

Wesley's Journal April 2018

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To live by Faith to be known by Love and be a Voice of Hope.

From the Pastor's Pen,

"Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So, she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." John 20:1-2

The Sunday of the Resurrection is not only the greatest day of the church year, it is also the only one that is set by the moon. Easter always falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon on or after the spring equinox. As complicated as that sounds, it makes ancient sense, since it means Easter coincides with the greening of the earth. Christ is risen and the whole world comes to life. Sap rises in dormant trees, spring peepers start their peeping, and trumpet lilies spill their sweet smell on the air. The connection is a happy one, guaranteed to renew our faith in the creative power of God.

But it is also a misleading one, because spring is entirely natural. Buy a daffodil bulb in the winter and it looks like nothing in your hands, a small onion, maybe, with its thin skin and scraggly roots. If you had any experience with bulbs, that does not worry you. You know all you have to do is wait. Come springtime it will escape the earth and explode with colors. As miraculous as it is, it is completely natural.

Resurrection, on the other hand, is entirely unnatural. When a human being goes into the ground, that is that. You don't wait for the person to reappear, so you can pick up where you left off—not this side of the grave, anyway. You say good-bye. You pay your respects and you go on with your life as best as you

can, knowing that the only place springtime happens in a cemetery is on the graves, not in them.

That is all Mary was doing that morning—paying her respects, going to his tomb to convince herself it was all true. It was still dark, but even from a distance she knew something was wrong. She could smell damp earth, cold rock from inside. Someone had moved the stone! Afraid he would become a saint, afraid his tomb would become a shrine, someone had taken him away. His body was all she had left and now it too was gone.

So she ran and brought two of the others back with her, but once they satisfied themselves that what she had said was true, they left her there weeping. She was like an abandoned pup who had lost her master.

Even angels could not soften her resolve. They were there when she worked up her nerve to look inside the tomb, sitting where he had lain. "Why are you weeping?" they asked her. "They have taken away my Lord," she answered them, "and I do not know where they have laid him."

She was operating on automatic pilot, so that when she left the tomb she bumped into the gardener without even seeing him. His only value to her was the he might know the answer to her question. "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." What did she think she would do—have the gardener lay the body over her shoulders, or pick it up all by herself? It was not a reasonable request, but the gardener didn't seem to mind. "Mary," he said to her and she turned to stare at him. "Rabboni," she cried out, "my Teacher!"

"Do not hold on to me," he cautioned her, "because I have not yet ascended to the Father." It was a peculiar thing for him to say since there is no evidence she was holding on to him in any way. Unless it was what she called him—my Teacher—the old name she used to call him. "Rabboni!" she called him, but that was his Friday name, and here it was Sunday—an entirely new day in an entirely new life.

He was not on his way back to her and the others. He was on his way to God, and he was taking the whole world with him. This may why the other gospel accounts of the resurrection tell us not to be afraid—because new life is frightening. To expect a sealed tomb and find it filled with angels, to hunt the past and discover the future, to seek a corpse and find the risen Lord—none of that is natural.

Death is natural. Loss is natural. Grief is natural. But the stones have been rolled away on that happy morning, to reveal God's love. God has planted a seed

of life in us that cannot be killed, and if we can remember that then there is nothing we cannot do: move mountains, banish fear, love our enemies, change the world.

Happy Easter!
Rev. Emilie

Coffee Fellowship 11:00 am Sunday
Sunday School for all ages 11:15 am

Newsletter Deadline April 18th

United Methodist Women's The Legacy Fund

The Legacy Fund is a forward-thinking permanent endowment with income dedicated to strengthening United Methodist Women. The total program of United Methodist Women is mission. United Methodist Women's service, advocacy and transformative learning opportunities equip members to be agents of change and promote the empowerment of women that is essential to address the root causes of so many conditions that harm women, children and youth.

The Legacy Fund will provide the tools, resources and personnel to distribute United Methodist Women's grants and scholarships, coordinate with mission personnel, support technological updates such as operating systems for data and communication and more. Ensuring a regular source of support for these core expenses will free future generations to budget Mission Giving to connect directly with the needs of women, children and youth. It will allow our successors to promote Mission Giving in a new way.

