

2020



Celebration Time

Livestream Service

10:00 AM Sundays

Livestream Devotionals

7:00 PM Wednesdays

9:00 AM Fridays

*"We are God's
People Sharing the
Love of Christ!"*

Website:

www.fumcgreeley.org

Email:

office@fumcgreeley.org

Dear Church Family,

I wanted to take a moment to send this letter to let you know how much I miss meeting together as a church family during this time of battling the COVID-19.

"I believe many of our congregants are falling in the high-risk category. And I feel that online service is the best and safest way to proceed and keep everyone included. We are called to love one another and do no harm. So, in this time, we are not meeting in our buildings."

While we know the "church" is not a building but the people who make up the body of Christ, there's little doubt in all our minds this is not the way any of us envision what church will be going forward.

Someone said, "You don't know what you have until it's gone." Of course, the church is not "gone" in a literal sense, but not meeting together sure does make me appreciate what we had! Yet, the thing that keeps me going is the realization this is not a situation that will last forever.

There is such an odd feeling walking through the various empty rooms in the church, especially the Sanctuary that is often filled with people worshipping God and hearing the Word, but it's all very quiet now.

The Psalmist encourages us by saying, *"I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!"* (Psalm 27:13-14)

While all of us might honestly say that our patience is wearing a bit thin, I would encourage you to keep your confidence in the Lord as you pass through these uncertain times. I hope you use these days to draw close to God. Certainly, God will draw near to us!

I realize we live in the New Testament, and we know God dwells in us, but the Word also makes it clear the ultimate design is that we meet together.

The author of Hebrew says, *"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."* (Hebrew 10:25)

We will meet again soon! I love you and miss you!

Blessings in Christ,
Pastor Sione

STAFF

Rev. Sione Tukutau

Senior Pastor

Kathy Trevino

Director of Operations

Nikki Barrios

Director

Family Ministries

Jacob Aychman

Director

Chancel Choir

Carlos Salazar

Director

Praise Team

Connie Long

Director

Alleluia Bell Choir

Nathan Fry

Organist

Epeli Tukutau

Sound Technician

Ashley Nichols

Tiffany Hagan

Child Care Staff

Mike Villanueva

Custodian

Travis Andersen

Security

Ginger Jansson

Newsletter Editor

tgjansson@gmail.com

FUMC FINANCIALS

COMMITTEE EXPENSES YTD THRU April 2020

Conference Apportionment	\$ 500.00
Communication	\$ 1,217.74
Personnel	\$ 86,605.16
Education	\$ 234.57
Caring and Evangelism	\$.00
Membership Activity	\$ (20.00)
Worship	\$.00
Board of Trustees	\$ 28,114.68
Administration	\$ 3,124.56
Finance	\$ 381.28
Youth/College	\$ (6.24)
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 120,151.75
GIFTS RECEIVED YTD THRU April	\$ 111,701.49
	\$ - 8,450.26

Have you signed up for the King Sooper Rewards program?

The community rewards program for King Soopers has changed. Once your current reloadable card is empty it can no longer be used. The rewards program is now linked to your **Loyalty Card**. This is the same card you use when checking out to get discounts and fuel points.

Here are the steps you need to follow to link the church with your Loyalty Card:

1. You will need to have an online account with King Soopers. Go to kingsoopers.com and follow the steps to create a new account. You will need your Loyalty Card to do this.
2. Once you are logged into your account go to the left side of your screen. You will see several options regarding your account. The 6th option down should say "Community Rewards." Click on this.
3. In the middle of the screen you should see "Find an Organization." Type in **BY112**. This will take you directly to the church link. Make sure it says First United Methodist Church, 917 10th Ave, Greeley.
4. Click enroll.
5. After clicking enroll you will see "Donation Summary" Status Currently Enrolled.
6. You are done! Now use your Loyalty Card every time you check out and the church receives a donation.

If you have any questions or need any help, please call me or stop by the church office.

