



September 2017

# Wesley's Journal

Wesley United Methodist Church

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Rev. Emilie Forward cell: 719-371-4748 e-mail: eforward@yahoo.com

Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School classes for all ages 11:15 a.m.

*To live by Faith, be known by Love and be a voice of Hope*

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## From the Pastor's pen:

*"In this life one's nationality or race or education is unimportant. Such things mean nothing...let love guide your life."*

Colossians 3, 11,14

The tragic and sad events in Charlottesville, VA served as wake-up call to so many of us and it shows us once again how hatred and disregard for human life is rampant in our world. As Christians we are called to love one another not to destroy one another because we may look, think, or behave differently. I will not politicize the event as I mentioned at the beginning of my appointment to Wesley that I will keep politics out of the pulpit, because pointing fingers will not justify anyone's behavior. At the same time, we cannot be silent to the tragedies that destroy individuals and communities in the name of racism. I will not stand for this or any kind of hatred, and I reject racism and bigotry in whichever form it portrays itself. I am calling on all of you to reject such behavior wherever it presents itself. What I want to focus on in this letter is that we all need to seek common ground as Jesus Christ did when he walked on this earth.

In coming to earth Jesus was seeking common ground with us by walking in handmade leather sandals and scraping his knuckles while working in his father's carpentry shop. Had he appeared draped in armor and displaying a halo the size of the rings of Saturn, he would, perhaps, have impressed more people. But then their conversion would have been based on awe and fear, rather than on the relationship he wanted, which was love. He did not come to earth hurling thunderbolts (though his disciples urged him to do so). He did not point out the numerous flaws, sins, and inadequacies of those around him (though they were many). He sought common ground with people so that he could reach them, and teach them, and love them, *where* they were. He even learned their language in a desire to communicate clearly and effectively. He used the words that they used. He sang the songs they sang. He dressed like they dressed...

Even the apostle Paul, a man probably not known for his natural charm, stated that he sought common ground with an audience before preaching to them. In Philippians 2:1, he exhorts his listeners to "remember the Spirit that we have in common. Be united to your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind." In John 17:11, Jesus himself prays over and over again "that the people may be one, like you and I are one." He also clearly said that the way others would recognize that we were his disciples would be by the love we have for one another, not by the relative merits of our strengths versus their weaknesses. "He who looks down on his neighbor sins," advises Proverbs 14:21. When any person or group looks down on others, casting moral judgments, they are making themselves "wrong."

Diplomatic negotiations proceed much faster when every participant has an understanding of the common needs, values, and ideas of the other parties involved. "Judge your fellow guests' needs by your own. Be thoughtful in every way." Ecclesiastes 31:15 I urge all of us to be in prayer as individuals and as a community to learn how to live with one another and to love one another.

Differences will always make themselves apparent. It is up to us to search for and recognize the silent, pervasive, and important things we have in common. Only then can heart-to-heart communications occur.

*"Be tactful with those who are not [like you] and be sure you make the best use of your time with them. Talk to them agreeably and with a flavor of wit, and try to fit your answers to the need of each one...[because]...In Christ's image there is no room for distinction between Greek or Jew... There is only Christ. He is everything and he is in everything."*

*The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts... The eye cannot say to the hand, I do not need you... For we are all baptized by one Spirit into one body, and we were all given the one Spirit to drink..."*

Colossians 3:11, 14, Galatians 3:28, 1 Corinthians 12:4 - 26

Shalom,  
Rev. Emilie

**Income for July \$13,368.96**  
**Expenses for July \$18,871.63**

**The Mission Committee** has hopes that our congregation is willing to donate to the El Centro de Los Pobres in addition to the Cooperative Care Center.

We have an additional container in the Sanctuary entrance labeled for El Centro and the red wagon will remain for the Co-op.

