



Delta United  
Methodist Church  
P.O. Box 427  
Delta, CO 81416

January

The

2018

# CONNECTION

DELTA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Sunday Worship**

**8:30am & 10:45am**

Rev. Tom Hazelwood

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477 Meeker Street

Delta, CO 81411



*open hearts  
open minds  
open doors*



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open doors*

## Pastors Corner

I have difficulty making some decisions. Not so much the little decisions – such as what I’m going to eat for breakfast, or what my schedule should look like on any given week. But when it comes to the big, high-impact decisions, I struggle. How do I know what God wants in my life? How do I make good choices in my spiritual journey? How do I even perceive God in my life?

I think perhaps these are questions we ask ourselves throughout our lives. These are questions of discernment.

Discernment is not just about “finding God’s will for my life.” Discernment, according to author David Lonsdale in his book *“Listening to the Music of the Spirit”*, is the capacity to distinguish between two paths, “one leading to fullness of life in the love of God; the other leading in a direction that is ultimately dehumanizing and destructive.” He adds that discernment is “one of the gifts which enables God’s reign to be not only a dream but also a daily reality” and that it takes place in everyday life as well as in decisions about our future.

Among several things that make discernment confusing are the conflicting voices we hear within ourselves. I love the way Eugene Peterson’s *The Message* puts it in Romans 7:18-19:

“But I need something *more!* For if I know the law but still can’t keep it, and if the power of sin within me keeps sabotaging my best intentions, I obviously need help! I realize that I don’t have what it takes. I can will it, but I can’t *do* it. I decide to do good, but I don’t *really* do it; I decide not to do bad, but then I do it anyway. My decisions, such as they are, don’t result in actions. Something has gone wrong deep within me and gets the better of me every time.”

Paul describes two minds within himself, one mind that wants to follow Christ, and one mind that is “a slave to the law.” Another way to express how these two minds operate within us is to describe the false self and the true self. These two selves are described in the Bible in a variety of ways: the old person and the new person, the sinful self and the redeemed self, the natural self and the transformed self. Calling these two parts of my inner being my “false self” and my “true self” has helped me probe more deeply into the spiritual reality of my life, and has helped me understand deeper levels of discernment.

The false self is all about ego. When we are living according to our false self, we think we are in control of our life and our world. We think that we are *entitled* to have all of our needs and desires met. We want to know everything and be sure we are right. The false self is “me” focused.

The true self, on the other hand, knows that it is created by God in the image of the Creator, and yet is utterly unique. The true self knows that it is created to experience and express love. When we live according to our true self, we are free, limited only by God’s love. We live in truth rather than under the illusions of the false self. We know that we are not in charge of life. We are God-centered rather than ego-centered. The true self is “other” focused.

Listening to the true self is often a countercultural experience. Many of us have families, jobs, even churches where the false self is affirmed. We want to look good, be successful, appear to be in control of our lives. So when we are in the process of discernment, the more we trust God, the more clearly we can see the light on the path we should take.

Our church will be in the process of discernment in the coming months. How are we being called to engage in our community and our world? How do we best use the resources we have to make disciples for Jesus?

May our true self share the Love of God to the world. May our discernment result in action.

