

# The Lyons Community Church

## Mid-Week Message

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Dear friends and neighbors,

When was the last time you felt in the thick of it?

The various dictionaries report that phrase to mean "in a precarious situation," "in the most active and dangerous part of a particular activity" and "surrounded by or very involved in complex, changing events."

I don't know about you, but ever since our flood in September 2013, things have been pretty thick, active, precarious, complex and changing. I guess if I'm honest, my whole life has seemed like that a bit, but a natural disaster seems to highlight the tension. And the constant rainfall in the past few weeks does not help. I wonder if we can reclaim that phrase, though, as one theologian suggests:

**"God's Pentecost project is far from finished. You and I are in the thick of it" – Rev. Dr. David Schlafer**

Being in the thick of Pentecost means to me living in the tension between unity and diversity. In this week's Bible text, there are many people from many nations speaking in languages unknown to them, but which ring familiar to their listeners. It is a Holy Spirit miracle and "birthday" of the wider Christian church. Imagine all the skin tones, the vocal ranges, the costumes and cultural differences!

If we are in the thick of God's Pentecost project - the harmonizing of unity and diversity - then we are called to hold tension. We are called to live into the precarious and dangerous situations, to be surrounded by, active and very involved in the complex and ever-changing society around us. But we are called to be a beacon of light and hope in the storm, not just another lost and water-logged motorist along the road.

Sometimes I feel the thickness of life more than others. It can weigh me down, strangle or suffocate me - but still I remain in it, in the game, ready to see what the Spirit brings next. Anyway, birthdays are a time of new beginnings. So this Sunday we'll celebrate the birthday of the church. Your presence is our only present. Well, actually, God will be doing the gift-giving, and we all will simply be invited to dance at the party as if we're drunk on cheap wine (hey - blame the apostle Paul and his traveling writer companion Luke for that



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## Sunday, May 24 Pentecost

**Sermon:** *Pentecost: In the Thick of It* - Pastor Emily Flemming

**Scripture:** Acts 2:1-13 (MSG)

**Reader:**

**Greeters:** The Salmons

**Refreshments:** The Tabors

**Flowers:** Given by Holly Beck in celebration of school being out for the summer

**Children's Time:** Jani Little

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

one, not me!).

Still in my galoshes, praying for some sunshine,

*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...

For all graduates, Steve M. back in church last week, Brian's ongoing heart surgery recovery (doing great 2 months in), Bonnie and Rick DiSalvo in the death of their son, Kathy in the death of her 2 sons, Zeke and friends in the death of 89 year-old musical hero Johnny Gimble, the health of 4 teens who wrecked a car outside the Beck's home, Sam & Bonnie and all those stressed with the rainfall and water damage, Dana's brother Jason, Faye's surgery recovery, Jerry's sister Cheryl, Deb O'Connor, the Bakers, Robinsons and Fikes, Lori, Mary, Kathy R., victims of Nepalese earthquakes and other disasters, wars, poverty and disease

*You may make prayer requests or join the Prayer Team anytime by contacting Pastor Emily or Chair Kitty Keim [kathkeim@earthlink.net](mailto:kathkeim@earthlink.net).*

## Announcements

If you'd like to wear **RED** to church this Sunday, you'll feel right at home in the celebration of Pentecost, the birthday of the church, minus the flaming tongues...

Please bring new or gently used children's books to church in May. We plan to create a lending/giving library for the children of our food pantry clients to encourage summer literacy!

The Building Hope and Promise team will meet Sunday around 11:30am downstairs.

We will celebrate the sacrament of baptism and welcome new church members on Sunday, June 6th. Please let Emily know if you'd like more info.

Keep smiling, keep shining, Regis still needs to take many directory photos!



LEAF is currently looking for church members to expand its Board of Directors. Please contact Pam Browning if you are interested or know of someone who might be.

## Lyons Outdoor Games is going ZERO WASTE

The Lyons Outdoor Games is taking the next step in becoming a sustainable event and we need your help! Come volunteer to help ensure the success of our zero waste stations and correct sorting of festival trash, recycling and compost. Let's keep Lyons clean and green!

