

OCTOBER 2024



First Church Communicator

Monthly Newsletter of Castle Rock First United Methodist Church

JOHN REDMON RETURNS

October 13 as our guest musician. Redmon is one of Colorado's premiere inspirational artists. His original hymns as well as his contemporary Christian and Gospel music never fail to inspire and entertain.

Knot Again Update

Knot Again has a new meeting time: third Thursdays of the month (except this month October). Join us on October 10th and November 21st as we tie knots on the quilted bedding for unhoused individuals in the Denver Metro area.

TIME AND TALENT

Under the leadership of Mike Vitek and his dedicated auction team, the annual Time and Talent Auction & Luncheon promises a special blending fellowship and fundraising. This is our Church's annual fundraiser for: our youth's mission trip; Trustees to purchase equipment for the Church; and the Mission Team to assist local mission(s). Our goal this year is to raise at least \$10,000.

On Sunday, **October 20th, after our 10:45 a.m.** worship service we'll gather in Fellowship Hall for a delicious lunch, prepared by our Youth. Following lunch, with auctioneers Josh Hay and Pat Jones, assisted by Kay Jones at the helm, we'll have the opportunity to purchase items graciously donated by our Church family.

Typically, auction items include opportunities to purchase a amazing dining experiences, homemade breads and jellies, hand-crafted and artistic products as well as offerings of time to assist with gardening or home projects. If you have not turned in your Time and Talent donation, please do so no later than **October 17**. Blue pledge forms are available at the Welcome Desk and can be placed in the offering plate or returned to the Church office.

TRICK OR TREAT

OCTOBER 29TH
6 P.M.

IN THE PARKING LOT

SIGN UP YOUR CAR OR BRING
LOTS OF CANDY FOR US TO
SHARE WITH THE
COMMUNITY.



FLYING W DINNER & SHOW



On September 8, 51 FUMCCR friends traveled to Colorado Springs for a chuck wagon barbecue dinner and evening of Entertainment at the Flying W Ranch.

Before the tasty dinner of brisket, chicken, baked potato, and trail beans, folks had the opportunity to stroll around the ranch and view the spectacular red rock formations, watch the Sweetwater Plains Dancers, take a train ride, and explore the ranch, its animals and handlers. Following dinner, we were spellbound by the Flying W Wranglers – the second oldest Western performance Band in the world – delighted us with their three-part harmonies, talented instrumentation, and clean bunkhouse humor. The mountain landscape and cattle ranching videos that played on the large screen behind them truly brought this rustic way of life to our hearts.

Fall Color Tour

On a beautiful fall day, eleven of us took the church bus to Georgetown to tour over Guanella Pass. The Aspens were at peak! Pastor Matt picked the perfect spot to park for picture taking. Then it was over to Bailey for an enjoyable lunch. God blessed us with great weather, wonderful fellowship and the beauty of His creation!



Stephen Ministry

How and why, I became a Stephen Minister by Clarence Neal

Several years ago, I took a course on finding your spiritual gifts offered by Ann and Paul Maul. We took the course as part of our small group meeting. My spiritual gift was serving others. Since I did not want to become a missionary, I chose to fish in my own pond and become a Stephen minister.

I had been asked to become a Stephen minister several times and finally after much prayer I decided to become a Stephen Minister. That was the best decision I ever made. I enjoy helping others and I enjoy the camaraderie of the others in the group.

Our bi-monthly meetings consist of prayer, continuing education, devotion, and supervision. We learn in the training sessions to maintain confidentiality for our care receivers. Whatever is said during the care giver/care receiver sessions is held in strict confidence. No one knows who has who as a care receiver.

If you have been in prayer about joining the Stephen ministers' group, you are in luck. Starting this fall we will be starting a new training session. You can find out more about this by contacting any of the Stephen ministers (identified by their blue name tag), Pastor Matt, Rev. Sara, or our coordinator Cheryl Smith.

WINDING DOWN THE SESQUICENTENNIAL

A few more projects remain on the Steering Committee's agenda as we wind down the celebration of 150 years of Methodism in Castle Rock:

- Sesquicentennial Stars are available at a table in the Narthex to decorate in preparation for sharing with others during Advent and Christmas.
- Kari Sorah and her team are collecting recipes for a commemorative cookbook to be published after Christmas. Recipe submissions are due December 1.
- Photos are needed as we move toward a 2024 picture book review of the Sesquicentennial.

We are looking for photos of every event January - December from the celebration of musicians, through Lent & Easter, Help & Hope Collections, Youth Events, and all summer, fall, and Advent events.

Please contact Julie Bailey for details on how to share your photos for the booklet that Louise Molieri has graciously offered to assemble.

