



1101 Rampart Range Road  
Woodland Park, CO. 80863

# MOUNTAIN VIEW MESSENGER

Phone: 719-687-3868  
Emergency: (401) 824-9055  
mtviewumc@qwestoffice.net  
www.mt-viewumc.org  
Rev. Michael Gore  
mtviewumcpastor@gmail.com

## FEBRUARY 2018

*a people of God, learning to love like Jesus*

### LENTEN LOVE

The season of Lent is almost upon us. It will begin with Ash Wednesday on February 14 – Saint Valentine’s Day! I wonder if there mightn’t be a message for us in this unusual timing. After all, Lent was historically a time of intense preparation by those seeking to be baptized into the Christian faith. It was, and still is, a time for repentance, prayer, fasting, study, and worship – all designed to deepen our love for Jesus and deepen our commitment to his will for our world. In the earliest days, those preparing for baptism often had to renounce their former way of life and endure great suffering in order to embrace the way of Jesus. Only the deepest love – love for Christ and his people – could motivate them to endure this hardship. And here’s the connection with Valentine’s Day.

According to legend, Valentine was a priest who lived during the reign of Emperor Claudius II. Needing soldiers for his army, and believing married men were less inclined to serve because military service would separate them from their wives, Claudius banned marriage for a time. This edict put Valentine at odds with the Emperor. Believing in the holiness and sanctity of marriage, Valentine continued to marry couples and was consequently beheaded for defying the Emperor. For Valentine, love for Jesus and his people took precedence even over the edicts of Rome!

As we move through the season of Lent, we will doubtlessly be called to reflect on our own love for Christ, his Church, and his purposes for our world. We will be called to repent of all those ways we place lesser interests over the interests of Jesus- to our own and the world’s hurt. We will be called to cultivate a deeper love for him through those historic practices that kindle and keep burning the fires of our spiritual passion. And although we may not be called to die for our faith, we will be called to offer our lives anew as a living sacrifice to God. Only love can move us to do so – love for Christ, his Church, and his world. May this Lenten season be a season of renewal in the love of God and neighbor for us all! Amen!

### UPCOMING SERVICES

#### February 4 - 5th Sunday in Epiphany

**Communion** - Community Cupboard  
Liturgist Lois Smith  
Communion Servers Dale & Linda Petersen  
Children’s Time Rusty Merrill

#### February 11 - Last Sunday after Epiphany

Liturgist Keith Sheldon  
Children’s Time Youth

#### February 14 - Ash Wednesday

11:00 am Service  
12:00 pm Luncheon  
7:00 pm Service

#### February 18 - 1st Sunday in Lent

Liturgist Jo Lied  
Children’s Time Kathy Stimits

#### February 25 - 2nd Sunday in Lent

Liturgist Jerry Burnham  
Children’s Time Judith Meyer

Past sermons (audio) @ [www.mt-viewumc.org](http://www.mt-viewumc.org)

## CHURCH EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

### ADULT LEARNING AND SHARING OPPORTUNITIES

#### **SUNDAY MORNINGS 8:30 - 10:00 AM**

#### **CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN ROUNDTABLE**

current study is Diana Butler Bass' latest book entitled *Grounded: Finding God in the World, A Spiritual Revolution*, (New York, Harper Collins, 2017). All are invited to join the class in the Multipurpose Room, located directly behind the Fellowship Hall. Class begins at 8:30 am each Sunday. The class schedule is available at [www.52aspensway.com](http://www.52aspensway.com) under the CCR dropdown menu.

#### **LENTEN STUDY FINAL WORDS FROM THE CROSS**

**Starts Sunday, February 18 at 9:00 am**

Pastor Michael will teach a Lenten study during Sunday School starting Sunday, February 18 at 9:00 am in the former sanctuary. A weekday session may be added if there's interest. Send him an e-mail if you would like such a weekday offering. He'll use Adam Hamilton's book "Final Words From the Cross" and Will Willimon's book "Thank

God It's Friday" as the basis for this study. You will not need to read either book to participate but you may want to order one or both for your own spiritual growth. They are available through Cokesbury bookstore.

