

Open Hearts....

**Open Minds....** 

**Open Doors....** 

### WINDOW ON THE HILL SEPTEMBER 2023

### **STAFF OF GMUMC**

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#### Custodian James O'Toole

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### GREEN MOUNTAIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 12755 West Cedar Drive Lakewood, CO 80228 Phone: (303) 989-3727 Fax: (303) 987-9220

Pastor: Reverend Mark Thurman Associate Pastor: Reverend Debra Juarez

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

Mark's Musings

I thought I'd share a perspective from another pastor in another denomination concerning these curious and unprecedented post-COVID times in which the church now finds herself. Lillian Daniel serves as Conference Minister for the United Church of Christ in Michigan, and part of her job includes guest preaching in various congregations around the state. During the fellowship time that follows worship, she often meets people who inform her that this is their first time back to church, in-person, in a number of months, sometimes even years. But what brought them back was not so much the opportunity to hear the Conference Minister preach; rather, they were asked by the fellowship committee to bring some cookies!

"I do not believe people return to in-person worship in order to eat treats," Lillian admits, "but they may well return in order to deliver them. It's easier to receive a call asking you to bring brownies than it is to get one asking why you haven't been coming to church. The first call is an invitation while the second can sound like an act of desperation, or at worst, an accusation."

"People have complicated reasons for not going places in person, so who are we to judge? But if not attending has become the new norm, it can feel scary to return- 'Will people ask me where I've been? Will I have to defend myself? Will they ask me to join a committee?' It's much less threatening to imagine walking in the door to hear, 'Hey, thanks for bringing the brownies. They look delicious.'"

Thanks to those of you who have ever invited a friend/neighbor/colleague to church. And thanks to Lillian for coming at this from another interesting angle. I wonder what it would mean for our congregation if your future invitations also included an opportunity for the invitee to contribute? "...like the helpers and hosts they may remember being," Lillian concludes, "and may long to be again."

Pastor Mark







### ADULT EDUCATION

Join Rev. Debra on Sunday mornings this fall for some lively discussions about Methodism! Where did it come from? Who was this John Wesley dude? Learn about his mother, Susanna Wesley – who surely taught him everything he knew. We will also look at what Methodists believe. And what's the deal with the **Quadrilateral?** We will also look at the changes happening in the United Methodist Church and compare them with changes over the last couple of centuries. Is change healthy or deathly?

Bring your questions about the people called Methodists and we will attempt to figure out some answers. We meet Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room. Questions – contact Rev. Debra Juarez at <u>Debra@gmumc.com</u> or call 303-570-5180.

Debra is also looking at a midweek book study on women of the Old Testament. The book is **Widows and Warriors: Women's Stories from the Old Testament** by Dr. Rev. Lynn Japinga. We know so much about the patriarchs and prophets, about Moses and King David, but so little about the women in all these stories.

We are considering doing this as an evening class on Zoom which might make it easier for busy folks to be involved. I'd love to hear your thoughts on this idea so please email, text or call me with questions and ideas at <u>Debra@gmumc.com</u> or 303-570-5180 and tell me what you think.

Rev. Debra Juarez Associate Pastor Green Mountain UMC Email: <u>debra.@gmumc.com</u> Cell: (303) 570-5180









### **Greetings Everyone!**

It's almost time for Chancel Choir to begin! We welcome everyone who would like to sing, as we prepare for the Thanksgiving Eve Ecumenical Service and the Christmas performance. Please join us and bring a friend! There's a place for everyone at the table!

FIRST REHEARSAL: Thursday, August 31, 7:30-9:00 PM

FIRST SUNDAY:Sunday, September 10FALL GET-TOGETHER:TBAUPCOMING:Wednesday, November 22<br/>Sunday, December 17

Joyful, Joyful

Thanksgiving Eve Ecumenical Service at GMUMC Christmas Performance (we will talk about it)

For more information, call or text Bill at 303-946-8730, or email williamloper@me.com

Bill Loper he/him/his



Mark will resume the Pastor's weekly Tuesday morning study/discussion beginning Tuesday, September  $19^{th}$ , from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m., with an adult confirmation series (A Jesus Jiffy Lube) covering questions about the nature of God, how to decipher the Bible, the witness of the saints, the practice of Christian discipleship including the purpose and power of one's own spiritual gifts. Please bring a bible, pen/paper, and invite a friend.