You are part of this legacy as we continue our five-year celebration of the 150th anniversary of United Methodist Women. The Legacy Fund campaign, officially launched at Assembly 2014, will be celebrated at Assembly 2018 and will culminate in 2019—our 150th year. The celebration of the 150th anniversary involves the organization at all levels in raising contributions for the Legacy Fund to permanently sustain our ongoing mission with women, children and youth.

-- *Marsha McDaniel*

Youth Group

Hello, I hope that all of you are wondering the same thing I am this month: What has the youth group been doing? Well the past few months we have been very busy. The kids chose what they wanted to learn for the entire year! We have just finished the first one an in- depth study of Moses by Adam Hamilton. We have just started learning about the history of the church. We also are watching the chronicles of Narnia to see the way God can be shown in different ways to many people who may not know the message of Jesus is being shown to them. We have also been out in the community. We went to PAWS, the no kill shelter to volunteer by helping to walk the dogs. The kids loved it so much, please see Facebook page to see some pictures! We will be going back to PAWS on April 7th. We have been asking for used coffee grounds and used egg shells and would love if you have any to spare.

Thank you for taking an interest in the Youth Group.

Please remember, John 15:12.

Blessings! -- *Tori Mc Clune*



March Church Council Meeting

The meeting always takes place the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. and everyone is invited to attend. All committees should have at least one person available to report on what is happening or going to happen or what has already happened. The old business is still the security on the east door and the door for the handicapped. We now have a plan for working on paying for it. We are still trying to figure out how to raise the money to replace the roof in the Education Wing, and how to mend it in the meantime. Highlights from the committee reports: **Committee for Communication and Outreach* has set up another meeting to work on the website. They will meet on April 3, at 11:00 anyone interested may attend. **Care Team*: Meeting on the 3rd Thursday on even numbered months. **Christian Education Committee*: Meeting on the 3rd Monday. **Finance & Investment*: Implementing a new Voucher policy. **Mission Committee*: Change the World Day May 18th and 19th. **St Paul Endowment Fund Committee*: Planned to announce the results of the awards March 19th.

-- *Marsha McDaniel*

Our Deepest Sympathy's



To the Family and
Friends of

Robert Collyer
Bruce Schiffer
Juanita Bell
Gayle Grotewold
Dennis Malone

THANK YOU!

Dear Randy Losey & Estate Sale Workers,

Thank you so much for the huge Beautiful plant. It is simply Gorgeous! However, I must tell you I misunderstood and thought it was for Ollie, so I gave it to him. He was so pleased! So, your generosity was touched the hearts of two families. I talked to Claudine, & she told me the plant was for me. You folks are the most loving, generous people I know. You work hard and help the church so much. Thank you also for coming to Yolanda's Funeral at Holy Family. I saw you all sitting together, and you took up the whole row. My heart felt the love and support you were giving. You guys and gals mean a lot to me.

Thank you again, -- *Sara Carpenter*

We are deeply grateful for the kindness & compassion you extended to our Family During this sad time. With Christians love,

-- *Nancy Schiffer & Family*

WESLEY'S ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

Our class meets in the church library beginning at 11:15, after the Sunday morning worship service. That gives us time to get some refreshments from Fellowship Hall to go with the coffee in the library. We welcome everyone who identifies with this age group.

We started a series of lessons about Jesus' last words from the cross in March and will finish on April 8.

On April 15 only, we will have a special study devoted to the last line of the Apostles' Creed: "(I believe in) the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting." In my opinion the short

video we will see by Rev. Adam Hamilton is a powerful affirmation of how belief in Christ will lead to an afterlife greater than we can imagine. We encourage Wesley's adults to come and share ideas with us about this challenging, fundamental and uplifting topic.

On April 22 we will begin a new series of lessons which we will announce via our church's email list.

-- *Leon Bright*

Road Trip Girls

Spiritual Retreat

Wesley United Methodist Church

85 Stanford, Pueblo CO 81004

Saturday May 5, 2018

11:30 – 3:00

Pot Luck Salad Luncheon

Mark Your Calendars!!!

