



Window on the Hill
JUNE 2020

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



**GREEN MOUNTAIN
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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MARK'S MUSINGS

In October of 1347, several ships from the Black Sea docked at the Sicilian port of Messina. When the townspeople gathered on the docks they were met with a horrifying surprise: most of the sailors were dead, and those still alive were gravely ill, covered in black boils that oozed blood and pus. Having already struck China, India, Persia, Syria & Egypt, over the next five years the Black Death would kill more than 20 million people in Europe, almost 1/3 of the continent's population,

The disease was indiscriminately contagious and terrifyingly efficient. People who were perfectly healthy when they retired for the evening were just as likely to be dead by morning. A grisly nurse rhyme was even eventually composed about the plague, one I remember singing as a child: "Ring around the rosy (a rash), a pocket full of posies (used to ward off the smell of the disease), ashes, ashes, we all fall down (death and incineration)."

Because they did not understand the biology of the disease, many people believed that the Black Death was some kind of divine retribution for sins, which led to the unfortunate purging of thousands of non-Christians rather than a self-analysis of external hygienic as well as inner spiritual disciplines.

Interestingly, though, centuries before the Black Death, in the earliest years of the Church under the Roman empire, another plague had also ravaged the populated world, but with a completely different response from the Christian community. Following the failure of any kind of coordinate response from the government many Christians, at risk to their own personal health, physically attended to the needs of persons infected and dying. The surrounding pagan culture was so moved by their compassion that many were drawn to the Christian faith.

I am inspired by so many of you who have similarly responded to the needs of your neighbors and community as a living witness to your Faith and the power of love, the risen Christ's and his Church's continued relevance in the world, and our belief in the Spirit (rather than our physical bodies) as our truest and highest self. I'm proud to be your partner in ministry through and beyond this most current plague and am looking forward to our physical reintroduction in the not too distant future.

May God honor your discipleship and bless you with health, physically and spiritually,

Pastor Mark

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Walt & Marge Rudolph	06/02
Christopher & Marsha Carey	06/08
Doug & Mary Wylie	06/08
William Thomas & Mary Bloomstran	06/09
Emery & Carol Schattinger	06/12
Joel & Lorna Chapa	06/12
Dee & Jody Morse	06/14
Ken & Brenda Bullard	06/18
Duane & Kathy Patterson	06/20
Gary & Dixie Bowker	06/21
Frank & Velda Walters	06/26
Harold & Karen Harmon	06/26

Janice Ramsthaler	06/01
Carol Schattinger	06/04
Taylor Neve	06/04
Rilene Thompson	06/05
Julia Montano	06/06
Phyllis Wittrup	06/06
Dee Morse	06/07
Katie Bernard	06/08
Michael Coen	06/09
Renée Parker	06/09
Erik Evans	06/10
Vicky Hamilton	06/10
Marge Rudolph	06/11
Sherry Coulter	06/11
Aaron Nichols	06/12
Sharon Berry	06/12
Bonnie Haase	06/14
Chuck Thorman	06/14
Phyllis Parker	06/16
Allan Arnold	06/17
Jacob Olson	06/17
Isaac Wondel	06/18
Bob Walcott	06/19
Jack Branscome	06/19
Harry Thomas	06/21
Brian Snow	06/24
Eric Morrison	06/26
Jackson Fleck	06/27
Quinn Bride	06/30

Congratulations to our Graduates & Scholarship Winners!

Myria Garcia from Lakewood High School. She will be attending American University, which is a United Methodist University in Washington D.C., to study international relations or possibly pre-law.

Julia Montano from Columbine High School. She will be attending University of San Francisco to study international studies. Julia was also a GMUMC Scholarship Winner.

Lisa Neve from Metropolitan State University with a Masters of Social Work.

The Barb Thorman Scholarship was awarded to **Kerry Parker**. She will be attending Arapahoe Community College to become Physical Therapy Assistant.



Our Care Corner

Keeping Our Promises

By Upholding the Church with...

Our prayers, our presence, our gifts, and our service.



For those who have experienced loss:

The family of:

Mindy Lubell Nielsen, sister-in-law of Mary Lou Notari
& aunt of Kris

Paul Tilp

Joyce Rorman, friend of Lorene Branson and former member

For those who are experiencing health concerns or other difficulties in their lives:

Church Members:

Ray Tanner Alex Neve

Celena Robinson

Family of Church Members:

Keith Haemmelman, son-in-law of Chuck Thorman

Tom Russell, cousin of Charlie Oelson

Ronald Curtis, Sr., cousin of Vivian Gines-Wheeler

Herman Mitchell, Phyllis Wrapp's son-in-law

Karen, Dolores Bammerlin's sister-in-law

Friends of Church Members:

Linda Seydel, friend of Lorna Chapa

Tim Doolittle, friend of CeCe Huffnagle

Darlene Shockey, friend of Jean Arnold

Andrea Powelson, friend of MaryJane Eddy-Scott

Melinda Powelson, friend of MaryJane Eddy-Scott

Remember these people in your prayers.

Let us continue to pray for:

Nicholas Billman, friend of Vestals

Ari Quast, Nephew of Pastor Paul

Dustin Neerhof, great-grandson of Joyce Mellott

Virginia Sorenson, sister-in-law of Frank & Roxanne Penn

Cherie Williams, friend of Jean

Jerry & Linda Seiner, friends of Vestals

Susan, daughter of Anna Myers

Cody Wirth, friend of Brenda Christy

Caroline Clovesko, Kristen Allen's mother

Kinsasha & Kahlia Zamora, great-granddaughters of

Edith Gammon

Bernice Arsenault, mother-in-law of Francis Arsenault

Patrick Wendy, relative of Marcia Johnston-Walden

Rev. Bob Titus

Ashlie Torbic, young friend of Thayne & Sherry Coulter

Linda, Vicky Hamilton's sister

Laura Inzano, friend of Marsha Moore

Jeanne Faulkner, friend of Marsha Moore

Ashley Osborn, niece of Mark & Lori Osborn

Sean Scott, son of MaryJane Eddy Scott

Jason Dennen, friend of Steve Cummins

Taylor Merrill, Charles & Madelene Vestal's grandson

Evan & Danielle, Marsha Cary's son & daughter-in-law

Joni Wick, friend of Rich & Jean Arnold

Les Hildenbrandt, son of Patti Hildenbrandt



Prayers for those serving in the military and their families, especially:

Tell Acott

Michael Anderson

Brady Christensen

Doug Huenneke

Andrew Quast

Gloria Sher

Timothy Skinner

If you have family members who are currently in military service or the Peace Corp and wish to have their name listed in this section, please notify Meg in the church office.

Please Note: Names will remain on the Prayer List in the bulletin for four weeks, unless you notify the church office to remove them sooner. If you wish to have someone on the Prayer List for longer than four weeks, please notify the church office so the name may be added to the Long-Term Prayer List that is published in the church newsletter, *Window on the Hill*.