### **BOBBI'S BLESSING BOX**

<u>lere is a list of ite</u> Aacaroni and Chee	20
eanut Butter	30
oups – condensed	and regular
Dry Pasta	5
, paghetti Sauce	
/leats in a Can – Sl	oppy Joes, Manwich, Spaghetti & Meatballs,
Pressing Ravioli	
lice	
eans – dry, canne	d, refried
anned Vegetables	- favorites: Green Beans, Corn, Tomatoes,
otatoes	
ackets of Meals –	Au Gratin Potatoes, Stroganoff, Hamburger
lelper. Skillet Mea	ls
amen/Cup o Noo	dles
Canned/Packets Me	eats – Tuna,
hicken Crackers (a	iny type)
Cereal	
Dat	

Milk – Dry or in a Carton (refrigerate after opening) Flour Coffee Tea Salt, Pepper, Seasoning Packets Salad BBQ Sauce Snacks – single serving crackers, fruit snacks, popcorn, pudding, Jell-O gelatin and candy

Thank you, Donna Bunger

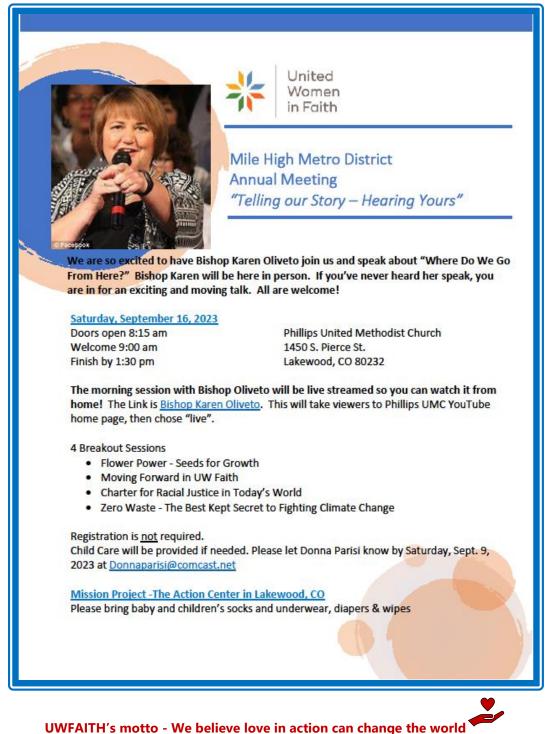


NEW MEETING PLACE: Le Peep Union Blvd – Lakewood 141 Union Blvd, #101 (just a bit South of the Wells Fargo Bank Bldg.) Lakewood, CO 80228

Please join us at our Green Mountain UWFAITH monthly breakfast meetings held the first Wednesday of each month at 9 a.m.

Starting at our September 6<sup>th</sup>'s meeting, we will start meeting at a different restaurant - Le Peep - near the church at 141 Union Blvd #101. We will meet in their separate meeting room. We will discuss preparing to make and serve food to sell at upcoming church Craft Fair on Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. See Kim Myers or Hamu Mukarakate for more information.

Please also come to our Mile High Metro UWFAITH district's annual meeting Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup>! It's going to be terrific! Bishop Karen will be our speaker & we have exciting breakout sessions! And it will be nearby - at Phillips UMC.



own Arrin's motto - we believe love in action can change the world

For more information Brenda Bronson at 303.941.7634 or <u>brendabronsonfpe@gmail.com</u>



### SHARED JOURNEY

Our support group for caregivers with loved ones experiencing dementia is open to all. We meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Place to be determined.

For more information, contact Sonya Noyes 303-985-9522.



### Action Center Donations and Volunteer Opportunities

The Action Center collected 1,148 backpacks in 2 hours and made it into the Guiness Book of World Records. They also distributed 5,000 new backpacks with school supplies to Jeffco students. GMUMC contributed 88 backpacks, a carload of school supplies, and \$250 from the July noisy offering.

The Action Center is always in need of volunteers, and you can sign up for just 3 hours at a time. Visit their website to find out about opportunities to volunteer in the clothing bank and food distribution. <u>https://theactioncenter.org/get-involved/</u>



### **GMUMC Online Directory**

There are two ways to access the church online directory with pictures of members, their phone numbers, and emails. The church office will need to have put your information into the directory in order for you to open and use directory.



Here are the two methods.

