



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



GREEN MOUNTAIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Reverend Mark Thurman, Pastor

*Guiding members and friends to a fuller knowledge of GMUMC
through information, support, confirmation, praise, and celebration.*

WINDOW ON THE HILL JANUARY 2021

Staff of GMUMC

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Mark's Musings

Karen Schmoker always make me chuckle; especially fitting for this seasonal holiday month, and most welcome following all this year has visited upon us! A short time ago, she emailed me the following updated, and reworded version of the famous Clement Clarke Moore poem, ***'Twas the Night Before Christmas***:

*'Twas a month before Christmas,
and all through the town,
People wore masks,
that covered their frown.
The frown had begun
way back in the Spring,
When a global pandemic
changed everything.
They called it corona,
but unlike the beer,
it didn't bring good times,
it didn't bring cheer.
Contagious and deadly,
This virus spread fast,
like a wildfire that starts
when fueled by gas.
Airplanes were grounded,
Travel was banned.
Borders were closed
across air, sea, and land.
As the world entered lockdown
to flatten the curve,
The economy halted,
and folks lost their verve.
From March to July
we rode the first wave.
People stayed home,
they tried to behave.*

*When Summer emerged
the lockdown was lifted.
But away from caution,
many folks drifted.
Now it's December
and cases are spiking.
Wave two has arrived,
much to our disliking.
Frontline workers,
doctors, and nurses,
try to save people
from riding in hearses.
It's true that this year
has had sadness a plenty.
We'll never forget
the Year 2020.
And just 'round the corner,
the holiday season,
but why be Merry?
Is there even one reason?
to decorate the house
and put up the tree,
when no one will see it,
No one but me.
But, outside my window,
the snow gently falls,
and I think to myself.
Let's deck the halls!*

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So, I gather the ribbon,
the garland and bows.
As I play those old carols,
my happiness grows.
Christmas is not cancelled,
And neither is hope.
If we lean on each other,
I know we can cope.



To better days ahead, my friends. Merry, Merry Christmas and a very Happy & Healthy New Year!

Pastor Mark





**SOLOS
Lunch Group**

SOLOS is a group of women, 55 and above, who meet socially on the 3rd Friday of the months, September through May.
If you have questions, please call
Linda Dahlke at (303) 984-1994.



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*The point of a faith community is not to **think** alike, but to **think** together.*



STEVE'S STUFF

Questions? – please see me, email swalden@gmumc.com, or call 303-989-3727. Thank You!

January 2021

2021 – More Than A New Year...

It's hard not to see a new calendar on the wall as an opportunity to reset and renew. There's nothing magical that separates the "tick" at 11:59:59 on December 31st from the "tock" at 12:00:00 January 1st. And yet, we have the sense that something – something *desired* – has or will change. In most of Western Civilization we are creatures of the clock. But no recent year seems as loaded – *burdened* even – with hopes and aspirations as 2021. Masks, social distancing, and public health guidelines will still be with us for some time – and there will always be those who shout "freedom" while forgetting that *responsibility* forms the foundation of that precious idea. The tug and pull of our civic life will not disappear. So much of 2020 has felt like a masked stroll through "the valley of the shadow of death," and for many across the planet it has been just that. 2021, though just another date, is an opportunity to honor those we lose to this pandemic, and those fighting for our healing, and those working to keep food on our tables. Honor them with our actions.

2021 is an opportunity to vaccinate our bodies against a deadly virus and an opportunity to "vaccinate" our minds against misunderstanding, division, and hate. 2020 was a bucket of cold water to the face – waking us up to our human vulnerability and our common humanity. We have a choice, as individuals, as civic communities, as faith or secular organizations to respond with humility, creativity, and trust – or we can reinforce the walls of our self-serving ideologies.

James Baldwin was a courageous thinker and writer who knew something about struggle. He wrote:

***Not everything that is faced can be changed,
but nothing can be changed until it is faced.***

Hopefully 2021 will be a year of "facing" who we are as a people, who we want to be, and finding the courage to act to cover that distance. To do anything less – to drop back into a brain dead "normal" – is to deny our faith in the future...and most tragically, to deny our faith in each other.

Building and binding together – it's the honest labor of being human. God give us strength for the work, grace for the journey, and humor for our sanity!

Peace, love, and shared laughter ahead – *Happy New Year!*

Steve & Marcia

Zooming into the New Year – December 31st, 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

I'm hosting an open zoom session for all wishing to say farewell to 2020 and greet the opportunities of 2021. Have a glass of your favorite beverage handy (for a toast) and bring along a favorite quote of hope to christen the New Year. See the mass email the week prior to 12/31 for the link.

