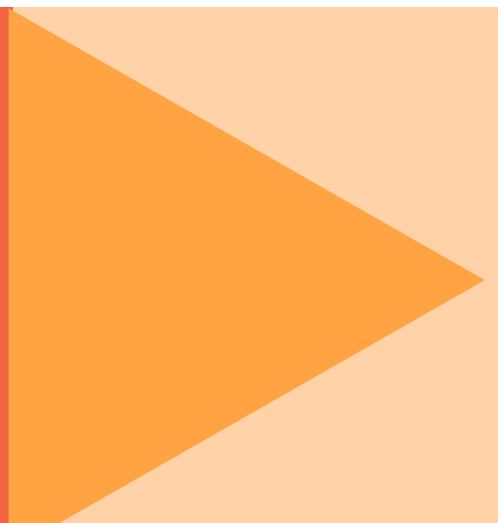




Class of 2026

CONFIRMATION ELECTIVES



Below is an overview of the electives offered by month, each with a point value ranging from 2 to 6. Select electives that add up to at least 6 points in total.

JANUARY ELECTIVES

(2) Bible Study: Lament

Sunday mornings, 9:30AM - 10:30AM, Back Room in the Cellar
There is an option to receive an additional 2 points if you participate in any of the Bible Study electives.

(2) Children's Sunday School Helper

Sunday mornings, 9:30 - 10:34, Children's Wing

Stories that Shape Us

(4) January 7 - March 1

In Person January 7, 21, February, 4, March 1, 6:30 - 8PM
Cellar

Page 1

Page 2

Page 3

FEBRUARY ELECTIVES

(2) Bible Study: Faith that sets us Free

Sunday mornings, 9:30AM - 10:30AM, Back Room in the Cellar
There is an option to receive an additional 2 points if you participate in any of the Bible Study electives.

(2) Children's Sunday School Assistant

Sunday mornings, 9:30 - 10:30, Children's Wing

(3) Compassion Retreat

February 16, 9AM - 5PM

There is an option to receive an additional 3 points if you participate in the retreat.

Page 1

Page 2

Page 5

**OVERVIEW OF
OPPORTUNITIES**

Below is an overview of the electives offered by month, each with a point value ranging from 2 to 6. Select electives that add up to at least 6 points in total.

MARCH ELECTIVES

(2) Bible Study: Feasting on the Word

Sunday mornings, 9:30 – 10:30, Back Room in the Cellar

There is an option to receive an additional 2 points if you participate in any of the Bible Study electives.

Page 1

(2) Children's Sunday School Assistant

Sunday mornings, 9:30 – 10:30, Children's Wing

Page 2

(4) Lenten Practices

Wednesdays in Lent, 7PM - 8PM, Cellar

There is an option to receive an additional 2 points if you participate in this elective.

Page 6

FLEXIBLE TIMING

(2) Scripture Memorization

There is an option to receive an additional 1 point if you participate in this elective.

Page 7

(4) Reading for Faith

Page 8

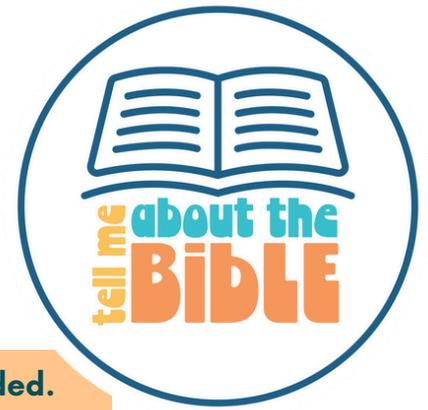
(6) Create your own

Page 9

**REGISTER BY
NOVEMBER 30**

Bible Studies

Join MOB in the Morning crew in the Back Room of the Cellar! Explore the Bible and uncover stories and ways that they connect to your life today! Discover how to think like a biblical scholar, ask big questions, and find meaning in scripture.



