



## Hope...

From: Jen, José and Ysa Garza

To have hope is to believe, to desire, and to trust.

Our journey with First United Methodist Church started with the simple planting of a seed. That seed was planted with a person's desire to continue a partnership with Habitat for Humanity and taking that partnership to a higher and greater level. When that seed was planted it was nourished with hope. That hope included belief that it could be done with God's will and the labor of the church members. It also included the great desire to get involved and help nourish the seed of hope. With that it also included the trust that God would provide. The seed of hope has been tended, has thrived, and continues to grow.

For me I had always wanted to have a place that I could call my own, a place for my children to grow up in and to be proud of. While I truly never knew if that dream would come true, I always maintained that dream. That was my hope. I can recall countless times that I would

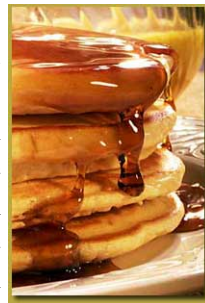
browse through the classified ads looking for an affordable home that was in a good area and at a good price. Never really finding anything that I could afford, I still continued my journey of hoping. I knew that when the time was right it would happen. Little did I know the seed had already been planted. I truly believe that this was a divine intervention something that was meant for my family and myself. I thank God for the love and hope that He has blessed us with. Most importantly, I thank God for the fellowship that He has bestowed us with, the new friends that He has blessed us with, and a new extended family He has provided us with.

I would like to thank everyone for all that you have done to help support our build. Everyone whether you...took pictures, helped out on the construction, made lunch, watched over Ysa, mentored us, prayed for us, served as hostess, or any other thing. May God bless you all as you have done for our family. Thanks!

## 2010 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

### February 16th

Our annual Shrove (or Fat) Tuesday Pancake Supper will be held on Tuesday, February 16th at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Did you know that the word "shrove" comes from the word "shriven" which means "to dry up"? The night before the Lenten



period, people celebrate with a party or feasting before the period of denial. Our rendition of the celebration is a pancake supper. Come enjoy pancakes, games, prizes and learn the history of Shrove Tuesday. For more information or to **volunteer** to help with the festivities, contact Jo Ann Belk @ 482-2436 or [joannbelk@fumc.net](mailto:joannbelk@fumc.net).

# It's Always Too Soon to Quit

By Charles Schuster

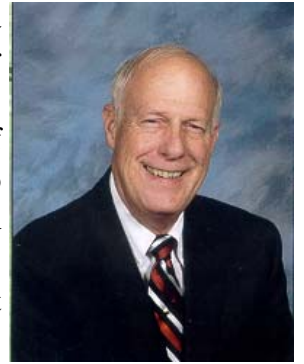
I wasn't the first one to say, "It's always too soon to quit." I think it was Norman Vincent Peale who said it first but it needs to be repeated. It's never too frequent to say it's always too soon to quit. One of the most impressive people I've met recently is Katherine Koop. She is related to Burdette Woodward and she came for Woody's funeral. We officiated at his funeral.

You may remember her story. She served in cultural affairs at the U.S. embassy in Tehran when it was overrun in 1979. She, along with 51 other Americans, was held hostage for 444 days. One of two women to have been held for the duration, she is now an advocate for dialogue and reconciliation. When we were coming back to the church from the cemetery she told me a little about her arrest and imprisonment. She talked about some of the violent Psalms that came to mind as she reflected upon the people who held her prisoner. She talked about the Gospel that affirmed time and time again how important it is to forgive and to love. As we were pulling up to the church, I asked her if she planned to write any more books. She had written several books and articles about her experience. She is in great demand as a speaker and lecturer. She looked at me and said, "Yes, I want to write another book about my experience and I want the title to be Gift of the Revolution. She went on to say how that event, as terrible as it was, changed her life. It gave her the opportunity to meet some wonderful people and to travel all over the world. Looking back she sees that period of time as a blessing. What a tremendous way to look at life.

It was Mother Teresa who stood up for those who were considered the dust of the earth and of no use. They picked them out of the gutters and brought them to her hospital. She did what she could to feed the hungry and clothe the naked. Most remarkable was what she meant when she said, "There is more hunger for love and appreciation in this world than for bread."

If it's true that it's always too soon to quit, it is also fact that it is never too often to express appreciation and love. The man or woman who is giving us the hardest time may be having a hard time themselves and what they need is a helping hand or a compliment. The person who seems to say the worst things at the wrong times is the one who is trying to do the right thing every time; it just doesn't turn out the way it should.

Whatever we do with our church and whatever happens to us personally as winter finally and slowly gives way to warmer weather, let there be a new spirit in the world. Let there come from this congregation and from every member and staff person in it an intense determination to understand and to have compassion; to see the good in everyone; to reap the blessings in everything. Let it not be said of us, "Well, they gave up too soon" because it's always too soon to give up.



## Come Worship with us...

### Sunday Services:

8:00 a.m. in the Chapel

9:15 and 10:45 a.m. in the Sanctuary

10:45 a.m. CrossWalk in the Parlor

### Children's Sunday School

9:30 a.m. in the Village

### Adult Sunday Schools:

9:00 Upper Room Class Rm. 235

9:15 Samaritan Class, Parlor

9:15 Serendipity Class, Conference Rm.

10:45 Open Hearts Class, Village Commons

10:45 Life Application Bible Study, Conference Rm.

# Membership Memos

from: Jo Ann Belk

## Baptisms

*In His name...we celebrate the baptism of...*

- ◆ **Andrew Wesley White**, son of Wesley and Liza White
- ◆ **Austin Marshall**, son of Rick and Kathryn Marshall

## Deaths

*...and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*

- † **Mel Farver**
- † **Burdette “Woody” Woodard**
- † **George Nieder**
- † **Erma Holcomb**

## Outstanding Award

FUMC has been named the 2009 Outstanding Volunteer Group for the Larimer County Food Bank. Kudos to all our volunteers!



## Making Dreams Come True

The final report is that we have received 394 pledges from members and friends of the church amounting to a total of \$783,500. If you have not yet turned in your pledge card, there

is still time. Some of you may have turned in a card that was never received in the finance office. If you have not received a Thank You letter, we

**do not** have your commitment.

Thanks to all who have made possible the exciting ministries for this new year.

*How would the child you were view the person you've become?*

## College Urban Mission Trip

**May 16-23, 2010  
To San Francisco  
and Glide Memorial  
United Methodist  
Church**



Golden Opportunity Grant, the cost of the trip will be lowered for each person.

Deadline to sign-up for this trip is **March**

**1st**—hurry, only 22 places are available.

Participants must be college age. The cost of the trip is \$300; however, thanks to the

For more information contact:

- Rev. David Dalke-482-2436, [daviddalke@fcfumc.net](mailto:daviddalke@fcfumc.net)
- Dr. Ross Loomis-495-1122, [loomisr@juno.com](mailto:loomisr@juno.com)
- Rev. Rebecca McFee-482-2436, [rebeccamcfee@fcfumc.net](mailto:rebeccamcfee@fcfumc.net)

## Did You Know...

- **Caregivers Support Group:** Meets Tuesdays @ 3 p.m. in Rev. McFee's office.
- **Early State Memory Loss Support Group:** @ 3 p.m. on the 1st & 3rd Thursdays, Village Commons.
- **Yoga:** Every Monday @ 5:30 p.m. in the Parlor \$10 per person.
- **Grief Support:** Every Tuesday @ 4 p.m. in the Conference Room
- **Love in Action:** Need help with transportation, meal prep, minor household repairs, errands, championship, lawn care, etc. call us at 482-2436.
- **Book Sale:** February 5th (11am-2 pm), 6th (9am-12) and 7th (8:30am-1pm).

## PJ's Ponderings

from: Rev. Joel Kershaw



### Youth Ready for Another Great Year!

The Youth Program is half way through another great year and ready to tackle another spring. This past fall saw many highlights. Our program collected 1,200 pounds of food for the Food Bank of Larimer County through our annual Trick-Or-Treat- So Others-Can-Eat event. The "God at the Peak" senior High Retreat brought together youth from four churches for a weekend in the mountains exploring and deepening faith. We joined with our friends from the Northern Colo-

rado Jewish Youth for the premier of the documentary "From the Start to the Cross" featuring youth from our group in a dialogue with Jewish Youth. We decorated the Sanctuary for our celebrations of Advent and presented another great show for the Advent Dinner Theatre.

With all of these wonderful event behind us we look forward to a great spring line-up including our annual Ski Trip, another interfaith event with NCJY to celebrate Purim, the 30-Hour-Famine to raise donations and awareness of hunger and poverty and of course our Youth Sunday Worship. And with Spring already underway we are looking forward to some summer high-

lights like our annual mission trip in July.

With all that we do it is important to recognize the youth, sponsors and parents that make it all happen for our Youth Program. I want to thank you all for working so hard to enliven the youth ministry of FUMC and I look forward to a spirit-filled 2010 in ministry with the youth of First UMC!

(For a complete Spring Schedule check out the church website and click on the youth link or contact me at [jkershaw@fcfumc.net](mailto:jkershaw@fcfumc.net) to get all the details you need.)

