



Re-Shaped – In our new sermon series we explore how our brains were designed to be suspicious of change, and for good reason—homeostasis in good measure helps us thrive, protecting us from danger. But if we look closely at what the Creator set in motion, we find that change is the most constant part of life and necessary for animating our spirits as we find renewed purpose throughout life. Jesus advocated for changes that would keep us moving toward greater goodness!

“We Were Made for This”

This Sunday we will explore God’s creative activity as an ongoing active force for good. Rather than fashioning us of something that could not change, the biblical metaphor is that we are fashioned of clay, a malleable substance that can be reshaped again and again. Life requires change of us so let us explore together our ability to roll with it, for we were made for this! (Jeremiah 18:1-6)

Step One for Change: believe we are created for change



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Streaming Links

[Sunday January 22 10:00 a.m.](#)

Online Giving

Visit our [Online Giving Page](#) to support UCC Missoula and our ministries, or Text (406) 998-1900.

Online giving now allows you to pay transaction fees. Please consider paying the fees as a way to increase resources to our ministries.

UCC Missoula Announces Senior Pastor Candidate

The UCC Missoula Cabinet, on the recommendation of the Search Committee, forwarded Rev. John Lund as Senior Pastor candidate to the congregation.

On Saturday, February 4 from 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m. the church will host a drop-in meet and greet for the congregation to meet John. All are welcome.

On Sunday February 5 at 10:00 Rev. John Lund will lead worship service and the congregation will hold a congregational meeting to vote on his call.

[Read Rev. John Lund's letter of introduction here.](#)

Epiphany Events

Reshaped: Visible mending, restoring, and upcycling as a spiritual practice. Saturdays January 21 and February 4 at 10:00 am. Mending, restoring, upcycling, refashioning techniques, and inspiration by Katrina Dalrymple. Commentary on the Jewish practice of Tikkun by Rabbi Mark.

Colonization Justice small group invites you to explore What do Land Acknowledgements ask of us? For some time now, every UCC service has begun with a Land Acknowledgement Statement, acknowledging that we are gathering on the aboriginal territories of the Salish and Qlispe people. While a Land Acknowledgement is an important moment of remembrance, what concrete next steps can we take in moving toward colonization justice? What does a Land Acknowledgement ask of us as individuals and as an institution?

Please consider gathering to explore these questions on Sunday, January 22, before church, 8:45-9:45, in the Bay Window Room. We also invite you to read a short article, "On Native Land," by Stephanie Perdew (Cherokee) for *The Christian Century*, available at this link: <https://www.christiancentury.org/article/features/native-land>. If you prefer a PDF, please e-mail us, and we will send you one electronically. If you have questions, please contact

Beth Ann Rothermel at brothermel721@gmail.com; or Robin Abeshaus, at robinabeshaus@gmail.com. All are welcome!!!

A New New Testament: What Rediscovered Texts Offer People of Today

“Regarding the New Testament, to know what is inside it, you must know what is outside it.”
John Dominic Crossan

Joyce Hocker will offer a workshop on Saturday, Jan. 28, exploring texts discovered in a cave in Nag Hammadi, Egypt, in 1945. The texts were hidden for safekeeping in the 300's CE. The day will include hearing and reading portions of the new texts, how scholars decided which texts to spotlight, and how we might enjoy these old/new texts in our spiritual development.

Time: 9:30-4:00. We will break for a brown-bag lunch. Please bring your lunch and a water bottle.

Text: If desired, you can buy a used or new copy of *A New New Testament*, ed. Hal Taussig. Pertinent excerpts will be provided at the workshop for your study.

What: The day will include hearing and reading from texts, small group discussion, journal writing, and presentation of information.

[Register here](#), and come with a friend!

I'm Ready to Be Transformed As Long As I Don't Have to Change a workshop with Janice Springer via Zoom

Thursday evenings 6:30-7:45 Mountain Time
February 2, 9, and 16, 2023

How do we cope with changes we don't want or weren't expecting?
How do we deal with the loss and fear that often comes with change?
Why do even happy changes sometimes leave us disoriented?
How do we promote wise changes in ourselves, our families, our world?

