

The Congregationalist

Monthly newsletter of Billings First Church



SAVE THE DATE!

August Events & More

AUG 14 | 10:30AM

Worship in Terry Park

- Bring side dishes!

SEPT 11 | 10:30AM

Worship in South Park

- More Side dishes!



AUG 24- 27TH

YOGA W/ LISA

at Camp Christikon

STILL TIME TO REGISTER:

www.mnwcucc.org/adults

From the desk of Pastor Lisa

Ours is a church of movement and beauty.

Two weeks ago in worship service, we read together the First Nations Version of the Lord's Prayer. Several of you remarked how much you resonated with this reading of the 'Jesus Prayer'.

"O Great Spirit, your name is sacred and holy...bring your good road to us, where the beauty of your ways in the spirit-world above is reflected in the earth below."

What a thought and how incredible that we have the ability to reflect the beauty of God's ways in the earth below - here in our lives, within our families, our communities and our church. Here at Billings First Congregational Church, we endeavor to reflect that everyday. Our prayer is that when you are here at church or on our campus, you see and feel the reflection of a God of justice and joy and peace.

Reflecting peace and joy this week is easy because our campus is vibrant with Vacation Bible School and with our youth 'peacemakers'! These young peacemakers, who range in age from 4-13 years old, are enjoying our 'Passport to Peace' program so much. So are we! It is exciting and hopeful to help and watch children make a way for peace in their lives. We are learning some great songs and skills for peacemaking and intend to share those with you during our worship (and communion) service this Sunday, August 7th, 10:30am, in Fellowship Hall. We hope you'll join us. I am planning to make lemon-blueberry pound cake again!

In Service,
Pastor Lisa



SUCCESS AT VBS!

Round the world or just down the street, make peace with everyone you meet! "



WE'VE LEARNED NEW SONGS



WE RODE CHARIOTS



& RE-ENACTED BIBLE STORIES!



WE TOOK TRIPS TO WISE WONDERS MUSEUM AND BIG DIPPER ICE CREAM SHOP!



This week has been a blast and it wouldn't have been possible without BFCC Staff and volunteers.

Special thanks to Jean Guy, Kinsley Walksalong, Cheryl Stewart, Jan Hawk, Julie Solberg, Barbara Gulick, Walt Gulick, Dixie Yelvington, Lita Pepion, Sarge, Pastor Lisa, and Morgan for providing snacks and volunteering so that VBS would be possible. I cannot stress enough that these people made VBS happen. We can't wait to share the song we've been working on with you this Sunday.

-Youth Director, Marcus Frye



COMMUNITY COURTYARD REVITALIZATION PROJECT FUNDRAISER

Donations will go to creating a safer, greener playground and to redesign the courtyard into a community gathering space.



Children need a place to play. They need a magical place to climb, stretch, and run. A place to socialize. A space to imagine and learn.

Billings First Congregational Church recognizes the benefits of play and the important role it performs in childhood development. Play can increase a child's self-confidence, promote greater self-esteem, and help to develop cognitive and social interaction skills. And it's just plain good to stretch and breathe in fresh air! Outside play also brings us closer in relationship to the land.

We have an interior courtyard/playground that is used by the church and by the wider downtown community. Over the years, several daycares in the downtown, in need of green and play space, have used and continue to use our interior courtyard. Partners like the YMCA, Standing Buffalo Strong, Kinship Collective – grandparents raising grandchildren - use our playground.

Our playground is in deep need of care and repair. We want to continue to offer this space to the community we serve - as a downtown, neighborhood church, and so we invite you into supporting this project with us - to make it more safe, accessible, fun and attractive for the community.



To give electronically: billingsfirstchurch.org/giving/community-courtyard-revitalization

Or drop off your donation at Billings First Church, 310 N 27th St. Billings, MT 59101

Simply choose an envelope with your chosen amount from the envelope kiosk, then place envelope with money enclosed into the designated black mailbox at the front of the main office.

www.billingsfirstchurch.org | 310 N 27th St, Billings, MT | info@billingsfirstchurch.org



Photo Update!

Our Community Courtyard got a facelift! though still under construction, it is at least safe for kids to now play on. Thanks to Sarge, our campus maintenance manager and his volunteers who worked so hard removing the old bark and getting the space ready for the gravel to be brought in by Jesse Adams and his team at Eagle Landscaping Inc.! Sarge and Eagle Landscaping did an amazing job wouldn't you say?



The work is ongoing and donations are still needed to be able to complete our revitalization project, and so we invite you into supporting this project with us - to make it more safe, accessible, fun and attractive for the community.

To support this project you can give electronically through our website [HERE](#)



Or drop off your donation to Billings First Church at 310 N 27th St. Billings, MT 59101