## Joyful Noise Children's Choir Is Starting Again!

Joyful Noise choir will be for 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> graders. Our new director is Arianne Jenkins who is a Junior music education major at CSU. Ari is originally from Monument, CO and is excited to begin working with the children. The choir



will meet immediately after Sunday School at 10:25 in the Music classroom on the second floor. All 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to come!

## Couples Group

FUMC Couples group meets the first and third Thursdays of every month in the Upper Room. Please join us from 6:00 - 8:00 for a potluck meal, fellowship and various programs. If it

is your first time, no need to bring any food - just come. Childcare is provided in the nursery for all ages of children at no charge. If you have any questions, call Tracey and

Rob Bean at 266-0252.



# Learning for Life

by: Adult Faith Formation

## Positive Communication Skills for Couples

Led by Rev. David Dalke • Wednesdays, February 3, 10, 17 and 24 • 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Is your coupleship in need of a communication tune-up? In this workshop we'll revisit the basics – how to speak with clarity, how to listen sensitively, how to be open and make room for one another's feelings and thoughts – especially if they differ from our own – and how to take our stand assertively. Join us for practical ideas and stimulating discussions.

## Genesis – The Beginning

Facilitated by Rev. Ray Miller • 9:30 – 11 am on Mondays, February 8 – April 12

Or 6:30 – 8:00 pm on Thursdays, February 4 – April 15

As we all know, Genesis, the first book in the Bible, is the book of beginnings. This 10-week study explores the interaction between God and very human people. Pride, family relationships, conflict and journey all play into these familiar stories of Creation, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Rebekah and Joseph. Join us in delving into the mystery and meaning of these dramas. Participant books are available for \$9.

## Valentine's Dinner

Sunday, February 14 • 6:30 pm

We had so much fun last Valentine's Day that we've decided to do it again! Join us for a sumptuous feast, good conversation and after-dinner remarks on love by Rev. Rebecca McFee. Come by yourself or bring a friend or loved one – either way, be prepared to meet new people! Childcare will be available upon request at least 1 week in advance. **Tickets are only \$10 each, so purchase yours by February 7<sup>th</sup> at the Adult Faith Formation table in Fellowship Hall.**

## Theatre and Theology “*The Moving of Lilla Barton*”

Friday, February 19 • Bas Bleu Theatre • Curtain time 7:30 pm

If you enjoy theatre, join us at Bas Bleu Theatre Company for a performance of *The Moving of Lilla Barton*. When Lilla Barton, wife of the pastor of All Saints' Episcopal Church in Lowndes, Alabama, is widowed, she refuses to leave the rectory, her home of 23 years. The new pastor is about to assume his duties, but as long as Lilla remains steadfast, there is no place for him and his family to live. When the vestry committee cannot persuade Lilla to leave, formal eviction proceedings are initiated. Set against a background of conflict between the “Old” and the “New” South, this play explores the challenges of letting go of a painful past in order to embrace the future.

**Reserve your ticket by February 14 at the Adult Faith Formation table in Fellowship Hall.**

## Uppity Women of the Bible: Ruth, The Beloved Convert Who Exemplifies Devotion

Led by Alyce Kaehler and Inara Rudmanis, FUMC members

Sundays, February 21 and February 28 • 10:45 – 11:45 am

Who was Ruth and why do some call her an uppity woman – a woman who assumes equality with others? The Book of Ruth is one of only two books in the Judea/Christian Bible named for a woman. Everyone – both women and men -- is invited to learn more about this valiant woman who answered God's call to step out of her cultural role and thereby changed the world forever.

## Understanding the Role of Central Asia in Today's World

Dr. William Griswold, speaker • Sundays, February 21, February 28 and March 7 • 1:00 – 2:30 pm

Central Asia is the focus of major conflicts in today's world. In this series of classes, Dr. Griswold will discuss the political history of the region, including Afghanistan, Turkey, Russia, China and the countries of the former Soviet Union. He'll examine the major problems President Obama faces as our involvement in the region continues. He'll look at the role of oil and of Islam, both of which contribute significantly to the problems in this part of the world.

Dr. Griswold, a CSU History Professor Emeritus, is well known for his knowledge of the Middle East. He last lectured at FUMC in January 2008.

# Money Matters

from: Karen Waldron

Thanks to the faithful support of the congregation, 2009 was a great year for FUMC in many ways, not the least of which is the financial picture. Once again, although we entered the fall with a bottom line in the negative range, we ended the year with a balance to carry forward to fund the many programs that the committees of the church are planning.

