

JULY 2024



# THE BANNER

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF BERTHOUD MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

From Pastors Mark and Sandie Johnson

Dear Friends

“Summertime and the livin’ is easy. Fish are jumpin’ and the cotton is high” as the song goes. After a winter that seemed like it would never end, aren’t you ready for a bit of easy livin’? Maybe iced tea in the shade of a big old tree? Or how about a bit of puttering in the garden . . . bike rides . . . hikes . . . cookouts with family and friends . . .?

As summer weather and activities draw us outdoors and into opportunities for rest and recreation, you might consider the spiritual discipline of awareness. Awareness is both the simple, and profound, task of paying attention to what God has done and is doing. It is said that St. Ignatius would often spend his evenings gazing at the stars and contemplating their beauty and the wonder of God’s creation.

How might you practice awareness? As you are holding hands with a loved one, do you feel not only the warmth of their hand but more importantly the warmth of their love? As you garden, can you feel the richness of the earth . . . enjoy the wonder of the ladybug on plant, a butterfly soaring on



a breeze . . . the sweet taste of the first strawberry of the season? As you gaze on a mountain or the plains stretching before you do you glimpse the wonder of God’s creative diversity? Do your favorite activities draw you into greater love for God and each other? How might all these understandings draw you deeper in prayer and love for God? It is all a matter of awareness.

Our prayer for you this summer, and always, is for you to grow in awareness of God’s incredible love for you, for humankind, and for all creation.

See you in worship.

Blessings,  
Mark and Sandie

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Call for Liturgists



Would you like to be a part of the liturgy team? You'd join a group that reads the scripture during Sunday Worship. Each liturgist currently reads about 10 times per year, but with a larger team that number will drop. If interested, please contact the office or the pastors to be placed on the schedule starting in July. You'll be onboarded with a brief orientation by the pastors before you start.

### Picnic At the Pastors' House – Saturday, July 6<sup>th</sup>

You're invited to a picnic at the Pastors' house on Saturday, July 6 from noon-2PM. Bring a side dish to share and maybe a chair to sit on. Pastors Sandie and Mark will provide lemonade and iced tea and grill burgers and sausages. We'll have games and, of course, you can meet the alpacas and goats. Please RSVP so we have an idea of how many folks to plan for.



**New Member Induction** – On Sunday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, we will welcome into Professing Membership (full membership) those worshippers who have indicated a desire to unite with the church. If you are interested, or would like more information, please chat with Pastor Mark or Pastor Sandie.

### Church Reorganization



On Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, a congregational meeting was well attended by church members interested in learning more about our proposed reorganization plan. Our District Superintendent, the Rev. Mark Calhoun, has approved our plan. Our next step is for the Church Council to vote to move forward and bring the plan to an All-Church Conference for professing members (full members) to formally approve. At that All Church Conference the

Nominating Team will present a slate of candidates for the nine-person Leadership Team. As we move forward and meetings are set, we will share the news in the "Blast" and in the Worship Bulletin.

## MINOR BUT STILL KEY

Lesser-Known Bible Characters



### Summer Sermon Series

This summer, Pastors Sandie and Mark will share a sermon series entitled “Voices From The Margins” in which we will highlight some of the “wilder” characters in the Bible. Please join in worship while we explore how the Holy Spirit has moved, and continues to move, through some of the most unlikely people.



### Prayer Chain

Barbara Boyd will be out of the country in early July, so if you have a prayer concern between June 28<sup>th</sup> through July 15, please contact the office.

### Mission Trip – August 9 and 10



The Mission Committee is putting together a short Mission Trip to Camp Buckhorn on Friday, Aug 9 & Saturday, Aug 10 that would include adults and youth. As before, it would not entail heavy work (painting, water blasting, removing caulk and re-caulking, etc) and we may be able to stay at a cabin overnight just to make it more fun. Please call the church office (970-532-2142) or Ric Haskins (303-818-2577) if you're interested.

### Friendly Reminder

We have reserved pews in the back of our sanctuary for those who are practicing masking and social distancing, for health concerns that affect themselves or a loved one. If you or a loved one has health concerns, please consider these pews reserved for you, and keep your distance from others in these pews. If you are *not* masked or practicing social distancing, please select a different pew. Thanks!



# SMALL GROUPS

## United Methodist Men

United Methodist Men is a creative, supportive fellowship of men who seek to know Jesus Christ, to grow spiritually and to daily seek His will. Our primary purpose is to declare the centrality of Christ in the lives of men and in all their relationships. If you would like to be involved with the Berthoud United Methodist Men, please e-mail Ric Haskins at [rghask@aol.com](mailto:rghask@aol.com).



## United Women In Faith (Formerly United Methodist Women)

The mission of the United Women In Faith is to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship, and education so that they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.

**UWIF Executive Board Meeting:** Every Second Wednesday – 9:00 AM in the Library  
**Hope Circle:** Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday – 1:30 PM in the Library  
**Early Bird Circle:** Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday – 8:00 AM in the Library



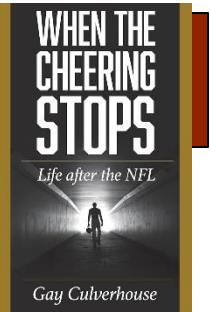
## Wednesday Workers

The Wednesday Workers are a group of men and women who maintain the building and grounds, and prepare the sanctuary and Sunday School rooms for Sunday.

