

 **United Methodist Women**  
Upcoming Events for August

Friday, Aug 2<sup>nd</sup>- First Friday Luncheon, Owashi, Downtown Eagle, 1pm. (RSVP on signup sheet at church).

Wednesday, Aug 14<sup>th</sup>- School Supply, Service Project- Stuff the Bag, New Fellowship Hall, 6:30pm (Supplies are being gathered throughout the month of July and the first half of August. Please put items in basket at UMW table or a check in the donation box.)

Saturday, Aug 17<sup>th</sup>- Noodle-making II, Basement, 9am-12pm. (All are welcome to help!!)

Friday and Saturday, Aug 23<sup>rd</sup> -24<sup>th</sup>- UMW Campout, Yeoman Park . (RSVP on signup sheet at church).



It is such a blessing that local organizations participate in hosting Monday evening Simple Suppers. The Lions Club of Eagle is one of them. Thank you! There are plenty of available seats at the dinner tables. It's a community free meal for anyone to enjoy.

Women's camping trip  
2018



Noodle Making 2018



Jay Corr's way of cheering on the kids at the 4th of July bike parade.



**United Methodist Church of Eagle Valley**

☞ Serving Our Congregation and Community ☜

- August**
- (2) UMW *First Friday Luncheon*
  - (4) Kirsten McCorvey's special presentation
  - (8) Palisade trip (RSVP in fellowship hall)
  - (11) George Saunders is preaching!
  - (11) Last day to donate school supplies for UMW project.
  - (13) Women's Book Club
  - (14) UMW stuff the bags
  - (17) Noodle Making II
  - (18) Our Community Table
  - (23,24) Women's Annual Camping Trip! (RSVP in fellowship hall)

**Pastor's Corner** ☜ Pastor Sid Spain

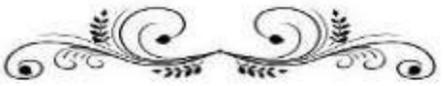
Robyn and I had an interesting dinner invitation last month. Our hosts had several reasons for their guest list. First, I trust they were looking for a pleasurable evening with friends. Second, one of the guests hoped the hosts could persuade his wife to agree to take a trip to the Holy Land. Our friends had just returned from an inspiring trip to Israel and were fueled with enthusiasm for all they had seen and done. Third, the gathering was an intentional mix of Christian traditions. Our host was, in his own words, a "cradle Catholic." The other guests were active members of a local "evangelical" church. Then, of course, there was Robyn and me, "mainline" Methodist. We were all Christians, but there were some pretty significant differences in our theological and institutional lenses.

The evening was a great success in every way. We had a wonderful time. The meal was delicious. The conversation was lively, unfailingly courteous, and thoroughly enjoyable. I don't know if our friend's wife was completely convinced a trip to Israel was a great idea, but she seemed reconciled to making the journey with her enthusiastic husband.

The third hope for the mix of personalities at dinner was also successfully realized. There was no attempt to gloss over our faith differences, but we all quickly realized what we held in common was much more important than anything that would divide us. As should be expected, there was a Presence of unifying energy or harmony in the home we all just naturally welcomed—call it the Holy Spirit, or Christ, or the presence of God.

A moment ago I wrote, "*As should be expected,*" because the unity of those who follow Christ *should* be expected. Read the Bible. Yet much of the history of the Church would lead us to expect less than harmony when people from different Christian communities come together. A brief summary of the historical relationship between Catholics and Protestants in England characterizes much of what history records about how we get along—or not. We don't need to look at England. Pick up any map and read any history of religions in any country in any century. It is enough to make God weep.

I was at another party last month and shared a conversation with a new neighbor. We talked about our international travels, and about all the fine people we met in other countries on other continents. We paused for a moment and looked at each other in silence. It turned out we had the same sobering thought. *How can it be that we can have such a wonderful time when we are with people around the world, and our countries can't get along politically? How can it be that many of our communities, filled with wonderful people, are so violently divided?* There is so much strife and hatefulness in the world, and in regions of our country. *Why?*



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

**Worship**  
(10:00 am - 11:00)  
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- **Simple Supper**  
Monday (6:00-7:00)
- **Food Pantry**  
Monday (5:30 - 7:00)  
Tuesday (10 - 12)  
Thursday (12 - 2)



Pastor's Corner

Many of us could write treatises or make long lists about why we don't get along—but there is a fundamental insanity about the degree of our disagreements and the ways we act them out. *Insane!* I don't mean to sound naïve. I have studied enough theology, philosophy, psychology, and history to offer conventional diagnoses of humanity's brokenness—call it *sin* if you wish—but the fact and the feeling remain, increasingly shouting from the depths of my soul: *We can stop it; if not around the globe, we can stop it where we are standing. We can love our neighbor. We can respect, even treasure our differences; we can exult in our diversity. We can do it where we are, day by day, one small, kind bit at a time. Especially in Christ, we can choose to love.* Who knows how much love we can leaven into the loaf of our common humanity, and how far down the street the Spirit will carry the bread of grace?

Special Appearances in the Pulpit

We look forward to two special speakers during the first weeks of August. **Kirsten McCorvey** will share her personal testimony during worship on Sunday, 4 August. Hopefully, Kirsten will be the first of many in the congregation to share important moments of their spiritual journey with us during the coming months. Kirsten's story is moving and inspiring, and you will want to be there to hear her speak.

**George Saunders** will preach for us the following Sunday, 11 August. George is a retired American Baptist pastor who served a great variety of congregations around the country. Many of you will recognize him with violin in hand. He has been a lively member of the choir several times, already bringing his gifts and personal warmth to ministry in our church.

Pastor Sid will be in worship both Sundays, serving communion on the 4<sup>th</sup>. He will be in Albuquerque the week between the services, grateful to both Kirsten and George for allowing him to focus his attention on his Living School studies. These will be two special Sundays for our community. Be there and invite a neighbor to join you.

Scriptures for August

- (4) Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14, 2:18-23; Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21
- (11) Genesis 15:1-6; Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16; Luke 12:32-40
- (18) Jeremiah 23:23-29; Hebrews 11:29-12:2; Luke 12:49-56
- (25) Isaiah 58:9b-14; Hebrews 12:18-29; Luke 13:10-17

Thoughts to Ponder

*Mere words have something of quicksand about them.  
Only experience is the rope that is thrown to us.*  
~~Georges Bataille

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*Remember, it is only transformed people who have the power to transform others, as if by osmosis. Usually you can lead others only as far as you yourself have gone.  
Too often we try to push, intimidate, threaten, cajole, and manipulate others. It seldom works, because **that is not the way the soul works.***

*In the presence of whole people, or any encounter with Holiness Itself, we simply find that, after a while, we are different—and much better! Then we wonder how we got there. If we are spiritually smart, we will look for Someone Else to thank.*

~~Richard Rohr

*The Naked Now: Learning to See as the Mystics See*

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*And the Word became flesh.*

~~John 1:14



Center for Action and Contemplation

Pastor Sid returns to Albuquerque the second week of August for a week with the *Living School*. The week marks the midpoint in his two-year study with Richard Rohr and the staff at the Center for Action and Contemplation. If you think of it, send a prayer his way while he is in New Mexico. See adjacent article for plans for worship on the two Sundays bookending Sid's week away.



Women's Book Club

This month's book club meets on Tuesday evening, August 13, 6:30 at Robyn Spain's home, 543 McIntire in Eagle. August's book is *Mr. and Mrs. American Pie*, by Juliet McDaniel. All women are welcome to join the group whether or not they have read or finished the book. If you wish, please bring a small snack to share.



Farewell

It has been a summer of farewells for the church. This month we say God-speed to two more families who have been integral to the life of the church for years. Todd, Stacey, and Moria Horn have made lasting impressions on the community. Todd worked tirelessly as chair of Trustees for several years, and was the contractor for the dramatic redesign of the main floor fellowship hall. We enjoy the fruits of his labor every time we gather for refreshments after worship, and the open, inviting space has become an important gathering place for many groups from and beyond our fellowship. Stacey has been one of Pastor Sid's confidantes through the years, and a trusted mental health professional in the community. Moria will be missed for many reasons, not the least for her unreserved spontaneity during Early Word.

Farewell and blessings to the Horn family as they move to Nashville!

The Farmers, Josh, Tonya, Kalista, Scotland, and Liberty, have been part of the church family for so many years it is hard to imagine our Eagle Valley church without them. Long before Pastor Sid arrived in 2007, Josh and Tonya had been devoted members of the fellowship, serving on various boards, teaching classes, and supporting countless projects, events, and activities ranging from Vacation Bible School to Eagle and Gypsum parades like Christmas on Broadway. There is no way to list all the ways they have served the Lord and our community through their many years in the Valley. We have seen Kalista, Scotland, and Liberty grow up—each of them bringing his and her strong personality and gifted participation to activity after activity. Kalista just graduated from Eagle Valley High School, and in 2018 represented our church at Annual Conference in Salt Lake City. Scotland and Liberty are just beginning to make their marks in Eagle and Gypsum through church and community involvement. We know they, and the rest of the family, will bless their new homes. No family has covered more ground in their service to our church and community than the Farmers, and we will miss them.

Farewell and blessings to the Farmer family as they move to Maine!

- 8-02. Jimmy Pritchard
- 8-03. Karl Reynolds
- 8-03. Jay Wallace
- 8-05. Jamie Bates
- 8-07. Justin Pronga
- 8-08. Gary Barker
- 8-10. Phillip Reynolds
- 8-11. Brenda Posey
- 8-12. Kristin Sibley
- 8-16. Cynthia Sibley
- 8-18. Melanie Baldwin
- 8-18. Mike Clark
- 8-18. Starla Quealy
- 8-21. John Wild
- 8-23. Anna Policastri
- 8-25. Eleno Velez
- 8-28. Dan Emrich
- 8-28. Kathy Olson
- 8-29. Kelly Liken
- 8-29. Finn Hooper
- 8-30. Todd Belback
- 8-31. Jake Shirk

