



Community Courier

Community United
Methodist Church

March 2010
Vol. V, Issue 3

Dear Friends~ I found these old illustrations among my electronic files and thought they might be good meditations. Which "psalm" do you find most appealing?
Which do you find most accurate?

The Lord is my foreman,
I shall not rest.
He makes me mow down the green pastures,
He leads me to generators beside still waters.
He wears out my soul.
He shoves me to conferences
For my schedule's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of relaxation,
I fear no chance of rest;
For my feelings of guilt, they haunt me.
Thy whip and thy goad, they confront me.
Thou preparest a work table before me
In the presence of my rivals.
Thou hast filled my mind with worry;
My work load overflows.
Surely busyness and pressure
Will follow me all the days of my life,
And I will run to and fro,
Even in the house of the Lord, forever.

The Lord is my Pace-setter.
I shall not rush.
He makes me stop and rest for quiet intervals.
He provides me with images of stillness, which restore my serenity;
He leads me in the ways of efficiency through calmness of mind,
And his guidance is peace.

Even though I have a great many things to accomplish each day,
I will not fret, for his presence is here.
His timelessness, his all importance, will keep me in balance.
He prepares refreshment and renewal in the midst of my activity
By anointing my mind with oils of tranquility.
My cup of joyous energy overflows.
Surely harmony and effectiveness shall be the fruits of my hours,
For I shall walk in the pace of my Lord,
And dwell in his house forever.

"Be still, and know that I am God." (Psalm 46:10) Love, Pastor Steve



BLESSINGS FROM BRENDA
A MESSAGE FROM THE SUNSHINE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT
MARCH 2010

Meet Your New District Superintendent

Rev. Marv Vose

Last month I shared with you some of my thoughts about transition as I move into retirement. This month I would like to introduce you to the one who will be in transition as he prepares to become your new District Superintendent.....meet the Rev. Marv Vose.

Marv comes to the Sunshine District from serving for 11 years as the senior pastor of Sunrise UMC in Colorado Springs. Before that he served for 5 years as the District Superintendent of the Peaks and Plains District.

Marv is married to Caroline and they have two adult children living in the Pacific Northwest. Caroline spent her childhood in the mission field in Japan and has been working with Greater Europe Missions in Monument.

Growing up in a Methodist family on a farm in Mediapolis, Iowa, Marv has a heart for rural places and people. The church of his childhood and youth was the "big" church of a two-point charge. After high school Marv headed off to the University of Iowa in Iowa City, then on to law school at Duke.

In his college years Marv spent time as a camp counselor near Estes Park so when he had the chance during law school to clerk for a law firm in Denver, he and Caroline were thrilled. After graduation, the firm offered him a position and Colorado became the Vose home.

Eventually Marv and Caroline moved to Colorado Springs and joined FUMC. As a result of small groups and bible studies there, Marv heard a call to ministry. During seminary at Vanderbilt, Marv served student appointments at two-point charges and then began his local church ministry in the Rocky Mountain Conference at Fort Morgan, then Julesburg-Ovid.

Marv looks forward to getting to know the people and the churches of the Sunshine District. Issues of vitality of ministry excite him. You will be blessed by his ministry among you. **Blessings, Brenda**

Mission Notes From Sunshine District Mission Chair

Pat Blasi blasiemp@centurytel.net

The fourth Sunday in Lent is the second of our Special Offering Sundays and this year falls on March 14th. **One Great Hour of Sharing** began in 1946 as an effort of the Episcopal Church. The observance became ecumenical in 1949 and today several denominations including our United Methodist Church participate.