- 1. Go to the church website, <u>gmumc.com</u>, and click on "directory" which is on the bottom bar of the home page. You may either download or open the directory. You will need the church password, so call the church office at 303-989-3727 to obtain the directory password.
- 2. Download the app on your smart phone or tablet: Instant Church Directory by Communication Resources (a yellow church icon). The app will ask for your email address (which must be in the directory), and then you can set a password. You can get the app on Google play, the Kindle store, or the Apple store.

### **VOLUNTEER RESPONDERS**

There are many opportunities to be of service to others through our church activities. People are needed and invited to join the choir, to usher and greet on Sundays, help with pot lucks and receptions, help host the after church coffee hour.

Volunteers may be called to serve a meal to someone in need, to transport someone to a vital appointment or make phone calls to new people or shut ins. It is a great way to meet new people and help others.

If you would like to have more information about something that interests you, please get in touch with one of the following: Meg Leak - Church Office Manager - 303-989-3727 Mary Bloomstran Thomas - Outreach Committee, 303-263-2906 or MaryJane Eddy-Scott, Lay Leader. 540-538-1133



### LifeSpark Cancer Resources

*LifeSpark* Cancer Resources is a Colorado non-profit organization that uses Reiki and Healing Touch wellness therapies to bring peace and healing to individuals with cancer. Sessions are offered at partner locations including hospitals, spas, and churches, as well as remote locations. For many years Green Mtn. UMC has hosted LifeSpark massage sessions in a room opposite the church nursery in the lower west building.

How LifeSpark Sessions Work:

- *LifeSpark* wellness therapies promote peace and healing on all levels.
- Adults 18 and over with cancer are eligible: any type or stage of cancer.
- Receive 8 weeks of healing sessions, scheduled at a time convenient for you.
- You'll be matched with an experienced healing touch or Reiki provider.
- Caregivers are eligible (family members who take care of a cancer patient)
- *LifeSpark* is a free program.
- *LifeSpark* sessions last about an hour.
- LifeSpark sessions do not replace medical care, but rather support you during and after cancer treatment.

Contact LifeSpark at 303-425-5670 to schedule sessions.

LIFESPARKNOW.ORG

### CRAFT FAIR

Saturday, September 9, 2023

Please sign up on the volunteer sheet in the church lobby to help set up tables on Friday 3-5PM or be a table greeter and email taker on the day of the Craft Fair Sept. 9th.

Any help is greatly appreciated.

Thanks, Wendy

Questions/information please contact Wendy Binninger at (720) 273-0629





Outreach Prayer Shawl Ministry now has nine church members making the prayer shawls. If you know of someone in cancer treatment or experiencing grief, or any other situation, please contact Mary Bloomstran (303) 263-2906, and we will provide a prayer shawl.





### **New Care Team Forming**

As a community that cares for one another with our prayers on Sunday mornings, we'd like to be more organized in how we follow up with the people we lift up in prayer. Our thought is that members of this team would be in touch with folks to check on how they are doing, what they might need, meals, visits, rides to doctors' appointments and other needs.

The team might then coordinate with the pastors and others to help meet these needs. We are called to visit the sick and help the needy, but it's not always helpful if everyone visits someone who is recovering. On the other hand, if we all assume someone else is checking up on each other, people might fall through the cracks.

If you'd like to know more about this team or get involved, contact Rev. Debra at <u>debra@gmumc.com</u> or 303-570-5180 and help us get started.



OCTOBER Newsletter items due by SEPTEMBER 17, 2023 Email: gmumc@gmumc.com & mInotari@msn.com



Sunday October 8, 2023 1:00 p.m. at Clement Park 7306 West Bowles Avenue Littleton, CO 80123

**Please Join Us in Ending Hunger** 

**Quote From Josiah:** "When I was 4, I went to the Action Center with my grandma to deliver some food. I saw families standing in line to receive food. I realized not everyone has a full refrigerator and pantry of food like I do. This is when my passion for raising money and awareness for the C.R.O.P. Hunger Walk began. This will be my 11<sup>th</sup> year participating. In 2019, I asked my Boy Scout Troop to join me. My goal this year is to raise over \$2,000."

25% will go to local food banks: Action Center, Community Table (Arvada). Love Inc. (Littleton) and Sheridan Food Bank. CWS helps people nationally in crisis such as California flood areas, Maui fire, and tropical storm on the west coast by providing food, personal hygiene kits, clean up kits and more. They service refugees and people around the world in need.

