



# St. Andrew

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We are Building a Servant Community Seeking to be Christ's Hands and Heart.

180 24TH STREET WEST BILLINGS, MONTANA 59102 (406) 656-9256 [STANDREWBILLINGS.ORG](http://STANDREWBILLINGS.ORG)

## Andrew's Net

Catching up On The Latest News

### Prayer For March

Dear Lord,

As we welcome March, I come to You with hope and gratitude. In this season of renewal, guide my steps and fill my heart with Your light.

Bless this month, Lord. Help me embrace its changes and find peace in Your wisdom.

Watch over my family and loved ones, providing for our needs and strengthening our bonds.

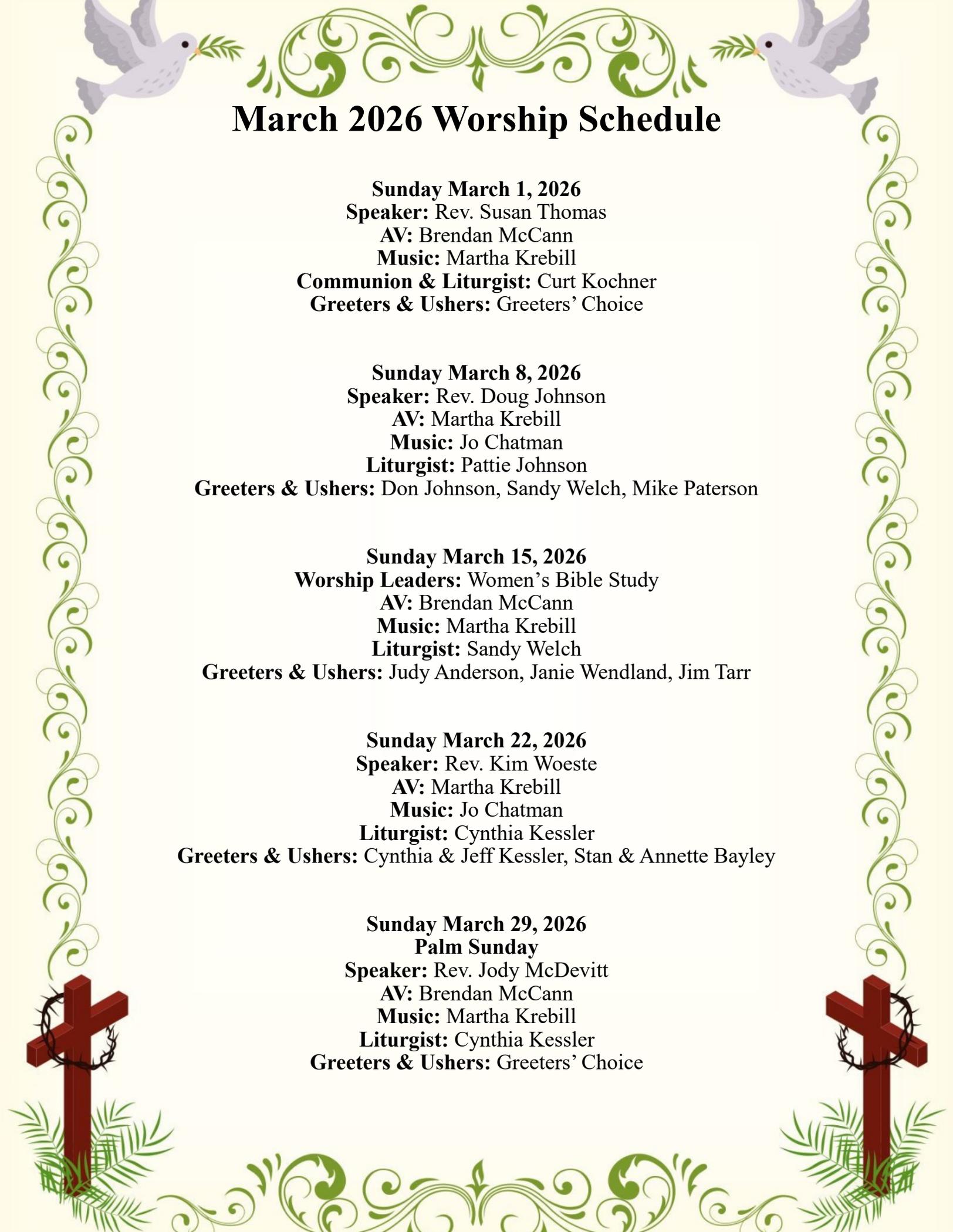
Give me strength to face challenges with courage, trusting in Your goodness. Be with those who are struggling, offering them comfort and healing.

