

May 2025

Passion Sunday/Palm Sunday: Simon of Cyrene

Dear Friends,

Do you remember the narrative from Passion Sunday from Simon of Cyrene? Simon is the one who was told by Roman soldiers to carry the cross for Jesus to the place of the crucifixion. In the passion narrative, the names of his sons were read: Alexander and Rufus. Now, it may have seemed like a literary embellishment to talk about his sons. However, in this case, the sons are the real deal.

While we do not know historically whether Simon of Cyrene was Jewish or Gentile, we do know that he was indeed from Cyrene and his sons were living in Jerusalem at the time of Jesus' death. Rufus is named in the Gospel of Mark, as accompanying his father that day. Both sons went on to be faithful disciples of Jesus, and Rufus could possibly be the same Rufus that is named by Paul in Romans. The inclusion of Simon's name and Rufus' name may be indications that they were well-known figures in early Christianity whose names would be recognizable to other early Christian followers.

The story of Veronica is much less known. She is not named in the Biblical stories though she is identified by name in early Christian documents as the woman who wiped Jesus' face. It is said that she kept the cloth and carried it with her, becoming an early saint of the church.

I believe the story of Simon in particular illustrates the importance of how our faith is spread through our family and peer interactions. When we share what we believe with others, we can impact generations to come. Simon, after carrying the cross of Jesus and interacting with his sons who were early followers of Christ, came to his own faith in Jesus. Eventually, all three men would share their faith with others.

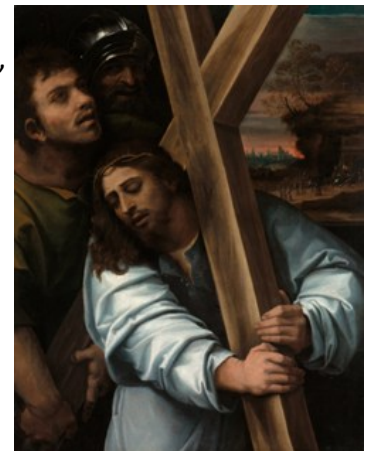
We don't all have these same dramatic faith stories, but we can still share our love and knowledge of Christ with those around us.

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed!

Pastor Jessica

*Jessica*



Christ Carrying the Cross (1515-1517) Sebastiano del Piombo

A Note -

Thank you again to everyone who supported me during my appendicitis and subsequent recovery in late March and into April. It ended up being a longer health journey than I expected - though appendicitis can never really be expected! Your thoughtful cards, texts, and emails were appreciated. While I am not yet 100% recovered, I'm doing so much better than I was. I feel as though I am on the mend and am grateful to God for this healing. ~ Pastor Jessica

May 2025

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**SHARING OUR SUNRISE JOYS AND CONCERNS**

*"O come, let us sing to the Lord;  
ful noise to the rock of our salvation!"*

*let us make a joy-  
Psalm 95:1*

The word that comes first to my mind this time of year is joy. First, and above all other, the joy of the resurrection. And at least in our part of the world it coincides with spring; new life bursting from the ground; blossoms and fresh green leaves adorn the trees; a virtual celebration of creation. And a time of celebration for those graduating and moving on to new adventures. A time of joy and hope as we throw off the dark cloak of short days and winter and relish in the light and soft rains of spring. It's hard not to believe in God's goodness and joy.

And yet we ask the Lord to add light and joy to the lives of those who have lost loved ones during this time. We remember Estelle upon the loss of her sister, Patty and Tana's cousin grieving her husband. We pray that for them and all others experiencing loss that the joy of the resurrection and the promise of new life fills their hearts.

For those with health challenges, we send prayers for God's healing. We continue prayers for Tana's brother, David; for Shirley Gearhart's great grandson, Bridger, slowly recovering in ICU after an accident; thoughts and prayers along with patience for Ruth Hickey's niece after a fall breaking many bones; for Executive Presbyter, Chuck Carlson undergoing surgery; and for Dixie and Rod Poronto continuing struggles with Rod's health and the struggle for Dixie as caregiver. We give thanks that Pastor Jessica is healing after surgery and that Bill McCullough is making progress after successful surgery. Lindsay Logan Olaso's daughter is on the road to recovery following a fall and a broken wrist and sporting a new pink cast. We continue to remember those who are confined to home or care facilities and ask that we as a congregation can help bring joy to their lives with calls, cards and visits.

