

September 2026

Dear Friends,

In the Old Testament, one of the most fascinating concepts is that of “jubilee”. It is the concept (and theoretically, practice) that every fifty years, slaves are freed and property is restored. Based upon seven cycles of seven years, a year of jubilee is intended to free slaves from bondage, to restore ancestral land that has been sold or lost, and to let the land rest. It is primarily laid out in Leviticus 25, with echoes of it in Leviticus 27 and Numbers 36.

“You shall hallow the fiftieth year, and you shall proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a Jubilee to you.” (Leviticus 25:10a)

When land was sold, or when people were sold into slavery, it was to be not perpetually, but until the time of the Jubilee – and at that time, people were freed and land was returned to its original owners. It’s what today we would call pro-rating.

We don’t know how well it worked in a practical sense – whether or not it always was the case that slaves were freed and land was returned. But the image and concept of Jubilee is beautiful: no one, and nothing, stays indebted to another for eternity. Freedom will come, and with it comes celebration. Those who have been away will return, and that which has been lost will be restored.

This ancient image of celebration feels relevant as I am thinking a lot these days about both celebration and returning – celebrating Sunrise’s 70th anniversary, and folks who are returning to visit Sunrise to celebrate with us.

From 1956 to 2026, the church has seen immense change. From starting its gatherings in Lewis and Clark school, to being one of the few buildings east of 38th Street, to celebrating 70 years of ministry in Great Falls, there has been much that has shifted. We still have one charter member among us (Fran Lindstrand), and a few members who joined just shortly after the charter was established (including Fran’s brother Don Roehm). We have new members as well, those who have joined us recently. And everyone in-between.

I feel a deep wellspring of joy as I think on all the ministry that Sunrise has engaged in, and continues to engage in, over seven decades. Weddings, funerals, baptisms, hundreds of communion Sundays, vacation bible school, fellowship time, mission projects, Logos, partnerships with organizations including Intermountain and Glacier Camp are just a handful of the many ways that Sunrise has influenced the world and its members.

As Christians, we are called to be a people of joy.

“The Lord has done great things for us; and we rejoiced.” (Psalm 126:3)

This seventy-year mark offers us a moment of testimony, where we can reflect upon who we have been, what we have accomplished, and who we want to be going into the future. We are a people who celebrate together because God has, and continues, to do great things among us and through us. So we gather, we give thanks, and we live in joy as a community of believers, brought together by God.

I hope you will be able to join us for our community carnival on Saturday, September 12, 2026 and for our anniversary worship service on Sunday, October 25, 2026.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Jessica



September 2026

SHARING OUR SUNRISE JOYS AND CONCERNS SEPTEMBER 2026

***"The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever."
(Isaiah 40:8)***

***"To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven."
(Ecclesiastes 3:1)***

It's unmistakable. The cool crisp mornings. The days growing shorter. A few yellow leaves among the green. September signals change coming. The change from summer vacations, extra travel and vacations, visiting family and friends to a more settled season of routine, a sense of the steadiness in our lives. It's an exciting time of newness. A time of excitement and transition as young children enter new grades, new schools, new teachers; recent graduates move into college, new jobs, new adventures. Crops are or have been harvested. Even for those of us a bit older, fall signals changes in our lives as we consider downsizing, spending winters where it's warmer, and adjusting to the seasons of aging. All in God's plan. A time for renewal in our faith. A time for giving thanks in our goodbyes as well as looking forward with faith in God in our hellos.

Change for those dealing with loss of a loved one is difficult. Whether recent or in the past we ask for God's peace as we remember. This month we send special prayers to Dixy Paronto on the loss of her husband Rod. May God walk with Dixie in the memories of goodbyes and the hellos of her new life without him.

We are blessed that many in our midst who have been sick, had accidents or surgery are recovering and we thank God for healing. Michelle Sivak had a heart ablation and is feeling much better. Ember Wood's great granddaughter, Elsie, has recovered from surgery and is her happy baby self. The grandson of our office administrator, Kris, is recovered after a recent illness. We continue to ask for prayers of healing for Dale Lambert in the slow process of recovery from back surgery; for Ilene Casey after a fall and significant eye damage; and for Nancy Maynard with a broken femur. For those not mentioned may God's healing touch be upon them too.

"Cast all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you." (1 Peter 5:7)

Hold in your hearts our friends who are in care facilities. We pray for Benna McGeorge, Gail Bucko, Lois Mitchell and Jane Mart. We extend our prayers for the foster children in our community as they live with uncertainty in their lives and we give thanks for those among us like Mark Bovingdon and Roba Strandell who give their energies supporting them. Prayers for all dealing with wildfires, especially our neighbors in Spokane, and the firefighters who are there for them.

