

2022

June

July

August



Celebration Time

10:00 AM Sundays

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

Website:

www.fumcgreeley.org

Email:

office@fumcgreeley.org

Precious Children of God,

I love s'mores! In my younger years, I was a summer camp counselor. Every Thursday night was cook out night. This meant we ended our dinner with s'mores. It was my favorite night of the week. I think it is safe to say that most of the kids loved it too. However, in one 5th and 6th grade camp, there was a young boy who finished his s'more and he had clearly gotten more on his face than in his mouth. The other kids started laughing at how messy he was. I must admit, this child's ability to make a disastrous mess was truly remarkable.

The young man started to tear up because of the laughter. My approach to dealing with this was to announce that he was the winner and said, "Everyone knows whoever gets the most s'more on their face enjoyed the s'more the most." I then proceeded to eat my s'more like cookie monster. Chunks of chocolate and Graham crackers were stuck to my face with sticky, burnt marshmallows. This started a chain of children smearing marshmallows all over their faces to prove they indeed enjoyed their s'more the most. It was a mess, but it was fun.

The problem came the next week at Jr. high camp. Some of the campers were siblings to campers from the previous week. They had heard about the messiest s'more decree. Once again, we had to smear s'mores all over our face. Week after week this continued. After ten weeks, I was absolutely done with the messy s'mores challenge.

This is how we deal with messes in our own life. Each of us deals with the mess differently, whether we feel we are alone in the mess or whether we are all in it together. The way we look at it might be quite different, depending on whether this is the first mess or the tenth mess. The truth is we are all dealing with a mess or two or twenty-five. We really don't know what messes people are trying to clean up. We don't know what support people have in cleaning up their messes. My sense is that being more sensitive to what others are going through and relating to one another with gentleness could have a big, lasting impact – both on us and on the person in front of us. Let's make a commitment. This summer let us pledge to judge less, to come alongside each other in the mess, and to eat more s'mores.

Blessings,
Pastor Al

STAFF

Rev. Al Strauss

Senior Pastor

Kathy Trevino

Director of Operations

Mardy Gerwig

Bookkeeper

Nikki Barrios

Director

Family Ministries

Travis Kornegay

Director

Chancel Choir

Connie Long

Director

Alleluia Bell Choir

Travis Kornegay

Organist

Daniel Mullins

Accompanist

Evan Messmer

William Zaggle

Sound and Media

Mike Villanueva

Custodian

John Hull

Security

Ginger Jansson

Newsletter Editor

tgjansson@gmail.com

FUMC FINANCIALS

YEAR TO DATE EXPENSES: **April 2022**

Conference Apportionment	\$	2,000.00
Communication	\$	572.51
Personnel	\$	92,714.51
Education	\$	271.00
Caring and Evangelism	\$	100.00
Membership Activity	\$	164.75
Worship	\$	674.99
Board of Trustees	\$	40,245.85
Administration	\$	5,553.84
Finance	\$	386.86
Youth/College	\$	(60.25)
TOTAL EXPENSES: April 2022	\$	142,624.90
GIFTS RECEIVED	\$	124,944.02
BUDGET BALANCE	\$	-17,680.88



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 Soopers 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 Soopers 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 and those married 50 years or more.



June

Lonnie Eakle	6/02	81 yrs.
Brenda Grube	6/11	80 yrs.
Richard Haynes	6/13	82 yrs.
Laverne Dressor	6/14	91 yrs.
Ramona Stotts	6/14	90 yrs.

July

Mickey Schmidt	7/01	88 yrs.
Nancy Robinson	7/06	80 yrs.
Anne Schenkman	7/07	92 yrs.
June Roukema	7/08	97 yrs.
Don Zaggle	7/13	94 yrs.
Irene Long	7/14	90 yrs.
Ruby Taziri	7/18	98 yrs.
Jean Wilson	7/24	85 yrs.

August

Darlene Schwartz	8/06	92 yrs.
Joe Warmbrod	8/19	89 yrs.

June

D Joe & Maryetta Moore	6/03	66 yrs.
Gary & Maxine Bracken	6/04	68 yrs.
Robert & Alice Chapman	6/06	51 yrs.
Jerry & Dorothy Benner	6/07	63 yrs.
Charles & Dona Johnson	6/11	50 yrs.
Lonnie & Terry Eakle	6/20	63 yrs.
Lester & Sue Kropf	6/29	65 yrs.

July

David & Doris Biehl	7/16	55 yrs.
Charles & Rachel Szasz	7/18	53 yrs.
Gary & Sally Hoff	7/27	54 yrs.

