

2021



Celebration Time

10:00 AM Sundays

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

Website:

www.fumcgreeley.org

Email:

office@fumcgreeley.org

Greetings, Dear Ones, in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

In small towns it is a common practice for all the local churches to work together to provide ministries that we couldn't do alone. One of those meetings about this time of year we were making plans for the annual Halloween trunk or treat and costume parade. A pastor said that his church would not participate in this event. We were all fine with this and were moving on. However, he couldn't leave it there. He proceeded to tell us that none of our churches should participate in celebrating Satan's holiday. I have heard this so often. Many pastors that come from a non-denominational background don't participate in the liturgical or church calendar. They aren't educated in many of the church traditions and rituals. Most don't participate in Advent or lighting the Advent candles. They often work off incorrect information.

When he called Halloween Satan's holiday, I tried to explain the origins of Halloween. Halloween means Holy Eve. It is the night before All Saints Day. On All Saints Day we remember and celebrate the lives of the people who are connected to the church that have passed into God's glory over the last year. Halloween became a time when people remember loved one who were not connected to the church and have passed. That is why Halloween started out with costumes of ghosts and skeletons. I remember this young pastor responding with, "I don't know why anyone would want to remember those people that were not connected to the church." The answer to that question is very simple. We remember them because we and God love them.

Even though Halloween is not a church sanctioned Holiday, that simple answer strikes at the heart on the gospel message. God loves you; God loves your neighbor, God loves the person sitting in the same pew as you on Sunday, and God loves the person that has never entered a church. We call this love, Prevenient Grace. It is the idea that God loves us, draws near to us, and longs to be with us even before we know we need God. It is a promise that God still loves even our bad version of ourselves. Let's be honest, that is a promise that we all probably rely on a little too much.

Now days, the church continues to read the names of church members who have passed over the last year. We have also expanded that list to include any names that someone would like lifted up. Why? All are loved by God. May we all be blessed with the memories of those we loved the peace of knowing that God loves them, and God loves you.

Pastor *Al Strauss*

STAFF

Rev. Al Strauss

Senior Pastor

Kathy Trevino

Director of Operations

Nikki Barrios

Director

Family Ministries

Jacob Aychman

Director

Chancel Choir

Travis Kornegay

Director

Praise Team

Connie Long

Director

Alleluia Bell Choir

Travis Kornegay

Organist

Adam Swenson

Evan Messmer

Sound and Media

Mike Villanueva

Custodian

John Hull

Security

Ginger Jansson

Newsletter Editor

tgjansson@gmail.com

FUMC FINANCIALS

COMMITTEE EXPENSES as of August 2021

Conference Apportionment	\$	3,500.00
Communication	\$	1,137.92
Personnel	\$	165,745.75
Education	\$	243.64
Caring and Evangelism	\$	187.66
Membership Activity	\$.00
Worship	\$	516.63
Board of Trustees	\$	58,343.43
Administration	\$	6,900.46
Finance	\$	651.18
Youth/College	\$	22.97
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$	237,249.64
GIFTS RECEIVED as of August 2021	\$	248,910.09
	\$	11,660.45

Capital Campaign Loan Balance: \$ 165,056.77

Endowment Investment Fund: \$ 37,725.55

Hull Mission Investment Fund: \$ 141,859.68

Ways to Give - As you are able

*If you are comfortable attending in-person worship, your contributions may be placed in the offering plates.

*You can mail your check to the church (917 10th Ave, Greeley 80631)

*Online contributions can be made from our website: fumcgreeley.org.

*Another way to give is to use your King Sooper Loyalty card. Make sure you link your card with First United Methodist Church, Greeley as your charity of choice. Then each time you shop, King Sooper will donate to FUMC.

*If you shop Amazon, they have an *Amazon Smile* program. You can list First United Methodist Church, Greeley as a charity of your choice.

Thank you, FUMC Finance Committee

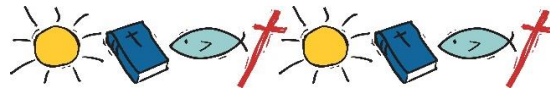


Help us celebrate
the birthdays
of our church
members who
are 80 years old
or older.

Glenn Hewitt	10/04	85 yrs.
Darwin Guinn	10/05	91 yrs.
Jean Eklund	10/07	87 yrs.
Nelda Mickens	10/11	91 yrs.
Joan Johnston	10/18	90 yrs.
Dee Kratochvil	10/25	84 yrs.
Mary Scheel	10/29	89 yrs.
Terry Eakle	10/30	82 yrs.
Leona Bowker	10/31	87 yrs.