**Each elective counts for 2 points out of 6 that are needed.
So, if you attend all three you will receive 6 points.**

January: Lament

taught by Jim Borgstede and Dianne Briscoe McKenzie

Sunday mornings, 9:30AM - 10:30AM, January 4th, 11th, & 18th

Must be able to attend 2 out of the 3 Sundays

Explore the biblical tradition of lament—a way to bring our deepest pain and questions to God. We all experience loss that makes us cry out, and even communities lament together. We'll learn how lament can be honest, healing, and full of hope as we name our wounds, cry out to God, hold grief and hope together. Week two, Adam Waite will join as a special guest as we learn about Spirituals & Lament.

February: Faith that sets us Free taught by Colleen Maki

Sunday mornings, 9:30AM - 10:30AM, February 1st, 15th, & 22nd

Must be able to attend 2 out of the 3 Sundays



Faith isn't about rules— it's about freedom! In this three week series, we'll talk about how God's love helps us break free from unfair systems, lift each other up, and create a world where everyone can thrive. We will learn about Queer Theology, Womanist Theology, and Liberation Theology. Together we'll discover how following Jesus means helping others live freely, too.

March: Feasting on the Word

Sunday mornings, 9:30AM - 10:30AM, March 8th, 14th, 22nd, & 29th

Must be able to attend 3 out of the 4 Sundays

Each week in worship, we hear stories from Scripture— but what happens when we take a closer look? Over the four weeks in March, we'll study the same Bible passages used in worship, ask big questions about what they mean, and explore how they connect to our own lives and faith.



To receive an additional 2 points

- 1 Choose a book of the Bible to read and write a reflection

Children's Sunday School Helper



You may sign up for one, two, or three months.
Each month counts towards 2 points out of the 6 that are needed.
Must be able to commit to assisting 3 out of 4 weeks for each month.

January, February, March
Sunday Mornings
9:30AM - 10:45AM

Do you like working with kids or want to grow as a leader? As a Children's Ministry Helper, you'll join the Sunday School teaching team for the grade group of your choice and help younger children learn and have fun.

You'll help with games, crafts, and conversations— and can even lead part of the lesson if you want! You'll meet with teachers from 9:30–10:00 each Sunday to review the plan, then help with class from 10:00–10:45.

Before starting, you'll meet with Sandy Prouty to get an overview of the year and what to expect.



Journeys of Faith: Stories that Shape Us

This elective counts for 6 points out of 6 that are needed

Description:

In this elective, you'll get to explore your own faith story while learning from the stories of others in our congregation. There will be a mix of in-person workshops and independent work you can do on your own time. You'll interview Montview members to hear how their experiences have shaped their faith and how the church has been part of their journey. You'll be joined by guest journalists and historians from our congregation who will help you learn how to ask great questions and lead meaningful conversations. In between workshops, you'll work independently to read, prepare interview questions, and record your own interview with a Montview member. We'll wrap up with a Celebration, where you will share your reflections and the stories that you've gathered.

Leadership:

This elective will be led by Linda Orosz (Montview member), Phil Worth (Montview Member), Rev. Dr. Lorraine Leist (Associate Pastor for Older Adults and Congregational Care), Mary Jo Brooks and various guests.

Requirements:

- Attend the in person scheduled workshops.
- Prepare for your interviews with your assignment to be completed between workshops
- Participate in conducting one interview with a congregational member.
- Join the celebration on March 1st!



Schedule

In person workshop

Wednesday, January 7: 6:30PM - 8PM

We'll kick off by getting to know one another and exploring what stories mean to us. Together, we'll co-create our goals for this project, talk through expectations, and think about "story as journey." You'll start reflecting on your own story of faith and curiosity about the stories waiting to be told in our congregation.

Independent Study Week

In person workshop

Wednesday, January 21: 6:30PM - 8PM

We'll be joined by guest journalists and historians from Montview to talk about why stories matter, how they shape our community, and how we decide what to preserve. You'll learn tips for asking good questions, help people open up, and practice interview skills through games and role-plays.

Independent Study Week

In person workshop

Wednesday, February 4: 6:30PM - 8PM

This week we'll explore faith as a journey and practice interviewing one another. You'll build confidence using your questions, listen deeply to your partners, and get ready for your real interviews in the weeks ahead.

Independent Study Weeks (3 weeks): February 5 - 24

Conduct your interview with your assigned Montview member and create your personal reflection. You'll have three weeks to complete this part of the project at your own pace, with support from your adult mentors as needed.