There will also be a slide show version of this commemorative book.

Cookie Walk

Bakers and buyers are needed for the UWF Annual Cookie Walk to be held on Sunday, December 8 before and between the worship services in Fellowship Hall. Cookies, brownies and special treats will be available.



Memorial and Community Garden Blessings

On September 22nd we said a blessing over our Community Garden located on the West portion of the Church property as well as our Memorial Garden which is the newly curated space to the north side of the building.

If you have questions about these spaces please connect with Theresa Kepple



QUILT OPEN HOUSE

The Quilt Open House held on September 15 provided an opportunity for quilt lovers in the Castle Rock community to review the many lovely quilts on display for our Sesquicentennial Worship Celebration. Contemporary and heirloom quilts delighted all who came to the open house.



Year to Date: August 2024

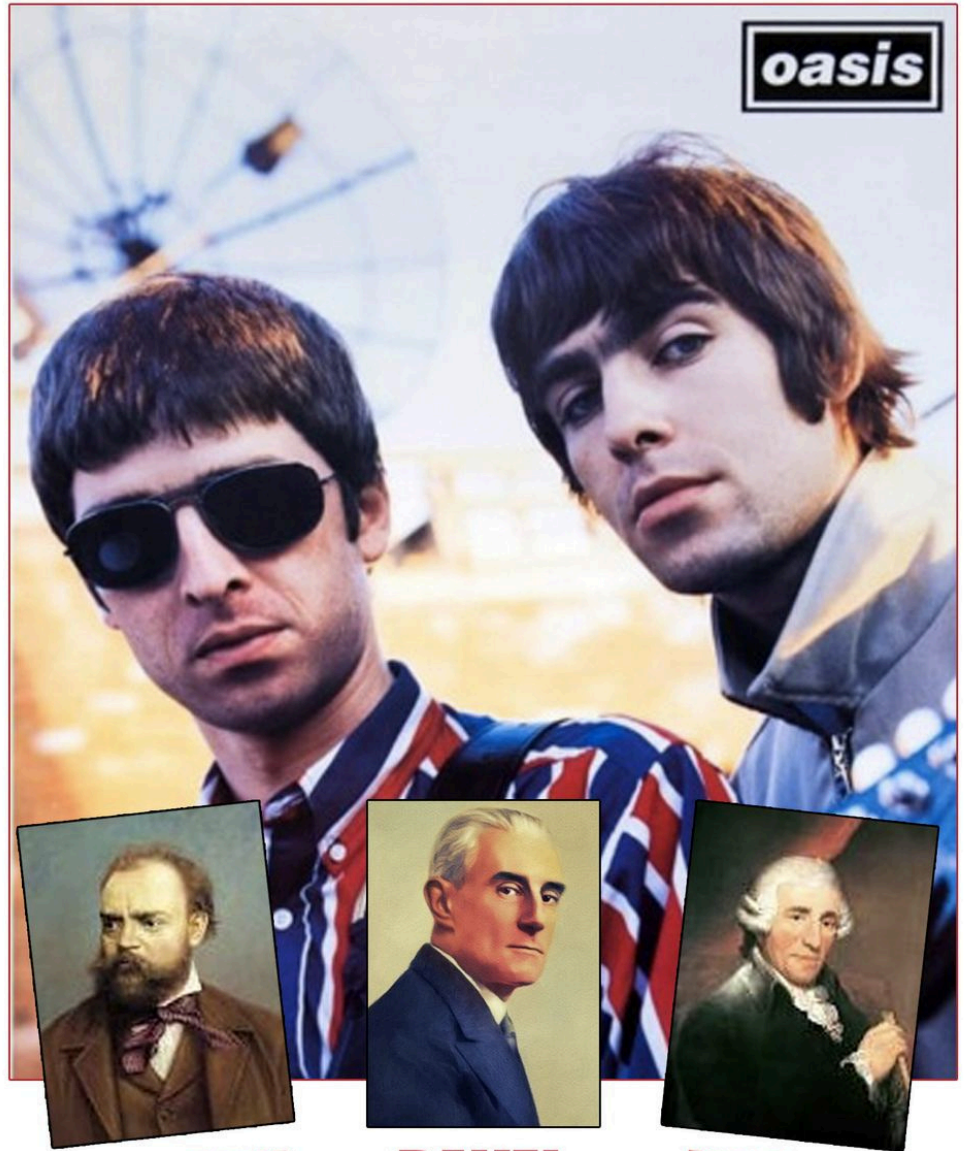
	\$
Revenues	59,862
Expenses	
	\$
Personnel	43,678
Conf Apportionment	6,929
Trustees	15,696
Church Office	2,825
All Other	812
	\$
Total Expenses	69,940
Net Total	\$ (10,078)

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MET ON AND APPROVED CHANGES IN THE NOMINATIONS REPORT AND THE FUNDRAISING POLICY AND PROCEDURE FOR OUR CHURCH.

