

Florence-Carlton Community Church



VOLUME 127 ISSUE 11 FLORENCE, MONTANA NOVEMBER 2011

FALL BAZAAR

MARY/MARTHA FELLOWSHIP

Saturday, November 12, 9am to 2pm

You will find the popular
Silent Auction
filled with special one-of-a-kind items.

Hand sewn specialties, wood work, holiday crafts, and much more.

Lunch includes:

homemade soup, sandwich, pie and drink for just \$6.50.

Apple Dumplings will be available for \$3.50/ea.

Look for those harvest delights on our **baked Goods table.**

Homemade jams, jellies, candies and more.

Pony Rides available from 12am—2pm weather permitting

Bring your friends and neighbors.

A great time to buy for Christmas.

A WORD FROM DAVID

Check-ups.

I had a check-up with my physician just a couple of days ago. It's part of preventative maintenance on any number of potential health issues that can begin to show up "at my age," according to the statistics. I went and had a blood panel done a few days prior. I went to the appointment and we reviewed the data. We looked at the good, the bad (praise the Lord, not too much of that to discuss), and the ugly (only so much that can be done about that ;-)). I was happy to get the report that, overall, I am in good health. And we talked about how to keep the good going, and working on the areas that could use a little improvement.

A check-up serves many purposes. I like the fact that a checkup confirms and affirms the positives in my health. Overall, I'm in pretty decent shape, and it's good to know that. A checkup also gives early warnings to potential problems. It's better to deal with them before they become big problems. And a checkup will lay out ideas and a roadmap to dealing with the issues that could use improvement. Check-ups are a good thing.

Check-ups are a good thing for churches as well as for people, and for many of the same reasons. Church checkups confirm and affirm the positives in a church's ministry. They help to identify what you really are doing well, and it's good to know that. Church checkups also give early indications of areas where improvement can be made, before they become significant barriers to accomplishing God's purposes. And a church checkup can help lay out ideas and a roadmap to becoming even more effective at serving the kingdom of God. A church check-up is a good thing.


We are looking forward to getting a checkup next spring as we schedule a Church Assessment for May 4-6, 2012. Through our relationship with ABC-Northwest, a team led by Dr. Bill Hoyt of Growing Healthy Churches and Dr. Charles Revis will come and visit with us over those three days and assist us in examining our ministry strengths and helping us identify areas of growth and potential.

I have served on assessment teams for other churches and have seen the positive value they have for a church's ministry. Much of the positive value comes from the depth of congregational participation in the process. So I want to begin now to encourage you to join with the staff and council in preparing for our check-up. Here's how: 1- Add to your prayer list some time lifting our church before God, asking His continued blessing on us (for He has blessed us GREATLY), his continued clear vision for our mission, and for a productive assessment; 2 - Plan to participate in the online survey and other 'data-gathering' components of the assessment in early Spring 2012; and 3 - Hold open May 4-6 so that you can participate in the congregational portions of the assessment weekend.

I'm looking forward to a great check-up!

A personal note: Thanks so much for your expressions of kindness during pastor appreciation month. Although October has been the "formal" time for that, please know that we sense your love and appreciation all the time, and we are truly grateful for you. I am blessed to pastor one of the best congregations in America - that's not 'smoke', I mean that. And I look forward to our continued journey together for many days to come! Thank you for being the church God envisions!

Grace and peace



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friendship Club will meet on Tuesdays at 11:30am. If you can help on Tuesday please contact Karen Hill 251-2249. 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.

November council meeting will be held on the 17th at 6pm. If you have agenda items, please get them to Lois Horsens by November 14th. Council meetings are open meetings and Church members and non-members alike are welcome to attend the meeting.

**FREE CHILDCARE
FOR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING
SUNDAY- DECEMBER 3
NOON—4:00PM**

The Youth group will be providing free childcare for those parents who would like to get out and do some Christmas shopping. If interested please sign up on the bulletin board outside Johnny's (Youth pastors) office. Please be sure to put down each child's name, age, parent, phone #, any food allergies, and the times your child will be at the church. Along with fun and games, lunch will be provided.

Mission

This Church shall proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ to its community and to the ends of the earth.

This church shall serve the people of this community...