## 2009 Budget Report

	Jan - Dec 09	Budget
Balance from 2008	19,857.99	18,200.00
<b>Budget Revenue</b>		
Pledges and Contributions	1,032,796.20	1,000,000.00
Other Budget Revenue	67,432.88	72,329.00
<b>Total Budget Revenue</b>	<b>1,100,229.08</b>	<b>1,072,329.00</b>
<b>Budget Expense</b>		
Business Office Expense	79,644.74	87,445.00
Facilities Expense	107,569.16	120,000.00
Payroll Expenses	639,411.28	650,484.00
Program Expense	95,967.42	100,000.00
Wider Missions Payments to Rocky Mountain Conference	137,907.33	132,600.00
<b>Total Budget Expense</b>	<b>1,060,499.93</b>	<b>1,090,529.00</b>
<b>Revenue Less Expense</b>	<b>59,587.14</b>	<b>0.00</b>

## 2009 Designated Gifts Report

In 2009, FUMC was blessed by many large and small designated gifts, which allow the church to provide services and programs beyond those covered by the annual budget. These funds provide help for the needy in the church and community, paid for the organ renovation and the Habitat for Humanity build for the Garza family, replaced the failed boiler in the south wing of the church, provided clothes to needy families in the community through the Kids Closet in the church basement, funded a special program at the Crossroads Safehouse for victims of domestic abuse, provided supplies for the mission teams to Pine Ridge and Guatemala, and much more. These gifts represent sacrificial giving beyond the support of the church general budget.

	1/1/09 Balance	Revenue	Disbursements	12/31/09 Balance
<b>Designated Program Gifts</b>				
Church Van Fund	3,110.07	60.00	0.00	3,170.07
Columbarium Fund	9,234.15	6,002.36	1,297.38	13,939.13
Emergency Assistance Fund	1,010.02	525.00	1,140.39	394.63
Foundation Grants	0.00	12,500.00	12,487.18	12.82
Good Is Not Good Enough	14,547.25	50,000.00	53,421.91	11,125.34
Habitat Build	3,375.13	47,940.40	51,154.95	160.58
LAMMP (Larimer Area Methodist Missions Partners)	2,735.25	4,639.86	3,399.85	3,975.26
Library Fund	7,847.04	4,204.00	5,899.57	6,151.47
Music Ministry	14,185.75	16,257.84	23,459.66	6,983.93
Debt Reduction	8,900.98	8,783.10	17,684.08	0.00
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	1,300.00	300.00	1,500.00	100.00
Scholarship Funds	8,133.63	6,238.66	7,000.00	7,372.29
Trustees Fund	37,957.96	13,279.07	43,916.04	7,320.99
Other Designated Funds	3,499.00	0.00	3,000.00	499.00
Other Program Funds	6,678.48	33,151.97	30,243.77	9,586.68
<b>Total Designated Program Gifts</b>	<b>122,514.71</b>			<b>70,792.19</b>
Memorial Funds	12,458.47	11,708.20	0.00	24,166.67
Bequests to Church	0.00	391,770.16	42,281.81	349,488.35
Pass Through Funds	-112.50	50,608.72	50,692.01	-195.79
Pass Through Benevolences	10.00	31,481.36	25,863.36	5,628.00
<b>Total Designated Funds</b>	<b>134,870.68</b>	<b>689,450.70</b>	<b>374,441.96</b>	<b>449,879.42</b>

# Up-Coming Events for Holy Week

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Easter is approaching fast! We start off with:

- **Ash Wednesday Service**, February 17 @ 7:00 p.m. with Rev. McFee
- **1st Sunday in Lent**, February 21
- **2nd Sunday in Lent**, February 28
- **3rd Sunday in Lent**, March 7
- **4th Sunday in Lent**, March 14 - Day Light Savings Time and One Great Hour of Sharing
- **5th Sunday in Lent**, March 21
- **Palm Sunday Service**, March 28, regular times for worship services.
- **Maundy Thursday Services**, April 1 @ 12:00 noon with Rev. Miller and @ 6:30 p.m. with Rev. Schuster
- **Good Friday Service**, April 2 @ 12:00 noon with Rev. Miller
- **Good Friday Requiem**, April 2 @ 6:00 p.m. pre-lecture and 7:00 p.m. concert.
- **Easter Sunday Services**, April 4 @ 6:00, 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

## Lenten Studies

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**Three classes will be held  
on Wednesdays  
7:00 pm  
February 24<sup>th</sup>,  
March 3, 10, 24, and 31<sup>st</sup>  
Light meal at 6:00 pm**

1. Rebecca McFee will lead a class on the future of the church in a post-modern era. She will look at the generational changes and needs and

how the church will have to adjust to attract young people in the next few years.

