

Artist: Virginia Bryan

Readers' Theatre: Evan Page, Bonnie Daniels, Jenny Oland Moodie, Mic Dawson

Sunday, September 20, Creation 3, Sky

Artist: Susan Betz

Sunday, September 27, Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, October 3, 11:00 a.m., Blessing of the Animals on the Eve of the Feast Day for St. Francis

Please bring your pets, animal friends, or photos of animals special to you for a blessing. It is said that St. Francis had a special relationship with creation and animals, recognizing all of life as sisters and brothers in life and faith. Please have necessary clean-up for pets and collar or muzzle for any animal that might struggle with the diversity of living beings that will be with us that day. This is an opportunity to remember our wild and free God with a wild and free and creative heart.

Sunday, October 4, World Communion Sunday, Creation 4, Mountain

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Billings First Church Represents!

Thanks to all of those volunteers who made the Montana-Northern Wyoming Conference meeting a success. Thanks to those who made cookies, organized displays, hosted, washed dishes, served and bussed dishes, led us through music, set up, provided leadership, tore down, distributed bulletins, and did any number of things to make it all run.

I am especially thankful to the Billings First staff for the ways they helped lead the conference or acted as glue to make sure things got done. I am so grateful for the way you went above and beyond the call of duty.

Finally, thanks to Breanna Rolandson, who did so much to pull things off. Please express your thanks to Bre for the way she organized the conference meeting, spent way too many hours making sure everything was in place, and then bent over backwards to help everyone have a great experience.

I have heard from any number of people who talked about how we were glorious hosts. We did an amazing job and gave the Montana-Northern Wyoming Conference a great start to our common work.

JUST EATING?:

Practicing Our Faith at the Table

Beginning Wednesday, September 23, 6:00-7:30, and running for six to seven weeks.

Just Eating? Practicing Our Faith at the Table is a curriculum for congregations that explores the relationship between the way we eat and the way we live, published by the Presbyterian Hunger Program, Church World Service, and Advocate Health Care (UCC). The study uses scripture, prayer and stories from the local and global community to explore five key aspects of our relationship with food:

- the health of our bodies
- the challenge of hunger
- the health of the earth that provides our food
- the ways we use food to extend hospitality and enrich relationships
- the opportunities for action, renewal and transformation in our eating practices-as individuals and as faith communities.

Participant guides can be found here: <https://www.pcusa.org/site/media/media/uploads/hunger/pdf/justeatpart.pdf> or call (406-245-6477)/email (revmikemul@firstchurchbillings.org) Rev. Mulberry to receive a copy.

From Your Outreach Committee

It is time to focus on our Children's Fund which our church supports every year. Outreach decided to again gift the Billings Public Schools Angel Fund. Try to imagine school-age kids going home for the weekend and finding no one there to care for them. The Angel Fund provides easy-to-fix meals that youngsters can take home in a backpack to tide them over the weekend. It supports children across the city through the schools they attend. We can all be grateful that many of these youngsters are still attending school regardless of their parents neglect Help them out with your contribution to Outreach. This offering will be collected on Sunday, September 13 - the same day that we all enjoy picnic lunch in the park.

Habitat For Humanity Lunches

The Outreach committee has formed an informal agreement with Habitat to provide lunch once every month for workers who are building Habitat houses. This agreement has been in place since early last year and many congregation members have stepped up to help. All of these folks agree that they really enjoyed meeting with workers at Habitat sites and that the workers were very appreciative of the food and support provided. The process is really quite simple and usually involves us preparing lunch for about 15 people at the work site currently located in the Heights. The following church members have been involved in this effort: Karen Durfey, Edward Barta and Barbara Gunn, Doug and Liza McClelland, Brian and Bonnie Daniels, Ken and Marcy Brown. Several others have expressed an interest in helping and they will be contacted soon so set up a schedule for the remainder of this calendar year.