

August 2026

Issue No. 283



worship
WITH US

SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:00 AM - Brady 1st & 3rd week

9:15 AM - Dutton 2nd & 4th week

11:00 AM - Choteau

ADVICE FROM A
Sunflower:

BE BRIGHT,
SUNNY AND
POSITIVE.
Spread
seeds of
happiness
RISE, SHINE,
AND HOLD YOUR
HEAD HIGH.



Office
Hours

Mon – Thurs 9AM --NOON

THE SPARK

Newsletter of the Choteau - Brady - Dutton UM Parish
A spark is a small thing, yet it may kindle the world. - Tupper

“The harvest is plentiful.”

— Matthew 9:37

Harvest reminds us that every good gift
begins with God’s grace:

a seed placed in faith,
a season of waiting,
and a blessing brought forth
in due time.

As the fields yield their abundance,
may our hearts also be gathered in
gratitude—for the labor that
strengthened us, the provision that
sustained us, and the quiet faithfulness
of the One who makes all things grow.

May this season renew our trust,
deepen our thankfulness, and
remind us that even in ordinary days,
God is preparing a harvest of hope.

Pastor's PAGE

The Seasons of Life

This summer has been a season of incredible blessings in my life! I married the best PH (Pastor's Husband) in the world, Jeremy Brown, and officially became a bonus mom to Angela, Autumn, Ellie, and Dylan. My life is overflowing with joy.

I serve three wonderful churches that have embraced my new family with open arms. I love this community, and I am surrounded by supportive family, dear friends, and more grace than I ever imagined. My cup truly overflows.

I'm not sharing this to brag (well... maybe just a little!). I'm sharing it because this is a brand-new season after years of heartbreak, grief, waiting, and wondering what God had planned for my life. This is new territory!

Scripture reminds us, "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven" (Ecclesiastes 3:1). Looking back, I can see that even the difficult seasons had purpose. They taught me compassion, perseverance, trust, and the importance of surrendering my life to God's plan. God was at work long before I could see it.

Maybe you're in a season of celebration right now. Give thanks and enjoy it! Or maybe you're in a season of waiting, grieving, or uncertainty. If so, God is still growing something in you. As Paul writes, "Let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up." (Galatians 6:9).

As summer begins to turn toward fall, I'm reminded that every season has its own beauty. We don't have to rush toward what's next. Instead, we can trust that God is present here—in the joy, in the waiting, and in everything in between.

Wherever this season finds you, may you notice God's grace, embrace the growth that is happening, and trust that God is faithfully leading you into whatever comes next.

Grace and peace,

Rev. Kaiflin



Bible Readings for the Month

August 2:

Genesis 32:22-31; Psalm 17:1-7, 15
Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21

August 9:

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; P
Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b;
Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-33

August 16:

Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133;
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32;
Matthew 15:21-28

August 23:

Exodus 1:8-2:10; Psalm 124;
Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20

August 30:

Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26,
45b; Romans 12:9-21;
Matthew 16:21-28

Materials for your Spiritual Formation July / August

Available in the front entryway and the Upper Room rack at the top of the ramp
(with a slot for donations)

► Upper Room – regular & large print

CONNECT

Information regarding the CONNECT Youth Ministry will be forthcoming in the September newsletter.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR . . .

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9

SEND-OFF

FELLOWSHIP & POTLUCK

following worship
to honor and celebrate

* the Duty Family (Rod, Heather & Clair)
May this move to Cascade be filled with pride, peace, and joy as you celebrate this important milestone together. Wishing you all the very best on the journey ahead!

* Ayden DeBruycker as you begin this exciting new chapter. May college bring new friendships, meaningful learning, and confidence in all that lies ahead.

Know that you are all surrounded by
love, support, and prayers
of your Choteau UMC family.

POTLUCK:

A main entrée will be provided.
Please bring a side dish to share.



Sunday, August 9

We will celebrate school beginning by blessing school bags of our student and teachers! This is a time to celebrate education and the many opportunities we have to learn and teach.

It is also a time to be in prayer for those who go without education for one reason or another.

STUDENTS AND TEACHERS: please bring your backpack or school bag with you to church for a special blessing by Rev. Kaitlin for the new school year!

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. Please consider making a financial contribution to Choteau UMC to support our life-transforming mission. To make a tax-deductible donation, you can send a check to our church office or contribute on Sunday during the offering. Financial statements are available upon request at the church office.

VITAL STATISTICS – Choteau UMC

2026 Budget for Choteau	\$ 128,500
Needed to meet budget – July	\$ 74,958
Received through July 26	\$ 55,883

Thank you for your on-going support!

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Fall Dinner Planning

Wednesday, August 5 - 10:00 a.m.

Choteau UMC Leadership Board

Tuesday, August 25 - 7:00 p.m.



Again this year, we will be collecting school supplies to donate to the upper Junior and Senior High students of Choteau Public School. The needed items are indicated below. Supplies will be distributed on an as-needed basis by the school staff members.