**LIVING BIBLE CLASS:** Meets Sunday morning at 9:00 am in room 109 on the sanctuary level of the church. New study, *Thirteen Apostles*, starts soon. Contact Pat Hoffman at 719-686-5301 for further information. The class will join Pastor Michaels Lenten Study

**VOICES IN PRAYER:** Meets Sunday morning immediately following worship at the front of the sanctuary to pray for concerns that have been shared during worship.

**WOMEN'S ENRICHMENT MINISTRY:** Thursday mornings at 10:00 am at the church. Our current study is titled "Jesus the One and Only" by Beth Moore. It consists of video sessions and homework. If you would like any additional information contact Dianne Shafer at 687-4133.



#### **ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES FEBRUARY 14**

Ash Wednesday services will be held at 11:00 am and 7:00 pm on Wednesday, February 14 to mark the beginning of Lent. A light luncheon will be held immediately following the 11:00 am service. We will serve lasagna, salad, bread, and dessert. A donation jar will be available to help cover the costs of the luncheon (\$3.00 per diner). There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex to reserve a plate.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent, a time of spiritual growth and preparation for Easter. Ash Wednesday emphasizes two themes: our sinfulness before God and our human mortality. Ash Wednesday services typically focus on both themes, reminding us that Jesus frees us from sin and death by his own death, burial, and resurrection. During the service, ashes are typically applied to the forehead. The use of ashes as a sign of our mortality and repentance has a long history in Jewish and Christian worship. Historically, ashes signify purification and sorrow for sins. You are encouraged to attend one of these services as you begin your own season of purification, repentance, and spiritual growth in preparation for the joy of Easter.

**MHPP DISTRICT GATHERING**

Saturday, March 3, 10:00 am-3:00 pm  
First United Methodist Church  
420 N Nevada Ave.  
Colorado Springs, Colorado



t h e

*"Because you have little faith," he said. "I assure you that if you have faith size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mountain, 'Go from here to there,' and it will go. There will be nothing that you can't do." – Matthew 17:20*

The Mountain Sky Area is doing a new thing this spring... gathering regionally for united learning, faith formation and connection. We are excited to bring laity and clergy from fifteen locations across Colorado, Montana, Utah and Wyoming together to participate in this opportunity to explore HOW we, as an area, will actually develop the Beloved Community we've been envisioning. Together, we seek to become MOUNTAIN MOVERS: Cultivating Beloved Community.

We are excited to welcome our keynote speaker Christian Peele, who is Executive Minister of Institutional Advancement at The Riverside Church in New York City. She works with an incredible team that's thinking creatively about the meaning (and purpose) of Christian stewardship. We will also experience a powerful worship time led by our own Bishop Karen Oliveto.

Congregations are encouraged to bring lots of folks as there will be intentional opportunities for smaller group time focused on identifying the mountain God is calling your community to move. Today more than ever we need a bold faith that sends us into our communities as living examples of the good news. Plan to join this important one day event. You can register online at: <https://rmcumc-reg.brapp.com/DistrictGathering2018>.

**DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT TO PREACH AT MOUNTAIN VIEW!  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18**

Plan now to attend church February 18 to hear our new District Superintendent, the Rev. Dr. Tezenlo Thong, preach during our worship service. Dr. Thong was born in Nagaland in northeast India, on the border with Burma. Nagaland is one of only three Indian states with a majority Christian population. Dr. Thong is author of the book, *Progress and Its Impact on the Nagas: A Clash of Worldviews* and is the former pastor of Simpson United Methodist Church. He currently leads the 43 churches and 58 clergy of the Mile High/Pikes Peak District of the Rocky Mountain Conference of the United Methodist Church in fulfilling our collective mission of creating a Beloved Community! A man of gentle and winsome spirit, Dr. Thong is a delight to know. Don't miss this opportunity to meet him at Mountain View!