2. Joel Kershaw will do a class that will take a look at religious themes in the movies. He will look for Christian symbols and issues of redemption and salvation as portrayed in current cinema.

*God promised us a smooth landing,  
not a smooth sailing.*

3. Charles Schuster will teach a class that will consider two central features of the Christian faith as symbols that create unity and a sense of common identity. We will look at the theology of incarnation and resurrection. There will be papers presented to be read by those in attendance.

## Pine Ridge Mission Trips 2010

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We have scheduled our 2010 mission trips for Pine Ridge Indian Reservations, South Dakota.

Our first trip will be April 10-16, to do some basic home and yard maintenance. The approximate cost is \$350.

The second trip will be August

28-September 3. This trip will focus on roofing, to help prepare for the winter season. If you have roofing experience we could certainly use your help! We will offer a 2-day extension for this trip as well, to visit and experience more of the Native American culture. Cost for this

week will be coming soon.

The sign-up sheet will be on the Outreach counter in Fellowship Hall. Our first information meeting will be on Tuesday, February 23rd at 6:30 p.m. in the Village Common. For more info., contact Theresa Holbrook, 232-9585.

# All Church Conference

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By Charles Schuster

We had our annual church meeting on Tuesday, January 19<sup>th</sup>. We had over 100 people attending and some remarkable things happened that night. We voted to support Cynthia Khoo as she pursues elder's orders and ministry in the United Methodist Church. We voted to approve the budget for 2010 noting that we were beginning the year with a \$35,000 surplus which puts us in the more positive position to start a year than we've been in years. We had the largest church attendance numbers for 2009 we have had in six years – an average of 731 per Sunday as compared to 686 in 2008, 637 in 2007, 649 in 2006, 682 in 2005, and 661 in 2006. Our church membership increased by 12.

We established a Long Range Planning Committee so we can look forward to planning for our church's ministry for the next 20 years. It will help us make some of the important decisions if we have some idea of the general

direction the ministry of the church is moving.

We had on the floor a proposal to have the American and Christian flags put in the Sanctuary on a permanent basis. An amendment was approved that the flags be in the Sanctuary on Independence Weekend, Memorial Weekend, Scout Sunday, and Veterans' Day Weekend, and other times as deemed appropriate for the service. The discussion was highly charged, passionate, and somewhat polarized. The speakers were eloquent and the positions presented were well thought out. The vote to accept the motion as amended was passed by a narrow majority (56 yes, 46 no and 5 abstain).

As I listened to this difficult discussion I was saddened by the possibility that, whatever we decided, some would be disappointed. But this is a wonderful church congregation and we have contributed much to the community and the

world through outreach projects. There was openness for people to say what they thought and, at the end of it all, we carried out a process that was fair and democratic.

We voted in new leadership and expressed appreciation to Gary Gramlick for his many years of service as Chair of the Board of Trustees, and to Dale Conant for his work with the Administrative Council. We have wonderful leaders in our church and new people coming into leadership. The past is prelude and the future is unlimited.

*Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow.*

*—Anonymous*

I am available to any who would like to discuss this further. This issue will not define us but how

we treat each other in the wake of this debate will say much about who we are. We will want to be civil, honest, and open to each other.

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## Oberammergau Passion Play and River Boat Trip

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There are 2-4 openings for the summer cruise and German Passion Play. These openings have just been made available and will fill rapidly so if you have wanted to see this outstanding performance please contact Rod and Marry Anderson at 970-226-5035

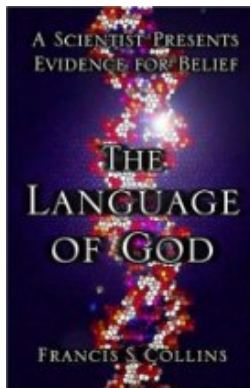
ASAP. The tour consist of a 10 day river cruise on the Danube River plus a four-day Passion Play and Bavaria bus tour.

## Women of Worth

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We will begin our study of The Language of God: a Scientist Presents Evidence for Belief by Francis

Collins at our Wednesday, February 10 meeting. Collins, who headed the Human Genome Project until August, 2008, discusses his Christian faith in combination with his scientific knowledge and experi-



ence to present his belief that God and science can harmoniously coexist. Some of his discussion topics include: creationism, evolution, the Big Bang, atheism, agnosticism, genetics, Moral Law, and bioethics.

