

NOVEMBER 2024



THE BANNER

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF BERTHOUD MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

From Pastors Mark and Sandie Johnson

Dear Friends,

Do you remember the line from that old movie “What we have here is a failure to communicate?” Sometimes our “failure to communicate” comes from hearing what another person is saying but not really listening to them. Do you know what I mean?

Several years ago, someone remarked to me, “You always came to church with wet hair.” I felt so ashamed. But they were right, my hair was at least damp, if not dripping, by the time our family – all nine of us – got to church. You see, on Sunday mornings when all seven kids were at home, it was challenge for all of us to get ready. We had two bathrooms with one (tiny) water heater. Showers started with the youngest and proceeded to the oldest. There were more than one Sunday when Mark got the COLD shower. (Another story another time.) Needless to say, with all the rushing to get kids dressed, find shoes, comb hair (Mark was the worst) and so on, my hair was usually still wet when we all got to church.

Many years later we returned to that church where our kids grew up and Mark heard his call to ministry. As we were chatting with one of the Saints of the church, they said to me, “You always came to church with wet hair.” For years I took this as a negative, it hurt. It

was just this week I heard it differently. Maybe I should say I listened to what they were saying without letting my guilt and shame get in the way.

What I believe they were really saying was “you always came to church, with at least seven kids, and you always CAME to church.”

How often do we hear comments through the filters of our feelings and interpret them to be negative when actually they were meant as a compliment? For me, I’ve learned two lessons: be careful how I speak and be careful to really listen. And whether speaking or listening, let God’s grace be in the conversation.

During November we will be celebrating our church’s 150th anniversary and will have occasion to talk with folks that perhaps we haven’t seen for a while. We might even meet some people who are brand new. Let us both speak and listen in ways that share the love of God in Jesus Christ.

See you in worship.

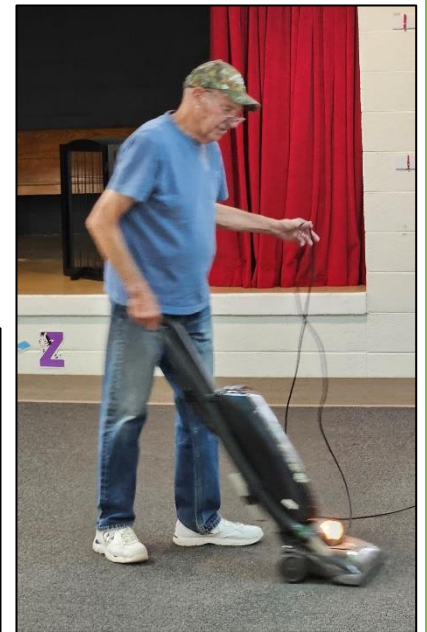
Blessings,
Pastor Sandie



A LOOK BACK AT OCTOBER



Above Left: The Wednesday Women dusting my office desk. Thanks!
 Above right: Carol Keck tries blowing out 84 candles, in multiple sets of 8. We lost our voices from all the singing and smoke.
 Left: The Wednesday crew got the sanctuary ready for autumn.



Above Middle: There was a long line for the Fall Craft and Food Fair when the doors first opened on October 12th.
 Above right: Larry was a single member of a large clean-up team after another successful Craft Fair.
 Right: The congregation appreciated our pastors on Pastor Appreciation Sunday, October 13th.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

150th Anniversary

In the early 1870s, a group of settlers founded a colony, which they called Little Thompson, on the banks of the Little Thompson River south of present-day Berthoud. Shortly thereafter, Lewis Cross, one of the valley's first homesteaders, built a 12'X16', one-room log cabin, which served as the community's first church and school. In 1874 the United Brethren church established a mission in the log cabin, and this mission was the beginning of our church's ministry in the Berthoud area.



Following the decision to move the fledgling community, known as Berthoud by that time, to the town's present location, a church was built at the corner of 4th and Turner in 1886, followed by the construction of another, larger building at 4th and Mountain in 1905, and then the construction of our current church in 1957.

Join us on November 24th as we celebrate the 150th anniversary of the establishment of the United Brethren mission in Little Thompson. Bishop Kristin Stoneking will preach, as together we remember how God has blessed First UMC's ministry to the community and beyond. The service on the 24th will include congregational responses, scripture, and music that have been part of services for previous church milestones. Following the service, we hope to take a photo of all in attendance. Why not invite guests and former members to worship with us? After worship, we will enjoy our traditional Harvest Home Dinner and Auction. Tickets are \$10 for adults (13 and over), \$5 for kids (7-12), and 6 and under are free.

UWF World Thank Offering – Saturday, November 2

The UWF invites all women at Berthoud UMC to our annual brunch and Thank Offering. Food, faith, and fellowship will be provided. We'll meet at 9:30 AM in Van Amburg Hall. See you there!

