

# THE CIRCUIT

A Publication of the Evangelical United Methodist Church

345 Broadwater Avenue Billings, Montana

Sept-Oct 2017



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## Pastor's Corner

What if it's all true?

Many stories of people coming to faith in Christ share this theme: they started with the gospels. Whether they doubted, never believed, or went to church but hadn't had a personal experience of Jesus, when these naysayers and fence-walkers engaged the Jesus found in Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, he became real - the true Son of God.

The Jesus who walked on water, ate with sinners, healed the sick, and debated self-righteous Pharisees is worth knowing! The Jesus who proclaimed the greatest commandment is to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind and the second is like it: love your neighbor as yourself" is a Savior worth following! The Jesus who hung on a cross to save us from our sins, leaving behind an empty tomb and defeating sin and death forever is a Savior worth believing!

When people meet the Christ of the gospels, they are meeting a Savior who changes their lives.

Maybe you have read the gospels dozens of times. Perhaps you know parts of the story well. Maybe you're not all that familiar with any of it. Whatever the case, the Jesus of the gospels is worth getting to know. Because we are called not only to believe Christ is our Savior (John 3:16), but also to follow in his footsteps and become more like him (John 13:15, Romans 8:29), a fundamental part of our faith is having a strong understanding of who the Jesus we meet in the Bible truly is.

Think about it: if we were to live as though the gospels were true - if Jesus truly shared the key to God's kingdom, truly welcomed strangers and healed outcasts, truly died for sinners and rose again to bring new life - our lives would likely look and be radically different. Our churches and communities would be radically different. Those who witness our lives would see us in a radically different way - and be radically changed as well. The whole world would be a different place if Christians learned to truly live as Christ lived.

Over the next few months, we at EUM are going to engage the Jesus of the gospels. We'll read the books together, practice imagining prayer to place ourselves amidst the stories, dig deeper into the lessons of Jesus during Sunday worship. Together we'll explore the answer to these questions: What if this were all true? If it is true, how will our lives look different? How will our church and community look different?

I invite and encourage you to join me in reading the gospels, digging into them during Sunday morning worship (you can watch our service live or during the week at [actyourfaith.org](http://actyourfaith.org)), and committing yourself to getting to know the true Jesus and following in his footsteps.

Turn the page to find a list of daily readings to guide your journey. I look forward to joining you as we discover a new way of life when we answer "yes" to the question:

What if it's all true?

**ACT  
YOUR  
FAITH**.ORG  
Evangelical United Methodist

## FALL GOSPEL READING LIST

Mon	Sept 11	Matthew 1	Sun	Oct 8	Worship
Tues	Sept 12	Matthew 2	Mon	Oct 9	Matthew 26
Wed	Sept 13	Matthew 3	Tues	Oct 10	Matthew 27
Thurs	Sept 14	Matthew 4	Wed	Oct 11	Matthew 28
Fri	Sept 15	Matthew 5	Thurs	Oct 12	Mark 1
Sat	Sept 16	Matthew 7	Fri	Oct 13	Mark 2
Sun	Sept 17	Worship	Sat	Oct 14	Mark 3
Mon	Sept 18	Matthew 8	Sun	Oct 15	Worship
Tues	Sept 19	Matthew 9	Mon	Oct 16	Mark 4
Wed	Sept 20	Matthew 10	Tues	Oct 17	Mark 5
Thurs	Sept 21	Matthew 11	Wed	Oct 18	Mark 6
Fri	Sept 22	Matthew 12	Thurs	Oct 19	Mark 7
Sat	Sept 23	Matthew 13	Fri	Oct 20	Mark 8
Sun	Sept 24	Worship	Sat	Oct 21	Mark 9
Mon	Sept 25	Matthew 14	Sun	Oct 22	Worship
Tues	Sept 26	Matthew 15	Mon	Oct 23	Mark 10
Wed	Sept 27	Matthew 16	Tues	Oct 24	Mark 11
Thurs	Sept 28	Matthew 17	Wed	Oct 25	Mark 12
Fri	Sept 29	Matthew 18	Thurs	Oct 26	Mark 13
Sat	Sept 30	Matthew 19	Fri	Oct 27	Mark 14
Sun	Oct 1	Worship	Sat	Oct 28	Mark 15
Mon	Oct 2	Matthew 20	Sun	Oct 29	Worship
Tues	Oct 3	Matthew 21	Mon	Oct 30	Mark 16
Wed	Oct 4	Matthew 22	Tues	Oct 31	Trunk-or-Treat
Thurs	Oct 5	Matthew 23			
Fri	Oct 6	Matthew 24			
Sat	Oct 7	Matthew 25			

