



**First Church Communicator**  
**May 2024 Newsletter**  
Church Address: 1200 South Street  
Castle Rock, Co 80104  
Office Phone 303-688-3047  
Office Email: [office@fumccr.org](mailto:office@fumccr.org)  
website: [www.fumccr.org](http://www.fumccr.org)  
Scan the qr code for all of our social media presence

# Outdoor Chapel Begins May 26th

Outdoor at 8:30 a.m. | Modern Indoor at 10 a.m.



## MOTHER'S DAY FOOD DRIVE

With Mother's Day just 2 weeks away, it's time to be thinking of our Mother's Day Food Drive. Food donations are being accepted now through Sunday, May 12th to support the food pantry at the Help and Hope Center. Our focus this month is for the items needed for mothers and babies. These include:

1. diapers—sizes 3,4,5
2. jam/jelly
3. laundry pods
4. canned whole or diced tomatoes
5. cereal

Other nonperishable food items are always welcome as well.

This is an opportunity for our church family to help in meeting the needs of our community.

## HONORING OUR GRADUATES.

On May 19 we'll be honoring the young people graduating from high school, college, or trade schools, but we need your help in preparing for this. If you have a son or daughter or grandchild you wish to honor, please send the image and basic information to Josh Hay [josh.hay@gmail.com](mailto:josh.hay@gmail.com)

Along with the photo, we'll need:

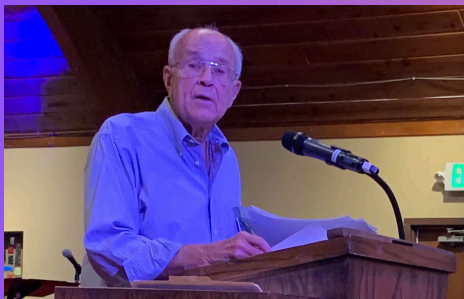
- full name,
- graduating from xxxxx
- attending xxxxxx
- studying xxxxxx
- related to xxxxxxx

**SCAN THE QR CODE TO CONNECT WITH US**





# HISTORY NIGHT IN PICTURES



# History Night

What a fabulous turnout for History Night on April 17. Our three speakers presented various aspects of state and local history. Joe Gschendnter spoke of land formations, the westward movement, the various industries vital to the development of our town, and key historical figures. Laurie Marr Wasmund provided stories of her family's connection to our church, and Laryce Nitsch brought the evening to a close with an update of how vital our church has been in the past 50 years. If you missed attending History Night, you will find it on our YouTube Channel using this link: <https://bit.ly/44jjDJ8>  
The actual program begins one minute in.

## Little Library Refreshing

On May 1 we'll be pulling a few books from the Little Library shelves, adding a few new ones, and leaving spaces for you to add your favorite book. Historical fiction is always popular and informative to read. If you have a book set in the late 19th Century, especially in the American West, and are willing to part with it, please add it to our Little Library. Books that offer a glimpse of life in the American West when Colorado was being settled will bring our Sesquicentennial Celebration home to your heart.

## Teeshirt Orders: Did you miss out?

Please contact Joyce Morales-Caramella ([joycemorales@aol.com](mailto:joycemorales@aol.com)) to place an order or purchase one she has available. These shirts will be an asset as we meet the public during the June 22 service project for Help and Hope and for distributing water bottles during the Fair Parade in July

## Pastor Matt United Women In Faith Presentation

Leah and Love Circle will share a potluck lunch in Fellowship Hall on Thursday, May 9 beginning at 11:45. The program will feature Pastor Matt who will share his heritage journey.

You need not be a regular UWF Circle person to attend. Guests are always welcome and need not bring a dish to share. Please let MaryAlice McHugh know if you will be attending ([maryalice3150@yahoo.com](mailto:maryalice3150@yahoo.com)).

## Backpack Ministry

Thank you Church for your generous support of our Mission Encounter – Douglas County Sheriff's Detention Center Backpack Ministry. Nearly all the cards for supplies and cash were picked up on Sunday, April 24th and most of the supplies and cash have already been received. Your support of our Backpack Ministry provides 48 backpacks (36 for men and 12 for women) for indigent people being released from the Detention Center.

We fill them with a wide variety of personal items, such as a toothbrush, toothpaste, razor, shaving cream, socks, shampoo, deodorant, washcloth, towel, wallet, and a \$50.00 King Sooper Gift Card. We also include a New Testament and other devotional material to help these men and women get their life on track with God's help.

Please join us on Sunday, May 12th, to participate in the dedication of the backpacks.

## UMCOR Disaster Relief

Join in prayer for those affected by severe storms in Nebraska, Iowa, Oklahoma, and beyond. UMCOR will provide updates to impacted annual conferences. If you want to donate to UMCOR connect with the Church office to do that.

