

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



March

The

2018

CONNECTION

DELTA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday Worship
8:30am & 10:45am

Rev. Tom Hazelwood

Office: (970) 874-9501

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Website: deltamethodist.org

Office Hours: M-Th 8:00am-3:00pm

477 Meeker Street

Delta, CO 8141



open hearts
open minds
open doors



open hearts
open minds
open doors

Pastors Corner

GET OUT OF HERE!

Each week as we close our worship service, I give the charge to “Get out of here and find someone to love!” And you have done it. We really gained momentum in worship attendance through the Advent/Christmas season and that has continued. Our average worship attendance for January and February has shown a 30% increase over the same period for the previous two years. Enthusiasm is contagious. Church member Alan Bushman said recently that he “really likes the fact we are gaining through attraction rather than promotion”.

I interpret Alan’s comment to mean that we are seeing something fundamentally change within our community of faith. That’s called transformation. If we hear the Gospel message, understand the teachings of Jesus, we will be shaken to our foundations and given an utterly alternative self-image, world image, and God image and have our entire reality reframed.

It is so refreshing to be a part of a community of faith that welcomes everyone regardless of their theology, social understanding, or biblical knowledge and understanding. All one has to do is participate in one of our groups and you quickly see that a wide range of thought is always present, yet always welcomed. We may disagree on politics, we may interpret the scriptures in different ways, but we always love and care for one another. And it is that love and care, regardless of one’s views that is transforming us. It’s also what is attractive to new people who have perhaps found messages of condemnation when they visit other churches.

The work of Lent is to look inward and to recognize that any appeal to willpower, or even the presentation of some good new ideas, merely engages YOU. YOU think that if you just try harder, think more or

better, and do something different, things will be different. But the problem with this is that the inner YOU does not change.

Richard Rohr says, “A transformed self finds itself ‘hidden with Christ in God’ (Colossians 3:3) and it is at peace just by being itself. A transformed-self engenders life from within, pulls life from without and channels life in outer directions – without ‘trying’.” We are making the wondrous discovery and rediscovery of what was always true, we are a part of what God is doing. We are a part of the God Story.

Transformation allows one to realize that one is a participant with God. Work is being done unto me, through me, with me, and for me. The difficulty, however, is that to surrender my “egoic self” and to step into the flow of God’s Love and Grace, to “become a new creation” will always feel like dying. How could it not? It is a dying of the self that we thought we were, but it is the only self that we knew until then. It will indeed be a “revolution of the mind” (Ephesians 4:23). Heart and body will soon follow.

This is the real “try harder” that applies to Lent, and its ultimate irony is that it is not a trying at all, but an ultimate surrendering, dying, and foundational letting go. You will not do it yourself, but it will be done unto you (Luke 1:38) by the events of your life.

Week by week I see this happening in our congregation. Love is transforming us and our love is attractive. So, GET OUT OF HERE! Go find someone to love.

- *Rev. Tom Hazelwood*

February Ministry and Service

Communion Sunday - March 4th

Greeters

March 4 Beverly Moon
March 11 Harold Franklin
March 18 Ray and Kathy Smith
March 25 Alan and Merle Bushman

Musicians

March 4 Janet Freed
March 11 TBD
March 18 TBD
March 25 TBD

Liturgists

March 4 Aaron Clay
March 11 Sam Kevan
March 18 Nathan Clay
March 25 Carol Phelps

Trustee's Trapezoid

With spring time just around the corner, and sufficient monies collected, we will be placing an order for the playground equipment during March.

Thank you to all who have supported our upcoming project to replace the sound system in the sanctuary. We are nearing the goal and appreciate any further donations.

As always yours; Trustees -
Terry Hughes

Missions: DUMC in Ministry in the World

- Dr. Kevan has returned from his mission trip to Honduras. We are thankful he is able to use his skills to bring medical services to underserved areas. Thank you to all who donated to help with his trip.
- **SAVE THE DATES** -May 6-12 for a work team going to Baton Rouge, Louisiana to help with flood recovery. The team will be having fundraisers to help with the expenses of the trip.
- **March 11 will be UMCOR Sunday.** The offering taken on this special Sunday will go to support the administration of the UMCOR program. This allows all other monies given to projects to go 100% to that project. Please plan to give generously on March 11.
- 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.
- Depending on the weather, The Abraham Connection will close March 1. Thanks to all who have been volunteering with the Abraham Connection this year. The March meal will be prepared and served by the youth.
- A gift donation was sent to Fairmile School. Fern Esuchi expressed her thanks: I appreciate your gift it was timely because we only had 20 dollars to survive on this month. The economy is at its worst, I had just run to the school bank, come back empty handed but your message has rescued me. The bank has also sent a credit note to show that the funds have been credited. Thank you so much for looking out for us.