We pray for our school children and their teachers as they embark on a new year, for our college students off on their own, and all those beginning new phases in their lives. May we find this new time of steadiness and routine the opportunity to renew our faith with opportunities for worship, prayer, study and service.

The seasons in our lives change, but the goodness of God and his steadfast love remain constant in both our goodbyes and hellos.

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By His great mercy He has given us a new birth into a living HOPE through the resurrection of Jesus Christ."

(1 Peter 1:3)

See you in the sunshine, Tana

September 2026

September Reading List: Bible Verses on Education & Learning	
Date	Scripture Reference
Sep 1	Proverbs 1:5
Sep 2	Proverbs 1:7
Sep 3	Proverbs 2:6
Sep 4	Proverbs 3:13
Sep 5	Proverbs 4:7
Sep 6	Proverbs 9:9
Sep 7	Proverbs 12:1
Sep 8	Proverbs 15:14
Sep 9	Proverbs 16:16
Sep 10	Proverbs 18:15
Sep 11	Proverbs 19:20
Sep 12	Proverbs 22:6
Sep 13	Proverbs 23:12
Sep 14	Proverbs 27:17
Sep 15	Proverbs 4:1-2
Sep 16	Romans 12:2
Sep 17	Deuteronomy 6:6-7
Sep 18	Psalms 32:8
Sep 19	Psalms 119:105
Sep 20	Psalms 119:66
Sep 21	Acts 17:11
Sep 22	Psalms 143:10
Sep 23	Isaiah 54:13
Sep 24	Philippians 4:9
Sep 25	Luke 2:52
Sep 26	John 14:26
Sep 27	2 Timothy 2:15
Sep 28	2 Timothy 3:16-17
Sep 29	James 1:5
Sep 30	Colossians 3:16

Adult Bible Study Resumes Sept 17 at 10 am

Bible Study Course with DVD and accompanying books

"The Mission of Jesus": Five lessons on the Triumph of God's Kingdom in a world

In this series, you will experience the bible in historical context with Ray Vander-Lann.

Remember you can always visit our current bulletins and newsletters on our website.

Visit www.sunrisegreatfalls.net

Remembering Rev. Tim Lanham

A memorial service will be held for Tim at Glacier Camp on Sept. 23, 2026.

Rev. Timothy Chandler Lanham died on June 23, 2026. He will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved him. Tim touched many lives in his time on this earth. Tim was born on September 20, 1962 in Harlowton, MT. The Lanham family lived in White Sulphur Springs and Bozeman, MT; Birmingham, PA; Brookings, SD and Bellevue, NE. Since the age of three, Tim always wanted to come back to Montana.

Tim was a 1984 graduate of Rocky Mountain College. He graduated from San Francisco Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity in 1988. He earned a Master of Theology from Princeton Theological Seminary in 2001.

As a PC(USA) Minister of Word and Sacrament, Tim served churches in Des Moines, IA; Stanford and Geyser, MT and Sunrise Presbyterian Church in Great Falls, MT. Most recently he served as the director of Glacier Camp and Conference Center. He could be found preaching in churches across Glacier and Yellowstone Presbyteries. He served on the boards of San Francisco Theological Seminary and Intermountain Children's Home in Helena, MT.

He has joined his treasured wife of 38 years, Georgia (Gigi) and his loving parents Orville and Sylvia Lanham. An interment service for Tim and Gigi will be held in Sheridan, WY on Sept. 26, 2026

He is survived by his sister Susan, brother-in-law John and beloved niece Sarah Nettleton; his brother Mark Lanham; his sister Helen Lanham and brother-in-law Jonathan Strand.