Celebrations this month for those members of our Sunrise family as they complete studies and look forward to new challenges in the future. We celebrate Cole Gardner upon his graduation from Great Falls High School; Nicole DeVoss as she receives her degree in Nursing from Grand Canyon University; and Ruth Hickey's grandson, Jake, graduating from the Police Academy in Iowa. Joy to all for these accomplishments.

With thanksgiving we recognize those at Sunrise who go above and beyond. Janette Forsyth and Millie Sivak guided our Bible Study through a thought provoking study of Mark. A group of wonderful workers cleaned, waxed and polished the floors in the fellowship hall and beyond. Fifteen members of Sunrise met to dedicate our adoption of Sunrise Terrace Park with a pledge to help improve it and keep it clean. Many families/individuals joined together to facilitate our Holy Week Matins and breakfasts to bring an even deeper spiritual journey to our Easter season.

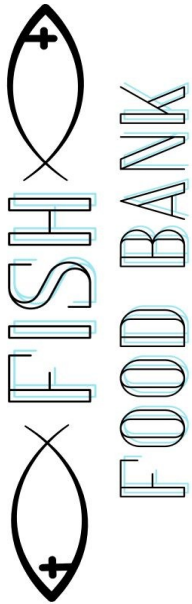
*"For as the rain and snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it ring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it." (Isaiah 55:10-11)*

May the joy of the resurrection and the new life it promises encourage you to water others with the word of God, bringing forth the fullness of God's promises and love, that those seeds may prosper and grow.

*"For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands." (Isaiah 55:12)*

**With JOY in the sunshine, Tana**

May 2025



### Food Suggestions for May:

- Ketchup, Mayonnaise, Mustard
- Boxed Macaroni & Cheese
- Salad Dressing
- Any Type of Soup—Tomato, Chicken Noodle, Cream of Mushroom, etc.

FISH statistics : Sunrise donated 16# of food at our last drop-off.

March totals: 40 families & 36 singles, 111 adults & 40 children

YTD totals: 113 families & 113 singles, 311 adults & 142 children

Our next volunteer days are June 2-6.



*The Crayon Initiative*

### HOW TO GET INVOLVED

- Bring used crayons (no new crayons, this is a recycling program).
- Join us for Fellowship on June 22 when we will be sorting crayons by color and boxing crayons for shipping. Or come down and drink a cup of coffee and visit with those who are sorting.
- Take information to an organization you are associated with and ask them if they will put out a crayon collection box.
- Spread the word to friends and family about the Crayon Initiative and invite them to participate.

## Mother's DAY LUNCHEON

### Spruce Lodge at Glacier Camp

*Enjoy the day with your Mom overlooking Flathead Lake. Reservations required. Limited seating. Buffet style meal*

17482 O'NEIL RD, LAKESIDE, MT  
SUNDAY, MAY 11TH, 2025  
11:30 AM & 1 PM

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED BY MAY 7TH  
CALL: 406-844-2114

ADULTS \$20, CHILDREN 7-14 \$12  
6& UNDER FREE

## TIM Talks

My Heart Exults In The  
Lord

Getting To Know The  
Women of 1 and 2 Samuel

May 4-6, 2025

May 2025

We are all starting to get out of our winter mind set. That goes for the Buildings and Grounds committee also. We would like to thank John DeVoss and Dan Agnew for the work they did last year taking care of the lawn. We also want to thank Lee Hicky and Travis Harp for all they did as Elders of this committee the last three years.

Currently the committee has come up with two lists of projects that need to be done at the Church and the Manse. Many hands make for light work and we will be reaching out from time to time for volunteers to complete these tasks. We will always welcome anyone to join the committee as an at large congregational member.

It would be nice if we had some more help with the lawn care – please let us know if that is where you can pitch in.