- Throw station monitors needed. 3-hour shifts. Training provided
- Volunteers get a Lyons Outdoor Games T-shirt and lunch
- School/volunteer groups can earn cash for their hours

All ages encouraged to volunteer; Adults needed for evening/Burning Can shifts

Sign up via VolunteerSpot.com: <http://vols.pt/kwg1N1>

Questions? Contact Sustainable Futures Commission Chair Dave Hatchimonji with questions; [dhatchimonji@gmail.com](mailto:dhatchimonji@gmail.com)

## Ministry Council Report from LEAF

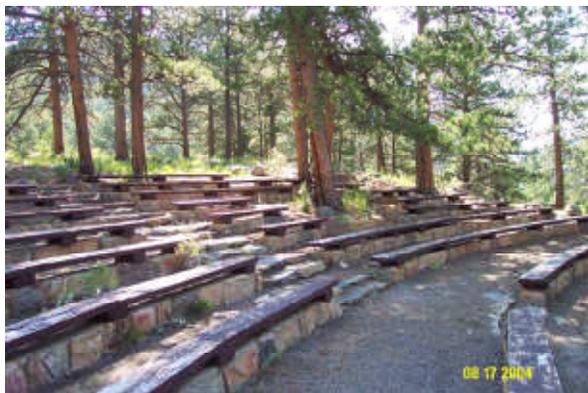
It's been almost 10 months since LEAF spun off from LCC where it was the BNEF, into its own non-profit organization. We thank Pastor Emily Flemming and Emily Dusel for reorganizing this new service agency. We also thank the ministry council for supporting the 'spin-off'. In the last year LEAF has helped many flood displaced residents find resources, funded a position to help with the building permit process for residents wishing to rebuild, funded experts for the town of Lyons to research the possibility of a new mobile home park, supported the food pantry, coordinated with the OUR center in Longmont to provide a time and location in Lyons for those in our community to receive their services, provided services not covered by the OUR center to those in the Lyons area who are in need, and became under the umbrella of Colorado Non-Profit Development Center in Denver. All of this was possible thanks to continued support from Lyons Community Church and the two women who helped get LEAF going. We have recently transitioned from 2 executive directors to 1 executive director. Also our board has recently changed leadership roles as well as adding some new members. As of now LEAF operates under the following board members: Pam Browning (chair), Ellen Hine (vice-chair), Tanya Dady (secretary), Peter Maves

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## **LEAF** *(continued from page 2)*

(treasurer), Monique Sawyer-Lang, Maridy Dandeneau, and Susan McCann. Our organization employs as staff: Emily Dusel as executive director, Janaki Jane as direct service advocate, and Debbie Tabor as food pantry administrator. We are currently

looking to expand the board and are looking for church members who might be interested in serving on the board, if you know of any please contact Pam Browning. We look forward to another year working in cooperation with Lyons Community church both in facility and in mission.



## ROCKY MOUNTAIN CONFERENCE MEMBERS CAN CELEBRATE PARK'S CENTENNIAL WITH SUMMER VESPER SERVICES

Lyons Community Church  
July 26, 2015, 5-7pm

Moraine Park Amphitheater at Rocky Mountain National Park. Photo courtesy Rocky Mountain National Park

Rocky Mountain National Park truly is a national and regional treasure with more than 415 square miles of protected mountain terrain, wildlife and a huge network of hiking trails and scenic highways. People of all ages and from all over the world are captivated by its majestic peaks, cascading streams, free-roaming wildlife, amazing tundra and vivid wildflowers. For many it is God's creating hand at its best. From Sept. 4, 2014, through Sept. 4, 2015, Rocky Mountain National Park is celebrating its 100th Anniversary with the theme: "Wilderness, Wildlife, Wonder."

Rocky Mountain National Park 100th Logolt is fitting that United Methodists will take part in the celebration as the park enters a new century of inspiration. To take part in the celebration this summer, United Methodist congregations will have an opportunity to lead vesper services at the Moraine Park Amphitheater located along Bear Lake Road near the Beaver Meadow entrance to the park. Rocky Mountain Conference has reserved the amphitheater for each Sunday in June, July and August from 5 to 7 p.m. so that congregations and organizations of the conference can gather to worship and invite park visitors to enjoy worship with us.

This is a great opportunity for congregations to make a Sunday this summer a "Park Sunday." Take a hike, gather for a picnic. Bring the church bus! The service may be led by pastors, youth groups, UMM and UMW. Bring your choir or musicians — but there won't be electricity — the service will be unplugged! The amphitheater is in a beautiful spot, surrounded by trees with views of Moraine Park and surrounding peaks. And participating congregations can display the centennial logo as part of their participation.

You can sign your church up for a weekend this summer and get more information by contacting Dale Beck at [dabeck49@gmail.com](mailto:dabeck49@gmail.com) or by telephone at 970-586-3317. Find more opportunities for your weekend at the park at [www.rockymountainnationalpark.com](http://www.rockymountainnationalpark.com). Regular visitors to the park and people who remember it from their childhood and families that want to connect will find this a place of natural inspiration — wilderness, wildlife and wonder.

