

Celebration of Ministries January 2, 2022

Tzedakah Pocket Offers Hope- Your donations make a real difference for individuals and families under stress. Please remember to take care of yourselves but, if you are able, please support the Tzedakah Pocket ministry by online donation through the First UMC website, by sending a check made out to First UMC (PO Box 7646, Missoula, MT 59807) with Tzedakah Pocket in the memo line, or by using the Tzedakah Pocket hanging next to the sanctuary exit door. A recap of assistance provided by our church's Tzedakah Pocket ministry is shown below. We will continue to do as much as we can with what we have.



Tzedakah Summary

2021 Donations: \$18,004.68

Assistance Paid	December 2021			Year -To- Date 2021		
	Amount	Fam.	Child.	Amount	Fam.	Child.
<i>Lodging</i>	\$ 130.70	1	2	\$ 5,888.11	31	57
<i>Rent/ Sec. Dep.</i>	0	0	0	\$ 4,490.00	17	41
<i>Other</i>	\$ 925.00	9	22	\$ 7,866.36	74	100
<i>TOTAL</i>	\$ 1,055.70	10	24	\$ 18,244.47	122	198

YWCA Women's Shelter Health Kits- Ruth Fellowship will be assembling health kits for the YWCA. Please consider donating the following



items and bring them to the church. Please place your items in the box in the Narthex or bring them to the office. Items needed include hotel size soap, shampoo, conditioner, and lotions. Combs/brushes, razors, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, wash clothes and hand towels are needed as well.

UMW corrections to the January Tower Tidings... There will be no general meeting in January. Also, Vespers Circle will meet in the church library at 1:00 p.m. on January 19th. For more information please contact Patsy Hodges at 406-493-0961. Please note time change and different phone number.



Director of Technologies Position- We are seeking applicants for this part-time position. This person directs all computer and audio-visual technologies relevant to the church's ministry while working under the pastor's supervision. A college or technical degree in digital technology OR significant experience running moderately complex office computing environments and audio/visual systems is required.

JuBellation Handbell Choir Director Position- We are seeking applicants for this part-time position. This person conducts a musical bell choir and unique bell ensembles in support of the ministries of the church while working under the general direction of the pastor. A bachelor's degree (B.A.) from a four-year college or university; or one to two years related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience is required.

Administrative Assistant Substitute Position- We are seeking applicants for this part-time position. This person provides office coverage in the Administrative Assistant's absence and works under the direct supervision of the pastor. This position supports the leadership and administration of the church by prioritizing, planning, and implementing work activities conducive to the effective and efficient operation of the church office. Work activities include receptionist responsibilities; clerical and administrative support for pastor, communication platform management website, bulletins, newsletter, and other publications); ability to recruit, train, and supervise volunteers; financial management; and facility responsibilities.

To receive a copy of the job description, an application for the position, or for any questions, please contact the church office by calling (406) 549-6118. Thank you! Carole Addis, SPRC Chairwoman

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2022 First UMC Food Bank Drive

Where did 2021 go? January is our month to support the Missoula Food Bank and it's already here. The pandemic and the fallout from it continue to increase the need for donations to the Food Bank. They also make it a challenge for us to do our January Food Drive. We are offering you as many donation options as we possibly can under the circumstances. If you are able, please help us do our part to ensure food security for households in our community. Whatever option you choose, please make your donations of food and/or funds sometime during January.

Option 1: Use the 2022 Food-by-the-Case Order Form to order a case of food through the Orange Street Market. The Case Order Form is on the next page. Most needed items were identified by the Food Bank and are shown on the form with the price per case. The completed form and your check can be mailed to Missoula First UMC, P.O. Box 7646, Missoula MT 59807 or dropped off at the office during office hours (9-12; Monday-Thursday). Please make your check out to First UMC and put "Food Bank" in the memo line. The office will have extra forms if you need them as well.

Option 2: Make a monetary donation and let the Food Bank buy what they need at wholesale prices. Donations can be mailed to Missoula First UMC, P.O. Box 7646, Missoula MT 59807 or dropped off at the office during office hours (9-12; Monday -Thursday). You can also give online. If you mail a check, please make your check out to First UMC and put "Food Bank" in the memo line. For online donations, please select the "Missoula food bank" option from the designated giving options.

Option 3: Place your food donations in the container located outside the church office. If you are not able to enter the church, you may either buzz the office during office hours when you are at the back door or call the office (549-6118) during office hours for entry to make your donation. Office hours are Monday through Thursday from 9 to 12.

Our Sunday School will once again be collecting items and assembling Birthday Kits. They need cake mixes, frosting, candles, cake decorations, party plates/napkins, plastic forks, gift bags, and tin foil pans. Place your donation items in the "birthday-wrapped" container outside the office. The Birthday Kits are very popular at the Food Bank.

If you have questions, please contact Jane Kisselbach (janeKisselbach@gmail.com or 406-531-6768).

