



The Window

Spiritual home. Inclusive community. Unconditional love. Welcome!

First United Methodist Church, Loveland, Colorado

February 13, 2022



Covid 19 UPDATES

COVID UPDATE

Due to improving COVID-19 conditions, the Larimer County Health Department is dropping its mask mandate effective February 12, 2022. In keeping with the LCHD's new guidelines, FUMC still *recommends* and *encourages* mask wearing and socially distancing in indoor settings. However, masks will not be required inside the church building, with a few exceptions. We do especially encourage unvaccinated individuals to wear a mask for their own protection as well as the protection of others, as they are at a higher risk for infection. Here are the details:

- Masks are encouraged but not required in the sanctuary during worship and during other large gatherings/functions.
 - Exception: For the time being, masks will still be required indoors for singing, including choirs, ensembles, soloists and congregational singing during worship. When singing a hymn, the congregation will be asked to put on a mask before singing, or to refrain from singing if they do not want to put on a mask. Disposable masks will be available if needed. The COVID Recovery Team and Church Council recognize that this will be an inconvenience. We hope that it will be a temporary requirement as we ease into this new recovery phase.
- Small groups (gatherings of 30 or less) of fully vaccinated people can decide for themselves whether or not to wear masks when meeting indoors in their designated meeting space. Groups are encouraged to consider the needs of all members of the group when making their decision.
 - Exception: Children up to five-years old are not currently able to be vaccinated. In the nursery and Pre-K/K Sunday school classes, children are not required to wear masks. Staff, teachers and shepherds in these age groups will wear masks.
- Food and beverages are permitted for small groups, though restricted to the assigned space for the gathering. Food for larger gatherings will remain on hold for the time being.

As a Christian community, we are called to care for one another. Wearing a mask is a way to care for others; while the current dominant variant of Omicron has been shown to be less severe, it does still affect people in various ways. Another way to care for one another is to practice non-judgment and kindness. We value the diversity of thought and opinion found at FUMC. We ask that everyone demonstrate a non-judgmental attitude toward others' masking decisions, whether a person chooses to wear a mask or not.

A COVID REMINDER

COVID is a part of our faith community. As mask requirements relax, we remind you of the following advice. The CDC recommendations are the same for those who definitely know of a close encounter with someone who has tested positive for COVID and those who don't know for certain if they had a close encounter with an infected individual.

1. If one has not been vaccinated, he or she should get tested immediately and five days after the (possible) encounter.
2. If one has been fully vaccinated, he or she should
 1. Remain masked when interacting with others;
 2. Get tested immediately if one develops symptoms of an infection;
 3. Get tested five days following the (possible) encounter.

If you test positive for COVID and attended a church service/function within the last five days while infectious, and you were in close contact (within 6 feet or 15 minutes or more) of others, please contact one of the pastors so they can help coordinate careful, confidential and compassionate contact tracing as needed.



JUSTICE OR JUST US?

In our politically charged climate, the topic of racism has become even more uncomfortable to talk about, and it is natural to want to avoid it altogether. But confronting racism is not just a social or political matter, it is a theological one. It is the Bible that calls us to pursue justice and oppose racism. This 4-week series, hosted by the Anti-racism Allyship Group, will lead participants to think about racism from a Biblical perspective and generate ideas for what steps each of us can take in our own lives and/or together as a church. We will gather by Zoom to watch a video and discuss, there is no homework. Please contact Pastor Lee with any questions at lee@fumcleveland.com or call her at (970) 667-0876.

When: Wednesdays from 6:30-7:45 pm, February 16 & 23

Where: By Zoom

To register: Contact Pastor Lee to register and get Zoom link at lee@fumcleveland.com.



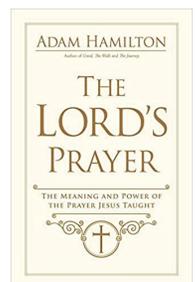
Ash Wednesday
— Lent Begins

PREPARING FOR LENT

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on March 2nd. As you prepare to enter this season of self-reflection and spiritual inner work, we offer opportunities to help center you on your Lenten journey.

Pastors Leslie and Lee will offer drive-by imposition of ashes in the parking lot from 11:30am to 1:00pm on March 2nd. (Invite your neighbors!) Or...
...Come to our special Ash Wednesday worship experience – including imposition of ashes – at 6:30pm that same evening.

