



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



May 2025

Window on the Hill

Mark's Musings

We have a few left-overs from our recent Holy Humor Sunday. So, in the joyful spirit of our ongoing Easter feast, please allow me to reheat just a few more to share with you:

Elsie Julia Loosle Rusk (quite a name, right?) recalls 'signing up to bring a dessert to one activity and a savory side dish to another in the same week. I mixed up my activities and didn't realize it until I was placing my cheesy potatoes on a table full of exclusively cookies, cakes and pies. Nothing goes better with a thick slice of chocolate cake and a steaming cup of coffee than a side of cheesy potatoes!'

Burt Thomas reported a recent men's church group potluck with the instructions to 'bring whatever you want to share for dinner. Our entire potluck consisted of two items: corn and brownies.'

But Shari Parrish Overton relates the funniest one of the bunch, albeit not so nearly as appetizing as either cheesy potatoes or brownies: 'One of my sisters-in-law once took some beans to a potluck. She chose an old, cool-looking, porcelain-coated 'kettle' to take them in. She found out after she got there that it was actually an antique 'thunder mug'- A.K.A an indoor chamber pot, provided for the residents' convenience and comfort rather than having to use the outhouse in the middle of the night!'

Bon appetite?

PASTOR MARK

GMUMC Staff

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 mark@gmumc.com

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 gmumc@gmumc.com

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CUSTODIAN

James O'Toole

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NEWS & UPDATES

The Gathering Place

The **Care Team** will host the Gathering Place for May. Please thank all of these folks who are coordinating prayers and help for our church members in need. If you would like to offer to help with snacks on one of the Sundays in May, contact Mary Bloomstran or Sharon Berry or Roxanne Penn.

Contact Marilyn Griebel at (970) 729-0712 if you are interested in helping with **The Gathering Place**. Thank you.

Watch Your Step

Have you noticed the treads on the north steps lifting up? Repairs underway! This past winter water has seeped under some of the treads and freezing weather has then caused them to loosen. James O'Toole, our custodian, has removed, cleaned, and reglued these treads. That is why occasionally you have seen cones and roped-off stairs with large rocks holding down the reglued treads. Throughout the spring he will be checking all the stairs for treads needing regluing.

Why do the steps have treads? The original north steps were replaced in 2006 for \$11,520 due to the concrete breaking up. The new steps had a metal edge that over time began to rust, break up, and degrade the concrete. In 2019 Trustees installed ComposiGrip Anti-Slip Stair Treads on every north stair at a cost of \$1,600 to help preserve the concrete and as an added safety measure to prevent slipping on the steps.



Finance Committee Updates

Noisy Offering: Thanks for donating \$596. 51 from January to March to benefit CALPAC (noisy offering only), We Don't Waste, and Prodigy Ventures.

Reminder - Request to Hold a Monetary Fundraising Project form submission to Finance: Going forward Finance will only review fundraising requests at its monthly meeting on the 2nd Monday of each month. The form to complete is in the Finance slot in the cloak room. Please return the completed form to the Finance slot on or before the Sunday before the Finance meeting right after church. No decisions will be made between meetings.

Finance Secretary upcoming schedule: Cheryl Dial's May schedule is - May 3rd (Saturday), May 16th (Friday), and May 30th (Friday).

The church office will be closed

Monday May 26th

in observance of

Memorial Day



Easter Traditions: Flowering the Cross

BY ANGELA STONE

I'm fairly new to GMUMC and the tradition of Flowering the Cross is a new one to me. I love flowers and how this cross is unique each year as it's created by everyone as they enter the sanctuary.

Being curious, I did a little digging into the history of, and the how and why, the tradition came about.

Flowering the cross is a western tradition that can be traced back to the 6th century. The practice is based on a legend that the tears Mary wept at Jesus's cross blossomed into flowers.



Typically a bare cross is displayed during Good Friday service. The plain wooden cross represents Jesus's death and suffering as He endured the road to the cross and ultimately His death on the cross for our sins.

As we know, the story doesn't end there.

On Easter Sunday everyone adds flowers to the cross before we gather to celebrate the joy of Christ's resurrection.

(Some churches have the cross available for people to adorn with flowers starting on Saturday.) The flowered cross is placed at the front of the church for the Easter service, a beautiful symbol of the new life we have in Christ due to his death and resurrection.

What a rich tradition and beautiful visual to take with us as we contemplate Christ's sacrifice for us.

