

Easter is a season of renewal. We celebrate that Christ is risen, that love is stronger than death, and that God is always at work making all things new. Resurrection is not only something we remember—it is something we live. Each spring, Easter invites us to look at our own lives and our life together as a church and ask: ***Where is God calling us to new life now?***

This year, our church is embracing that call through a new initiative called Grace and Growth. This effort is rooted in our faith that God's grace meets us where we are—and God's Spirit continues to grow us into who we are meant to be. Grace and Growth seeks to renew our church's life so that we may more fully reflect Christ's love in our community.

Renewing the life of the church means creating more opportunities for connection and spiritual growth. One of the goals of Grace and Growth is to expand our small group activities. Small groups help turn faith into relationships. They offer space for prayer, study, conversation, and support. Whether it's a Bible study, a fellowship group, or a service-focused gathering, small groups help us move from sitting in pew rows to growing in circles.

Grace and Growth also focuses on expanding our web presence. In today's world, many people encounter a church for the first time online. New visitors often look at a church's website before they ever walk through the doors. Our website tells a story about who we are—our values, our welcome, and our life together. Strengthening our online presence helps us extend hospitality beyond our building and into the digital spaces where people are searching for hope and belonging.

This initiative is not about trends or technology for their own sake. It is about mission. It is about helping people find a place where they can grow in faith, experience grace, and discover community. It is about being visible and accessible to those who may be seeking a church but are not yet ready to step inside one.

During March, you will begin to see several outcomes of this new initiative, including regular lunch gatherings—such as our Second Annual St. Patrick's Day Luncheon and the launch of Front Row Fellowship. Front Row Fellowship is a monthly gathering at the Bistro movie theater. Our first movie night will be on Tuesday, March 24th, at 6:30 p.m. We will also be preparing for our Neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt. On March 22nd, at fellowship time, we will be stuffing Easter eggs for Morning Glory Preschool and the Neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt. Please consider dropping off candy (no peanuts, please) or stickers at the church office. All are welcome to join us for fellowship and conversation around a shared experience.

Easter reminds us that God specializes in new beginnings. Through Grace and Growth, we are prayerfully stepping into that promise. We invite you to be part of this renewal—by joining a small group, welcoming new faces, sharing our online presence, and praying for God's guidance as we move forward together.

Christ is risen. And by God's grace, our church is being renewed—growing in faith, connection, and mission for the days ahead.

Grace and Peace, Pastor Leah

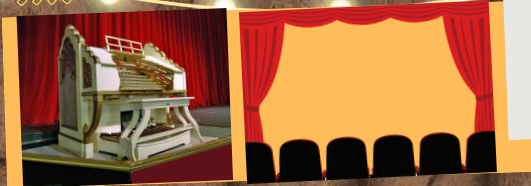


March Birthdays

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wednes	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Beverly Moline	Kathy Turner	Sally Daron			
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Michael Nekonchuk		Patty Nekonchuk		Tucker Bell		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
					Linda Rowland	Brenda Thompson
					Steve Merriam	Fiona Alder
29	30	31				
		Ann Fenwick				
		Elinor McMeeking				



