

# The Messenger

July 2008

Rev Linda Pelletier, Pastor

## Tornado Relief

Thanks to God's blessings, and the generosity of others, our church has been able to establish a Tornado Relief Fund for the members of our church family who have been so tragically affected by the recent storm. A committee consisting of Sandi Meier, chairman, Rob Bradley, Vicki Christian, Dorothy Simmons, and Dan Van Arsdall have been charged with establishing criteria and the application process. Currently the fund has approximately \$4,500 the committee will be managing.

At it's recent meeting the committee established the following:

**Mission:** To provide financial assistance to the church family of the First United Methodist Church of Windsor who have been impacted by the tornado that hit Windsor on May 22, 2008.

**Distribution of Funds:** Funds will be distributed as one-time grants as determined by the FUMC of Windsor Tornado Relief committee. Applications will be considered on a case-by-case, priority basis. The committee retains the right to reserve a certain amount of funding for a second application round.

**Confidentiality:** All applications will be held in strict confidence. Only Rob Bradley will have access to applicant(s) name and any identifying information. Applications reviewed by the committee will not contain identifying information.

**Eligibility:** Applicants must be active, participating and/or financially supportive members of the FUMC of Windsor church family. Anyone who has sustained a loss, out-of-pocket expenses, or has otherwise been impacted by the tornado is encouraged to apply.

**Applications:** Applications will be available in the church office beginning the week of Monday, June 23, 2008.

**Application Deadline:** All applications are due in the church office no later than Monday, July 7 at 3:00 p.m. Individuals planning to mail applications should do so early enough to reach the church by the deadline. Please submit all applications in a sealed envelope marked Tornado Relief.

**Ongoing Funding:** The committee is aware there is an immediate need for assistance but that there will be additional needs as individuals and families begin the rebuilding process. To provide for future needs on-going donations are being requested. To provide support please make checks payable to the FUMC of Windsor. In the memo section note: Tornado Relief Fund.

Please continue to keep all victims of the tornado in your daily prayers. The recovery journey will not be finished for many months to come and will undoubtedly be long and exhausting.

For further information please feel free to contact Sandi Meier at 970-686-5475, or any committee member.

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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](mailto:fumcmessenger@gmail.com)*





The  
**Bulletin Board**



**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**Sunday**

Traditional Service	9:00 a.m.
Sunday School	10:00 a.m.
Contemporary Service	11:00 a.m.

May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. -Romans 15:5-6

The body is a unit, though its made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. -1Cor 12:12

**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!

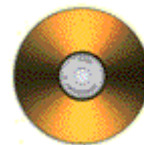
The special guest speaker this year will be former All-Star pitcher, Dave Dravecky. Dave will be sharing his message of hope and will be reflecting on his Christian walk. His remarkable story is both motivating and inspiring.

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

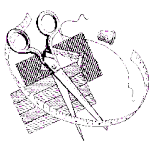
**Youth Group- Recycling**

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.



Wilma Hamilton, daughter-in-law of member Elaine Hamilton, has a mission in Fort Lupton, **Kidz Quilts**, making quilts for children all over the world who have experienced some traumatic experience. Immediately after the Windsor Tornado,

Wilma donated twenty-five quilts to be distributed by our church. Kidz Quiltz had a booth in our last mission fair and you may recognize Wilma's name from the prayer list, as she is recuperating from cancerous lung surgery. Kidz Quilts welcomes donations of yard goods, thread, or yarn. Contact her at 303-857-8600 or kidzquiltz@yahoo.com. A website is found at www.kidzquiltz.org. I'm sure she would appreciate a note of thanks!

-Jan Cook



**Ada Ashleigh Walker** arrived June 11th weighing in at 6 lb. 14 oz. and measuring 18 inches long. She is a tiny bundle of joy and doing great. Parents, Kim and Todd, and big brother August are excited for this new addition to their family. CONGRATULATIONS!!!!!!!

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.



