

The Lamplighter

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

July 2014



Pastor's Ponderings

As I was preparing the bulletin for the June 15th Father's Day service, it struck me, once again, how truly blessed we all are. There is such an excitement in the air at Pikes Peak right now. Can you feel it? God is at work!

I read a great quote recently, from an anonymous author. It said, "*I sought to hear the voice of God and climbed to the topmost steeple. But God declared, 'Go down again. I dwell among the people.'*" God is certainly dwelling among us and it is exciting, because this summer we have so many ways that we can glorify God together, show God's love in loving, missional service and grow in faith and faithfulness as the Body of Christ.

Jesus said, "*Whatever you do for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you do to me...*" (Matthew 25:40). We can serve in mission together, both here at the church and out in the community. There are different ways you can be involved. For instance, help cover the cost of the last few pink erasers that we need for the back-to-school backpacks given out through Westside Cares. Sign up to help in some way at Vacation Bible School. Offer to help with landscaping or light chores at the church, or at the homes of some of our homebound members (for more information about this, please contact me).

Continued on Page 2

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

*(Adult Sunday school will be on summer break from
June 22nd – September 7th)*

Children's Sunday school 11:00 - Noon

Pastor Leslie Wood

(H) 593-9476 (C) 650-9449

Email: pastorles@outlook.com

Director of Music

Barbara Turner

Certified Lay Minister

Twinkle Gordon

Newsletter Editor:

Carol Stephenson

carol@riverrat-nw.com



SOCIAL NEWS

On July 6th for fellowship time we are going to do a red, white, and blue pie potluck. Anyone who would like to can bring their favorite pie. We call it red, white and blue pie because we do it on the Sunday that is the closest to the 4th of July. However, if your favorite pie is not one of the patriotic colors you can bring whatever kind of pie you want. All pies are welcome. So bring your sweet tooth and your favorite pie and we will see you on the 5th of July. Hope you are having a wonderful summer and blessings to all.

Have a good and blessed day,
Sally Simmons

TOPS Club (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)

It's finally summer in the Springs! Time for swim suits, sleeveless dresses, and snazzy shorts. Yes? Perhaps it's also time to get serious about healthy eating habits and the enjoyment of exercise! Walking is a great stress reliever as well as just good exercise. TOPS CLUB, Inc. can help.

We meet each Tuesday evening in the fellowship hall. Weigh-in is from 5-5:45, followed by a rousing meeting with new ideas on portion control, exciting recipes, encouragement, contests, fun, and friendship that starts at 6:00-7:00 p.m.

For questions, please speak with Ruth Reed, 471-1393. What have you got to lose?

Ruth

Continued from Page 1

Jesus also tells us that whenever two or more gather in His name, He is there. (Matthew 18:20). We can fellowship together! July 6th will be our annual Red, White & Blue dessert potluck, immediately following worship that day. What a great way to enjoy each other's sweet company! Then, on July 18th, Steve Turner, talented vocalist, performer and son of our choir director Barb Turner will be putting on a fun concert performance that evening, at 8pm. What a wonderful time to come together and enjoy good fun and good music. And let's not forget our annual Reunion Sunday on August 24th, when we'll worship under the blue skies and enjoy delicious food and games after the service.

"God declared, '...I dwell among the people.'" When God is at work, things get very exciting. During these warm, summer days, let's rejuvenate and enjoy all the blessings of being the Body together. While we do, let's always be about seeking ways that we can continue to grow in the love of Christ together. And let's be intentional about opening ourselves up to be channels of Christ's love into our community and world.

Pastor Leslie

UMW Dorothy's Circle

Pikes Peak United Methodist Church

The June 5th meeting of Dorothy Circle began at 1:30 with reading the purpose of the United Methodist Women.