## **Save-the-Date**

**Saturday, June 22**

For our all-Church Food Drive for Help and Hope. There will be a sign-up sheet and information for volunteers to help collect food at 3 different King Soopers locations from 9 am to 3 pm in 2-hour shifts. Sign up with a friend, dress comfortably, bring a couple of lawn chairs and your most welcoming smile. More complete details will appear in the June newsletters.

### **Contact person**

Phyllis Tumey (ptumey43@gmail.com)

She will graciously answer any questions you may have.

## **Learn About some Missionary Support Encounters**

### **The Blackfeet United Methodist Parish (BUMP)**

The mission focuses on serving the Blackfeet Indian Reservation in Montana, with a United Methodist Church presence since 1882. Members reflect the cultural diversity of the community and share wisdom from generations of struggle. Find out more by going to <https://www.bumpmission.com/>

### **East Angola Pastors and Agricultural Support**

The Mountain Sky Conference has been connected with the East Angola Conference of the United Methodist Church since 2003. Both churches and individuals have been actively involved in assisting pastors and the agricultural initiatives at Quessua Methodist Mission.

You can learn more about this support by going to:

<https://www.mtnskyumc.org/eastangolapastorsupport>

## **Print Copies of the Church Newsletter**

If you would like a print copy of the monthly newsletter reserved for you, please let Julie Bailey (juliesings@gmail.com) know so you can be added to the list. These copies will have your name on them and be available for pick-up in the church office. A few more will be available for our guests at the Welcome Center.

## **Upcoming Knot Again Sessions**

Can you tie a knot? Then join our circle of “knotty” people and help us make the blankets we create from remnants to donate to those in need. Our next sessions are May 15 and June 19.

New people are always welcome. Veteran volunteers are eager to show you the ropes, or rather, “the threads,” and we have people with excellent eyesight to thread your needle for you. Also at this time we are still **not** taking donations.

## Paul's Mystery Ship

The Church has done a great job of supporting Paul's Mystery Ship over the past years. Here are some events to take note of.

- Picklepalooza Rally Against ALS: Pickleball Tournament Sat., June 8th from 7-1 p.m.
- September 22, 2024 @ 1:30 p.m. Walk starts/Ends @ 105 W. Brewing Co.

for more info about Paul's Mystery Ship go to <https://www.paulsmysteryship.com>

### **The youth partnered with the Dannels family to paint rocks to display around Paul's memorial bench.**

Paul's Mystery Ship To End ALS is a foundation committed to confronting ALS and offering hope and support to individuals and families affected by the disease. We drive progress by funding research for a cure, providing vital resources to alleviate suffering, granting scholarships to impacted students, contributing to global research endeavors, offering companionship, combating stigma, and guiding families through end-of-life challenges. Together, we aim to create a lasting impact in the fight against ALS, bringing hope and a brighter future to those affected by this relentless disease.



## Moments in Methodist Church History

A few months ago, we provided some introductory information on Father John Dyer, and our History Night speakers mentioned his contribution to the growth of the Methodist Church in Colorado. His autobiography, *The Snowshoe Itinerant* is available at our local library (in-library use only) and for purchase on Amazon. Here are a few more facts about Father Dyer (whose grave is in Cedar Hill Cemetery):

- "Father" Dyer is one of the 16 founders of the state of Colorado, thus his likeness is depicted in stained glass in the Colorado capital dome in Denver
- Father Dyer Peak in the Ten Mile Range is named for him.
- In Breckenridge, Colorado, a Methodist Church is named for Father Dyer.
- In Fairplay, Colorado, at the South Park City Museum, the Dyer Memorial Chapel is named for Father Dyer.
- In 1977 he was one of the first inductees into the Colorado Ski & Snowboarding Museum Hall of Fame.
- Near Turquoise Lake, outside Leadville, Colorado, stands the Father Dyer Campground.
- Out of Leadville, the Father Dyer Postal Race was named for him, North America's highest ski mountaineering race,
- The Colorado ghost town of Dyersville was named for him.{Source: Wikipedia}

## Stephen Ministry

Spring is my favorite time of year. One day I'm working in my garden in shorts, and the next day it is snowing. A few days later and I'm back outside in shorts. Life is a lot like that. Storms come, but when they are over, we appreciate the warmth even more. We experience new growth, just like the plants that had started to come up, only to find that winter wasn't quite over. The plants become stronger because of the trauma they experienced. In times of grief and sadness, it can be hard to imagine that it won't last forever. And it often helps to have someone to help you work through the pain. A Stephen Minister can be that helper. Just knowing that you are not alone can make a tremendous difference in how you handle your grief. And eventually, you will start to grow again; spring will come.

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Stephen Ministry is best described by Maya Angelou's wise words, "To give cheerfully and accept graciously everyone is blessed." Thank you Castle Rock First United Methodist Church for loving us, trusting us, and believing in us with your support and unyielding faith over the years.

