



What Are Your Dreams For The Church?

“You’ve gotta have a dream,
If you don't have a dream,
How you gonna have a dream come
true?”

How are we going to move our church from real good to great? It will take more than our efforts and finances to make the church great. Most importantly it will take our **DREAMS!** So, the Stewardship Committee is developing the 2010 Commitment campaign around the theme of “Making Our Dreams for the Church Come True.”

Our most popular dream (according to congregational response last year) is to make our vibrant church more visible in the community. This dream envisions community projects that help the weak, sick, poor, homeless, hungry, imprisoned, and lonely. As we are admonished in the Book of James, “I will show you my faith by what I do.” What more can we do than the programs in which we participate to help children in foster care (CHUMS and Steppin’ Out), be partners with Putman School, serve meals at the Catholic Charities Mission, work at the Food Bank, help build houses for the needy (Habitat for Humanity), do the maintenance work at Buckhorn Camp, Crop Walk and glean fields for the Food Bank, organize an award winning Faith Library, and participate

in our local and world mission programs. Can we dream of reaching out by TV and radio, increasing our investment in missions by 20%, starting a bookstore/cafe, and providing a Fellowship Hall big enough to be used as a gym? What other dreams do you have that “puts FCFUMC on the map?”

Another big dream we have is to focus more on young adults and to develop a Wesley Foundation at CSU which we started last year. We also wanted to “offer more opportunities for congregation interaction, especially, intergenerational and to provide more spiritual growth opportunities to children and youth.” How would we make this dream come true? Could more special interest support groups on marriage, divorce, parenting, etc., help consummate this dream? Does our future hold, for example a new “after school” program? Could a “tree of life” display in the South Entrance showing our new born, newly baptized, and all our children at various activities through college symbolize our emphasis on youth and the future of our church?

Thankfully, it is our blessing to be able to dream and wonder. “We are Blessed to Bless.”

2nd Annual Western Gala and Silent Auction

Saturday, October 3rd 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall

See page 4...

The Rethinking Lurch

By Charles Schuster

We have a car that doesn't have a spare tire and it doesn't have a jack! If you get a nail in your tire what you do is get this little box out of the trunk of the car and hook it up to the cigarette lighter and it blows up the tire and it pumps this thick white stuff that looks like Elmer's glue into the tire. Then you drive the car and the centrifugal force of the tire spinning sends the Elmer's glue around the inner surface of the tire and that seals the leak. We recently experienced a flat tire at a grocery parking lot. We hooked up the black box and began pumping up the tire, a crowd gathered to watch. No one in the crowd had ever seen anything like that. They were amazed. When the tire inflated there was close to a standing ovation. We wanted to take a bow.



Then we had to drive the car to the dealership so they could clean out the inside of the tire so we wouldn't have to buy another tire. We also had to purchase another container of the white sealer in preparation for the next flat tire. The folks at the dealership had never seen one of these devices before. They were amazed.

Three days later the tire was flat again. Two days after that the tire was flat again. By then the service people and I were on a first name basis. I know some of their family members and the names of the soccer teams their children play on. The next to the last visit one of the service people looked at me and said, "This thing of not having a spare tire and a jack is a dumb idea." The tire repair and replacement of the sealer cost almost as much as a new tire.

Some new ideas are simply that. They are new. They may be good ideas or they may be bad ideas but they are mainly new.

The prevailing trend in the church is something called "Rethinking Church". There have been other attempts to wake up the church. Quest for Quality was put out to us as a leadership style about 10 years after the business world had moved beyond it. Prior to that there was "Management by Objective" and churches were encouraged to establish long range goals and time lines. Our Annual Conference is hav-

ing workshops all over the three state area so we can learn to "rethink". The theory is that the church is best served when church people aren't in church, but are out in the community representing the church. All the bishops went to New York City and fanned out into the city and worked for food banks, habitat houses and homeless shelters. It's usually better for the church when the bishops don't meet and it's encouraging to know they are out in the world doing good. It was an example of "rethinking". Is this a good idea? Is it just a trend? What are we to make of it? Rethink church brings its own sense of intensity and imperative. If we don't change, the church will die. My observation is that we need to be careful what we change. We may be able to evolve but we don't do ourselves in with self-inflicted wounds.

We don't have to "rethink" church if we are able to "think" church in the first place. We don't have to develop formal occasions for church people to go out into the city to help people unless we forget what the purpose of the church is in the first place.

The purpose of the church is carried out by the members of our church who have been working to build the habitat house every weekend. The purpose of the church is carried out by the mission team that is leaving for South Dakota to work among the Native Americans, or the youth who have come back from the mission trip this past month.

When the church has to call attention to itself by rethinking itself and reminding itself that the purpose of Christian people is to serve; and not be served, there has been a problem with how people have come to see the church in the first place. Sometimes the church, like the tire on the car, goes flat. All the hot air and sealer of a fad will not repair the problem and will simply provide a temporary fix.

By the way, I had to buy a new tire. But the car will still run on rubber not tank tread. Sometimes it's best to fix what's working.

Membership Memo

from: Jo Ann Belk



New Members:

- **Don and Eileen Gaymon** joined the church Aug. 16th. Don is the owner of Home Watch Health Care and enjoys speaking, flying, and mountain activities. Eileen is a retired music educator and enjoys sports, gardening, knitting and music.
- **Dan and Kay Maust** come from Gary United Methodist in Wheaton, IL. Dan enjoys flying, hunting, fishing, and model building. Kay's interests are weaving, quilting and wearable art.
- **Phil and Kathy Shade** have returned to FUMC. They have been living in Kearney, Nebraska. They are happy to be back in Fort Collins and have been reconnecting with old friends at FUMC.
- **Russell and Laura Geisthardt** have moved to Fort Collins so Russell can attend school at CSU where he is a graduate student in Physics. Laura is working and hopes to go to graduate school in political science.
- **Rachel Roth** and her husband, Terry, have moved to Fort Collins from Los Alamos, NM. She is retired and will spend the winters in Queen Valley, AZ and spring and summers here in Fort Collins.

- **David and Kim Grubbs** and their two daughters, Morgan and Kiley are transferring their membership from FUMC in Loveland. They are living in Windsor. David is the principal at Grandview Elementary School and Kim works as an administrative assistant and advisor at CSU. David enjoys sports and outdoor activities while Kim enjoys scrap booking. Morgan is in 2nd grade and Kiley is in preschool.
- **Louise Cordsen** has been attending our church for several years. Her interests include sewing, quilting, reading and gardening.

Deaths:

- † **Janet Blandin**
- † **Mayo Larance**
- † **Betty Roberts**
- † **Vivian Ray**

*"Those who love God never meet
for the last time."
—Old Union Church of Christ
Danville, IL*



Baptisms:

- **Hayden Sinclair Block**, son of Alan and Michelle Block and grandson of Dean and Susan Block

Thank You Minisry

- ♥ A big thank your to **Bob and Phyllis Blandy**. They have faithfully come in once a month to clean and straighten pew pockets so the sanctuary is ready for Sunday morning services. They have decided to move on to

other areas but we would like to thank them for all their hard work over the past years.

- ♥ The Funeral Committee wishes to thank **ALL**



THOSE who baked and delivered cookies to the church, to replenishing our depleted supply. Your support is greatly appreciated!

WHEN DO CHILDREN WORSHIP?

By Bev Halperin

A concern that I have had for a long time is that our children rarely participate in worship - they join us for the first fifteen minutes and then they are dismissed. I believe we are raising an entire generation of children who do not worship.

WHEN do we think these children and youth will experience worship, learn to worship, and want to be a part of the church family that is worshipping together? Around age nine, we lose the window of opportunity where children appreciate adult actions. Soon after, they find more importance in following their peers than their parents. This is why involving them in worship early is important. If we want our children to appreciate worship when they become adults, we must involve them early and help them understand worship.

When we baptize a child at our church, we welcome them into our church family. I believe that for them to feel included in the family of the church, they should participate with us in

the primary purpose we have for coming together -- worship. If children develop a sense of belonging with the family of faith, they may be more likely to want to maintain and increase their relationship and identity with the church and with God through adulthood.

There is value for both children and adults in including children in worship. Adults can benefit by: having children show us what it means to become "as a little child", helping us see God through their new eyes, providing us with a vision; and reminding us that they are the future of our church. Children benefit by: beginning to understand the meanings of our worship rituals, seeing and hearing the faith of their parents, sharing communion with their parents, experiencing how worship can include everyone and that God desires praise from all of us and feeling included as a part of our church family.

After conversations with our



clergy and Children and Family Council, we are wondering what if we have "family worship" one Sunday per month -- there would be no Children's Sunday School on these days; the Youth already have this in their schedule. (There would be child care for children

through kindergarten age.) We would work to incorporate the children into worship by: having them assist the ushers, providing a children's bulletin appropriate for their age, providing suggestions for parents about worshipping with

their child, training the older children to assist with reading the scripture, leading the Call to Worship, etc.

We are very interested in your feedback on this idea! Please call or email Bev at bevhalperin@fcfumc.net or Stephanie Tomasini, Chairperson of Children and Family Council at rstomasini@msn.com or any of our pastors.

Children Sabbath

October 25th is Children's Sabbath. All children are invited to help with conducting the service. If your child would like to help with ushering, greeting, or scripture reading duties, please contact Bev Halperin at

bevhalperin@fcfumc.net or 482-2436. This is a very special service for and by children to increase the awareness of children's issues. We encourage all families of all ages to come and participate in this special day

honoring children.

The Church is measured, not by its seating capacity, but by its sending capacity."

—Rick Warren

Western Gala and Silent Auction

**Saturday, October 3rd
5:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

Join us for an evening of food, fun and entertainment for all ages. The Western Gala & Silent Auction serves two very important purposes. Last year the event raised \$14,000 to support the many ministries of our church. This year the goal is to raise even more.

The second purpose of this event is to create a multi-generational activity that is fun for everyone. It was said that last year an 8-year old girl and 80-year old woman were “competing” for the same quilted doll blanket.

We’re not sure who ended up with the item but we do know there was lots of teasing and laughter involved. Don’t miss this opportunity to create new connections with others in the church.



food and entertainment. The silent auction will have a wide range of items for bidding on. Last year there were 300 items including restaurant dining certificates, art, vacations and so much more.

If you have questions or have an item or service (e.g., snow shoveling, storytelling, handyman services, etc.) you’d like to donate to the silent auction, please call Kris Folsom at 213-2828.

Save the date and purchase your tickets early. They go on sale in the Fellowship Hall in September. Tickets for admission are \$10 per person or \$12 at the door. Children 5-13 are \$5 and under age 5 are free. The maximum charge per family is \$25. Your admission fee includes all

Rally Day!



Rally Day is September 13th.

Children and youth will be signing up for their classes in Fellowship Hall with balloons and excitement for the new year! Parents, please take a few minutes and fill out a new Sunday School registration form for each of your children;

this helps us keep our records updated. It’s also a day to welcome everyone back !

Please also sign-up to be a parent helper 1 or 2 times this Fall – this is essential for the success of our program. Join us as we kick off a new school year.

FUMC Golf Tournament Raised...

The FUMC golf tournament held on Sunday, August 16th netted \$677 to help support the Youth Mission Trip. Lee (Trevino) Myers and Tom (Out of Bounds...Again) Hartmann would like to thank all partici-

pants and contributors to the success of the outing. Bob Cuomo and his son ran the three-putt challenge which was won by Stephen King. Tournament winners got movie tickets and the “closest hole” winners won

Dairy Queen treats. We think next year’s outing will be even bigger and better! See you there!

—Tom Hartmann

\$100.00 A Day for Expanding Our Ministries

- **Olin and Beverly Blehm**...In celebration of our 56th wedding anniversary in July.
- **Wilda and Burdette Woodward**...In celebration of our 62nd wedding anniversary, August 3.
- **Donald and Betty Hutchins**...In celebration of our 63rd wedding anniversary, August 11.
- **Galen E. Frantz**...Happy Birthday from your family, August 22.

Earth News

Exciting Earth News...

Fort Collins 10th Annual **Sustainable Living Fair** will be held September 19th and 20th. You will find valuable speakers, workshops, exhibitors, food and entertainment – all related to leaving a gentler footprint on Earth Mother. Learn ways to make your home and lifestyle more eco-friendly. www.sustainablelivingassociation.org/thefair Great event for the entire family!

Celebrating Peace...

September 21st – **International Peace Day** – create a world where Peace is celebrated every day. It only takes a spark to get a candle glowing...

Why Bother Recycling? Because....

- ☞ **Every ton** of recycled paper *saves 17 forty foot Douglas Fir trees*.
- ☞ **Paper** takes up as much as **50%** of all **landfill space!**
- ☞ **Up to 90%** of recycled **glass** *can be reused* to make new glass items, such as bottles and jars.

- ☞ **Every glass bottle recycled** *saves enough energy for a 100 watt light bulb to be lit for 4 hours.*
- ☞ **Americans throw away enough aluminum** to rebuild the entire commercial airline fleet every *six months*. **Think** before tossing that soda or beer can in the trash!!! And pick them up along our roadways.
- ☞ **Recycling one** aluminum can *saves enough energy to run your TV for 3 hours.*
- ☞ **130 billion** beverage containers are *sent to US landfills each year.*

Looking for more recycling ideas:

www.eartheasy.com

Let's each do our part to make our world a more peaceful and sustainable place to live. Earth Mother will thank you for each and every thing you do. Start small...it grows on you, just like a fat



“Warm Up Larimer County”

Please donate your warm outerwear to the church for distribution to the homeless in Larimer County. We need coats, jackets, boots, mittens, gloves, scarves,

hats, etc. Collection from October 15-November 30. Collection area will be in the southwest corner of Fellowship Hall. We will try to keep a box on a table by

the kitchen. Thank you for your support.

—Louise Metzner

FUMC and the Food Bank for Larimer County

By: Heather Hallet

When a hungry family stops in at First United Methodist Church seeking food assistance, the staff directs them to the Food Bank for Larimer County. Thanks to support from congregations like ours, the food bank is able to provide nutritious food for over 11,000 client visits a month. The requests for food assistance have increased 28 percent since a year ago. September is the month we typically hold a food and cash drive to ensure the food bank can continue responding to the increase in need. Our collection this year

will be on Sunday, September 20th.

Donations support more than the distribution of non-perishable food. In a typical week they distribute 50,000 pounds of produce to clients and non-profit agencies. Funding also helps pay for transportation costs of donated products such as the 7,500 dozen eggs available recently from the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture. Last year they provided over 56,000 meals to children through Kids Cafe.

Contributions are used so efficiently that Charity Navigator

documents \$.97 of every dollar donated goes directly to hunger relief. Last year the Food Bank for Larimer County was ranked fifth out of 191 food banks in the nation for delivering the most food per persons living in poverty.

As a congregation we can be proud of our early support for the Food Bank for Larimer County and volunteer commitment this year as they celebrate their 25th anniversary.

"There is nothing that tells the truth about us as Christians so much as our prayer life."

—D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

CROP Walk

On October 4 at 1:00 pm, members of churches all over Fort Collins will come together at First Presbyterian Church on College Avenue for the annual Crop Walk. The Crop Walk is a 5K (which is approximately 3 miles) that raises money and awareness for people in over 80 countries who live in poverty. Everyone can participate including the family dog! Parents can join the walk with their children and use the event as a teaching opportunity to show kids one way we can help give support to people who are less fortunate than us. Kids are welcome to ride their bikes or ride in strollers to join the fun.



What is Crop and where does the money go? Crop stands for **C**ommunities **R**esponding to **O**vercome **P**overty. This started 61 years ago as an effort for small communities to help those in far away places. Church World Services is the organization that facilitates the walks and oversees how monies are used. Their focus is on providing educational opportunities such as teaching people to fish, grow food, build water wells, construct schools and other things that will sustain life in poverty stricken areas for years to come.

The really great thing about the Crop Walk is that some of the money raised stays right here in

our community to help those less fortunate. 25 percent of the money raised will go to the Larimer County Food Bank

In 2008, 192 walkers in the Fort Collins community raised \$15,700 with \$3921 going to the local food bank. Please consider helping the event grow even more in 2009 by walking or donating.

There will be a table in the Fellowship Hall Sundays in September. If you would like to pick up an envelope to collect donations for your walk or if you would like to connect with someone from our church who is walking to donate to their effort, please stop by. You can also call Tracey Bean at 266-0252 for more information.

Fall Biblical Studies

Sign up today by calling the church office, filling out a registration form, or calling Ray Miller (215-3933; raymil35@gmail.com). Biblical classes are:

Invitation to Romans

8 Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 P.M., beginning August 25– October 13. Gary Conner will facilitate this group. “Discover how Paul’s letter to the Romans has shaped the church for 2000 years and its meaning for today.

Jesus in the Gospels

30 Fridays, 11:00 – 1:30 P.M. with lunch, beginning September

11. Elaine Irwin will be facilitator. This study looks at the way each of the four Gospels presents Jesus and helps understand who Jesus is for us today.

Under the Tree of Life

32 Thursdays, 9:00 – 11:00 A.M., beginning September 10. Diane Smith will be facilitator. We will look at the books of Proverbs, Psalms, and other OT Writings, as well as the Gospel of John, the Letters of John and Jude and the Revelation of John. The focus is on living toward final completion of rest and reward.

Basic Bible for Beginners

is a 9 week class designed only for persons who feel they have little or no knowledge of the Bible and its message. No one with biblical knowledge will be admitted to the class. So, if you would like to learn the basics that could lead to more in-depth study, this is the class for you. Offered on Mondays beginning September 21. Two times: 10:00 – 11:15 A.M. and 6:30 – 7:45 P.M. Leader is Ray Miller. Child care will be provided if requested in advance.

What a Team!



Front: Ken Miller, Emmalie Conner, Laurie Landers Back: Ramona Miller, Glenda Gill, Bonny Thomas, Dorothy Eiman, Craig Shuler, Linda Ambrose, Leanne Jones, Len Jones, Cynthia Khoo Not in picture: Phyl Nichols, Jill Phipps, Diane Smith

All good coaches will tell you that teamwork is important to win a game. All who serve as Stephen Ministers become part of a team that helps people win life’s toughest battles. Our victory parties are great with wonderful fellowship, delicious food,

and the unconditional love of Christ. Every day you see people who are hurting: those who have lost a job, lost a loved one, gone through a divorce or are battling a terminal illness. Stephen Ministers are God’s representatives who bring His love to those who are hurting. God is waiting to make a difference in their lives through you!

and the unconditional love of Christ.

Every day you see people who are hurting: those

Nothing is too large or too small to take to our Lord in prayer. Soon our congregation’s **Stephen Ministry will begin a training class for Stephen Ministers.** Take this opportunity to pray to the Lord and seek His guidance. This may be just the ministry He has prepared for you.

For more information, contact **Emmalie Conner (970-484-1719)** or **Cynthia Khoo (970-492-9505)** today.

CHRIST IS COUNTING ON YOU. YOU CAN COUNT ON CHRIST.

United Methodist Women

KICK OFF LUNCHEON!

“The Wesley Foundation at CSU”

What do you know about the largest women’s organization in the world? Do you want to be part of a community organized for mission? Do you want to develop a creative, supportive fellowship with other women through smaller circle meetings? Do you want to have opportunities for service, fellowship and worship at larger gatherings at

the district, conference and national levels of the Women’s Division of the United Methodist Church? Do you crave learning and want to have opportunities for reading and study on your own or in groups and by participation at our Schools of Christian Mission? Then UMW is for you, a United Methodist woman!

All women 5th Grade and up are welcome! Please join us for our annual kick off luncheon on Sunday, September 20, at Noon in the Parlor. Stop by after the

10:45 service to obtain information about UMW and enjoy some wonderful eats. Hillary Parson, the Church’s College/ Young Adult and Club 56 Coordinator, will speak to us about the Wesley Foundation and the renewed Methodist focus on college age ministries. Circle TUF will greet us & Circle Hannah will host the potluck luncheon. Only current UMW members need to bring a dish to share.