The El Centro is in need of:

Canned corn, Canned tomatoes, Soups  
Men's jeans and long sleeve shirts, Men's boots and shoes

Cooperative Care Center is in need of:

September – Canned Goods (veggies & fruits)  
October – Instant Mash Potatoes & Stuffing

# Hey!



Sorry, didn't mean to shout just wanted to get your attention. Wesley UMW really needs your help for this year's Bizarre Bazaar. We would appreciate your help making and donating handcrafted items for us to sell at the bazaar. It has been several years since we have tried doing a bazaar this way that is the reason we are calling it BIZARRE! Please help.

## **Challenge for the roof replacement fund.**

The estate sale committee has approved that we will match any group, or individual from June 15th thru Oct 1st for a total match of \$5,000.00. So, on Oct. 1st the Estate group will write a check out of our funds to match whatever has been raised during that period. (not to exceed 5000.00)



### **Intentional Prayer for September**

**Our Father, Wesley UMC would like to develop a ministry covenant. We are asking for your help and guidance. Please help us and show us the direction you want us to go and how we can be an effective congregation and church community. In Jesus name we pray. Amen**



To family and friends of:  
Greg Walz, Dr. Eustice Zacher,  
Erin Nicole Orr-Scheel, Nell Jett

## **Wesley's new Facebook page**

We now have a page on Facebook. If you utilize Facebook please look us up at Wesley United Methodist Church Pueblo, "Like" the page and be kept up to date through pictures and announcements daily on what is going on at Wesley.

## **Lay Servant Ministry Training in Center, CO** **October 6 & 7, 2017**

*"Whoever serves me must follow me. Wherever I am, there my servant will also be.*

*My Father will honor whoever serves me."*  
(John 12:26 CEB)

A Lay Servant is:

- A professing member of a local church or charge who is ready and desirous to serve the church, the community, and the world.
- Well informed on and committed to the Scriptures and the doctrine, heritage, organization, and life of The United Methodist Church.
- Active in the support of the local church or charge.

Dates: October 6 & 7, 2017

Location: Center UMC 387 S. Broadway, Center, CO 81125

Cost: No charge. A "Love Offering will be taken to cover snacks, lunch, and incidental expenses.

To register: Call Gene at (719) 873, 5311



## **Mark Your Calendars!** **2017 Historical Ghost Walk** **Storytelling of Pueblo's**

Dates: Sept. 29, 30, Oct. 6, 7

Times: Friday & Saturday 5:30 -8:30 pm

Walking tour leave every 15 minutes

From El Pueblo History Museum

Special sneak Peek – Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> 5:30 & 7:30pm

Seated performances at El Pueblo History Museum

## **Bell Choir**

We'll resume rehearsal on Wednesday Sept 6<sup>th</sup>. From 6:00 to 6:35 pm. Junior High & High school youth as well as adults are welcome. If you don't know how to play the bells, I'll be glad to teach you, Bette Lunn.



# Thank You

Dear Wesley,

A Huge thank you to everyone who donated items for the rummage sale and everyone who helped set up and price! It was a definite success. We raised over \$2100.00 for local missions. With an anonymous gift of \$2000.00 we have over \$4000.00 to help the less fortunate in our community. The Missions Committee

To our Wesley Friends,

Thank you for the nice cards. Sorry we missed the party. Don is home getting stronger and feeling better every day. Also thank you Rev. Emilie, for the visits and the prayers. Don & Bev Jones



## Happy September

### Anniversaries!

09/16 – John & Shirley Amidon

09/18 – Mike & Avis Solano

**\*Proudly celebrating 50 years or more.**

If we missed your anniversaries, please let us know at  
561-8746

## Happy September Birthdays!

- 2- Dee Dee Dwight
- 10 – Rose Cozzolino, Claude Brown\*
- 14 – Nina Kinney
- 16 – Annette Pasquin
- 19 – Jan Matthew\*, Norma (Sally) Lord\*
- 21 – Leona McDaniel
- 25 – Susan Frank
- 27 – Jewel Gottschlog
- 28 – Doris Carson
- 30 – Dave Dwight



\*Proudly celebrating 80 years or more.