*I will be collecting money in person and online. You can also join my team and walk around Clement Park Lake.* 

https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2023/josiah-myers

If you have any questions or need more information, please call Josiah or Kim Myers 720-810-2157



Josiah Myers and Boy Scout Troop will be collecting new and gently used shoes men's, women's and children's all sizes and types: casual, formal, work, boots sandals etc.. Their goal is to collect 500 pairs of shoes. There will be a collection box in the Narthex through the end of October.

Soles for Souls provides shoes for people in crisis , helps people in developing countries escape poverty through entreprenuership and helps kids across America kick off the new school year in confidence with new pair of shoes.

If you have any questions please contact Josiah (Kim) 720-81-2157



### News from the Cedar Hill Community Garden

The garden is part of Denver Urban Gardens (DUG) community gardens. Note: the garden is always unlocked so feel free to visit at any time.

**The vision:** Feeding our community. *"I hope that time spent in the garden can grow not only sustainable food but a community from diverse people and foster a sense of place that brings peace."* Lori Osborn

Garden Plots. All of the plots are now full. Some may open in 2024 and if you would like to be put on the wait list contact co-garden leader Ali Young (mustang.ali@hotmail.com) to be added to the list.

**Bees.** Our bees did not survive the -20° weather this past winter and we are still assessing what to do this season. Ali and her bee keepers may reestablish the hives this Spring, but they're still deciding. If you would like to learn about bee keeping or help with the hives, contact Ali (<u>mustang.ali@hotmail.com</u>) for more information. You do not have to have a plot in the garden to work with Ali and her team of beekeepers.

### What we need:

- **Mulching mower** The mulching mower we borrowed worked great on the donated leaves. We would like to have one for the garden if there is someone out there with a mulching mower. We use them on the donated leaves and green weeds to create the browns and greens needed to make compost.
- Garden tools Thank you to all of you who have donated your garden tools! You know who you are. As you work in your gardens, downsize or clean out your garages and sheds or simply upgrade your own tools please think of the Garden and donate your used hand tools, rakes, shovels, wheelbarrows, etc. Any extra tools will be donated to DUG for other Community Gardens.
- Bricks The brick fund raiser is still on going. Jean Arnold is not taking any more orders at this time but will resume taking orders in the Fall after the first of the bricks are installed. Our Eagle Scout is now planning to assist on brick installation so stay tuned.
- **Donations for scholarship plots.** Two of the plots in the garden are scholarship plots. Thank you for your 2022 donations making these plots possible for gardeners in 2023. The cost to support a scholarship plot is \$50 / plot and we will accept donations for the 2024 scholarships. In the months ahead, I'll feature some of our gardeners and their stories.

Jean Arnold

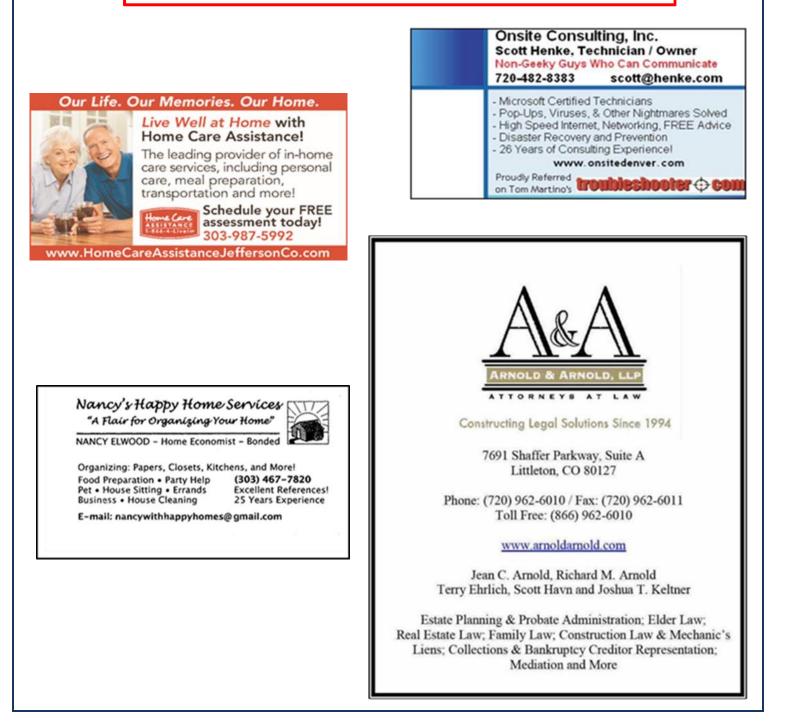
### **King Soopers Community Rewards**



As many of you know King Soopers has ended its gift card program. In its place, they have initiated the Community Rewards Program. This is a just a reminder for those of you who need to link their SooperCard, so that the church will still be getting money for your shopping at King Soopers

You will need to create a digital account by going to www.KingSoopers.com/CommunityRewards.

