

What's Cookin' at FUMCGJ

11/22/2020

Welcome to Sunday Worship

November 22 and 29 Regular service times of 9 & 11 AM

Because the last Sunday in November is also the First Sunday of Advent, we're going to have our normal two services that Sunday instead of one.

Effective this Sunday, our worship services move back to Online only. We invite you to join in our live streamed services via our website at fumcgj.org or on facebook live video at fumcgj.

A Word from Pastor Steve

Every day in the paper and on the Internet, the news underscoring the seriousness of the coronavirus/COVID pandemic supports being more careful concerning how we interact with each other. The exhortation of our Bishop that we cease in-person gatherings in the Churches throughout the Mountain Sky Conference is upsetting to many, especially given the fact that we are heading into the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays. But most understand the need for this level of precaution.

I reach out to all of you with compassion and grace in the midst of the upset and ask that we dig deeply into our faith, asking the Holy Spirit to help us internalize the example of Christ who continually gives of Himself for us that we might extend the same awesome gift of limiting our needs and desires for fellowship – for a season – that the health of others might be safeguarded. I think of Ecclesiastes 3 in this regard, "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven..." And I am confident that this response to the pandemic is but for this winter season. "Tears may last for the night, but joy comes with the morning", Psalm 30:5.

If you don't already know where to turn for current information, here are two starts:

1. The Mesa County Public Health Dept. news page on their website:
<https://health.mesacounty.us/news/>
2. And the State Health Dept. PDF with all the details concerning "the dial" and the regulations for each of the color levels associate with COVID risk:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1m_tYVWNTMJAuqt3kq9d2_6SNqrL7fLa7/view

Be smart, be safe, and as the Apostle Paul said, "Let each of you look not only to your own interests, but to the interests of others, as well." [Phil. 2:7]

God's peace and blessings to each of you, especially in this strangest of weeks of Thanksgiving
– **Pastor Steve**

Caring For You & Others – Carolyn’s Advent Challenge!

Reaching Carolyn

242-4850 option 2

242-4850 option 4 (Staff Directory) then option 1

firstmethodist@fumcgj.org

1. Please call or email the church office if you are having surgery, are in the hospital, or if you need a pastoral call. Your situation will remain confidential.
2. Ask for prayer from the congregation. You can call the church office or Peggy at 242-4206 on the prayer chain and/or you can have your name added to the Prayer Corner in the bulletin. Let us know if you want it publicized or kept confidential.
3. If you have a no internet access, but you do have a DVD player, request a copy of the worship DVD, Bulletin and Sermon Notes be sent to you on a weekly basis. Reach out!
4. Carolyn’s Advent Challenge – I decided for advent that I would call 1 person in our FUMC Village a day through Advent and let them know I was thinking about them. **WILL YOU JOIN ME IN THIS CHALLENGE?** If you feel moved to share an experience from this, call or email me in the office.
5. Send cards to our at-home Villagers. (see Christmas Card article in this eblast)

Administrative News from the Office

- **IMPORTANT UPDATE** - As of Sunday, November 22, no in-person meetings and groups can physically meet at the church. We ask that you meet via Zoom or other conference call platform. This will be in effect until mid-February. We know this is painful, so let’s get through this season as healthy as we can. Loving and Praying for you all.
- **Church office will be closed on Thanksgiving Day and Friday, 11/26 & 11/27.**
- **Communication** – If you know of someone who is not getting the eblast but has an email, please have them call the church office at 242-4850 (option 2 on main menu or option 1 in the staff directory) or email Carolyn at firstmethodist@fumcgj.org. The worship order and the eblast/what’s cookin’ is also located out on our website at www.fumcgj.org on the worship page.
Did you know that staff can be contacted directly by calling the church office number 242-4850 and pressing the staff directory option then selecting the appropriate staff member?

Ham & Turkey Sunday- FUMC time honored tradition with a NEW TWIST

Our traditional Ham & Turkey Sunday is THIS SUNDAY, November 22nd. Smaller turkey/hams work best.



FUMC Annual Ham & Turkey Drive
HELP FEED MESA COUNTY

LET'S GIVE THANKS & HELP THOSE IN NEED

GVYM and other volunteers will be facilitating our DRIVE THROUGH DONATION. Enter onto White ave from 6th heading west. Drop off zone is in front of the church building. There will be people to direct the flow of traffic.

DONATIONS WILL BENEFIT: THE COMMUNITY FOOD BANK. WE ARE ALSO ACCEPTING MONETARY DONATIONS. PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO COMMUNITY FOOD BANK.	DROP OFF ITEMS ON NOVEMBER 22 from 2-6 PM 522 WHITE AVE
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So what's the Twist? We are opening up this giving opportunity to the public AND offering more options for EVERYONE to participate this year.

#1 THE GRAND VALLEY YOUTH and our MISSIONS & OUTREACH TEAM are offering a DRIVE THROUGH donation drop. Simply drive up in front of the church on November 22nd between 2-6 PM and a YOUTH VOLUNTEER, wearing a mask and gloves, will safely retrieve your donation from your vehicle.

#2 As always, financial donations are welcome and we have several ways you can do it.

- ❖ You can go to our website at www.fumcgj.org, click on the giving tab to make a designated donation for the Ham & Turkey Drive.
- ❖ Send in a check designated for the Ham & Turkey Drive.
- ❖ Drive through on the above listed date and time to drop off your financial donation marked "Ham & Turkey drive."

UMW Christmas Tea

Advent greetings, Church Family!

You are invited to the annual Christmas Tea on December 3 at 2:00 PM. This year our gathering, sponsored once again by United Methodist Women, will be a virtual affair. A fun and inspirational program, "*The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*," will be presented by the clever and witty Beverly Windsheffel.

Anyone or everyone that would like to attend (virtually, of course), contact Liz or Amy to receive a written invitation with information on how to join our Zoom meeting. Please let one of us know by November 29 – and include your mailing address to get the invitation and special gift!

Liz Thomas 970-424-7252

and berninamama11@gmail.com or

Amy Gibbs 970-589-1879 and gnesiosgibbs@gmail.com

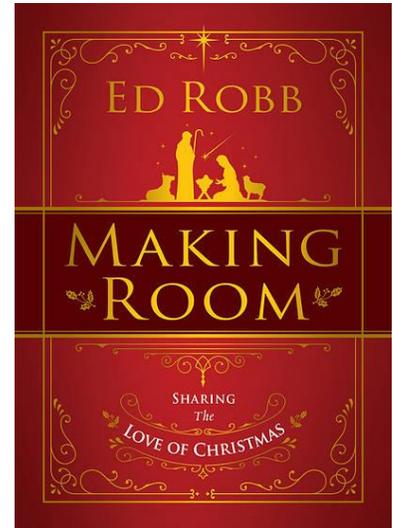


Advent Classes

Making Room: Sharing the Love of Christmas

Ellie Young and Sue Yeager are teaching a new Advent study, using the book *Making Room: Sharing the Love of Christmas*, by Ed Robb. The course will be taught online via Zoom, and assistance in learning how to navigate Zoom will be available. Cost of the book is \$12; we will order the books and you can pick one up and pay at the church or pay either one of us.

Class meeting dates are Tuesday, Dec. 1, 8, 15, and 22 at 4:00 p.m. Each class will be one hour in length. To sign up and for book availability check with Ellie: 245-8157 or ellie@indra.com; Sue: 245-5839 or syeager@coloradomesa.edu.



Home for Christmas – Tales of Hope & Second Chances

This Advent Study will be CO-facilitated by Jessica Mays and Pastor Steve on Wednesday Evenings, 5:30-7pm, Location TBD & Zoom link option will be available. Anyone is welcome to join.

Please call Jessica (970-242-4850 staff directory option 9) or email her at jessforministry@outlook.com by if you would like a book.

Home for Christmas brings inspiring stories of hope and second chances into the Advent season. Author and pastor Justin Coleman matches real life stories of struggle and triumph to the Advent themes of hope, love, joy, and peace to show how the light of Christmas shines brightly even in hard times. Each chapter lifts up a scripture reflection alongside tales of men and women who reflect on the Advent themes with love and longing.

Throughout each of the four chapters and the accompanying DVD for a small-group experience, Coleman captures the stories of formerly incarcerated men and women as they find work and opportunity through Homeboy Industries in Los Angeles, California. These men and women share their holiday memories and experiences in light of the hope and new life they've experienced at Homeboy.





Parade of Lights Update

The traditional Parade of Lights has been cancelled. However, downtown Grand Junction is having the 12 Days of Christmas event. Starting December 1, celebrate the season with socially-distanced festivities, a reverse Parade of Lights, shopping, pop-up entertainment, and more! Stay tuned for a schedule of festivities and keep an eye out for Santa – you never know

where you'll find him. Main Street will be closed each night between 4th and 5th Streets for the reverse parade. Lighted float displays will line the street, and for the first time ever we will award a people's choice award based on your votes! We are still needing people to help assemble the float, paint, and hang lights on the float.

Please contact Ashley Goldthwaite at connectionalministry@fumcgj.org if you'd like to join a team. Please know, helping with the float does not mean you have to be present with the float, you can make something and drop it off at the church. A big thank you to all our volunteers!

Here are our 4 categories and team leaders:

- **Cowboy Christmas**- Goldthwaite's
- **Victorian Christmas**- Jessica Mays
- **Future Christmas**- Pastor Steve & Kim
- **Manger Christmas**- Misty Wooten

Christmas Card Shower 2020

In the spirit of Christmas and honoring traditions, FUMC is happy to announce that we will still be doing our annual Christmas Card Shower, however, as with many things this year, in order to keep our faith family safe, we will be doing this a little differently this year. **We have printed the names and addresses of our at-home villagers and it is available in the Church Library.** We are asking our faith family to please drop by the church and get the list and mail the cards out on your own whether it be 1 or many. The holidays are such a blessing, yet for some, it can be rather lonely. Let's wrap our arms around all of our faith family to ensure that everyone is able to celebrate the reason for the season!



We opted to not send the list out via the eblast or put it in the What's Cookin' for privacy purposes (due to list containing addresses). Since the Craft'n Sistas' will **NOT** be gathering and bundling the cards up for people to take and deliver, **please do not leave cards at the church.**

May you all be blessed as we keep you in prayer throughout this holiday season.

Your Craft'n Sistas': Michelle Huff, Robin Nelson, Marina Young, and Carolyn Campbell along with Ashley Goldthwaite in our FUMC Connection Ministry.