A most interesting program was given by speaker Zuleika Munoz from Urban Peak, a local organization that provides services in Colorado Springs for runaway and homeless youth ages 15 to 20 years old. Unfortunately, children in Foster Care are considered adults at age 18 and are released from the Foster Care system. Many of these children are not prepared for a life on their own and over 75% of them end up at Urban Peak. They arrive, as displaced youth, seeking a place to sleep; food and help on how to get a job and a place to live. Each youth gets paired with a case manager who provides direction in all aspects of life essential to becoming a self-sufficient adult. Urban Peak works closely with the CSPD "Hot Team" to identify homeless and at risk youth in the downtown area to get these young people off the street and into a safe environment. Last year Urban Peak reached 387 youth through their street outreach program alone! In 2004, Urban Peak moved from its temporary location at the Marian House Soup Kitchen to their current location at 423 E. Cucharas Street.

Colorado Springs is fortunate to have such an organization to help with homeless youth and to guide them as they become able to care for themselves, get jobs and find housing. Dorothy Circle gave them a kind donation for speaking to us along with three large cases of bottled water.

Next month we will host the LaPuente Mission speaker on July 3rd at 1:30 pm at the Church. This is a worthwhile Mission that Dorothy Circle has supported for many years and as usual we will be filling migrant worker bags with personal care essentials. Small size items such as you would find in a hotel are best, as they fit easily into the bags. Needed are shampoo, small combs, hand sanitizer, bath towels and washcloths, sun visors, chapstick with sunscreen, and small lotion. There will be a box set up in the entry way of the church, labeled LaPuente Mission with a list of items needed if you would like to donate to this worthy cause.

Even if you can't donate, please plan on attending the presentation which will begin our meeting. The business part of the meeting will begin after the talk and you do not need to stay for this part. We hope to see you there! Millie Ware will be our hostess this month.

Dorothy Circle is the Pikes Peak United Methodist Women's group, a group of women devoted to serving God in our community. All women are invited to join us for Christian growth and fellowship.

Dorothy Circle wishes to thank Dick Bush and Herb Shaw for the one hundred plus-hours they worked putting in the drinking fountain in Gamber Hall. It is so nice to get a cool drink without having to find a cup and get a drink in the kitchen. Thank you both!!

Gretchen Arnold



The Prayer Corner

WHAT MAKES TODAY DIFFERENT?

Our choice...actually!

Once God has awakened us for yet another day, how we choose the time allotted us begins. It is not good to dwell on all our yesterdays; for they are "water under the bridge."

Living in Colorado, water is perhaps more of a concern than in other areas. Too little water and we are rationed. Too much and our "burn areas" from previous fires cause flooding, as the ground is not able to absorb the deluge of rain.

This, however, is not the case with "The Living Water" that Jesus speaks of.

It is a known fact that without water the physical body will die. Without the "Living Water" our souls will die. The Holy Spirit washes away our old selves and cleanses us inside and out.

What a wonderful way to start our day...thanking God for loving us enough to have His Son, Jesus, take our sins to the cross on Calvary.

We seldom know what our days will bring; or how many will be granted. But, just knowing that whatever God has planned, we were "kept in the loop" for eternity. BUT...WE MUST BELIEVE TO RECEIVE.

Shall we pray?

Loving God,
Show us how we may share the knowledge of "The Living Water" with others so that they, too, may have the opportunity to spend eternity in heaven with You. Amen.

Twinkle Gordon

West Side Cares

WSC Pink Erasers Drive

You all were so generous toward the initial WSC back-to-school pink eraser drive that we only have \$20 left to raise to cover the cost of the remaining erasers. That's not too big of a hill to climb, is it? To chip in all or a portion of the remaining funds, please see Archie or Chery Wilson, our WSC liaisons.