Celebration! Presentation of Reflection and Gratitude

Sunday, March 1 (Lunch after church)

Everyone - confirmands, interviewees, and mentors will gather together to share our reflections and express gratitude to those who shared their stories with us. We'll celebrate the connections and discoveries we've made!

Compassion Retreat

FEBRUARY 16, 2025

This elective counts for 3 points out of 6 that are needed

This one-day retreat is all about putting faith into action through compassion and service. We'll start the morning with time to connect and reflect on what it means to live with compassion, serve others, and build the kind of community Jesus imagined.

We'll head to The Mango House for lunch (bring money), an international food court that's home to refugee and immigrant-owned restaurants from around the world, serving up everything from Nepali momos to Syrian shawarma.

In the afternoon, we'll volunteer at the Food Bank of the Rockies, helping provide meals for families across Colorado.

What to Expect:

- Learn: Explore what compassion looks like in everyday life.
- Serve: Volunteer with the Food Bank of the Rockies to support neighbors in need.
- Connect: Share good food & fun with friends.
- Reflect: Discover how service helps shape your faith and who you're becoming.



To receive an additional 3 points for a total of 6:
Find a time to volunteer on your own

LENTEN PRACTICES

This elective counts for 4 points out of 6 that are needed

Description:

Lent is a season in the church that invites us to slow down and make space for God. In this elective, we'll explore simple spiritual practices—like prayer, silence, serving, and generosity—not as rules to follow, but as ways to listen for God's presence and nurture our spirits. Together, we'll reflect on Jesus' journey to the cross, ask honest questions, and try out practices that help us stay grounded, compassionate, and connected.

Requirements:

- Attend at least one out of the three worship services
- Attend at least three out of the five Lenten Practices sessions

Schedule: 7PM - 8PM

- **February 18th** - Ash Wednesday service at 7PM
- **February 25th** - Lenten Practices
- **March 4th** - Lenten Practices
- **March 11th** - Lenten Practices
- **March 18th** - Lenten Practices
- **March 25th** - Lenten Practices
- **April 2nd** - Maundy Thursday service at 7PM
- **April 3rd** - Good Friday service at 7PM

To receive an additional 2 points for a total of 6
Attend all 4 out of 5 Lenten Practice Sessions and participate as an acolyte in two worship services (Sundays included)



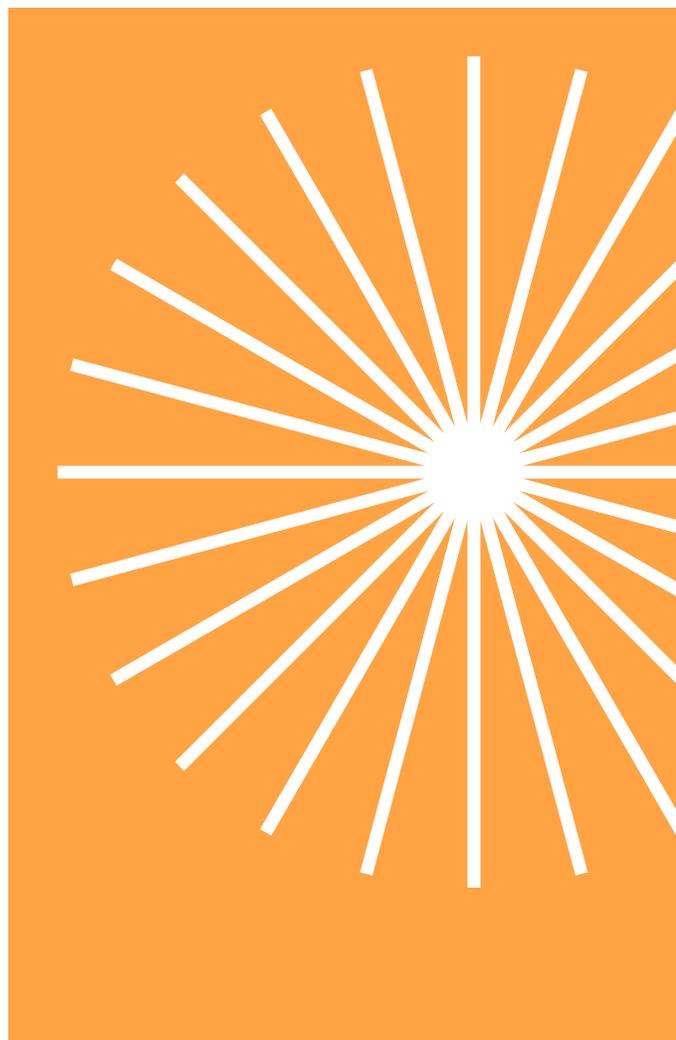
SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION

This elective counts for 2 points out of 6 that are needed

This elective gives you the chance to memorize five important selections from our scriptures and creeds. Pastor Clover will choose three of these passages and you'll pick an additional two that are especially meaningful to you.

This elective is designed to work with your schedule, so you can set the pace and timing that works for you. There will be two meetings with Pastor Clover, one to select the passages and one to share what you've learned. These times will be determined together after you have signed up.

Ready to take up the challenge? It's a great way to take our sacred writings to heart!



To receive an additional 1 points for a total of 3

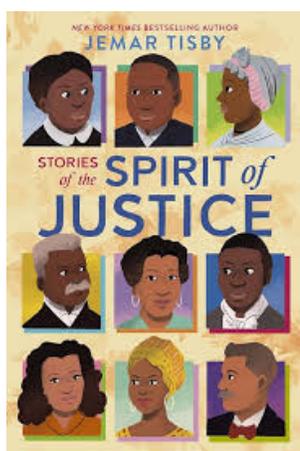
Create a slide show of photos to correspond with the scripture that you memorized

READING FOR FAITH

You'll choose a book to read on your own and meet with a mentor to talk about what stood out, challenged you, or inspired you to live your faith in new ways.

Choose one from these reads:

This elective counts for 4 points out of 6 that are needed



Stories of the Spirit of Justice (Young Reader's Edition)

by Jemar Tisby – We are living in the civil rights movement of our day, and the stories of the past can guide us forward. This book shares the true stories of people—well-known and nearly forgotten—who, motivated by their faith, stood up to injustice and worked for equality and freedom.

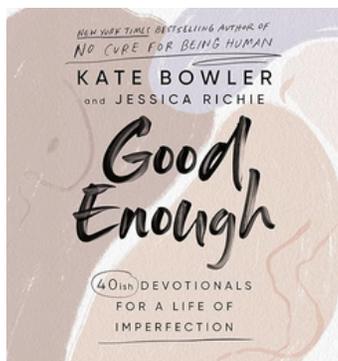
Alternative: You may also choose Jemar Tisby's Spirit of Justice

Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis – In this classic book, C.S. Lewis breaks down big questions about God, good and evil, and what it means to live with purpose. Originally shared as radio talks during World War II, Lewis's words are surprisingly down-to-earth, full of curiosity, honesty, and hope. This book invites you to think deeply, ask questions, and explore what faith could mean for your own life.



Good Enough: 40ish Devotionals for a Life of Imperfection

by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie – Life doesn't always go as planned—and faith isn't about being perfect. These short, honest reflections remind us that God meets us in the real stuff of life: joy, disappointment, and everything in between. With humor and hope, this book shows that faith is about showing up with love, courage, and grace.



Choose your own elective:

This elective gives you the chance to design your own project that connects your faith to something that actually matters to you. You'll choose one of two "faith muscles" to focus on—compassion (using your hands to serve others) or contemplation (using your heart to listen for God)—and create your own unique project.

How It Works:

- Come up with your elective idea and submit a short proposal to Jim Borgstede for approval.
- You can do this on your own or with a friend(s).
- You'll share what you learned and experienced with the Session at the end of the confirmation year.

Timeline: You can complete your elective anytime before Easter, but the season of Lent (the six weeks before Easter) is a great time to focus on it. Plan for about six hours total—enough time to challenge yourself but not overwhelm you.

Faith Muscles

We all have two "faith muscles" that help us grow:

- **Heart** (Contemplation): our inner muscle—listening for God's heartbeat and paying attention to God's presence in and around us.
- **Hands** (Compassion): our outer muscle—putting God's love into action through service, kindness, and justice.

