

The Lamplighter

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light until my path. Psalm 119:105

June 2015



from the
Pastor's pen

"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers." (Acts 2:42)

The Christian year consists of two cycles: *preparing and celebrating*, and then *living into our discipleship* to Jesus Christ. The first of these cycles is Advent through the Season after Epiphany. The second is Lent through the Season after Pentecost.

The Season after Pentecost, sometimes called "ordinary time" is *anything* but ordinary. Starting with Trinity Sunday, which we celebrated on May 31st, we spend *twenty-six* weeks – the rest of the Christian year, walking with Jesus and his disciples, practicing what it means FOR US to be his disciples in 2015. This year's lectionary has us in the Gospel of Mark. I'll be honest, there will be a bit of John's book **and** a couple Old Testament trails so we can see infrequent readings. Mark's gospel is the shortest synoptic writing – it's "tight, quick, and cleverly constructed" (so says Taylor Burton-Edwards) that reveals "an amazing, energetic Jesus confronting every power there is and soundly defeating them all. You won't want to miss how we, as Christ's body in the world are called "wise as serpents, gentle as doves, and utterly unstoppable."

That's exciting!!! And we're empowered to be a part of the "what's next!" As we open ourselves up to our own revival of the Holy Spirit we, beginning right where we are, we can be called disciples who Jesus has called to transform the world. Did I mention this IS exciting! This summer – which might also be the season of "some-r" – meaning: "some 'r' here and some 'r' on vacation" is a time for us to remember that what the church needs most to BE is the church — our living community of people gathered around Christ. We are all called, by God, to be extraordinary people who glorify God in everything we do. And we can strengthen our personal ministries here at Pikes Peak UMC. Please also, especially if you're away, remember to send your tithes and offerings so that ministry can flourish while you're gone. As always, continue to be...

...Abiding in Him, *Pastor Dea*

Pikes Peak

United Methodist Church

2927 W. Pikes Peak Ave.
Colorado Springs, CO
80904

Our Church Mission:

**"Worshiping God, Accepting All, Sharing
with the World"**

Phone: 719-634-3589

Website:

www.pikespeakunitedmethodistchurch.com

Sunday Worship 10:50 AM

Children's Sunday school 11:00 - Noon

Pastor Dea Sharp

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Barbara Turner

Certified Lay Minister

Twinkle Gordon

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UMW Dorothy's Circle

Pikes Peak United Methodist Church

The May 7th, 2015 meeting of the United Methodist Women's Dorothy Circle began at 1:29 with a reading of the Purpose of the United Methodist Women

For our Spiritual Growth reading, Beulah read the Prayer of Peace, also known as the Prayer of St Francis. Thank you Beulah for feeding us with God's peace through this prayer.

Treasurer Jessie Cooper, gave our update on the UMW and Community Service Balances for last month. Monetary donations from funerals and personal gifts did not keep up with our expenditures in April, however as always, God keeps Dorothy Circle ahead of costs! Jessie prepared April's balance sheets and gave copies of her report to the President and Secretary. Thank you Jessie.

May's program was given by speaker, Kathy Dunson Associate Director from **One Nation Walking** the non-profit organization that serves Indian Reservations in Montana, North and South Dakota, Nebraska, Colorado, New Mexico and Arizona. Kathy updated us on the programs that were just beginning last year. The chicken coop project of teaching families to keep chickens has been successful so far, in fact Kathy took on several chickens so she could have a hands-on knowledge of the program. Another program included three youth groups from three Ute Reservations being sent to Black Forest to learn about their cultural history through modified trees growing there. The Women's Talking Circle, called RED WIND is still active, with community training and education as well as clinical assistance. This year's PowWow will be held on July 18th at the Freedom Financial Building; a film from Pine Ridge Reservation and an original song written by Calvin Standing Bear (**The Song My Brother Taught Me**) will be presented at Colorado College on June 20th. Open to the public, visit their website at www.onenationwt.org to find out more.

Although there are new programs still in planning, there remains an 86% unemployment rate on the reservations and an epidemic of youth suicide that is 8 1/2 times the national average. .

