

# The Spark

Newsletter of the Choteau-Brady-Dutton UMC Parish

November 2026 Issue 286

## worship WITH US

**SUNDAY WORSHIP**
**9:00 AM - Brady 1st & 3rd week**
**9:15 AM - Dutton 2nd & 4th week**
**11:00 AM - Choteau**

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

November invites us to pause and give thanks
for the gifts woven into our everyday lives:
a welcoming smile, a shared meal,
a helping hand, and the beauty of the changing season.
Even when life brings challenges,
small moments of kindness can remind us
that we do not walk alone.
This month, let us turn gratitude into action
by thanking someone whose efforts often go unnoticed,
reaching out to a neighbor,
or sharing what we can with someone in need.
May our Thanksgiving celebrations
make room not only for cherished traditions,
but also for new connections, generous hearts,
and a spirit of thankfulness
that lasts beyond the holiday.



# Pastor's Page

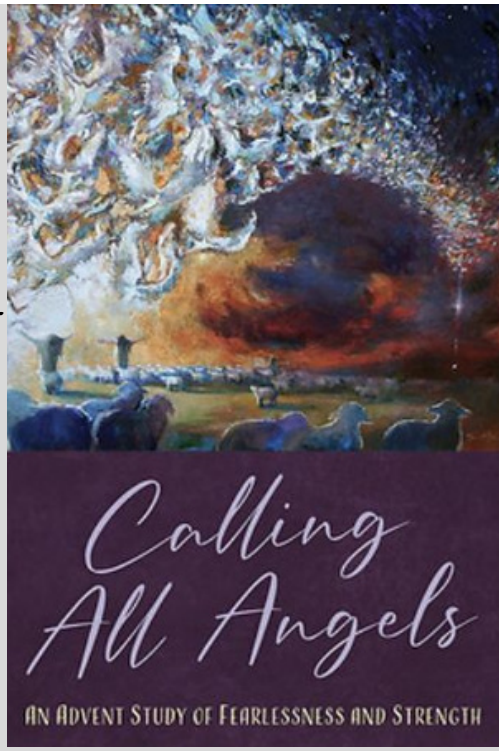
## Advent Study

Can you believe we're talking about Advent already? We say it every year! The date stays the same, and somehow we're still surprised.

This Advent, we'll explore "Calling All Angels" by Erin Wathen, a book and devotional that invites us into a season of fearlessness, strength, and hope through the stories of angels in Scripture.

Books are $13 and will be available for purchase at the church office.

This year, we'll enjoy a light soup and bread dinner together before each study. If you'd like to volunteer to bring a soup one evening, please let Lila or Rev. Kaitlin know!




**Monday Evenings**

**6:00–6:30 p.m. — Soup & Bread Dinner**

**6:30–7:30 p.m. — Advent Study**

**Dates: November 30, December 7, 14, and 21**

**Come share a meal, connect with one another, and prepare your hearts for Christmas!**

## Update from Your Connect Church Team




**A small group of Choteau UMC members is partnering with Connect Church, a program focused on discovering the gifts, skills, and resources already present in our church and community.**

**Throughout November, we'll explore HEART, HANDS, and HEAD during worship as we reflect on what we care about, what we're good at, and what we know. Our goal is to discover how we can use these gifts to better serve our community.**

**Now, we need your help! Whether you attend Choteau UMC, another church, or are connected to our community in another way, we want to hear from you!**

**Please complete the form included with this newsletter and return it to the church office by November 22. Your input matters, and together, we can discover new ways to care for and support our community!**




**November 1 ~ All Saints Sunday**
Joshua 3:7-17
Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37
1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
Matthew 23:1-12
Revelation 7:9-17
Psalm 34:1-10, 22
1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12

**November 8**
Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25
Psalm 78:1-7
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 25:1-13

**November 15**
Judges 4:1-7
Psalm 123 or Psalm 76
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Matthew 25:14-30

**November 22**
Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Psalm 100
Ephesians 1:15-23
Matthew 25:31-46

**November 29 ~ 1st Sunday of Advent**
Isaiah 64:1-9
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13:24-37

*If we knew the power of kindness, we should transform this world into a paradise.*
-Charles Wagner

# Skyline Lodge Bible Study




Join us for Bible Study
Wednesdays
11:00 AM
on the 2nd floor open space at Skyline Lodge




## PRE-K—6TH

**DROP OFF—4:15 PM**
**PICK UP 6:00 PM**

**DINNER & DEVOTIONS—ALL AGES**

**No CONNECT on Wednesday, November 25**



**Dutton Community Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service**
**Sunday, November 22**
**1:00 PM**
**at Dutton UMC**

Rev. Kaitlin Elmore will be offering the message. A light lunch will be provided before the service. The time for lunch is yet to be determined.