**2017 QUIET DISCIPLE RECIPIENT**



The 2017 Quiet Disciple recipient is June Essing. Upon moving to Woodland Park in 2005 with her husband, Rev. (Ret.) Marv Essing, June quickly immersed herself into the mission of our church. As an active kitchen helper, hostess, a leader and pupil of Christian education June's presence and contributions grace every part of Mt. View's ministry. Her numerous talents and gifts truly excel and prove indispensable particularly in the area of Children's and Youth Ministry. Here she tirelessly volunteers as a nursery attendant; Sunday school teacher; advisor; organizer; mentor; Children's Ministry team member; supervisor of acolytes; Vacation Bible School teacher and general all around go to person to get things done where the safety, welfare, education, and nurturing of children and youth are concerned.

### MOUNTAIN VIEW MARTHAS

**BLESSING BAGS:** Mountain View Martha's and the Mission Team have prepared Blessing Bags for homeless persons. If you would like to have a Blessing Bag in your car, they are available in the cabinet under the coffee cups in the narthex.



**COLLEGE/MILITARY CARE PACKAGES:** Mountain View Marthas are collecting items for the college/military care packages. Please consider donating items for boxes: small tissues, pens, pencils, combs, gum, nail files, snacks, and any small fun items. Monetary donations are always welcome to help cover the cost of mailing. There will be a box in the narthex for donations. Mountain View Marthas will meet Wednesday, February 21, 12:30 to 2:00 pm in the Multipurpose room to fill the boxes. Contact Jeanette Myers 719-351-2769 or Ann Snipes 720-427-1828.

**FELLOWSHIP BREAKFASTS:** Do you like breakfast? Would you like to fellowship with your friends from church? There are three groups that meet for breakfast on a regular basis. The Men's Emmaus Alumni Group meets at the Hungry Bear restaurant every Wednesday at 7:00 am. The Women's Emmaus Alumni Group meets every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month at 8:15 am at the Smokehouse. Graduates of the Emmaus Retreat Program, or those interested in learning more, are welcome to attend. An open Men's Fellowship breakfast also meets at Grandmother's Kitchen every Friday at 7:30 am.

### RMC ONLINE LENTEN GROUPS AVAILABLE

Are you looking for community and a chance for deep conversation with your siblings in Christ during Lent? The Yellowstone and Rocky Mountain conferences of the Mountain Sky Area invite you to join Wesleyan Small Groups. Individuals can participate in area-sponsored digital small groups via Zoom video conferencing. Resources also will be available online if people want to create their own in-person group with others in their communities.

Through these groups, you will be invited to grow in your relationship with God and one another while fostering relationships across the Mountain Sky Area. The six-week digital small groups will be comprised of six to 10 individuals, including a facilitator, who will meet in the same groups throughout Lent.

Groups will meet for 60 minutes each week with morning, midday, evening and late-night meeting times offered to accommodate a variety of schedules. Small groups will begin the week of Sunday, Feb. 18. To participate and select your preferred time slot, sign-up online by Friday, Feb. 9 at the following website: <https://rmcumc-reg.brtapp.com/WesleyanSmallGroups>.

### COLLEGE AND MILITARY MAILING ADDRESSES

In February, Mountain View Marthas will package up and mail out the 2018 College and Military Care Packages. Before we can mail a package to your student or military member, we need you to provide the addresses. We do not send a package to an unconfirmed address. Please provide the addresses to Jeanette Myers 719-351-2769 or Ann Snipes 720-427-1828 the church office by February 16 .

### WAY FORWARD COMMISSION UPDATE

The United Methodist Commission on a Way Forward is nearing the completion of its task of making recommendations of possible ways forward for The United Methodist Church regarding the inclusion of LGBTQ persons in this global denomination.

The 32-member Commission recently concluded its three-day meeting in Dallas, Texas, after reworking sketches of possible models of the future of the denomination that will be part of the final report to the Council of Bishops in May.

Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball, one of the three moderators of the Commission, noted that the members are confident that the Commission will succeed in its work. "We seek a way forward for The United Methodist Church that strengthens and expands Christ's mission in ways that value and enable the Church to reach more people in different contexts around the world and to minister with faithfulness, humility, creativity, and generosity," said Bishop Steiner Ball.

Council of Bishops President Bishop Bruce Ough asked the Commission to provide the Council with a draft theological statement that both informs the structural models and creates a compelling narrative for the models. Bishop Ken Carter, another of the three moderators of the Commission, said, "We understand that a way forward must go deeper than structural change and legislative revision. A way forward for the church draws upon the deep consensus of all that we believe and teach, especially about the grace of God which leads to mission and holiness. At the same time, we approach this theological work with a 'convicted humility'—we are grounded in important convictions, and yet we 'see through a glass darkly,' in Paul's words, and so we hold these convictions with humility before God and each other," he added.

Finally, Bishop David Yemba, the third of the three Commission moderators, noted that: "Whatever models the Council of Bishops will come up with and recommend to General Conference as a way forward, it is expected that (they) will provide space to focus on what unites us and not what separates us as well as what we can say together as basic principles on human sexuality in the light of the Gospel." The Commission plans to share its reworked models of possible ways forward with the Council of Bishops at a meeting in February that has been called to specifically hear more from the Commission.

### MOUNTAIN VIEW ESTABLISHES A TASK FORCE ON A WAY FORWARD

Recognizing the important work being done by the Commission on a Way Forward in examining our denominations current position on human sexuality, with particular reference to the LGBTQ community's inclusion in the Church, the Mountain View Church Council voted to establish its own Task Force on a Way Forward to help the congregation prepare for the upcoming release of the Commission's report and recommendations.

The motion, which was approved unanimously in Council, was to establish a Task Force to develop a plan to prepare our congregation to receive and act on the recommendations of the Way Forward Commission with the goal of fostering mutual understanding among members of divergent views, maximizing unity within the congregation, and bringing people together around our stated mission of making disciples who love like Jesus.

This Task Force is to be composed of the pastor, the Lay Leader, the Church Council Chair or Council member appointed by him, a representative of the Staff Parish Relations Committee (appointed by the SPRC Chair), and up to, but no more than, three additional members that they select. The Task Force will present its plan for approval at the next scheduled or called meeting of the Church Council. Please pray for the work of this Task Force as they help us move forward together in fulfilling our purpose of making disciples who love like Jesus, creating a world where God's love reigns!

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

### February Bible Verse:

And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself."

### Children's Ministry February

Holy Hospitality for the month of February

Wednesday, February 7, 9:00 am, room 207  
Children's Ministry Meeting

Sunday, February 11  
Board Games & Lunch with Adult Fellowship

### Monthly Mission- Socks

## YOUTH MINISTRY MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MEET SUNDAY FROM 4:30 - 6:00 PM

### YOUTH GROUP UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Youth Ministry February

Sunday, February 4  
Youth Group 4:30 pm-6:00 pm

Sunday, February 11  
Board Games & Lunch with  
Adult Fellowship, No evening Youth  
Group.

Sunday, February 18  
Going to the Movies! Gold Hill Movie  
Theater- Movie and Time TBD

Sunday, February 25  
Youth Group 4:30 pm-6:00 pm



### WOMEN'S SECOND CUP OF COFFEE February 13 & 27

Second and fourth Tuesdays  
from 9:00 - 10:00 am, all  
women are invited to meet at Pamela Gore's  
home. Babies and preschoolers welcome. A short  
devotional will be shared and time will be devoted  
to building relationships. Coordinator: Ottie  
Baumgardner 687-2646. Call for more infor-  
mation. **Please come!**



Spaghetti dinner Belize fundraiser was a great success. Thank you for your support.