Our Lenten sermon series begins March 6th and will center on the Lord's Prayer. We know it, but often we don't *know* it. We pray it, but all too often we don't actually *pray* it. We remember it as the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples. But do we really understand and appreciate the power of its words? In our hyper-polarized world, the words of The Lord's Prayer have the potential to be transformative and to help us truly live as Christ followers. This series will be, primarily, guided by Rev. Adam Hamilton's new book The Lord's Prayer: The Meaning and Power of The Prayer Jesus Taught. (Ann Kessler recently began a six-week group study of this book. If you haven't joined the study, but are interested, please contact Ann Kessler at 970-290-2796 or akessler@fumcleveland.com.)



JANUARY 2022 FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF FUMC LOVELAND

Income January 2022	\$ 85,876.54
Expense January 2022	\$ 51,232.41
Income Year to Date	\$ 85,876.54
Expenses Year to Date	\$ 51,232.41

Thank you to all of you for helping to maintain the church finances and to those of you giving us a good start by giving your entire year in January. Also, to those of you working so hard to keep expenses down. We are grateful to each and every one. - Mary Hannon, Business Manager.



OPEN AND WELCOME...SAFE AND SECURE

The FUMC security team is diligently working to enhance ways to keep FUMC open and welcoming, while ensuring the safety and security of everyone who comes through our doors. The recent hostage situation at the Congregation Beth Israel synagogue in Colleyville, Texas is a reminder of the importance of having safety and security plans in place. We are currently working out details and ironing out kinks for security protocols on Sunday mornings. We ask for your patience and prayers with that. In light of the event in Colleyville, it is a good time for us all to remember the importance of our current protocols already in place for the rest of the week. When doors are locked, groups should use the assigned door codes to gain entry. If you forget the event code, ring the doorbell and/or contact someone in the group for the code. Also, we've had a few instances recently with lights left on and, even, an exit door that hasn't been fully closed and locked. Please remember, whoever is the last person(s) to leave the church should do a quick check to make sure lights are off and the doors are locked.

FUN ACTIVITIES FOR VOLUNTEERS

Do you like to play games, do crafts, read books, eat pizza, and hang out with elementary kids? We are looking for volunteers with a heart for children to help on Monday evenings during the Women's Spiritual Circle meetings from 4:00-6:00pm weekly, monthly, or occasionally. We are flexible. If interested, please email Ann Kessler at akessler@fumcloveland.com or call her at 970-290-2796 for more information.

PRAY WITH WORDS. PRAY WITH ACTIONS.

Even as we pray with our words for the care and comfort of those whose lives have been turned upside down by the Marshall Fire, know that we can do more. We can pray with our actions. Log on to fumcloveland.com to find out how you can respond with assistance to those impacted by the fire.

ATTENTION CREATIVE WRITERS

Jack Gill is starting an FUMC Creative Writers Club. If you have ever thought of writing a Great American Novel, or a three page short tale or would just like to experiment expressing yourself in words, or whatever, this is for you. I was in a creative writing club in college and it was great fun and a wonderful learning experience. Maybe we can even start our own church writer's periodical full of our own creations. If interested, please contact Jack Gill at jack.transformance@gmail.com or call him at (970) 515-5599.

YOUTH EVENTS

Questions? Contact Ann Kessler at akessler@fumcloveland.com.

February 13: Confirmation class at 9:45am in Youth Range.
Youth Group: 12:00 - 2:00pm - in Youth Range.

February 16: Wednesday Morning Breakfast Club at Colorado Coffee at 8:00am. Come buy your drink and Ann Kessler will get your breakfast. If you need a ride let Ann know by calling (970) 290-2796.

February 18: Senior High Ski Trip. Meet at the church at 5:00 pm to load up. See your email for packing details.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Questions? Contact Shannon Heusinkveld at shannonh@fumcloveland.com.

Little Learners (Ages 3, 4 & Kindergarten) & Elementary students come let us bless you each Sunday during Sunday school at 9:45am for a fun lesson about the Bible.

On Monday evenings during the Women's Spiritual Group join us for crafts, singing and pizza from 4:00-6:00pm. We will have music with Susan Harding from 4:00-5:00pm. **We will not meet on February 21.**

PERSONALS



PRAYER LIST

Charlotte Schultz, cancer treatment

Deaths: Former member Janet Schultz passed away on January 30. A memorial service will take place in the sanctuary on February 20 at 1:00 pm. All are welcome.

A memorial service for Gini Abbott, who passed away on January 8, will be held at FUMC on Saturday, March 12 at 1:00pm. All are welcome.