UPCOMING EVENTS SCHEDULE



3/15
2:00 P.M.
SUN

Kevin's
Theatre Organ
Concert



3/17
11:30 A.M.
TUE

SAINT PATRICKS
DAY LUNCH
MOOT HOUSE



3/21
10:00 A.M.
SAT

BUNCO



3/24
6:30 P.M.
TUES

Front Row
Fellowship Movie



3/29
10:00 A.M.
SUN

Palm Sunday
Service

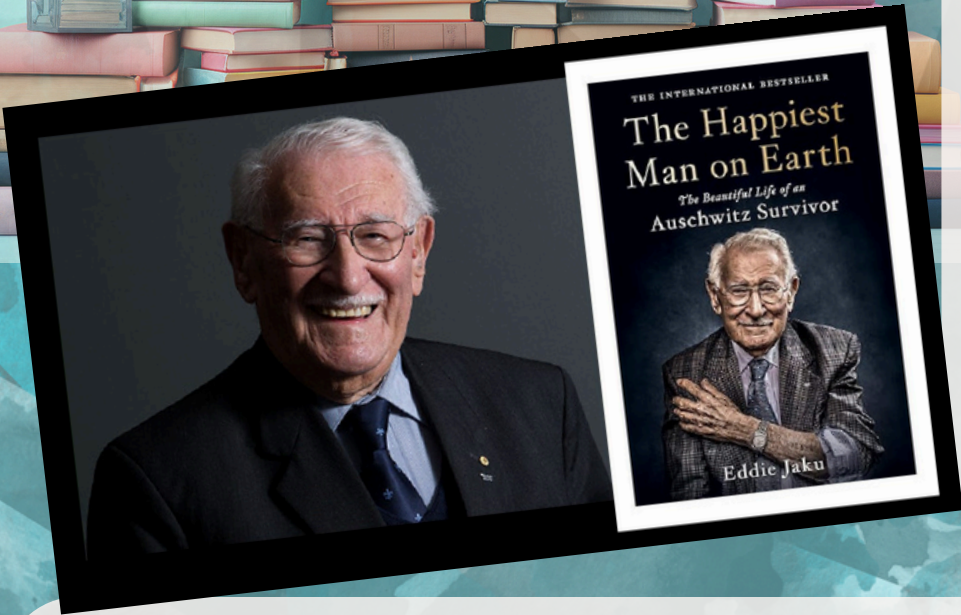
**New books in the
United Women in Faith Library!**

Library News

The Reading Program books for 2026 are now in the UWF Library. Fiction and non-fiction—good reading for everyone. You do not have to be a member of UWF to check out a book

United Women In Faith has many books in their section of the Library. Those shelves are at the far east end of the Library. Current books on Social Action, Nurturing for Community, Leadership Development, Education for Mission, and Spiritual Growth give many choices for every reader. You will see the checkout instructions on one of the shelves.

PLEASE RETURN ANY BOOKS YOU CHECKED OUT IN 3 WEEKS OR LESS. Other readers are waiting.



Here is a short review of a book from the “Education for Mission” category.

The Happiest Man on Earth; The Beautiful Life of an Auschwitz Survivor by Eddie Jaku

A New York Times Bestseller. A Holocaust survivor pays tribute to those who were lost by telling his story, sharing his wisdom, and living his best possible life.

This unforgettable and uplifting memoir of hope reveals:

- A True Story of Resilience: Follow Eddie Jaku’s journey from a German teenager through the horrors of Buchenwald and Auschwitz to a 100-year-old man who calls himself the happiest man on Earth.
- Finding Happiness: Discover the promise Eddie made to smile every day, and learn his profound wisdom on the power of gratitude, tolerance, and kindness against unbelievable odds.
- WWII History: Witness the terror of Kristallnacht and the inhumanity of the Nazi death camps through the eyes of a survivor dedicated to honoring the six million Jews who were lost.
- Lessons on Gratitude: Learn from a man who lost everything how the simple choice to be grateful can transform unimaginable suffering into a life of joy and purpose.

COMING SOON! 

Front Row Fellowship

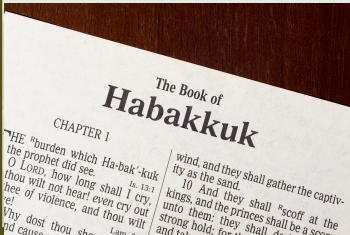


Gathering to enjoy faith, film & friendship!

This group will meet once a month at the Bistro movie theater in Fort Collins. Our first movie is Tuesday, March 24 at 6:30pm--"Project Hail Mary" with Ryan Gosling. Call or see Molly for more info!

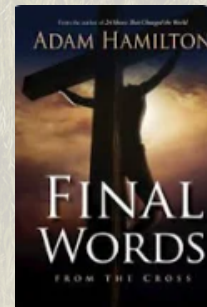
MONDAY 9:30 A.M.
BIBLE STUDY:

The Monday Morning Bible Study in room 107. We have begun a new four-lesson study about Habakkuk, one of the Minor Prophets. There will be a video and discussion. Come join us!



Seekers Bible Study

Seekers Bible study will continue a Lenten study by Adam Hamilton, "Final Words From the Cross". The group meets each Tuesday morning at 9:30 AM in room 107. All are welcome & can contact Carol Hopson for a study book.



(817-228-3452)

carolhopson54@yahoo.com

Adult Sunday School

Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World?? Join us in our SS class for a video and discussion on this topic. We meet in the lounge at 8:45 a.m. just before church on Sunday mornings. Always interesting with good discussions!

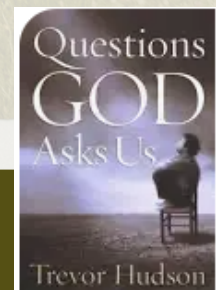
Questions? Sue Ptacek
Sue Ptacek
(970) 218-8701



Tuesday Afternoon
Bible Study

In March, the Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study will finish up the study: Questions God Asks Us by Trevor Hudson. Please join us on March 10th and 24th at 2:00 pm in the Lounge for interesting insights and discussion.