You will then select **Create an Account**. Under sign-in information, enter your email and create a password (write down your password, you will need it in step 2). Select 'Use Card Number' and enter your SooperCard Number or Alternate ID, last name, and zip code. Under 'Select your Store,' enter your zip code and then select 'Find Stores.' Choose your store and then select 'Create Account.' Once you get the welcome email, then you can go back in clicking on the link in the email and finish creating your account.



## **Children's Department News**



A BIG Thank You to Pastors Mark and Debra for Blessing backpacks/children as they begin a new school year. (August 20th church service). We had 13 blessings. Congratulations to the 4 children who received their Bibles. After church everyone enjoyed creating their own ice cream sundaes. Thank you to our wonderful families who provided toppings and helped serve ice cream.



Sept 3rd In conjunction with Pastor Mark's sermon "God's action seen in our service" the children will bring a non-perishable food item to church. We will be visiting Bobbie's Box to place our food items inside and discussing ways we can share GOD's love through our service. (Don't worry if you forget Kim will bring a few extras)

Sept 9th The Children's Department and UMWFAITH will be working together to sell bowls of Mac & Cheese, baked goods and bottled water to vendors and shoppers. Proceeds will go to help children locally. Please contact Kim to get more info on how your family can help us.



WANTED: Help building a large puppet theater for several children to reenact our favorite Bible stories. We have 16 inch puppets waiting to perform but we have no stage.

Do you have stickers stashed in a drawer without purpose or future use? We'd love to put them to good use in one of

our many Craft projects.

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Kim <u>kim@gmumc.com</u> or 720-810-2157



 Sun, Sept 3<sup>rd</sup>
 No Youth - Labor Day
 N/A

 Enjoy Labor Day weekend with your families as we get back into the swing of school.
 N/A

 Sat to Sun, Sept 9th - 10th
 It's Glow Time - Kickoff Celebration
 8 PM - 10:30 AM

 It's time for a Lock-In, and not just ANY Lock-In: a Glow-in-the-Dark themed Lock-In!
 It's

 Glow Time for Youth Group and this party will be LEGENDARY!
 We will meet at 8 pm on the

 9th at the church and spend the night doing glow-in-the-dark activities, watching a movie, and
 catching up after a busy summer. At 10:30 am on the 10th, we will sit in the church service

 together as a Youth Group.
 Permission slips are required and friends are welcome!

 Sun, Sept 17th
 The Challenges of Church
 10:15 - 11:30 AM

 How did it go being in the Worship Service last week? Let's dive into the world of churches together as we look at music, messages, and the people of the church. Why do churches get stuck doing the same old thing? Join us as we investigate the hangups of organized religion.

 Sun, Sept 24th
 Distractions
 10:15 - 11:30 AM

 Have you ever sat down to do homework and found yourself doing a thousand other things on your phone? Do you go to bed on Sunday night and wonder where the weekend went? Today we'll explore the world of distractions and how they impact our lives.

UPCOMING DATES: Oct 1<sup>st</sup> - Who are Christians Oct 8<sup>th</sup> - Vote on Mission Trip & Plan Mission Project Follow-up Oct 15<sup>th</sup> - Corn Maze Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> - Set up for Halloween Carnival Oct 29<sup>th</sup> - Mini Halloween Carnival for Kids



