

WELCOME to St. James Lutheran Church

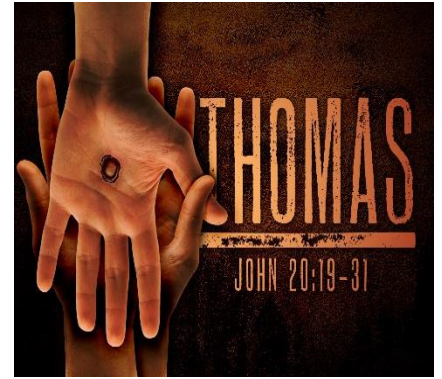
205 E 1st Ave. N. Columbus, MT 59019 (406) 321-5100

Leader: Pastor Tonia Fisher

Email: toniafisherclarkmt@gmail.com

Our Mission: "We worship together, grow in faith,
share our faith and serve with the love of God"

**Sunday April 7th, 2024 –
2nd Sunday of Easter**



Welcome

P: Alleluia, Christ is risen. All: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

*The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all
.....and also be with you.*

Call to Worship: "I'd Rather Have Jesus"

sung by Kate Stulce & Betty Ames

Let us stand, as you are able, and prepare our hearts for worship.

GATHERING

THANKSGIVING for Baptism Confession

P: Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P: Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life. Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P: At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

As we give thanks for our baptism let us stand and confess our sins:

P: Risen Christ,

C: Wash away our sin and all which separates us from you.

Assurance of God's Love

Gathering Hymn: "Sing, My Tongue"

to the tune "Angels from the Realms of Glory"



Sing, my tongue, the glorious bat-tle; tell the tri - ump far and wide;
Tell how, when at length the fullness of the-appoin-ted time was come,
Thir - ty years a-mong us dwelling, Je - sus went from Na - za - reth,
Faith -ful cross, true sign of tri-umph, be for all the no - blest tree;



Tell a - loud the wondrous sto - ry of the cross, the Cru - ci - fied;
Christ, the Word, was born of woman, left for us the heav'nly home,
Des - tined, de - di - ca - ted, wil - ling, did his work, and met his death;
None in fo - liage, none in blossom, none in fruit your e - qual be;



Tell how Christ, the world's re-deemer, vanquished death the day he died.
Blazed the path of true obedience, shone as light a - midst the gloom.
Like a lamb he hum - bly yielded on the cross his dy - ing breath.
Sym - bol of the world's re-demp-tion, for your bur - den makes us free.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

Hear the 1st Reading: Acts 4:32-35

³²Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Word of Wisdom, Word of God. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

Let us read together from Psalm 133

¹How good and how pleasant it is, when kindred live together in unity! ²It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down upon the beard, upon the beard of Aaron, flowing down upon the collar of his robe. ³It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the hills of Zion. For there the LORD has commanded the blessing: life forevermore.

Hear the 2nd Reading: 1 John 1:1--2:2

¹We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—²this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—³we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus

Christ. ⁴We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. ⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. ^{2:1}My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; ²and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Word of Wisdom, Word of God. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

Please stand, as you are able, to welcome the Gospel

The Gospel Acclamation: ELW #151

We sing:

The Gospel according to John:

We sing after the announcement:

John 20:19-31

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” ²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.” ²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” ²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.” ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord:

We sing after the conclusion:

Sermon: "Jesus Comes Back"

Reflection Hymn: "Hallelujah"

Betty Ames & Congregation

C: After each verse:

Hal - le - lu - jah, _____ hal - le - lu - jah. _____

Hal - le - lu - jah, _____ hal - le -

lu _____ jah. _____

Apostle's Creed ELW #105

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven. He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Passing of the Peaceand we say: **and also with you.**

MEAL

....we thank you for your faithfulness to St. James in sharing your tithes and offerings and allowing us to do God's work with our hands.

Bread & Wine and Our Gifts are brought forward..... while we sing

The Offering Hymn: ELW #807 "Come Thou Fount"

1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;

streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.

While the hope of end - less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,

teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good - ness prove.

Offering Prayer

Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.

Table Setting Hymn: ELW #686 "We Give Thee but Thine Own"

1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

Great Thanksgiving ELW #153

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise**

....we join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name,
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.

AMEN.

Mystery of our Faith. **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Invitation to Communion

In this meal of bread and wine, we believe Christ is truly present forgiving sin, reconciling us to God and one another, and giving new life. Christ is host. Christ is the one who invites us to the table even while it is properly understood as the meal of the baptized. All are welcome at the Lord's Table.

As communion is distributed, you are invited to sing the following hymns:

ELW #369 "Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia!"



1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; Al - le - lu - ia!
2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 Christ, the vic - tim un - de - filed, Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Chris-tians, on this ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!



Chris-tians, has - ten on your way; Al - le - lu - ia!
sin - less in the sin - ner's stead. Al - le - lu - ia!
God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled, Al - le - lu - ia!
all your grate - ful hom - age pay; Al - le - lu - ia!



of - fer praise with love re - plete, Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!
when con - tend - ing death and life, Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!



at the pas - chal vic - tim's feet. Al - le - lu - ia!
now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!
met in strange and awe - some strife. Al - le - lu - ia!
now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!

ELW #384 "That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright"



1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright; the
2 O Je - sus, king of gen - tle - ness, with
3 O Christ, you are the Lord of all in
4 All praise, O ris - en Lord, we give to



sun shone out with fair - er light when, to their long - ing
con - stant love our hearts pos - sess; to you our lips will
this our Eas - ter fes - ti - val, for you will be our
you, once dead, but now a - live! To God the Fa - ther



eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord!
ev - er raise the trib - ute of our grate - ful praise.
strength and shield from ev - 'ry weap - on death can wield.
e - qual praise, and God the Spir - it, now we raise!

ELW #638 “Blessed Assurance”



1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
 an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.
 watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

Refrain



This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:



this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

Prayer after Communion..... and we say: Amen.

SENDING

Blessing: and then we say: **Amen.**

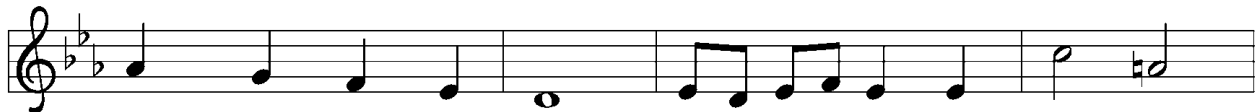
Sending Hymn: ELW #376 “Thine is the Glory”



1 Thine is the glo-ry, ris-en, con-qu'ring Son; end-less is the
 2 Lo, Je-sus meets thee, ris-en from the tomb! Lov-ing-ly he
 3 No more we doubt thee, glo-rious Prince of life; life is naught with-




vic-t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An-gels in bright rai-ment
 greets thee, scat-ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad-ness
 out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,




rolled the stone a-way, kept the fold-ed grave-clothes
 hymns of tri-umph sing, for the Lord now liv-eth;
 through thy death-less love; bring us safe through Jor-dan

Refrain



where thy bod - y lay.
 death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con - qu'ring
 to thy home a - bove.



Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

Dismissal: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Music Published by Permission, CCLI #11445215
 Worship Service recorded by Permission, CSPL #168651

TODAY April 7th, 2024



Leanne Sekora and Sheri Luepke **INVITES** your family and/or your “pew neighbor” to **STAY** after worship to enjoy fellowship & laughter!



Two Important Announcements:

2nd Official Notice (according to our By-laws) of our upcoming **Special Congregational Meeting for St. James – Sunday, April 14th, 2024, immediately after our worship service.**

FYI - Pastor Tonia's busy personal schedule in April:

- Attended the Pastor's conference in Chico 4/2 – 4/5.
- She will be available to the congregation 4/5 – 4/7.
- Mon 4/8 – Sun 4/14, Pastor will be on vacation. *Susan Leaverton, LPA will officiate.*
- Mon 4/15 – Dr's appointment in Billings
- Tues 4/16 – 1st cataract eye surgery and then Wed 4/17 – 2nd cataract eye surgery.
Her Doctor has requested a 10-day recovery time.
- Sun 4/21 - *Susan Leaverton, LPA will officiate.*

During these three weeks, please contact Donna Zeigler, LPA for any prayer requests, visits or concerns.

Donna's contact information is cell # (406) 321-4452 and email is dlaburn640@gmail.com

Donna will then send out prayer requests for the bulletin, or contact Pastor Kate Stulce from the Congregational Church for your Pastoral needs.



.....for Pastor Tonia, we pray for safe travels, a positive Dr. appointment and successful eye surgeries and recovery. Take time for yourself!!

We will be glad to see you Sunday 4/28!!

Reminder:



A WONDERFUL PROJECT FOR LENT

Turn in your coin, green or check before April 28th, when the council will designate what to purchase for the "Good Gifts" campaign. Thank you for your generosity.

April Mission Offering benefits.....

The Stillwater Youth Center



The vision for the Stillwater Youth Center was birthed in the spring of 1994, out of a mother's prayer to the Lord for her three teenagers to be surrounded by fellow Christians, regardless of denomination, who would reinforce the importance of following biblical principles and strong moral values through positive peer pressure.

After meeting at homes around Columbus, in an old jewelry store & BG's (Bob Grumett) two-door garage, they were lucky enough to rent the health & recreation building (their current home) in Columbus with the option to buy. The spaciousness of this new building allows them to welcome & offer more to the area youth, so they can feel safe and love no matter what their background. This building houses a racquetball, volleyball, and basketball court with restrooms equipped with showers; a game room; a ministry-media room, where youth can get help with homework, study the Bible, Worship God and hang out with friends; a snack shop and a kitchen/café area called "Anchors Kaffee", with lounge hours Mondays and Wednesdays from 8-11am (days & hrs may vary based on volunteers) for the community to come for socialization. A huge thank you to Joanie Matovich, Founder and Director of Ministry for her vision.

Thank YOU for your support & generosity to this very important ministry for our area youth!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING

April 2024 Altar Guild: Sheri Luepke

April 2024 Cleaner(s): Greg & Kristi Lofing and Bill & Rae Ellen Strickland

April 2024 Reader(s):

April 7th, 2024 Communion Helper(s):

Thank you, Kim Berhent & Mina Morse for serving communion last Sunday.

April 7th, 2024 Usher(s):

Thank you, Leslie Mullin for helping to usher last Sunday

April 7th, 2024 Gate Keepers: Leanne Sekora & Brian Luepke

2024 Musician(s): Marge Sunvold & Betty Ames

Thank
You

~ Betty Ames for the "Blarney Stones" on St. Patrick's Day!

~ all for sharing Ash Wednesday and the 5 mid-weeks of Lent with our friends at UCC. We enjoyed delicious soup & bread meals & fellowship, the Holden Evening Prayer special service and the set of skits based on Jesus' parable of the Prodigal Son. We learned about human nature, the nature of God and God's character to always love and forgive.

~ to Maureen Nemphill; Bob Kem; Sheri Luepke; Leanne Sekora, Bill Strickland & Donna Zeigler for assisting Pastor Tonia on Palm Sunday.

~ Randy Shelton for assisting Pastor Tonia and Pastor Kate during our Good Friday Service.

~ Our Church Council members for the delicious Easter Brunch.

~ for the beautiful flowers that adorned our Sanctuary on Easter Sunday.

~ to those who donated to our "Wine Basket" for the Christikon Auction. When I delivered our basket, I received a "WOW - this is huge and very much appreciated!"

While Pastor Tonia is on vacation this next week and then recovering from her double cataract eye surgery,
for any new prayer requests, please contact Donna Zeigler, LPA
Call her cell at (406) 321- 4452 or email her at dlaburn640@gmail.com

PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER...

For those hospitalized, in nursing homes and homebound, and those battling cancer or other illnesses.

We offer continued prayers for:

Your love and comfort Lord for the family & friends of Jim Dickey as they mourn his death.

Your healing and wisdom Lord for Leo Uhrich; Vi Ekle; Pat Lashley; Pastor Tonia; Joy & Larry Goehner; Merridy Gauthier;
LaNita Maurer; Steve Cowan; Ken & Pete Hegg; Gary Lofing and Bonny Rouse;

Those living with cancer: Kaci Thomason; Brian Wanner; Bob Rouane; Aracelii Enano; Ashley Foster;
Jenny Hansen Cheff; Shane Fouhy and Sandy Yoder's daughter in law, Lola.

The children of the world, this is a big request, but God is big. Children who are food & home insecure.

Victims of violence and of natural disasters.

Pray for all of those who serve in our military, domestically & overseas, their spouses and children.

OPPORTUNITIES to SERVE at ST. JAMES.....

Would you consider helping **each Sunday** with **Ushering**,
being the **Reader**, assisting during **Communion** w/Pastor Tonia,
being a member on the **Altar Guild**, OR

offering to **Clean** our church (with another family) one or two times per year?

If you are interested in helping, please let Pastor Tonia or Bill S. know!!

More detailed information on our opportunities may be found on our website:

www.lutheranchurchcolumbusmt.org Click on the "Serve With Us" tab. Thanks!



Happy APRIL Birthday

Rae Ellen Strickland 4/1; Patty Sundberg 4/7; Joe Morse 4/15; Don Herzog 4/16;



Happy APRIL Anniversary

Morgan and Lian Radford 4/27

Thank you for your prayers and generosity. May the Lord bless you and give you peace.

"Your faith in God's mission for St. James is unshakeable."

FOR YOUR REVIEW AND PRAYER.....

March 3 rd Offering gratefully received:	\$1,355.00
March 10 th Offering gratefully received:	\$ 585.00
March 17 th Offering gratefully received:	\$4,220.00
March 24 th Offering gratefully received:	\$1,065.00
March 31 st Offering gratefully received:	<u>\$ 490.00</u>

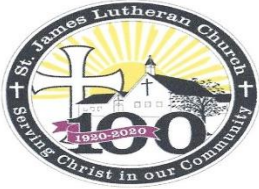
Total received so far this month \$7,715.00

Continued reminder of how to give your monthly tithe or offering to your church.....

Mail your offering to the church; Take your offering to the parsonage; Auto pay thru your bank and **Tithe.ly**.

Tithe.ly (click on this "Tithe.ly" link – takes you directly to St. James' account to sign-up)

Remember that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever (Hebrews 13:8)



Calendar & Council Chatter...



Email with important monthly information
***watch your inbox next week.**

April Calendar of Events Kids April Coloring Calendar

Review information from March 24th, 2024 Council Meeting:

Feb. Meeting Minutes; Feb. Monthly Donation Deposits; Feb. Profit & Loss;

Reminder - all documents reflect the previous month from the council meeting date.

January - March 2024 YTD Comparison View

We certainly hope you are

Having Fun with Faith...

We hope you are enjoying the series of "Children's Worship Bulletins", which are *found on our website.*

www.lutheranchurchcolumbusmt.org

These games are geared toward all age levels, so, everyone can join in the fun!

PLEASE FORWARD & SHARE these bulletins with your kids, grandkids, friends & friend's friends!!!



Every Tuesday,

Bible Study is held at St. James 2:00pm.

We study the upcoming Sunday lessons.

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE

Every Wednesday, continue to watch for the Word(s) on Wednesday email with a copy of Pastor Tonia's weekly message or watch recorded on our FB page. Enjoy!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES

TO REFLECT GOD'S LOVE TO EACH OTHER AND TO OUR NEIGHBORS

MORE Community Events for St. James:

- Every Monday we are invited to join:
 - ~The Stillwater Youth Center for coffee and visiting from 8-10am.
 - ~ The Columbus Senior Center exercise class at 10:30am
- Every Tuesday we are invited to attend:
 - ~ The Women's Adult Group at the Stillwater Youth Center at 9:30am and/or 7:00pm for an inductive study on Revelation
- Every Wednesday we are invited to join:
 - ~ Social Hour at the Columbus Senior Center at 9:30am
 - ~ The Stillwater Youth Center for coffee and visiting from 8-10am
- Every Thursday we are invited to join:
 - ~ The Columbus Senior Center exercise class at 10:30am
 - ~ A Community Co-ed Yoga Class at 5:45pm @ the Little Stone Church starting March 7th.

For more Library information, see the "Table Posters" at St. James.



Join the fun each week.....

STORYTIME - EVERY WEDNESDAY @ 10AM

BINGO is EVERY WEDNESDAY @ 1pm!

"Stitches in the Stacks" every Friday & Saturday from 10am



FYI....

Stillwater County LIBRARY

WE ARE HIRING

Library Marketing Coordinator
Programs Coordinator
Full and part time opportunities

APPLY NOW!

Full details at:
<https://www.stillwatercountymt.gov/257/Employment-Opportunities>

UPCOMING 2024 DATES:

- Chorale Practice - Always from 6 – 7:00pm @ Congregational Churches
April 9th - Col April 16th - Abs April 23rd - Col April 30th – Abs
- April 28th, 2024 Council Meeting immediately after worship

Support your favorite local nonprofits!

Columbus MT Gives.ORG

Starts April 29th – May 3rd.

Join the Columbus Community Foundation and Columbus Nonprofits for our **BIGGEST** giving week of the year!

**** Watch for more information....**

Future “save” the dates....

- May 2 - National Day of Prayer on the Court House Steps @ Noon
- May 3rd thru May 5th – Stillwater Balloon Rally

Stillwater Balloon Rally

May 3, 4 & 5 2024

ATTRACTIONS

Friday Morning
6-10am Balloon Launch

Saturday Morning
6-10am Balloon Launch

Saturday Night
6-10pm Balloon Glow, Food Trucks and The band Kactus Jack

Sunday Morning
6-10am Balloon Launch

NO PETS

Sponsored by Stillwater County Chamber of Commerce

Woltermann Memorial Airport, 602 E 8th Ave., Columbus MT, 59019