



United Methodist Church of Eagle Valley

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Eagle, CO 81631

**Open Hearts.
Open Minds.
Open Doors.**

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www.umcofeaglevalley.org

ReThink Church!
www.10thousanddoors.org



It was glorious having all of these folks singing in the choir! We welcome our new pianist, Fred Kessler, and our new music director, Mark Miller!



Look who's making noodles!



Some of the folks that attended worship on July 15th wrote notes or simply signed their name on the studs and of the newly constructed walls before covering. These ladies traced their hand and wrote their names. Cool huh? They evidently thought so.



The United Way participated in "Day of Caring" by sending five of their volunteers to help at the church and food pantry for a few hours. The volunteers came from Georgia, Oregon, California, and Canada.



The Church Yard Sale took place on a beautiful day in June. There was much to rummage through. Definitely some treasures for some. The church made around \$400 which went toward the renovation project!



United Methodist Church of Eagle Valley

☞ Serving Our Congregation and Community ☜

August

(1-4) Pastor's Curriculum Planning Retreat



(3) Church Peach Run
(leaving the church at 8:30)

(4) UMW *First Friday Lunch*
(Creekside Golf Course, Gypsum, noon)

(9) Women's Book Club
(Parsonage, 6:30)

(16) UMW Service Project
(Church basement, 6:30)

(23) Men's Book Club
(Youth room, 6:30)

(25) Women's Camp Trip
(Yeoman park)



Pastor's Corner

☜ Pastor Sid Spain

Many years ago when I was a pastor in south Texas, a pastor friend of mine told me about a rancher in his small town who seldom came to church. My friend recounted a meeting they had. Over a cup of coffee the rancher declared, "Preacher, I don't need to come to church. I can worship God under the live oak tree in my north pasture." The pastor replied, "Yes you can worship God under your live oak tree just as well as you can at church. You can, but you don't." I laughed the first time I heard the story, and it still makes me smile. I've used that story many times over the years in sermons and in similar situations in the community. Every preacher knows people who disdain going to church and speak eloquently of their spiritual experiences in nature.

Not that many years ago I rethought the story and realized I had moved to a different place in my own spirit. The south Texas live oak story still has its place in my repertoire of tales, but my response to my church-absent, open-air worshipping friends has changed. Instead of dismissing their pronouncement of religious experience on the mountain, at the riverside, or in the wilderness, I listen to them. "Pastor, I don't come to church much, but I experience God at the top of the ski run in Vail." I listen, and I say to them, "The mountains are breathtaking. Tell me more about what you feel when you look out over the beauty before you turn your skis downhill."

I'll never minimize the importance of being part of a sincerely seeking and worshipping community of faith. The quiet, steady discipline of going to a good church offers a bounty of benefits few if any other activities can provide. Turning our attention to God and engaging millennia of deep thoughts on the most basic and ultimate issues of being human; sharing community in the subtle embrace of signs, symbols, sounds, images and metaphors of life and faith; being part of a flawed and beautiful, diverse and multigenerational assembly of souls; freely giving some of our wealth, time and treasure, for the wellbeing of others; hearing about and choosing to be involved in acts of service for others, locally and around the world; praying in the sanctuary of our own souls and in the sanctuary of sojourners seeking to find their way forward; thanking God for the daily gifts, wonder and mystery of life. All these things give us priceless, incomparable blessings; soul-enriching, character-building, soul-inspiring, goodness-creating blessings. Where else is so much offered so routinely, so faithfully, if often mundanely—treasure held and sometimes hidden in earthen vessels.

Yet God also speaks and inspires in the sound of river running over rock, in the diamonds of sunlight sparkling off a snow-clad slope, in the wind rippling through aspens, birdsong, in the sound of a child's laughter or the laughter of friends coming through a saloon door. I understand the weariness many of our friends feel on a Sunday morning, of their need to rest and breathe the fresh air of our valley home. While I pray we increasingly become a church where all souls find rest and inspiration, I also dream of times and places where everyone is free to speak of their dreams, fears and hopes—in the safety of small chapels and cathedrals of nature.

God is everywhere, and everywhere God speaks words of welcome and love—for those who listen, for those who hear. The fleeting moments of awe we experience in nature and in the world need, however, to become times of enduring worship. Such times, because they are experiences of God and God's grace should inspire us to live as grateful servants of God for the common good. We become more fully human when we celebrate and speak easily of God's goodness in every place and all the time.

**UMC
of Eagle Valley**
(333 2nd Street)

Worship
(10:00 am - 11:00)

- **Simple Supper**
Monday
(6:00-7:00)

- **Food Pantry**

Monday (5:30 - 7:00)
Tuesday (10 - 12)
Thursday (12 - 2)



We celebrated Holy baptism of Hailey and Mikaela Gifford on June 11th.



Thoughts to Ponder

I believe with all my heart that the mystery of forgiveness is the entire Gospel.

When you “get” forgiveness, you get it. We use the phrase “falling in love.”

I think forgiveness is almost the same thing.

It is a mystery we fall into: the mystery is God.

God forgives all things for being imperfect, broken, poor.

The people who know God well, the mystics, the hermits, those who risk everything to find God, always meet a lover, not a dictator.

~~ Richard Rohr

*“May you have the eyes to see
That no visitor arrives without a gift
And no guest leaves without a blessing.”*

~~John O’Donohue

Scriptures for August

(6) Genesis 32:22-31; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21

(13) Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-33

(20) Genesis 45:1-15; Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15:21-28

(27) Exodus 1:22-2:10; Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20



Curriculum Planning Retreat

Pastor Sid will be reviewing and evaluating Confirmation and Adult Education materials and programs from Tuesday afternoon, 1 August, through Friday morning, 4 August. He will be working from his RV trailer in Yeoman Park. He can be contacted (not by phone or email) and will be able return to Eagle for any urgency or crisis. Sid will take prayer requests with him and will make time to pray for every member and family of the church during this time of retreat. Prayer requests are welcome.

Men’s Book Club

July was too busy for many of us to make time for our book club—everyone pulled in many different summer directions. Therefore, we’ve decided to try again in August to discuss J. D. Vance’s, *Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis*—one the most significant and widely acclaimed books of recent years. Some critics contend it is hard to understand what happened in last year’s presidential election and what is happening in a sadly divided nation without understanding what Vance writes about in *Elegy*. This is an important book, ready for lively discussion. We hope to meet Wednesday evening, 23 August, beginning at 6:30 in the youth room at the church.

(970)-376-1688; pastor@umcofeaglevalley.org.

Women’s Book Club

The book club meets Wednesday evening, 9 August, 6:30 at the parsonage (0211 Golden Eagle Drive). August’s book is *The Rosie Project*, by Graeme Simsion. Please bring an appetizer to share. Enjoy the book and come ready to share your thoughts. If you don’t have time to read the book, plan on coming anyway. Call Robyn Spain for more information (303) 903-8249).



The UMCOEV Annual Palisade Peach Run and lunch will be August 3rd this year. We will be carpooling and leaving the church at 8:30 am. All are invited! Bring cash to contribute for gas.



Ladies’ Annual Camping Trip

The women are camping at Yeoman Park Friday evening, 25 August. Please RSVP to Robyn Spain (303) 903-8249) and she will give you details of the trip.

Date change!



The UMW sewing kit service project assembling session has been changed. In order not to conflict with the Women’s Book Club– we will construct kits on August 16th, in the church basement, 6:30 pm.



- 8-01. Paul Deshazo
- 8-02. Jimmy Pritchard
- 8-03. Karl Reynolds
- 8-03. Jay Wallace
- 8-05. Jamie Bates
- 8-06. Jack Habiger
- 8-07. Justin Pronga
- 8-08. Gary Barker
- 8-08. Megan Habiger
- 8-08. Brandon Martinez
- 8-09. Jared Thompson
- 8-10. Phillip Reynolds
- 8-12. Kristin Sibley
- 8-15. Natalie Hartley
- 8-16. Cynthia Sibley
- 8-18. Emily Boyd
- 8-18. Mike Clark
- 8-18. Starla Quealy
- 8-21. Randy Kipp
- 8-21. John Wild
- 8-25. Mary Boyd
- 8-25. Eleno Velez
- 8-27. Fred Kessler
- 8-28. Blake Blizzard
- 8-28. Dan Emrich
- 8-28. Kathy Olson
- 8-29. Finn Hooper
- 8-30. Todd Belback

United Methodist Women



Mary Arnold stepped down from Social Director due to rehabilitation of her foot injury which is healing well. “Thanks for prayers”! Says Mary. What a tough gal that Mary. We look forward to having her back in the group.

We welcome Judy Williamson (picture) as our new Social Director!



The *First Friday Lunch* will be on Friday, August 4th, at the Creekside Golf Course, noon. The signup sheet is in the narthex at church. Mark a star* by your name if you need a ride or contact Judy Williamson (970)328-4144. Our next *Ladies Night Out* will be September 13th, 6pm. Pastatively!