As nature awakens, fill me with joy and a thankful spirit. Let me appreciate daily blessings and find beauty in simplicity. Guide me to be kind and supportive to those around me.

Draw me closer to You, Lord, renewing my spirit and deepening my understanding of Your word.

In Your name, I pray,

Amen.



# March 2026 Worship Schedule

**Sunday March 1, 2026**

**Speaker:** Rev. Susan Thomas

**AV:** Brendan McCann

**Music:** Martha Krebill

**Communion & Liturgist:** Curt Kochner

**Greeters & Ushers:** Greeters' Choice

**Sunday March 8, 2026**

**Speaker:** Rev. Doug Johnson

**AV:** Martha Krebill

**Music:** Jo Chatman

**Liturgist:** Pattie Johnson

**Greeters & Ushers:** Don Johnson, Sandy Welch, Mike Paterson

**Sunday March 15, 2026**

**Worship Leaders:** Women's Bible Study

**AV:** Brendan McCann

**Music:** Martha Krebill

**Liturgist:** Sandy Welch

**Greeters & Ushers:** Judy Anderson, Janie Wendland, Jim Tarr

**Sunday March 22, 2026**

**Speaker:** Rev. Kim Woeste

**AV:** Martha Krebill

**Music:** Jo Chatman

**Liturgist:** Cynthia Kessler

**Greeters & Ushers:** Cynthia & Jeff Kessler, Stan & Annette Bayley

**Sunday March 29, 2026**

**Palm Sunday**

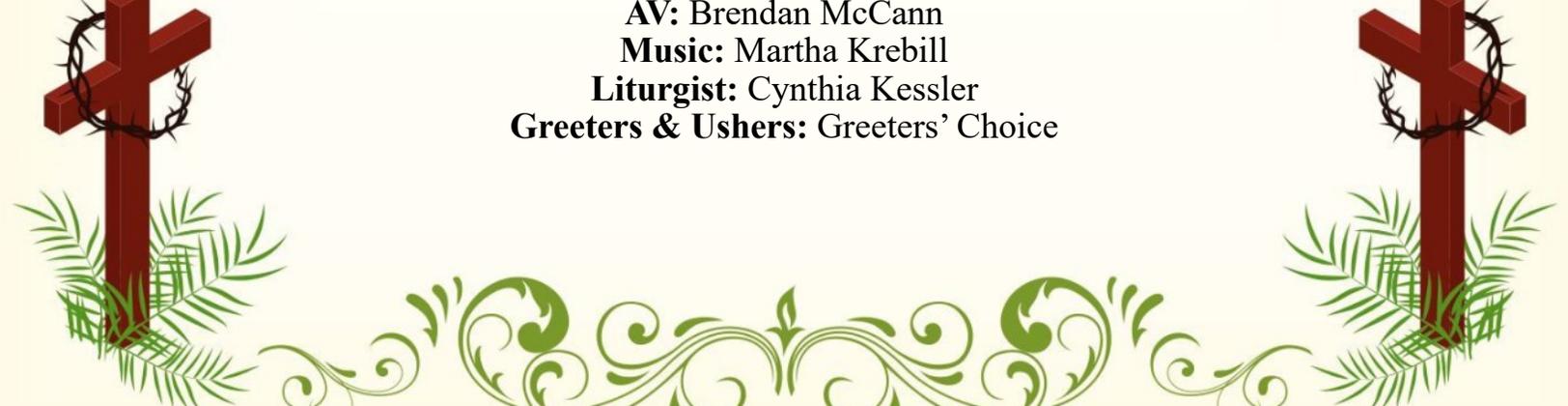
**Speaker:** Rev. Jody McDevitt

**AV:** Brendan McCann

**Music:** Martha Krebill

**Liturgist:** Cynthia Kessler

**Greeters & Ushers:** Greeters' Choice



## Earth Care News March 2026

The St. Andrew Earth Care team met in early February to make plans for growing our ministry in 2026. Following the PC(USA) Earth Care Congregations guidance, we considered four areas of the church's life, and set the following goals.

**Worship** – We will lead two worship services this year, starting with an Earth Day service on April 19. We will also host World Labyrinth Day on the first Saturday in May.

**Education** – We want to provide education to the congregation regarding plastics and the environment. We will also be following area environmental groups on the topics of AI and data centers.