The B&G committee: Scott Shull, Dale Lambert, Dan Petersen, and Eric Chigbrow  
Scott Shull, Dale Lambert, Dan Petersen, Eric Chigbrow

## JOIN US FOR SPRING CLEANING MAY 17

10AM-12PM WITH LUNCH AFTER

- Wipe down chairs in Fellowship hall & scrub wainscoting
- Clean glass windows inside and outside (weather permitting)
- Remove sanctuary pew cushions, wipe down the pew seats and put cushions back in place. Vacuum or spot clean cushions as needed
- Clean up flower beds by removing trash, leaves & debris
- Move furniture in Logos room to clean underneath, dust and straighten shelves, vacuum & wipe down furniture

### Reminder:

When donating cans to the can shed, please remember to tie the bags they are donated in. Thank you for being committed to the aluminum can recycling project! We earn approximately \$15 per month on cans and that money is used to ship our pill bottles for reuse.



### **SUNRISE STRIDERS unite!**

Who are the Sunrise Striders? You can be a **SUNRISE STRIDER**. This unique fellowship opportunity was created to enjoy our adopted park, Sunrise Park located between Beth Drive and Ella Avenue on 40<sup>th</sup> Street South.

All are welcome ... no obligation ... just a time of fellowship while enjoying the fresh air. We are excited to embrace our adopted park.





May 2025

May Reading List	
May 1	Song of Solomon 6:2
May 2	Luke 12:27
May 3	Psalms 51:7-10
May 4	Matthew 6:28-30
May 5	Isaiah 40:6-8
May 6	Psalms 103:15-16
May 7	1 Peter 2:24-25
May 8	Isaiah 55:10-13
May 9	Psalms 23:1-3
May 10	Job 40:19-23
May 11	1 Kings 6:29
May 12	Isaiah 35:1-2
May 13	1 Kings 4:29-34
May 14	John 19:29-30
May 15	John 15:5
May 16	Psalms 52:8-9
May 17	Romans 11:17-20, 24
May 18	Genesis 8:11
May 19	Deuteronomy 24:20
May 20	Deuteronomy 8:7-10
May 21	Isaiah 61:5-7
May 22	Isaiah 61:10-11
May 23	Jeremiah 11:16-17
May 24	Song of Solomon 1:13-14
May 25	Song of Songs 2:1-2
May 26	Song of Songs 2:10-13
May 27	Genesis 1:11-13
May 28	Genesis 1:28-31
May 29	Jonah 4:5-6
May 30	Jonah 4:7-9
May 31	Jonah 4:10-11

One of my favorite jokes is a corny one (aren't they all?). If April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring? (answer on bottom of page) With this in mind, the May scriptures are focused around passages about flowers and plants found in the Bible. With this topic, it gives us an opportunity to look at some books of the Bible that get less attention than some others do. I hope you enjoy! ~ Pastor Jessica

**The Faith-Life, Outreach and Mission Committee** is asking for your feedback. We are looking for opportunities to reach out to the community of Great Falls in ways that we can use our resources to help, assist or offer a place that people can come to for fellowship.

Do you know of any specific group or organization that could benefit from our involvement or possibly even the use of our building or property. If so, please let us know so we can reach out to them.

If you have any suggestions, thoughts, ideas or questions please contact:

Carol Still, 912-577-5122 or Joe Hoseck, 406-799-6598

#### 2025 Per Capita:

Per capita is the amount churches pay per member to support our higher judicatory/mid council bodies. This includes Glacier Presbytery, the Synod of the Rocky Mountains, and the PC(USA) national office. This year's per capita is \$70. Thank you for your support of our denomination through your per capita giving.

So far this year Sunrise members have contributed \$1,825 toward 2025 per capita. Thank you!