Our UMW Pledge was discussed and the formal request for our pledge will be received this summer. It was decided after a short discussion that we would send the same amount as last year which was \$240.

Originally called teen suicide, the name has changed recently since children as young as ten years old are using this as a last resort for what they see as a hopeless future. Please pray for them! Dorothy Circle gave Kathy 15 bags of donations as well as a \$100 speaker's contribution as a small part of helping our Indian brothers and sisters.

Greeting cards were sent this month to members of our congregation for birthdays, care and concerns.

Please look for the Jello Pudding snack packs that have a "code to end hunger" and either enter that code on your computer or give the label to one of the UMW ladies. Thank you for your help! President Brown will check into finding the names and addresses of our Missionaries for a card project that Grace Cook would like to start.

Thank you Jessie for providing refreshments of fresh strawberries, pound cake and frozen yogurt! Our meeting ended at 2:50 pm with a short prayer about Mothers read by Beulah Shaw.

Next month's meeting will be on June 4th, at 1:30 with a speaker from the Springs Rescue Mission here in town. Beulah Shaw is our hostess. Everyone is invited to attend our monthly presentations! We have our program first so guests may stay for the business portion or leave immediately after as needed. We would love to see you there!

Gretchen

DECISIONS, DECISIONS

Have you ever taken the time to wonder what your life would be like if you had made different decisions in your life; perhaps wiser ones. When we were young all these, for the most part, were either routine or law. How you perceived this depended on who were the role models in your life. It seemed that most everyone everywhere had some sort of rules. You probably did not realize that if these were not in place there would be pandemonium..aka "utter confusion."

There were the school rules and the house rules. Very often; in my day. if you misbehaved in school it was sure not to go well for you at our house. Then there were the rules of society..... behavior that was unbecoming to you to display in public. Or a blind eye among parents who tried to build character and set an example. For instance, let's take swimwear. Have you seen pictures of early swimsuits. There was no fear or need for sunscreen for there was no skin to screen showing.

Today....well you get the point.

In our formative years we depend on those who care for and about us to mold us to be the responsible adults that will carry on the best to generations to come.

We owe this to our loved ones and those to whom we are given charge. The responsibility can be overwhelming....but well worth it.

I believe (and that is a strong and purposeful word) that since the beginning of time the decisions made influenced not only one generation(but using Adam and Eve as an example)

would change the world. It's really quite simple:

If it isn't yours don't take it. If you know it's wrong, don't do it. If you expect children to "do as I say, and not as I do" the example you are setting is not the best you can do! If your Bible is not read no one will shame you...it is just a matter of God giving you the tools to not only live your life as He planned, but share with others so that they , too can benefit.

God's decisions to sacrifice His only Son, Jesus, was a difficult decision I believe at best. Who else would give up their child so that generations to come would be saved from eternal damnation. These are strong words, I know...but sometimes sugar-coating the truth leaves room for rationalization.

Let's look at the traffic lights as an example

Red means stop Green means go yellow/orange ;whichever color it is before or after cataract surgery) means caution.

In the Bible:

Thou shall not (red) Thou shall (green)

If you do thus and so this will happen (caution or warning). We complicate our lives sometimes, don't we?

I can give numerous examples of how we try to make the things we should do but don't and do but should not work to our advantage. The simple and stark reality is that we will not now or ever "pull the wool" over God's eyes!

God sees everything, knows everything , and is everywhere. I know this because my mother told me and she never lied!

Seriously, this is the truth!

It also is the best thing that could ever happen to us and for us.

If only God had not given free will to all.....that is a sentence for another time. Keep It Simple Do the right thing at the right time for the right reason. Believe that Jesus gave His life so that yours could be saved. and pray.....shall we?