If you have any questions, please contact Alex at: 303-882-0006







DUR SERVICE, CONCERNS & CONCERNS RATIONS

James O'Toole	09/02
Lisa Neve	09/02
Steven Olson	09/02
Frank Walters	09/05
Deb Thomas	09/06
Nelson Garcia	09/08
Edwin Smith	09/09
Georgia DeLong	09/09
Norma Schneider	09/09
Kendall Morrison	09/10
Mary Wylie	09/10
Suzanne Barnes	09/10
Glen McLaughlin	09/12
Steve Rickett	09/13
Jan Hightower	09/16
Jean Dinwiddie	09/16
Jewell Phipps	09/17
Deborah Hindman	09/18
Donna Bunger	09/18
Elizabeth Walcott	09/20
Stan Sheeley	09/20
Cristian Borcan	09/21
Jackie Ferguson	09/21
Madelene Vestal	09/22
Marsha Moore	09/22
Ann Topliff	09/24
Kendal Osborn	09/24
Mary McLaughlin	09/24
Peter Montano	09/24
Steve Bernard	09/25
William Loper	09/26
Boyd Berry	09/27
Peggy Morrison	09/30



Amy & Robert Alexander	09/09
Kristin & Vincent Allen	09/12
Karen & Jim Schmoker	09/14
Roxanne & Frank Penn	09/25
Alyssa & John Olson	09/29

# 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 families of: Eric McLean Charlie Haase Barbara Bloomstran

Those experiencing health concerns or other difficulties in their lives: Church Members:

Frank Walters Lorna Chapa Frank Penn Patti Hildenbrandt Patrick Sullivan Phyllis Wittrup Jean Dinwiddie Ima Jean McKenna Melyn Dare Carol Fox Lettie Covert

### **Family of Church Members:**

John Dietz, Tom Cummins' brother-in-law Tom Martin, Melyn Dare's dad Susan Morris, Anna Myers' daughter

### Friends of Church Members:

Diann La Grange, friend of the Bunger family Renee Parkhurst, friend of Charles & Madelene Vestal Dave Torres, Kim Myers' friend Evelyn Rojo, friend of Esther Rivera Tara, work colleague of Marcia Johnston-Walden Marilyn Sundby, friend of Phyllis Parker Remember these people in your prayers. Let us continue to pray for:

Jim Arnold, brother of Rich Arnold Virginia Sorenson, sister-in-law of Frank & Roxanne Penn Cherie Williams, friend of Jean 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 **Reverend 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 Taylor Merrill, Charles & Madelene Vestal's grandson Evan & Danielle, Marsha Carey's son & daughter-in-law Joni Wick, friend of Rich & Jean Arnold MJ Paulsen Jo Shioji, grandmother of Kris & mother of Mary Lou Notari

#### PLEASE NOTE:

Names will remain on the Prayer List 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, his/her name will be added to the Long-Term Prayer List that is published in the church bulletin.

Prayers for those serving in the military, their families and all first responders and their families.





# SEPTEMBER 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
<b>3</b> 9:00 a.m. Adult Ed. 10:30 a.m. Worship	<b>4 LABOR DAY</b> Office Closed 7:30 p.m. AA	5	9:00 a.m. GMUWFAITH Breakfast Meeting LePeep - Lakewood	<b>7</b> 9:30 a.m. Quilts for Kids 5:30 p.m. Bellissimo Bells 6:30 p.m. Carillon Bells 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir	8	9 9:00 a.m4:00 p.m. CRAFT FAIR 8:00 p.m. Youth Group Glow-in-the Dark Lock – In
9:00 a.m. Adult Ed 10:30 a.m. Worship	<b>11</b> 7:00 p.m. Committee Meeting Outreach Committee Meeting 7:30 p.m. AA	12	13	<b>14</b> 9:30 a.m. Quilts for Kids 5:30 p.m. Bellissimo Bells 6:30 p.m. Carillon Bells 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir	15	<b>16</b> 9:00 a.m. UWFAITH Annual Mile High Metro District Meeting – Phillips UMC Lakewood
9:00 a.m. Adult Ed 10:15 a.m. Youth Group 10:30 a.m. Worship Newsletter Articles Due for October	<b>18</b> 7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting 7:30 p.m. AA	<b>19</b> 10:00 a.m. Bible Study	20 10:00 a.m. Shared Journey	<b>21</b> 9:30 a.m. Quilts for Kids 5:30 p.m. Bellissimo Bells 6:30 p.m. Carillon Bells 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir	22	23
9:00 a.m. Adult Ed 10:15 a.m. Youth Group 10:30 a.m. Worship	<b>25</b> 7:30 p.m. AA	<b>26</b> 10:00 a.m. Bible Study	27	<b>28</b> 9:30 a.m. Quilts for Kids 5:30 p.m. Bellissimo Bells 6:30 p.m. Carillon Bells 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir	29	30