Circle Meetings in September

<u>Circle</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Abigail	Tues: 8 th & 22 nd	7:00 p.m.	Parlor
Hannah	Weds: 16 th	7:00 p.m.	Conf. Room A
Kezia	Thurs: 24 th	9:30 a.m.	Thelma Mauk’s Home
Lois	Thurs: 24 th	9:30 a.m.	Parlor
Mary	Thurs: 24 th	9:30 a.m.	Dorothy Eiman’s Home
Rebekah	Thurs: 24 th	1:30 p.m.	Parlor
Sarah	Weds: 2 nd , 16 th & 30 th	9:30 a.m.	Parlor
Vashti	Tues: 22 nd	1:30 p.m.	Parlor
T.U.F. (Teen)	Sun: 13 th	4:00 p.m.	Bride’s Room

“The primary declaration of Christianity is not ‘This do’ but ‘This happened!’”

—Evelyn Underhill

Interested in joining a circle for friendship, mission, study and spiritual support?

Call Lori Ailor, 490-1194, or Bev Winsett, 484-8447, for information on each circle. They’ll help you find a match!

Quotes from the Handbell Choir

“I’ve always enjoyed team sports — the way many people do different things but in a way that leads to team success. Bell choir ringing is a musical “team sport” that requires coordination, timing, dynamics and bell manipulation to achieve a beautiful melody. And, besides, it’s fun!! But most important, it is another way to glorify and praise God.”

— Craig Schuler



“I play in the Carillon Handbell Choir at FUMC because God gave me musical talent in my hands, not in my voice!”

— Lynne KlingelSmith

Putnam Elementary – Thanks and Needs

Every year I am more and more amazed by the generosity of FUMC! Even in these tough economic times, we have provided great support to Putnam! The school district partnered us with this economically-challenged school six years ago. Church volunteers helped in classrooms, Title One Lunch Bunch, the media center, at Vision and Hearing screening, the book fair, Read-With-A-Loved One days, and the Cinco de Mayo celebration. Adult Sunday School classes and UMW have

provided grocery cards for needy families, snacks and party treats, magazine subscriptions, sports team scholarships, summer school scholarships, playground balls, classroom supplies, and money for staff encouragement. Individual donors have given box tops, Morning Fresh milk lids, Campbell's soup labels, personal needs items, and school supplies. Someone even donated a brand new bike at Christ-

mas that went to a needy student! Thank you all for the many ways you've helped Putnam. We are seeking volunteers to help with the 2009-2010 school year. Vision and Hearing Screening will take place October 22nd.

Bring Good Out of Evil..Loving as he loves, helping as he helps, giving as he gives, serving as he serves, rescuing as he rescues.

—Mother Teresa

To receive information about opportunities to help Putnam, please email ajkrech@msn.com or call Janet Krech, 225-0330.

Women of Worth (WOW)

We will start the new term on September 9 on a light note when we will complete our discussion of The Year of Living Biblically; One Man's Humble Quest to Follow the Bible as Literally as Possible by A.J. Jacobs followed by the introduction of our fall book selection.

On September 23, we will begin study of Diana Butler-Bass' A People's History of Christianity:

the Other Side of the Story told from the perspective of ordinary people and focusing on the stories handed down through the generations instead of the historical Christian institutions, this book illustrates Butler-Bass' conviction that authentic Christianity can be achieved in the practice of loving God and neighbor.

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.

Wellington UM Fellowship's First Vacation Bible School

W.U.M.F. held its FIRST-EVER vacation Bible school the week of August 3rd-7th in a barn at Clydesdale Corners (the beautiful home of Curtis and Kathy Bridges). It was a great success with 24 children and 6 youth helpers in attendance. *Discovery*

Canyon was the theme of our VBS, where the children were able to "explore the wonders of the Word!" All of the activities and Bible stories were based on the daily themes of: REJOICE, PRAY, ASK, TELL, and SEEK. Children were able to craft away

in Cavern Crafts, run, jump and play in Gully Games, sing new tunes and hear daily Bible stories in Red Rock Rhythm and Sagebrush Storytelling. It was a fun-filled week of adventure, activities, and learning!