August

Ed & Leona Bowker	8/07	69 yrs.
Dale & Dee Kratochvil	8/08	57 yrs.
Allen & Carol McConnell	8/25	59 yrs.
Leon & Brenda Grube	8/28	62 yrs.



Wanda Stromberger 5/16/2022

Capital Campaign Loan Report

The Finance Committee would like to thank each of you who contributed to our “pay down the loan” drive. With our matching funds we are planning to send \$50,000.00 to be put toward the principal. As of April 30th, the loan balance was \$152,410.25 and with your help and dedication we will be able to bring that amount down to around \$100,000.00. It is the committee’s goal to zero out that loan within 2 years. We ask the congregation to continue contributing toward the loan payment as you can, just write “capital loan” on your check. This helps us meet our monthly loan obligations. Thank you again for your support.

Blessing Box

Needed items for the red Blessing Box: Grab and Go food and snacks and travel size hygiene 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.



Announcing...

The deadline for the **September Messenger** is **Monday, August 15th**. 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.



Summer Worship Temporary Location

Beginning **June 12th**, the Sunday morning worship service will be moved to the Fellowship Hall. This is due to the Sanctuary AC being broken. Parts are being ordered, but it may take 5-8 weeks for them to get here. The Trustees are working hard to get things working as soon as possible. The service time will still be at 10:00AM.

Building Impact Breakfast



Greeley-Weld

**Habitat
for Humanity®**

Do you want to be inspired and learn about great things happening in Greeley? Plan to attend the annual Habitat Breakfast!

Habitat for Humanity Breakfast

Wednesday, July 20th.

6:45 to 8:15 a.m.

Christ Community Church, 1301 15th St, Greeley

Our church will have a table or two tables - if there is enough interest. Contact Marian Ruge at 970-584-4199 or amruge@juno.com to get a seat at 'our' table. Habitat Champion, Dick Monfort, will speak. Habitat Homeowners will inspire us with stories of hard work and share their gratitude for the opportunity to have a 'forever' home to raise their children in safety. Of course, this is a fundraising breakfast, and at the end attendees are asked to make a pledge to support the Greeley-Weld Habitat for Humanity. It will be a great morning! Plan to attend!

CEMAC News



We hope you have been enjoying the fellowship activities so far this year. CEMAC will be hosting activities throughout the summer.

June 19th (Father's Day) we will be breaking out the grill and having hotdogs and fixings after church. We hope to be able to eat outside in the west, grassy area.

July 17th will bring Ice Cream and Games. We will host a potluck lunch after worship with homemade ice cream for dessert! We hope you will stay a while and play some games afterwards.

August's activity will be announced soon. We hope you will join us during the summer as we stay connected with our church family members.

Volunteer Award



Our church received a Volunteer Appreciation award from the Weld Food Bank for our support of the backpack program. During the 2021-2022 academic year, 179 people filled 18,072 backpacks on Monday mornings.

Our "official" Mondays are over, but the Food Bank will continue to set up the first Monday of each month to continue the program over the summer. If you would like to volunteer, there is no sign up; just show up at 9am on the first Monday of the month at the Food Bank.

Thank you again for supporting this local mission of FUMC!!

Donni Clark, Local Global Concerns Commission

News from United Women in Faith (our new name since March).

We are nearing the end of another Women in Faith year. Our last meeting will be a potluck in June. Watch for details in the Sunday bulletin, online, & phone messages for those without emails.

Our Aims Scholarship May Mother's Day fund raiser technically ends the end of May, but we will continue to welcome donations at any time. A check will be delivered to the Aims Foundation this Fall.

Have you looked at our kitchen lately? Mike has cleaned & shined the floor (he's so proud). We aren't finished yet, but Donna Hettinger & Marcia Walters have been working on sprucing it up after our long months of nonuse (the miller moths took up residence). Mike has left a mop & bucket, broom & dustpan for us to use following functions.

We will not be meeting the months of July & August then begin a new year starting September 8th.

Sincerely,
Donna Hettinger



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.



Need A Ride?

HIS Ride

If you would like to attend service on Sunday morning and need a ride, please call 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.



Trustee's Corner

Our cleanup day went well, and we got a lot of dirt removed, ready for this summer and winter when we can work hard to put new dirt back in its place. We are also very grateful to all who helped with paying down our building loan. The sooner we are not paying for money, we can begin paying for more building upgrades and repairs! Speaking of repairs...

Most of you know our sanctuary AC (and heating) is now kaput and everybody knows a broken air conditioner is simply not cool. Who would have guessed that John Gorrie would have made such a major change in the world in the 1840's when he invented Air Conditioning? It didn't even get mildly popular until after WWII and Mr. Carrier got involved. Even then many people would continue to quote the book of Amos as the reason Air Conditioning somehow was not Christian, and only God creates the wind.

