

Florence-Carlton Community Church



VOLUME 127 ISSUE 9 FLORENCE, MONTANA SEPTEMBER 2011

FALL LINE-UP

The end of summer is near and with that comes the start-up of our fall programming.

- **Choir** sings Sunday mornings at the 9:00am service and practices Wednesday at 7:00pm beginning **September 7**.
- **Sunday school** continues with a new program for all ages beginning on **September 11**. A carnival will be held for the students on that day from 12:30—4:00pm.
- There will be a new session of **GRIEF SHARE** beginning **September 11**. We meet at the church on Sundays 3:30-5:30. This is a 13 week video series to help those who have lost a loved one. Flyers are available in the narthex, or you can check out the website: www.griefshare.org If you have questions, call Lois 239-7698.
- The **AWANA Program** for ages Pre-school age—5th grade will start up on **October 5**. Wednesdays 6:30—8:30pm.
- **Mary/Martha Fellowship** is a group of ladies from the church that extend the fellowship to help others. Workshops for the fall bazaar are in progress. Contact Dace Hawkinson 273-6601.
- We have a new **Small Group Ministry coordinator!** **Kathy McCaughey** will be available to answer any questions and help get you started with a study that works for you.

Fellowship Opportunity-The 4 P's Pig ROAST, Pickin', Potluck and People. Mark your calendars for this church wide event **October 16**. Music, hayrides and other activities planned. Eating will begin around 4pm. More details will be announced at a later date.

A WORD FROM DAVID

I have discovered "instant lawn."

Some friends approached us a couple of weeks ago and wanted to know if we were interested in some sod. Acquaintances had redone their lawn and had about 1000 square feet left over. If we could use it, it was ours.

We've had one hillside at the house that has been absolutely barren since we've moved in. We couldn't even grow the rocks on it for which Montana is so famous. The square footage was about right, so we jumped on the chance. Our friends dove in and helped, we met at the pickup point at seven, had the sod loaded and to the house by eight, and on the ground by ten. And our barren hillside was suddenly covered with "instant lawn."

Now our friends are well aware of my total lack of horticultural ability, so they gave me great advice on how to deal with the new sod and what to expect. "You'll be amazed at how this stuff takes off," they said. "Just give it plenty of water for the next couple of weeks. It will start to turn yellow in a day or two, but don't let that worry you. Just stay with it and you'll be surprised how fast it takes root and comes back."

We are about a week and a half in now and, just like my friends said, the grass has started to take root. It went through a little yellowing phase, but with diligent watering it has come back and is actually needing a trim. And what used to be a brown dirt slope is now a wonderful piece of green yard – the best around the house. I love "instant lawn."

I am glad my friends gave me the advice they did, because if I hadn't known about the 'yellowing' phase, I might have given up on the sod and lost the grass. But because of their advice I have kept at it while the grass was trying to go dormant, and so far the results have been beautiful. And something green and lush and *alive* exists in a place where only dirt could be found before.

The work of God in our lives is akin to laying down sod. In its initial phase He does something exciting and wonderful. It feels great and looks new – spiritually we have been given "instant lawn" by God! And then comes the second phase when what God has been doing seems to be "yellowing," going dormant. It's not quite as easy or exciting to see the evidence of this new work, this new attitude He has planted in us. And the natural tendency at that point is to "stop watering and give up," because it looks like the effort just isn't worth it. Don't give up. Keep caring for what God has done in you. Keep feeding it, keep working it. And before too long you'll discover that it has "taken root" in your life and is thriving. And, where only dirt had been before, something beautiful God has done is now part of your life forever.

Grace and peace,

David



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friendship Club will meet on Tuesdays at 11:30am. If you can help on Tuesday please contact Judy Harvey 721-2691. The 2nd Tuesday monthly will be potluck.

Sunday morning Greeters are needed for both services—see the sign-up sheet posted in the Narthex.

Please give Susan Inman a call with your updates to our Military wall 273-3416.

If you have any request for our library please let Susan Inman know of them 273-3416.

September council meeting will be held on the 15th at 6pm. If you have agenda items, please get them to Lois Horsens by September 12th. Council meetings are open meetings and Church members and non-members alike are welcome to attend the meeting.

The fall bazaar will be Nov. 12 from 9 AM-2 PM.

Mary/Martha Fellowship will meet September 19 at 6:00 at the church. Planning for the Fall Bazaar continue. All women of the church are welcome and encouraged to attend. Thank You!

Psalm 27:4

One thing I ask of the LORD, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple. (NIV)



BE A VOLUNTEER!