If we missed your birthday, please let us know at  
561-8746

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE September 20th

### Living Well With Pain and Illness discussion group

On Thursdays from 10:30 to 11:30 a discussion group will meet in the library. The book Living Well with Pain and Illness is being discussed. This is a drop in group so feel free to attend if you can. For more information please contact Treva Bright at 561-110

*The grass may look greener  
on the other side,  
But it still has to be mowed.*

## The Wesley Worship Team

Has decided to host the “Kuyasa Kids Choir and Dance Team” on October 5, 2017. The Kuyasa Kids Choir comes to us from Kayamandi Township near the city of Stellenbosch, Western Cape Province, South Africa.

To host the choir involves providing host homes for eighteen kids (10 to 18 years old) as well as their six leaders. The goal is to create hope for African orphans and help families in the U.S. to become state side champions that personally sponsor one or more orphans.

The dominant theme regardless of culture and language is, hope in Christ, a hope that brings comfort in the midst of sorrow and loss, hope that brings fulfillment and meaning in life.

You may find more information on You Tube under Kuyasa Kids. Please call the office (561-8746) if you are willing to host one or more children or adults.

## A Day Apart or Sweet Life Café

The registration ended on August 28, but if you find you can come and you did not get your registration in call right this minute and see if we can still get your supplies ordered! Call Wilma Bard, 564-1012 or Marsha McDaniel, 564-7575 today. The retreat is September 30, 2017 in the Fellowship Hall from 8:30am to 4:30pm.



## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE OCTOBER 18th



## Dear Church Members:

Each and every one of our church members contributes their share to our church and because of this we are very blessed. However, the church expenses are out pacing the contributions received. The expenses are not due to lavished spending; our church is very frugal and most of our expenses go towards salaries, utilities, and required insurance.

Church income is about \$14,600 per month and expenses are about \$17,700 per month making a difference of about \$3,100 which adds up to about \$37,200 per year and this does not take into account

inflation and other cost increases.

Over the last number of years the

difference has been growing and has been replaced by income from investments or the investments themselves.

Using funds from interest of investments cannot continue indefinitely! Therefore, Wesley United Methodist Church needs your help in balancing the budget. An increase in your tithing would be more than appreciated. Remember, and I have stated this before; "He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness.

You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God.

Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!" 2 Corinthians 9, 10-15

Larr Frank, Finance Chair



## Guess What?

We want to continue this choir scholarship program for another school year! That means more Baked Potato / Ice Cream Sundae Fund Raisers!, as well as any gracious group or individual donors. Our goal this year is to raise \$3,000. Be on the watch for a late Sept. or early Oct. Fund Raiser!

Jacob Seekatz wishes to return as our tenor recipient. I have just recruited a new Freshmen Soprano, who is coming to Pueblo from Omaha Nebraska. Her name is Ziara York. And this year we wish to add a third student to help out in the Bass section, his name is Raymond Beltran, majoring in French Horn performance, but with a beautiful baritone voice.



## It's Been a Win - Win Experience

I'm talking about our Choir Scholarships for music students from CSU-Pueblo! You, as a congregation provided two (2) choir scholarships through your donations and two (2) Baked Potato / Ice Cream Sundae Fund Raisers. The two music student recipients truly blessed our choir, and embellished our voices with their youth and musical skills. But we blessed them with a small monthly honorarium and our welcoming them into our faith community. Below, please read their reflections and appreciation:

I have been a part of the choir for the last year and a half, and it opened doors and showed me things I never would have seen or gotten to do otherwise.

Being a part of the choir helped me to expand on my knowledge of music a lot. It showed me a whole new world of music that can be very useful in certain situations in teaching, and obviously to use within a church choir setting. Tony provided me with an opportunity to direct an anthem one Sunday, and I learned a lot from that experience. It taught me just how prepared the director needs to be, and that sometimes the director needs to be prepared to make musical decisions on the spot, which is way harder than any of my directors ever made it seem. Directors need to hear the music within themselves and make choices about how they want it to sound without ever getting to hear it both ways. This opportunity also taught me how to work with what you have when you only have 2 voices per part. Sometimes the director needs to be kindly demanding of what they need while having the patience to explain it when the choir is running out of rehearsal time. It was such a great experience and I'm so grateful to the choir members and to Tony for trusting me to take on the position of director for a while.