One Great Hour of Sharing calls the church to share the goodness of life with those who hurt. Our gift for One Great Hour allows the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) to give humanitarian aid when a catastrophe occurs. By giving to the One Great Hour you enable UMCOR to keep the promise that 100 percent of designated gifts go to the specific causes. UMCOR receives no World Service or other apportionment money. So the monies collected underwrite UMCOR'S "costs of doing business". If every member would give \$1 the total given would be more than \$7.8 million. **UMCOR is the hands, heart and hope of the church for people who are suffering.**



MISSION REPORT

At the Feb. 1 CUMC Mission Committee meeting, the committee members who were present voted unanimously to enter into a Covenant Relationship with the Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church to support missionary, Yema Luhahi, in Kenya with \$2,500 for one year. Yema is originally from the Democratic Republic of Congo, and she holds a master degree

in Public Health from Benedictine University in Lisle, IL. She is a graduate of Mounds-Midway School of Nursing in St. Paul, Minnesota, and has a certificate in pediatric nursing from the Univer-site Libre de Bruxelles (Brussels) in Belgium.

Before Yema's commissioning as a missionary, she was a lecturer and Director of the Nursing Program at the government Higher Institute of Allied Health Sciences in Kinshahsa. She also served eight years (1984-1992) as a director of the General Board of Global Ministry from the Central Conference. Yema and her husband, Lahi Luhahi,, who is mathematics professor and United Methodist missionary as well, started their ministry in Kenya in 1992.

Yema and Lahi have three adult children. The Luhahis are members of Community UMC in Naperville, IL. Yema currently serves on the nursing staff of the KeMU Health Center in Meru, Kenya. Some of the services provided at the clinic are family planning, prenatal care, and immunizations. Presently the clinic has five full-time, well-trained staff supported by adjunct staff from Nursing, Medical Laboratory and Clinical Medicine and Surgery Departments. Dental care will be offered soon. Our church's support for Yema will come primarily from the Mission Committee budget (\$2,200 this year), and an offering will be taken sometime this summer in an effort to collect an additional \$300 so that our total giving to this mission will be \$2,500 for the year. *~Anne O'Connor, Chairwoman*



You're Among Friends

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

The Children's Sermons and Sunday School Classes at the 10:00 a.m. Worship Service which began in late January are progressing "full steam ahead!" THANKS to the enthusiastic support of CUMC's Education Chair Myke Jones, Pastor Steve & Lissa Miller, Sarah Smith, Lynette & "KC" Williamson, Deb, Colby, & Carson Colgate, Rose Murphy~ PLUS the kids & youth who are eagerly participating in the curriculum that's all lined up for Lent & Easter. About a dozen children Kindergarten—5th Gr. ages also participated in a Valentine's Party in FH Sat. Feb. 13th. Stay tuned for what's next on the agenda after Easter; it's sure to be exciting & enriching for everyone!

TO ALL WOMEN OF THE CHURCH: Please know you are always invited to all of the United Methodist Women activities and meetings.

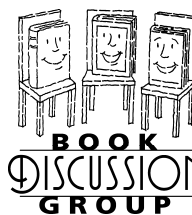
The Next UMW Gathering will be a Brown Bag Lunch & Day of Prayer and Self-Denial

Wednesday, March 10th at 12:00 Noon
In the CUMC Home Office. See Sunday bulletins for further information.



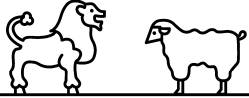
SERVE ONE ANOTHER IN LOVE.

GALATIANS 5:13, NIV



BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

The Sunday Adult Forum has begun:*Excavating Jesus: Beneath the Stones, Behind the Texts*, by John Crossan & Jonathan Reed. **The Sunday Bible Study** led by Pam Bishop is digging into *What's So Amazing About Grace?* By Philip Yancy. Both Classes meet at 9:00 a.m. in the comfy, commodious Home Offices. **All are invited to attend any Sunday!**



MARCH



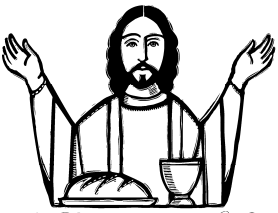



LENT

2010

Children's Sermon & Sunday School
At the 10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Open Hearts,
Open Minds,
Open Doors:
CUMC