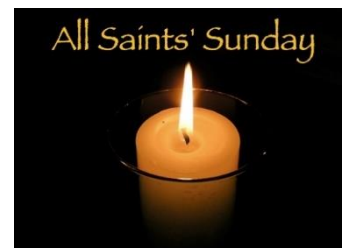


Time Change – Sat/Sun November 2/3

Our clocks will “fall back” next Sunday. Be sure to make the change so you can enjoy that extra hour on Sunday morning. (But if you're here an hour early you can attend Keith's Sunday School class in the Builder's Room.)

All Saints Sunday – Sunday, November 3

During worship we will remember those Saints – parents, grandparents, Sunday School teachers, Pastors, and many others – who pointed us toward Jesus and were vital in the development of our faith. Please plan to attend this meaningful remembrance.



2024 Stewardship Effort: "Press Onward"



"Press Onward" Is The Theme Of This Year's Discipleship Program

Every year, the members of our church family are invited to share their Discipleship Plan for 2025. A Discipleship Plan is an indication of how each of us intend to live the vows of church membership by supporting Christ's ministry in our church through our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. Essentially, this is an indication of our best intentions for the ways we will grow as disciples of Jesus Christ.

For the past several Sundays, church members have shared what the ministries of our church mean to them and their families. On October 27, we were all given the opportunity to complete our Discipleship Plan and bring it forward in worship to be consecrated. On October 27, we received 23 plans, totaling \$82,504 in financial support! Our goal is to receive 35 Discipleship Plans which would represent a 10% increase over last year.

In case you were not able to complete and return your Discipleship Plan for 2025 on Oct. 27, a form is included with this newsletter. Please pray, complete, sign, and return it at your earliest convenience. Your Plans are kept confidential and if you have any questions please contact either of the Pastors.

Veterans Day Sunday Worship Service – Sunday, November 10

Please join us in worship to remember our Vets who have served so nobly, and selflessly. Vets, why not dig your uniform out of the trunk, dust it off, and wear it to worship? Also, we are updating our list of military members. If there are those who are not listed, please contact the church office.



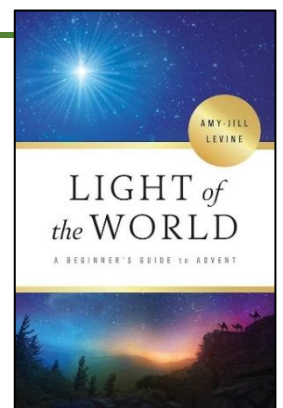
Weld County Ramblers – Sunday, November 17

Get ready for a morning of great music as we worship and enjoy the Weld County Ramblers. You will want to bring family and friends to this great time!

Advent Book Study – Wednesdays beginning November 20

Our Advent Book Study will be at 1 PM beginning Wednesday, Nov. 20 and continuing on Dec. 4, 11, & 18. We will study *Light of the World* by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine who is a distinguished New Testament professor. Dr. Levine's book will lead us to consider memory, potential, joy and giving as we delve into the stories of Mary, Elizabeth, the journey to Bethlehem and the Magi.

Books will be available at the church for \$10. You can also order the book on Amazon where it is available in paperback and e-book format.



Reverse Advent Calendar



Advent begins Sunday, December 1 and concludes on Christmas Eve, December 24. Purchasing “Advent Calendars” that contain treats for children (and some for adults) has become common. This year, why not try a “Reverse Advent Calendar”? A “Reverse Advent Calendar” reminds us that Christmas is not really about receiving gifts but is sharing with others as God did by giving us the gift of Jesus Christ.

On the “Reverse Advent Calendar” each day there is a suggestion of an act of kindness that you and your family can try. Some days it is getting food items that you can bring to church on Sunday that will be taken to the food pantry at the House of Neighborly Service. Other days there are suggestions of acts of kindness to share with others. You may not complete each activity, every day but we are willing to bet it will help you enjoy a more Christ-filled Advent Season. The Reverse Advent Calendars will be available to pick on Sunday, Nov. 24.

Toy Drive

United Women in Faith are collecting toys for House of Neighborly Service in Berthoud for Christmas. Please bring new toys for infants to teenagers and place them in the box in Van Amburgh Hall. They especially need toys for boys and girls ages 10 and up. By providing new, unwrapped toys parents are able to pick the toy that will be just right for their child. They also accept items so the parents can wrap the gifts they pick for their children. All toys need to be at church by December 1st. If you have any questions, please ask Barb Howell or Carol Keck.



House of Neighborly Service – Holiday Food Needs

“Join House of Neighborly Service in our mission to stabilize households and prevent crises this holiday season! We need your help to gather essential food supplies for our holiday food baskets. Your generous donations can make a world of difference for households in need. Please contribute today and spread the joy of giving!”

