

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



December

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

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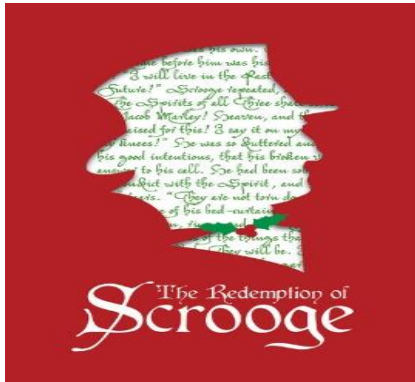


open hearts
open minds
open doors



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Pastor's Corner



Charles Dickens's classic novel, *A Christmas Carol*, is a story of brokenness and redemption. The beginning of the story is dark—the book opens with the words “Marley was dead.” We soon meet Marley, former partner of the main character Ebenezer Scrooge, as a ghost. Marley's ghost promises Scrooge that a trio of ghosts will be visiting him, and the reader is to presume that none of the visits will be pleasant. Scrooge begins the story as an unrepentant miser whose greed has caused harm to himself and others and ends with him a changed—a redeemed—man. Just as Christ brings light and hope to a world in darkness, the events of *A Christmas Carol* shine light into the darkness surrounding Scrooge's life, ultimately leading him to embrace the hope, peace, joy, and love we associate with Christmas.

In *The Redemption of Scrooge*, author and pastor Matt Rawle examines Dickens's classic novel, making connections between the story of Ebenezer Scrooge and the story that Christians tell during Advent and Christmas.

In the four Sundays of Advent, we at Delta Methodist will use Rawle's study materials to look at the story and themes of *A Christmas Carol*:

December 2 -- Bah! Humbug!

December 9 -- The Remembrance of Christmas Past

December 16 -- The Life of Christmas Present

December 23 -- The Hope of Christmas Future

In these four weeks of Advent, we will use Rawle's book as daily devotion readings, our Advent Candle lighting and there will be a DVD presentation and discussion in the Adult Sunday School hour. Come see how we can draw important truths from the past, present, and future about brokenness and redemption and the Advent themes of hope, peace, love, and joy. I believe this will be a powerful series in the life of our church. I hope you will plan to read the book daily, take part in our discussions and bring a friend with you that they may participate in the warm fellowship of Delta UMC!

Advent Sermon Series

December 2

Scripture: Matthew 20:1-16

Sermon: Living in God's Economy

God's economy is often not the same as the one we embrace, as evidenced in the life of Scrooge. But if Scrooge can be redeemed, so can we! How can we learn to love and value what God loves and values?

December 9 (8:30 Service ONLY)

Scripture: Luke 4:18

Sermon: Jesus, the Redeemer of Our Past

Scrooge is transported back to the past to remember who he once was. Some of those memories are good, and others are painful, but acknowledging and remembering puts him on the path to redemption. Jesus came to redeem all aspects of our past.

December 16

Scripture: Luke 2:8-20

Sermon: The Greatest Gift

Traveling with the Ghost of Christmas Present, Scrooge's eyes are opened to the poverty of the people who live around him. The people don't have much, but they are thankful anyway, acknowledging the blessings they have received. Jesus came to turn our world upside down and to bring a new kingdom, one that goes straight for "the least of these."

December 23

Scripture: Revelation 1:4

Sermon: Accepting Christ's Invitation

In his travels with the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come, Scrooge comes face-to-face with his finitude. We all have fear about the unknowns in our futures, but we can rest in the fact that God holds the future in God's hands, and that God is committed to us. The birth of Jesus proves God's love and pursuit of us, and so we can accept God's invitation and live confidently in the face of the unknown.

- Rev. Tom Hazelwood

December Ministry and Service

Greeters

- December 2 Virginia Harding and Janet St. John
December 9 Leda and Julia Stinson
December 16 Beverly Moore
December 23 Alan and Merle Bushman
December 30 Marsha Thomas and Mitch Thomas

Missions: DUMC in Ministry in the World

- Over 200 items of food were gathered for the Food Pantry during November. Thank you to all who donated. Remember there is always a need for donations to the Food Pantry.
- A work team group will be returning to Baton Rouge for a week to finish the work on Harry Henderson's house that was started by the mission work team from DUMC in May. Harry needs to be out of his FEMA trailer by January 15, and little has been done on his house since May. The group going from DUMC feel like they can finish the job the week of November 28 –December 4, so that Harry can finally move into his home almost 3 years after a flood destroyed his home. Please keep this team in your prayers. If you would like to donate to help with expenses let Tom or the office know.
- Families Plus will be placing a giving tree in our church after Thanksgiving. Please take a child's number from the tree, write your name by the number you are taking, purchase the gift and leave the tag with the gift in the office by December 12. Please do

not wrap the gift as the families will gather to wrap the gifts on December 14, in the Fellowship Hall. This is a great way to help families in our community experience love at Christmas.

- The Delta Food Pantry would like to extend their hours for families who work during the day. Delta United Methodist will have the opportunity to help with the 4th Tuesday of the month from 5:30-7:00 starting in January. A short training will take place in training for those wanting to volunteer. If you would like to volunteer please let the office or Amanda Clay know.
- Delta United Methodist Church has an opportunity to serve some meals at The Abraham Connection on the 2nd Sunday evening of each month and on the 2nd Monday noon of each month. Please let the office or Carol Phelps know if you are able to volunteer.
- 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. All of these are great items to add to your holidays and make great stocking stuffers.