Prayer

The Foundation of our mission

Our Vision:

During leadership training at Ross Point recently, council members were given this vision of an effective, soul winning church. **Our mission is the umbrella over our church; however, prayer is the foundation!**

The FCCC prayer chain has always been the stable, unifying force that the Lord has used near and far. However, during this conference we were convicted to do more. To that end we are asking all groups (bible studies, Friendship Club, Mary/Martha Fellowship, men's groups, etc.) to take some time to pray for the mission and vision of Florence Carlton Community Church. We would like this to be a corporate prayer at the beginning of each meeting, followed by individual prayer by members during their personal prayer times. According to our mission statement we are to proclaim the gospel to our community—Florence! How do we do that? What is your vision about how this can and should happen? How do we draw non-believers to Christ and build a better relationship with those that know Christ? That is what we'd like you to pray about. As you pray, listen. If you have ideas, suggestions, questions or thoughts please talk to the pastor, Karen Hill or Lois Horsens. We are all "the church".

Another area of ministry we would like to develop is a FCCC Prayer Room. It will be a place you can visit to receive prayer for your specific needs.

Finally, we hope to play a major role in a Florence Day of Prayer in conjunction with the National Day of Prayer in May. Again, if you have comments or suggestions, talk to David, Karen or Lois.

Reverend and Mrs. David Blackwell together with Mr. and Mrs. Dan Mahn request the pleasure of your company at the marriage of Virginia Leigh Blackwell and Dustin Daniel Mahn. On

Saturday, the thirty first of December Two Thousand Eleven at Six O'clock in the evening. Florence-Carlton Community Church 20075 Old Highway 93 Florence, Montana. Reception to follow at Eight O'clock in the evening at The Heritage Hall, Fort Missoula

RSVP BY NOVEMBER 15th
273-9127

YOUTH FOR CHRIST/CITY LIFE



2011 BENEFIT AUCTION
THURSDAY DEC. 1,
6:00PM

CITY LIFE COMMUNITY CENTER

Admission \$100 per couple includes \$75 credit towards auction purchases. Casual, fun or dress-up attire. Contact Guy Sharp 273-2461 or 544-3632 Dan Mahn 273-2411 or 240-6115 for your ticket.

COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

It is that time of year when the church council begins to prepare for the end of the year administration events which means mainly drafting the new budget and seeking candidates that are interested in serving on the council.

A quick look back at the history and importance of these council members. Our church is associated with the American Baptist Conference for administration and pastoral purposes. We do not receive any monies from them. We are totally self supporting and what we call, free will giving instead of asking our congregation to commit to some kind of pledge. This has worked very well for us since we formed as a church body in 1957.

The governing arm of the church is the council, made up of 6 positions. It is their duty to draft the budget each year, oversee the various committee's such as worship, christian education, music, missions, fellowship, and communications and staff positions. This group is the vision and administration of our congregation. They are volunteers and each serve a 3 year term, with terms being staggered so that 2 positions are open each year. The election to fill these 2 positions takes place at the annual meeting held in early January of each year.

The nomination committee is asking all of you to consider where your heart leads you in serving our church. If a council position is of interest to you, or if you have a suggestion of someone else, and you would like to learn more about serving on the council, please contact one of us... Stacey Zabel, Maureen Castillo or Ed Greef.

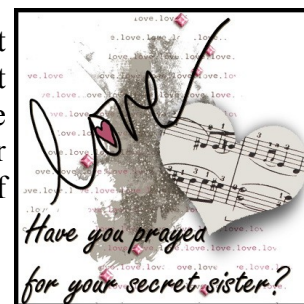
Thank you,



*Anguish of Heart
Retreat Ministries*

Anguish of Heart will be holding their fall retreat **November 4-6, 2011**. Flyers are available in the narthex. Or, visit the website to get more details, or to register: www.anguishofheart.org

Have you prayed for your secret sister? Please remember your Secret Sister—by sending a card or little something special to encourage her and let her know you are thinking of her.



Homework Help



is an outreach of our church. Its purpose is to help students complete all or part of their homework so when they go home, they have more family time. However, as one observer stated, for some kids, just having a caring adult there can be more important than getting homework done.

Here is the schedule:

- 3:35 Kids get off the bus from school.
- 3:40-3:45 Sit down, get homework out, grab a snack and get to work.
- 4:25 Kids "Pack up, stack up" and pray
- 4:35 Kids on the bus.

If you can volunteer one or more hours a week, please contact Joyce Schroeder 360-5322 or Lois Horsens 239-7698.



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

Small Group News

If your small group is looking for materials, you might like to check out Max Lucado's book and study called *Fearless*. This book addresses how we can react to the hundreds of angst-producing events in our lives with faith instead of fear. The study includes a book, written with typical Lucado charm and humor, a discussion guide, leader guide, and a DVD with 5-10 minute lead-ins for each session. If you wish to examine the materials, they can be found on the bookshelf in David's office. Your group members would have to purchase their own books and discussion guides. Hardback books can be found on Amazon.com for around \$16, with paperbacks at less than \$5. Discussion guides can also be found on Amazon.com for around \$4. If you have questions, email Kathy at smallgroups@florencecarltonchurch.com.

FELLOWSHIP

Pig Roast: Dean and Dave cook a mean pig! Thanks for coming, it was great to have such a turnout. Next year maybe earlier to avoid rain and cold.

Thanksgiving:

The Thanksgiving Dinner **Nov. 24—1:00pm**. Call the church office 273-6811 to let us know how many are coming. We had a great time last year. Do you know anyone from the community who could be invited? Ask them and let us know how many to expect.

The Church will provide the basics: turkey, dressing, potato (white and sweet), rolls, pies, cranberries and drinks. Want to bring a dish? Let us know or bring something that is special to you for this holiday. Dress is casual.



Salt Shaker Event: (brunch or snacks)

December 4. Sign up sheets on the Fellowship treat table after church or before church for the 11am service.

- Sign up to either host or attend.
- Let us know how many in your family.
- Hosts please tell us how many people you can have in your home.

Buildings and Grounds Committee Update

Now that it's getting a bit chilly outside we are starting to turn on the heat in the building. Just a reminder that the fellowship hall has a timer to turn on the heat as needed and the rooms downstairs have thermostats that should be kept at 60 when the room is not being used. If a room does not have a t-stat, check the adjoining room as there are 2-3 rooms controlled by one t-stat in some cases.

The new lawn is looking great! Thanks Johnny for the awesome job getting it seeded. Can't wait to mow it next spring :)

What's big, red and can't be seen? Clifford, the big red bus! Clifford went to a new owner in Seattle recently in an effort to cut down on vehicle maintenance costs.

Coming soon: new siding for Carlton Hall (old fellowship hall at the cemetery). This project is a collaboration between FCCC and the cemetery board with volunteer help from our local Boy Scouts.

Guy Sharp

NATIVITY



Fall is here and the holidays are on the way. I am still hoping to have a nativity display in front of Florence Carlton Community Church! Bob Simms has offered to help with construction. We still need some artistic talent to help design and paint. Please call Lois 239-7698 if you can help in anyway!

The Florence-Carlton Community Church newsletter is published monthly by the Florence-Carlton Community Church, P.O. Box 219, Florence, MT 59833
Phebe Applegate, editor
papplgat@florencecarltonchurch.com
Newsletter Deadline November 28



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:

Small Group: contact Kathy McCaughey
smallgroups@florencecarltonchurch.com

Weekday 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: **Karen Hill 251-2249**

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

***AWANA Program**— Wednesday 6:30—8:00 (Oct.—Apr.)

***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**
fccpc@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
November 17, 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 McNeece,
john@florencecarltonchurch.com

WISDOM FROM THE JOHNNY LLAMA...

Greetings everyone! It has been a very fun exciting month for Susan, the farm and I. Susan and I are expecting our first little one. Needless to say the news has caused me to reevaluate what I am doing with the farm and critters. I have



come to the conclusion that having the sheep, llama, chickens and an honoree goose will be beneficial to the development of our child or least I hope and pray it will be beneficial. There is so much that the farm has taught me, and I hope that it will teach our child as well.

One of the magnificent events of the farm happened a few months ago during the summer when we would get thunder storms in the afternoons. One day Zeus (our llama) was freaking out on the sheep. He would run around the sheep, corral the sheep into a group and then herd the flock underneath one of our giant pine trees. If one of the sheep left the spot he corralled them to, he would chase them down, and push them back to the rest of the group. Susan and I sat there watching this strange event for some time, asking “what in the heck is he doing?” About 45 minutes into Zeus’ shepherding demonstration a giant, echoing thunder boomer shook the house. It was then we realized what Zeus was doing. He was leading his flock away from the imminent danger.

The awesome intuition of Zeus reminded me of something that Jesus said. John 10:11-15 says, “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep.” We can trust Jesus because He ultimately is the one who cares for us, and was (and is) willing to lay down His life for us. He showed this devotion to us while dying on the cross for our sins. Jesus is the good shepherd. Just as Zeus shepherd his sheep. May God bless you this month!

Blessings,
Johnny Llama