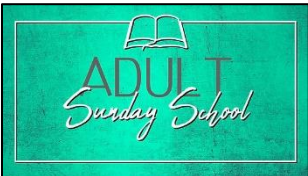


**Spanish Class** will meet in the Library on Tuesdays at 10:30 AM.

The Book Club will meet at 7:00 P.M., July 25 to discuss *When The Cheering Stops* by Gay Culverhouse. See Barbara Boyd for a copy of the book.



**Caring Connections** helps to care for the needs of our congregation. All are welcome to join us! Meetings are held in the Library at **9:00 AM on the first Wednesday every month.**



## Youth and Children Sunday School

Sunday School for children and youth will be on Summer Break until the fall. Children are always welcome to join us for worship in the sanctuary.

**Exploring the Bible**, led by Keith Henderson, meets Sundays at 8:30 AM in the Builder’s Room; all are welcome to join us!

**Faith and Fellowship** meets in the Library at 11:30 AM each Sunday.

## JULY CALENDAR



Day	Date	Time – Event – Location
Tuesday	2	5:30 PM – Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
Wednesday	3	9:00 AM – Caring Connections, Library 10:00 AM – Pastor Chat, Pastors’ Office 2:30 PM – Deaf Bible Study
Thursday	4	<b>Office Closed – Happy Independence Day!</b>
Sunday	7	8:30 AM – Exploring the Bible Adult Sunday School, Builder’s Room 10:00 AM – Worship
Tuesday	9	5:30 PM – Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
Wednesday	10	9:00 AM – UWIF Executive Board Meeting, Library 10:00 AM – Pastor Chat, Pastors’ Office 2:30 PM – Deaf Bible Study, Zoom
Thursday	11	1:30 PM – Hope Circle, Library
Sunday	14	8:30 AM – Exploring the Bible Adult Sunday School, Builder’s Room 10:00 AM – Worship
Tuesday	16	10:30 AM – Spanish Class, Library 5:30 PM – Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
Wednesday	17	10:00 AM – Pastor Chat, Pastors’ Office 2:30 PM – Deaf Bible Study, Zoom
Saturday	20	8:00 AM – UWIF Early Birds, Library 8:00 AM – UMM Fellowship Breakfast, Fellowship Hall
Sunday	21	8:30 AM – Exploring the Bible, Builder’s Room 10:00 AM – Worship
Tuesday	23	10:30 AM – Spanish Class, Library 5:30 PM – Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
Wednesday	24	10:00 AM – Pastor Chat, Pastors’ Office 2:30 PM – Deaf Bible Study, Zoom
Thursday	25	7:00 PM – Book Club Meeting, Van Amburg Hall
Sunday	28	8:30 AM – Exploring the Bible Adult Sunday School, Builder’s Room 10:00 AM – Worship 4:30 PM – Colorado Friendship Dinner, Boulder
Tuesday	30	10:30 AM – Spanish Class, Library 5:30 PM – Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
Wednesday	31	10:00 AM – Pastor Chat, Pastors’ Office 2:30 PM – Deaf Bible Study, Zoom



## JULY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

July 2	Mark and Meredith Neitenbach (A)	July 12	Brad and Kathy Pickert Jr (A)
July 3	Jonah Doyle	July 16	Susan Jensen
July 3	Monie Lee	July 16	Faith Smith
July 3	Robert and Sandra Towry (A)	July 17	John Guthrie
July 7	Kirsten Davis	July 23	Peggy Keagle
July 7	Mark and Germaine French (A)	July 23	Sue Radway
July 8	Wyatt Obendorf	July 23	Jared Kiehn
July 9	Liz D'Amico	July 25	Janie Patterson
July 10	Clay Lewis	July 25	Sandra Towry
July 11	Matthew Smith	July 28	Ric Haskins
July 12	Ramsey Hollander		



Please keep us informed about your joys and sorrows. Many are in need of prayer (both in public and in private). Call the office and we will notify the appropriate contact and add your name to the Prayer Corner of the Sunday bulletin. We are here to serve God, and we want to share your burdens and joys. Phone: 970-532-2142. Email: [secretary@berthoudumc.org](mailto:secretary@berthoudumc.org), [pastormark@berthoudumc.org](mailto:pastormark@berthoudumc.org) or [pastorsandie@berthoudumc.org](mailto:pastorsandie@berthoudumc.org).

### First United Methodist Church of Berthoud

820 9<sup>th</sup> Street (9<sup>th</sup> and Lake) Berthoud, CO 80513

Phone: 970-532-2142

Church email: [secretary@berthoudumc.org](mailto:secretary@berthoudumc.org)

Website: [www.BerthoudUMC.org](http://www.BerthoudUMC.org)

Pastor email: [PastorMark@berthoudumc.org](mailto:PastorMark@berthoudumc.org)

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/berthoudumc/>

[PastorSandie@berthoudumc.org](mailto:PastorSandie@berthoudumc.org)

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJqSxMBHmcpSPv5SldlcyAg>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/berthoudmethodistchurchon9th>