

Deer Park United Methodist Church

Weekly Update

December 22, 2014

On this fourth Advent Sunday, Pete Von Vett and Charles Wall helped us all out as usher and liturgist, and Lucy Bauer led us through Children's Time w Christmas carols on bells. Connie Hannah led a burgeoning crowd of beautiful voices for our time of Special Music, our No Limits Choir singing the "Magnificat," after the Contemporary Word which opened our hearts to the question of what it means to be in personal relationship with the Life which made us and makes us still.

Thanks to all who came together in worship (and to everyone who helped and played along with our Cookie Exchange and White Elephant fellowship hour), and I look forward to spending time worshipping God's Spirit and celebrating Jesus' life on Christmas Eve!

In God's Love,
Rev. Laura H.

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SERVICE SNAPSHOTS

Our attendance this Sunday was 50 total, with 7 children and 2 youth present. Our offering was \$1309.89, including donations from Cowboy Christmas and our noisy offering for a local needy family.

JOYS AND CONCERNS:

Linda Zimmerman was happy to have her family visiting, including daughters and grandbabies.

Stacee Jacobs was also happy to have all four of her kids home and with her at the service, as well as her husband Dustin.

Debbie Gadomski spent last week with her daughter in Tucson. Her son-in-law is interviewing for a position that could bring him to Denver! In addition, Debbie was thankful for a very meaningful and unexpected phone conversation she had with her brother, who is bi-polar, and with whom she rarely communicates.

Kim Moore reports that the Moores' family friend, Jim Hazelwood, is doing very well after his bone marrow transplant. He is still in Seattle and is recovering wonderfully.

Doug Jenner was glad to be able to make it yesterday morning, having had to drive through the snow in Summit County.

Connie Hannah expressed thanks and joy for the bounty of musicians we have here at DPUMC.

Lucy Bauer offered thanks for the day's message.

Jean Thomas commented that she is joyful for the Christmas season and how much more she's enjoying it this year after cutting back on many stressful activities.

BIBLE VERSES FOR NEXT WEEK: Per the lectionary, the Bible verses for next week, December 28, are: Isaiah 61:10-62:3, Psalm 148, Galatians 4:4-7, Luke 2:22-40. Next Sunday is the First Sunday after Christmas.

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COMING EVENTS

Please join us on December 24, Christmas Eve, at 7 pm for our Christmas Eve service. The choir and orchestra will be joining forces to present *A Medieval Christmas Festival*.

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Cookie Exchange and White Elephant Gift Exchange on Sunday. Special thanks to Pete Von Vett for organizing the event. It was a blast!

December 26, the Bauer family will be performing in a benefit for the Denver Philharmonic Orchestra. Alex, Heidi, Jonas, and Marieke Bauer will be playing, and Marieke will also be singing. The benefit will be held at the KPOF hall in downtown Denver (located at 16th and Sherman). Admission is free, and donations are accepted at the door.

OUTREACH GROUP will meet on Tuesday at 7 pm to wrap gifts presents for the family who will be benefitting from our Noisy Offering. After that, we'll be taking a break until after the first of the year.

Bible Study is also taking a break until after the first of the year.

The **men's group** continues to meet at 8 am at the Cutthroat Café for coffee, breakfast, and conversation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

If you'd like to consider Electronic Funds Transfer as an easier way to donate to the church, we have information on how to set it up. There are flyers available on the table in the sanctuary, or ask Katriena for information.

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 Food Pantry is in need of dairy products: butter, cheese, milk, & eggs. If you'd like to make a donation, please bring it along on Sunday morning or Tuesday evening (for Outreach) so we can store it in the refrigerator. Alternately, Katriena 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.

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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.

Food donations to the pantry are also welcome. Drop off your donations at the church office, and we'll make sure they get where they need to go.

Adult Bible Study: Bible study continues to meet at 8:45, before services, focusing on the readings for the day. If you'd like to participate, feel free to drop in any time. Bible verses for the upcoming week are posted in the Monday Update so you can take a look at them ahead of time.

For next week, December 28, we have the following:

Liturgist—Debbie Gadomski
Usher—Mike Moore
Sunday School—Dave Bauer
Children's Time—**NEED VOLUNTEER**
Fellowship—**NEED VOLUNTEER**
Choir/Orchestra Practice—None.

Our next Fellowship Potluck will be Sunday, January 4. Our next Church Council and committee meetings will be as follows:..Sunday, January 11: Committee Meetings and Church Council. Sunday, January 18: Worship Committee Meeting.

Start thinking about when you can volunteer in January and February. Laura would particularly like to see some new faces trying out these positions, so if you haven't served as liturgist, usher, children's time presenter, or fellowship or Sunday school, consider giving it a shot and signing up. Sign-up sheets are available on the table in Fellowship Hall and see where you might be able to help out. Thanks!

Thanks to everyone who has volunteered to help with services! Sign up on the sign up 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/>

Watchwords

**The psalmist wrote, "I would hurry to my place of shelter, far from the tempest and storm."—
Psalms 55:8 (NRSV)**

Do not quench the Spirit.—1 Thessalonians 5:19 (NIV)

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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. Pastor Laura Hehner – pastor@deerparkumc.org. Deer Park United Methodist Church. Everyone is welcome! No exceptions!

Katriena
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