Learning for Life

Christian Practices for Spiritual Growth

Led by Martha Jean Hodges

Beginning Tuesday, September 1 ▪ 9:30 – 11:00 am

We will explore the central spiritual practices of the Christian faith using the book *Celebration of Discipline* by Richard J. Foster. Foster explores the inward disciplines of prayer, fasting, meditation and study; the outward disciplines of simplicity, solitude, submission and service; and the corporate disciplines of confession, worship, guidance and celebration. He provides practical examples of how we can incorporate these disciplines into our lives.

Readings in Christian Literature – Part 1

Led by Eddy Hopkins

Beginning September 10 ▪ 4:30 – 5:30 pm

Join our Northern Colorado Faith Library librarian Eddy Hopkins in an exploration of the tradition of Christian literature. We'll journey chronologically through the Bible, St. Augustine and other ancient and medieval authors, and Reformation writers to arrive at contemporary Christian literature. Join us for an exciting adventure in words and the Word.

A Journey into Christian Art

Led by Gregg Dawson

Beginning Sunday, September 13 ▪ 8:00 – 9:00 am

Through their work Christian artists through the centuries strove to enrich the mind, touch the heart, and feed the soul. This is a class for anyone who wants to broaden and expand their appreciation of religious art. We'll use the text *A Journey into Christian Art* by Helen de Borchgrave.

Introduction to Centering Prayer

Led by Rosemary and David Kisling

Beginning Monday, September 14 ▪ 7:00 – 8:00 pm

Centering Prayer is sitting in silence with God and simply opening our mind and heart to God. It is a relationship with God and at the same time a disciplines practice to foster the relationship. Centering prayer is meant to enrich and complement other forms of prayer, not to exclude or replace them. Rosemary and David have been leading Centering Prayer workshops since 1997.

Drawing Closer to God: A Creativity and Journaling/Sketching Workshop

Presented by Susie Mottashed

September 19, 2009 ▪ 9 am to 3 pm

Draw closer to God by creating your own spiritual sketchbook journal. No prior sketching experience is necessary – all are welcomed. You'll improve your observation skills while nurturing your creativity. **The cost for this workshop is \$20 – pre-registration began August 16th in Fellowship Hall.**

You're Only Young Twice: Picture Books that Speak to Adults

Led by Bev Halperin

Wednesday, September 23 ▪ 7:00 – 8:30 pm

We'll look at children's books that have relevant messages for people of all ages – books that will not only engage a child, but also the child within an adult. This class is for you if you're a parent, grandparent, teacher, group leader or simply a book lover!

Coming Events and Classes – Consult the Fall 2009 Learning for Life booklet for more information

- ◆ *Speaking of Faith Study*, led by Roberta Binder, starting Thursday, October 1 from 7:00 – 8:00 pm
- ◆ *Crash Course in Methodism* led by Rev. Joel Kershaw on Sunday, October 4 from 10:45 – 11:45 am
- ◆ *Effective Leadership* led by Stacy Plemmons, starting Wednesday, October 7th from 7:00 – 8:30 pm
- ◆ *Confronting the Controversies*, led by Rev. Ray Miller, starting Thursday, October 8th from 6:30 – 8:30 pm
- ◆ *Practicing Community Within the Church: A Study of Bonhoeffer's Life Together*, led by Ross Loomis, starting Wednesday, October 14th from 7:00 – 8:30 pm
- ◆ Krista Tippett, Host of the NPR show *Speaking of Faith with Krista Tippett* and Author of *Speaking of Faith*, will speak at FUMC on Wednesday, November 11. Visit www.speakingoffaith.org to learn more about Krista.
- ◆ *Exploring the Christian Woman Getaway - An overnight retreat* facilitated by Roberta Binder on November 13-14, 2009 Pre-registration for this event starts September 13 – space is limited, so sign up early! \$99 includes meals, lodging and materials.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

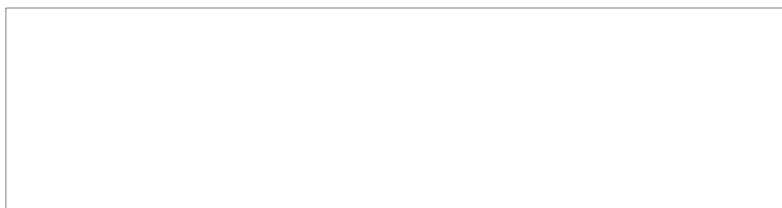
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HANDS FOR HOPE – HABITAT BUILD UPDATE

WOW! Things just keep getting better with FUMC's Hands for Hope – Habitat Build!

The actual framing of the house occurred on our Blitz Build Days, August 7 - 8. Here's what happened:

At 8 a.m. on Friday, there was a bare floor sitting on a foundation in Rigden Farms. By 3:30 p.m. that day, the wall framing was up and topped with over a dozen roof trusses. By 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, the interior wall frames were in place, and the exterior was sheathed. It looked like a house!

Everyone really had fun working on Jennifer, Jose and Ysabel's home. One of our female volunteers said, "I really liked hammering nails, but the best part was working together with others on my small team."

Jennifer Garza said her approval process to become a designated Habitat homeowner seemed so slow, but "Now, it's just amazing to see how fast everything has started moving."

The construction start has been marvelous, but framing a house is only the beginning. There are two major Saturday Build Days (actually Fun Days) each month from now until the house is complete. Professionals will be engaged to do electrical, plumbing, and HVAC work. Obvious examples of tasks yet to be done by us include: painting, floor treatment, window and door trim, cabinets, etc.

We want, we need, we plead with you to consider how many days you can commit to this project. Volunteer now and throughout the Fall to have fun on the Build site.

Here's how: register with the Habitat for Humanity organization on FUMC's web site: www.fcfumc.net. After registration, select the specific dates you want to work. For questions or assistance in registration, contact Larry Artman (266-1116, lartman@comcast.net), or Rich Fisher (221-4389, rich.fisher@comcast.net).



Love in Action

Have you heard about *Love in Action*, an exciting new outreach program being developed by the Senior Council in our church? It is designed to extend a hand to those in our church community who have a specific need or are facing a temporary crisis. Here's how it works...

A. A woman has just come home from the hospital following surgery and needs help with meal preparation the first day at home. She calls the church and asks for "Love in Action". Volunteers who have agreed to provide a meal (from time to time) are contacted.

A match is made—This is *Love in Action!*

B. A couple with young children has had an automobile accident and the father, who is badly hurt, requires surgery. The mother wants to be at the hospital with him during the surgery and she needs someone to watch her children at home. She calls the church and asks for "Love in Action". A volunteer who has agreed to sit with children is put in touch with the young mother.

A match is made—This is *Love in Action!*

C. Aging seniors have special needs from time to time. A widow calls "Love in Action" about a leaking faucet. A volunteer handyman comes to her aid. An elderly couple's lawn caretaker is ill and a volunteer youth from the church comes to mow their yard.

A match is made—This is *Love in Action!*

D. An elderly couple moved to Fort Collins to be near a daughter. Soon thereafter, the wife had a stroke and was admitted to a long term care facility following her hospitalization. The husband, distraught over his wife's condition missed his men friends back home. He just needs to chat with someone near his age. He calls the church and asks for "Love in Action". He is contacted by a Clergy, a Stephen Minister, or a volunteer—per his preference.

A match is made—This is *Love in Action!*

The Love in Action program is an attempt to match those with particular needs with others who can help meet those needs. There are several important points that make such a system promising, feasible and exciting.

- A) We all want to help in some way, but time limits our commitments. This program requests a minimal time commitment from many rather than the large commitment of a few. That is why it is a church-wide project including men, women and youth. Imagine a list of 2000 "Love in Action" volunteers!
- B) Love in Action works like a co-op. People, reluctant to ask individuals for help, will find it easier to call on an organized network. Also, people who have already helped will feel free to ask for help in return.
- C) There is a place for everyone to help in some way: whether it be shopping, transportation, telephoning or addressing correspondence.
- D) Persons needing emotional support are provided with another avenue to access the support of the clergy or a Stephen Minister.
- E) The benefits of such a program are unending: not only are immediate needs met, but fellowship within the church is enhanced. Here is a chance for everyone to be a part of a real caring community. This is *Love in Action!*

Watch for more information on "Love in Action"—You'll want to be a part of it!

