



First United Methodist Church, Loveland, CO
December 15, 2024

CHRISTMAS EVE USHERS AND GREETERS NEEDED

Help provide a warm welcome and hospitality to all who come to Christmas Eve worship at FUMC! Greeters are still needed for the 4:30 pm service to welcome people into the building. Sign up by [clicking here](#) or at the sign-up board in the sanctuary. In addition, ushers are needed at both the 4:30 pm and 6:30 pm services to assist people in the sanctuary. Sign up at the board in the sanctuary or contact Rick West at 970-567-1992.



OUR LITTLES NEED YOUR HELP!

This January, one of our nursery staff will be out on maternity leave. Our Safe Sanctuary policy requires that there are at least two adults caring for and supervising children at all times. We cannot offer nursery care during Sunday school or mid-week activities unless two adults are in the room with the children. FUMC only has three paid nursery staff. There will be some Sunday mornings and Monday evenings when only one staff is available. We are asking for volunteers to help ensure the nursery remains open. Shifts are short. You aren't required to work every week...whatever time you can offer is appreciated. You get to enjoy the unmatched joy of young children. If you are willing to help out once or a few times, please sign up at the Volunteer Hub or contact Pastor Leslie at leslie@fumcloveland.com. This is a wonderful opportunity for anyone interested in volunteering for an hour or two on Sundays/Mondays.



ALL CHURCH CAROLING

Help spread Christmas joy! This year we will **meet at the church on Sunday, December 22 at 1:00 pm** to go caroling to our shut-ins. We have about ten members we will be caroling for at their homes. This is a wonderful way to share the love of the Christ Child to those who are unable to attend church during the advent season. Please plan to join this lovely Christmas tradition. If you have questions, please contact Judy Graff at 970-218-4944.

COOKIE BAKERS & SHOPPERS NEEDED

The Cookie Jar youth missions fundraiser is **THIS Saturday, December 14, 9:00 - 11:00 am!** If you can provide a couple dozen "pretty" homemade cookies, candy or fudge, please contact Matthew Utley and plan to **drop off the cookies in Coy Hall from 3:00 - 6:00 pm, Friday December 13.** Matthew will provide you a code to get into the church. **Please sign up by clicking on this link**



<https://forms.gle/QpruB1UmXguu3uWd6> or scan the QR Code

or by contacting Matthew Utley at youth@fumcloveland.com. Then, come support the youth by shopping at **The Cookie Jar** on Saturday, or while supplies

last. The price for cookies this year is \$9/lb. Cookies make great gifts for anyone!



LAST DAY TO ORDER YOUR CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA

Sunday, December 15 is the last day to order your Christmas Poinsettias for \$10.00 each to be used for our Advent services. Order forms are at the Ask Me Desk in Lobby Court with spaces to dedicate the Poinsettia in memory or honor of loved ones. Place your check and order form in the basket labeled "Christmas Poinsettias". **The deadline for ordering Poinsettias is December 15.** Thank you for helping beautify the sanctuary for Christmas! Please pick up your Poinsettias after the last service on Christmas Eve.



THE LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE

The past few years, FUMC has hosted a Blue Christmas service for those experiencing grief, loneliness, depression, or who just aren't able to get into the joy of the season. This year, FUMC will be joining other local churches at Trinity Lutheran Church for The Longest Night, the same type of service by a different name. The Longest Night is held on the longest night of the year, acknowledging the darkness in life. Join us on **Saturday, December 21 at 7:00 pm at Trinity Lutheran Church, 3333 Duffield Ave, Loveland.**



RED KETTLE DRIVE

The Salvation Army's 2024 Red Kettle fund-raising drive has started. Volunteers from FUMC will have the **Saturday shifts at Sam's Club until December 21.** Each shift is 90 minutes starting at 9:00 am. Sign up sheets are available at the Volunteer Hub in Lobby Court. If you have questions, call Kay Neckel at 970-663-3434 or 970-988-6287.



DECEMBER MUSIC

December 15 - Spirit Sounds Bell Choir, Cindy & Matthew Utley - duet. December 22 - Bill Eads & Mike Spoon - duet, saxophone quartet with Wyatt Sanderson. December 24 - 4:30 pm: Spirit Sounds Bell Choir, Ben & Dan Clegern - duet. 6:30 pm: Chancel Choir, Melanie Pepper - flute. December 29 - Clegern family - vocal music, Cindy Utley - vocal solo.



CHRISTMAS GIFT "BASKETS"

FUMC will continue its tradition of providing food to those in need this Christmas by way of grocery gift cards to unhoused/low-income seniors. The gift cards will be provided with a small gift to brighten their Christmas! If you would like to make a donation toward these gift cards, please make a check payable to First UMC and write "Christmas Baskets" in the memo line. Thank you for your generosity for the sake of others!

CHURCH CONFERENCE CELEBRATION SET FOR JANUARY 12

The second "phase" of the annual meeting will be held on January 12, 2025, immediately following the worship service. We will share a potluck together, then celebrate the ministries of the church, including voting on Matthew Utley's continuation of candidacy for ordained ministry in the UMC. We will also convey any important information, and members will have the opportunity to ratify the votes taken by the Charge Conference on December 2. Mark your calendars for this fun fellowship, yet important meeting, get together.

PURA VIDA (VIRTUAL) WORK TRIP

January 2025 will see a team from FUMC travel to Guatemala to help construct a two room home for a Guatemalan family. We're depending on virtual team members to help out. Visit https://www.puravida.org/virtual-trip.html?trip_id=112 to make a donation. Join the team virtually with a \$250 donation to receive daily progress updates via email during the construction week. Or contribute what you can to help cover construction costs. Let's once again Raise the Roof!!

AN ALTERNATIVE GIFT OPTION FOR A GOOD CAUSE

Pura Vida is offering Alternative Gift Cards for sale. You can make a tax-deductible contribution to support Pura Vida's Christmas Milk Program and Unsponsored Student Fund, and receive a beautiful card to send to friends and family, telling them a donation has been made in their name. To order your cards, click [HERE](#).



FIRST SUNDAY ALTERNATIVE WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

For those interested in attending a relaxed, come-as-you-are, non-traditional worship service, come check out the **Alternative Worship Experience** on the first Sunday of every month. We'll sing and enjoy music a bit, listen and dialogue a bit, share communion and support one another. **We'll gather** downstairs in **Fellowship Hall** (for now). The service will begin at **11:20 am** and end about 12:00 pm, or a little after. **Please enter the church through the southeast main entry doors.** Our next Alternative Worship experience will be **January 5**.

TRUSCOTT POZOLE DINNER

FUMC will again host Truscott Elementary's annual fundraiser, the pozole dinner, **TONIGHT, December 12 from 5:00-6:30 pm**. This is a wonderful way to be in fellowship with Truscott families and enjoy delicious homemade pozole for a small donation!. If you can volunteer at with this event, contact Betsy Elliott at elliott1710@comcast.net or Barry Wehrle at barrywehrle@gmail.com.

JOIN THE CAMPAIGN FOR KINDNESS

Do Unto Others is a movement launched by [Resurrection, a United Methodist Church](#) in the Kansas City area, to encourage people to be intentional about treating one another with kindness, even those with whom we disagree. A vote for kindness is a step toward overcoming the polarization in our country through civility and respect. **If you would like to order a yard sign for \$10.00 please sign up at the Ask Me Desk** and you will be contacted. If you have any questions, please contact Andrea Ortega at 970-631-2971.

[YOUTH MINISTRY](#)

Mid & Senior High Youth Coordinator - Matthew Utley - youth@fumccleveland.com

Friday, December 13 - Saturday December 14 - Cookie Jar

Sunday, December 15 - No Youth Group

Friday, December 20 - Saturday, December 21 - Youth Christmas party and lock-in (starting at 6:00 pm)

Sunday, December 22 - Lunch and Youth Group after church 11:15am - about 1:00 pm. AND Christmas caroling with the church to homebound church members until 4/5 pm.

Sunday December 29 - Lunch and Youth Group after church 11:15 am - 1:30 pm.

Sunday, January 5 - No Youth Group.

PERSONALS

Prayers:

Jed Pancoast, in memory care and hospice. Cards can be mailed to him at Hyland Hills Senior Living, Memory Care, 9560 Sheridan Blvd, Westminster 80031. Dolores is in a separate room at the same facility, also in the Memory Care wing.

Brock, son of Kim & Rich Laue, on dialysis

Gregg Geis, rehabilitation for broken hip

Pat Lutz, hospice care

Death: We give thanks for the life of *Helen Hengl* who entered eternal life on November 28 at the age of 102. No services are scheduled at this time.



Birthdays: December 9-15

Diane Mills

Rev. Ted Nutting

Donna Oswald

Mary Shaffer

Marlene Thurman

Kelly Torrez