SUNDAY	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
 <i>"In Remembrance of Me..."</i> Holy Communion	1 6-9 p.m. Dance Class Class—FH	2	3 <u>9:00 a.m.</u> FINANCE Mtg.- <u>HO 9:30 a.m. Line</u> Dance—FH 6:00p.m. Pastor's <u>Lent Class—HO</u> 6:30 p.m. String Band— FH	4 9-2:00p. Helping Hands- HO 1:30 p.m. Dulcimer Club-FH	5 9:00 a.m Peak Acad. Dance Class -FH	6 TAIZE Worship St. Luke's 5:00p. m. 6:00 p.m. English Country Dance—FH
7 <u>3rd Sunday in Lent</u> <u>8:00a.m. +10:00 a.m.</u> <u>Worship Services</u> 9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday Schl. Classes in HO 11:00 Friendship Time-	8 <u>6:00 p.m.</u> <u>AD</u> <u>COUNCIL</u> <u>-HO 6-9</u> p.m. Dance Class-FH	9	10 <u>8:00 a.m.</u> <u>UMM -FH</u> <u>12:00 p.m. UMW-</u> <u>HO 6:00 p.m.</u> <u>Pastor's class-HO</u> 6:30pm. String Band- FH	11 9-2:00p.m Helping Hands-HO 1:30 p.m. Dulcimer Club	12 9:00 a.m Peak Acad. Dance Class - FH	13 <i>Daylight- Saving Time Begins</i> At 2:00 a.m. Sun. <u>Set Clocks Ahead</u> <u>Before Bed Sat.!</u>
14 <u>4th Sunday in Lent</u> <u>Worship 8:00 & 10 a.m.</u> 9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School -HO 11:00 a.m. Friendship Time—FH	15 <u>April</u> <u>Courier</u> <u>Articles Due</u> 6-9 p.m. Dance Class Class—FH	16	St. Patrick's Day 17 9:30 a.m. line dance 6:00 p.m. <u>Pastor's</u> <u>Class-HO</u> 6:30 String Band -FH	18 9-2:00p.m Helping Hands-HO 1:30 p.m. Dulcimer Club-FH	19 9:00 a.m Peak Acad. Dance Class - FH	20 TAIZE Wor- ship St. Luke's 5:00 p. m. 
21 <u>5th Sunday in Lent</u> <u>Worship Services</u> 8:00 & 10:00 Worship 9:00 a.m. Sun. School 11:00 a.m. Friendship	22 6-9 p.m. Dance Class -FH	23	24 9:30 a.m. Line Dance—FH 6:00 p.m. Pastor's <u>Lenten Class -HO</u> 6:30 p.m. String Band—FH	25 9-2:00 Helping Hands-HO 1:30 p.m. Dulcimer- FH	26 9:00 a.m Peak Acad. Dance Class - FH	27 
28 PASSION SUNDAY  <u>Worship Services</u> <u>8:00 & 10:00 a.m.</u> 9:00 a.m. Sun. School- HO. 11:00 a.m. Friend- ship Time-FH	29 6-9 p.m. Dance Class -FH Pastor Steve & Lissa Miller will be in MN	30 & Lissa Miller Mon. -Wed.	31 9:30 a.m. Line Dance—FH 6:00 p.m. Lenten <u>Class -HO</u> 6:30 p.m. String Band—FH	April 1st is HOLY THURSDAY Holy Communion Service at 7:00 p.m. - FH	April 2nd is GOOD FRIDAY Tenebrae Service at 7:00 p.m. in Sanctuary	SPRING BREAK See pg. 8. for full Holy Week <u>Worship</u> <u>Schedule</u>



MONEY MATTERS...When we hear the term “first fruits”, we usually think of God’s instructions to his people in the Old Testament to give back to God the firstborn livestock or a portion of the first part of the harvest to support his people in ministry. (Ex.23:19) “the choicest of the first fruits of your ground you shall bring to the house of the Lord your God.” And (Deut. 18:4) “The first fruits of your grain, your wine, and your oil, as well as the first of the fleece of your sheep, you shall give to him.”

