

The Village Voice

Deer Park United Methodist Church January 2, 2018

From the Pastor:

Selfie drones are all the rage these days. And, frankly, I've seen some pretty amazing videos and pics made with these gadgets. They are all about the celebration of "me;" What I'm doing, where I am, and how clever I am to get these amazing photos of "me." Don't get me wrong; I have one too. Like I said, it's all the rage...

The Epiphany though — the story of the Wise Men, the plight of the Holy Family, and the birth of the Christ Child — puts a contrasting light on our culture of me-ism, wouldn't you say? On our long-journey trips and vacations we typically take as many photos as possible to document where we have been, who we saw, what we did, and how much fun it was. The journey of the Wise Men, however, was all about searching for truth, meaning, and that which is worthy of worship.

Mindful of this stark contrast, I am busy preparing for my own journey... What is most important to remember to "pack?" A drone and sack full of camera gear? Or would that time spent in preparation be better spent in prayerful reflection on the possibility of transformation? What can I plan for and anticipate that would inject a transformative opportunity into my relationships with family and friends and those I meet along the way? In other words, how can I and others "grow" from this experience we are about to share, rather than just memorialize the visit with pictures and videos? I guess "we'll see..." But in the meantime I am thankful for the story of the Epiphany which reminds us that our journeys, our travels through life, are best spent in search of meaning, truth, and that which is worthy of praise and adoration. Just trying to stay focused...

And speaking of "focus," one of my first activities after moving to Bailey 15+ months ago was to join in with the Thursday morning Men's Breakfast. Since the get-go, this has been one of the most enjoyable and transformative opportunities I have engaged in. We meet, we pray, we enjoy a wonderful meal together, we discuss church issues and others, and then, typically, we adjourn to the Church to further engage in the Lord's work. Sometimes that's as mundane as fixing the toilet. Sometimes it has more to do with sharing our concerns and passions. But it is the Lord's work. I have so enjoyed this fellowship... and yearned for a similar opportunity for the "better half" of our congregation. Not that women are unwelcome at the Men's Breakfast; anybody and everybody is welcome any time. But to have another group in our church that is generated and guided by women has been the subject of much prayer and hope for me. This Friday just such a group will

begin... Already Karen, Betty, Kim and others have expressed their excitement over this new opportunity... and I add my voice to say hallelujah!

It is obvious and regrettable that we cannot find a time and place to meet that works for everyone's schedule. Some of the men of our congregation are unable to meet on Thursday mornings... because of work or whatever... I suspect that this will be the case with this new endeavor on Fridays... But it is yet another opportunity for those in our congregation to meet together to search the meaning of God's presence among us. So again I say: Hallelujah!

Shalom,
Dick

On Sunday, Linda Zimmerman and John Gatlin helped us all out as liturgist and usher. Joyce Von Vett accompanied the hymns. Pastor Dick gave a beautiful message to the children and then to the rest of us.

SERVICE SNAPSHOTS

Attendance on Sunday this week was 22 total with 4 children and 2 youth present. Our offering was \$472.

JOYS AND CONCERNS:

Pastor Dick, prayers for Doug Becvar who is in the hospital with pneumonia and the Flu.

Karen Gatlin prayers for Betty who is also sick. Prayers for Dave Bauer, who is also under the weather.

Linda Zimmerman travel mercies for everyone.

BIBLE VERSES FOR NEXT WEEK: Per the lectionary, the Bible verses for next week, January 14, are:

1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20)

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 (UMH 854)

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

John 1:43-51

Next Sunday is the Second Sunday after Epiphany.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

NURTURE/INREACH COMMITTEE: Anyone interested is invited to attend the **Nurture/InReach Committee Meeting TOMORROW, Tuesday, January 9, 9:00-10:30 a.m.** We will be planning the upcoming Baby Shower (Jan. 20), Fun & Friendship Night (Jan. 12), check in about Sunday School and consider other spring activity possibilities.

PLEASE NOTE - WOMEN'S GROUP CHANGE OF DATE: We have moved our group to **Friday, January 12, 10-11:30 am** —Weekly **Women's Conversation & Study Group Begins** in Sunday School Room. Look forward to going deeper, sharing what is "up" in our lives, lively discussion, and prayer. All are welcome!

Week 1 - January 12: Created in God's Image - Discover a vision for your purpose and divine call.

Week 2 - January 19: Loving Your Neighbor as Yourself - Where does loving oneself fit in the schedule?

Week 3 - January 26: Mary & Martha: Sorting Out Life's Purpose - We'll do some Bibliodrama together (it's fun!)

Also on **Friday, January 12, 6:00-8:30 - Please join us for Fun & Friendship Movie Night**— Enjoy a free meal, Trivia contest, and the movie "Inside Out" - a Disney/Pixar movie that will touch the hearts of all ages. Bring some cozy slippers and a blanket if you want! Movie will include popcorn, beverages, and a few sweets.