September 2026

September Deacons: Jacinte McCullough & Tana Harp

Sep 1	Tues	5:30 pm	Session
Sep 2	Wed	6:00 pm	Worship Committee
Sep 2 —7	Wed/Mon	All Day	Kris out of Office
Sep 6	Sun	9:30 am	Worship
		10:30 am	Fellowship
Sep 7	Mon	All Day	Happy Labor Day/Office Closed
Sep 12	Sat	12-4 pm	Sunrise 70th Anniversary Carnival (Weather Permitting)
Sep 13	Sun	9:30 am	Worship w/ Communion
		10:30 am	Fellowship
		11:00 am	Deacons Meeting; <i>One week later due to holiday</i>
		11:00 am	Con-Ed Meeting
Sep 16	Wed	6:00 pm	Faith—Life, Outreach, Mission Meeting
Sep 17	Thu	10:00 am	Bible Study Resumes
Sep 20	Sun	9:30 am	Worship
		10:30 am	Fellowship
		10:45 am	Sunday School Resumes
Sep 21-27	Mon/Sun	All Day	Jessica out for Con Ed
Sep 23	Wed	10:00 am	Newsletter Folding
Sep 27	Sun	9:30 am	Worship; Marcia Anderson filling the pulpit
		10:30 am	Fellowship
		10:45 am	Sunday School
Sep 29	Tue	5:30 pm	Session
Sep 30-Oct 4	Wed-Sun	All Day	Jessica out

Upcoming in Worship:

Pastor Jessica will be gone Sept 27 and Oct 4. Marcia Anderson will provide the message on Sept 27 and Rev. Courtney Arntzen, community chaplain in Missoula, will provide the message on Oct 4.

Children’s Sabbath and celebration of World Communion Sunday will be held on Oct 11. Children will receive age-based bibles in worship that Sunday.

Reformation Sunday and Sunrise’s 70th Anniversary service will be held on Sunday, Oct 25 during the regular service time at 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School resumes for children on Sunday, Sept 20. This year, Sunday school classes will be split into two age groups: 6th graders and younger children. The 6th graders will be taught by Carol Stilli and the younger children will be taught by Erica Rusinski and Rowena Milton. Sunday school will begin at 10:45 am, following worship.

September 2026



70th Anniversary Carnival

Celebrating 70 Years of Sunrise in the GF Community

You're Invited!

- Saturday, September 12, 2026
- 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM
- At Sunrise Presbyterian Church
- 3809 6th Ave. S., Great Falls, MT 59405 in parking area and north lawn
- Free Admission — Open to the Public
- Everyone is invited to attend!

Volunteers Needed!

- We need lots of volunteers to make this a great event!
- Some positions are seated — great for those unable to stand for long periods.
- To sign up, contact the church office:
- 406-453-2031 or email: sunrisepresbyteriangf@gmail.com

Join us for 70th Anniversary Celebrations at Sunrise

Carnival
September 12
from Noon to 4 pm

Reformation (Anniversary)
Worship Service
October 25 at 9:30 a.m.

"70" for 70 Community Volunteer Hours by Sunrise Members	Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug
	Community Volunteer Hours	124	128.75	197.50	127.50	169	158.25	105.5	59

Thank you for all you do for our wider community.

In Memory of...

This has been a very sentimental year here at Sunrise.

This year the Buildings and Grounds Committee along with the Memorial Committee has been busy. As a church, we have updated our sign in the front of the church, completed the sidewalk around the back of the church, purchased ten new chairs for the upstairs meeting room, added the Sunrise name to the back of the church, and recently planted a tree in memory of Rev. Tim Lanham.

These and other projects would not have been possible without the money people donate in memory of loved friends and family.

Sorrow should not be the only time we think about the way the church impacts our lives. We can make plans to support the church in the future by including the church in our estate planning (ask your tax advisor about tax benefits), or by supporting a special capital fund to make sure we can continue to keep our buildings in good repair.

Thank you for all of the ways you continue to support this church both financially and physically with your involvement in our many activities socially and spiritually.

September 2026

**MEMORIAL
TO SANDRA YVONNE HUSTON KONRAD
April 23, 1942 – March 25, 1969**

The Christian Symbols installed at the stair-well railing
tell a story of our Savior's life; reading from left to right:

A MONOGRAM FOR CHRIST

"Simon Peter replied, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.'" Matthew 16:16

This ancient monogram is also known as a Christogram or the Chi-Rho. It is formed by the first two letters --Chi (X) and Rho (P) in the Greek Word for Christ.

EPIPHANY

"...behold, Wise Men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, 'Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East, and have come to worship him.'" Matthew 2:1b-2

Epiphany means the manifestation of God to the Gentiles, symbolized by the five-pointed star. The three crowns remind us of the wise men, traditionally referred to as three kings. They were the first Gentiles to receive the good news of Jesus' birth.

THE MESSIANIC ROSE

"...the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose." Isaiah 35:1b.

The rose is a symbol of Christ's coming as the Messiah. When used as a symbol of the Nativity, it is called "The Christmas Rose."

FEEDING THE 5000

"There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two fish; but what are they among so many?" John 6:9

One of Jesus' miracles is symbolized by five loaves and two fishes.