Another Sunday School year is upon us. There are exciting updates to our program coming this year. John McNeece is working hard on taking Sunday School to a new level with a new modular curriculum and format. We will be meeting at the same time, during 1100 service. We have a wonderful group of teachers returning, but we need additional teachers to strengthen our program. Sunday School is a primary mission for FCCC and an important entry point for both children and parents into our community. Many of us have experienced the benefits of our Sunday School program as parents of children attending or as participants, ourselves. This program needs some volunteers willing to help continue the strong mission objective of FCCC Sunday School. The only talent required is a willingness to serve. Please contact Tom Leonard, John McNeece or Gary Brownlee if you can help, in any capacity.



Come join us for a fun-filled carnival at Florence-Carlton Community Church on **September 11th! 12:30pm—4:00pm.** We will have free hot dogs, inflatable bounce houses, carnival games, and much much more. So bring the kids down for a great afternoon! See you there!

Call Johnny @ 273-6811 if you have any questions.



RIVER BAPTISM September 18

If you are interested in River Baptism please contact the church office. River baptism will take place around 12:30pm following the 11:00am Worship Service at the Mahn's residence (5796 Ellison Ln.).

FALL BAZAAR

**SATURDAY - NOV 12
9:00AM - 2:00PM**

**Lunch: home made soup
Sandwiches, pie
Apple dumplings,
Coffee and tea**

Handmade items: aprons, tea towels

Silent Auction: Special one of a kind

**Pony rides: weather permitting
12-2pm**

Christmas music



**Jr. High Sunday School—11:00 Sundays
Sr. High Sunday School—9:45 Sundays
Youth Group "ZION"
Jr. High Youth Group—Sunday 6-8pm
Senior High Group—Tuesday 7-9pm**

Sun Schedule: Worship Service 9:00am and 11:00
Wednesday: Cowboy Church 6:59pm—Carlton Chapel
 Nursery care is provided downstairs during worship for 3yrs and under for your worshipping enjoyment.
Children's Church meets downstairs during the sermon for ages 3 through Kindergarten during the 9:00 service.
Coffee is served in the New Fellowship Hall every Sunday at 10:30.

Sunday School meets downstairs on Sundays:
 Preschool—5th grade 11:00 – 12:00
 Jr High—6,7,8 grade 11:00-12:00 Youth room
 High School—9:45-10:30 Youth room
 Adult—11:00-12:00 Conference Room

Opportunities for Involvement:
Weekly Bible Studies:

Monday 9:30am; contact: **Dace Hawkinson 273-0209**
Monday 1:30pm; contact **Connie Dierking 273-4229**
Jo Walton 273-2487

Tuesday 6:45-7:45am; Hayloft Cafe (Lolo)
 contact: **Steve Arno 273-6271**

Weekly Activities:

***Friendship Club** - Tues. 11:30am,
 contact: **Judy Harvey 721-2691**

***Youth Group** - www.f-ccc-zion.com
 Jr. High Sunday 6-8pm—Sr. High Tuesday 7-9pm

***AWANA Program**— will resume in the fall.

***Choir Practice** - Wednesday 7:00pm (Sept.—May)

***Worship Band Practice** – Thursday 6:00pm

***Grief Share** - contact **Lois Horsens 239-7698**

***Mary/Martha Fellowship**
 1st Monday monthly at 6:00pm, at the church.
 contact: **Dace Hawkinson 273-6601**

***Men's Outreach Movement**
 Contact: **Russ Copeland 273-2599**

If you have a **Prayer Concern** for the FCCC Prayer Chain,
 contact: **Wilma Marchinek at 273-4907 or**
fccepc@gmail.com.

***For use of the church facilities**
 contact: **Phebe Applegate 273-6811**

(Please remember to stack all tables and chairs after each activity. The facility is in use most evenings during the week and should be ready for the next group coming in.)

The Church Council
September 15, 2011
6:00pm

Lois Horsens — Moderator/ 239-7698
Dean Heitzmann — Treasurer/Secretary 370-8847
Gary Brownlee — Christian Education / 273-2359
Karen Hill — Fellowship / 251-2249
Guy Sharp — Buildings and Ground / 273-2461
Ward McCaughey —Worship/Communication / 273-6759
Pastor—Rev. David Blackwell,
dblackwell@florencecarltonchurch.com
Office: 273-6811 Home: 273-9127
Youth Pastor-John McNece,
john@florencecarltonchurch.com
Office: 273-6811 - Tuesday

WISDOM FROM THE
 JOHNNY LLAMA ...

Susan and I never thought that we would be proud owners of a llama. To be completely honest with you, when I was a young boy the thought of owning a llama never crossed my mind. The same thought never crossed the mind of my Northern Virginia native wife. The day we adopted Zeus the llama, Susan's face book status read, "Never once did I think I would thank my husband for buying me a llama." Zeus has been such a wonderful addition to our little family, and he is the source of my new blog that I will share with you once a month.