Please register with Janice:

revjanicejeanspringer@gmail.com

Youth Group

Hi all,

I hope you all had a moment to honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. today. Jilly and I had the chance to attend the Martin Luther King Day Celebration this evening and see a few lovely UCC peeps.

This week, Katrina has graciously volunteered to offer an abbreviated version of her Mending & Reshaping Workshop for our youth directly after the worship service. Please join us so we can create reusable name tags for worship for our youth with upcycled material. This will be a meditative and useful skill for us to learn while discussing how God can work to enhance and enrich our lives. Mark and I have also finalized our calendar until spring break. It is attached below and we hope you will keep a copy on your fridge. If you would like to be added to our weekly youth email distribution list, please email Paige - paigepatricia@gmail.com.

We will probably enjoy our extra s'mores via the microwave so get ready for some treats as well :)

Please contact me if you have any questions or need any support.

Blessings,

Paige & Mark

UCC Youth Calendar

| DATE | EVENT | NOTES |
|---------------|---|---|
| Jan 22 | Mending our Intentions - 11 am | We will discuss the concept of upcycling with a sewing project. |
| Jan 29 | Games & Care for the Annual Meeting 11 am | Treats and games with our children's group during the annual meeting. |
| Feb 5 | Youth Dinner - DIY Pizzas - 6 pm | We will also take a moment to burn the palms for Ash Wednesday. |
| Feb 12 | Valentine's Day Card Crafting - 11 am | We will make cards for people who may not receive cards this season. |
| Feb 19 | No Programming | President's Day Weekend |
| Feb 22 | Ash Wednesday - Time TBD | Pastor Courtney will ask our youth to impose the ashes on attendees |
| Feb 26 | Sledding @ the golf course - 11 am | Weather dependent - bring a sled, helmet, and snow clothes. |
| March 5 | Yoga - 11 am | Let's explore the mind/body connection through yoga |
| March 12 | Youth sponsored coffee hour - 11 am | We will ask youth to bring baked goods. |
| March 19 & 26 | No programming | No programming due to spring break |
| | | |

Sunday School

Sunday School will begin after worship in the aisle this week.

Please see the Gratitude Journal below for a message from Valerie Young.

Faith and Climate Action

Faith and Climate Action Montana presents: Dr. Elizabeth Schenk: Cultivating Steadfastness in a Time of Planetary Crisis. Tuesday, January 24, 6:00 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Dr. Schenk is Providence's National Executive Director for Environmental Stewardship. For over 25 years she has been recognized as a pioneer in managing medical care with a view to its broad range of environmental impacts, including that of climate change. Dr. Schenk recently attended COP27, the United Nations Climate Change Conference held in Egypt. (appetizer reception to follow) (watch live: <https://www.stpaulmissoulamt.org/watch-live>)

Care Core Table



We're back! Our UCC Care Core Table is returning to the Narthex starting January 22. Please visit the Care Core Table after Sunday worship. There will be cards and pens to write a note offering Happy Birthday greetings, Get Well Wishes, or Thinking of You messages. This is a wonderful way to bring greater connection between our members and friends showing through our deeds that we are here for one another. Most of all we are messengers of

God's Grace.

We are grateful to Lillian Wenger for hosting the table providing guidance. Starting in March, we are looking for additional volunteers to assist with this meaningful effort which involves setting up the provided supplies, sitting on the Care sitting at the Care Core Table following worship for around 20 minutes and then bringing the supplies and notes down to the Church office.

Our UCC Community Care Ministry meets every other week discussing how we care for our community members through phone calls, visits, notes, meals, and other assistance. We welcome you to join this ministry.

Additionally, if you know of someone who would appreciate our care, please let us know by contacting Rabbi Mark.

The Community Care Ministry (CCM)

Gratitude Journal

Dear UCC family,

Thank you so much for the incredibly warm, loving and very emotional sendoff you gave me last Sunday. I was overwhelmed by your generosity and thoughtfulness. I have spent many mornings this past week sitting under my cozy blanket, reading your kind notes, eating delicious cake, crying a little, and giving great thanks for this really wonderful community. Thank you for being my church family.

Valerie



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