SERMON ON THE MOUNT

"Seeing the crowd, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them saying..." Matthew 5:1-2.

This symbol shows the Chi-Rho Christogram on top of a mountain, with the waves of the Sea of Galilee in the foreground. The Sermon on the Mount is recorded in Matthew, Chapters 5-7.

THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY

"So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying, 'Hosanna!'" John 12:13a.

Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, celebrated on Palm Sunday, is symbolized by palm leaves and the Christogram.

CRUCIFIXION

"And they clothed him with a purple cloak, and plaiting a

crown of thorns, they put it on him." Mark 15:17

The crown of thorns and three nails, used in combination or separately, symbolize the humiliation and torture of Jesus' crucifixion.

EASTER LILY

"...I died, and behold I am alive for evermore..." Revelation 1:18b.

There is no scriptural reference to the Easter Lily as a symbol of the resurrection. It has become popular and appropriate however, because out of the hardy dry bulb, buried in the earth, grows green foliage, white flowers and a new bulb. The Madonna Lily represents purity and is the symbol of the Virgin Mary.

THE TRANSFIGURATION

"And he was transfigured before them, and his face shown like the sun, and his garments became white as light. And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him." Matthew 17:2-3.

This symbol is composed of the IHC monogram representing Jesus, the tablets of the law for Moses, and the flaming chariot wheel for Elijah.

JESUS CHRIST THE VICTOR

"...be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." John 16:33b.

This symbol is a combination of a Greek cross, the first and last letters of the Greek words for Jesus and Christ, plus the Greek word NIKAI meaning victor. The curved lines over the IC and XC indicate they are abbreviations.

A MONOGRAM OF JESUS

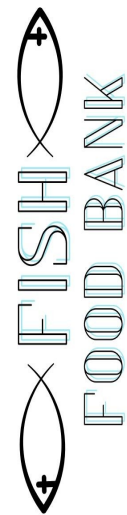
"...you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." Matthew 1:21b

This monogram is formed by the first three letters of the Greek word for Jesus (IHCOYC). The horizontal line crossing the H shows it is an abbreviation. In some designs this forms a cross which is an appropriate combination of symbols.

These symbols were cut by Lincoln Anderson. A few were finished by Steve and Clark Potts. They all were finished and installed by Edmond C. Huston.

As you appreciate this memorial, may it be a gentle reminder of the birth, life, death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior, of our dependence upon Him for forgiveness, and of our hope for Eternal life in Him.

September 2026



FISH Needs:

- + Tomato Soup/Chicken Noodle Soup
- + Boxed/Bags of Cereal
- + Canned Goods: Chili, Corn, Green Beans, Black Beans, etc..
- + Healthy Snacks (Granola Bars, Dried Fruit, Boxed Potatoes
- + Canned Veggies
- + Canned Fruit

FISH bowl Sunday collected \$56 in August.

Our next week to help will be **September 21 st -25th** . Due to the increasing number of clients, we are in need of additional volunteers to help in September and going forward.

Thank you to all who helped with donations of time, food, and money.

Gratefully, Maribeth Doan

FISH STATISTICS	Families	Adults	Kids	Pounds Distributed
June 2026	64	91	28	3985
July 2026	83	115	58	5284



Our annual picnic, held at Lion’s Park, was so much fun! We had more than 60 members and friends in attendance.



The new “little library” at Sunrise Park, assembled by Eric Chigbrow and installed by the GF Parks and Rec Dept.

We continue to support a variety of environmental initiatives:

Pill Bottle Reuse	Aluminum Can Recycling	Plastic Grocery Bag Recycling	Egg Carton Reuse by GF Food Bank
Pill bottles with child safety lids are cleaned and then sent for re-use in a variety of ways	Aluminum cans are recycled and the money collected goes to cover shipping costs for pill bottles	Plastic grocery bags are collected and dropped off for recycling	1-dozen size egg cartons in good, clean condition are reused by the Great Falls Food Bank as they split eggs out from pallets to smaller quantities

September 2026

Committees and Elders:

Admin, Personnel, & Social Media: Scott Shull, Dan Petersen, Marcia Anderson

Buildings & Grounds: Eric Chigbrow, Dan Petersen, Scott Shull, Bill McCullough

Christian Education: Erica Rusinski, Bill McCullough, Rowena Milton

Faith, Outreach, & Mission: Carol Stilli, Eric Chigbrow

Finance, Stewardship, & Memorials:, Scott Shull, Dan Petersen

Nominating: Eric Chigbrow, Marcia Anderson

Worship: Carol Stilli, Marcia Anderson

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