During one of the church council meetings that I missed a couple months back I was renamed by Pastor David. He dubbed me The Johnny Llama; a very comical play off of the Dahlia Llama since I was a proud new owner of a llama. So I thought it would be funny to keep the name, and give you "wisdom", which really isn't any type of wisdom, on the life of trying to run a small hobby farm. In the coming months you will hear all about chicken tales, how we came across our lone goose, my haying adventures, and much much more. I really look forward to sharing with you God's truths in the midst our comical trials as adventure farmers.

This past week I have been learning how to make bales of hay from the expert Dean Heitzmann.

I never knew that so much pain staking time went into making hay. As I began to learn from Dean I soon realized that I would be spending a lot of time sitting on my dad's tractor going slower than molasses. Seriously Susan brought me a bottle of water to me one time, and she was able to walk up from behind to give me the water. When I was going as slow as I was, I got really down on myself that cutting this field of grass would take an eternity, and I began to have a really negative attitude towards cutting the grass. This process called to mind a piece of Scripture found in Philippians 4:8-9. It says, "Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me--practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you."

As I was sitting on the tractor I remembered these words of the Apostle Paul, and I thought about how often I have a negative attitude towards so many aspects of my life. Scripture challenges us to think of things that are just, pure, lovely and honorable. Scripture challenges us to think of the positive aspects of life, and as a result we will experience the peace of God. Too often I think of the negative things in my life (not having enough of something, not doing what I want, not going as fast as I want to on the tractor), and because of my negative thinking I miss out on the blessings that are already in my life. Perhaps you are in the same boat as me. I have realized that I need to ask God to remind you of the things that are honorable, just, lovely and positive in my life. Positive thinking is a lifestyle. Will you join me in trying to think on the things that are positive in our lives?
 God Bless you this month!

~~~Johnny Llama~~~



God loves us more than we know. He gives us more than we can ask or dream. He's unrestrained... excessive... outrageous...

*Over the Top.*

**Spokane**

**September 16-17, 2011**

OK.....our conference is getting closer! Over the Top tour will be in Spokane September 16th and 17th this year. Cost is \$89 which includes the conference plus 2 box lunches. Please get your remaining funds in as soon as possible. Sharon Greef 370-0580 or sgreef@msn.com.

**COUNCIL CORNER**

The church council met on Aug 18<sup>th</sup>. Giving and expenses are running on par with our budget. We need 3 to 4 more Sunday school teachers to give each class the recommended 2 teachers each. We could use 2 to 3 persons willing to put their names on a substitute teacher list too. The new format has not been rolled out yet but we are having a dinner on Thursday 9/8 for current teachers and those interested. We upgraded the TV in the children's church room to a wall mounted flat panel with a built in DVD player. We are looking into suggestions for a pianist for the 9:00 service. It was decided to combine the church services both on the 25<sup>th</sup> of December (Christmas) and 1<sup>st</sup> of January (New Years) with one service at 10:00 each week. Planning has begun for a pig roast / hay ride in October. Watch for more information coming soon!

**The Florence-Carlton Community Church** is an interdenominational church. **Phone:** 273-6811  
**Web Site:** florencecarltonchurch.com  
**Pastor—Rev. David Blackwell**  
**Office:** 273-6811  
**Email:** dblackwell@florencecarltonchurch.com  
**Home:** 273-9127  
**Youth Pastor—John McNeece,** john@florencecarltonchurch.com  
**Office:** 273-6811 - Tuesday  
**Clerk—Phebe Applegate,** papplgat@florencecarltonchurch.com  
**Office:** 273-6811 Tuesday – Thursday 9am-2pm

**FREE introductory Yoga Classes  
September 12—October 12**

How do you get crocodiles, dogs (up & down) & pigeons in the same room without total chaos? Well, come to FREE introductory yoga classes and you'll find the answer. This is a vinyasa (flowing) style of hatha yoga and it is very basic but you do need enough strength and stability to get up and down off the floor several times during the hour. This session won't be adapted for chair yoga. The class is purely physical --- we won't be practicing meditation or any specific religion. All you need to bring is a yoga mat (or large beach towel). **PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED so to sign up or for questions, please call Sandy Anderson at 406-239-4244 or 777-3253. Two classes are offered each week on Monday night 7-8 pm and Wednesday morning 9-10am in the FCCC fellowship hall beginning Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> and extending for 5 weeks until October Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>. Sign up for 1, 5 or 10 classes!!** Hope to see you there! Oh yeah, wear comfortable, loose-fitting clothing...

**Buildings and Grounds  
Committee Update**

The new lawn area has recently been seeded. We would like to remind everyone to keep out of that area during this time.

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 Phebe Applegate, editor  
 papplgat@florencecarltonchurch.com  
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