Pastor Mark's Bible Study

Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room.

Join us every Tuesday morning in the Fireside Room @ 10 a.m. for Bible study and discussion. Bring an open Bible, open tablet (for notes), and an open mind. We will take a break beginning Memorial Day through the end of July.

For more information please contact Pastor Mark:

mark@gmumc.com or
303-989-3727

Shared Journey

3rd Wednesday of the Month at 12:30 p.m.

Please join us on the 3rd Wednesday of each month for Shared Journey, our support group for caregivers whose loved ones experience dementia. All are welcome.

Please contact Sonya Noyes (303) 985-9522 for more information.

GMUMC Officers: President—Hamu Chigwada
Vice President—Kim Myers
Secretary—Penelope Mukarakate
Treasurer—Brenda Bronson-Walker



United
Women
in Faith

faith

action

sisterhood

Upcoming Events

First Wednesday, May 7th: UWFaith monthly breakfast meeting at 9 a.m. at Le Peep. 141 S Union Blvd, Lakewood. All women are welcome. Our next meetings will be on **June 4th**. We will not meet in July. For more information contact Kim Myers 720-810-2157 or kimuwfaith@gmail.com

May 4th: Book Club after church “We Are Not Here to Be Bystanders: A Memoir of Love and Resistance” by Linda Sarsour

Month of June (7, 11, 15, & 22): UWF hosting the **Gathering Place**

June 7th: District meeting, Spiritual Growth “Make a Joyful Noise” Smokey Hill UMC (Contact Brenda Bronson to carpool)

June 15th: UWF Sunday (We will do the church service. We have invited IRC to speak during the sermon and will do a Noisy Coin Offering.)

Want to join UWFAITH outings to learn more about Sand Creek Massacre & Amache National Historical Sites (NHS) this summer?

Our District UWFAITH is planning two outings to learn more about them:

Saturday June 28, 2025 at 1pm—Outing to **Colorado History Museum**, 1200 Broadway, Denver, CO 80203 to visit their Sand Creek NHS and Amache NHS exhibits

Friday morning August 22 to Saturday evening August 23, 2025—Overnight outing to visit both **Sand Creek & Amache National Historic Sites**. We will stay overnight at a hotel in Lamar, Colorado.

If you are interested in joining us, email Brendabronsonfpe@gmail.com and she will send you more information about both outings.

Click for an overview:

[Sand Creek Massacre NHS](https://www.nps.gov/sand/index.htm)

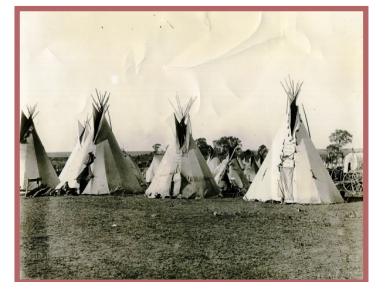
<https://www.nps.gov/sand/index.htm>

[Amache NHS](https://www.nps.gov/amch/index.htm)

<https://www.nps.gov/amch/index.htm>

STAY INFORMED

- ⇒Window on the Hill.
- ⇒Attend GMUMC or District meetings.
- ⇒UW Faith **website**: <https://uwfaith.org/>
- ⇒**Facebook**. <https://tinyurl.com/2en4epri>
- ⇒Faith Talks podcast.
- ⇒Join UWFaith Reading Program—over 50 books to choose from, read on you own or listen to audible books, join a book



Sand Creek



Amache



Prayer Shawls

Outreach Prayer Shawl Ministry now has given about **74** Prayer Shawls to date. If you know of someone in cancer treatment or experiencing grief, or any other situation, please contact Mary Bloomstran and we will provide a prayer shawl.

We welcome anyone that would like to join in making Prayer Shawls. There is a pattern that is used, and the yarn will be provided to you. This has been a wonderful ministry for our church and has brought comfort to many people.

MARY BLOOMSTRAN

mbloomstran@edgeenvironmental.com or (303) 263-2906

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

Financial Results thru 3/31/25

Income:

Giving..... \$91,409.67
 Building use/rent.. \$20,252.66
 Other \$1,378.49
 Total \$113,040.82

Expenses:

Salaries/taxes/benefits
\$59,367.53
 Building & grounds \$43,488.36
 Mission Shares.....\$6,249.99
 Other\$7,700.21
 Total \$116,806.09
 Net loss..... (-\$3,765.27)

*Finance Co-Chairs are glad to answer any questions:
 Marcia Johnston-Walden or
 Chuck Thorman*

The Action Center

The Action Center (located at 8755 W. 14th St., Lakewood) 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. Drop off donations accepted every Monday - Friday (CLOSED on Wednesdays).