**Facilities** – We will keep working on the Native Plants Demonstration Garden. This will include planting and replacement of plants as needed, getting more permanent signage, and continuing to weed and water as plants are still getting established. We also want to have a joint meeting with the Facilities Committee to talk about what else the church can be doing.

**Outreach** – To enhance our displays at public events, we will get a table covering with church, garden, and earth care logos. We will continue our associations with area environmental groups. The Earth Care Team is always open to anyone who wants to participate. All of St. Andrew is our church's Earth Care Team!

### Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study will be studying hymns of the church, looking at their stories and connecting them with scripture. Please join us each Tuesday at 1 p.m. in the Garden Room.

**March 3**  
**March 10**  
**March 17**  
**March 24**  
**March 31**

Here I Am, Lord #69  
Great Is Thy Faithfulness #39  
Jesus, Remember Me #227  
All Glory, Laud, and Honor #196  
Craft

### Per capita invitation

What is per capita? Per capita is a pledge based on church membership. The funds from per capita help finance Yellowstone Presbytery, the Synod of the Rocky Mountains, and our General Assembly. These contributions help support ministry programs at different levels of the church, the printing of church resources, training for ministers and church leaders, and other programs of the PC(USA).

The session invites members of our congregation, if able, to help us pay our per capita pledge. The per capita for 2026 is \$60.50 per person.

## Happy 90th Birthday, Jim Tarr!

With gratitude and excitement, you are invited to celebrate Jim Tarr's 90th birthday on Saturday, March 7, at 5:00 p.m. at the C'mon Inn, 6139 E. Valley Center Road. If you are able to attend, please RSVP to Pam at 406-539-7612.

As we look forward to this joyful celebration, we give thanks for Jim's lifelong friendship, leadership, and faithful service at St. Andrew. Jim has truly been the hands and heart of Christ in our church and community.

A few of the countless ways Jim has touched lives and made a difference:

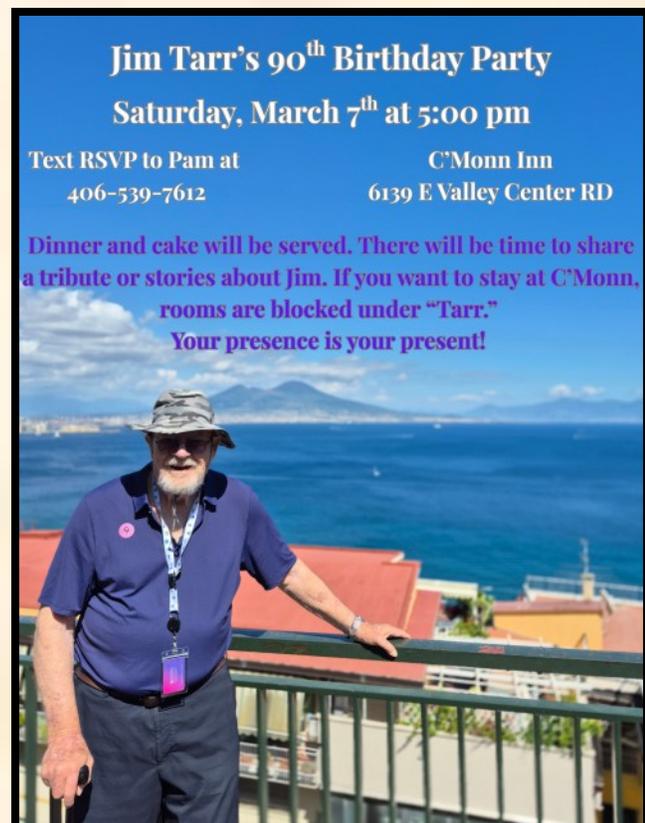
- Charter member of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church
- Served numerous terms as a Ruling Elder, including the first session in 1968
- Trustee of the St. Andrew Corporation multiple times
- Choir member
- Member of the Facilities Committee
- Facilitator of Adult Sunday School programs
- Long-time volunteer at Westminster Spires, supporting facilities and programming
- Stated Clerk of the St. Andrew Session
- Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of the Yellowstone
- Member of many Presbytery committees, including Leadership Council and Committee on Ministry
- Elder Commissioner to the Synod of the Rocky Mountains
- Member of Synod committees
- Elder Commissioner to the PC(USA)

Beyond his leadership roles, Jim has generously shared his professional expertise for facility improvements at St. Andrew and Westminster Spires. He has inspired and served at every level, from encouraging young people at ski retreats, cooking at Westminster Spires activities, to contributing to committees at the General Assembly.

Jim, we celebrate your faithful leadership, generosity, and servant heart. You have touched countless lives, and we are so grateful for the ways you have shared your gifts with our church and community.

Please join us in celebrating this milestone and honoring a life of dedication, love, and service.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY JIM!!!!**



## MORE THOUGHTS ON PRAYER

Stan Bayley

I debated with myself as to whether or not and/or how I should share this with you and decided this was the best way.

As many of you know, I'm an MSU Bobcat football fan. Some would even say I'm an "ardent" fan and maybe others would say I'm a "fanatical" fan. I actually am a fan of all Bobcat sports and watch football, women's volleyball (offsets men's football – it's a Title 9 thing) and men's and women's basketball. I'd probably watch Bobcat golf if it were televised and don't even like golf!

You may also know that I attended the FCS Championship football game in Nashville between the Bobcats and Illinois State. If you followed or watched the game at all, you probably know it was a very close overtime win. On the morning of the game, I prayed the same prayer that Annette and I pray on all game day mornings – that the Bobcats would play their very best and that there would be no significant injuries for either team. But, as things became tense near the end of the fourth quarter with Illinois State about to attempt a go ahead and potentially game winning field goal, I sat in my seat with 15,000 screaming fans on their feet around me – and I prayed. I prayed that the Bobcats would find a way to win the game. As you may know, the field goal attempt was blocked and the Bobcats had a chance to win in regulation. Things didn't go so well for them and the game went into overtime.

The overtime period started with a quick touchdown by Illinois State. Surprisingly, the extra point attempt was blocked. All MSU had to do was score a touchdown and extra point to win. Things started out well with the Bobcats getting a first down, however, Illinois State held them on the next three downs. It was fourth down and ten and unless the Bobcats could at least get a first down on the next play, they would lose. I sat in my seat again while the 15,000 fans around me stood – silent this time. I prayed that the Bobcats would be able to get the first down. As it turned out, they scored a touchdown and the extra point to win the game. I feel my prayers were answered. However, I do think that there many people that would question praying or "bothering" God with something as trivial as the outcome of a football game. But I believe that God cares about not just the big things, but the little things in our lives. He also cares for our happiness.