Roy and Betty Peterson have moved to Indiana to live near Betty's family. You can send well-wishes to their temporary address:

**869 Grandiflora Dr
Greenwood, In 46143**

Blessings to the following July Birthdays

Nancy Schreck	July 5
Dee Trafton	July 11
Roy Peterson	July 11
Robert Holmquist	July 12
Megan Anderson	July 15
Bunny Blaha	July 16
Emit Schilowsky	July 22
Natalie Keating	July 22
Bill Garriott	July 23
Ruth Wilber Sheaves	July 24
Brad Wetzel	July 25
Ruby Hilty	July 27
Stephanie Miller	July 28
Rudolph Schroeder	July 31
Breana Walters Storaasli	July 31

July Anniversaries

Irv & Joyce Johnson	July 10
Joe & LaVada Brown	July 20
Mike & Kelly Arnold	July 20
Randy & Berna Keating	July 30
Jim & Luci Rawlings	July 31

July 2014

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

		1 6:00pm TOPS	2	3 1:30pm Dorothy Circle	4	5 2:00pm Austin, TX Boy Scout Troop 505, overnight guests
6 9:30am Adult SS 10:50am Worship & Children's SS 12:15pm Red, White and Blue Pie Potluck	7 5-9:00pm Miver/- Slayton Wedding	8 6:00pm TOPS	9 6:00pm CMC	10	11	12
13 9:30am Adult SS 10:50am Worship & Children's SS	14	15 6:00pm TOPS	16 Stephen Turner Concert Rehearsal	17	18 8:00pm Stephen Turner Concert	19 9:00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast
20 9:30am Adult SS 10:50am Worship & Children's SS	21 9-12:00pm VBS 5-7:00pm Colorado All- State Choir Workshop	22 9-12:00pm VBS 6:00pm TOPS	23 9-12:00pm VBS 5-7:00pm Colorado All- State Choir Workshop	24 9-12:00pm VBS	25 9-12:00pm VBS	26
27 9:30am Adult SS 10:50am Worship & Children's SS 12:15pm VBS Potluck	28	29	30	31	What to watch for August: Reunion Day Service, 8/24	



Pastor Pete Meese and the Happy Hearts Club Band!
Leading worship on May 11, 2014

Men's Fellowship Breakfast

The Men's Group will meet at the church on Saturday July 19th at 9:00 a.m. for more biscuits, sausage gravy, and scrambled eggs. All men are welcome including our new members and summer visitors. Hope to see you there and bring a friend.

Blessings, *Mel Simmons*



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

Jean Edwards

Margo and Twink - for Joey and family

Pastor Leslie - for the family of Andy Kilcrease

Ann Keetch - for her niece, Toni

Pastor Leslie - for the family of Larry Cross

Deb Pemberton

Roy & Betty Peterson

Ruth Reed - for her niece Dee Trafton

Georgia Wright

A way of living Stewardship

When someone commented on his incredible organ skills, Johan Sabastian Bach replied, "There is nothing remarkable about it at all. All one has to do is hit the right notes at the right time and the instrument plays itself." Don't the rest of us wish it were that easy?

But the truth is, when you let yourself become a human instrument...and when God hits the right notes at the right time...great things really will happen in your life and in the life of your church. When you are seeking to do God's will...to be a good steward of His gifts to you...God can use the uniqueness you possess.

Recognize you have a nametag: *Child of God*. Realize how much God loves you. Decide to use your skills for Him. What can you and you alone do?

Everyone has been given the ability to do something that can make an eternal difference to God's Kingdom. As the late Ethel Waters loved to say, "God don't make no junk!" You and what you do count. Ask God to help you discover what God wants you to do. And when He shows you, you are ready to become an instrument He can play to bless you and to bless others.

Printed with permission from ©Parish Publishing

Stewardship relates to everything we have: Our bodies, our minds, our talents, our family, our possessions, our finances, Mother Earth and "the fullness thereof." Nothing and no one is outside the realm of God's creation. And you and I are responsible for the care of everything and everyone.