We welcome new members. Our meetings are at noon on the second and

fourth Wednesdays of the month from September through May in the Conference Room in the office wing. Many members bring a sack lunch to eat while we carry on our discussion. If you would like information about joining WOW, please contact Vonna Kent at 223-1693 or Pat Jungmeyer at 221-3990.

## State of the Union (Faith Community Volunteer Program)

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I am proud to be part of a church that truly cares for disadvantaged children in our community!

Recent FUMC outreach to Putnam has included:

- Weekly volunteers in classrooms, the media center, and the computer lab
- Sewing of a curtain to hide supply shelves
- Donations of milk caps, soup labels, and box tops that have paid for field trips and the homecoming parade entry
- Eating at Culver's to help raise about \$200 for the homeless support program at Putnam
- Staffing of the Scholastic Book Fair, which raised money for new books in the Putnam library

- Reading with children who didn't have a loved one at "Read With a Loved One Day"
- 100 winter hats donated, including beautifully hand-knitted hats
- \$606 raised through the alternative giving fair to aid Putnam's after-school programs
- 10 new volunteers signed up to help Putnam on their pledge cards in November!
- A \$2000 "Golden Opportunity" grant was approved to start a First Book program at Putnam and to buy supplies for mitten clips
- New urgent needs:
- Sewing of 100 pairs of mitten clips

*God promised us a smooth landing,  
not a smooth sailing.*

- Classroom help in 4th grade.
- Putnam needs volunteers and donations of silent auction items, soda pop, paper plates, and napkins for the Science Carnival they will hold March 6th.
- Monthly reading incentive program needs ongoing donations of money for pizza party rewards

If you'd like to be involved with the Putnam outreach ministry in any way, please email me at [ajk-rech@msn.com](mailto:ajk-rech@msn.com) or call 225-0330. At this point I could really use a partner to help me organize all the wonderful projects FUMC is doing at Putnam.

## Hands for Hope — Habitat Build Update

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### UPON REFLECTION

Those who came to the Dedication Ceremony on December 13 will surely have a fond memory of its significance. Our Church's first Habitat for Humanity home, built for Jennifer Garza and her two children, was complete and ready for their occupancy. And it was done in time for them to celebrate Christmas 2009 in their new home. Goals set. Goals met.

What a year, indeed, it has been for the multitude of church and other volunteers throughout Fort Collins who have given their time, money, and physical efforts so unselfishly and unstintingly to this project. Now is the time to try and express gratitude

to each person who has supported our Hands for Hope Habitat Build.

The members of the Steering Committee are eager to recognize and give credit to each one of you who worked on and supported this project during the past year. Thanks, and Thanks, and Thanks again! Without your outpouring of love and effort, the Garza's home would not have been built.

There are so many of you who should be individually recognized...whether it was your generous financial donation, your commitment to physically work at the project or bring food, or your consistent work behind the

scenes to smooth the way. You know who you are, and we want you to know we wish we could have a huge billboard on the corner of Stover and Elizabeth on which would be your name...in lights...and at least three feet high.

What a coalition of effort and teamwork we have seen in our Church! FCFUMC is a blessed and effective organization, and we have potential to do so much more, including another Habitat house.

With Sincere Gratitude and Appreciation,

Your Hands For Hope Habitat Build Steering Committee

## Hands for Hope — Habitat Build Update Where To NOW?

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To Paraguay!!

Yep, that's the great opportunity available for us here at FCFUMC. You may recall, \$6,200 of the funds we raised in 2009 for the Habitat Build of the Garza's new home was contributed to Habitat International.

All of the Habitat Colorado affiliates have joined with Habitat International to promote the building of multiple Habitat homes for teachers in Paraguay. With our \$6,200, plus the contributions from the fifty + other Habitat Colorado affiliates, a significant sum of money is now available for that purpose. The

goal is to build 55 homes for teachers who, upon completion of their government-provided education, are dispatched to remote locations throughout Paraguay to begin their teaching careers.

These teachers are low paid, and do not normally qualify for a home loan. Rental properties in locations to which they are sent are scarce and usually of low quality. This Habitat program will offer a marvelous alternative for the teachers by providing a mortgage that costs less than \$25 per month.

The homes will have two bed-

rooms, a living-dining room, a kitchen, a bathroom, and a laundry area. They are built with hollow brick walls, a tile roof, polished cement floors, electrical wiring, and running water. At a total cost of just \$3,500 US, our contribution alone will build 1.7 homes.

Plans are being made for local Habitat volunteers to travel to Paraguay in June 2010 to help build these homes. More details will be available later, but if you think you would be interested in being on that team of volunteers, now is the time to e-mail Glen Goff at [grgoff@rcgoff.net](mailto:grgoff@rcgoff.net) to get on his list.