## Volunteers' Schedules

### Readers

**Sept**     3 Lorinne Burke  
 10 Bryan Ragsdale  
 17 Coral Ragsdale  
 24 Bev Thorn

**Oct**        1 Brian Thorn  
 8 YOUTH  
 15 Rachel Tremis  
 22 Loreen Tallmadge  
 29 Barb Powelson

### Ushers

**Sept**     3 Bob Repac, Tom Hoffman, MaryAnn Campbell, Barb Powelson  
 10 Two Youth, MaryAnn Campbell, Carol Hoffman  
 17 Woody Strever, Tom Hoffman, Sherry Clutts, MaryAnn Campbell  
 24 Woody Strever, Bob Repac, Dixie Schied, Dee Replogle

**Oct**        1 Bob Repac, Tom Hoffman, MaryAnn Campbell, Barb Powelson  
 8 Two Youth, Woody Strever, Bob Repac  
 15 Bob Repac, Tom Hoffman, Carol Hoffman, MaryAnn Campbell  
 22 Mike Nagel, Don Davis, Dee Replogle Dixie Schied  
 29 Bob Repac, Tom Hoffman, Carol Hoffman, Loreen Tallmadge

### Greeters

**Sept**     3 Loreen Tallmadge, Sherry Clutts  
 10 Jan McCandless, Lupe Watson  
 17 Carol Hoffman, Anna Brewer  
 24 Arlean Atwood, Lupe Watson

**Oct**        1 Loreen Tallmadge, Carol Hoffman  
 8 Lela McGarvey, Arlean Atwood  
 15  
 22 Loreen, Tallmadge, Anna Brewer  
 29 Lela McGarvey, Arlean Atwood

SHARING OTHERS' GENEROSITY  
THROUGH OUR FAITH



## What Happens to My Donations?

### CLOTHING:

- \* if torn, stained, zipper broken, etc. it is thrown away.
- \* If it is inappropriate e.g. it has to be dry cleaned, it is given to the Montana Rescue Mission.
- \* if it is the wrong season, generally it is put in totes to be saved for the upcoming season.

### LINENS:

- \* if torn or stained, it is donated to the Animal Rescue Center.
- \* sheets and pillowcases are bundled into a set.
- \* towels and wash clothes are bundled into a set and packaged in a box.

### KITCHEN ITEMS:

- \* chipped or unusable items are thrown away
- \* fine dining items may be sold on the internet to raise funds for the Free Store

### COLLECTIBLES/VINTAGE ITEMS:

- \* may be sold to an antique dealer
- \* a Free Store volunteer recently held a garage sale and earned \$230.00 for the Free Store selling these types of donated items.

**YOU DONATIONS ARE VALUED! THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT.**

Submitted by Peg Parker

### SEPTEMBER

02 Brandon Martin	13 Christal Baird
03 Alayna Coles	14 Lucas Harper
04 Kathy Anderson	16 Carol Hoffman
05 George Meyers	14 Robert Campbell
06 Delores Curran	24 Robert Lang
06 Mallory Whitaker	25 Kingston Ragsdale
06 Kelly Dalton	25 Bonnie Jerke
07 Nina Rehard	25 Craig Norwood
08 Dustin Dozhier	27 Mandy Madler
08 Gayle Carter	
09 Isabella Nagel	
09 Amy Gross	
09 Carol Hansen	
10 Elisabeth Halpin	
11 Katie Dickman	
12 Alexander Ochs	
12 Haylee Weigum	



### OCTOBER

02 Steve Clutts
04 Sherry Clutts
05 Kevin Gross
05 Patse Idstrom
05 Darlyne Peterson
05 John Gross
07 Sylvia Prickitt
07 Robert McDonald
10 Leah Coles
12 John Nagel
14 Hubert Patterson
14 Bryan Ragsdale
16 Beverly Thorn
21 Jeremy Scott
28 Cierra Coppock
30 Jennie Hanson
31 Virginia Foltz

## Next 100 - Birthday Celebration, Projects & Giving Thanks!

Submitted by Carol Vegge & Pastor Wendy

We had a wonderful time celebrating EUM's 100th birthday and appreciate all who joined us! The presence of each person made the day worthwhile as old friendships were renewed and favorite memories recalled. To those who were not familiar with a 1950s or 60s church service - thanks for participating! Worship services then were much different than they are today.