RSVP by May 1st

Jan Warner 565-7445



Grocery Cards

Help the Church

This friendly Couple, Tom & Lois Jean Mock can usually be found in Church on Sundays. King Sooper cards for Sale in the amounts of \$25, \$50 & \$100 are available. Give it a try this month.



Tax Deadline April 17th

Home Earth Day April 22

Arbor Day April 27th

Pueblo Cluster Churches:

They are in need of Women's clothing, small through large sizes, needed for patient clothing Bank at CMHIP.

For more information, PLEASE call

Lola West @ (719) 288-3733 Thank You.

Intentional Prayer April

“Christ died for our sins He was Buried
He was raised on the third day, according to
the Scriptures” (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)

Jesus is the only way to God. Jesus Said, “I
am the way, and the truth, and the life; no
one comes to the Father, but through Me.”
(John 14:6)

We pray that the Easter light of life, hope
and joy, will live in us each day: and that we
will be bearers of that light into the lives of
others. Amen. Taken in part from,
“An Easter Prayer for United Methodists”

-- Marsha McDaniel

MISSIONS

The El Centro

Is in need of Soups, canned corn
Men's jeans and long sleeve shirts,
Men's boots and shoes



Cooperative Care Center

April needs: Rice and pinto beans

Help Wanted!

Volunteers that is.....

Our church requires a lot of volunteers to
operate our building, fulfill the needs of our
members, strengthen our faith and most
importantly keep our covenant with God.
Here is a partial list of some volunteer job
openings where YOU could help.....

- Head Usher (Bill Easton is retiring
from this job)
- Ushers
- Mission Committee Chairperson
- Christian Education Chairperson
- Care Team members

Please contact the Wesley Office if you are
interested in helping.

-- Jim Stuart

**The very first Easter taught us: that
life never ends and love never dies.**

Happy
April
Birthdays

Jim Lunn *	04/01
Ron Winters	04/07
Cindy Huggett	04/08
Tony Ashworth	04/09
Phyllis Collyer*	04/09
Sheryl Adams	04/10
Mabel Baker*	04/10
Bob Spears*	04/13
Wyneta Clendenning*	04/15
Gayle Kraus	04/16
Bill Easton*	04/17

Donald Jones *	04/23
Elexa Valdez	04/25
Duaina Baldrige	04/26
Beth Mangin	04/27

**Proudly celebrating 80 years or more*

Birthday Sunday will be April 8.
Please sit at the table with your
Birthday month cake.

Happy
Annivers
ary

John & LaVilla Shriver (53)

*If we missed your Birthday or Anniversary,
please let us know at 561-8746.*



Wesley United Methodist Church
85 Stanford Ave
Pueblo Co 81005

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BIBLE WORD SEARCH!
BASIC WORDS OF THE BIBLE

G	E	N	T	I	L	E	B	I	B	L	E	D
O	B	A	A	B	R	T	J	E	M	D	I	I
D	P	I	E	S	I	M	N	I	P	B	N	
T	E	M	P	T	A	T	I	O	N	J	A	H
H	R	P	S	H	L	H	R	P	I	E	P	O
E	S	R	A	L	V	E	A	N	S	R	T	L
F	E	A	C	E	A	H	C	A	T	U	I	Y
A	C	Y	R	H	T	O	L	Z	R	S	Z	S
T	U	E	I	E	I	L	E	A	Y	A	E	P
H	T	I	F	M	O	Y	J	R	H	L	N	I
E	E	S	I	N	N	A	J	E	W	E	H	R
R	W	E	C	L	F	A	I	T	H	M	L	I
B	S	J	E	S	U	S	C	H	R	I	S	T

JESUS CHRIST	PRAY	MIRACLE
SALVATION	TITHES	NAZARETH
JEW	MINISTRY	BETHLEHEM
GENTILE	BIBLE	JERUSALEM
HOLY SPIRIT	HOLY	BAPTIZE
GOD THE FATHER	SACRIFICE	TEMPTATION
PERSECUTE	FAITH	SIN