- *Rev. Tom Hazelwood*

## January Ministry and Service

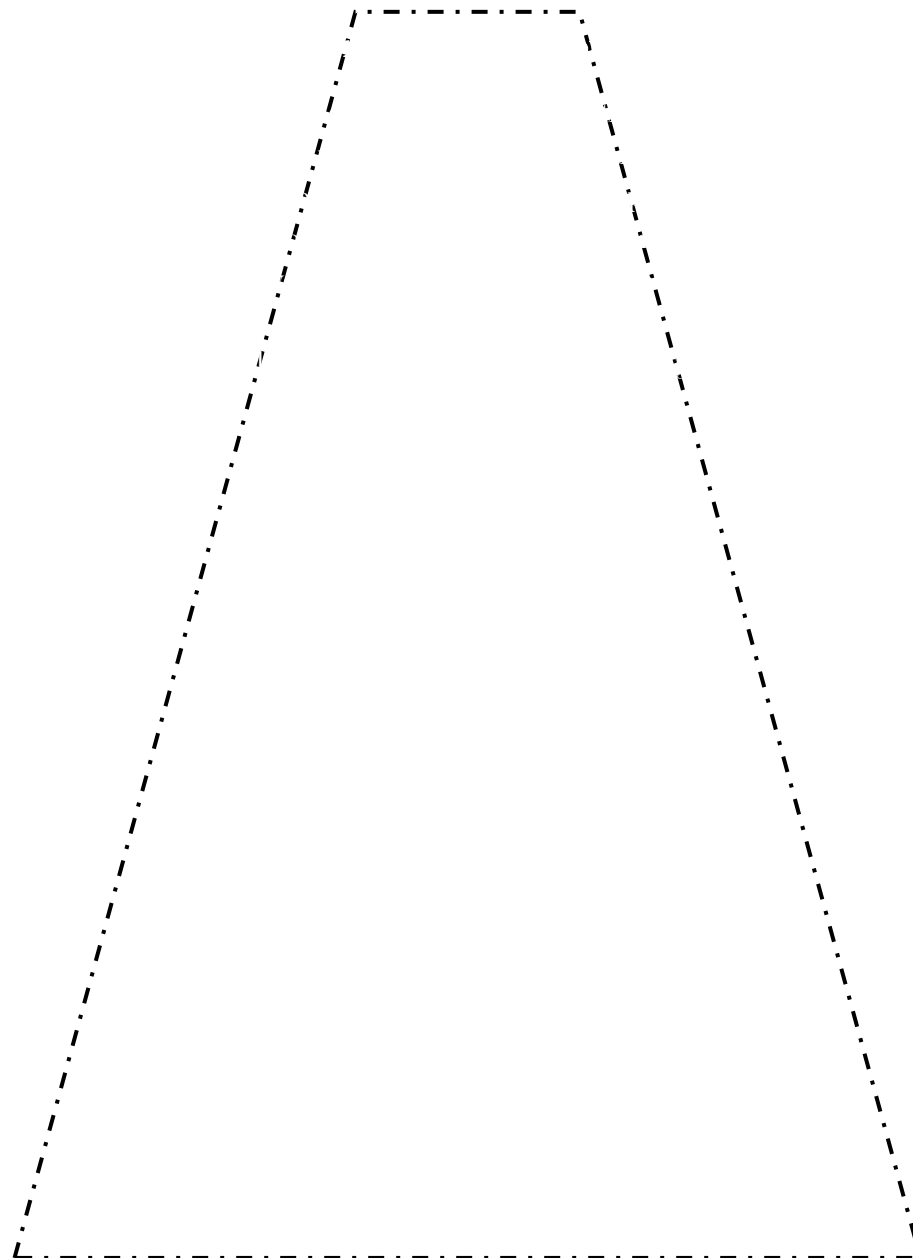
Communion Sunday - January 7<sup>th</sup>

### Greeters

Jan. 7	Alisa, Carson and Emma Johnson
Jan. 14	Donna Widner and Sherry Lippard
Jan. 21	Donna Lee Cockroft and Virginia Harding
Jan. 28	Tom and Cindy Warren

### Musicians

Jan. 7	Janet Freed
Jan. 14	Sam Kevan
Jan. 21	Lana Kevan
Jan. 28	Sam Kevan



**Missions**  
**DUMC in Ministry in the World**

\* Thirty children were given Christmas gifts thanks to your participation in the Families Plus Giving Tree. A \$400 cash donation was also given. Families Plus hosted a parent gift wrapping party in our Fellowship Hall on December 15<sup>th</sup>.

\* The special offering for the Global Migration was \$302. Thanks to all who gave. Our offering combined with other congregations will make an impact on the global migration crisis.

\* Remember that coffee, tea, nuts, chocolate and olive oil are available for sale at the coffee cart each Sunday. By buying the fair-trade products you are benefiting both UMCOR and our local missions.

\* The Abraham Connection is now open and needs volunteers. DUMC will provide an evening meal on the second Sunday of each month. Here are ways you can help:

= ***Volunteer** on the early shift, 6:00 p.m. - midnight. Two volunteers work this shift each evening. A board member and the intake administrator are also there to help. Volunteers assist with intake, oversee dinner and evening chores, and provide a sense of home to the guests. Call to schedule a one on one training session. 970-773-8290*

= ***Shop on-line** at [www.Smile.Amazon.com](http://www.Smile.Amazon.com) and select "Delta Homeless Ministries" as your designated charity. The shelter will receive .5% of your qualifying purchases.*

= ***Shop at City Market** and register your Value Card with the Abraham Connection/Delta Homeless Ministries. The shelter receives a portion of your qualifying purchases.*

**\*SUNDAY JANUARY 14 SPECIAL SUNDAY**  
**HUMAN RELATIONS DAY**

Human Relations Day is a Special Sunday that calls all of our churches to strengthen United Methodist out-reach to communities in the United States and Puerto Rico, encouraging social justice and working with at-risk youth. Would you consider joining thousands of other United

Methodists making a difference this year? Plan to give a donation on January 14<sup>th</sup>.