Heartfelt gratitude goes out to the many people who honored their Faith Pledges, making it possible for the church to accomplish the four major Next 100 projects it set out to do. The roof debt has been retired, the chair lifts have been replaced, the main floor and upper narthex have been carpeted, and the 100-year-old furnace has been made more efficient. The first three projects are completely done. The furnace has been through phase 1 of updating with the second phase set to be completed this fall. Those who continue to share their Faith Pledges will make that happen.

Getting the entire main floor re-carpeted was possible because of the generous donation of a donor. A gift given in memory of long-time beloved member Marcie Strever helped make the brand new chair lift a reality.

Please plan to join us again in June 2018 when we celebrate the dedication of the original church building!

Below is a list of all who have given to the Next 100 Fund through Faith Pledges and donations. Your faithfulness means EUM will have a safe and welcoming space for another 100 years - THANK YOU!!

Kathy Anderson

Arlean Atwood

Nola Balich

Bess Barrett

Anna Brewer

Marilyn Buechler

Steve & Sindy Domek

Joyce Fink

Amy Gross

Geraldine Hauck

Tom & Carol Hoffman

Dean & Patse Idstrom

Michael Koscho

Bette McCollough

Maggie Mettler

Rene & Colleen Mora

Del Norwood

Marj Parks

George & Norma Petersen

Skip & Mary Venard

Carol Vegge

Mata Wagner

Darlyne Peterson

Earl & Carol Prewett

Jean Reed

Dixie Schied

Jeremy & Daen Scott

Gary & Kathleen Sem

Larry & June Shriver

Rick & Margie Stiles

Woody & Marcie Strever

Gary Thomas



## NEXT 100 CHURCH HISTORY

Submitted by Carol Vegge

1995 – Pastor Tim Hathaway

Salt Shaker groups were formed and comprised of 6-8 people who met monthly or on a regular basis for dinner going to various houses in the Salt Shaker group. The host would supply the main dish with the rest of the group bringing dishes to complete the meal. The focus was for people to get to know one another better and create stronger friendships.

The front of the chancel area was remodeled with the removal of the existing rails and replacing the existing altar with a small altar. The sanctuary was completely carpeted. The pews were respaced and better lighting was installed in the balcony.

The parsonage next door to the church had served as the Yellowstone Conference Office, but they vacated the house in July as there was a couple of people interested in purchasing the parsonage.

1996 -- Pastor Tim Hathaway

The parsonage was finally moved off the property. The basement hole was filled and the parking lot expanded to make more parking spaces. The bids for this project ranged from \$44,000 to \$71,000. The Trustees accepted the \$44,000 bid. The sale of the parsonage was \$10,122.14.

1997 -- Pastor Tim Hathaway

The church paid 100% of its Conference Ministries.

The water well pump was installed. A tree in memory of Marvin Martin was part of the landscaping in the parking lot area.

1998 -- Pastor Tim Hathaway/Pastor Derf Bergman

Evangelical purchased property next door to the East for \$60,000.

1999 -- Pastor Derf Bergman

Under the leadership of Michael and Sarah Callaghan, the Youth Fellowship worked all year raising funds to make a Mission Trip to Mexico. One June 28, twenty-seven youth and leaders boarded a bus for Colina de Luz Orphanage in San Antonio de las Buenos.

Evangelical began supporting the US2 Program which worked with the Family Support Network. The program was a two-year mission where the volunteer worked with disadvantaged people in the United States. It was at this time that the EUM family met US2 volunteer, Wendy Lothert. John and Lynda Ashcraft served as her host family.

The church received a \$20,000 interest free loan from YESUM (Yellowstone Extension Service of the United Methodist) to go towards the payment of the rental house property next door.

In June, the parking lot debt was paid off.

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Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid Billings, MT  
Permit No. 684

Pastor Wendy Ochs  
Email: [office@actyourfaith.org](mailto:office@actyourfaith.org)  
Website: [www.actyourfaith.org](http://www.actyourfaith.org)

Return Service Requested



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### NEW WAYS TO GET CHURCH NEWS:

With the start of a new year, EUMC will be offering our church news in new ways! To help the environment & save on expenses, newsletters will be handed out in church, available online and sent through email. If you still prefer to get the newsletter the old-fashioned way (via "snail mail"), no worries! We can send it that way, too.

**Please let the office know your preferred way to receive church news** in 2018 by calling or emailing: (406) 259-1897, [office@actyourfaith.org](mailto:office@actyourfaith.org). You can also find newsletters & church news on our website: [www.actyourfaith.org](http://www.actyourfaith.org) or through Facebook: Billings Evangelical United Methodist Church. Be sure to "like" us!