- Potatoes – boxed (mashed, au gratin, etc)
- Stuffing/Stove Top
- Pie Filling (if pumpkin, include evaporated milk)
- Pie Crust
- Cranberry Sauce
- Canned yams or sweet potatoes
- Biscuit/roll/cornbread mixes
- Gravy – jar or mixes
- Chicken broth
- Cream of Mushroom Soup
- Green Beans
- Hot Cocoa
- Toys and \$25 gift cards for Christmas Store



SMALL GROUPS

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 2nd Wednesday – 9:00 AM in the Library
- **Hope Circle:** Every 2nd Thursday – 1:30 PM in the Library
- **Early Bird Circle:** Every 3rd Saturday – 8:00 AM in the Library
-



Wednesday Workers

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



The Book Club will not meet in November.
In December they will celebrate with the Annual Soup and Salad meal at 6:00 P.M., December 12 at church. The book for the discussion will be *The Paper Bag Christmas* by Kevin Milne.



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

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.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL MINISTRY



Youth and Children Sunday School - Sunday School for children and youth takes place during Sunday worship. Children from kindergarten through high school are welcome to join.

Exploring the Bible, led by Keith Henderson, meets Sundays at 8:30 AM in the Builder's Room. All are welcome to join us!

NOVEMBER CALENDAR



Day	Date	Time – Event – Location
Saturday	2	9:00 AM – UWF Thank Offering, Van Amburg Hall 1:00 PM – Celebration of Life for Kyla Markell BEDTIME – MAKE SURE YOUR CLOCKS ARE SET BACK ONE HOUR
Sunday	3	8:30 AM – Exploring the Bible Adult Sunday School, Builder's Room 10:00 AM – Worship, Children and Youth Sunday School ALL SAINTS SUNDAY
Tuesday	5	1:30 PM – Deaf Bible Study, Online over Zoom 5:30 PM – Handbell Rehearsal, 3 rd Floor Classroom 7:00 PM – Missions Meeting
Wednesday	6	9:00 AM – Caring Connections, Library 10:00 AM – Pastor Chat Time, Pastors' Office
Sunday	10	8:30 AM – Exploring the Bible Adult Sunday School, Builder's Room 10:00 AM – Worship, Children and Youth Sunday School VETERANS DAY WORSHIP SERVICE
Monday	11	VETERANS DAY
Tuesday	12	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 1:30 PM – Deaf Bible Study, Online over Zoom 5:30 PM – Handbell Rehearsal, 3 rd Floor Classroom
Wednesday	13	9:00 AM – UWF Executive Board Meeting, Library 10:00 AM – Pastor Chat Time, Pastors' Office
Thursday	14	1:30 PM – Hope Circle, Library
Sunday	17	8:30 AM – Exploring the Bible Adult Sunday School, Builder's Room 10:00 AM – Worship, Children and Youth Sunday School Weld County Ramblers at Worship
Tuesday	19	10:30 AM – Spanish Class, Library 1:30 PM – Deaf Bible Study, Online over Zoom 5:30 PM – Handbell Rehearsal, 3 rd Floor Classroom 6:15 PM – Leadership Team Meeting, Builder's Room
Wednesday	20	10:00 AM – Pastor Chat Time, Pastors' Office 1:00 PM – Advent Book Study, Van Amburg Hall 6:30 PM – Leadership Team Meeting w/ All-Church Conference, Builder's Rm
Saturday	23	8:00 AM – UWF Early Birds, Library
Sunday	24	8:30 AM – Exploring the Bible Adult Sunday School, Builder's Room 10:00 AM – Worship, Children and Youth Sunday School 150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION! 11:30 AM – Harvest Home Dinner and Auction
Tuesday	26	10:30 AM – Spanish Class, Library 1:30 PM – Deaf Bible Study, Online over Zoom
Thursday	28	Happy Thanksgiving! Office closed on Thursday and Friday.



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

November 1	Galen Bercaw	November 15	Sawyer Reid
November 3	Clinton Vining	November 16	Germaine French
November 5	Matt Kiehn	November 20	Judy Hawkins
November 5	Patrick and Leanna Konechne (A)	November 22	Keynan Arnstad
November 6	Gena Spaur	November 23	Cecilia Jamieson-Doyle
November 11	Elizabeth Kearney	November 26	Lynda Schachterle
November 11	Richard Magee	November 27	Tim Patterson
November 13	Scott Rees	November 29	Brad Pickert, Jr.



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, pastormark@berthoudumc.org or pastorsandie@berthoudumc.org.

First United Methodist Church of Berthoud

820 9th Street (9th and Lake) Berthoud, CO 80513

Phone: 970-532-2142

Church email: secretary@berthoudumc.org

Website: www.BerthoudUMC.org

Pastor email: PastorMark@berthoudumc.org

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

PastorSandie@berthoudumc.org

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJqSxMBHmcpSPv5SldlcYAg>

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