## FINANCE FACT - DECEMBER 2017

12/31/2017 Analysis of Undesignated Revenues and Expenses at MVUMC					
	Monthly		Annually		
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Variance
Tithes & Offerings (pledged)	22,867	31,233	265,083	260,278	4,805
Tithes & Offerings (unpledged)	9,962	6,728	77,005	70,899	6,106
Other Revenue	3,695	137	9,960	1,644	8,316
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>36,524</b>	<b>38,098</b>	<b>352,048</b>	<b>332,821</b>	19,227
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>30,846</b>	<b>23,597</b>	267,784	285,129	(17,345)
Revenue over Expenses	5,678	14,501	84,264	47,692	36,572
Mortgage Principal Reduction*	(8,671)	(4,389)	(59,313)	(52,650)	(6,663)
Net Cash Flow	<b>(2,993)</b>	<b>10,112</b>	<b>24,951</b>	<b>(4,958)</b>	<b>29,909</b>

\*Includes payments from unrestricted funds only, i.e., monthly principal payments

**Important Notes for December 2017:**

- (1) Pledged revenues were significantly under budget for the month. Unpledged was over budget.
- (2) Expenses were under budget for the month.
- (3) Cash flow was positive for the year but negative for the month due to the extra principal payment made.
- (4) For the year we were over budget for revenues and under budget for expenses.
- (5) We made an additional principal only mortgage payment in December of \$3,436.

**Mortgage Principal Reduction**

	Monthly	Annually
Undesignated funds (see above)	\$8,671.00	\$53,502.00
Restricted gifts, adjustments, etc**		\$5,811.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,671.00</b>	<b>\$59,313.00</b>

**Cash Allocations**

Total Fund Balances	1,529,147.50		
<u>General Fund Total</u>	<u>(1,462,441.84)</u>		
Cash in Operating Checking Covering Designated Funds	66,705.66		
Operating Bank Account (December, 2017)	101,431.61		
<u>Cash to cover designated funds</u>	<u>(66,705.66)</u>		
Unrestricted cash to pay bills	<u>34,725.95</u>		
	<b><u>Operating Checking</u></b>	<b><u>Cash for Bills</u></b>	<b><u>Cash Designated</u></b>
		34,725.95	29,500.00
			15,000.00
<b>Restricted Fund Balances</b>			22,205.66
Building Fund Balance	33,329.69		
Restricted Fund Balances	6,597.58		
Deposit in Transit	-		
From Operations Checking			<u>0</u>
Total of all Restricted Fund Fund Balances	<u>39,927.27</u>	<u>66,705.66</u>	

## Our Mission: Making Disciples Who Love Like Jesus!

### 2017 COMMUNION OFFERINGS

Jan - Habitat for humanity ~ \$891  
 Feb - Community Cupboard  
 Mar- Help The Needy  
     DayBreak  
 Apr - One Great Hour of Sharing  
 May - Woodland Park Senior Center

Jun - Conference Offering  
 Jul - TBD  
 Aug - Local Fire Stations  
 Sep - TBD  
 Oct - World Communion  
 Nov - Welcome Home Warrior  
 Dec - Alternative Gift Market



### Woodland Park/Teller County Community Cupboard and Divide Food Pantry



February items are paper products. There is a box in each entryway for your donations.

The Little Chapel Food Pantry in Divide distribution dates are Mondays, January 8 & 22

Divide Food Pantry continues to need clean, used egg cartons and plastic bags. There is a container in each entryway for those items.

### FEBRUARY COMMUNION OFFERING will benefit Community Cupboard

Red Bird Mission participates in the following for support of their School: You collect the box tops from General Mill's products and bring them to church and put in the in the big cardboard soup can located in the narthex, we will then send them to Red Bird Mission and they will redeem the box tops for items or cash for their School. Thank you for helping support Red Bird Mission.



**EYE GLASSES**—old eyeglasses are being collected in the narthex by the Missions Committee and will be donated so others may have the gift of better vision.



