

The Messenger

August 2008

Rev Linda Pelletier, Pastor

Extra Extra...Read all about it!

Jesus Christ is Lord!!

Isn't it interesting how when we go to sporting events, we jump and shout, screaming our joy and excitement when our favorite team does something fabulous on the field? Do you have season tickets, committed to going to as many games as humanly possible, if not all of them? Some folks even travel across the country to follow their team and watch them play.

Everyone knows "the wave". You stand up when its time to do so, and it creates this cool effect where if you look around you, you see this fantastic wave going around the stadium. Wow! If you're into sports, these things are fun. And there's nothing like letting out the week's frustrations, by releasing with a scream at the top of your lungs with such enthusiasm when your favorite team makes a touchdown. Pretty cool, huh?

These are natural things for us. It's socially acceptable. Everyone is doing it. Plus, we can find others who also love our favorite team and talk for hours on end about who did what, who's the best players, etc. Come on now... Am I right? Think about it.

I bet you know where I'm going with this. After all, this is a Christian newsletter, isn't it? That it is. So tell me, why don't we shout like this for Jesus to praise Him and share the gospel with others? Why don't we leap into the air and shout "Jesus has come once and for all to clear the slate, renew us, cleanse us of our sins! God sent His only Son to us! Praise God. To Him be the glory!" Isn't this exciting news? I think so.

Why don't we do the wave in church? Why don't we stand up and shout out praises for God's miracles? Why don't we, with a filled heart, walk up to someone we don't know and say "Can you believe it? Jesus loves you no matter what. You are beautiful in His eyes, and He has something special in store for you."

So today, I dedicate this front page to Jesus Christ. Jesus is our Lord. Jesus is our Savior. Jesus is our redeemer. Jesus is the King of Kings, Lord of Lords. Jesus is the Son of God. Jesus feels every single one of us are important children of God. And Jesus loves us. The list goes on. Fill your spirit with His grace and mercy. We've got a lifetime pass. Follow Him! God bless you all, friends.

- MKW

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Do you have something you would like to share with the congregation? Have it added to the Messenger.

The FUMC Messenger is looking for submissions from the congregation to keep all of its members up to date on what's happening in our church. The deadline is the 10th of the month. Please email fumcmessenger@gmail.com

Guess what?

- Jesus loves you!
- Jesus **loves** you!
- Jesus loves **you!**
- Jesus loves you!



THANKS to Our VBS Volunteers!





The Bulletin Board



To the Lord I cry aloud, and He answers me from His holy hill. I lie down and sleep; I wake again, because the Lord sustains me. -Psalm 3:4-5



But let all who take refuge in You be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread Your protection over them, that those who love your name may rejoice in You. -Psalm 5:11

FAITH DAY AT THE ROCKIES

The Colorado Rockies are pleased to announce the line-up for the 4th Annual "Faith Day" on Sunday, August 10th at 1:05 p.m.

A five-time Grammy award winner Steven Curtis Chapman will be this year's musical guest! Chapman has been called one of the most prolific artists in Christian music history and has sold more than 10 million albums. We are looking forward to a great concert!

The special guest speaker this year will be former All-Star pitcher, Dave Dravecky. Dave will be sharing his message of hope and will be reflecting on his Christian walk. His remarkable story is both motivating and inspiring.

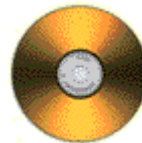
You do not want to miss this incredible event! Please sign-up in the church foyer.

Youth Group- Recycling

Our youth group recycles inkjet cartridges, laser cartridges, cell phones, and aluminum cans, to raise funds. The funds raised this year will benefit the youth mission trip to Mexico in 2008.

In addition, we are now able to recycle DVD's, Laptops, MP3 Players, Digital Cameras, Portable DVD Players, Video Game Consoles, and GPS Devices.

Don't throw it away! Please recycle. It's good for the environment, and our youth group will earn funds.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Because there are so many people in need of prayer, we would like to start a Prayer Shawl Ministry. This is a way to use creativity to reach out to people who are in need of comforting.

Shawls have come to symbolize shelter, peace, and spiritual sustenance. The creation and presentation of a prayer shawl enriches the giver as well as the recipient. The shawls become tangible evidence of prayers.

We invite anyone interested, even if you do not know how to knit or crochet. We will teach you. The meetings will be held at church.

Please Contact either:

Marcia Teachout 970-515-6959 msteachout@comcast.net

Judy Chamberlin 970-686-8958 rajcham@msn.com

Guess who has an extra special Birthday coming very soon?.....Yes, **Bernice Marcum will be celebrating her 100th Birthday on August 6th!!!** As Bernice's friends and church family, we are thrilled to help her celebrate this exciting occasion with a party at the church on Sunday, August 3rd.