<https://theactioncenter.org/get-involved/>

DONATIONS NEEDED

We collected **283 cans/pouches of tuna** during the month of March and delivered them to the Action Center to be distributed through their food bank.



The May Food Drive for the Action Center will be **PEANUT BUTTER**, in preparation for kids being out of school for the summer and in need of more lunch foods. You might add a few jars of peanut butter to Bobbie's Blessing Box also for our neighborhoods kiddos who are out of school.



Children's Department News



Celebrating Holy Week was a lot of fun! We started with a **Palm Procession** on April 13. On **Easter Sunday** we learned about Jesus' resurrection, had snacks, made cross necklaces and played games.

In May we'll study scriptures from the book of John to learn about what happened next.

May 11, is **Mother's Day**. We will make something special to take home for someone special.

A special thank you to everyone who helped host the Gathering Place in April. The food was delicious and definitely appreciated.

If you have questions or need more information about Children's Ministries, please contact Kim Myers at gmumc@gmumc.com or 303-989-3727.

GMUMC Youth, Grades 6-12



The Youth Group meets Sundays 10:15-11:30 AM.

Here are our upcoming discussion topics.

May 3rd, Walk MS:
Contact Alex to join the

MS Walk this year! This National MS Society event is a great way to learn about ability, community, and faith! (Plus they have all kinds of cool freebies for those who participate!) We will meet at City Park and our team theme is "Wired Different" this year!

May 4th, Coping Strategies: Are you tired of big changes and tough stuff?! Need some stress relief, but don't know how to get it?! Today is all about exploring a variety of coping strategies. We will test out a ton of options and get tools and strategies to use in our everyday lives! Friends are always welcome!

May 11th, Mother's Day—NO YOUTH: Enjoy time with the moms and grandmothers in your life!

May 18th, End of Year Bash/Gnomes: Who's ready to party?! Let's celebrate the conclusion of our Gnome Challenge and this year!!

Mission Project 2025: Serving Up Fun This summer we are working to create community connection with several fun events. We will welcome everyone to join us as we serve the community through laughter, fun, and teamwork!



Nursery Info

Childcare in the Nursery is unavailable during church services.

Infants and Toddlers are welcome to stay in the sanctuary throughout the worship service. There is a Kid Corner in the back of the sanctuary with some toys where young kids can play and parents can hear the service.

Children ages 3 and older are welcome to join Sunday School class after our Children's time during church service.

Youth Group Upcoming Events

May 23rd

Last Day of School
June

Chilling Together

Let's eat ice cream and play some games at the church!

July

Game On!

We can catch up and play games together.

August

Water Fight

Ready to cool off and have a blast?! It's time for a water fight and Freeze Pops!

QUESTIONS?

Contact **Alex**
(303) 882-0006
alex@gmumc.com

Care Team

The Care Team has 18 members who reach out with meals, cards, rides, home visits, phone calls, and prayer shawls. We use the weekly bulletin prayer requests as well as any new concerns mentioned during church service as our guide. We know there is support provided by those who aren't serving on our Care Team, and we thank these 'angels' for their service as well.

The Care Team does our best to keep up with the needs of those who require support during times of difficulty. Roxanne Penn and Sharon Berry serve as co-Chairs of the Care Team. All of us work together to provide care for the community and for our church family.

SHARON BERRY –
(303) 985-0906 (H)
ROXANNE PENN –
(303) 988-0695 (H)

The next meeting of the **CARE TEAM** will be in the **Fireside Room** on **May 25, 2025**, after the church service. We hope to see you there as we continue in our efforts to support and care wherever needed.

Outreach Committee

Outreach supports several mission projects to help those in our community. We are always collecting clothes, sheets and towels for the Action Center as they distribute both food and clothes to folks in Lakewood.

Another mission we support is the Ronald McDonald house. Their mission is to provide comfort, care and support for families with children who are sick, around the world. GMUMC has been collecting aluminum can tabs to help them support their mission. You can drop off the tabs in the basket on the table near the Gathering Place. Please thank Lorene Branson for always dropping off the tabs to the Ronald McDonald house.