**All are invited!**

# Holy Hookers

## Turning Bags Into Blessings

Join us on
Tuesday, November 3
Tuesday, November 17
6:30 - 8:30 PM
Choteau United Methodist Church






## Support the Local Food Pantry

## Community Pancake Dinner & Bake Sale



**Tuesday, November 3**
**at Choteau LDS Church**
**5 - 7 p.m.**

Free-will offering (donations, canned goods, non-perishable food items).
All preceeds go to the Food Pantry.

## Join us for the Trinity Lutheran Church Lutefisk Dinner



**Sunday, Nov. 1 • 12:30 to 3 p.m.**
*Trinity Lutheran Church • 38 1st Ave. S.W. • Choteau*

*Lutefisk, Lefse, Swedish Meatballs, Rutabagas and all the Trimmings served family style.*
*Preschool: Free • Grades 1-6: $8 • Adults: $20*

I ♥ LUTEFISK

**Take Out Meals Available – Will Deliver in Choteau.**
**Call Praire at (406) 570-8559 or**
**Sally at (406) 590-2688, for take-out orders.**
Handicap and wheelchair accessible seating provided on the main level. *Call the church office at (406) 466-2291 for more information.*

# GOOD GRIEF

## LOSS SUPPORT GROUP

Together, we find strength and comfort

Choteau
United Methodist Church
12 1st Ave NW

**Mondays - 2:00 PM**



**SUPPORT / SHARE**

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

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




"Dad's not diggin' Pastor's Thanksgiving Day message on gluttony."

# Remembering our Saints

Those members and friends
who have died in the past year
*(since November 2025) we will remember*
*and celebrate during worship service.*

## All Saints Sunday
## November 1, 2026




*Willis Heron—12/07/25*
*(Choteau)*

*Lisa Bradley—12/18/26*
*(Choteau & Idaho)*

*Anna Lee Erickson—02/14/26*
*(Choteau)*

*Charlie Hinch—03/02/26*
*(Choteau)*

*Stella Plachetka—03/05/26*
*(Choteau)*

*Mary Pourroy—03/21/26*
*(Choteau)*

*David Perry—07/26/26*
*(Brady)*

*Joyce Jermunson—08/31/26*
*(Brady)*

*Gwen Goodell—09/01/26*
*(Dutton)*

*John Wisse—09/17/26*
*(Choteau)*

*Kathy Hastings Hager—09/19/26*
*(Brady)*




| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 7 | | Helen Shafer |
| | | Ellie Zwerneman |
| 9 | | Brodie Gollehon |
| 10 | | Collette Yeager |
| 12 | ♥ | Dave & Crystal Carlson |
| | | Alexandria Kostelnik Young |
| 15 | | Heather McCartney-Duty |
| 16 | | Rev. Kaitlin Elmore Brown |
| | | Vera Goodmundson |
| 17 | ♥ | Darrel & Vera Goodmundson |
| 21 | | Barb Coffman |
| 22 | | Diane Bingham |
| | | Chuck Gameon |
| | | Greg Yeager |
| 23 | | Steve Mellinger |
| | | Bob Milewski |
| 27 | | Dora Jermunson |
| | ♥ | Greg & Kim Yeager |
| 28 | | Scott Inbody |
| | | Alois Kostelnik |
| 30 | | Will Rasmussen |




**Alois J. Kostelnik**
**Profession of Faith**

## Please remember to contact Rev. Kaitlin

(office 406-466-2641;
cell 903-276-7857)

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

# 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. Fiinancial statments are available upon request at the church office.