Dear God in heaven and everywhere ,You are the potter, I am the clay. I have just read the above, but there are areas in my life that need some tweaking....and I know You are always there to help and guide me. I am asking that if I am not the person I know to be and You know I can be, that through pray and Your help I will be! I want to take time to thank You for the difficult times as well as the wonderful times in my life. In the difficult times it encourages my faith to be strengthened. In the good times I am able to reach out to others and help them through giving hope. Help me to take the time to be kind to all living things and NEVER TAKE YOU FOR GRANTED. God, I know you will smile, we will go to heaven, and all God's kids will be the better for it. Amen

Twinkle

June 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 9:30am Adult SS 6:30am 10:50am Worship & Children's SS	8 6:00pm Disciple Bible Study	9 6:00pm TOPS	10	11 Rocky Mtn Annual Conference	12 Rocky Mtn Annual Conference	13 Rocky Mtn Annual Conference
14 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Adult SS 10:50am Worship & Children's SS Admin Council Rocky Mtn Annual Conference	15 6:00pm Disciple Bible Study	16 6:00pm TOPS	17	18	19	20 9:00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast
21 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Adult SS 10:50am Worship & Children's SS FATHER'S DAY	22 6:00pm Disciple Bible Study	23 6:00pm TOPS	24	25	26	27
28 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Adult SS 10:50am Worship & Children's SS Father's Day BBQ	29 6:00pm Disciple Bible Study	30 6:00pm TOPS				

Blessings to the following June Birthdays

Bob Moyer	June 2
Jasmine Dame	June 3
Elizabeth Miller	June 5
Karen Wiest	June 9
Niki Simmons	June 10
Amber Dame	June 10
Rebecca Ashlock	June 11
Pat Collander	June 11
Jessica Brown Caton	June 17
Spencer Aragon	June 18
Sheila Lee	June 19
Lori Holmquist	June 20
Berna Keating	June 20
Mitchell Brown	June 22
Mark House	June 26
Cindy Meerpohl	June 27

June Anniversaries

Bill & Jean Edwards	June 1
Charles & Bonnie Bargas	June 10
Gordon & Jessie Cooper	June 14
Mel & Sally Simmons	June 28

TOPS Club (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)

If April Showers bring May Flowers, it will be a MOST beautiful spring! Will we be dressing like radiant flowers, or in something drab as a flour sack? If excess weight is a problem, please consider TOPS, Club, a weight-loss, self-help group. A local chapter meets in Gamber Hall every Tuesday evening. **Weigh-in begins at 5:00, and at 6:00 we start our meeting, with a new program every week. Ask Ruth Reed about our exciting contests! Ruth can be reached at 471-1393. Hope to see you Tuesday evening! *Ruth***

Thank You Shirley!

Shirley Harr donated several beautiful, hand knitted baby sweaters and caps to Dorothy Circle to be given out as needed. Thank you Shirley, you are such a blessing!

The Dorothy Circle Ladies

Social News

On June 28th we will have our annual Father's day BBQ. The hamburgers and hot dogs will be provides along with beverages. The rest of the food is potluck, so everyone get out your recipes for your favorite summer picnic type food.

this could be potato salad, coleslaw, baked beans, hamburger fixings, chips and of course any type of yummy desserts. The youth and kids are also welcome to bring their favorites because we know they also like to eat. As always guests and visitors are welcome to join us. We will also be celebrating VBS and you will get to see what the kids did in VBS. Hope to see everyone there.

Sally



Baby Ava Olson was baptized on Pentecost Sunday, May 24th. She enjoyed the water in the front! She's with her Grandpa Andrew, mom, Sky and Aunt Zoe with Pastor Dea

Thank You and again we say THANK YOU!!!

We have reached our goal for the Pine Ridge South Dakota Mission trip!! Our group of 14 will be leaving very early on the 7th of June and returning very late on the night of the 13th or on the 14th of June depending on our fun day activity at Mount Rushmore!! We are so very thankful for the support that this congregation has given to the youth. Our cup runneth over with blessings and we will be serving in mission.



Thailand Trek VBS is this month!! Please pre-register if you know you are sending some children so we can estimate the numbers. We will learn about a culture vastly different from ours but there is one God who loves us all. Please consider volunteering your time and talents to our young people. The dates are June 22-26th from 9 am – noon each day. We will celebrate the week with our congregation on Sunday, June 28th. The mission for the week is to raise donations for sending New Testament Bibles to Thai children.