The Castle Rock Orchestra Presents

The Best Of The 90s

with
The JV3



DVORJAK

RAVEL

HAYDN

**First United Methodist
Church of Castle Rock
1200 South Street, Castle Rock**

**3pm Sunday
October 27, 2024**

www.castlerockorchestra.org

**Bishops Installation service
October 13th - 2 pm at First
UMC, Colorado Springs, CO
Pastor Matt will drive the
Church bus down for those
who want to attend. Sign Up
Sheet at the Welcome Desk**

Election Conversation

Ever had a question about how Elections work in Colorado and wish you could hear directly from someone that knows the job? Stop by the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, October 6 between services to hear from Jack Twite Jr, our FUMCCR Member and Douglas County's elections director about how elections and voter registration works in our State and get your questions answered!

Jack has administered over 12 elections and is both a nationally and the State of Colorado certified election official. Jack will share how voter registration rolls are maintained, how the county makes sure that only eligible voters get ballots and more so stop on by and bring your curiosity.

King Soopers/Safeway Gift Cards:

Many of our church ministries and projects have been funded by monies returned from grocery purchases. If you would like to purchase a card or refill an old one, please contact Theresa Kepple. 5% from each purchase is given back to the church.

An Invitation to The Closing.

Inmates are introduced to KAIROS through a four day weekend experience. Over the four days they listen to a series of talks and engage in discussion with five other participants in 'family' groups of six. At the end of the four days, early Sunday afternoon, we gather the families for a final time to end the weekend. The participants meet in the chapel and wait while we tell them we are waiting for the warden or somebody important. But when the doors to the chapel open, an anonymous group of Christians they have never met before arrive to welcome them into the church. With 36 participants, it is awesome if the Christians they have never met outnumber them! We introduce these guests as a group and let the participants know this is a sample of the church that prays for them, is a link on the prayer chain, and welcomes them in the Love of Christ. The participants then get up by family and individually to talk about their weekend experience

If you are able to join this anonymous group, you can register to attend by filling out a couple of forms required by the Department of Corrections. The closing will be held on Sunday, October 27th, likely around 1:30 or 2:00. On my trips to Buena Vista I generally plan on a two and a half hour drive. The drive itself is very beautiful, but it is long. I would suggest that four people travelling in the same vehicle would allow for some great conversation.

To register your carload or just learn more about the ministry, reach out to me by e-mail at john316tamborski@gmail.com

From Rev. Sarah

Psalm 46:10

Be still, and know that I am God!
I am exalted among the nations,
I am exalted in the earth.

The Lord of hosts is with us...

In this coming month of October, find a place where you can quiet the mind and spirit. Take this time to hear the words of Gods and the plans that have been made by the One who created you for your life. To deliberately go slower, to pause isn't a luxury; it is a necessity for our soul. It is a time to recognize how the spirit moves in our lives.

In this stillness find a way to let go of those things you have been holding on to so tightly. Let go of all that is making noise and causing confusion. Let go of the control and let God.

Be open to opportunity sent your direction to use all your gifts and graces. As you are shown the needs of others, take comfort and know that you will be shown how to meet those needs.

It is easy to be fearful when things are not going your way. When events of the world around us make no sense, when we are faced with challenges and conflicts, take a moment to remember who is by your side, today and always.

As fall colors begin to unfold around us, calling to us to take in the beauty of creation, be intentional about making space for God. In this space and time of letting go, we can celebrate the love and compassion of God. Be ready to take up the joy that awaits you.

REV. SARAH'S FALL CONTEMPORARY ISSUES STUDY GROUPS

**THE BOOK: 11:
INDISPENSABLE RELATIONSHIPS YOU CAN'T BE WITHOUT
BY DR. LEONARD SWEET**

IN PERSON SESSIONS, MONDAYS SEPTEMBER 30 2024 TO NOVEMBER 11,
2024; 6:30PM TO 8:30

ZOOM SESSIONS, FRIDAYS OCTOBER 4, 2024 TO NOVEMBER 15, 2024;
6:30PM TO 8:30PM

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

THE BOOK OF JOSHUA ON TUESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 3 AT 9:30 AM IN THE CHURCH
LIBRARY.

NEW PARTICIPANTS AND DROP-INS ARE
ALWAYS WELCOME.