The Finance Committee & Pastor Jessica

May 2025

<b>May 4</b>	Sun	9:30 am	Worship; Guest Rev. Steve Van Gilder
		10:45 am	Fellowship, Sunday School
		11:00 am	Deacons' meeting
<b>May 6</b>	Tue	6:30 pm	Worship Committee meets
<b>May 8</b>	Thur	11:00 am	Potluck: Everyone is welcome to come
<b>May 11</b>	Sun	9:30 am	Worship with Communion, Mother's Day
		10:45 am	Fellowship, Muffins for Mom
<b>May 15</b>	Thu	10:00 am	Adult Bible Study
<b>May 17</b>	Sat	10:00 am – 12:00 pm	Church Spruce up; Lunch Provided (wear clothes that can get dirty)
<b>May 18</b>	Sun	9:30 am	Worship, Graduation Sunday
		10:45 am	Fellowship, Sunday School
<b>May 23-29</b>			Office closed: Office Admin Kris is out of town <i>Contact Pastor Jessica if you need something</i>
<b>May 25</b>	Sun	9:30 am	Worship
		10:45 am	Fellowship, No Sunday School (holiday weekend)
<b>May 26</b>	Mon	All Day	Office Closed for Memorial Day
<b>May 27</b>	Tues	5:30 pm	Session
May Deacons: Sandy Lambert & Pam Chigbrow			

### Adult Bible Study Group

Our Adult Bible Study group will meet at 10 am on May 8. There will be a potluck lunch following the study and anyone who wants to participate is invited.



May 2025



Glacier Camp Summer Adventures are right around the corner.

Some basic camper information is listed below and the <https://www.glaciercamp.org/> website has more resources for you to explore including specific information about each week and camper scholarship details.

June 22 <sup>nd</sup> – 27 <sup>th</sup>	Classic Camp (Junior & JR high) Adventure Camp 1 (JR high/SR High)	\$650
June 22 <sup>nd</sup> – July 2 <sup>nd</sup>	(Leader in Training) Camp (SR High)	
June 29 <sup>th</sup> – July 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mini – Camp (Grades 1 & 2)	\$350
July 6 <sup>th</sup> – 11 <sup>th</sup>	Classic Camp 2 (Junior, JR high & SR high) Trailblazers Camp (Junior & JR High)	\$650 \$750
July 13 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup>	Night Owl Camp (SR High) Adventure Camp 2 (JR, JR High)	\$650
July 20 <sup>th</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup>	H2O Camp (Junior, JR high & SR high)	\$750

### What age group is my camper?

School Grade in Fall 2025	Glacier Camp 2025 age group
1-2	Mini
3-5	Junior
6-8	Junior High
9-12	Senior High
At college	Come work for us! Email <a href="mailto:info@glaciercamp.org">info@glaciercamp.org</a> to express interest.

## Reasons to register now for summer 2025...

### ✓ NEW OUTBOUND CAMPS

- Night Owl Camp is back after a year out, we're running TWO adventure camps, and NEW TRAILBLAZERS CAMP offers younger campers life-changing outbound experiences

### ✓ NEW CABINS AND DOCK

- We completed our new dock in July 2024, and we're excited to enjoy it ALL SUMMER this time round! And we've got two more brand-new KOA cabins in place, completing our modern yet rustic cabin village!

### ✓ EPIC FUN ALL DAY LONG

- Our private beach, archery and hatchet ranges, arts and crafts shack, canoes, paddleboards, low ropes challenge course, basketball and volleyball courts, outdoor amphitheatre, gagaball arena, campfire pit, chapel, sports and games lawn, and SO MUCH MORE = great memories.

### ✓ FORMATIVE EXPERIENCES

- It's not easy being a kid or a teenager. Our campers are welcomed into an open and safe environment where they can be themselves and learn to run the race of life according to the Bible.

May 2025

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**Committees and Elders:**

Admin, Personnel, & Social Media: Joe Hoseck, Scott Shull, Dan Petersen  
Buildings & Grounds: Dale Lambert, Eric Chigbrow, Dan Petersen, Scott Shull, Bill McCullough  
Christian Education: Erica Rusinski, Bill McCullough  
Faith, Outreach, & Mission: Norman Anderson, Joe Hoseck, Dale Lambert, Carol Stilli  
Finance, Stewardship, & Memorials: Joe Hoseck, Dale Lambert, Scott Shull, Dan Petersen  
Nominating: Norman Anderson, Eric Chigbrow  
Worship: Norman Anderson, Carol Stilli  
Clerk of Session: Millie Sivak



**Sunrise Board of Deacons:**

Chair: Ember Woods  
Secretary: Tana Harp    Treasurer: Janette Forsyth  
Pam Chigbrow, Maribeth Doan, Beth Hoseck, Sandy Lambert, Jacinte McCullough, Sue Petersen