Ideas for a Compassion Project:

Start by thinking about something in the world that tugs at your heart or makes you want to do something. This might be something big—like climate change or racial justice—or something closer to home, like helping kids who don't have enough food, protecting animals, or supporting refugees and immigrants.

Once you've identified a concern that matters to you, choose a way to respond. Your project can be something you do yourself or something you invite others to join in.

Here are some ideas to get you started:

- Volunteer with a local organization that's already doing work you care about—like a food pantry, animal shelter, or after-school program.
- Organize a collection or drive (food, books, coats, hygiene kits, etc.) to support people in need.
- Plan a simple action others can join in, like making care kits for people experiencing homelessness or organizing a letter-writing campaign to thank local helpers or advocate for change.
- Partner with a church ministry at Montview that's already serving in this area and help them strengthen their impact.

Ideas for a Contemplation Project:

Contemplation is about slowing down and paying attention—to God, to yourself, and to the world around you. It's learning to notice where God shows up in everyday life. In this project, you'll create space for quiet, reflection, and curiosity, discovering that faith isn't just something we think about—it's something we experience.

Start by thinking about what helps you feel calm, focused, or close to God. Then design a project that helps you practice that regularly. Your goal is to listen for God's presence and reflect on what you notice.

Keep in mind, this should be ongoing (6 hours of your time). You will also need to write a reflection about what you experienced and learned.

Here are some ideas to get you started:

- Try a daily or weekly prayer practice—this could be journaling your prayers, using breath prayers, or praying for different people or parts of the world each day.
- Create something spiritual—use art, music, photography, or poetry to express what faith feels like to you.
- Practice gratitude—write down three things you're thankful for every day for a month and reflect on how gratitude changes your outlook.
- Join a contemplative practice—visit a Taizé service, try guided meditation, or use a prayer app designed for quiet reflection.
- Participate in worship as an acolyte and help with communion preparations.

Reflection Questions:

- What did your experience teach you about God or faith?
- Why should Christians care about this area of life or work?
- Is there a Bible story or verse that connects to what you did or learned?

Contemplative Ministries at Montview

Acolytes: Linda Chain, lalachain@gmail.com

Chancel Guild/Communion Prep team: Martha Fitzpatrick,
fitzpatrickmartha@hotmail.com

Compassion Ministries at Montview

Afghan Women's Collective: Candy Scott, ccscott8285@gmail.com

Casa de Paz- Alondra Flores, alondraf@casadepazcolorado.org,
info@casadepazcolorado.org

Earth Care: Erika Walker, ewalker8070@gmail.com

Friendship Ministry: Nancy Maynard, nancyjmaynard@gmail.com;
Elliott Wynne, elliot.wynne@gmail.com

Garden Club: Jan Paul, janpaul@sbcglobal.net

Guns to Gardens / Colorado Faith Communities United: Susie Pappas,
susiepappas@hotmail.com

Homeless Packet Project: Doug Easton, douglaseaston@comcast.net

Immigration Task Force: Doug Easton, douglaseaston@comcast.net

Metro Caring- Violeta Quezada-Frias; vquezada-
frias@metrocar.org

Soul Food: Page Shaver, pageshaver@gmail.com; Susan Schneider,
schneider.susan45@gmail.com

Confirmation Elective Proposal
Submit to Jim Borgstede

Name: _____

Which "muscle" will you be exercising?

_____ Heart (Contemplation) Listening for God's Heartbeat

_____ Hands (Compassion) Putting God's heart into action

I am choosing this because:

_____ It resonates deep within me. I feel drawn to it.

_____ I'm curious about it.

_____ It's not my dominant muscle or what I'm more naturally drawn to and I want to challenge and pay attention to a different side of me.

_____ Not sure.

_____ Other _____

Will your project be done on your own or with a group? Name the group members if you're participating with a group.

Write a proposal that includes:

- What will your project entail?
- What timeframe will your project be completed in?
- How will you carry out your project?
- Why are you doing this project (why does it matter to you?)
- What do you hope to learn/experience from this project?

You can tear this page off and bring it to Jim Borgstede on a Sunday morning at confirmation class (he's also a regular greeter at the 11AM service).

Or email Jim: borgrad@msn.com