- *Carol Phelps*

**From Your Administrative Council**

The Church Council Trustees next meeting is scheduled at 6:00pm., Wednesday January 10<sup>th</sup>. ***For those who wish to read the minutes in their entirety they are available in the church office.***

**UMW**

The Susanna Wesleyan Morning circle meets the third Thursday of each month at 9:30 in Fellowship Hall. The Esther Evening circle meets the fourth Thursday at 6:30 pm. All ladies in the church are welcome to attend.

The next Executive UMW meeting will be Wednesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:30. --*Thanks, Cindy*

**SPRC**

The SPRC is looking for member's, contact JohnT, Barbara S., or Jean D. if you are interested. - *Jean Dimmick*

## Looking Ahead at Dates to Remember

### January 2018

- 1 - New Year's Day
- 6 - Epiphany of the Lord
- 7 - Epiphany Sunday/Baptism of the Lord
- 11 - Human Trafficking Awareness Day
- 14 - Second Sunday after Epiphany/Human Relations Day
- 15 - Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday Observance Day
- 18 -25 - Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
- 21 - Third Sunday after Epiphany/Ecumenical Sunday
- 27 - Emmaus Training - Fellowship Hall
- 28 - Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

### Birthdays & Anniversaries

We wish you all a joyous day of celebration!

#### January Birthdays

Taina Saltysiak	01/12	Sara Jurca	01/20
Bob Barnes	01/17	Carol Phelps	01/21
Brittney Saltysiak	01/17	Carol Layton	01/28
Francesca Saltysiak	01/17		
Larry Selman	01/17		

#### Anniversaries

Lee and Nita Casto	01/16
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### Happenings

First Aid Training - Saturday February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9:00 a.m. - Noon  
Fellowship Hall - Coffee at 8:30 a.m.

# January 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1 Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus</b>  <b>New Year's Day</b>	<b>2</b> 7:30 am Men's Group @ C & J's 4:45 pm Girl Scouts	<b>3</b> 5:00 pm Chancel Chimes 6:00 pm Choir Practice	<b>4</b> 6:30 pm Del-Rose 7:30 pm Spanish Congregation	<b>5</b>	<b>6 Epiphany of the Lord</b>
<b>7 Epiphany Sunday</b>  <b>Baptism of the Lord</b>  <b>Communion</b> 8:30am Contemporary Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Later Worship 3:00pm Spanish Congregation	<b>8</b> 5:50 pm 5 <sup>th</sup> Street	<b>9</b> 7:30am Men's group @ Fellowship Hall 4:45 pm Girl Scouts 6:00 pm Finance Committee	<b>10</b> 9:30 am UMW Board Meeting 5:00 pm Chancel Chimes 6:00 pm Choir Practice 6:00 pm Trustees Meeting 7:00pm Emmaus Reunion	<b>11 Human Trafficking Awareness Day</b> 6:30pm Del-Rose Chorus 7:30pm Spanish Congregation	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany – Human Relations Day</b> 8:30am Contemporary Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Later Worship 3:00pm Spanish Congregation	<b>15 Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday Observed</b> 7:45 am – 4:00 pm ARC in Fellowship Hall 5:00 pm Girl Scouts - Basement 5:30pm 5 <sup>th</sup> Street	<b>16</b> 7:30am Men's group @ Fellowship Hall 4:45pm Girl Scout Troop Meeting	<b>17</b> 5:00pm Chancel Chimes 6:00pm Choir Practice	<b>18</b> 9:30am Susanna Wesley Circle 6:30pm Del-Rose Chorus 7:30pm Spanish Congregation	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany Ecumenical Sunday</b> 8:30am Contemporary Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Later Worship 3:00pm Spanish Congregation	<b>22</b> 5:30pm 5 <sup>th</sup> Street	<b>23</b> 7:30am Men's group @ Fellowship Hall 4:45pm Girl Scouts	<b>24</b> 5:00pm Chancel Chimes 6:00pm Choir Practice	<b>25</b> 6:30 pm Esther Evening Circle 6:30pm Del-Rose Chorus 7:30pm Spanish Congregation	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 8:00 am – 3:00 pm Emmaus Training Fellowship Hall
<b>28 - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany</b>  8:30am Contemporary Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Later Worship 3:00pm Spanish Congregation	<b>29</b> 5:30 pm 5 <sup>th</sup> Street	<b>30</b> 7:30am Men's group @ Fellowship Hall 4:45pm Girl Scouts	<b>31</b> 5:00pm Chancel Chimes 6:00pm Choir Practice			