

May 2, 2020

## **Community Garden at Shiloh United Methodist Church (SUMC)**

In the past few years, SUMC has maintained a community garden. This is comprised of one large bed (50' X 15') and eighteen individual garden boxes (15' X 4'). Buddy Kastrop and David Prewitt have agreed to be co-leads for this project. The large bed will be used to produce and donate vegetables to the larger Billings community (The United Methodist Freestore and The Montana Rescue Mission) and the individual garden boxes will be used for the enjoyment of those reserving one or more of them. The cost is only \$15 per box this year. This amount is due to the SUMC office and designated as "Community Garden Project." All garden boxes have been fertilized and rototilled. They are ready to plant. Recommended guidelines:

1. Plant by the end of June 2020.
  - a. We would appreciate your cooperation in not planting:
    - \* Corn-Blocks the sun from other boxes
    - \* Sunflowers-as above, plus the roots form a very large ball and must be dug out by hand at the end of the season. They cannot be rototilled into the soil.
    - \* Pumpkins or viney plants that grow outside of the boxes. Prevents mowing around the boxes (unless you regularly tend to their growth and keep vines inside of your garden box)
2. Tend to the garden box regularly.
  - a. Pick produce that is ready for harvest
  - b. Remove weeds and throw outside box. They will be mowed.
  - c. If you have excess produce please, share it with friends and neighbors and mention it came from the Shiloh community garden.
  - d. Hook up and position a soaker hose in your individual garden box to ensure watering. Ask Buddy or David if there are hoses available.
3. The community garden (large bed) can use regular weeding, if you have time to help pull weeds at any point we would appreciate the assistance. Dave and Buddy will work to take the produce from this bed to The United Methodist Free Store and the Montana Rescue Mission. If you would like to help with delivering produce at some point, please let them know.
4. Buddy and David plan to mow the grass surrounding the community garden. Those wanting to help mow will be welcomed and appreciated. Please let David or Buddy know if you are interested.
5. At the end of the season, approximately Sept. 30, 2020, (depending on weather) you should clear your individual garden box of weeds, vines, and other produce. Be sure to leave them in the boxes to be rototilled into the soil. A cleanup date will be determined for the fall.