TRUSTEES

The next regular meeting of the Trustees is scheduled for Thursday, January 3rd, at 6:00 p.m.

UMW COOKIE WALK

Do you like to eat cookies? Do you like to bake cookies? Do you like crafts? If you answered yes to at least one of these questions, then you need to mark your calendars for the annual Cookie Walk! Friday, December 7th from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Join the ladies of UMW in the Fellowship Hall for home-baked treats, home-made crafts, and good fellowship. Members of the Esther Evening Circle will be available to make beautiful gift baskets. Volunteers are needed to help with set-up on Thursday, December 6th at 2:00 p.m. as well as the day of the Cookie Walk. To volunteer or for more information contact Cindy Warren 275-8220 or Carol Phelps 874-7310. Also, if you have some gently used Christmas items that need a loving home, consider donating them to UMW to be sold at the Cookie Walk.

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 6:00 p.m. All ladies in the church are welcome to attend.

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

Birthdays & Anniversaries

We wish you all a joyous day of celebration!

December Birthdays

Darlene Johnston	12/05	Alan Bushman	12/25
Merriam Helmsing	12/08	Beverly Jean Smith	12/27
Jill Jurca	12/08	Owen Clay	12/28
Jim Ebrecht	12/20	Mary Lynn Williams	12/31

December Anniversaries

Jim and Betty Ebrecht 12/20

UMW ANNUAL COOKIE WALK AND CRAFT FAIR

Friday, December 7th
8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Please bake cookies and bring to the church by Thursday, November 29, 2018 December 6th. Lots are needed.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9TH 10:45 P.M.

Potluck luncheon follows at noon.

UMW CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Thursday, December 13th at 12:00 p.m.

Bring a salad to share (optional). Lots of fellowship and entertainment. All are welcome.

CHRISTMAS POT LUCK SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23RD AFTER SERVICES

Meat, dessert and rolls will be provided. Please bring salads and veggies to share. Members of St. Luke's Episcopal and Delta Presbyterian Churches are invited!

RSVP number attending to church@deltamethodist.org or bevway64@gmail.com or call Beverly Moore at 835-4033.

*WINTER RETREAT DAYS
WHITewater BENEDICTINE
COMMUNITY*

December 1, 2018 **ADVENT RETREAT DAY**

How to enjoy the Christmas season in a contemplative way.

How Christmas invites us to Give and to Receive.

Presenters are Sister Anne Brost and Sister Mary Glenn

January 12, 2019 **CENTERING PRAYER DAY**


This will be a day of silence with sessions of CP and meditative walking outside.

Presenters are Sister Anne Brost and Sister Mary Glenn

Both retreats are on Saturdays at the Whitewater Benedictine Community, 8250 Kannah Creek Rd., Whitewater, CO 81527.

All are from 9am to 2pm and include lunch. Suggested donation is \$25.00.

Register by calling 970-241-3847 or emailing amatkannahcreek@peoplepc.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
DECEMBER 2018						1
2 – 1st Sunday of Advent  8:30am Contemporary Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Later Worship 2:00pm Spanish Congregation Basement	3 5:30pm 5 th Street	4 7:30am Men's Group C & J's Cafe	5 5:00pm Chancel Chimes 6:00pm Choir Practice 7:00pm – Emmaus Reunion	6 2:00pm – Set Up Cookie Walk 4:00pm – 5:30pm Girl Scouts - Basement 7:30pm Spanish Congregation - Basement	7 8:00am – 2:00pm UMW Cookie Walk & Craft Fair	8 10:00am – Noon Annual Charge Conference Fellowship Hall .
9 – 2nd Sunday of Advent 8:30am Contemporary Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Christmas Pageant 12:00pm Potluck Luncheon 2:00pm Spanish Congregation Basement	10 5:30pm 5 th Street	11 7:30am Men's Group Fellowship Hall	12 5:00pm Chancel Chimes 6:00pm Choir Practice	13 11:00am – 2:00pm UMW Luncheon 4:00pm – 5:30pm Girl Scouts - Basement 7:30pm Spanish Congregation - Basement	14 10:00am – 4:00pm Families Plus Parents Party	15
16 – 3rd Sunday of Advent 8:30am Contemporary Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Later Worship 2:00pm Spanish Congregation Basement	17 5:30pm 5 th Street	18 7:30am Men's Group - Fellowship Hall	19 5:00pm Chancel Chimes 6:00pm Choir Practice	20 9:30am Susanna Wesley Circle	21	22
23 – 4th Sunday of Advent 8:30am Contemporary Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Later Worship 12:00pm Christmas Potluck 2:00pm Spanish Congregation Basement	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26 5:00pm Chancel Chimes 6:00pm Choir Practice	27 4:00pm – 7:30pm Girl Scouts & Leader Basement 6:30pm Esther Eve Circle 7:30pm Spanish Congregation - Basement	28	29
30 – 1st Sunday After Christmas 8:30am Contemporary Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Later Worship 12:00pm Christmas Potluck 2:00pm Spanish Congregation Basement	31 New Years Eve 5:30pm 5 th Street					