Saturday, January 20, 2018: Baby Shower at 2pm. They are registered at Amazon.com and BABIESRUS under both their names: Katie Janda and Chandra Jacquez.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Deer Park United Methodist Church Music Ministry and Outreach has been providing musical instruments to youth in our area for over ten years. Thirty instruments have been provided to youth and elementary schools in our area. These instruments are donated and reconditioned if needed. If you have an instrument that is in a closet or no longer needed, please consider donating it to us.

Anyone that is available to sing or play for Special Music any upcoming Sunday please let me know.

Deer Park UMC is now registered with Amazon Smile. Support your charitable organization by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com

Check out our webpage deerparkumc.org.

We have reloadable **Gift Cards** for **King Soopers** and **Safeway**. They are a great way to donate to the church as we receive a percentage of the money spent on groceries. See Donna Bastien.

Deer Park UMC Mission Statement

Deer Park UMC is a diverse community welcoming visitors and members of all backgrounds. ***Everyone is welcome! No exceptions!*** is not only motto but our mission statement.

We extend the open hand of Christ's love to any who would pass through our doors, regardless of age, faith, creed, race, nationality, special needs, marital status, financial or social status, gender identity or sexual orientation. We rejoice in our differences while inviting all to join our faith journey toward greater understanding and sincere mutual respect.

No matter who you are, we're glad you're here!

We are still collecting shoes for Soles for Souls so bring your used shoes and drop them off in the box by the office. Shoes in any condition, even heavily worn or chewed by your new puppy, will be repurposed to help those in need.

Our Noisy Offering is being repurposed to the church's general fund. Please drop your extra change in the bucket at the back of the sanctuary.

Please consider joining UMC Market—it's a super easy way to donate funds to the church without spending any extra money. Much like our Safeway and King Soopers cards, UMC Market allows you to do your regular shopping through a website portal. If you use the portal, you can shop where you'd normally shop, and a percentage of your purchase amount is donated back to the church. Visit umcmarket.org and follow the prompts to sign up. Then all you have to do is sign in to their website, click on the store where you want to shop (amazon.com, Kohl's, Staples, Barnes & Noble among many others), and make your purchases as usual. **The UMC Market app has updated so you have to go on their site and make a new account to continue to use it. People who already signed up for it should get an email letting them know they need a new account.**

DPUMC is now one of the AmazonSmile charities, so if people select the church as their charity, we will get 0.5% of the purchase price from eligible AmazonSmile purchases. They need to go to smile.amazon.com and select the church as their charity, and then they should start their Amazon shopping at <http://smile.amazon.com> for it to count.

Note that Amazon is no longer one of the UMC market vendors so this is the best way for the church to benefit from Amazon purchases.

NEWS FROM THE INTERFAITH FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry is in need of paper products, paper towels. They also need dish soap and laundry detergent. Also feminine hygiene products are needed. Baking products, cake mixes, muffin, any small mixes. Any gluten free items, also low or no sodium items. They also need empty egg cartons. Items can be brought to church on Sunday or Tuesday nights. Alternately, Jean C. is generally in the office on Monday morning from about 10-12 and on Fridays from about 10-12. Please call first to be sure someone is there.

The Food Pantry needs toothpaste.

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The Food Bank is in continuing need of donations. Please consider donating five dollars a month or \$60 to cover the year, to help meet the needs of our community.

For this Sunday, January 14, we have the following:

Liturgist— Donna Bastien

Usher— John Gatlin

Sunday School— NEED VOLUNTEER

Children's Time— NEED VOLUNTEER

Fellowship— NEED VOLUNTEER

***WE ARE IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS FOR SUNDAYS IN JANUARY/FEBRUARY. Sign-up sheets are available on the table in Fellowship Hall see where you might be able to help out, or send an email to the office. Thanks!**

Thanks to everyone who has volunteered to help with services! Sign up on the signup sheets on the table in Fellowship Hall or drop me an email at office@deerparkumc.org if you're able to fill one of these positions.

Thanks to all of you!

SOCIAL MEDIA:

If you're on Facebook, stop by the church's page to share stories and news and items of interest. If you then also share links or items with your main friends list, you can easily help spread the word about our little mountain church. Our reach has been growing steadily thanks to everyone's participation. Please "Share" items on your own timeline if you enjoy them, or hit "Like" on the church's site to help continue this trend of reaching a wide portion of the community.

Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/dpumc>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/deerparkumc>

Blog: <http://deerparkumc.org/blog/>

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!—2 Corinthians 5:17(NRSV)

When all seems lost, God can help rebuild my life.—(THOUGHT FOR THE DAY)

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Contact information: Drive to 966 Rim Rock Road in the 285 Community. Send mail to P.O. Box 578 Pine, CO 80470. Call the church office at 303-838-6759.

Deer Park United Methodist Church. Everyone is welcome! No exceptions! Pastor Dick McPherson, dickmcpherson@mac.com, 720-504-7646.

Jean C.

303-838-6759 Church Office

Website: www.deerparkumc.org

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