### Community Outreach Opportunity Help Cut Firewood

If you like to exercise, enjoy fresh mountain air and at the same time, help someone heat their home, come join the group one Saturday a month to cut firewood. Help the Needy has an organized event, the 3rd Saturday of each month. Volunteers run a log splitter, help cut, stack or load firewood into vehicles.

Next Work Date: February 17 (third Saturday)  
 Location: Beside Fire Station on County Line Road  
 Time: 9:00 am - Noon

For further information, please contact the Lebarios at 332-1640.

**SOCK IT TO ME SUNDAYS** - Freezing weather means cold toes for the homeless in our community and other individuals who have trouble staying warm in frigid temperatures. During the month of February, the mission committee is collecting warm socks to help meet this need. Just put your warm, fuzzy donations in the box in the Narthex to help those in need. We will distribute the socks to area agencies serving low-income individuals and families.

### Thank You

The Mission Committee would like to thank everyone who donated to this year's Alternative Gift Market. A total of \$2222 was raised and distributed to the six charities chosen. Your gifts will help needy people right here in Teller County, hurricane victims in Texas and Florida and others around the world who need our assistance.

### BATTERY BUCKET



There is a "battery bucket" in the narthex for recycling used batteries





**2018 FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 - Tina Myers
- 2 - Jerry Burnham

- 4 - George West
- 6 - Chuck Bostian
- 10 - Fred Tinsley
- 11 - Marva Laudert
- 11 - Cliff Prater
- 13 - Pamela Gore
- 13 - Mike Theimer
- 16 - Darrell Downing
- 16 - Marcene Etchieson
- 19 - Kurt Reich

- 23 - Vicki Sapp
- 24 - Liz Wilgers
- 26 - Mary Schafer

**2018 FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES**

- 21 - Dale & Linda Petersen
- 26 - Kal & Cindy McBride

**HOLY HOSPITALITY HOSTS**

- January - Guest Ministry Team
- February - Children's Ministry Team
- March - Nominating & Lay Leadership Committee
- April - Adult Ministry
- May - Guest Ministry
- June - Chancel Choir
- July - Trustees
- August - Mission Committee
- September - Mountain View Martha's
- October - Worship Committee
- November - Finance Committee
- December - Youth Ministry

**MOUNTAIN VIEW CHRISTIAN CAREGIVERS**



Let us know if:

- You want a home visit
- Are in the hospital or a rehab center
- Have lost a loved one
- Want a ride to an appointment

We are praying for you.

Contact Marcia Myers at 687-6021 or Pastor Michael at 687-3868. Emergencies (401) 824-9055.

**NEEDED - CHURCH VOLUNTEERS:**

The following committees are in need of additional volunteers: The Worship Committee needs someone to coordinate our weekly liturgist schedule and someone to set up for monthly communion and periodic baptisms. The Trustees could use an additional member or two to sit on the Board of Trustees to oversee facility maintenance and repair. The Educational Ministry Team could use someone to sit on the Council on Ministry and Church Council to represent the interests of the various small groups and classes that meet regularly in our church. Volunteers are also being sought to phone our first-time guests welcoming them to Mountain View. Training will be provided. Please contact Pastor Michael if you are interested in serving in any of these offices.

**FOOD MINISTRY**

There are many folks in our congregation who are experiencing difficult times with health issues.

Questions have been asked, "How can I help?, Is there anything you need?"

This question has spurred the idea of creating a supply of meals that will be kept in our church freezer. When a need arises, we'll be prepared to help.

As we create meals at home, let us keep this ministry in mind by adding a few extra ingredients to be packaged. Let's have fresh meals stored in the freezer; not haphazard left-overs. Aluminum containers tightly sealed should be clearly marked with contents, reheating directions and the date prepared. The meals will be delivered as needed.

Watch for further updates as this ministry evolves. Hopefully in a positive and blessed direction.

For further information, contact Stephanie Witman at 719-291-3888.