GIVING DURING COVID-19

As we move forward with virtual committee meetings and live streaming services and devotionals, we continue finding new ways to be The Church. Your contributions are still needed to keep the building in good shape for our return when it is safe to do so, as well as to continue being Christ's hands and feet in these strange times. If you are able, your contributions can be mailed to the church (917 10th Ave, Greeley 80631) or made online from our website: fumcgreeley.org

Thank you, FUMC Finance Committee



Birthday Blessings

Help us celebrate the birthdays of our church members who are 80 years old or older.

Jack Robinson	6/06	83 yrs.
Richard Haynes	6/13	80 yrs.
Laverne Dressor	6/14	89 yrs.
Ramona Stotts	6/14	88 yrs.
Miriam Lee	6/22	102 yrs.
Grace Napier	6/29	98 yrs.

Bob & Janie Bernd	6/01	60 yrs.
D Joe & Maryetta Moore	6/03	64 yrs.
Gary & Maxine Bracken	6/04	66 yrs.
Jerry & Dorothy Benner	6/07	61 yrs.
Jack & Nancy Robinson	6/13	56 yrs.
Lonnie & Terry Eakle	6/20	61 yrs.
Tim & Miriam Chavies	6/26	52 yrs.
Lester & Sue Kropf	6/29	63 yrs.



ON-LINE DEVOTIONALS



Pastor Sione continues holding 2 online devotionals weekly: Wednesday nights at 7:00PM and Friday mornings at 9:00AM. You can join these live stream devotionals by going to the church's Facebook page: facebook.com/fumcgreeleyco OR go to our website www.fumcgreeley.org and click on the Facebook icon at the top right corner of the home page. No Facebook account is needed.



The Messenger is taking a break in August. We will have a combined **July/August** newsletter next month. Articles will be due **June 22nd** and can be emailed to Ginger Jansson at tgjansson@gmail.com. If you know of someone who would like the newsletter emailed to them, please have them send me or the office their email address.



150th Celebration News

Greetings from your 150th Celebration committee. We have recently received information from the Mountain Sky Conference that outlines the procedures for once more having in person gatherings. It looks like a long process, based on many factors that need to be weighed and decided upon before we will be together again, except for the virtual situation we are currently using.

To recall portions of our past, we are asking you to share *your* stories to be published as soon as we collect enough to represent our congregation. We will share selected stories here as they are received, just so we stay connected and reminded of the shared history of our church family. We thank you for your participation.

We have already jumped into the future of the church with our streamed Sunday services thanks to Sione, William, Connie, Nathan, the band, Don and Linda and Nikki as well as others who have helped us move right into the “rocket” of our future as Greeley United Methodist Church.

The 150th Celebration Committee, Raylene Shively Co-Chair

History “Notes”

“Not counting the Methodist circuit riders at Island Grove (1864-1870), the first religious denomination to organize class meetings was the Methodist, May 15, 1870. Dr. James Scott and his energetic wife were the first colonists to arrive (April 1870), they met all trains to welcome incoming Methodists to a group meeting at their home. A Methodist class soon became very popular and so large that a new meeting place was necessary.”

Luella also shared this thought: “Who would have thought May 2020 we would be meeting in our homes via computer technology.”

Bless the Scotts and the current technology and people to use it that allows us to continue to worship as a “group”.

Thanks to Mike!

Even though the church building has been closed, our talented, hard-working custodian, Mike Villanueva, has been on duty. He has repaired the sprinkler system, oiled and cleaned all the wood furniture, replaced and repaired the emergency lights, shampooed the carpets, waxed the sanctuary floor, and many other tasks.

THANK YOU, MIKE!





United Methodist Women News

Greetings from your Leadership Team. As we continue to maintain our “healthy” distancing and deal with the changes in our weekly and monthly activities, our meetings have been cancelled as have District and Conference events. As meetings are moving to virtual, we are going to stay connected by prayer, phone calls, email and “snail” mail. We are looking forward to gathering in person once more and will keep you updated when that will be, based on guidelines of the Conference and United Methodist Women leaders.