Food Item per Case Order Form January 2022	Case Price	# of cases	Total
Tuna	\$42.72 - 48 5 oz. cans per case.		
Peanut Butter	\$18.21 - 12 16 oz jars per case.		
Chicken Noodle Soup or Tomato Soup	\$15.19 - 24 10.5 oz. cans per case/		
Green Beans or Corn	\$15.29 – 24 15 oz cans per case		
Total			
Name:			

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Arizona Justice for Our Neighbors: Help asylum seekers through United Methodist ministry

First UMC's Gail Gilman inspired many in our congregation with her presentation on work by United Methodists in Tucson to help asylum

seekers gain legal status in the U.S.

St. Francis of the Foothills UMC has established Arizona Justice for Our Neighbors, a Methodist ministry that provides attorneys for immigrants from Mexico and Central America seeking safety in this country.

Gail has a long history of helping immigrants establish new lives in the United States. Sadly, many asylum seekers have died in the Arizona desert in recent years, unable to find safe harbor.

Now she is helping to raise funds so Arizona Justice can hire an additional immigration attorney. Without legal help, asylum seekers have almost no chance of gaining entry to the U.S. With an attorney, their chances are very good, Gail said. "So many asylum seekers are desperate," she said. "Most of them have spouses or relatives in the States, but need help negotiating the legal system."

Gail has challenged First UMC to raise \$5,000 for Arizona Justice for our Neighbors. We urge you to give what you can, then we will send one donation from our church to the Arizona Justice Fund.

Send your check to Missoula First UMC, and write "Arizona Justice Fund" in the subject/message line. We will collect the donations in a separate account, then send a check to the justice fund in late January. All funds will go toward hiring another immigration attorney.

MLK Day is almost here! They are putting together a great live on-line MLK Day event with a variety of musicians, speakers, and the art and essay contest. The keynote speaker will be from our local community, Dr. Laurellé C. Warner. Dr. Warner is the MSW program director, professor of Social Work, and associate director of the Donald Blake Center for the Study of Race, Ethnicity & Culture for Walla Walla University. In addition to Dr. Warner's extensive professional experience, she is passionate about her research focusing on resilience in the lives of Black women and men. This moving virtual event will be streamed live on YouTube on **January 17th, 2022, from 6 pm-8 pm.**



First UMC would like to support this community event by becoming a sponsor. To contribute to the sponsorship fund make your donation out to **First UMC** with "**MLK event**" in the memo line.

No Room in Missoula: Housing needed

As we celebrate God's presence in a newborn child, a Missoula couple with a baby due in 4 weeks is searching for housing for their new family. They have a voucher that will guarantee rent for 15 months but are still homeless. If you know of any possible housing, even a six-month vacation home rental that might work, please contact Jana Staton, 406-721-5558 or jstaton@montana.com.

Celebration of Ministries for January 2, 2021

Green Notes: Weekly tips for reducing your carbon footprint from First United Methodist's Green Team

Let's go solar in 2022!



Happy new year from your First UMC Green Team! We are excited about the possibilities for progress in the year ahead. Here's why:

On Dec. 20, Pastor John Daniels and members of First United Methodist's Board of Trustees and Green Team met with Ralph Walters of SBS Solar about a possible solar array atop our church's roof.

Walters said his preliminary analysis shows the installation of 80 solar panels on the education annex would offset about 90 percent of the church's electrical consumption. He showed the group a mockup created using a Google photo of the roof and his initial thoughts on how to place the panels.

Our roof poses extra challenges because it is flat and is exposed to the Hellgate Canyon winds, Walters said. He believes those issues can be resolved by building an exoskeleton that anchors the panels to the roof, making them resistant to both high winds and heavy snow loads. SBS Solar will have an engineer look at the roof as the project moves forward, to be certain it can support the panels.

Walters estimated the installation would cost \$65,000 to \$70,000, of which about 70 percent could come from a NorthWestern Energy grant. Most solar systems pay for themselves in 10-12 years, he said.

What next? In early February, Walters will climb onto our roof and make the measurements needed to prepare a final design. Then he'll present First Church with a formal proposal, showing the system design, cost and estimated payoff period. If the project continues to look possible, he'll help us prepare an application for the NW Energy grant by the May 1 deadline.

In the meantime, our Green Team will investigate other sources of grants and donations available for solar projects – and to educate ourselves and our congregation on solar energy. (Watch for next week's Green Notes column on net metering.)

As the new year begins, First Church has an opportunity to lead a green energy project in the heart of Missoula – one we hope will be duplicated by other local churches and downtown businesses. With solar energy, we have a chance to help stop the use of fossil fuels and their planet-warming emissions.

We hope you'll join us as we explore a solar future in 2022!

Prayer list for January 2, 2022



- Prayers of comfort and healing for Frank and Jane K. who are both improving from their medical conditions.
- Continued prayers for Vickie and David Orndorff, who are doing well but are still dealing with health issues.
- Prayers for Hollie and Jack C.'s cousin Dwight who is diagnosed with cancer.
- Continued prayers of comfort and healing for the family and friends of Sonja W-B, especially her husband John.
- Prayers of healing and support for Carolyn Comer as she is dealing with medical issues.

- Prayers of comfort and healing for Tish's friend's teenage son who has a chronic, debilitating illness.

Lord in your Mercy...Hear our Prayers...



Please send your prayer requests in! E-mail Kathie Snodgrass at kathiewearsgreen@yahoo.com with your prayer requests. You can also email or call the office at 549-6118.