We have a unique opportunity to join with Christ Episcopal church to create a combined Stephen Ministry training.

One of our goals as a Stephen Ministry team focuses on Community Service and it includes training at least 2 and hopefully more new Stephen Ministers for our small but mighty team in ministry. We have a great need for male caregivers as we are moving into a time where more and more men are looking at the importance of well-being and spiritual companionship. If interested contact Cheryl Smith or the church office.

You can also find all the great videos that the Stephen Ministers did on the website:  
<https://www.fumccr.org/stephenministry>



# Rev. Sarah's Space

email:

sms11@mindspring.com



My mother has been with Jesus for more than 20 years. She passed the Saturday before Mother's Day and it took several years before I could brave a Mother's Day church service. Time has eased the pain of separation. Mother's Day provides a space to reflect on what a blessing she was to me.

In addition to celebrating our mothers who are with us this Mother's Day, I want to remind all of us to take the time to remember that special person who was such a major part in making us who we are. Our mothers were an instrument in God's hand to bring us into this world. God knit us together in our mother's womb (Psalm 139:13) and placed us into her arms at birth. What a joy and blessing it is for a mother to cradle her newborn child for the first time at birth and then to hold her child's hand throughout life.

That's how God intended it to be. Mothers (and fathers, too) are a gift from God to the child, just as much as a child is a gift from God given to their parents. We are blessed by the special bond that is there in the parent/child relationship.

The love of a mother for her child is the closest thing to the love of God for mankind and especially His love for His children. From the time of conception (or adoption for some mothers), there is an oneness between mother and child that is sacred in God's eyes. It is a unity that God intends to last until they are separated by death. Sadly, not all mother-and-child relationships weather the storms of this life, and many are broken. On this Mother's Day may we reflect on these broken relationships and pause to pray for reconciliation

If, like me, your mother has passed on from this life, make Mother's Day a special day to remember her. Keep the memories of her alive in your heart. If you still have your mother, give thanks for her presence in your life. Make Mother's Day a grace-filled day of letting go of life's little issues, and taking captive every warm and wonderful memory of Mom. Hide those memories in your heart.

One day memories will be all you have ... and beautiful memories will be sufficient to take your glass from half-full to overflowing. Honor God by honoring your mother in your mind and with your actions, and the love that God has given you will pour forth in love for others.

Have a blessed Mother's Day.



## PASTOR MATT'S SPACE

email: [matt.franks@fumccr.org](mailto:matt.franks@fumccr.org)  
social media @mattdamethdoist



### Learning from Susanna Wesley

John Wesley the founder of the United Methodist Church was deeply influenced by his mother Susanna. She was the devoted mother of at least nineteen children, ten of whom lived to adulthood. When the children were small, she developed a remarkable and effective method of education and spiritual nurture. Even into adulthood, Susanna would nurture her adult children in their faith.

United Methodist Communications put together a nice video about Susanna Wesley you can find that video here: <https://bit.ly/44BReOR>

In the United Methodist Book of Worship, you can find A PRAYER OF SUSANNA WESLEY.

You, O Lord, have called us to watch and pray.

Therefore,

whatever may be the sin against which we pray,  
make us careful to watch against it,  
and so have reason to expect that our prayers will  
be answered.

In order to perform this duty aright,  
grant us grace to preserve a sober, equal temper,  
and sincerity to pray for your assistance. Amen.

Something we can learn from Susanna is to have her willingness to share her faith with her family and others. It has got me thinking about how I share my faith with my children and you as a congregation. This prayer also got me thinking about relying on God more to assist me in the work God has called me to do.

### What About the General Conference?

The event ends on May 3rd. Attendees I have spoken with describe a positive atmosphere that has not been seen in a long time. More details will be shared later due to possible changes. Keep those in attendance in your prayers.

### Where do you want to Serve?

I am searching for people to help in the following areas.

Baltimore, Maryland

- Outdoor Chapel Setup and Tear-down
- Ushers (fill-ins needed)
- Mowing the Church property.
- Driving Golf Cart for Outdoor Chapel

If you are interested in any of these please let me know I am willing to train. I know there will be a list for Golf Cart driving out soon.

### Thank You!

As year two is winding down I want to say thank you for your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness. I have loved serving with you all as together we share the love and light of Christ with our community and beyond.

### Did you know????

In 1784, John Wesley dispatched Thomas Coke from England to oversee the founding of the Methodist Episcopal Church in America. Coke met Francis Asbury at Barratt's Chapel in November. Plans were quickly made to gather all Methodist preachers together for the Christmas Conference at Lovely Lane in Baltimore, Maryland, and the Methodist Episcopal Church was formed. This is known as the first General Conference.