In our economy, we aren’t likely to drop off our hay bales at the church, so how do we interpret this giving of our first fruits thing? Judged by the way the funds come in, I would guess that most of our parishioners give the first Sunday after they receive their monthly checks. Some, of course, contribute weekly. A few, however, give their entire amount of their pledge in the first month of the year! For that reason, our finances for January look **GOOD**, really **GOOD**! In whatever way we interpret giving our first fruits, we share in a long tradition of recognizing God’s goodness and sharing in His Blessings. ~ Janet Reither, Treasurer

The figures for the General Fund for January, 2010, are:

INCOME	EXPENSES	NET
\$15,001	\$12,520	\$2,481



ATTENDANCE

DATE Worship 8:00 / Worship 10:00

Jan. 24th	15 + 61 = 76
Jan. 31st	20 + 74 = 94
Feb. 7th	12 + 62 = 74
Feb. 14th Valentine’s Day!	17 + 70 = 87
Feb. 17th Ash Wednesday	33 + 9 = 42
Feb. 21st 1st Sun. Lent /Snow!	14 + 67 = 81
Feb. 28th	SEE APRIL COURIER

Welcome, Visitors!



“Pastor Bob is the leader of the flock, Son, not the herd.”

UNITED METHODIST MEN

This month the UMM decided to change their Feb. meeting from the 10th to the 12th so it would be closer to Valentine’s Day in order to have a Valentine’s Day Breakfast at the Mining Company Restaurant as has been our past custom. It was cold outside but warm inside because of all the friendly handshakes, hugs, and warmer wishes extended for a Happy Valentine’s Day! Those present enjoyed a wonderful buffet breakfast prepared by Allen & Lynn Butler. After eating, we all enjoyed some beautiful music provided by Pastor Steve Miller, Ray Varney, & Clarence Gill. They entertained us with eleven songs~ which were enthusiastically received with a real ovation. Their playing was great; they ought to be on TV!

Our next UMM meeting will be Wed. Mar. 10th in the Fellowship Hall. Men: See you there! ~ with an appetite for pancakes! ~ Carl Heck

From~ Helping Hands of Custer County

Thank you so much for the donation of \$1,225.00 in honor and memory of Jess Price. We knew Jess personally & respected him as our kind-hearted mayor. To say he will be missed is a gross understatement. As you know, Helping Hands comes to the aid of folks in need in many ways: monthly food boxes, rent assistance, gasoline to get to work, electric assistance, wood provided by the kind folks of Custer Co– to name just a few ways this donation will be put to use. There are days that there is a line outside the office waiting to speak to us. We try to network with them to not only put a band-aid on their issues but gently to help them figure out what to do to not continue to have these same issues in the future.

Thank you once again for choosing Helping Hands as the recipient of this money. Please, extend our gratitude to Jess’ family for thus remembering Helping Hands in this way, and may you be blessed with health and happiness.

Sincerely,

Yan
Yan Yatch, Administrator

Feb. 16, 2010

MILEHIGH OUTLOOK

LENT 2010

By Bishop Elaine J. W. Stanovsky

February 17, 2010

...let us lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus ... who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12:1)

As I watched the devastation of the earthquake in Haiti last month, and waited for news of my friends who were caught in the rubble, I asked myself, "what would I give to save the people who are caught?" The answer is – a lot. Maybe all that I have. Maybe my life.

As we enter the season of Lent, we imagine it as a wilderness experience, like the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness, being tested. Stripped of all the support systems of the city and human community, Jesus learned what really mattered, what he was really made of, and what his mission and message would be. During the 40 days of Lent, Christians are invited to "lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely" (Hebrews 12: 1) and turn again and anew to the spiritual resources and relationships that sustain us and that put our lives in proper perspective.

What if this Lent we took on the spiritual discipline of extravagant generosity? What if we continued our commitment to Haiti, with the hope of rebuilding a nation and a culture that has been brought to its knees? What if spiritually we entered the wilderness of a crumbled nation, with the fortitude born of faith and hope?

The Western Jurisdiction of the United Methodist Church is undertaking

OPERATION RESURRECTION 2010: Lifting Haiti from the Rubble

We have four goals by Easter. By faith we will achieve these goals many times over.

1. Educate ourselves about Haiti's history, culture and economics
2. Contribute \$100,000 for UMCOR
3. Commit 25 Volunteer in Mission Teams for Haiti over the next 5 years
4. Replace the 23,000 Health Kits sent from UMCOR Depot West to Haiti

For Valentine's Day I gave a Health Kit in honor of each of my children and nieces and nephews. I've given \$1 for each member of the Jurisdictional Leadership Team, and for each person at the Yellowstone Annual Conference CONVO.

**Our neighbors are suffering.
We are God's agents of new life.**

We are a resurrection people!

Bishop Elaine



**Brothers and Sisters
in Christ**



“For everything that lives is holy ~
Life delights in Life.”
~ William Blake

- 3/2 Gary Frickell
- 3/4 Colby Colgate
- 3/4 Mary Jo King
- 3/9 Jim Patterson
- 3/13 Lori Gaide
- 3/18 Charles Tomsick
- 3/21 Gary Joseph
- 3/23 Clarence Gill
- 3/25 David O’Connor
- 3/29 Karla Joseph
- 3/31 Addie Heck

“What, sir, would the people of the earth
be without woman?
They would be scarce, sir,
almighty scarce.”
~ Mark Twain



- 3/3 Rex & Jan Pugh
- 3/4 George & Carolyn Creighton
- 3/7 Don & Dorothy Houglan
- 3/20 Clarence & Cathy Gill
- 3/25 Ron & Laura Torgerson

(If your birthday or anniversary is not listed, or if the information is incorrect, please call the church office. Thanks!)



Are you a New Member of CUMC in 2009 - 2010 who hasn't turned in a Membership Information Form? If so, please stop by the Church Office and pick one up so we can get to know you better. April is the month we'd like to start running more Introductory Sketches about our New Members.



**Community United
Methodist Church**

P.O. Box 507
Westcliffe, CO 81252
Phone: 719-783-2511
Fax: 719-783-2511
Office Email: cumcoffice@centurytel.net
Pastor's Email:
pastorsteve@centurytel.net
Website: www.cumcwestcliffe.org

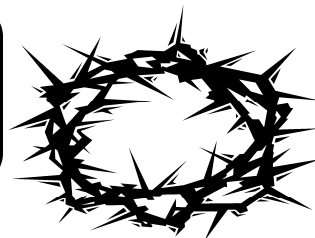


**“Open Hearts, Open Minds,
Open Doors”**

MAILED WITH PEACE AND LOVE TO:



HOLY WEEK



“WERE YOU THERE...?”

**Wednesdays
6:00 -7:00 p.m.
In the Home
Office
Feb. 24th -
April 14th
Join Us!**



**PREVIEW FOR PLANNING:
PALM SUNDAY IS MAR. 28TH
WORSHIP SERVICES AT
8:00 & 10:00 A.M.
ADULT SUN. SCHOOL:9:00 A.M.
KIDS SUN. SCH. DURING 2ND SERVICE**

**HOLY THURSDAY IS APRIL 1ST
HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE
AT 7:00 PM
IN FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**GOOD FRIDAY IS APRIL 2ND
TENEBRAE SERVICE
AT 7:00 PM IN THE CHURCH**

“There are three common places where spiritual energy is stored in great abundance: Loneliness, failure, and fear. We have to be led there, because we will never go on our own initiative. These will first feel like descending, or loss of energy. Only over time will we recognize a new aliveness and freedom.” ~ Fr. Richard Rohr

What does the cross of Jesus mean for us today? How are we to take up our crosses and truly follow Jesus? How does the cross lead to resurrection? This major Biblical theme is often a stumbling block to modern Christians who are trained to think that winning is everything. Self-critical thinking is represented most fully in Jesus, who trained his disciples in a path of descent and ego-stripping instead of ego attainment. It is through suffering and the mystery of contradictions, our own and the world's, that we move to consciousness and holiness.

Come Wednesday evenings and explore this challenging Biblical theme with Rev. Steve Miller & your fellow faith sojourners! Then join us EASTER DAY for Worship Services at 7:30 & 10:00 a.m. with an Easter Breakfast at 8:30 in Fellowship Hall!