Ed Fielder	5/18/2021
Dorothy Wood	9/4/2021



Worship Service Attendance

Knowing you are here is important to us. There are three Attendance Notebooks available for you to register your attendance on Sunday mornings. You only need to sign in one time! Knowing who is in the building helps us in case of an emergency. This also gives you an opportunity to update our records if there are changes to your phone number or address.

Blessing Box

Needed items for the red Blessing Box: Grab and Go food and snacks and travel size hygiene items. Also, now that the weather is turning cooler, we will be adding socks, hats, mittens, and other cold weather items. If you would like to donate to the Blessing Box, please leave your items in the room across from the office. We will make sure the box outside gets filled on a regular basis.



The deadline for the **November Messenger** is **Monday, October 18th**. Articles 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.



CHURCH FALL CLEAN UP



The Trustee Committee has set up the Fall Cleanup of the church grounds. The date will be October 23 at 9:00 am, weather permitting. Everyone is welcome and can help in some way. Some can do a lot, and some can do little, but we'll do it together. Bring your own tools if you have them; like a battery-operated blower, trimmer or edger, pruners, rakes, gloves to mention a few.

Let me know if you can help in some way. Call or text me if you can make it. My number is 970-302-6973 and my email is mardalea23@gmail.com. Hope to see you there.

Marcia Walters



UMW News



Our first meeting since March 2020 was well attended as we restart our journey. We were joined by our Peaks Pike Peaks Shepherdess Laurel Kubin and celebrated the centenarian birthdays of Gerry Bertelsen, and Evelyn Ward.

Plans are being made for UMW Sunday and our annual quilt sale "Knitted together In Faith" on October 24th.

Join us at our next unit meeting on October 14th at 1:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. The program will be " Our Jerusalem Travels" presented by Donna Hettinger, Kim Hilmes & Marcia Walters with the assistance of Mary Elizabeth Hagen

Sincerely,

Donna Hettinger



Sewing for Service Quilt Sale – Sunday, October 24th



If you read the article about Habitat for Humanity and all the quilts donated to the children in the Habitat homes (13 in September; 16 year-to-date), you may think that there won't be any quilts left to sell at the annual Quilt Sale. Wrong! Wrong! Wrong! We have saved the prettiest ones for you to admire (and possibly purchase) at the United Methodist Women's Service on Sunday, October 24th. The earnings from the sale go to purchase the batting (the fluffy lining) for the quilts, sewing machine repair, thread and other needed supplies. Many generous church members have donated sheets and colorful fabrics to Sewing for Service. This helps keep our costs down and enables us to be more creative in our quilt designs. Even if you don't need a quilt for a gift or to keep yourself warm during the winter ahead, plan to admire the handiwork of Sewing for Service.



Local and Global

The Weld Food Bank is one of the nonprofits supported by our Local and Global Commission. The need for food in Weld County is great as one in five people go without food while one in four children struggle with the effects of hunger.

The church will be having out semiannual food drive for the Weld Food Bank during the month of October. Some of the most needed items are peanut butter, tuna, beans and fruit. If you prefer, you can write a check to the church and put Food Bank in the memo line. For every \$1.00, Food Bank can provide three meals.

Local and Global members want to thank you for your generosity.



Donni Clark, Local and Global Commission



Greeters Needed

What's the best job in church? Being a greeter! You are the first loving touch a guest or member will meet when they enter the building. How awesome is that? If you would like to volunteer your smiling face and warm hospitality as a greeter on Sunday mornings, please let the office know. We are beginning a greeter list and will be calling to find out what days' work for you. Thank you.



Liturgists Wanted!

The worship committee is looking for Liturgists for the Sunday morning worship services. This includes reading the Call To Worship and Scriptures. Kathy will send you a copy of these during the week before your Sunday. If you would like to help, please sign up on the clipboard in the East Narthex. Thank you.

Help Someone. One Day. One Place. One Person at a Time.

SAVE THE DATE!



Friday, October 15
Noon - 4:30 p.m.
Navigator needed: 11 - 5 p.m.
Island Grove Regional Parks Events
Center - Greeley

Volunteer Navigators are needed to guide guests through the services being provided at Weld Project Connect. Navigators are paired one-on-one with a guest. After a brief checklist review with the guest the Navigator guides the guest through the event to receive desired services. Navigators will receive required training prior to the one day event.

For more information

www.unitedway-weld.org/projectconnect

Weld Project Connect delivers free health and human services to Weld County residents in need.



Habitat for Humanity Update



A small, but industrious, group from FUMC painted the outside of the Zero Net Energy home at the Mission Springs development on Saturday, August 7th. To check out these homes, go south on 23rd Avenue to Quay Street. Turn right. An apartment complex is on the left; the Habitat homes are on the right. Notice the variety of attractive Habitat houses.