Needs for Children's/Youth Ministry:

- *Vacation Bible School helpers*
- *Children's Church and Sunday School volunteers*

Donations for VBS: Pop rocks candy, Small self-adhesive jewels, Small dowel rods, Burlap (any color), Rope lights, Glow sticks, Dark duct tape, Gutter piece, Ping pong ball net, Cinnamon, Pumpkin Pie spice, White Bread, Sushi Rice, Raisins, Canned coconut milk, Hula hoops, Pancake mix, Chocolate syrup, Strawberry fruit snacks, Cricket lick-its, Microwave Popcorn

VBS Donations needed Week before:

Celery, Cream Cheese, Watermelon, Cantaloupe, Honeydew, Apples

Yours in Christ, *Kim Sommer*

(719) 210-7394



Did You Know?

We have bins, on the east wall of Gamber Hall where we can deposit RECYCLE items and LABELS. HERE ARE THE ITEMS WE COLLECT:

- **LABELS:** Campbell Soup and Box tops for Education
- **RECYCLE:** Empty printer cartridges, old cell phones, eye glasses
- Bring your empty prescription bottles for West Side Cares
- Bring your pop top tabs for Ronald McDonald House



*Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved: For thou art my praise.
Jeremiah 17:14*

Dick & Sue Bush-son in law

Jim Caudle

Coop Cooper

Bill & Jean Edwards

Family of Mark Hickman

Family of Ryan Lanosga

Frank Martinez

Andrew Olson

Jim Rawlings

Hal Smith

Kim Sommer-Grandmother and Aunt

Chery Wilson

Vacation Bible School

June 22-26 Mon.-Fri.

9 am – noon

**Thailand Trek.... Spreading God's
Word around the world.**

Sponsored by: Pike's Peak UMC

2927 Pikes Peak Ave.

719-634-3589

Cost: FREE

Ages: 3-5th grade



The Youth group and their mentors

(Sally Simmons
unavailable when
photo taken) who
are leaving for Pine
Ridge, in South
Dakota, on Sunday,
June 7. Their week
long mission trip is
sure to be
memorable!



Red Bird Mission

The UMW Dorothy Circle would gladly accept Box Tops, Campbell's Soup Labels and Grace Cook. For The Red Bird Mission. We appreciate any donations you can make. There is a box in Gamber Hall marked "Box Tops for Education". The Box Tops are on many Boxes in the grocery store and Campbell soup has labels on their soup.



June 2015 Sermon Calendar

- June 7 ~ 2nd Sunday After Pentecost
Worship with Holy Communion
“Jesus’ Family Values”
John 3:1-17
- June 14 ~ 3rd Sunday After Pentecost
“Mustard Seeds”
Mark 4:26-34
- June 21 ~ 4th Sunday After Pentecost
Father’s Day
“In Over Our Heads”
Mark 4:35-41
- June 28 ~ 5th Sunday After Pentecost
“Touched”
Mark 5:21-43

Our Vision

Pikes Peak United Methodist Church is a church with a rich heritage. We are called by God to provide a place of grace where all are welcome. We strive to be a community of faithful followers of Jesus Christ, expressing our spirituality through worship, discipleship, outreach and service. As we grow in faith, we seek the presence and guidance of the Holy Spirit, who calls us to live in love, joy and peace.

Pikes Peak UMC 2015 Administrative Council

Council Chairperson.....Dot Cain
Lay Leader.....Ann Keetch
Recording Secretary.....Berna Keating
Staff-Parish Relations Chair.....Ro Collins
Financial Committee Chair.....Rick Keetch
Treasurer.....Margo Bowler
Trustees Chair.....Mel Simmons
Worship Chairs.....Ann Keetch &Twinkle Gordon
Youth/Children’s Ministry.....Kim Sommer

The Administrative Council meeting in March will be after worship on March 8. If you’re a committee or ministry chairperson please plan to attend as we conduct the important business of our Congregation.

Pikes Peak United Methodist Church
2927 W. Pikes Peak Ave.
Colorado Springs, CO 80904

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED