

First United Methodist Church  
Platteville, Colorado

Established 1882 - Celebrating 137 years of ministry to the Town of Platteville

Pastor Phillip Vogels Office 970-785-6158

Cell 970-381-7021

Pastor Phil's office hours are Wednesday and Friday mornings until noon or 1:00pm

If you have questions, suggestions or a contribution for the newsletter,  
please contact Pastor Phil at Revphilvogels@gmail.com or  
Lyn Nelson, 970-284-6872, lynnels10@gmail.com



## The Chimes



When  
*you give a feast,*  
invite the poor, the crippled,  
the lame, the blind,  
*and you will be blessed.*

Luke 14:13-14, ESV

### September 2019 Lectionary and Sermon Themes

**Sunday, September 1st**

**Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**

*"Who's at Your Party?"*

Jeremiah 2:4-13

Sirach 10:12-18

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15, 16

Luke 14:1, 7-14

**Sunday, September 8th**

**Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost**

*"What are You Hanging On To?"*

Jeremiah 18:1-11

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Philemon 1:1-21

Luke 14:25-33

**Sunday, September 15th**

**Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

*"Lost and Found"*

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

Exodus 32:7-14

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Luke 15:1-10

**Sunday, September 22nd**

**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

*"Serving and Integrity"*

Jeremiah 8:18 - 9:1

Amos 8:4-7

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Luke 16:1-13

**Sunday, September 29th**

**Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

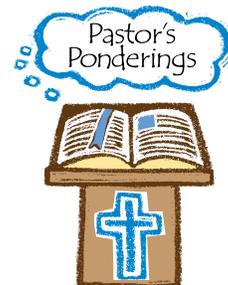
*"Truth or Consequences"*

Jeremiah 32:1-3, 6-15

Amos 6:1, 4-7

1 Timothy 6:6-19

Luke 16:19-31



*"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened."* Luke 7:7-8.

Have you ever been in a position where it seemed like the world was closing in around you? Or maybe there was a job coming to an end, a huge obstacle to overcome, or you were faced with an era of your life coming to an end? At times like this we tend to struggle with what to do. We get anxious, worried, and even scared for the future.

When I find myself in times like this I try to remember the words above from the Gospel of Luke. These words are so important to all of us and not just during times of loss or uncertainty. "ask and it will be given...seek and you will find...knock and the door will be opened..." Wow, what powerful words of hope and security these are!

This scripture is often truncated to Ask, Seek, and Knock. If you pay attention here, these are all actions that we take. We don't just sit back and wonder...we don't lay down and just give up...instead we have a role to play. We ask God for help, we Seek the counsel and wisdom of God and then we actively Knock on Gods door saying "Here I am, Lord!"

Once, years ago, I had a friend who was in desperate need of help with finances, a job, and their emotions...but they never told anyone. They had their car repossessed, they were kicked out of three apartment complexes for not paying rent, and they almost got caught stealing food from a store because they had no money to buy anything with.

When I found out about all of this I pulled in some favors from some of my friends and we were able to get this person a job, not a super great job, but a nice job with a decent salary. We also all pitched in a few dollars to help this person get into another apartment that they would be able to afford. But all of this could probably have been avoided if they had only asked for help.

When we don't ask for help and if we don't let anyone know of our needs, we shouldn't be surprised when our situations don't change. You see, God is there for us, but by our asking God for help, we are opening up our hearts to actually receive help so when it does come our way, we recognize it and we are able to accept it.

Would we have been able to help this family if we hadn't actively sought the help of God? Maybe, but I'm not certain. All I do know is that we asked for Gods help and God provided. I know that this is true in our personal lives as well. When we have need, we need to be going to the one that can do something about it. Going to our friends is good, going to our neighbors is good, but going to God is where things really start to happen.

Have you ever been on the other side of this where you hear of someone asking and you are able to help? Do you think this is coincidence or do you believe you are able to help because God put you in that certain place and time? I tend to believe the later, that there are really not that many coincidences but that instead, these are moments that God has chosen to use us to help others.

It feels amazing to be able to answer the door when someone Knocks, to be able to say "Yes" when they ask, and to be able to help someone open their eyes when they are seeking. If we feel this way, can you imagine how God feels when these plans unfold? There must be a continuous noise of praise and jubilation in heaven because I know this happens all the time and in all places around the planet. Amen?

We all run into times where we need the help so let us not be afraid to Ask, seek, and knock. I want to leave you with the same passage from Luke that I started this article with because I believe it is that important. Please take time to read it, but more importantly, take the time to Ask, Seek, and Knock whenever you need to.

*"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened."* Luke 7:7-8.

Blessings, Pastor Phil

**Please join us on  
Friday, September 6th  
5:00pm to 7:00pm**



# Community Meal

## **Corn Boil!**

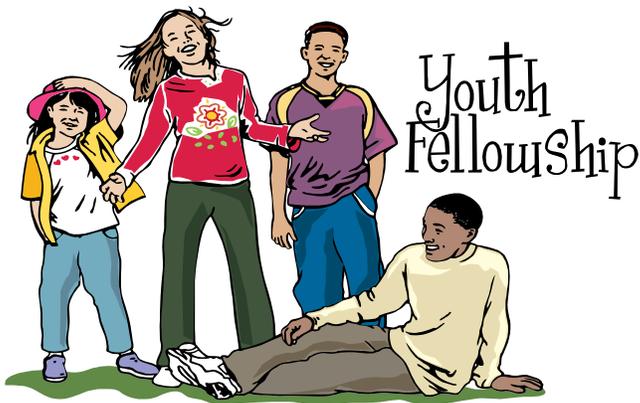
**Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Brats, Potatoes, Corn on the Cob**

**Congregational Salads**

**Ice Cream Sundaes Plus+**

We truly appreciate everyone's help in this continuing mission.

Jeanne Hirsch 970-785-2179   Shirlee Davis 970-785-0805   Gail Balcom 719-671-1674



**Don't Forget!!!**

Join in the fun and fellowship every Sunday evening from 5:00 to 7:00pm.

Any youth in 6th to 12th grade is welcomed to attend.

Please contact Pastor Phil or Sue States for more information.

### **Important Dates to Remember:**

Every Friday at 10:30am      Pastor's Bible Study in the Parsonage Meeting Room

Every Sunday at 5:00pm      Youth Group

Every Monday at 7:00pm      AA in the Miller Hall Great Room

Every Wednesday at 7:00pm      Grief Support Group in Miller Hall

Sunday, September 1st      11:00am Sunday Worship with Communion

Tuesday, September 2nd      First Day of School

Friday, September 6th      5:00pm to 7:00pm First Friday Community Meal

Saturday, September 14th      10:00am to 1:00pm UMCOR Disaster kit building event at Johnstown UMC

Thursday, September 18th      5:00pm Admin Council in Parsonage Meeting Room

# TRUSTEE REPORT

As we move into September, the Trustees focus turns to our Parsonage. We are starting with looking for the best way to add a toilet to the basement bathroom while being cost efficient. We have come up with different ideas to consider. We have also brought contractors in to see what ideas they may have that will work, or an idea that we can brainstorm into a good solution. This figures to be the most difficult and most expensive part of our Parsonage Project. At any rate, we plan to take our time with this, and come up with the best possible plan to move forward with.

Our new front sign has been working great. We do have one final thing to do on this Front Sign Project. We are in the process of filling in the two areas underneath the sign where the old sign and the flame and cross was. We have discussed different ways to do this. Right now we are leaning towards having a bricklayer fill it in with matching bricks. We will be having a conversation with a bricklayer and see where this goes. Now that we have the sign working well, Pastor Phil will be looking at getting people trained on programming information onto the sign. Right now Pastor Phil is the only one that can do this, and of course, this needs to change.

As always, the Trustees welcome input from our membership. If you have an idea, let us know. Sometimes the smallest comment can turn into a great idea for our Church when the Trustees get to brainstorming. The Trustees appreciate the fantastic backing that we get from our membership. Without it, we couldn't do the things we do.

Lyle Hoffman

*There is no elevator to heaven,  
You have to take the stairs*



Summer is officially ending now, so we will be getting very serious about our Directory project . If you have not alerted us to changes in address, phone, email, etc - it's time!

Watch for copies of the new directory at worship, in the Pastor's office or let us know if we need to send you one.



Wherever you are on your journey of grief, you don't have to travel alone. Grief is unique to each person and journeying through it can be painful, lonely and confusing, but it can be comforting to share this journey with others.

Please join Pastor Phil and Sue States on Wednesday evenings at the church at 7:00pm. For more information please call 720-477-8587

The Johnstown UMC will be hosting an UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) kit building party on Saturday, September 14th from 10am to 1pm.

Johnstown UMC is located at 108 King Avenue, Johnstown, CO

There is no need to bring any materials to this kit building event, however, they are looking for extra funds to purchase more supplies to be able fill the materials needs for this day. Please go to <https://johnstown.church/give/> in order to give to UMCOR. Make sure you check the right drop down box and choose UMCOR when making a donation or it will not go to UMCOR.

If you donate during worship in Platteville, please make sure to show Johnstown UMCOR in the memo line and we will make sure to forward it on.



Pastor Phil has been updating our web-site. Please check us out at [www.plattevilleumc.com](http://www.plattevilleumc.com)

We have a Facebook page, too. Just search for First United Methodist Church, Platteville, Colorado. You can even see last weeks sermon here if you missed it!

Our District and Regional UMC family also has a web-site at [www.mountainskyumc.org](http://www.mountainskyumc.org)

And Bishop Karen has new content and information at [www.mountainskyumc.org/bishop](http://www.mountainskyumc.org/bishop)



The Beddo Family would like to thank everyone who worked the Estate Sale.

It made it possible for us to have time to grieve for our son and brother.

Dearal & Mary Lou Beddo



## LABOR DAY

Monday, September 2nd, 2019



"Do you like the new steeple?  
I bought it on eBay."

From a church bulletin:  
"Eight new choir robes are needed due to the addition of several new members and the deterioration of some older ones."

## "Notes" from the Churchmouse



We hope you are enjoying the last long, hot days of summer!

Most couples like Mama and I, whether human or mouse, know the many facial expressions of our partner and families. Now, I know that humans do not have such thing as whiskers twitching, pink noses wiggling or tail swishing (or do they?). But I'm pretty sure our human friends do have a furrowed brow, silly grin or "clueless" look just like we mice.

What got me thinking about this subject was Mama's clearly furrowed brow just the other day. I asked her if something was wrong and she just replied with an absent-minded hum, hum. I had to pry a bit, but she finally told me that as she and I age, she has to wonder who is going to make sure the listening posts are being used or the crumbs counted!

Mama just isn't sure that Junior and Sissy will be the ones to make sure the mouse church stays active and engaged. But even more than that, she wonders about some of our very active and engaged older human friends. You know, the ones in this church who are always in the kitchen, always checking for maintenance issues, or always making plans for reaching out and being the hands of Christ.

Mama just isn't sure that someone will step up and take on the responsibility. I reminded her, gently of course, that if she looks back over the many years of the history of this church, someone new almost always finds their mission and purpose. Someone in the background moves forward, and that doesn't always look obvious until the opening appears.

I'm not sure I removed that furrowed brow, but I'm hoping I helped her trust that God has a plan for our mouse and human churches and all we need to do is listen.

Pray unceasingly like the Bible says!  
Mortimer Mouse