# United Methodist Women

## Let's Get Together for UMCOR: Disaster Relief – Haiti and around the world

The theme for this new UMW program year is "Let's Get Together." In consideration of this we are planning something special for our February unit meeting. Members of the Wesley Foundation, Youth Confirmation Class, Club 56 and LAMMP will join UMW for a potluck at noon on Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup> in Fellowship Hall. Afterwards we

will learn about UMCOR distribution centers and participate in a joint mission activity packing school bags and health kits for the LAMMP mission team to take with them on their upcoming trip to the Sager Brown Depot in Louisiana. Thousands of health kits will be needed for the Haiti disaster relief effort alone. Circle TUF will greet. Circle Abigail will host the meal but all current UMW members are asked to bring a covered dish to share. **All members of the**

**church are welcome to join us if you are interested in participating in this activity!** There is plenty of time before the Super Bowl! If you cannot come, please help beforehand by donating supplies. Information as to needed items will be in the Bulletin and at the collection centers in the church.

The Executive Board will meet Thursday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, at 11:30 a.m. in the Parlor.

## Spiritual Retreat

The annual Spiritual Retreat for the United Methodist Women of the Rocky Mountain Conference will be held at the YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park, April 23-25, 2010. The Spiritual Director will be our Bishop, Elaine Stanovsky, who will speak Saturday and Sunday. Worship-

ping with 400 other women in this beautiful location is always an amazing experience. We will be in the new lodge and conference center this year! You need not be a current member of UMW to attend.

Please watch the bulletin board for registration forms and information as registration is due well in advance of the retreat to get the best fees and lodging.

*God's grace is the only grace.  
And all grace is the grace of God.  
—Coventry Patmore (1823-1896)*

## Circle Meetings in February

<u>Circle</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Abigail	Tues: 9 <sup>th</sup> & 23 <sup>rd</sup>	7:00 p.m.	Parlor
Hannah	Hands on activity	.	Call Julie 226-5925
Kezia	Thurs: 25th	9:30 a.m.	Emily Krause's Home
Lois	Thurs: 25th	9:30 a.m.	Village Commons
Mary	Thurs: 25th	9:30 a.m.	Parlor
Rebekah	Thurs: 25th	1:30 p.m.	Parlor
Sarah	Weds: 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 a.m.	Parlor
Vashti	Tues: 23 <sup>rd</sup>	1:30 p.m.	Parlor
T.U.F. (Teen)	Sun: 7 <sup>th</sup>	Noon	Unit Meeting



Double Nickel Luncheon

Often, if you arrived early for the luncheon, you were greeted with piano music. "Woody" loved to play not only in greeting but during the luncheons. Burdette "Woody" Woodward passed away on January 1. While he will be missed at the luncheons, it is easy to imagine

him in heaven playing a piano. And when he does a jazzy number Janet Blandin is probably one of the angels swaying to the music.

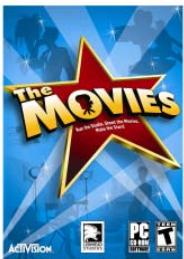
The next luncheon will be on Friday, February 12 at noon in Fellowship Hall. The speaker will be Jessica Albers, Physical Therapist. The topic is "Walking

with Confidence" and will pertain to increasing independence through strength and balance training.



Double Nickel stands for 55. Anyone age 55 or older is welcome to attend. The cost is \$4 per person.

Afternoon at the Movies



The movie on Tuesday, February 16 will be "Dances with Wolves", starring Kevin Costner and Mary

McDonnell. The story concerns

Lt. John Dunbar who wants to see the American Frontier before it is gone. He is assigned to an abandoned fort in the west. Overcoming the language barrier, he and a Sioux Tribe become friends. His knowledge of the fate, which will ultimately

befall his new found friends, torments him. Come learn why he received the name "Dances with Wolves" and the choice he makes that determines his destiny.

"We Care" Basket for the Military



Care" basket have a right to be proud. The articles mean a great

Everyone that has contributed articles to the "We

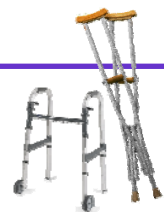
deal to military personnel as evidenced by the Certificate of Appreciation and other written communications that have been received. They are displayed on the Military Board for you to see and read.

Appreciation is given to not only members of the Senior Council but to all other members of FUMC that have contributed to the basket. Thank you so very much and keep up the good work!

Care Closet

If you need medical equipment, do not overlook the Care Closet. What you need may be there and it is at no expense and open to all members of FUMC. Save

medical expense or rental charges when you borrow an item from the closet.