Contact Carma
Mynacee@aol.com
for materials





Join Us for a Fun-Filled Day of Games, Laughter & Community!

Saturday, March 21st, 2026

- Doors Open: 9:30 AM
 - BUNCO Starts: 10:00 AM
 - Lunch & Prizes: 12:00 Noon
- 12:00 Noon Lunch and Bunco prizes awarded

PRICE INCLUDES PRIZES, SNACKS, AND SOUP LUNCH

\$15.00/Person At-The-Door OR Advance Ticket Purchase .
No pre-registration required.

Proceeds benefit Northern Colorado Missions.
Past Recipients: Habitat for Humanity, Food Bank of Larimer Cnty, Respite Care, Crossroads, CASA, Project Self-Sufficiency

FFH Volunteers Needed:

Our first rotation for this year is 4/19 – 5/3. Please watch for your e-mail invite in the middle of March and use SignUpGenius to get first choice of available slots. NOTE: This is a 2 week rotation. Please prayerfully consider volunteering for both weeks. New volunteers are always welcome so encourage a friend to join you. If you have questions about the upcoming rotation or need help with the electronic sign up, please feel free to contact Nathalee Novy at 970-224-5331.

Other FFH News:

The move to the FHN central location is progressing. There was a ribbon-cutting ceremony held in late February, and FFH hosting should begin at the new location sometime this summer. This model is similar to the model used during COVID. There will be tours scheduled for our volunteers once the transition has occurred. For more details, please refer to the February Newsletter.





United Women in Faith News

The March Calendar for a Call to Prayer and Self-Denial will be an insert in the upcoming week's Sunday bulletins. Please prayerfully consider participating in this Mission Project for United Women in Faith. This year's offering will help our most vulnerable children through low-cost early-childhood education and after-school programs. We encourage all to participate by reading the calendar and becoming aware of our many blessings compared to those around the world. We are truly blessed.

March 2026 Prayer and Self-Denial Calendar

This calendar is the United Women in Faith "Prayer & Self-Denial Activity." It is an annual observance to count our blessings, pray together, and make an offering to missions affecting women, children, and youth in response to God's love and grace. **The 2026 offering will help our most vulnerable children through low-cost early-childhood education and afterschool programs.** We hope you will join us in participating in this important mission project.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Start Counting Your Blessings	2 Literacy \$.05 for every public library in your community.	3 Warmth 10 cents for each winter coat.	4 Convenience 50 cents if you have access to a clothes washer. 60% of world's population wash by hand.	5 Communication \$.05 each time you check cell phone or tablet today.	6 Transportation If you filled up your gas tank this week \$1.00.	7 Comfort 5 cents for each producer of heat or cooling equipment in your house.
8 Shoes \$1.00 for shoes. 70 million children worldwide lack proper shoes for school.	9 Electricity \$.05 for each room in your house with power. 750 million people worldwide lack access to electricity.	10 Safe Water \$.25 for each faucet you have. Clean water access impacts 40% of the world's population.	11 Vision Care Do you have access to eye care? 1 billion people worldwide have no access. \$.50 if yes	12 Freedom of Religion Do you attend Church of your choice? Yes - \$1.00	13 Employment Employed or retired with income? 11% of the U.S. population lives in poverty. \$.50 if yes	14 Clothing \$1.00 if you have adequate clothing. 25% of the world's population lacks access to basic clothing.
15 Education HS Grad - \$1.00. 251 million children in the world do not go to school.	16 Hunger \$.10 for each pet you feed. 828 million people worldwide go hungry each day.	17 Health Care \$.25 for each doctor you see. Half the world lacks access to health services.	18 Entertainment \$.05 for each TV, computer, or ipad.	19 Community Live in a war or conflict zone? \$1.00 if no. 2 billion people live in a conflict area.	20 Food Access Grocery store within 5 miles \$.25	21 Luxury Did you buy a special coffee/tea drink this week? \$1.00 if yes
22 Environment Do you use reusable shopping bags? \$.50 if no	23 Sanitation Bathroom in house? \$.50 each. Half of the world's population lack sanitary facilities.	24 Mountains \$.100 if you live in Colorado. Free if you live in Kansas.	25 Dental Care Do you have access to Dental Care? Yes \$.50 No Free	26 Housing \$.50 if you have safe housing. 150 million of the world's population are homeless.	27 Luxury Did you eat a meal out this week? \$.50	28 Transportation \$.25 for each vehicle owned, \$.05 for each bicycle
29 Nutrition 3 meals a day - \$.25, 3 million children die from hunger yearly.	30 Health Care \$1.00 if a hospital is within 15 miles.	31 Luxury/Travel \$1.00 if you have traveled outside of Fort Collins in the past year.	What to do? Each day read the blessing on the calendar and keep a log of the suggested offering for each day. At the end of the month, bring or send your blessing's offering to the church in care of UWFaith.			



One of the wonderful things about being a preschool, which is a ministry of a church, is the support we feel from the congregation. Each February 15th through May 15th, Christ United Methodist Church centers around the theme

“Bless the Heart of a Child,” with special intention given to our students through thoughts and prayers.

We truly appreciate the CUMC congregation for always keeping our school in mind, and especially during February when that care is so thoughtfully focused on our children.





Free Admission!

Theatre Organ Concert Denver

The Rocky Mountain Chapter of the American
Theatre Organ Society presents

“Old, New, Borrowed, or Blue” featuring Kevin Utter

Sunday, March 15th 2 pm
Holiday Hills Ballroom
2000 W. 92nd Avenue
Federal Heights, Colorado

Combining influences of Jesse Crawford, George Wright, Fats Waller, and others, Kevin plays classical favorites, Jazz, Big Band, favorite hymns, and a premier performance of an original composition written in 2025.

The Holiday Hills beautiful Allen GW-4 Theatre organ is a marvel of authentic sound from the 1920s Theatre organs that graced the silent movie palaces, providing accompaniment to the movies of that time

Congregational Care Team

The goal of the Congregational Care Team (CCT) is to reach out to those in our community of faith who have special needs and to help make our church a friendly, nurturing faith community.

When the Care Team is made aware of someone who needs a little extra encouragement, they do their best to be there with cards, phone calls and visits. During the past month CCT members sent 71 cards and emails, made 7 calls and 1 visit.

The Congregational Care Team (CCT) meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 11:00 a.m. in the church lounge to update, review and to assure that the known needs of those in our community of faith are being met. You are invited to join the Team!

For more information, please call Linda Glover, 970-481-1415.

Christ UMC helps feed 184 hungry children for a year



Sixteen Christ UMC members and friends joined 263 other locals to demonstrate God's love as they filled 11,376 Meal Packages during the Slammin' Famine packing day on Valentine's Day. Each package provides six meals. This means that 184 children will have at least one meal per day for a full year. Often, this is the only meal they will eat. The Meal Packages contain soy, dried vegetables, vitamins, and rice. All of this packing was done in just a little over an hour. The volunteers were busy, busy. The production lines worked fast and with love and gratitude in their hearts. The Slammin' Famine packing is sponsored by the Christian non-profit group Feed My Starving Children. The meal packages are sent throughout the world.



TRAINING

The Church Council will offer CPR/AED training. We especially encourage ushers to get the latest training. All church members, their families, and friends are welcome to be trained also.

We have located trainers who are willing to come to the church for the training. Their charges for CPR/AED training on adults, children, and babies are:

- \$25 for training only
- \$55 for training and CPR certification for 2 years

There is no difference between the training offered. They are both about 2.5 hours long.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN
RECEIVING THE TRAINING, PLEASE
CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE OR
GARY TURNER
GEETURN@COMCAST.NET
970-217-1232
BY APRIL 15.

MORNING GLORY PRESCHOOL

MARCH NEWS



On the horizon:

March 13-20-Spring break

**Enrollment is open for
Fall 2026**

**Let your friends and
neighbors know!**

SPRING IS APPROACHING AT MORNING GLORY

Spring is an exciting time of discovery! Children at Morning Glory will help teachers prepare our garden, explore the playground looking for new growth and notice and talk about the changing weather. Through hands-on outdoor experiences, they build curiosity, patience and care for nature while celebrating the fresh sights, sounds and surprises of the season.



WHAT'S HAPPENING

Valentines Day parties were a success this year. All three of our classrooms did a potluck lunch with chicken nuggets and lots of sides and desserts. The children exchanged Valentine cards with their friends and were so excited to bring their treat bags home. I think it was one of my favorite days of the year!

Galatians 5:22-23

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Christ United Methodist Church
301 E. Drake Road
Ft. Collins, CO 80525

Return Service Requested

MARCH 2026
VOLUME 29, #3



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