Currently Sunday's "Classroom zoom" schedule:

Hilltopper's – 8:45 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

Contemplative Action – 9:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Virtual Coffee Hour – 11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

...and Wednesday evenings enjoy a casual **Mid-Week Check-In** with Amy Santistevan at 7:00 p.m.

Special note to those not able to join due to tech limitations or understandable preference (you're right, it's not the same) – let's stay connected via phone, word, & "porch talks" where safely possible.

Group \$ support efforts: NarSarah Clinic - \$4,101; Kiva Microloan Group - \$34,075 (1,257 loans).



All in-person church activities have been cancelled until further notice.



Green Mountain United Methodist Women
Sunrise Breakfast
Generally 1st Wednesday of Each Month
8:00 a.m. IHOP-Lakewood City Commons

FROM THE TRUSTEES

Green Mountain United Methodist Church (GMUMC) Trustees 2020 Project Report

- GMUMC suspended all church services and in-person meetings and activities beginning mid-March due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Trustees provided hand sanitizer dispensers throughout the buildings for staff and others to use during these months. Signs regarding masks and other safety measures are posted on entry doors and other areas. Trustees have reopening protocols planned for when it is determined to be safe to open again by the State and Mountain Sky Conference.
- The de-laminated plywood siding area above the original stained glass on the south side of the west building was replaced.
- A curb of 6x8 treated pressure-treated timbers was constructed along one-half of the north edge of the parking lot to prevent water runoff from draining into the townhouse area below. Runoff water is directed into a swale below the garden that leads toward Cedar Drive.
- The play pad structure in the playground over the catch basin for the roof runoff and east and north-east sides of the building had to be completely removed and reconstructed.
 - The understructure had rotting timbers and support posts. Most of the concrete holding the support posts had freeze cracks. The entire wood structure had to be totally replaced. Pressure-treated lumber was used for the entire support structure and support posts. Posts were set in new concrete.
 - Existing roof drainpipes that emptied into the pit were extended to the concrete drainage pit in the center. A 4-foot-long drain trough along the pad edge where the pad is against the sidewalk was also installed, and a French drain was installed around the inside edge of the pit to collect rain ground water. Both send water directly to the concrete drainage pit. The reason for this was to minimize the amount of mud being washed into the concrete drainage pit which sends the water out into a drain line that runs below and along the daycare driveway to the swale below the garden that directs the water towards Cedar Drive. Formerly all drainage emptied at the edge of the play pad and flowed through the mud to the low point where the drain was located, collecting mud, and clogging the pit and the drainpipe to the swale.
 - The old Trex top of the play pad has a 20-year life so it was carefully marked for reuse, saving the budget a substantial amount. (Cost of Trex materials in 2010 was \$6,000)
 - Demolition and Construction was all done by volunteer labor.
- Fluorescent troffers in Fellowship Hall, the kitchen, west building upper hallways, and lower east building hallways were retrofitted with LED lighting. Many of the areas now have motion sensors. (Memorial gift)
- The Tiny Hearts Academy daycare lease was extended through May 2032. The daycare has continued to operate throughout 2020.
- Restrooms in the west building and Fireside Room were painted. The kitchen and upper west hallway were painted. A new sink was installed in the women's upper west bathroom. Four new toilets were installed due to unrepairable leaks in the tanks. The playground fence posts were reinforced due to high wind damage.
- New flooring was installed in the daycare entrance hall and Fireside Room restroom. (Material and labor donations)

GMUMC 2020 Trustees: Tom Cummins Ron Bernard, Deanna Hanna, John Morrison, Calvin Mukarakate,
Mike Coen, Roxanne Penn, Karen Schmoker



FINANCE COMMITTEE

For the month of November our income was \$27,582.69, and our expense were -\$29,211.98. Our overall balance for the year, as of the end of November is -\$41,230.54. As you can see, we are in dire straits, due to the most difficult of years. The Finance Committee would like to make a plea to all, that if you are able to give some extra offerings this month, to help with the huge deficit, it would be greatly appreciated. Don't forget about our new online donation option on our website, which can be easier for some. And as always, thank you for your continued financial support of GMUMC.

Thanks,
Greg Hise & Jane Bernard
Finance Co-chairs

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February 2021 Newsletter items
due by
Sunday, January 17, 2021
email: mnotari@msn.com &
gmumc@gmumc.com

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CHILDREN'S NEWS JANUARY 2021

Thank you so much to the amazing families who participated in the Advent wreath lighting this year! I know it was different, yet so great to see the kids and families!! ☺

Christmas Caroling from the Couch was great fun as well. We appreciate the Youth sponsoring it and inviting us to be a part of it! Thank you, Alex!