## Buckhorn Camp Appeal for Camp Hope

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For nearly 30 years, Camp Hope has served the developmentally disabled population of Colorado by offering a week-long Christian based summer camp. For many of our campers this one week of camp is the highlight of their year. Camp Hope at Buckhorn Camp has received the state of Colorado accreditation.

Due to program cutbacks by state and federal agencies, Camp Hope will be the only camp of its type on the Front Range. This tremendous responsibility is also an opportunity. Camp Hope will now be able to reach out to an even larger population with Christian hospitality. Donations are greatly needed at this time to help us expand this wonderful ministry. Throughout the month of February, one can make a contribution by check to FUMC (noting in the memo line - Camp Hope)



On February 14th, Rev. Joel Kershaw will relate his experiences with the Camp Hope ministry. RMC Executive Director of Camping Ministry and the Buckhorn Camp Manager, Gregg Kernes, will speak on that Sunday, about what support is needed for Camp Hope.

There will be a table in Fellowship Hall each Sunday in February to provide more information. On February 14th, Gregg will be available to answer questions.

Also Buckhorn Camp wants to thank those for their donations for a hole on the future disc golf course; our goal of \$600 was exceeded. A sign post near the tee box will name our Church as the sponsor.

## FUMC Earth Worm

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*Nature is full of genius, full of the divinity;  
so that not a snowflake escapes its fashioning  
hand.*

—Henry David Thoreau

The good news is that we have collected 19.5 pounds of rigid polypropylene, which was delivered to Aveda Salons. But the (bad) news is we can do better. I will keep you informed. The plastic caps on bottles of water, milk, soda, ketchup, detergent, etc are polypropylene. The container for dropping off the polypropylene is in the Fellowship Hall usually on the pew on the west wall but sometimes it grows legs and moves around. We now have a second bin for collecting empty cosmetic packaging (bottles, palettes, wands, tubes and even the pumps inside). These will be delivered to Origins who will either recycle them or if that is not possible, they will be converted to electrical or steam energy. Thank you for recycling

and reducing the landfill load and also thank you for how clean the materials are.

The recycling center at 1702 Riverside Ave. and the county landfill now have separate containers for unbroken glass bottles and jars. When placed in street side recycling they sometimes get broken and contaminate the recycling. Riverside also has a container for newspaper only. Demand for recyclable newsprint has gone up and mills are looking for newsprint that is not contaminated by other materials.

In December I asked for suggestions for lowering utility bills but no one responded which means no one will receive a Walrus ice cream gift certificate. Maybe it is too cold for ice cream. You will have another chance in the coming months.



**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

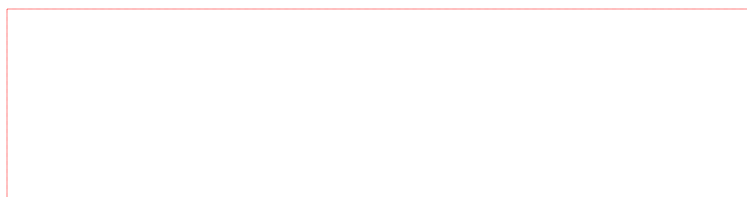
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## New Spirituality and Film Series

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It was Frederic and Mary Ann Brussat who said “When we were choosing passages for our book *Spiritual Literacy* to illustrate how to read the “book of the world” from a spiritual perspective, we found that certain words kept coming up in our conversations.” Eventually they identified 37 spiritual practices such as connectedness, gratitude and wonder that they organized into the Alphabet of Spiritual Literacy. You can read more on their website [www.spiritualityandpractice.com](http://www.spiritualityandpractice.com).

For our new **Spirituality and Film series**, each month we’ll show a film that portrays one of

the spiritual practices identified by the Brussats. On **Tuesday, February 9**, we’ll explore the spiritual practice of *compassion* as we watch the film “Sister Helen”. Winner of the Sundance Director's award, this docudrama centers on Sister Helen Travis (1930-2000), an unconventional nun determined to help substance abusers in the South Bronx. A recovering alcoholic, Travis turned to God after hitting rock bottom when her two children and husband died from substance abuse-related causes. Hard-nosed Sister Helen runs a halfway house, dispensing her unique form of tough love in a tireless effort to help recovering

addicts. The film, which is not rated, will start at 6 pm in the Cinema Center.

Join us on the second Tuesday of each month as we explore the portrayal of various spiritual practices in film. Bring food if you like – popcorn will be available. The film will start promptly at 6 pm; Rev. Ray Miller and Martha Conant will facilitate a discussion following the film and we’ll be done by 8:30 pm. Everyone is come!

