

The Lyons Community Church Mid-Week Message

Thursday, June 2, 2016

Dear friends and neighbors,

The first year I spent Thanksgiving away from my home (in SC) was 2000. I was an exchange student and teacher in Bamberg, Germany. I asked my friend Stefan the same question that Jesus asks Zaccheus in our text for this coming Sunday: "Can I Come Home With You?"

As a German national, he didn't celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday, but he allowed me to cook a meal for 15 people (with help from my Italian friend) in his tiny kitchen, including an 18-lb. turkey I got at the PX on the nearby American military base. We made all of the classic dishes from my grandmother's recipes, and I joked that no one would know (except me) if things were not just right. To ease my mind, Stefan lived above a pizzeria, so if all else failed, we had a back-up plan.

Jesus didn't have a back-up plan when he saw Zaccheus in that tree. His only plan was to save and transform a man of small stature who had climbed a tree to get a glimpse of him. Jesus wanted to melt Zaccheus's hardened heart, to introduce him to a new way of being, to change and improve his life. After speaking to Jesus, Zaccheus promised to turn over a new leaf, stop cheating people out of extra tax money so that he could get rich, to be more honest and generous. It's the same change of heart that God wants from us today - without all the tree-climbing and dinner feasts.

This Sunday we'll be examining again our concept of home - are our homes where we were born and raised, or where we currently live? Or are they anywhere we can be with Jesus, be in the Spirit of love and connected-ness? I joke that since I spent 12 years in Germany, I am now a turtle and carry my home on back. But the only thing that makes that even remotely possible, is that home is wherever I'm with God (to paraphrase a song from 2009 by Edward Sharpe and the Magnetic Zero's)... here's a [link](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rjFaenf1T-Y) if you need a happy song to kick-off your weekend (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rjFaenf1T-Y>)

Blessings and peace,

Pastor Emily



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Sunday, June 5, 2016

Sermon: (Re)-Defining Home #4:
Can I Come Home With You?-
Pastor Emily Flemming

Scripture: Luke 19:1-10 (*The Voice*)

Reader:

Refreshments: Karen Schwenn,
Steve Good, Cindy Fisher, and
Jeanne Schwenn

Flowers: Jeanne Schwenn

Greeters: Jeanne & Karen Schwenn

St. Vrain Valley UMC Youth Ministry Gathering

Sunday, June 5
5:00 - 7:00 PM

All Area UMC Youth Who Have
Completed Grades 5-12 are Invited!
Come play games, eat delicious food, and enjoy the fellowship
of other Methodist youth from the St. Vrain Valley!

FREE! Willow Farm Park
501 S Foothill Street
Longmont, CO 80501

Your friends are also welcome! For questions or to
RSVP by May 25th, please see your Pastor TODAY!



Prayers

Joys: Geoffrey's 16th birthday (6/1); for our new pastor and family preparing to join us in July; a visitor gave thanks last Sunday for this church, her family, and the presence of the Holy Spirit as we worshiped; Thomas family visitors from AL; Stu's pride in grandson's Bill Daniels full scholarship to the School of MINES

Concerns: Heidi Olinger and family in the passing of her father Jim; Stu's brother Arnold's health and his new wife; Alessandra's return to Italy; Lily; traveling mercies for Mark, sons and family in England; Opal and Bill Jackson; Foreman family; Betty; Sonny; Joel Walter and Harrison; Linda Hubbard; Donna's granddaughter Evelyn

Requests? Kitty Keim, Chair: kathkeim@earthlink.net, tel. 303-823-6586

Prayer team: Pastor Emily, Holly and 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 and Deborah Salmon, Debbie Tabor and Sandra Willis.

Lyons Outdoor Games

This weekend is the wonderful Lyons Outdoor Games! It's going to be quite an event. Here's something that I received from Toby Russell, who's involved in sustainability initiatives in Lyons:

If anyone would like to attend the Lyons Outdoor Games this weekend you can volunteer at the Zero Waste booth AND get free admission to all the events for you and your immediate family.

For every Zero Waste volunteer hour you sign up for the Town of Lyons' Sustainability Futures Commission will make \$5 donation to Lyons Community Church.

Volunteers signing up to volunteer for a "Zero Waste" shift(s) get:

- \$5 per hour (3 hour shifts) to donate to a youth group, church or non-profit on our list;

- free admission to The Lyons Outdoor Games events and the Under the Stars Concert featuring Dirty Dozen Brass Band for each volunteer and their immediate family members(\$10 adult / \$5 child);

- a one of a kind Lyons Outdoor Games STAFF shirt;

- a super fun sponsor prize bag;

- a meal from Pizza Bar 66 right on site.

Here is the link to sign up (make sure you write in Lyons Community Church under organization so the donations can be directed to us):

<http://www.racedirectorsolutions.com/Public/Volunteer?eventId=2777&scheduleId=4504>

Right now the biggest need is for the following shifts:

Zero Waste Management Afternoon, Saturday (2pm-5pm) and Evening, Saturday (8-11pm)

Feel free to contact Toby Russell (303-579-2591 | trussell@townoflyons.com) with any questions.

Announcements

Jim Olinger's memorial service will be held at our church, along with the Masonic and military rights, on Saturday, June 11th, 2016 at 10:00am. We hope to offer a reception immediately following the service.

Café Rally—Tuesday June 7, 6-7pm, OUR Center, 250 Third Avenue, Longmont. Join us for light appetizers and an informative gathering to learn about the ways you can get involved in the OUR Center's Community Cafe. You will learn how this program impacts lives in our community and how you can help in just a few hours at a time. Please RSVP with Janelle 303-772-5529 ext 251 or janelle@ourcenter.org.

Reminder: the Rocky Mountain Conference of the UMC has our Annual Conference at the Westin Hotel in Westminster this coming Thursday through Sunday (June 9-12). Emily will be ordained on Sunday morning, and is very busy during this time. Dave Emerson, Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity of the St. Vrain Valley, will bring a message on the theology of the hammer next week. You will not want to miss it!

Zumba has moved to 9:00am on Tuesdays & Fridays in Wesleyan Hall downstairs (first class is FREE!). See Holly for details.