

# The Lyons Community Church

## Mid-Week Message

Thursday, February 4, 2016

### Make this place your home

I love this line from the current pop hit “Home” by Phillip Phillips – you can watch the video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HoRkntoHkIE>. Phillips sings: “Hold on to me as we go, as we roll down this unfamiliar road, and although this wave is stringing us along: Just know you're not alone, 'cause I'm gonna make this place your home. Settle down, it'll all be clear. Don't pay no mind to the demons; they fill you with fear. The trouble—it might drag you down. If you get lost, you can always be found. Just know you're not alone, 'cause I'm gonna make this place your home.”

What would our church look like if we embraced these words as our vision and mission - if we decided to treat one another as if they belonged in the family of God and were beloved members of our community of faith? Could we hold onto one another rather than splintering apart when times get tough and demons fill us with fear? Could we feel less isolated and more supported, knowing we are not alone? Could we just settle down and allow ourselves to be found again by the God chasing after us, desperate to shower us with love and acceptance?

This is the final week of our sermon series Psalms of Our Faith, and we'll be pondering What God's Home is Like? [Spoiler alert! Read Ps. 84 if you'd like a sneak peek.] It's a great question to tackle on this final Sunday before the 40-day Lenten season begins (on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>). This time of year, Lent always beckons us to dive deeper – to give up something we cherish, or add something important to our lives to prepare ourselves to hear and receive the message of Jesus's sacrifice for us on the Cross at Golgotha. It's a time of introspection, of preparation, of rethinking and sometimes re-framing our lives; like New Year's but without the hollow resolutions.

So this Sunday we will celebrate the kick-off of the Lenten season with a Mardi Gras / Fat Tuesday / Shrove Tuesday style party. Think Rio or New Orleans – there will be masks and beads, and a potluck feast after church. Traditionally, the party is to use up all of the rich, fatty foods that people will be giving



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### Sunday, Feb. 7, 2016

**Sermon:** Psalms of Our Faith #5:  
*What is God's Home Like?* - Rev.  
Emily Flemming

**Scripture:** Psalm 84:1-4, 10-12

**Reader:** Mark Boys

**Greeter:** Nancy Reckling

**Refreshments:** Mardi Gras Feast

**Children:** Theresa Brighton



We ready to PAH-TAY

## *Pastor's Message* (continued)

up for Lent. But we are not asking you to give up anything – except an hour of your time on Sunday morning. In one hour, we'll celebrate not only Mardi Gras, but also Holy Communion – and that is a feast that keeps on feeding.



Speaking of feeding, please remember to bring along your food donations on Sunday (or any time before then – the box is outside the church) to support UNITED Methodists IN ORANGE, our Soup-er Bowl Sunday fundraiser for the local food banks (Erie or the OUR Center, as needed). The snow-pocalypse will not slow us down – I want us Broncos fans to beat the Panthers fans off the field, just as we wish our team victory on the field.

And speaking of victories, we will also be celebrating the successful conclusion of our 3-year strategic plan and Building Hope and Promise capital campaign on Sunday. Bring your quarters and dimes to top off the collection jar – and be ready to read and hear how the Lord is using our church to meet the ever-expanding needs of our local community. We are listening to what our neighbors need, and responding with faith and action.

There is much to share and to celebrate – see you Sunday at 11am!

Blessings for your home, *Pastor Emily*



## Building Hope and Promise

We would like to update and thank you for your support of our Building Hope and Promise campaign over the past 3 years. With your generosity, we began beautiful renovations to our 100+ year-old facility, which have enabled us to welcome many young families and our neighbors in need.

Our campaign kicked off in 2013 with a \$37,000 matching grant from the United Methodist Church, Rocky Mountain Conference's Legacy Fund. We matched and surpassed it in 2 years, raising \$155,578. Using \$119,768 of that money, we completed our first phase: hand-made front doors and a new high-efficiency HVAC system (\$13,000) for the sanctuary level upstairs, as well as a complete overhaul of the lower-level Wesleyan Hall. That space continues to be important to the church and community. Financial seminars, meetings, Bible studies, exercise classes and weekly addiction and recovery groups appreciate the bright, new space. Specific renovations include:

- Addition of an ADA-accessible exterior ramp, front entrance and restroom.
- Replacement of carpet with hardwood flooring (and linoleum in the bathroom).
- New lockable storage areas, commercial refrigeration and freezer units for the community food pantry. The pantry currently serves around 30-40 families each week.
- Addition of 2 storage closets and a separate room for child care (during worship), a bridal suite, and weekly case management appointments and counseling.

The remaining funds (\$35,809) are being used to renovate the north side parking lot, which is critical to welcoming all people safely. We also hope to move forward with renovations upstairs, including ADA-accessibility improvements like exterior ramps, widened entryways and restrooms, as well as the repair and upgrade of our stained-glass windows. We pray that you will consider supporting us as we move into the next phase of Building Hope and Promise, expanding our mission to do God's work in and be a place of welcome to the entire Lyons community.

With blessings and gratitude,  
Mark Boys, Rev. Diana Boulter, Steve Beck, and Rev. Emily Flemming

## Prayers

**Joys:** for birthdays of Michele Schwenn on 2/7, Hailey Dusel on 2/7, Deborah Salmon on 2/9; Ray Sr. is back safely from TX and feeling better, Vance and Terry's new home on March 1st, Sunday's music and musicians, Broncos in the Super Bowl

**Concerns:** Mark's brother Russell and mother Joyce, Laurel Shaw, Johnny McIntosh, Malu, all those still searching for food, work, a home or sense of community and acceptance

*Current prayer team members include: Holly & Steve Beck, Mark Boys, Pam Browning, Sandi Fikes, Janet Freeman, Vance French, Alyssa Frideres, Ellen Hine, Jani Little, Steve Mikesell, Jerry & Jean Peila, Carol Pranschke, Richard & Deborah Salmon, Debbie Tabor, and Sandra Willis.*

## Announcements

**Friday, Feb. 5th** from 6-9pm Amy Mathews is hosting an art show opening called New Beginnings at her Impasto Art Gallery, 2015 Ionosphere Street, Longmont.

**Sunday, Feb. 7th** is our Mardi Gras potluck lunch, Building Hope and Promise conclusion, Super Bowl celebration (go, Broncos!). Bring dimes and quarters, a dish to share, and your plastic beads or costumes. And be ready to PARTY!



**Join us** at 7:00pm downstairs in Wesleyan Hall on Ash Wednesday, **February 10th**, for a simple all-age (no childcare provided) agape-style meal with music and the sharing of ashes, which draws us into the season of Lent.

**Sunday, Feb. 14,** we will begin a 6-week Lenten series based on Rev. Adam Hamilton's book *Revival - Faith as Wesley Lived It*. Invite a friend or neighbor to travel from England to the US and back with us as we invite God's Spirit to live among and through us.

## Calling for all quarters and dimes!

**Our collection jar needs your input!**

**We are about 3/4 of the way there.**

**Yes, about 75lbs of quarters and dimes has already been collected!**

**We are aiming for 104lbs.**

**Can we get there by the end of service on this Sunday, Feb 7th?**

**Yes - with your help, we can!**

**So please, dig through jars, purses, behind couches, in drawers, pockets etc.**

**Find all the quarters and dimes that you possibly can.**

**Proceeds will all go towards building repairs. Many thanks for your support.**

**The Building Hope and Promise Team**