The other thing coming to this church gave me was a sense of community. There are so many amazing people that are part of this church that I never would have had the chance to meet. I am so grateful that I got to know all of the choir members and so many of the congregation because they all have played important roles in my journey through college. I will remember the people I've met and the interactions I've had with each of them.

Thank you all so much for inviting me into your church and into your hearts. You've all taught me so much and have shown me so much acceptance and love and I hope that I am able to pay that same love and support forward every day.

### **Nicole Barrett**

"The scholarship this church has provided me with not only assistance to pay for my schooling, but the joy of singing with the Wesley United Methodist Choir. Being a part of the church has also helped me further discover who I am and solidify my faith. Thank you for the wonderful opportunity you have given me." **Jacob Seekatz**

As Mozart signed every composition Ad Majo

Tony Ashworth - Minister of Music



## **Trinity News**

Dear Friends, I was raised on stories of my ancestors. The tales of my great-grandmother, one of the first social workers trained at Hull House in Chicago... and my great-grandfather who rescued his two youngest children from a burning house at the cost of his own life... these stories were told with pride. As were the stories of Patrick Henry, whom you may remember from your own Revolutionary War studies... he was the "Give me liberty or give me death" guy. But the history of General Joseph Johnston... one of the leaders of the Confederate army? Or John Johnston, the ancestor from Dumfries, Scotland who fled to the Colonies with a price on his head for horse stealing? They didn't appear at my childhood bedtime nearly so much. Most families have complicated histories. The question is, do we have the courage to acknowledge this messy fact? The same is true whether we're talking about the families that raised us, our faith families and our national families. There are moments of great courage and also moments of great moral failing... all with the potential to teach and shape us if we let them. I don't have clear convictions about my culpability for the history I've inherited. But I firmly believe that I am 100% responsible for what I do about it. It IS up to me to learn, to understand, and to act in ways that are consistent with who and how God calls me to be. The news over the past few years has made it clear to me, a descendant of slaveowners, that the descendants of this country's slaves are hurting. The Black Lives Matter movement is crying out to be heard, people of color are pleading to be seen... to be valued as beings with full humanity... to live without fear of violence or injustice... to share in the pursuit of happiness and other inalienable rights claimed by the founders of this country. What I know as a person of faith... an inheritor of the ways of Jesus... is that Romans 12 calls me to "rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who mourn." There's a lot of sorrow to be joined these days and a great deal of fear as well. I know as well, that I follow the One whose power allows the proclamation in 1 John 4 that "perfect love casts out fear." And so the task before me... before all of us I believe... is to be filled with compassion for all who are struggling at this time... to listen deeply... to acknowledge pain and suffering that is REAL... and to allow our hearts and minds to be sufficiently open so that we might find ourselves transformed during this pivotal time in our history as a country, a community of faith and a family. How we respond to the moral challenges before us matters. My prayer is that each of us as individuals and as faith communities will find ourselves response-able... that we might be compassionate, courageous, vulnerable and strong. May the love of God in Jesus Christ guide your every word

and step! Blessings on the Journey from your District Superintendent, Margret



### **New Arrivals!!!!!!!**

Great-Grandson for Don Bollacker (Cullen Bollacker)  
Great-Grandson for Jim & Bette Lunn (Dax Lunn)



### **Trinity District UMW**

#### **2017 Scheduled Events**

Sept. 23 Trinity District Annual Meeting in Fowler (Due to a conflict this has been rescheduled from September 16<sup>th</sup> to September 23<sup>rd</sup>.)  
Oct 20-21 UMW RM Conference Annual Meeting Hilltop UMC in Sandy, Utah (Leadership 19<sup>th</sup>)



**WELCOME**  
**Juanita Bell**  
**Judith Solanitro**  
**Ken Clark**

### **UNITED METHODIST MEN**

The UMM will meet Saturday morning September 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am in Fellowship Hall for breakfast and fellowship.

All men of the church are invited to attend as we map out our plans for the upcoming year.



***You Cannot Win If You Do Not Begin***