**Mecahnical Pencils
#7 & #9 Lead**

**for Mecahnical Pencils
Loose-leaf paper
#2 Pencils**

**Colored Markers
Binders 2" White**

**Backpacks (non-brandname)
Water bottles - no high-end brands**

Please bring your items to church. A container will be provided in the main entrance foyer to submit your donated items. Rev. Kaitlin and Lila will see that these much-needed items get to the appropriate staff at the school. **Your generous consideration to this local mission effort is appreciated.**



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

CHOTEAU - BRADY - DUTTON

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

BUSINESS HOURS

CHOTEAU OFFICE HOURS

Mon - Thurs 9am - 12pm

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.com/Choteau UMC

GOOD GRIEF LOSS SUPPORT GROUP

Together, we find strength and comfort

**Choteau
United Methodist Church
12 1st Ave NW**

**Mondays - 2:00 PM
Thursdays - 6:30 PM
Beginning September 10**

SUPPORT / SHARE

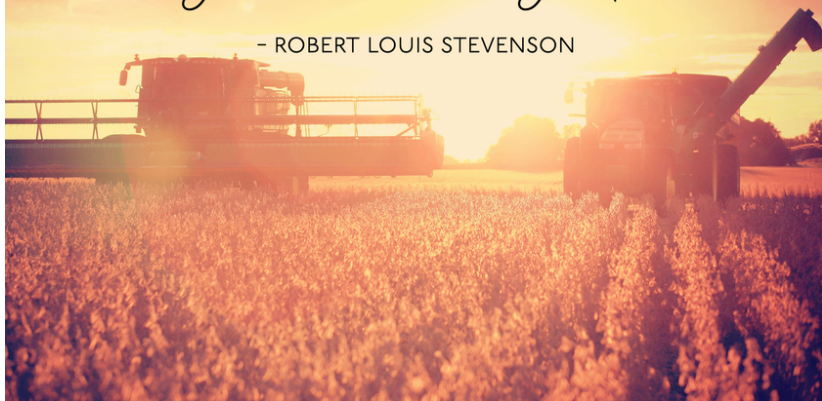
Loss includes death of a loved one or a pet, loss of independence, divorce, miscarriage, and so much more. If you are experiencing ANY kind of loss, you are welcome here.

**Contact Rev. Kaitlin Elmore at
revkaitlin@gmail.com
for more information**



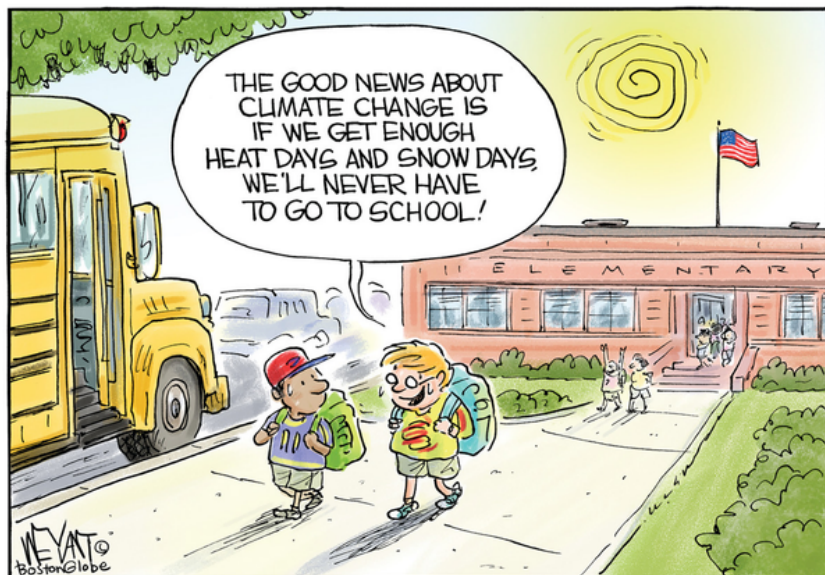
DON'T JUDGE EACH DAY
BY THE HARVEST YOU REAP
but by the seeds that you plant.

— ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON



*Dear Choteau UMC,
I am sincerely grateful for being selected as a recipient
of the \$500 Choteau United Methodist Church
Scholarship. Your generous support will make a
significant difference as I pursue my educational goals
of becoming a veterinarian, and I am honored to be
recongized in this way. Thank you for believing in my
potential and investing in my future. Your
encouragement inspires me to work even harder and
make the most of this opportunity.*

*Sincerely,
Ayden DeBruycker*



Birthdays & Anniversaries

~ AUGUST ~

1	Ryan Tallmadge
6	Milissa Tallmadge
7	♥ Denny & Patti Blauer
	♥ Charles & Jami Gameon
8	♥ Herb & Diane Bingham
10	♥ Larry & Cheryl Maurer
14	Virginia Haug
16	Denny Blauer
17	Madison Martinsen
19	♥ Wayne & Judy Gollehon
	Kenny Hart, Jr.
20	Ayden DeBruycker
21	Travis Lederer
22	♥ Casey & Breanna Lindgren
23	Kristen Boroff
	Gwen Goodell
24	Kim Coghill
	Sharon Haug
25	Esther Sporkin Morrison
	Kim Yeager
26	Zach Coccoli
	Linda Coffland
	Johnny Peebles
27	Garth Carlson
	Charley Yeager
28	Jeremy Brown
30	Linda Sentz
31	Tyler Schilling

*Keep your face
toward the sunshine,
and the shadows will
fall behind you.*



Choteau-Brady-Dutton
United Methodist Parish
PO Box 108



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Web: www.umchoteau.net

Facebook.com/Choteau UMC

Rev. Kaitlin Elmore, Pastor
Lila Dunn, Admin. Assist.

Paper editions of the parish newsletter
are available at Choteau UMC in the
main and handicap entrances.

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

This month's newsletter is sponsored by:

The Duty Family: Rod, Heather & Clair

Thanks for the memories and love!

**Please continue to consider sponsoring an issue of The Spark for \$40,
and your sponsorship will be noted in the newsletter.**

Submit your sponsor information to the parish office.

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