



United Methodist Church of Eagle Valley

333 2nd Street
Corner of 2nd & Howard
PO Box 546
Eagle, CO 81631

Open Hearts.
Open Minds.
Open Doors.

970-328-6598

fax 970-328-0407

office@umcofeaglevalley.org

www.umcofeaglevalley.org

ReThink Church!
www.10thousanddoors.org



The past several months as the new Food Pantry Administrator/Director has been both challenging and rewarding. We

live in a generous community but also one very much in need of assistance to families and individuals. In addition to the recent success of Food Drives, we also receive donations on a regular basis from: City Market, Ridley's, Loaf N Jug, Costco and Wal-mart. More recently, the Colorado Division of Wildlife (upon my request), contacted me with a Bull Elk to contribute. By the generosity of time and labor, Ron Hagen from RJB Storage and Processing in Gypsum, we were able to receive 150 lbs. of processed and packaged elk meat. Also, as our shelves were becoming sparse, the Sweet Leaf Pioneer Dispensary employees arrived with over 150 lbs. of food and hygiene products. None of this would be possible without the commitment and hard work of the volunteers. Retrieving, ordering, distributing, stocking, etc.. is a group effort which has made the Pantry run efficiently and successful in serving the many needy families and individual in our Valley. Louise Carter has served as emotional and technical support.

I am proud and honored to be representing the Food Ministries as well as the United Methodist Church of Eagle Valley.

Linda Wasser

Snowshoe for Peru!! Saturday, Feb. 4th, Sylvan Lake, Race starts at 10am with race packet pick up beginning at 9am. Meet at the church at 8:30am and pick up at 12:30pm. RSVP by January 29th to Cynthia at youth@umcofeaglevalley.org and bring the completed attached form with you to church or to our bowling event, or scan and send to youth@umcofeaglevalley.org. No snowshoes? No problem! We will help you find snowshoes if you don't have them or can't find some to borrow. The church will cover the registration for all youth participating.

All Church Members and Friends! ** Invitation from the youth group!

Come join us for the Snowshoe for Peru to benefit at risk youth in Trujillo, Peru.

Registration form is www.cdehope.org to find the online registration and more information about the work of this organization.

\$25 registration before Wed. Feb. 1st, \$30 after that date.

Contact Cynthia at [970-376-0109](tel:970-376-0109) or youth@umcofeaglevalley.org for more information.



United Methodist Church of Eagle Valley

Serving Our Congregation and Community

Pastor's Corner

Pastor Sid Spain

February



(3) UMW First Friday Lunches (Owashi's, noon)



(4) Snowshoe for Peru (meet at church 8:30)



Happy Birthday!
(7) Ruth Lenz's 94th!

(25) Dottie McCall's 93rd!

(20) Presidents Day



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)

I look out over the congregation every Sunday and am truly blessed to see all of you. Many of you have been with the church for years, some here long before I came to Eagle over nine years ago. Others of you are newer to the family. You have found your way to the sanctuary and into our life together from many places in the Valley; we've traveled many physical, emotional, psychological and spiritual roads to find ourselves here together. In the weeks ahead we will offer opportunities for some of you to be baptized and/or formally join the church. Many more of you will decide this is the year to step up and into more committed places of service and leadership in and through the church.

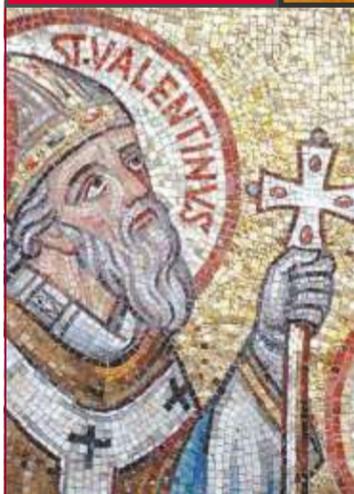
Opportunities run the gamut from our joyfully challenging children and youth ministries to helping formulate, shape, enable and share in new mission programs—finding ways to reach out to our neighbors in need, locally, regionally, and around the world. We will find new ways to meet our neighbors and invite them to join us in our faith journey—combating the forces of loneliness and woundedness, and finding our way to be healers and peacemakers in an increasingly angry and fragmenting society.

The loudest voices in our nation call us to choose sides and enter the fray against the evils of our "enemies." In response to those voices we must find ways to be part of a better conversation. With both courage and humility, we must resist the temptation to vilify those who see the world differently than we do. We will depend on the working wisdom of the Holy Spirit to enlighten and guide us to "speak the truth in love" even in the face what we perceive to be unconscionable selfishness and blind partisanship.

As most of you know I am deeply bothered by the current state and trajectory of our nation. Some of our fellow citizens appear to think truth is malleable putty to be shaped by personal opinions and prejudices. I am distressed by the tone and lack of thoughtful substance in our political conversations. We seem to find ourselves in a world of political arrested-development, characterized by adolescent and narcissistic leadership. We look for the adults in the room.

That said—we must not succumb to our basest inclinations. We must continue to love and pray for one another and for all our leaders. We pray for the light of self-awareness and clarifying conviction of sin, for the light of understanding and wisdom, and for the light of humility and compassion to break into the darkness of even the most atrophied and benighted souls. We also pray to be delivered from our own darkness and misunderstanding. We believe in Jesus, and we believe in the power of God's Spirit to change the human heart.

This article is in two parts. The first is a call for each of us to find our place in this community of God's servants in our little church in our narrow river valley. The article continues with a broader view of the world, a lament for the state of our nation and the world. The two parts are, in fact, one. The more intentionally and passionately we are faithful here in Eagle, the more God will use us for the world. The little we do, faithfully day-by-day, becomes part of the much God accomplishes in the world. It is part of the irrepressible mystery of Christ in you, me, and all the faithful—He is the hope of all goodness and glory.



Thought to Ponder—Your Life in God

Nothing is real without deriving its reality from God. This was the real discovery of St. Francis when he suddenly saw the whole **world in God's hands and wondered why God didn't drop it.**

St Augustine . . . and all the saints are saints precisely because for them the order of being was turned around and they saw, felt, and—above all—knew with their heart that outside God nothing is, nothing breathes, nothing moves, and nothing lives.

This makes me aware that the basis of all ministry rests not in the moral life but in the mystical life.

The issue is not to live as well as we can, but to let our life be one that finds its source in the Divine life.

~~Henri J. M. Nouwen

A Worship Service of Celebration in Gypsum

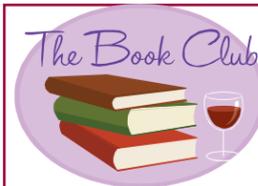
It appears the sale of the Gypsum site will be completed soon after this newsletter is printed. It has been a long **and emotional journey to this place in our church's history in Eagle Valley.** Despite the prayerful and loving efforts of some in our community through the years, we were not able to maintain a sustainable ministry in Gypsum. A handful of faithful members tried their best, but we did not attract enough new people to cover the financial and program needs of the church. We wonder what the key is to reaching the many families and individuals living in Gypsum, and we will continue to try to find ways to bring the good news to our brothers and sisters living there.

The day has come, however, for us to relinquish the keys to the building to a new generation and congregation of Christians. We do so with our prayers and our commitment to continue in ministry with our brothers and sisters of *Iglesia Apostolica De La Fe en Cristo Jesus*. We are blessed to know the building will continue to be used for worship and the work of Christ. The walls of the Gypsum sanctuary, saturated with the songs of Zion and the prayers of generations, will continue to reverberate with the joy of the redeemed who will continue to proclaim the good news of God in Christ Jesus.

Plans are being made to hold a special worship service as we make the transition. Look for more information soon, but anticipate coming together on Sunday afternoon, 26 February. In a simple service in Gypsum we will commemorate the years of ministry and honor generations of the faithful whose names and good works have touched thousands of lives, and are written in the heart and memory of God.

Scriptures for February

- (5) Isaiah 58:1-9a; 1 Corinthians 2:1-12; Matthew 5:13-20
- (12) Deuteronomy 30:15-20; 1 Corinthians 3:1-9; Matthew 5:21-27
- (19) Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18; 1 Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23
- (26) *Transfiguration Sunday* Exodus 24:12-18; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9



Women's Book Club

The women will meet on Wednesday evening, 1 March, beginning at 6:30. As before, they will meet at the Parsonage at 0211 Golden Eagle Drive in the Terrace. Those who come usually bring a small appetizer to share, but no one should stay away because they don't have the time (or inclination) to prepare something—weary after a long day at work, taking care of the family, or just feeling horsey. For this meeting, several of the ladies have decided to prepare larger, dinner-size portions of some Indian dishes, so come hungry. The book for March is *The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World* by the Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu.

Contact Robyn Spain if you have any questions, (303-903-8249).



Men's Book Club

The next meeting of the men's book club will be held Wednesday evening, 15 March, beginning at 6:30 in the youth room at the church. The group will discuss the same book the women's book club is reading for March, *The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World* by the Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu.



United
Methodist
Women

The First Friday lunch in February will be on February 3, at Owashi's, 225 Broadway in Eagle at 12:00 noon. The sign up sheet is in the narthex in the church or call Mary Arnold at 432-8454. Please put a star before your name if you need a ride. Owashi's was formerly Nozawas.



This note was left out of the January issue.

Thank you to everyone for supporting our Children's Musical! I so appreciate the show of support for our children and my sincere thanks for the amazing gifts. Sharing your children is the best gift I could receive but I do appreciate the gift certificates for a lovely dinner and a time of pampering.

Cynthia Sibley
Director of Children's Ministries



- 2/01. Ashleigh Kipp
- 2/01. Vivian Kipp
- 2/01. Amy Packer
- 2/02. Sonia Arnold
- 2/02. Marcia Keiser
- 2/03. Steve Johnson
- 2/06. John Blizzard
- 2/07. Ruth Lenz
- 2/07. George Lewis
- 2/07. Liz Lounsberry
- 2/08. Thomas Reynolds
- 2/08. Randall Reynolds
- 2/09. Guadalupe Martinez
- 2/12. Linda Carr
- 2/13. Justus Johnson
- 2/15. Rick Patriacca
- 2/16. Carrie Cosette
- 2/16. Don Gress
- 2/17. Karolyn Harper
- 2/19. Sandy Anderson
- 2/19. Ian Casey
- 2/21. Doug Crabb
- 2/21. Avarri Kuhn
- 2/21. Brent Scott
- 2/25. Dottie McCall
- 2/27. Brady Blizzard
- 2/27. Meg Hartley
- 2/28. Samantha Pritchard