Pastor Mark is going to give Melissa, our tech guru, a break in January, so I will just put *Children's Time* back on YouTube again. If you would like to see those, they will be available like they were at the beginning of the pandemic.

Happy New Year to you all!

2021 looks promising and hopeful!

Kelli Schnase, Children's Director





GMUMC - January 2021 Grades 6 – 12

Sun., Jan. 3rd

No Youth

No Youth due to Winter Break! Enjoy time with your families before school starts again.

Sun., Jan. 12th

News from the New Year

6 - 7:30 PM

Last year was CRAZY!! What do we know about 2021 and what it may hold for us? We can explore topics such as vaccines, school situations, graduation plans, ongoing quarantine, Mission Project options, how Christmas and New Years went, and what our hopes for 2021 are!

Sun., Jan. 17th

No Youth

No Youth due to Martin Luther King Jr. Weekend. Enjoy family time!

Sun., Jan. 24th

Game or Movie Night?

6 - 7:30 PM

Youth choose! Get our game on or chill and watch a movie? You know we deserve some fun!

IMPORTANT DATES:

Jan. 6th - Jeffco Schools Resume

Jan. 10th - Youth Group Resumes



If you have any questions please contact Alex at: 303-882-0006 or email: alex@gmumc.com



OUR SERVICE, CONCERNS, & CELEBRATIONS



JANUARY 2021

Robert Kimball	01/02
Carole Kagiya	01/03
Lorna Carter	01/03
Vivian Santistevan	01/03
Nancy Carray	01/04
Tim Moore	01/04
Brooke Wypiszynski	01/05
Clara Lou Humphrey	01/05
James Fairman	01/05
Kayleigh Thomas	01/05
Omot Ajang	01/06
Ian Snow	01/08
Myria Garcia	01/08
Tena Harris	01/08
Gillian Young	01/09
Kelli Schnase	01/09
Riley Grant	01/09
Joo sil Kim	01/11
Katrina Garcia	01/11
Steve Cummins	01/13
Alyssa Glasco	01/15
Janis Johnsen	01/15
Clay Ramsouer	01/16
Meg Leak	01/16
Mark Osborn	01/17
Elise Chevalier	01/18
Jacob Schlieper	01/18
Simon Downs	01/18
Doris Chelius	01/19
John Camper	01/20
Jennifer Stenman	01/21
Edie Davis	01/22
Evie Kellogg	01/22
Brian Chevalier	01/23
David Downs	01/23
Maya Wondel	01/24
Janice Brown	01/25
Janet Starkey	01/27
Kristen Allen	01/27
Jenna Hindman	01/28
Andy Thomas	01/28
Marcia Johnston-Walden	01/30
Rich Arnold	01/31



Congratulations to **Peter Montano** and **Zackary Thomas** who recently graduated from the **Colorado School of Mines**.



Tom & Billy Cummins 01/18
Richard & Barbara Stoddard 01/28

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:

Polly Raker, Don Bunger's sister
David Wylie, Doug Wylie's dad

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

Church Members:

Rich Arnold	Jean Arnold	Lynne Smithpeter
Nicole Smithpeter	Neomi Hilton	Charlotte Harding
Charlie Oleson	Shirley Allison	Ray Tanner
Alex Neve	Charlotte Worster	Tom Walker

Family of Church Members:

Bill & Sandy, Walt & Marge Rudolph's brother & sister-in-law
David Bronson, Brenda Bronson's brother
Scott, Harold & Karen Harmon's son
Sara, CeCe Huffnagle's granddaughter
Steve Bullard, Ken Bullard's brother
Ian & Mackenzie, Berry's son-in-law & granddaughter
Ron, Betty Butler's brother-in-law
Edward Shirley, Renée Shirley's dad

Friends of Church Members:

Pat Neve

Remember these people in your prayers.

Let us continue to pray for:

Nicholas Billman, friend of Vestals
Ari Quast, Nephew of Pastor Paul
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
Taylor Merrill, Charles & Madelene Vestal's grandson
Evan & Danielle, Marsha Carey's son & daughter-in-law
Joni Wick, friend of Rich & Jean Arnold



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

Michael Anderson Brady Christensen Doug Huenneke
Andrew Quast Gloria Sher
Timothy Skinner

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*.

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.