Bernice has been a member of FUMC in Windsor for many years. In recent years she has not attended church as often only due to her hearing. She remains involved in UMW and keeps updated on activities and other members through her many friends. Bernice also participates in the "One Hour Ministry, Prayer Chain" as she is always concerned and caring about others.



The celebration will be from **1:30 to 3:00, Sunday, August 3rd in the Fellowship Hall.** Please come share in the fun and joy of this special occasion for a very special lady.

I'll Enter The Kingdom Of God! Or Will I?

Matthew 19:21-24

Jesus said unto him, "If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me." But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions. Then said Jesus unto his disciples, "Verily I say unto you, that a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven. And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God."

WHEW! Jesus is not talking to me because I'M CERTAINLY NOT RICH. I have always thought that I'll be right behind the camel as we go through that eye of the needle.

The only problem is I started asking myself, what is rich? I have come to the opinion that rich is a relative term. When I think of Tiger Woods, I assume he would consider Bill Gates rich. I bet the average Bronco football player making one or two million a year would consider Tiger Woods rich. And the average business owner in Windsor would consider the average Bronco player rich. And the average income employee may consider the business owner rich. It seems to me that it doesn't matter where we are in life, whether we are a professional sports figure or an hourly worker, God blesses us all. And to be blessed by God makes us all rich! God expects the same from all of us. So, if every one of us is rich, how does this passage apply?

I feel God is telling me I cannot be devoted to two gods. Money should not lead me away from God, but the use of the money God gives me should be used to lead me to God. I should never forget to share with a cheerful heart, the riches God has given me with those less fortunate. For sharing is what followers of Christ are asked to do. Sharing does not make me less rich; it just makes my life more acceptable to God.

By giving to our church through the apportionments, we share with people all over the world. **We are all rich, every one of us! Give to the United Methodist Church by putting what you can in the collection plate. Please read the passage from Matthew again and think and pray about it!**


Dale Chaney, Stewardship Committee

oops!
 From a church bulletin in Canton, Ohio:
 C: THANKS BE TO GOD!
 POSTLUDE: "A Mighty Fortress if Our God"
 Our service of worship concludes
 If? Is there any question?

God's yearly gift
 Economic times are tough, and everything keeps getting more expensive. But God thoughtfully gives all of us a free yearly trip around the sun.
 Enjoy the ride!

Lamp

In ancient times, the lamp was more than a light for darkness. It was also a symbol of learning, knowledge, wisdom and enlightenment. Today the lamp still represents those attributes, but more specifically it represents the Word of God. "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Psalm 119:105, NRSV).



Did you know Jesus loves you? Don't forget to praise Him!

Helping the brokenhearted

A retired pastor counseled younger peers to remember that in every pew sits someone dealing with a broken heart. Hasn't that been us at some point? What have we learned from our brokenness? What helps? What doesn't?

People who are hurting don't need platitudes and quick answers. In fact, it's often best not to say anything at all. The most important thing is to just be there. Sit. Listen. Hold a hand. Respond with brief expressions of understanding. When appropriate, offer assurance that God knows of the situation and cares.

After Jesus healed the paralytic, the man stood up and returned home glorifying God (Luke 5:17-26). Likewise, Christ says to the brokenhearted today, "Stand up and go into your future, glorifying God with good works for his kingdom."

Letter from Pastor Linda

Dear Friends,

I can't believe that a whole year has already passed since Gary and I started here at First United Methodist Church of Windsor. It has been an interesting, challenging, and rewarding year for us. The Trustees worked really hard on getting the parsonage updated. Several donations, lots of hard work, and a fresh coat of paint have made the parsonage a wonderful haven for Gary and me. Thank you!

People in the congregation have worked really hard at helping the church move through a difficult transition time. Gary and Roni have been missed by so many, and I know that they too have found leaving very hard. But, the ministries that have been a vital part of this church and the community of Windsor have continued, and grown as you have stepped forward to do the work.

We have gone through the demanding process of getting the Colorado State Historical Grant for the renovation of the sanctuary. It will commence on July 28, 2008 and be completed on July 30, 2010. This is a huge thing for a congregation to do in the midst of a pastoral leadership change! Well done!!

The other unexpected, yet influencing factor for the church and our community was the May 22 tornado here in Windsor and surrounding communities. It has left its mark on so many lives, homes and businesses. But, the congregation has reached out to each other and to the community helping in as many ways to help bring a new normal for us all.