Three Habitat homes were dedicated during September, meaning that three more families now have ‘forever homes.’ On September 11th, the two-story duplex in Mission Springs was the scene of a celebration. Zafu Gebrehiwot and her five daughters received the key to their new home. Even though it was a hot, hot day, the girls were excited to each get a colorful quilt made by our Sewing for Service group. Zafu said, “My five daughters and I live in a two-bedroom apartment. It is crowded and rent is high. We are immigrants trying to make a good life for the girls.”



The other half of the duplex will be the home of the Koroso and Buliye Family. They have three young children, one just learning to crawl. In his application to Habitat, Mohamed wrote: “Having a home that is in a safe place would be a dream come true. Not having to worry about moving around and having the stability we need to raise our children; it would be a blessing.”



appliances.

On September 30, the Zero-Net Energy home was dedicated. This home was sponsored by Atmos Energy and the Schlessman Family Foundation. Franky Rodriguez, the mother, wrote, “I never thought I would own my own home. Thank you for making our dream come true.!” Franky has four children and one grandchild who will share the home with her. The zero-net energy home has extra thick insulation, solar panels and energy efficient



The second two-story duplex in Mission Springs is nearly completed and the ground-breaking ceremony for a one-story duplex was held September 16th. Four more families will soon have ‘forever homes.’ Habitat provides a pathway out of poverty through affordable homeownership. Thanks for supporting Habitat for Humanity.



Need A Ride?

HIS Ride

If you would like to start attending service on Sunday morning and need a ride, please call Linda Kautz at 970-590-3118 or the church office at 970-353-5522. We will let you know what time the bus will be coming to pick you up.

If you are interested in driving the bus on Sundays, please call Kathy at the office. It’s our hope to have at least 4 drivers and possibly 1 or 2 back up drivers. This will allow for you to commit to only one Sunday a month for driving.



How is it that music affects our elements of worship? We refer to Praise music, contemporary music, traditional, classical, pop, instrumental, vocal, fanfare, and sometimes even processional music for church just to name a few. Why? In simplistic terms it is attempting to try to convey different messages which touch each person in different ways during every Sunday of our worship service.

During these last few months there has been a more intentional approach to offering a bit more variety within our blended service. Travis has been planning different individuals coming to provide special music, along with our choir, and handbell group. It has been exciting to hear the great music.

I have been pleased to have ten ringers who have returned to begin playing handbells. A special thanks to David Pringle, Sue Kubik, Joyce Langham, Marcia Walters, and Carolyn Tarman for the dedicated time to come polish bells in preparation for our playing at worship on September 19th. Yet, one of the huge variables within all music groups is that the membership fluctuates due to the many responsibilities, time commitments, and life obstacles that occur for people on a daily basis. I mention this aspect of our musical groups because I, personally, am grateful every week for each person who comes with that commitment to give of themselves to make music for the enlightenment of our worship service.

The Alleluia Ringers have again committed to playing for worship once a month, prepare a meal for Abundant Life once a year which is coming up on October 9th, prepare for the Festival of Trees event, and will in all likelihood go to play at a nursing home before the end of December. It is my hope that we will be able to do collaborations within all the music within our church on a regular basis. They are also asked to attempt to find a substitute for themselves when they must be absent due to the fact that when they are gone if their notes are not played it totally affects the sound of the song we are working on. We have difficulty finding subs---so if you might be interested in coming to play on occasion, please let me know, Connie Long, 970-371-5277, longconnie@comcast.net

As we approach each Sunday to Praise God, may we be grateful for the opportunities---Let's Do This!

Blessings, *Connie*



Update from the Board of Trustees

We have had another delay in the replacement of the West side doors. The company has experienced delays in getting the materials in. As soon as that happens, this project will be underway!

We would like to thank those who donated to the hearing assistance system in the Sanctuary. By all reports, it is working great!

Other projects we have been working on include: The purchase of a new icemaker for the kitchen, and painting of the wood benches near the West entrance. The Trustees plan to do an end of the year walk through to create a new to-do list for 2022.

Don't forget to mark October 23rd on your calendars for the Fall Yard Clean-up. There will be jobs for everyone.

FUMC Greeley Website Update

We have recently rebuilt our website on a different platform to have a more secure environment for our members. This is a work in progress so please bear with us. If you would like to add and/or change any content, photos, etc., please email the information to Kathy at office@fumcgreeley.org and put WEBSITE in the subject line. We appreciate your patience!

Sally (Website Assistant)



Sunday, October 31
from
12 noon – 2PM
Sign-up your trunk!