United Methodist Committee on Relief Sunday March 11

Special Sundays

UMCOR Sunday (formerly One Great Hour of Sharing)

When disaster strikes around the globe—Haiti’s 2010 earthquake or Typhoon Haiyan in 2013—so many watching the drama unfold on our living room televisions feel entirely helpless. How could any one person make a difference in the wake of such widespread devastation? As responders around the globe scramble to help survivors, the United Methodist Committee on Relief, UMCOR, is prepared to act.

So don’t be fooled by the word committee.

Since 1940, when UMCOR’s forerunner was established to meet the needs of those suffering overseas at the onset of World War II, we’ve continued to respond to those in desperate need—today throughout more than eighty countries around the world.

The response of UMCOR isn’t something “they” do, it’s something “we” do.

When You Give You Equip Christ’s Body to Serve in His Name

That’s because your generous giving to UMCOR Sunday (**formerly One Great Hour of Sharing**) is what allows UMCOR to act as the arms and legs of Christ’s church, moving toward the most vulnerable in their darkest days. Convinced that all people have God-given worth and dignity—without regard to race, religion or gender—together we are assisting those impacted by crisis or chronic need.

A History of the Birthday Checks Given to the Church

Many years ago the Sunday School had an opening service where all attending Sunday School would meet and sing songs, take an offering, and say a prayer before going to their individual classrooms. During the opening anyone with a birthday would bring up their pennies to put in the church bank to celebrate their age. During the 70's the Sunday School curriculum suggested that we choose a missionary, figure the mileage from Delta to the mission and to save a penny for each mile as a way to support the mission. It was decided to use the birthday pennies to start the fund and the congregation was invited to add to the fund.

In the 90's when it was determined to build an addition to our church, Gene Bond suggested that we use the birthday money for the building fund. In the beginning people use to tape together coins to honor their birthday, or to give a dollar rather than a penny for each year. The giving became a tradition and some people gave not only to honor their birthday but to honor others in their family. Some relatives started sending money to church in honor of a member's birthday.

Now that we have had the mortgage burning service and celebrated the paying off of the building loan the mission committee would like you to continue the tradition of giving the birthday money to the church. The committee suggests that you could give your birthday check to the sound system or to missions. Our hope is that once the sound system is paid off you would continue giving to missions so we can continue supporting our many mission projects.

Baton Rouge Work Team

Seventeen people are beginning the preparations to travel to Baton Rouge May 6-12, to help people restore their homes after Hurricane Harvey. They are excited and looking forward to be the hands and feet of Christ. The first event they have planned is **a gumbo dinner as a fund raiser for March 24**. Plan now to attend. Those of you who are not planning to make the trip may also be a part of the trip. What is needed is money to enable the trip to take place. It will cost over \$12,000 for building materials, transportation and housing. If you know of mini vans that could be used please let the office know. Other donations could be gas cards, cash for food or materials. And of course the most important would be your prayers.

- Carol Phelps

TRUSTEES

The Church Trustees next meeting is scheduled at 6:00pm., Tuesday, March 6th.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee's next regular meeting is at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 13th.

UMW

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

The next Executive UMW meeting will be Wednesday, March 14th at 9:30 a.m. --- *Thanks, Cindy*

Looking Ahead at Dates to Remember

March 2018

- 4 - Third Sunday in Lent - Communion Sunday
- 11 - Fourth Sunday in Lent - Girl Scout and UMCOR Sunday
- 12 - Life Line Screening - Fellowship Hall - 8:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
- 18 - Fifth Sunday in Lent
- 20 - June Calhoun Memorial - Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall - 11:00 a.m.
- 24 - Mission Trip Fund Raiser - 5:30 p.m.
- 25 - Palm Sunday

Birthdays & Anniversaries

We wish you all a joyous day of celebration!