You may have heard me in the past state that God always answers prayer. Sometime the answer is "yes," sometimes "no," and other times, "not yet." Upon reflection, there's another possibility as illustrated by this story.

Once upon a time a man was trapped on his rooftop during a massive flood. As the waters rose, a rowboat came by, and the boatman shouted, "Jump in, I'll take you to safety!" The man replied, "No, thanks. God will save me." The waters kept rising. A motorboat arrived, and the driver called out, "Come on, I'll rescue you!" Again, the man refused, saying, "No, thanks. God will save me."

The floodwaters rose even higher. A helicopter flew overhead, and the pilot lowered a rope ladder, calling, "Grab the ladder, and we'll pull you up!" The man stubbornly refused once more, "No, thanks. God will save me."

Eventually, the water engulfed the house, and the man drowned. When he arrived in heaven, he asked God, "Why didn't You save me?" God replied, "I sent you a rowboat, a motorboat, and a helicopter. What more did you want?"

The story shows that we can be so focused on the answer we want and expect, that we fail to see the answer God provides.

## News from the Office

As we move closer to spring and hopefully some consistently warm weather, I wanted to share a few updates from the church office and say thank you for your continued support during this season of transition and growth.

First, garden applications are steadily rolling in! I've received many submissions through the new website, and applications are also continuing to arrive by mail and in person each day. It's wonderful to see such enthusiasm for the garden ministry again this year.

Thank you to everyone who has responded to my request to update your personal information for the new church directory. Between the recent logo changes, requested edits, and general updates, this has been quite the project, but a good one! My goal is to have the updated directory completed and distributed by the end of March. I appreciate your patience as I work carefully to ensure everything is accurate and reflects our new branding.

Speaking of transitions, I am deeply grateful to Dave Kimball, our Worship Committee Director, who has done a fantastic job coordinating pulpit coverage through May already. His dedication, organization, and commitment have been such a gift during this time. Thank you Dave!

Office reorganization is also coming along beautifully, thanks to the tireless efforts of Susan Thomas, who has so patiently and graciously worked her way through years and years of old paperwork, files, and cabinets. It's no small task, and her steady perseverance has made an enormous difference. Thank you so much Susan.

Behind the scenes, I've been training on our new programs to ensure the website continues running smoothly and to transition all documentation to reflect our updated logo. Change takes time, but I am making steady progress, and I'm grateful for your understanding as I wade through these updates.

I am also excited to welcome Kristin Kochner as one of the new AV personnel. Please be sure to thank her when you see her, we're grateful for her willingness to serve in this important role.

It seems many of you escaped to warm, sunny destinations over the past few weeks. I'm expecting everyone to return in March with a beautiful tan! It will be wonderful to see familiar faces back in the church as we head toward spring.

As always, my office hours are Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. I truly enjoy the conversations, stories, and moments of connection that so many of you bring into the office. Whether you stop by with a question, an idea, or simply to say hello, please know that my door is always open.

Thank you for your unwavering support, your patience, and your kindness as I continue navigating changes and prepare for a vibrant spring season. I am grateful to serve alongside such a caring and committed church family, and I look forward to all that the warmer months will bring.

With gratitude,  
Maggie

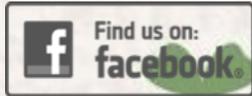




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Address Service Request  
180 24th Street West  
Billings, MT 59102



## Our Journey through Lent

Ash Wednesday, on February 18, marked the beginning of Lent, the forty days before Easter when we focus on Jesus and his journey to the cross and deepening our faith in him.

To mark the Season of Lent, a wreath of candles, beautifully designed by Teresa Alexander, has been placed on the Communion Table. Each week, a candle will be extinguished, symbolizing light fading to darkness as Lent progresses. On Good Friday, the last candle will be extinguished. On Easter, as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, the center Christ candle will once again blaze with light, signifying the Light of the World which darkness cannot overcome.