"He who forms the mountains, who creates the wind, and who reveals his thoughts to mankind, who turns dawn to darkness, and treads on the heights of the earth—the LORD God Almighty is his name." Amos 4:13

Although heating air for some reason was acceptable, some people were ousted from their churches for even having seen such a magic air-cooling machine from hell (don't look for logic here). All while people were literally dying from the heat. And the problem we face now is that most buildings, like our sanctuary, were not designed to be without air conditioning, as the pretty stained-glass windows don't open. The good news is congregations eventually came in line with deciding God created the cooling wind for churches too! Yet, as we now know, God can also reveal his thoughts to mankind when it is time for a new cooling coil. The other good news is that we have a source for new parts, have been told we can get a discount for being a church that is purchasing directly, and we have the internal expertise of our trustees to install the parts and update the system at the same time! So, we are thankful we will have repairs that should last for some time.

Our bus is also being challenged along the same dawn to darkness line of thinking, also suffering from a broken air conditioner. Not sure yet what it will take to get that repaired, but the problem is much like with the sanctuary... no windows that open, so AC is required if we want to use it this summer. Fortunately, the only way to turn a dawn to darkness is by having a dawn to start with, and we know *"A new day will dawn on us from above because our God is loving and merciful."* (Luke 1:78) So, the Trustees continue to work hard and await the gift of magic cooling winds in our future. Let's hope it is a mild early summer with cooler Sunday mornings.

William
Chair, Trustees



Each year as the handbell ringers play, I am very appreciative of their time, energy, efforts, and commitment. Please allow me a moment to acknowledge them for this year. They come every Thursday evening from 6:00 to 7:00pm to practice, arrive on Sunday mornings when they are going to play usually before 8:00am to play for the worship service at 10:00. So when you look at their timeframe minimally they give about 6hours every month=60hours to provide the music you are able to enjoy over a nine month period. It may not sound like much to each of you, but I am grateful to each of them for their gift. This doesn't include the outside time of their individual marking of music, color coding, looking over where they need to figure out their coordination to play their part.

Many members of the congregation say thank-you to me as their director. I try to convey your gratitude to them each practice as we end but please say thanks to each of these individuals: Lois Pringle, Marcia Hull, Cheryl Biwer, Lea Sanford, Sue Kubik, David Pringle, Katy Gerwig, Joyce Langham, Marcia Walters, and Carolyn Tarman. This has been a difficult year for our group with many individuals in and out. I am grateful to our very dedicated substitutes who have played this year: Amanda McCosh, Marian Ruge, Carol McNulty, Kevin Hilmes, Kathy Trevino. Our group would be very hard pressed to play if we didn't have folks who can come fill in from time to time because life happens for all of us. This became very evident to me this year when I, too, had to miss a rehearsal due to a surgery in my family.

We are not an audition group. I am always attempting to get more players, but also know the kind of dedication, as well as commitment it takes to play handbells, get better, overcome the frustration of figuring things out in relationship to counting, picking up the correct bell, isn't for everyone. This group works very hard each time we are together. I love each person, work to support them, and try to figure out how to make us sound good each time we present. I would love for you to chat with me if you think you might be interested in joining our handbell group in the fall.

Thank you, Ringers, have a great summer, and I hope to see you in worship this summer!

Connie



Sunshine Pie (From 3 Amish Women)

A pound of patience you must find,
Mixed well with loving words so kind.
Drop in 2 pounds of helpful deeds,
And thoughts of other people's needs.
A pack of smiles to make the crust,
Then slice and bake well you must.
And now I ask that you might try,
The recipe of the Sunshine Pie.

Coming This Fall

A ***Life Line Screening*** event! Life Line Screening will be here **Saturday, September 24, 2022**. This prevention and wellness company operates community-based screening services for adults aged 50 and up across the United States. More details to come on what tests they will be offering and how to sign-up for an appointment time.

Church Bulletin Bloopers!

"If you need to heave during the Postlude, please do so quietly."

"The Senior Choir invites any member of the congregation who enjoys sinning to join the choir."

"Next Thursday, there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get."

"The choir will meet at the Larsen house for fun and sinning."

"The 'Over 60s Choir' will be disbanded for the summer with the thanks of the entire church."

"Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our Church and community."

"A song fest was hell at the Methodist church Wednesday."

"Let us join David and Lisa in the celebration of their wedding and bring their happiness to a conclusion."

"Mr. Bradford was elected and has accepted the office of head deacon. We could not get a better man."

Snapshots of Church Life!



Communion
Sunday
May 1st





June 19th – Hot dogs & fixins after the service.

July 17th - Ice cream & games with potluck after the service.

August –
Announced soon.