**VITAL STATISTICS – Choteau UMC**

| | |
|---|---|
| **2026 Budget for Choteau** | **$ 128,500** |
| **Needed to meet budget–October** | **$ 107,083** |
| **Received through October 25** | **$ 83,378** |

**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.com/Choteau UMC**

# UPCOMING MEETINGS

**Connect Church Team**
**Monday, November 23**
**9-11 a.m. - Choteau UMC**

**Leadership Board Meeting**
**Tuesday, November 17**
**7:00 p.m. - Choteau UMC**




**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1**

**Remember to set your clocks BACK one hour before you retire to bed on Saturday, October 31.**




# CHOTEAU, BRADY, DUTTON UMC PARISH

**Monday, November 30**
**5:00 PM**
**at Choteau UMC**




**ALL parishioners (newer and long-time) are encouraged to attend our Annual All-Church Charge Conference. Rev. Carl Ellis will facilitate the Charge Conference as we celebrate this past year and look ahead to where God is calling us as a parish and conference in 2027.**







**CONNECT KIDS CARVE PUMPKINS**





**FEEL THE SLIMY INSIDES AND SEEDS**



## Many Thanks

> **Thank You for Caring for Our Church Norman Haug, Roger Kelly, and Sara Howard—** thank you for spending a full day repairing, maintaining, and painting the exterior of our church building, including many trips up and down the ladder. Your contributions matter. We greatly appreciate the time, effort, and skills you devoted to keeping our church building in good condition.

> **Jeremy Brown, Pastor Kaitlin, Joyce Lindgren, and Duane Halverson** for providing the lesson and delicious meal for the CONNECT Children's Ministry on October 28.

> Thank you to everyone who generously donated candy for Trunk or Treat on October 31. Special thanks to **Rev. Kaitlin and Jeremy** for lending their red pickup and decorating it for this fun evening!



**PLEASE RETURN BY SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22**

SESSION 1

CONNECT CHURCH

## Worksheet: Head, Heart, Hands

1. Name

2. What do you LOVE doing?

3. What are some things that you care a lot about?

4. What is something that you know a lot about?

5. What do you know so well that you could teach it? (For example, how to grow tomatoes)

6. What is something you can do with your hands? (For example, baking bread, playing the piano, fixing things)



**HEART**
(Your Cares & Loves)



**HANDS**
(Your Skills)



**HEAD**
(Your Knowledge)

# november 2026

**Choteau-Brady-Dutton United Methodist Parish**
**Seeking and Empowering Disciples of Jesus Christ to Love, Witness and Serve**

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 *ALL SAINTS SUNDAY*   Daylight Saving Time Ends | 2 2:00 PM Grief/Loss Support | 3 **VOTE** Holy Hooker Mat Making 6:30-8:30 PM @ Choteau UMC | 4 11:00 AM Skyline Study 4:15-6:00 PM - CONNECT Kids Ministry | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8   | 9 2:00 PM Grief/Loss Support | 10 | 11 *Veteran's Day* 11:00 AM Skyline Study 4:15-6:00 PM - CONNECT Kids Ministry | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15   | 16 2:00 PM Grief/Loss Support | 17 Holy Hooker Mat Making 6:30-8:30 PM @ Choteau UMC Leadership Board Meeting 7:00 pm @ Choteau UMC | 18 11:00 AM Skyline Study 4:15-6:00 PM - CONNECT Kids Ministry | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 *Christ the King Sunday* *Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service @ Dutton UMC 1 PM Service* | 23 9:00 AM Connect Church Team Meeting-Choteau UMC 2:00 PM Grief/Loss Support | 24 | 25 NO Skyline Study NO CONNECT | 26 *Office Closed*   | 27 | 28 |
| 29 *1st Sunday of Advent*  United Methodist Student Day ~ special offering ~ | 30 2 PM Grief/Loss Support 5 PM Parish Charge Conference 6 PM - Advent Study Series *Calling All Angels* | 25 Office Hours: Mon - Thurs 9am - Noon (406) 466-2641 umc@3rivers.net www.umchoteau.net Facebook.com/Choteau UMC | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |

**SUNDAY WORSHIP**
9:00 AM-Brady 1st & 3rd week
9:15 AM-Dutton 2nd & 4th week
11:00 AM-Choteau



Choteau-Brady-Dutton
United Methodist Parish
PO 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

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

First Std
U.S. Postage

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 Larry & Cheryl Maurer**

**In prayer for World Peace**

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

**What a nice recognition in honor or memory of someone, or as a gift! Submit your sponsor information to the parish office.**

*Happy Thanksgiving*