Worship Survey Results

	9:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.		9:00 a.m. %	11:00 %
<b>Message</b>					
The Message Challenges Me to Grow	36/43	15/23		81%	65%
The Message Lacks Passion	1/43	3/23		2%	0%
The Message is Hard to Follow	1/43	2/23		2%	8%
<b>Music</b>					
The Music is Just Right	24/43	3/23		54%	13%
Music is Helpful in Worship	28/43	6/23		63%	26%
Want More Music	4/43	0/23		9%	0%
Want Less Music	2/43	2/23		4%	8%
<b>Prayers</b>					
The Prayers Are Meaningful	42/43	17/23		97%	73%
Prayers Are Too Long	0/43	2/23		0%	8%
<b>Communion</b>					
Communion is Very Meaningful	39/43	18/23		88%	78%
Communion is Too Formal	1/43	5/23		2%	21%
Communion is Not Formal Enough	3/43	0/23		6%	0%
Want Communion More Often	3/43	3/23		6%	13%
<b>Worship Service</b>					
Worship Helps Me Grow in My Faith	38/43	18/23		86%	78%
Do Not Enjoy Worship	0/43	4/23		0%	17%
<b>Offertory</b>					
Offertory is Just Right	37/43	8/23		84%	34%
Offertory is Too Formal	0/43	1/23		0%	4%
Offertory is Too Informal	0/43	3/23		0%	13%

9:00 a.m.

1 vote = approx. 2% points

11:00 a.m.

1 vote = approx. 4% points

\*\*\*See Survey Comments\*\*\*\*

On Page 6

*Thanks to you all for participating in the Worship Survey. Your opinion is valuable. After all, we are here to worship and fellowship in God's name. Thanks again for your time and efforts. God bless!*

# Letter from Pastor Linda

Dear Friends,

There are times in our lives when a single event can change us forever. The F-3 tornado that traveled 35 miles through Weld County on May 22<sup>nd</sup> has been just such an event. Now taking each day as it comes has a different meaning for many of us as a result of this event. Many of us can be counted as those changed by the unexpected embrace from complete strangers who have walked along side of us as we struggle with the full implications of a tornado destroying so much property, and bringing so much destruction to our area.

Some may say that it was God who caused the tornado to come this way. At one time natural disasters were actually labeled as "acts of God". That label has been removed, thank goodness! The events that come from our earth are the natural events of a planet which is alive, and ever changing. Granted, we as a human race have impacted our planet with pollution and a lack of care for the environment, but, earth quakes, tornados, hurricanes, cyclones, and tsunamis, floods and even fires, are for the most part, the result of the ebb and flow of our planet's cycles. So what can one do when these kind of events come to our lives?

A scripture passage that has carried folks for thousands of years during times of great trial and tribulation is from the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter of Romans, "*Who can separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ... vs.39 "nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."* (NRSV)

In other words, mighty winds, rushing waters, shaking ground, violent rains, and burning fires, though trying and overwhelming at times, will never delete, destroy, remove or overcome the love we have from God our Savior. May this love, which knows no limits, carry you through the changes natural disasters can bring to each of us, into a deeper and more profound dependence on God, who will be with you now and forever more.

*Linda Pelletier*

# Stephen Ministry Survey

Our Stephen Ministry group would like to obtain your feedback, as they are always searching to improve and provide that assistance that is so important to others. This is a ministry in sharing Christ's love and support. They are available to assist with a wide variety of needs, by being a friend in Christ in life's struggles.

Please feel free to answer the questions of this survey then place your survey in an envelope and leave in the office for a Stephen Leader to pick up. Confidentiality is important, so there's no need to put your name on it. We are looking for honest feedback to help this ministry grow for the betterment of doing Christ's work.

Thank you for taking time to do this.

**How does Stephen Ministry support the vision of our congregation?**

**What important values does our congregation have? In what ways does SM support those?**

**How is SM important to our congregation?**

**What would you like to affirm about our SM?**

**What would you like to see changed in our SM?**

**What would you like to see SM doing that it isn't already doing?**

**How would you describe our SM to a friend?**

**Would you recommend SM to a friend?**

**What questions do you have about SM?**

**Would you recommend SM to a friend?**

**What questions do you have about SM?**

If you are interested in speaking with a Stephen Minister, or know of someone in need of an SM, please contact Susan Cook, Tara Overton, or Chris Delapointe.