Bobbi's Blessing Box

So many people in the neighborhood have been grateful for the food. Not only that, but some neighbors have come by and put food in the box! Please note that funds get short at the end of the month for people who are struggling so your generosity helps meet that need.

Additionally, some of our neighbors need items that don't require cooking or having a can opener. Any items that can be eaten out of the box or package meet this need for our community.



Scholarship Application Time

Calling all high school seniors! Are you headed to college or trade school after graduation? Time to apply for a GMUMC Scholarship for continuing education.

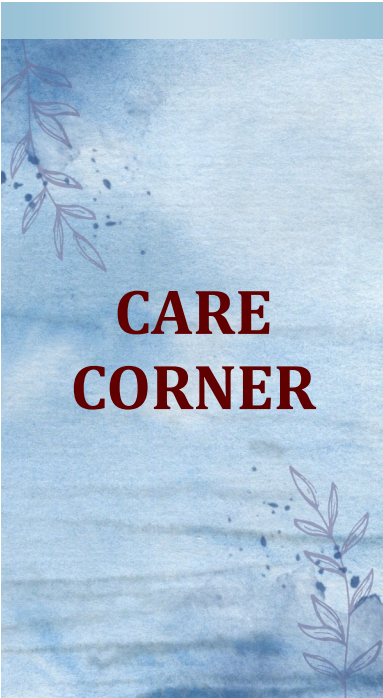
If interested reach out to Peggy Morrison @ 303-988-9491 for the forms to fill out and submit to the Scholarship Committee.

GMUMC Music Thursdays

Rehearsal Times:
Bellissimo Bells 5:30 p.m.
Carillon Bells 6:30 p.m.
Chancel Choir 7:30 p.m.

If interested in participation, please contact:

Choir Director, Charles Turley
dr.charles.turley@gmail.com
Bell Director, Janet Starkey
janetstarkey27@comcast.net
or join us for practice Thursday!



CARE CORNER

Please Note:

Names remain on the Prayer List for four weeks unless you notify the church office to remove them sooner or remain longer. Those experiencing loss will remain two weeks after the Memorial/Funeral service.

Attendance

3/23.....	82
3/30.....	90
4/6.....	103
4/13.....	70
4/20.....	144

*Keeping our promises by upholding the church with...
Our prayers, our presence, our gifts, and our service.*

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

For those who have experienced loss:

Ron Dare, Melyn Martin-Dare, Vivian Gines-Tanner, Mary Tilp, Austin (and community of Wheat Ridge HS).

Those experiencing health concerns or difficulties in their lives:

Church Members: Georgia Lewis, Phyllis Wittrup, Lettie Covert, Richard Stoddart, Karen & Harold Harmon, Marilyn & Wayne Harris

Family of Church Members: Taylor Merrill, Vestals grandson. **Amanda Glasco**, Cheri Werkhoven’s daughter. **Vonnie James**, Naomi Hilton’s niece. **Jack Watson’s** brother-in-law. **Lisa Grenier**, Harold Harmon’s daughter. **Lyn Berry-Helmlinger**, Sharon & Boyd Berry’s daughter. **Ava Ginde**, granddaughter of Frank & Roxanne Penn. **Richard and Karen Bard**, brother-in-law of Harvey Meyer. **Tom & Cindi Lowary**, Jennifer Borcan’s parents. **Jim VanHeest**, Mary Wylie's cousin. **Carolyn Clovesko**, Kristen Allen's mother. **Molly Elwood**, Nancy Elwood's cousin. **Mike Beltz**, Nancy Elwood's cousin, Lachelle's, husband. **Brenda Harding**, Charlotte Harding's daughter. **Joy Allpin**, Rev. Debra Juarez’s mother.

Friends of Church Members: Pam Williams, friend of Stacey Horne. **Dana Brower**, friend of Donna Bunger. **Mary**, friend Nancy Elwood. **Libby Mason**, friend of Stacey Horne. **Brad Horne**, Alex Horne’s brother.

Prayers for those serving in the military and their families.

Life Spark 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.

For many years GMUMC has hosted LifeSpark massage sessions in room 203 (lower north end of the west building).

How LifeSpark Sessions Work:

LifeSpark is a free program, their wellness therapies promote peace and healing on all levels.