We can also stay busy with projects that benefit our members and others in the community. We can make face masks for our families and others, knit hats if you knit, or find other ways to contribute to the work of United Methodist Women at home and around the world.

With prayer and regular donations to United Methodist Women, we can support our organization from anywhere at any time.

During the month of June, the special days from the prayer calendar are:

World Day Against Child Labor June 12

First Day of Summer June 20

Father’s Day June 21

“Pennies for Mission” 2019



The Leadership team for Greeley United Methodist Women would like to extend our many thanks and appreciation to all who continue to generously support our “pennies” project. **Our current total for 2020 is \$79.59, and the total of giving since we began in 2015 is \$2123.66.**

Please continue to think of us as we are spending time at home due to the current health crisis. We will gather what you save for us when the situation allows.

Continue to look for information on where the “pennies” are working on the United Methodist Women website www.unitedmethodistwomen.org , on *Facebook*, *Instagram* and *YouTube*.

During June please pray for the health of our members as well as our neighbors, pray for the leaders of this church as the decisions for opening the church again will be difficult. Pray for the Nation as the virus that is invading communities continues and as changes take place that no one anticipated as well as the ones that will take place due to the next election and our church’s General Conference.



Update from Habitat for Humanity

A Huge THANK YOU to everyone who participated in the Lenten Calendar project to raise money for the Faith Build at Greeley-Weld Habitat for Humanity. A total of \$409.52 was received. This was added to \$800 from the Local and Global Concerns Commission budget reaching an amazing \$1,209.52 to help provide safe and affordable housing. Construction is expected to start on the Faith Build home in June. It will be a handicapped accessible duplex; the other half is the Women's Build, also handicapped accessible.



Work is progressing, slowly, on the homes for the new Habitat homeowners. A small dedication ceremony was held on Saturday, May 9th, for Mirna Tejada Portillo and her son, Fabrico. You can watch a video of the masked gathering on Habitat's Facebook page. Fabrico was presented with a "Star Wars" quilt from Sewing for Service.



Originally, it was not planned to have official dedications, but the family wanted to have some small, meaningful ceremony. Mirna was presented with a Bible, a Certificate of Completion for the homeowner's classes that she attended, and the key to her new home. It was a happy day.

Following safety guidelines for avoiding Covid 19, the number of volunteers on site is limited. Also, people over 60, those who are immune compromised, and other high-risk individuals are **not** encouraged to volunteer at this time. Workers bring their own lunches. When the situation changes, we will recruit volunteers from FUMC. People who feel safe volunteering can contact Habitat online, or by phone, 970-351-6766 to sign up.

The annual **fund-raising breakfast** has been changed to a **Virtual Breakfast**. It will still be held on Wednesday, July 22, at 7 am. It will be broadcast in "real time" on Facebook. You can attend in your pajamas, if you want. The program will be available for viewing later for those who want to sleep in. Or if you want to invite friends and relatives in different parts of the country to "attend."



Local and Global Commission

Local and Global Commission is on a hiatus due to Covid 19. Many of our "hands on" activities have been cancelled--Backpacks for Kids at the Weld Food Bank, the Garden of Weedin for the Food Bank and working at Habitat for Humanity.

However, due to your generosity in the Easter and Christmas offerings, we have been able to support the church's mission work. During 2020 we will donate to Prison Ministries, Kids Hope, Water for People, La Puente Home, Greeley Transitional House, Catholic Charities, Peace Corps, Abundant Life Lunches, Habitat for Humanity and A Woman's Place.

We are still collecting contributions from the Lent Devotional Calendar for Habit for Humanity. If you haven't sent your contribution in, you can mail it to the church office.

Thank you again for your support of our church missions. We are looking forward to seeing you and worshipping with you as soon as it is safe to do so.

