

# The Lyons Community Church

## Mid-Week Message

Thursday, April 23, 2015

Dear friends and neighbors,

The first time I had dinner at one of your homes, I felt like I had finally "arrived" as your pastor. There's something special about visiting outside of the work place (or church, in this case). Being welcomed into someone's home truly makes me feel like I belong. And some of the family meals, cups of tea or glasses of wine that I have shared with you - in your homes, the local shops, or even in the hospital - are my most treasured moments as your pastor.

Belonging is a basic human need - our brains are wired to connect to others. The funny thing is: only 1/3 of our connections are hard-wired. Two-thirds of what we believe about the world and everyone out there in it is learned (and can be un-learned, or rewired). This is exciting news, and another great reason to get involved in a passionate, compassionate church community.

This church is a place of healing for those who were raised with punitive images of God ("God hates..." or "You are a sinner and going to hell," etc.) This is also a place where people of different opinions and political views are all welcomed. This is a place where you can be honest about who you are, and where you are on your life or spiritual journey.

The United Methodist Church has a slogan: "Open hands, open hearts, open doors," but in some places that translates to: "you are welcome here as long as you look, act, think, vote, earn, or give as we do." I think that type of group-think is toxic and dangerous. Our beauty and strength is in our diversity - that we kick off a service with Bach and end with a Negro Spiritual, or that we have both Pro and Con leaders from any political issue. But since about 20 minutes after Christ died, people have been excluding one another (first it was the Gentiles, then women from church leadership, and today it is often lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, or queer people).



This week, we're going to meet up with Philip in Acts as he walks along with a eunuch (akin to a transgendered person today). Both of them find fellowship and renewal together in the community of shared ideas and life experiences. And isn't THAT what it's all about - finding a way to share who we are and what we believe in? Please join us for 2 baptisms and 4 families joining the church this Sunday -



350 Main Street, PO Box 44  
Lyons, CO 80540

To contact Pastor Emily Flemming:  
[Emily@LyonsCommunityChurch.org](mailto:Emily@LyonsCommunityChurch.org)

To contact the office:  
[LCCOffice@LyonsCommunityChurch.org](mailto:LCCOffice@LyonsCommunityChurch.org)

Office Phone: 303.823.6245

## Sunday, April 26

**Sermon:** *The Uprising of Fellowship - Who Really Belongs* - Pastor Emily Flemming

**Scripture:** Acts 8:26-38 (NRSV)

**Reader:** Mark Boys

**Refreshments:** Potluck luncheon (please bring a pot to share)

**Greeters:** Richard & Debi Salmon

**Flowers:** Given by Holly Beck and Pam Browning to celebrate Tanya Daty's membership

**Children's Time:**

### *Pastor's Message* (continued)

we sure have much to share and celebrate!

In joyful anticipation,

*Pastor Emily*

You can check out any sermons you missed, or share other updates, info and announcements with the church on our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/LyonsCommunityChurch](http://www.facebook.com/LyonsCommunityChurch)

## Prayers...

**Joys for** baptism of Blake Bear and today's new members: the Bears, Dusels and Datys, birthdays: Lia Malito (4/27), Christine Boys (5/1), Byron Curtin (5/1), successful 9Health Fair (over 400 people treated), Vance's "brothers" Regis and Steve helping move his piano and finally feeling truly connected to church family, KT's beautiful music last week and the special music today

**Concerns for** Marie Baker in hospital and Ken, Lori who lost her husband in a car accident, health of the Robinson family, Kelly's baby Alex with pneumonia and sepsis, Mary Chase and family, Carol's brother Joe, Jerry's sister Cheryl, Dawn's mother Lorraine, the Fikes, Russell, Steve M., Kathy R., Nancy's uncle, the 218 girls still missing 1 year after Boko Haram abduction, our lack of attention to the slaughter of Christians around the world (Iraq, Libya, Kenya, Nigeria)

*You may make prayer requests or join the Prayer Team anytime by contacting Pastor Emily or Chair Kitty Keim*

## Announcements

A one-day all-age class on United Methodist History and Beliefs is offered on **Sunday, 4/26** from 8:30-9:30am in Wesleyan Hall.

We will welcome new members this **Sunday, 4/26**: Blake and Jocelyn Bear with Natalie, Jenna and Leah; Tanya Daty; Emily Dusel with Maddie, Hannah and Hailey; and Sandra Willis. We'll be baptizing Blake and Hailey

Please join us downstairs right after worship **Sunday, 4/26** for a pot-luck lunch to celebrate our new members! All are invited to bring a dish to share.

The Children's Committee will meet on **Tuesday, April 28th** at 7pm in Wesleyan Hall. Anyone interested in our children is welcome to attend.

A new group for non-meeting-lovers is being formed: **e-comm.** will be taking a look at overhauling/streamlining our church's website, Facebook page, directory and welcome packet/info. If you are tech-savvy, enjoy social media, or have a gift for hospitality, and are looking for a way to get involved, please let Emily know.

From Deb Tabor, our Trustee Chair: The church is our building, which means we are all responsible for checking that the heat is turned down to 65° and all lights are shut off before leaving the building. Be energy wise! Thank you.

There is a Trustees Meeting, **Saturday, 5/2** at 9:00am; breakfast will be served.

Sandra Willis is seeking a home health care position for three days a week. Her phone number is 678-882-9391.

Special offering **Sunday, 5/3**, we will be taking up a collection during Communion next Sunday for United Methodist missionary Ken Koome (pictured to the right), who needs a new truck. Ken serves Angola (Africa), a country that suffered 40 years of warfare and is trying to piece their lives back together. Please come prepared next week to support this special, one-time offering.