BIRTHDAYS: February 13-19

Nancy Baker	Bob Chambers	Marcia Kittel	Anne Simon
Mara Barrett	Linda Giauque	Rogan Luedemann	Erick Woodward
Jasper Brundege	Mary Hannon	Marc Messervey	Marlin Yoder

ON-GOING CLASSES AND GROUPS

SEARCHERS CLASS

On Sunday, February 13, 20 and 27, we will watch and discuss a Public Television special entitled *Three Faiths, One God: Judaism, Christianity, Islam*. Find out more details about this program at www.threefaithsonegod.com. This Sunday we'll view the first six chapters of the program which deal with our common belief in one God, the Word of God, common biblical roots, commonality and conflicts in theology and the "Five Pillars" of Islam. We'll have time for discussion. We meet in person at 9:45am in rooms S030 & S040 and on Zoom at:

[-https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89138991192?pwd=MmdXV2o2My8xWTFzVUwzczV3Wk82Zz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89138991192?pwd=MmdXV2o2My8xWTFzVUwzczV3Wk82Zz09)

CHARITY QUILT GROUP

The FUMC Charity Quilt Group meets the 2nd Saturday of each month from 9:00am - 1:00pm at Kay Neckel's home, 535 Roosevelt Ave in Loveland. Experience is not required; we have quilters ranging from beginners to more experienced. We have sewing machines available for your use. Hope to see you on February 12. Call Kay Neckel at 970-663-3434 for more information.

HOLY HAPPY HOUR GROUP MEETS ON MONDAYS

Holy Happy Hour meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month. We meet at **Verboten Brewery, 127 E 5th St.** Contact Tom Thompson for more information at 801-518-5392 or revtgt@hotmail.com.

SOUL FEAST

We meet on Thursdays at 2:00pm in West Coy Hall. Call Barbie Clark at 667-7445 for more information.

EXERCISE CLASS WITH ANITA WILLIAMS

Join us Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 10:30am each week on Zoom. Questions? Contact Anita Williams at anitaandroger@msn.com.

DINNER GROUP

Would you like to meet with 4-8 people to have dinner? Contact Kay Neckel at 970-663-3434.

OTHER IMPORTANT NEWS



ONLINE GIVING

Our Church has online payment capability. Go to our website, www.fumcloveland.com and click on the menu tab labeled "donate." Thank you for trying out this new way of giving.

FUMC BUS "ON THE ROAD AGAIN"

If you would like a ride to church or have questions about riding the church bus, please contact Roger Williams at 970-980-8228. (Please call after 4:00pm.)

WAYS YOU CAN SERVE

SUNDAY SCHOOL ELEMENTARY SHEPHERDS NEED

FUMC's Sunday School needs a few shepherds for the spring. A shepherd does not teach or prepare for class. A shepherd helps the main teacher watch over the basic needs of the children and assists with the craft. We have openings for 2/13, 3/6, 3/20, 4/3, 4/10, and 5/1. We also have one opening in the spring for the Little Learners classroom on 4/24. The Little Learners are ages 3 - 6 years (no diaper changes required) and the Elementary classroom is for 1st-5th grade. Feel free to contact Shannon Heusinkveld at (660) 287-6734 or shannonh@fumcloveland.com. Thank you.

CALL & CONNECT

This program connects our members who aren't as connected to FUMC as they'd like to be due to advanced age or health/mobility limitations. To register as a phone caller, contact Rev. Lee at lee@fumcloveland.com or (970) 667-0876. If you would like to receive calls, or know someone who would, contact Rev. Lee.

HANDS TO HEARTS MINISTRY

Hands to Hearts Ministry is a knitting, crocheting and sewing prayer ministry with First United Methodist Church Loveland. An exciting opportunity to serve and to share with Trinity UMC is underway! This ministry currently has six members: Marcia Yoder, Cindy Crawley, Mindy Stiverson, Bonnie Huntemann, Melinda Bart and Shirley Reed. We will be constructing prayer shawls, lap robes, hats, mittens, infant blankets for those babies that are in Neonatal ICUs in the area and blankets for cancer patients. These items will be given to charities in Loveland and our Northern Colorado community. We plan to begin meeting in March when, hopefully, COVID numbers will be stabilized. Currently, we intend to meet every other week at Trinity UMC. If you would like to join this group, please email Shirley Reed at Shirley.Lnsfarms@gmail.com or call her at 308-665-5934.