Donni Clark



New Chancel Choir Director

SPPRC has hired a new Chancel Choir Director. His name is Jacob Aychman and he will be starting on June 1! He is currently a senior at UNC working on 2 degrees – Bachelor of Music Education and Bachelor of Music, Vocal Performance. We are excited to start working with him.

We are also very grateful that all of our staff members are continuing to work and make our church service a success. We especially want to thank William Zaggle for providing his service and technical knowledge to make the online service professional and organized. Please keep our staff in your prayers as we continue to rely on them.

Beverly Williams

From Administrative Council

The Administrative Council met on May 21, 2020 to discuss the re-launch of our Sunday worship services. Working in subgroups and coming together frequently, the council will be creating guidelines for how and when First United Methodist Church will open for worship services and other gatherings. The Mountain Sky Conference has given us great guidance and a starting place to reach this goal in a timely manner. An important part to this process is for the members of FUMC to fill out and send back (either mailed or emailed) the survey included in this newsletter. This gives the council and Pastor Sione critical information on how you, The Church, feel about the re-launch. It is important that you send the completed survey back as quickly as possible.

A Reminder About The 2020 U.S. Census (This is a reprint from the May newsletter)



Dear Colleagues,

As some of you know, I have been a volunteer member of the Greeley/Evans 2020 Census Committee for the past year. We have worked hard to make sure that we get every person who resides in our communities to complete their census questionnaire, preferably on-line, as quickly as possible.

With the Coronavirus still going strong in our nation, a hold has been placed on those "census takers" who will be going into each community to gather the data of those who have not submitted their information in a timely manner. So, there is fear that the count will not be as accurate as it could be, depending on how long the virus keeps the "census takers" out of each community. At this point, the date for completing the census count has been extended, but there is still concern about a full count being achieved by this new deadline.

I know each of you have encouraged your people to fill out their census questions, but we still need to do more encouragement so that we are able to get as close to 100% as possible in every community!

The count is so important as to the amount of federal funding that each community will receive over the next 10 years! But it could also mean an additional representative for Colorado! And, that would be even more important!

Thank you for all the support you can continue to give to this important act for our community. And, if you can encourage your other colleagues to do the same with their congregations and friends, I would be grateful!

Wishing you the best in this very challenging time!

Lonnie R. Eakle, Greeley/Evans 2020 Census Team

Message from Bishop Karen Oliveto, Bishop, Mountain Sky Conference

May 15, 2020

To the People Called United Methodist of the Mountain Sky Conference,

Jesus, before he was betrayed, directed Simon Peter to “feed my lambs, tend my sheep.” (John 21: 15-19). Here, Jesus entrusts his disciples to care for the ones Jesus loved: the lost, the least, the lonely.

Jesus asks the same of you and me. We are to care for the spiritual, physical, and emotional well-being of those whom Jesus loves.

This takes on a responsibility of epic proportions in these COVID-19 days we are living. How do we gather as the Body of Christ and keep one another safe from infection? What guidelines must we follow if we are to move from online ministry to in-person worship and small groups? How do we prepare our people so that the most vulnerable in our midst will be kept safe?

COVID-19 is far from over. While our physical distancing has helped flatten the curve, infections (and deaths) are still occurring. The most vulnerable population to COVID-19 (those over 65) are the majority in our congregations. As disciples of Jesus, we have a serious responsibility to organize and build up ministry in ways that are accessible to all, beginning with the most vulnerable.

Since March, the Mountain Sky Conference COVID-19 Crisis Team has been meeting to guide the MSC response, communications, and programming through the pandemic.

Before considering a return to in-person worship and meetings, all congregations are asked to create a team to work through this [guidebook](#). You will find both concrete steps for safety and health, as well as critical questions to help you consider what ministry in the next phase of COVID-19 will look like.

I do not want one single case of COVID-19 traced to one of our churches because we did not care for those whom Jesus loves.

I hope you will find this guidebook helpful as you (re) Launch your ministries.

May God continue to bless you and your ministries,

Bishop Karen P. Oliveto

