

# Mary

*A Witness  
to the Light*

**December at Bozeman UMC**

Join us for worship at the  
corner of Willson & Olive  
8:30 Traditional  
10:30 Modern

[bozemanumc.org](http://bozemanumc.org)

# Coming Up

## Worship During Advent

### The theme for Advent is Mary: A Witness to the Light!

Each week we will look at an interaction through Mary's eyes and how it affected her faith and her witness at the manger on that holiest of nights so long ago.

December 2	<i>The Light Stumbles. Mary &amp; Gabriel</i>
December 9	<i>The Light Scares. Mary &amp; Elizabeth</i>
December 16	<i>The Light Surprises. Mary &amp; Joseph</i>
December 23 One service-9:30am	<i>The Light Sings. Mary's Magnificat</i>
December 30 One service-9:30am	<i>The Light Travels On. Mary and the Wise Ones</i>

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## Advent Event

Celebrate the start of Advent at the BUMC Advent Event! Each year we gather together in the basement Friendship Room to enjoy a delicious potluck lunch followed by opportunities for our children to create some wonderful crafts and gifts. All ages are encouraged to join us for this special event! **December 2, 11:45am- 1:00pm.**



# Christmas Eve

This year marks the 200th anniversary of Frank Gruber writing Silent Night and its first performance on Christmas Eve at St. Nicholas Parish in Austria. You don't want to miss this holiest of nights to celebrate the birth Christ.

**Christmas Eve, December 24, 3pm and 5 pm services will feature a children's pageant.**

No rehearsals, just show up for your part! Be at church by 2:40 or 4:40pm to receive a costume.

**The 7pm and 9pm services will be traditional, involving brass at 7pm and musicians at 9pm.**



# Blue Christmas Service



Join us on December 9th, at 4:30pm for a special service called a "Blue Christmas." For many, Christmas can be a difficult and painful season, such a time of struggling with depression or grief or loss. Join us for a service of healing with music by the 10:30 band.

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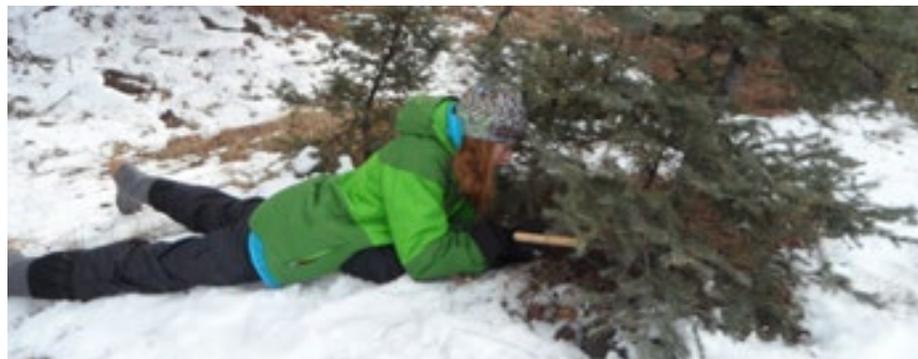
## Christmas Eve Invitations

Each week this Advent, you will be able to grab some Christmas Eve postcards. These are simple cards we hope you will give to your neighbors and friends. This is the night everyone is invited and no one should be alone. This is the night we are reminded that Jesus came to the manger for all of us. This is the night we light one another's candles in hope.

# Community Engagement

## Christmas Tree Gathering

We're celebrating Advent this year with real Christmas trees for the church sanctuary and outside decorations! Join in the fun, cutting down the trees, on **Saturday November 24, 10am – 1pm**. If you'd like to get your own tree at that time, stop by Ace Owenhouse for a \$5 tree permit. If there is snow, we'll also find a good hill for sledding!



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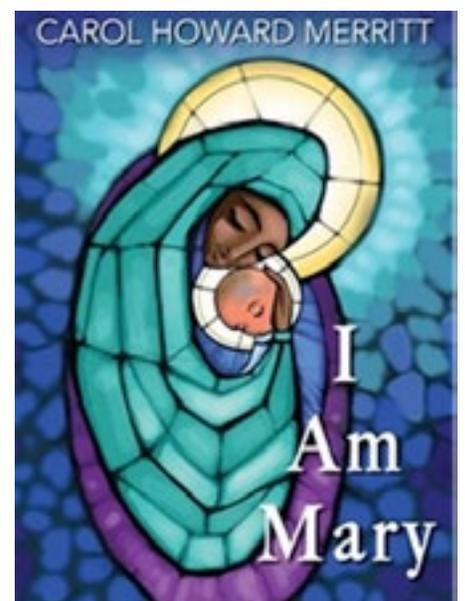
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## I Am Mary

**December 2, 9, 16 January 6**

Through scripture, reflection, discussion, and prayer, join young Mary on her extraordinary journey to Bethlehem as she experiences the surprise, confusion, fear, anticipation, and ultimate blessing that follows her brave response to God's call. Listen carefully, and you may hear a call for your own life. 'I Am Mary' also features candle lighting services, helping us to

slow down and feel the light these Advent Sundays in the Chapel December 2, 9, 16 and January 6 at 9:30 am. Or experience 'I Am Mary' at a time that works for you. Beginning December 1st, join the Facebook group for live or watch any time videos, scripture readings, and ideas for how to make this Advent full of light and wonder.



# UMW Events

## Holiday Mission Market



**Sunday, Dec 2, 2018 - Fireside Room 8:00am - 12:00pm (closed during church services)**

We are excited to invite everyone to our “fun”draising event, Holiday Mission Market, hosted by the BUMW on Sunday morning, December 2. We hope you will have fun picking some handcrafted gifts for all ages as well as selecting some special holiday treats such as pies, breads, cookies and candy at our bake sale. In addition, we

will have a number of silent auction items and gift baskets displayed in the narthex for you to bid on starting Sunday, November 25 and ending at the close of the market on Dec 2nd. All the proceeds will go toward the many mission projects that UMW supports locally and around the world. Please come and shop for cause! For questions or donation information, contact Janna Christensen 586-3296 or [jannapfeil@yahoo.com](mailto:jannapfeil@yahoo.com).

## Advent Meeting

All women of BUMC are invited to a special Advent Brunch that will be held **Wednesday, December 5 at 10:00am in the Friendship Room**. Following brunch, Brenda Anderson-Baker will lead us in an Advent Devotion. Later at this annual event, we will present special Mission Recognition awards, install our new officers, and receive our Thank offering. Please join us for a wonderful opening of the Advent season.



# Music at Christmas

## Bells of the Bridgers Holiday Concert



Bells of the Bridgers presents their annual holiday concert “O Come All Ye Faithful” in Bozeman, Friday December 21st, at 7:00 p.m. at Resurrection University Parish at the corner of 11th & Kagy. Hear favorite holiday selections, including “Joy to the World,” “God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen,” “The Holly and the Ivy,” “Jingle Bells,” “Dance of the Sugarplum Fairies” from the classic

Tchaikovsky ballet “The Nutcracker,” “What Child is This” and many more. Special guests include Lynn Kirtley, organ; Tim Lockie, percussion; and Melody Lindsay, harp. Joining with handbells will be the Resurrection University Parish vocal ensemble in “How Quietly,” an original composition woven together with “Away in a Manger.” The concert is free; a good-will offering will be taken.

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## Songs of Christmas

Figgy Pudding Dec 12th, at 6:30pm. Figgy pudding is a BUMC tradition celebrating the music of Christmas with many musical groups and songs, followed by spiced cake and fellowship. Plus, flaming pudding!

Watch for signups to bring cake and ways you can help in the coming weeks.



### Heads Up!

Figgy Pudding offering will go to Fork and Spoon Cafe and the HRDC Warming Center. For more information, see Mission News.

# Parsonage Open House!

After one service on December 30th, join the Strader Family for an Open House! Appreciate the beautiful home you provide for your pastors, enjoy some Chef Eric hors d'oeuvres, and be a witness to an annual Strader tradition, the Snowy Village.



# Telling a Story

## Women's Retreat

Close to 20 BUMC women, ranging in age from 20-something to 70-something, retreated together the first weekend of November. They centered their time on the theme of healing and learned about five unnamed women in the Gospels that have a healing encounter with Jesus. They sang, prayed, mediated, hiked, and broke bread together - and had healing chair massages and foot baths! We hope you might consider joining next year for this Christian sisters' time together.



## Pumpkin Party

Thanks to everyone who helped with and participated in the Pumpkin Party this year! Over 100 folks showed up to share a meal together, carve a pumpkin, and enjoy the crafts and games provided by our BUMC family ministry team. A special thanks to Dottie Keyes, for her amazing decorating, Erin Neil and Rachel Hurd for their awesome leadership, and the youth and their families who helped to run the event.



# Mission News

## Fishing for Food

2,565 pounds!

Our goal was to donate 1,000 pounds of food to Gallatin Valley Food Bank. We more than doubled it! Thank you for your donations!

## Intermountain Children's Home Gift Drive

The children in McTaggart Cottage will wake to a merry Christmas morning because of BUMC generosity!

## HRDC Homeless Youth Gift Cards

Your gift card donations help brighten the days and provide necessary resources for community homeless youth.

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**Figgy Pudding offering will go to Fork and Spoon Cafe and the HRDC Warming Center.** BUMC partners with these organizations by providing ongoing volunteer support. Both Fork and Spoon and the Warming Center provide much needed sustenance and shelter to those less fortunate in our own community.



**Christmas Eve offering will go to Angola Pastor Support, Tujenge Africa Nutrition Initiative.** BUMC is committed to providing a living wage for pastors working in Angola to provide spiritual guidance and to develop a self sustaining agricultural mission. In Burundi, BUMC's own Ben Dickensheets works at Tujenge to provide educational opportunities for disadvantaged students. These students often go without meals. BUMC is proud to support our own young missionaries working to bring the love of Christ to all corners of the world. Also, part of the offering will go to local ministries in the Gallatin Valley that BUMC supports.

# Mission Opportunities in 2019

## Get on the Bus 2019!

Get on the Bus 2019 is coming every Wednesday evening in February! Join friends in the Friendship Room at 5:15 pm for a delicious soup dinner. At 6:00 pm join us in the sanctuary for discussions on critical issues in the Gallatin Valley. Learn how we as Christians and the church as a whole can be advocates for helping in real and effective ways.

February 6	<i>Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault</i>
February 13	<i>Suicide Prevention</i>
February 20	<i>Disabilities</i>
February 27	<i>Opioid Epidemic</i>
March 3	<i>The Way Forward...An Update</i>

## Stephen Ministry Training

*“I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow”*

-1 Corinthians 3:6

### Small Seeds, Mighty Trees

Is it time to add more water to the seeds of faith that have been planted in you? Consider serving our congregation as a Stephen Minister. We are beginning a 50-hour training program for new Stephen Ministers in January 2019 and are looking for those whom God may be calling to this

incredible ministry. If you have gifts for caring, encouraging, and listening, please prayerfully consider whether God may be calling you to serve in this exciting ministry. For more information and an application, contact Kim Broden, Nurture Care Coordinator at 406-551-7208.

## More Ways to Serve...

### Blood Drive

Red Cross Blood Drive at BUMC on Wednesday January 2 from 10 am - 3 pm. This is a traditionally difficult season for blood donations so please come help!

### Fork and Spoon

Volunteer or Enjoy Dinner! Your dinner purchase keeps this excellent “pay as you can” café operating! To volunteer, sign up online at [www.forkandspoonkitchen.org](http://www.forkandspoonkitchen.org).

### Warming Center

Help everyone have a warm and safe place to sleep during the holidays. Information on volunteering or donating needed supplies is at [www.thehrdc.org](http://www.thehrdc.org).

# Kids News

## WOW Team



### WOW & Children's Choir Families

After WOW Team returns from Caroling Downtown on December 12th we will have pizza for you & your kids upstairs in the Art and Yellow classrooms from 5:00 until Figgy Pudding celebration begins at 6:30pm.

The WOW Team kicked off the holiday season with two service projects designed to help the kids connect with their community and find ways to help other families in the community. In October, we collected food for the Gallatin Valley Food Bank using reusable cloth bags donated by First Security Bank. After two weeks of canvassing their neighborhoods, 30 WOW kids

boarded a Streamline bus and brought all of the donations to the Food Bank. GVFB volunteer Bri Cronin helped the kids and the WOW volunteers unload all of the donations onto a scale to be weighed before distribution. The WOW donations totaled over 750 lbs! Thank you to all of the donors, volunteers, GVFB, First Security Bank and HRDC Streamline Bus Coordinator and Bus Driver for your support of

our Food Drive. In November, the WOW Team began collecting items for the H.U.G.S. tree winter gear drive. They collected boxes of hats, underwear, gloves, socks and scarves for kids in need in the community for use this winter. Many of our kids were reminded how blessed they are to be a part of a loving community at Bozeman UMC and live in the Gallatin Valley.

# Sunday School

## Sunday School Journey with Paul and then with Mary!

Our Sunday School continues to experience a lot of energy and creativity in our classes at 9:30am on Sundays. We will spend the month of November journeying with Paul and ending with an all church life-sized board game “Paul: This is Your Life” in the Friendship room on November 25th. In December we will spend 3 weeks following Mary’s journey up until the birth of Jesus followed by a Sunday celebration on December 23rd at 10:30am for all ages.

## Sunday School Teachers needed for Winter/Spring 2019

We are seeking a few warm hearts to teach our Sunday School children grades K – 5th grade in 2019. All curriculum and supplies are provided. You would be teaching one Sunday from 9:45am -10:15am in a chosen discipline (Art, Science, Storytelling, Games, Music or Cooking) based on a the topic of the current Sermon series (example: Mary, Advent).

We are also seeking a few more Preschool Parent volunteers to sign up to either teach or assist in the preschool classroom once a month. Flexible schedule with a team of 5-6 other teachers. Curriculum is easy to teach: snack, story, craft and play!

No experience required!

Contact [Janna@bozemanumc.org](mailto:Janna@bozemanumc.org) or call 551-7209 and leave a message.



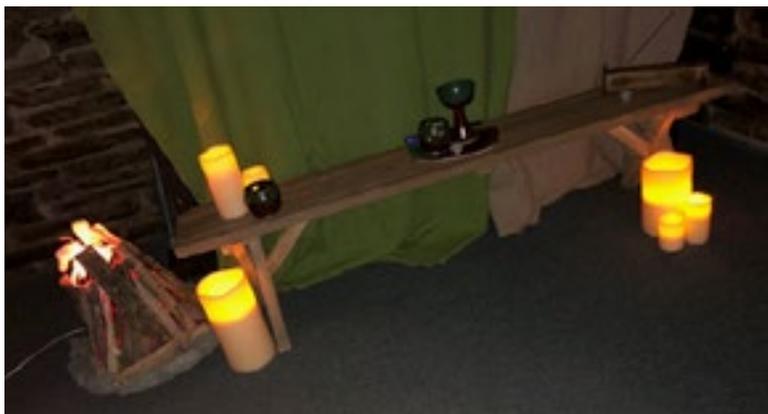
## “Little House on the Prairie: Christmas at Plum Creek” Sunday Brunch December 23rd at 10:30am

**We invite the whole church to join us for waffles, warm drinks, old fashioned crafts and a viewing of a Little House on the Prairie Christmas special after the one church service on December 23rd. This event, sponsored by the Education Team, is open to all - especially our regular Sunday School goes ages 0 – 100. This is a time to celebrate and share warm Christmas memories.**

# Kids News

## Youth Group

### Communion in the Catacombs



This month the youth group is talking about Paul and the early church. Last week, after a brief introduction to Paul, the youth experienced the thrill of a chariot race, through the Friendship Room and down the basement hall. In the Boy Scout Room, which Rev. Amy had transformed into a catacomb, the youth were invited to partake in communion, just as the early Christian might have done.

### Hay Bale Maze Fun!

Almost 50 of our BUMC youth joined us at our annual hay maze adventure last month! It was great fun, and no one was (permanently) lost in the maze!



### Youth 6th-12th Grade

Are you interested in serving as a Youth Intern at Sunday School and serving as a leader for a small group of preschool – 5th graders at 9:30am? Or are you more interested in a small group with your peers learning from a youth-focused curriculum? Please contact Janna for more information and let her know if you want to get connected on Sundays. [Janna@bozemanumc.org](mailto:Janna@bozemanumc.org) or call 551-7209 and leave a message.