March Birthdays

Phyllis Mills	03/03	Sue Hughes	03/20
Caleb Thomas	03/03	Karen Stone	03/22
Tatem Miller	03/06	Marsha Thomas	03/23
Ray Smith	03/06	Robert Hazelwood	03/24
Pierre Corbasson	03/10	Gregg Helmsing	03/29
Jacob Futrell	03/12	Willa Clay	03/30
Pastor Tom Hazelwood	03/12	Jose Valdez	03/30
Mary Ellen Harris	03/12	Vianka Valdez	03/30
Emma Wise	03/18	Donna Widner	03/30
		Dee King	03/31

March Anniversaries

Nathan & Amanda Clay	03/05
Ed & Cheryl Oeltjenbruns	03/13
Bob & Sue Stanley	03/25
Wayne & Beverly Moore	03/26

Happenings

Delta Community Lenten Worship on Wednesdays

March 7th @ St. Luke Episcopal Church
March 14th @ Delta United Methodist Church
March 21st @ Delta Presbyterian Church

All Services begin with a Soup Supper at 5:30 p.m.

Fundraiser and Gumbo Dinner

Saturday, March 24th at 5:30 p.m.
A gumbo dinner and silent auction will be a way for you to support the work team traveling to Louisiana.

“In Home” Meetings to begin after Easter

Do you have ideas, opinions and information to share? Would you like to hear other ideas, opinions and information? Delta United Methodist Church will be planning several “in home” meetings to begin after Easter. This will be your opportunity to come and share with others and for all of us to get to know each other better. *If you are willing to host one of these meetings in your home, please call Becky Tallent at 970-209-0803 to discuss the schedule.* Also, be ready to participate in one or more of the meetings when they begin. The schedule will be released at a later date.

SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY, MARCH 24TH

5:30 P.M.

FUNDRAISER & GUMBO DINNER

to support the

MISSION TRIP TO LOUISIANA



Seventeen people are beginning preparations to travel to Baton Rouge May 6 – 12, to help people restore their homes after Hurricane Harvey. They are excited and look forward to be the hands and feet of Christ. The first event they have planned is a **gumbo dinner as a fund raiser for March 24**. Plan now to attend. Those of you who are not planning to make the trip may also be a part of the trip. What is needed is money to enable the trip to take place. It will cost over \$12,000 for building materials, transportation and housing. If you know of mini vans that could be used, please let the office know. Other donations could be gas cards, cash for food or materials. And of course, the most important would be your prayers

March 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 10:00 am – 3:00 pm Fellowship Hall Reserved 6:30 pm Del-Rose 7:30 pm Spanish Congregation	2 World Day of Prayer	3 10:00 am – 3:00 pm Sub-district gathering Redlands UMC Grand Junction
4 – 3rd Sunday in Lent  Communion 8:30am Contemporary Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Later Worship 3:00pm Spanish Congregation	5 5:30 pm 5 th Street 6:00 pm Mission Team	6 7:30am Men's group C & J's Cafe 4:45 pm Girl Scouts 6:00 pm Trustees	7 5:00 pm Chancel Chimes 6:00 pm Choir Practice 7:00pm Emmaus Reunion	8 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm Fellowship Hall Reserved 6:30pm Del-Rose Chorus 7:30pm Spanish Congregation	9	10
11 - 4th Sunday in Lent Girl Scout & UMCOR Sunday 8:30am Contemporary Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Later Worship 3:00pm Spanish Congregation	12 8:00 am – 6:30 pm Lifeline Screening 5:30pm 5 th Street	13 7:30am Men's group @ Fellowship Hall 4:45pm Girl Scouts 6:00 pm Finance Committee	14 9:30 am UMW Board 5:00pm Chancel Chimes 6:00pm Choir Practice	15 9:30am Susanna Wesley Circle UMW Board 6:30pm Del-Rose Chorus 7:30pm Spanish Congregation	16	17
18 – 5th Sunday in Lent 8:30am Contemporary Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Later Worship 3:00pm Spanish Congregation	19 5:30pm 5 th Street	20 7:30am Men's group @ Fellowship Hall 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM June Calhoun Memorial 4:45pm Girl Scouts	21 5:00pm Chancel Chimes 6:00pm Choir Practice	22 6:30 pm Esther Evening Circle 6:30pm Del-Rose Chorus 7:30pm Spanish Congregation	23	24 All Day – Fellowship Hall Reserved 5:30 pm – Mission Trip Dinner and Fundraiser
25 - Palm Sunday 8:30am Contemporary Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Later Worship 3:00pm Spanish Congregation	26 5:30 pm 5 th Street	27 7:30am Men's group @ Fellowship Hall 4:45pm Girl Scouts	28 5:00pm Chancel Chimes 6:00pm Choir Practice	29 6:30 pm Del Rose 7:30 pm Spanish Congregation	30 Good Friday	31 Holy Saturday