WE READ FROM VARIOUS TRANSLATIONS
OF OUR OWN BIBLES TO EXPLORE THEMES
AND IDEAS.

Be a Very Important Point Person!

Following the fun evening of fellowship
at the Flying W, complete with a hearty
chuckwagon barbecue dinner and
cowboy music, folks are already
looking forward to more social events
as fall approaches and Advent season
appears on the horizon. What would
you like to do as a group?
Where would you like to go in a group
as few as 5-6 or as large as 20 or
more? Please share your ideas with
Pastor Matt and let's get that outing
on the calendar.

CHOIRS RETURN

Chancel Choir will resume rehearsals
at 5:30 pm on August 28. The summer
pop-up choir worked out so well, we
hope some will consider joining.
Bell Choir resumes their fall rehearsals
on the same day, meeting between 4
and 5 pm.
Check with Nancy Docksey (303-877-
9085)
if you have questions.

Women's Christmas

Christmas is a season where joy is
obvious but also sometimes hard to
claim because of all the busyness of
the season.

Thus, you'll want to save the date –
Saturday, November 30 – for our
second annual Women's Christmas
retreat. This year's retreat, *Wise
Women Curious About Joy*, will offer
women a time to have a little peace,
to rethink, and to claim our own
needs at the beginning of the holiday
season.

The concept of Women's Christmas
was created by Jan Richardson, a
Christian writer, artist, author of
Sanctuary of Women, and retreat
leader. She bases her retreats on the
Irish custom of celebrating Epiphany
(January 6, which brings the
Christmas season to a close) as
Women's Christmas, a day when the
women, who often carried the
domestic responsibilities all year,
took Epiphany as an occasion to
celebrate together at the end of the
holidays, leaving hearth and home to
the men for a few hours.

Retreat co-chairs Brenda Lear and
Julie Bailey will provide activities,
poems, scriptures and prayers to
empower us on our journey through
the upcoming holidays as we
embrace joy and seek ways of
sharing joy with others.



**Do unto
others as you
would have them
do unto you.
- JESUS**

In a world divided by politics and ideologies, scripture calls us to come together, not to change each other, but to discover the beauty that emerges when we work for the common good. In this "purple space," we cultivate kindness, compassion, humility, respect, and love for all. Let's come together to make the world a better place.

Dr. McFee has put together a good journal for you to work through during this next month you can find it on the website: www.fumccr.org/worship-bulletins or we have printed copies located underneath the TV in the Narthex.

Also included a 30 acts of Kindness in this newsletter and the journal.

Join us Sunday mornings (9 a.m. for Modern Worship and 10:45 a.m. for Traditional Worship) at Castle Rock First United Methodist Church as we live into our mission of sharing God's light and love with our community.

See you Sunday
Pastor Matt Franks

Also don't forget on October 20th we will have One worship at 10:45 a.m. for Time and Talent Sunday.

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Acts of Kindness in Thirty Days



Let's spread kindness throughout our communities!

We challenge you to complete at least one act of kindness each day for the next 30 days. We've gotten you started with our list of small ways you can positively impact those around you. Feel free to be creative and come up with your own acts of kindness!

Kindness is a ripple effect – encourage others to join the challenge by sharing your acts on social media!

- List 30 people and pray for one each day.
- Take a walk in your neighborhood and pray for each house.
- Leave the largest tip you can afford for a kind server.
- Write a letter to someone who has made a difference in your life.
- Chalk a sidewalk with uplifting messages.
- Send encouraging text messages to 5 people.
- Write cards for a local hospital.
- Pay for the person behind you at a drive-thru.
- Donate seasonal clothes to a clothing pantry.
- Compliment the first 3 people you talk with today.
- Reconnect with someone you haven't spoken with in a while.
- Donate towels, blankets and toys to an animal shelter.
- Surprise a neighbor or friend with freshly baked treats.
- Give parents a night out by offering to babysit for free.
- Give a thank-you treat to your mail, delivery and sanitation employees.
- Donate new socks and underwear to a local shelter.
- Post an encouraging sticky note message on a mirror or door.
- Host a clean-up party at a nearby park.
- Donate books to your local library or a book drive.
- Send a 'Thank You' card to your local police or fire station.
- Leave your server an encouraging note on their receipt.
- Post a positive and encouraging message on social media.
- Help your neighbor with their yard work.
- Donate packages of diapers and wipes to a local agency supporting families.
- Pause to hold the door open for someone behind you.
- Surprise someone with flowers.
- Participate in a blood drive.
- Donate food to a local food pantry.
- Write a positive review online for a local business.
- Pray for government leaders and send a note thanking them for their public service