# From Our Hearts to His...

What is the most important thing to you today? Yesterday, I realized that it was time to upgrade my cell phone. Once it hit me, I was truly excited. I could pick out a new phone, one with a better camera built in, so that I could have both camera and phone, and not have to go buy a digital camera separately. Sounded great to me! That was important to me yesterday.

We went to the store and got a great deal, and after hours of transferring information over from one phone to another, we tiredly drag ourselves out of the store, with new phones, a smile, and a bounce in our steps. "Let's see, I'll take a picture of a tire. That's cool. Who should I call right now? Someone is sitting at home right now, definitely hoping for me to text them, right?" Yippee! The store couldn't transfer over the pictures we took on the old phones, so we went home and spent hours and hours, until after 1:00 in the morning doing this manually. My focus was on that phone 100%. Was it windy last night? I don't know. What was happening across the street or in the world? No clue. My cat even tried to get my attention by meowing at me, then laying in my lap, poking me a couple of times with his paw, then walking off. At least, I think he did. Was that my cat? Not sure.

I had fallen into the trap that we all do. You know that trap. Something grabs our attention and excites us. And for that amount of time, no matter how long it is, our eyes are focused on that thing. But tell me, friends, where should our eyes always be? What is truly the most important in our lives? Yes, you're right. Our eyes should be focused on Jesus Christ our Savior, our redeemer, our friend.

Sure, it's great and ok to get excited about things or events, but what we really need to consider are where we focus our priorities. How much effort do we put into them? Are these the right priorities? What can we do to bring God into our lives more? What should we do to make him the top priority and put our full focus upon Him?



Here are some ideas of what we can do. I implore you to create a list of your own. Devise a plan of how you are going to step out and make God your top priority today and forever. We should be thinking about how we can listen to God and change our wills so that we are seeking His. Yesterday, it was alright to get a new phone, but where I went wrong is that the phone took over all my thoughts. Here's what I could have done, and what I'll put my heart into doing. I could have prayed for people as they walked by me—pray for whatever issues they are having (we all have struggles and problems, right?) and pray that they find God, if they haven't already. I could have prayed that they draw closer to Him and make Him their top priority and discover His grace and the salvation set before them.

Think of the freedoms we have in accepting Christ into our lives! We can be intercessors and pray for strangers who pass by us, pray for people we can't even see, because they are at home or in other states or countries. God blesses us tremendously. Let us be a blessing for Him to others. Let's spread it!! Do we thank God enough? We don't have to only pray or be thankful at church or at bedtime. We can carry on a conversation with Him all day long and realize His hands in our lives with each breath we take. We are walking miracles. Our holy God makes it so. So, I ask you once again, my friends. What is important to you today? God bless you all.

*Heavenly Father, we pray to make You are top priority today and everyday, starting right now. Father, please forgive us for letting other things take over our focus. You alone are holy and worthy of our time, focus, priority and lives. We lift up our family, friends and neighbors in prayer, and seek Your will for us. May we ask for your guidance, draw closer to You, and open our eyes and ears to see Your works and hear Your voice. Thank You for loving us and creating us, giving us the chance to experience the beauty You have for us in this life and in heaven. We pray in Jesus' holy name. Amen.*

-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.*

# Worship Survey Comments

## 9:00 a.m. Service

- \*Linda's messages are great (x2)
- \*Linda could tell the story and read the significant lines
- \*A greeting time with Linda after worship
- \*Linda is doing a fantastic job
- \*I love the organ and piano together
- \*She is a blessing to the church; Linda's prayers are heartfelt
- \*Linda has a wonderful gift for God's word
- \*3 cheers for the communion songs
- \*Well done with communion
- \*Linda is very spiritual and relative to our lives
- \*I like sharing blessings before offering
- \*I don't like the hymns from the new book
- \*I enjoy the new songs
- \*I would like the tempo of the hymns more lively
- \*I like the acolytes
- \*When we sing the doxology it should be more of a praise song
- \*I would like to see some praise music in the 9:00 a.m. service (x3)
- \*The prayers are heartfelt, I like them
- \*I sometimes have a hard time hearing the pastor when she turns away
- \*I enjoy the choir
- \*The choir is wonderful
- \*Combine joys and concerns
- \*Closing more formal
- \*I enjoy service the way they are
- \*Cards in the pews to write down prayer concerns
- \*I like having the power point to follow along