Adults 18 and over with any type or stage of cancer are eligible to receive 8 weeks of healing sessions. Caregivers are also eligible (family members who take care of a cancer patient).

Sessions last about an hour. LifeSpark sessions do not replace medical care, but rather support you during and after cancer treatment.

For more information or to get started contact LifeSpark at (303) 425-5670 or LIFESPARKNOW.ORG

GMUMC Online Directory

Stay **CONNECTED!**

Here are instructions on how 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.



Church Directory



Green Mountain United Methodist Church

- 1) Go to the App Store. Search for **“Instant Church Directory”** It is a yellow icon with a white church.
- 2) **Install.**
- 3) Create Login: Give your email used in the directory and create a password. (If your email is not in the directory, you will need to send the church office a message to add it to the directory.)
- 4) Instant Church Directory will send you an email asking you to confirm you are in directory by clicking on a link in the email. The link will open in a browser window where you can use your login information...or close that and open the app and login there.
- 5) Once you are logged in to the Directory you can search for phone numbers, etc.

GMUMC Staff Parish Relations Committee

CO-CHAIRS: GERRY GRIEBEL & MARY BLOOMSTRAN

SPRC Liaisons

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| Kim Myers (Office Manager) | Mary Bloomstran |
| Cheryl Dial (Finance Secretary) | Deanna Hanna |
| Melissa Sussman (Music Coordinator/Organist) | Tena Harris |
| Charles Turley (Director, Chancel Choir) | Gerry Griebel |
| Janet Starkey (Director, Bell Choirs) | Tena Harris |
| Kim Myers (Director, Children’s Dept) | Dixie Bowker |
| Alex Neve (Director, Youth Group) | Vince Allen |
| Vacant | Jennifer Borcan |
| James O’Toole (Janitor) | Vince Allen |

Birthdays

- Vince Allen, May 1
- Gloria Dockter, May 2
- Alexander Walcott, May 4
- Anna Stenman, May 13
- Tegan Moore, May 14
- Tania Moore, May 19
- Jean Arnold, May 21
- Maddocks Turner, May 21
- Lucas Horne, May 23
- Carl Wooster, May 25
- Mary Bloomstran-Thomas, May 26
- Rigby Johnson, May 26

Anniversaries

- Eric & Kim Morrison, May 26
- Sandra and Othon Sanchez, May 29

Nancy's Happy Home Services
"A Flair for Organizing Your Home"
 NANCY ELWOOD – Home Economist – Bonded



Organizing: Papers, Closets, Kitchens, and More!
 Food Preparation • Party Help (303) 467-7820
 Pet • House Sitting • Errands Excellent References!
 Business • House Cleaning 25 Years Experience
 E-mail: nancywithhappyhomes@gmail.com

Articles for the **JUNE 2025** Window On the Hill are due **Tuesday, May 20, 2025**
 Please email items to:
wotheditor@gmail.com
 AND
gmumc@gmumc.com

MAY 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
				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		10:00 a.m. Memorial Service for Vivian Gines-Tanner
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10:15 a.m. Youth Group 10:30 a.m. Church Service After Church Youth Bell Practice 11:30 a.m. UMFAITH Book Club	7:30 p.m. AA	10:00 a.m. Bible Study	9:00 a.m. UMFAITH Breakfast Meeting @LePeep, Union Blvd. 6:45 p.m. AA 7:30 p.m. HA	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		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
10:15 a.m. Youth Group 10:30 a.m. Church Service After Church Youth Bell Practice	7:00 p.m. Church Committee Meetings 7:30 p.m. AA	10:00 a.m. Bible Study	11:00 a.m. Memorial Service for Melyn Martin-Dare 6:45 p.m. AA 7:30 p.m. HA	9:30 a.m. Quilts for Kids 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
10:15 a.m. Youth Group 10:30 a.m. Church Service	7:00 p.m. Church Council Zoom Meeting 7:30 p.m. AA	10:00 a.m. Bible Study	12:30 p.m. Shared Journey 6:45 p.m. AA 7:30 p.m. HA	9:30 a.m. Quilts for Kids		
		<i>June Articles Due</i>				
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
10:30 a.m. Church Service After Church Care Team, Fireside	7:30 p.m. AA Memorial Day Church Office Closed	10:00 a.m. Bible Study	6:45 p.m. AA 7:30 p.m. HA	9:30 a.m. Quilts for Kids		



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PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE



All Are Welcome Here!