



FUMC Loveland

November 2024

Senior Newsletter



When You Say Yes

By Rev. Lee Anderson-Harris

How interesting this year has been. If you are one of many who save and re-read your Senior Newsletters (ha-ha, that's a joke), you might remember that at the beginning of the year I wrote about current trends in churches across the nation, especially when it comes to building use in the midst of shrinking church attendance. I wrote about church leadership's conversations about how to use the gift of a church building to bless and serve the community. Part of that process has been prayer, an opening to the Holy Spirit's leadership, and trying our best to say yes to God as we move into the future. It's okay that saying yes to God often comes with nervousness and uncertainty! While there were certainly enthusiastic "YES!"s from some, others were more hesitant, for various reasons. There were a lot of questions and differing opinions, which is good. But as far as I could tell, the spirit of service and intent to do good and be good stewards was present all around. So we kept going. It reminds me of a line from a prayer by Thomas Merton: "I have no idea where I am going...And the fact that I think I am following your will does not mean I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you."

We have watched, prayed, and participated as the people of First Christian Church decided to sell their building and try to do something to bless others with it. We have leaned in closer to other churches in Loveland, sharing worship services, ministries, and events together. And as you are hopefully now aware, we ourselves have the opportunity to provide needed space to a needed non-profit preschool, blessing the lives of the children, parents, and teachers whose lives are touched by the Loveland Preschool's mission. As I write this, work is still being done to secure this possibility. But regardless of outcome, I have been inspired by what I have witnessed. This opportunity fell into our lap, but it was no accident. Saying yes to God opened the door.

Last month Matthew and Colton (one of our mid high youth) joined the FUMC Fort Collins youth group to go into the mountains for Ignite. It was a wonderful weekend full of worship, small groups, and games. Both Matthew and Colton had a great time further bonding with the Fort Collins youth group and spending the weekend in nature. The theme of Ignite this year was that nothing separates us from God's love - even if/when our light fades, God's light shines through.



Trunk or Treat

Children from the Loveland community came to FUMC on October 27 for treats and fun! FUMC partnered with Union, Trinity UMC and First Christian Church to bring people together. Afterward, kids and parents paraded over to TUMC for a chili cook-off and pie competition!



Remembering the Saints

On November 3, All Saints Sunday, we remembered those from the FUMC rolls who have gone on to join the heavenly rolls since All Saints Day 2023:

Dorothy Bush, November 20, 2023

Lester "Rich" Eastman, December 8, 2023

Leone "Lee" Tapey, January 25, 2024

Judith "Judy" Pearson, May 2, 2024

Shirley Hogan, June 12, 2024

Clifford Watson, June 17, 2024

Janet Knox, July 11, 2024

GlenaDene Cline, July 20, 2024

Mary Sue Woodrick, July 29, 2024

Joyce Plants, August 13, 2024

Mary Gayman, August 16, 2024

Eldon Haines, September 11, 2024

Arnie Mills, September 24, 2024

Margaret Sumner, September 26, 2024

Rev. George Franke, September 29, 2024

Communion For All, By All

Did you know that you can both serve and receive communion outside of the church building? One does not need to be clergy to serve communion. You may have noticed that lay people serve communion during worship every month. As members of the body of Christ, anyone can share this sacrament with one another, anywhere. The only role that must be fulfilled by clergy is to bless the elements.

So what does this mean for you? As a homebound member, you can receive communion in your home, brought to you by members of the church. Or, if you are able to visit someone, you can bring blessed elements to a homebound member and share in communion together. In fact, it is this latter role that the pastors are especially looking to fill right now. Would you be interested in bringing communion to someone on occasion? It could be on the first Sunday of the month, for instance, when the whole church participates in communion. The elements will already be blessed and ready for you to take!

Instructions...and encouragement...will be provided! Please contact Pastor Lee at lee@fumclleveland.com or (970) 667-0876 to learn more.



A Tapestry of Faith Women's Retreat

On Saturday, October 19 over 60 women from FUMC and Longs Peak UMC gathered at Grace Place in Berthoud for a women's retreat. Participants (and leaders) got to know one another, worshipped together, and spent time reflecting on their own lives and where God's presence can be seen in them. Keynote presenter Lauren Cook, a program director at Resurrection Church in Leawood, KS, gave words of encouragement, hope, and love. Here are some photos from the day!



November/Early December Birthdays

November 2

Jim Willard

November 12

Marvin Morganti
Clara Stutzman

November 20

Alicia Mitchell

November 27

Bob Angelovic

November 3

Shelley Tungesvick

November 13

Dean Schwartz

November 22

Sue Lussenhop
Cathy Trout

November 30

Charlie Bouchard
Harriette Eastman

November 5

John Morgan

November 15

Lyle Gilroy

November 25

Bill McCreary
Debbie Schwartz

December 3

Sarah Dill

November 9

Harvey Hirning

Jean Reinhart

Ruth Van Voorhis

December 5

Cindy Crawley
Pat Lutz

November 11

Don Burton

FUMC Women's Fellowship will meet Thursday, **November 21st at NOON in West Coy.** This is our annual salad luncheon. Please bring a salad and your own table service. Betty Balderson will share stories about her life. All women are welcome.

Please RSVP to Darlene Lowe at aldarlowe@gmail.com.

Resource for Aging Well

A Little Help

Fall yard work and the upcoming snow season are even more stressful when you can no longer do these things on your own. A Little Help is a non-profit organization that coordinates volunteers to help seniors (age 55+). There are services in Loveland, Berthoud, and Johnstown.

To fill out an application to receive help, go to www.alittlehelp.org/ReceiveHelp or call Pastor Lee at (970) 667-0876, who will gladly fill out the form for you!

Contact Us

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