## 11:00 a.m. Service

- \*Linda has more passion during the 9:00 a.m. service (x2)
- \*I would like more praise and worship songs (x5)
- \*Music is too modern and loud (x3)
- \*Linda's messages are heartfelt and passionate
- \*Service needs more of a contemporary edge
- \*I like being introduced to new music. Less praise and worship songs
- \*Miss Santa at Christmas and Easter egg hunt (x2)
- \*I feel I am not accepted
- \*Music is too loud
- \*Don't like rock and rap songs
- \*Wish we said the Lord's Prayer at service
- \*We need instruments
- \*Music is not always moving or spiritual
- \*Linda is doing a fine job both in and out of service
- \*I miss getting in a large group circle to pray and sing at the end of service
- \*The children in the front row are distracting during the sermon (x2)



### **Cross on the rock**

The rock is often used as a symbol of the Lord. The cross rising from the rock echoes many Bible verses that proclaim Christ as the rock of salvation; for example, "He alone is my rock and my salvation ..." (Psalm 62:2, NIV).

### **Our awesome God**

When our lives are focused on God, awe and wonder lead us to worship God, filling our inner being with a fullness we would never have thought possible. Awe prepares the way in us for the power of God to transform us, and this transformation of our inner attitudes can only take place when awe leads us in turn to wonder, admiration, reverence, surrender and obedience toward God.

—James Houston, *The Transforming Power of Prayer*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER FUN

The Israel/Palestine Program has been rescheduled for Friday, July 11, at 5:30 at our church. An ethnic-style potluck will begin at 5:30: please bring your favorite stew, salad, or dessert to share. A super-neat power point presentation will follow the dinner with questions and comments encouraged. Hope to see you all! Dave & Jan Cook 356-2564

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, July 12, 2008

**Time:** 5:30PM

**Where:** Laramie UMC

**Address:** 1215 Gibbon St, Laramie, WY



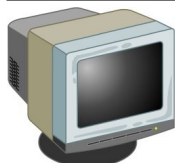
A calendar for Fundraisers and Mission Outreach projects has been created and accepted by the Leadership Council for the 2008 year. This calendar is available to everyone to view at <http://www.my.calendars.net/FUMCMO>. Included on this calendar are the fundraising events for the year as designated by 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 6-22: \$115,176.00. Giving Units: 97. Please contact any CPR representative to find out how you can donate and pledge to take part in helping to restore our church.

The Youth will have a mission trip to Harvest Farms the week of July 20-27, 2008. Any youth or adults that are interested in attending this event are asked to contact Lori Baker at 686-9316.



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

Pastor .....Linda 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  
 Trustees .....Jerry Carson  
 Finance ..... Dan VanArsdall  
 Financial Secretary .....Bill Pratt  
 Treasurer ..... Help Needed  
 Bookkeeper.....Marlene Bronson  
 UMW ..... Dorothy Emhovich  
 Historian /Librarian..Mary Alice Lindblad  
 Public Relations ..... Sandi Meier  
 Comm. Steward.....Help Needed  
 One-Hour Ministry....Kathy Carson  
 Head Usher .....Bob Foster  
 Head Lay Leader .....Jan Cook  
 Vestments Arranger... Vicki Christian  
 Boy Scout Rep..... Don Baker  
 Nursery Dir, & Custodian.....Hilda Passaretti  
 Choir Director .....Ann Pratt  
 Organist..... Emma DeBey  
 Pianist.....Connie Hill  
 Newsletter.....Melissa 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](mailto:FUMCMessenger@gmail.com)*

*Or drop them by the office*

*(electronic submissions are encouraged)*

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*Dated material for July 2008.*

Thank you for being a part of our church family.