Also, I was totally caught off guard when this past Sunday morning you purchased, in my name, a new Baptism bowl. I love baptisms. They are such a powerful indication of a vital faith community and the presence of God's Grace in all of our lives. I will cherish this addition to our sacramental worship. Thank you so much. Plus, Gary and I will have a Red Lobster dinner!!

Please receive our thanks for your willingness to take a chance on a middle aged couple who wanted to walk along side you in your ministry, to and for others, in the name of Jesus Christ. Blessings,

Pastor Linda

One Hour Ministry Coordinator Needed

Everyone is busy. Everyone is stressed. Lots of people are hurting—some a lot more than others. It's hard to get through some days. God promised that he would be with us. It's still hard to get through some days. He is there in the beauty of our world and the beauty of our friends and families. Did you notice the blue sky today? It's hard to see it when we're really stressed. Did you notice the smile of a friend? Sometimes we overlook those, too, because we hurt so badly. God is with us. It's hard to trust when we need to. We need to remember that God said he would be with us and that he won't leave or forget us. (Deuteronomy 31:6) God doesn't make promises that he can't keep. Since he isn't here physically, he sends each of us to minister to each other.

There are a lot of opportunities in our lives to reach out and touch the life of someone else. We get to choose where we want to spend our time and energy. One-Hour Ministry is an awesome ministry. It touches the lives of many people. It works well because there are many committed people working through it. It works really well when there is a coordinator. A coordinator will be needed beginning October 1, 2008. Please prayerfully consider coordinating this awesome ministry. Without coordination, it becomes fragmented and ineffective. It's too magnificent of a ministry to let that happen. Pray! Is God quietly asking you?

For information, call Kathy Carson, 587-2707.

Tornado Relief Need Continues

Thanks to God's blessings, and the generosity of others, our church has been able to distribute \$6,500 to members of our church family who have been impacted by the recent tornado and associated storm. In reviewing the applications it was evident to the committee that the need for assistance is enormous and will be long term. While \$6,500 may sound like a lot of money, it wasn't enough to even begin to fund the total amount of assistance that was needed.

The Tornado Relief Committee hopes to provide additional funding as the months go by and new needs are identified. Please prayerfully consider a donation to the fund to provide for future needs. **Checks should be made payable to the FUMC of Windsor. In the memo section note: Tornado Relief Fund.**

If you, or someone you know in our church, did not receive assistance in this first round and still have unmet needs, applications can still be obtained in the church office and will be processed as funds become available.

From Our Hearts to His...

On Sunday, July 13th, our 34 week Disciple One bible study came to a grand finale. We had three graduates: Nancy Teeter, Ric Weber, and Melissa Weber. The class was led by our very own Head Lay Leader, Jan Cook, who did a fabulous job. Since I was one of the students, I thought I would take the opportunity to talk about this incredible journey.

When the class first began, I really did not know what to expect. I had never read the bible all the way through before, so that was my main reason for taking the class. Little did I know the adventure in store for us. The class began towards the end of 2007. Ric and I had only been attending this church for about a year, so we didn't really know many people yet. We had given our lives to Christ and had never read the bible. We had begun working the techno multi-media for the services and I began doing the church newsletter, but otherwise were quite lost as to what was next. Where do we fit? How do we become the Christians God calls us to be? Then we saw an announcement about the Disciple class starting. We signed up right away.

This class was an amazing bible study and so much more. The commitment to study is 6 days a week (Mon thru Sat), and we met on Sundays for our class after church. The purpose of this study is to "equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ." -Eph 4:12. Wow, what a commitment! But I want to tell you this. It is worth it. If you haven't taken this course, please consider it. Think about how committed Jesus Christ is to the Father. Think about how committed Jesus Christ is to us. Now think about this. How committed are you to Jesus? The moment we invited Christ into our hearts, didn't we feel our hearts soften to His grace and love? Didn't our eyes open to see His works in a new light? Didn't we ask ourselves about our purpose; what we can do for Christ? Think about this for a moment. **You can be a disciple for Christ.** Imagine the 12. Imagine Jesus' trust in them. Imagine the faith. Duty. Commitment. Love. Prayer. Bible study. Action. Jesus Christ is counting on us. We are His hands and feet. Profound, isn't it?

DISCIPLE

 BECOMING DISCIPLES
 THROUGH BIBLE STUDY

In the beginning, God created all things, including us and He loves us, committed to us. We all fall short, but continually His arms are reaching for us, forgiving us, loving us. Can you even comprehend a love like that? I know I cannot conceive it, cannot contain it, cannot even imagine His infinite love for us. He loved us and knew us before we were ever born. It's not because of anything we've done that He loves us. It is because of who He is. Infinite grace, love beyond measure. Our Father God. Amazing!

I've learned the power of prayer. I've learned the passion in worship. I've seen blessings unfold. I've made friends. I've learned about love, felt it, given it. I've grown and I've seen others grow. I've laughed. I've cried. I've reached towards the sky and felt God's embrace. My senses have opened to God. I feel Him. I've learned what communion is really about. I've learned how to study God's word and let it soak within my soul. I've learned the bible is the living word and that it speaks to us all, to our circumstances. We are all different, yet we're all so much alike. We are all God's children. With each day, God graces us with gifts He has wrapped especially for all of us. Are we noticing these gifts? Do we see the sunrise and remember God did that? Do we hug one another and feel the love inside remembering God gave us that love as a treasure to share with one another? Do we look at our hands and ask ourselves "what does God need these hands to do today in honoring and building His kingdom"?

So, what did this disciple class mean to me? God is love. We can't earn that love. It is freely given. We were made to love Him and one another. We've all messed up at one time or another. But He wants to have a relationship with us. He'll forgive us. Pray. Ask him. Share with Him. Three in one: Father, Son, Holy Spirit: here for us, knocking on our doors to work through us, because of love. Do we see the door? It's time to open it, invite others inside, be the children He calls us to be, and worship Him with all that is within us. Think about this again. **You can be a disciple for Christ.** It won't be easy, but look at who we spend eternity with in the end. God bless you all.

-MKW (Inspired by God, for God)

If you are interested in submitting poetry and/or other writings to "From Our Hearts to His" in praise of our Loving Heavenly Father, please send it to

fumcmessenger@gmail.com

Or drop it off in the Messenger box outside the office.

Letters from Steve, soldier in Afghanistan

This is part of a note that Sandi Meier received from Steve Ford. Steve has been in Afghanistan since 2004! We have been writing to him since August 2004. That's a long, long time to be away from everything that you know and love. Please keep him and all soldiers in your prayers--both for when they are overseas and under constant stress, as well as when they return to the United States and have to reenter and adjust to life here. Steve will be retiring from the military on July 22, so he is in for BIG changes and stress. Please keep all of our soldiers in your prayers.

"Tell Kathy I do intend to come to Church one Sunday and meet me adopted family, I might wait a little bit first as I said I need to adjust some first so I don't make a fool out of myself.

I want to thank you and AL for EVERYTHING! Having the Church letters really did make time a little more bearable. I sat and laughed at some of the letter and I sat and cried over several too, yup I actually did! All I can say is you have a very special bunch of people in the church and I do look forward to meeting them." -Steve

Letter #2

To All my friends and 4H family,

I DON'T BELIEVE IT!!!! I honestly want someone to pinch me!! It IS going to happen. I AM COMING HOME!!! It has been four years and two months with my feet actually on the ground here in Afghanistan, not that I was counting or anything, and I finally am coming home. No more volunteering, no more deployments, no more sleepless nights and NO MORE MRE's (meals ready to eat) (I think I better avoid stepping on the scales for awhile lol) I have started the demobilization process and will fly out of Afghanistan on the 22nd of July after some bouncing around I should have my feet firmly back on US soil by August 6th. I am actually sitting here fighting back tears as I write this lol. For those of you who know me this isn't me remember mister tough guy lol.

I know I will be seeing several of you at the 4H shoot for State Fair this year. After that I intend to spend some time alone readjusting to life at home. This is mainly the reason I am writing, there will some adjusting for me when I get back so please bear with me. After getting my senses back I will be around to visit everyone if you would like the company. In addition to my friends I have a girl scout troop and a lovely church in Windsor that I owe a very special visit to and I will get it done.

I want to thank all of you who dropped me an E-mail or letter every now and then to let me know how you were doing. Even though I couldn't answer them every time I could read them and they ALL did my heart a world of good. PLEASE accept my profound thanks for everything! I look forward to thanking all of you in person very soon.

Sincerely, Steve Ford

Letter #3

Kathy,

Thank you soooooo much for EVERYTHING! The church went above and beyond with your letters and blessings. I truly am a very fortunate man! Coming to Windsor and going to service at your church is on my to do list. I will let Sandi know before I make the trip.

I am already starting to get the nervous stomach syndrome just watching the news on CNN. Do you realize gas was under two dollars a gallon when I left to come over here? Now it is approaching five GOOD GOLLY talk about shock! I can only imagine what it will be like to step into a Wal-Mart or Home Depot again and to see a grocery store where the fruit and meat do NOT lay open on the table with a thousand flies crawling over it. To see traffic on the highways ON PAVED ROADS and no donkey carts or camels lol. So many little things we really don't even think about until they are out of reach for awhile. Honestly I wish our children could see this and maybe even live in it for about six months, I think maybe they would not be quite so spoiled and a little more thankful to be where they are.

I was telling Sandi I will most likely spend a month or so just adjusting to what I see before going too many places to visit. I don't want to sit and stare at people and make a fool of myself lol. About all I've seen for the past four years are men dressed in manjammias and women in burkhas so seeing what I call normal attire will most likely cause me a little embarrassment lol. So many things are passing through my mind in a whirlwind of both excitement and confusion but I'm sure I will adjust quickly to life at home.

Sincerely, Steve Ford

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER FUN

Beginning October 1st, One Hour Ministry will need a new Coordinator. There are many dedicated workers within this ministry. Thanks to **Kathy Carson** for her dedication and hard work devoted to this much rewarding ministry. Please contact Kathy or the church office for details.



If you are part of a group or committee that is suspending or changing meeting times during the summer, please contact the church office with the information. If new information is not received, the dates and times that are set will remain in effect. Thank you!

Next Emmaus Gathering--

Date: Saturday, August 9, 2008

Time: 5:30PM

Where: Good Shepherd UMC

Address: 3960 E 12 Ave, Thornton, CO



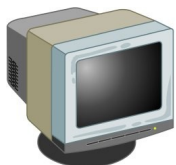
A calendar for Fundraisers and Mission Outreach projects has been created and accepted by the Leadership Council for the 2008 year. This calendar is available to everyone to view at <http://www.my.calendars.net/FUMCMO>. Included on this calendar are the fundraising events for the year as designated by the various groups within the church. Also, any mission projects requesting donations are listed. Please feel free to check it out!

Any new fundraising or outreach submissions for the 2008 year will not be placed on the calendar, or carried out unless it is approved by the Leadership Council.

Leadership council has given the approval for anyone interested to place a small ad for their business in the newsletter. The council will review all ads submitted. There will be a small monthly fee to run the ad that will help offset office and copier costs. Please contact the church office to submit your ad or for more information.

CPR pledges and gifts as of 7-22: \$115,761.00. Giving Units: 98. Please contact any CPR representative to find out how you can donate and pledge to take part in helping to restore our church.

If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. -James 1:5



The **Multi-Media Ministry** is looking for volunteers to learn how to run the computer and/or sound board for church services. Anyone who is interested, please contact **Ric Weber** at 970-301-0173.

Your Church Leaders

PastorLinda Pelletier
 Student Pastor.....Debbi Wacker
 Office Manager Krista Goddard
 Youth & Family Coord.....Lori Baker
 Leadership Council...Shelley Chaney
 SPR Chair.....Mike Rais
 Sunday School Superintendent
Joyce Johnson
 TrusteesJerry Carson
 Finance Dan VanArsdall
 Financial SecretaryBill Pratt
 Treasurer.....Elliott Ball and
 Larry Hintz
 Bookkeeper.....Marlene Bronson
 UMW Dorothy Emhovich
 Historian /Librarian..Mary Alice Lindblad
 Public RelationsSandi Meier
 Comm. Steward.....Help Needed
 One-Hour Ministry....Kathy Carson
 Head UsherBob Foster
 Head Lay LeaderJan Cook
 Vestments Arranger...Vicki Christian
 Boy Scout Rep..... Don Baker
 Nursery Dir, & Custodian.....Hilda Passaretti
 Choir DirectorAnn Pratt
 Organist..... Emma DeBey
 Pianist.....Connie Hill
 NewsletterMelissa Weber
 Leadership Council.....Shelley Chaney, Karen Savage, Pat Ferrell, Eric Freitag, Deb Covert, Phil Neville, Matt Jones, Ruben Perea

Office Hours

8:00am—3:00pm

Monday—Thursday

Messenger Articles:

Send to Melissa Weber

FUMCMessenger@gmail.com

Or drop them by the office

(electronic submissions are encouraged)

First United Methodist Church of Windsor
503 Walnut
P.O. Box 607
Windsor, CO 80550

Phone: 970.686.2368

Fax: 970.686.0769

E-mail: firstumcwindsor@yahoo.com

www.firstumcwindsor.com

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Dated material for August 2008.

Thank you for being a part of our church family.