**HELPING HANDS FELLOWSHIP
 REFRESHMENT HOSTESS**

- 1st Sunday--- Sally Simmons & Jessie Cooper
- 2nd Sunday---Twinkle Gordon & Margo Bowler
- 3rd Sunday---Dee Burger & Joan Roberts
- 4th Sunday---Cindy Meerpohl & Cassandra Giardina
- 5th Sunday---Ann Keetch, Karen Wiest & Luci Rawlings

“Nuts or Crackers?”

July is upon us and it's time for VBS! We will be going a little “nuts” around the church for the program, “Animal Crackers”. The Children's Ministry team is inviting the entire Congregation to participate in raising funds for Heifer International. The goal is to purchase at least one cow and several other animals. You will see the poster and donation bowls in the sanctuary. Money will be collected after each Sunday service through July and a running total will be kept so we can see where we are on our challenge. Thank you for your support of our Children's Ministry!!



Needs for Children's Ministry:

- **Volunteers for Vacation Bible School (sign-up in the hallway)**
- **Sunday School Teachers/helpers (sign-up in the hallway)**
- **Supplies for Vacation Bible School (list is in the Narthex area)**

God Bless you all!

Kim Sommer
(719) 210-7394

Security Reminder

Keeping offices and the church locked is important.

Recently, the back door to the church, the one with the crash bar, was left unlocked. Please, if you unlock and enter the church using the back door, always check to make sure that the door is locked behind you. And if you are the last person to leave the church, please check all doors to make sure that they are locked, including the safe in the administrative office.

If you find that a door isn't locked, and you don't have a key, please call me or one of the trustee chairs, Dick Bush or Margo Bowler.

Thanks for being extra attentive to keeping our church safe!

Pastor Leslie

Welcome Esther Kennedy!



You've never really experienced a good hug until you've been hugged by Esther Kennedy! And Esther will be happy to share her hugs with us quite regularly now, as our newest member at Pikes Peak UMC. Esther has lived in Colorado Springs for many years. Currently, she lives with Don and Alice Shartran, bringing them joy and giving them hugs on a regular basis. Esther enjoys going to Goodwill every day. She also enjoys doing puzzles and crafts, and loves to help out at church when special projects call for crafty hands and creative imaginations. Eating out with friends is a favorite pastime. When she isn't occupied with those activities, she is spending time with her beloved dog, Tinker. Esther, in fact, loves all animals and even used to work as a dog-bather for a local groomer. Singing in the choir brings Esther great joy. One of her favorite Bible verses is John 3:16, *“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him will not perish but have everlasting life.”* Esther is a delight, and we are happy to welcome her to Pikes Peak UMC.

Calendar of Special Events

(See calendar for regularly scheduled events)

Monday 7/7, 5-9:00pm Miver/Slayton Wedding
7/21, 5-7:00pm CO All-State Choir Concert
Wednesday 7/23, 5-7:00pm CO All-State Choir Concert
Thursday 7/3, 1:30pm Dorothy Circle
Friday 7/18, 8:00pm Stephen Turner Concert
Saturday 7/19, 9:00am Men's Breakfast
Sunday 7/6, 12:15pm Red, White and Blue Pie
7/27, 12:15pm VBS Potluck
Monday 7/21 – Friday 7/25, 9:00am-12:00pm Vacation
Bible School

How Can We Serve You?

Your Administrative Council is here to make our church grow. We can't do this without your help. Do you want to see a different program? Do you feel we are missing a connection to the community? Please talk with one of the council members with your concern or praise. We try hard to fill the church with the spirit of God while doing His work. Prayerfully submitted, *Ann Keetch*

**Are you interested in joining
Pikes Peak UMC?
Call Pastor Leslie at 593-9476**

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.

**If you would like to receive the Lamplighter in an e-mail, or have an article, please contact
Carol Stephenson at 237-4648
or carol@riverrat-nw.com.**

*Jesus said, "Don't stop children from coming to me! Children like these are part of the Kingdom of God." **Matthew 19:14***

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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED