

The Lyons Community Church

Mid-Week Message

Thursday, July 10, 2014



Time to make some joyful NOISE

Dear neighbors,

Thanks to many of you who attended last week's worship service and dived into a new sermon series with me on the Psalms (or songs and poems of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament). We started with 23, but are forging on to 100 this week.



Allow me a nerd-out moment: one theologian, Walter Brueggemann, enhanced the Hermann Gunkel 1929 analysis of the Psalms (which classified all 150 of them into 3 categories: praise, lament and thanksgiving). In 1980, Brueggemann added a purpose for each category: praise psalms were for orientation (to point a community or individual towards God), laments were for disorientation (the painful but common movement to a darker, more confusing places in our lives and spirituality), and psalms of thanksgiving were for reorientation (transcending pain, moving through trouble, embracing the darkness and a new light).

I'll talk a bit more about what psalms *did* in Israel, and what songs and poems *do* for us today in this week's service. We'll also be blessed to have the Arvada United Methodist youth group (see picture below) with their leader Marcia Canter with us to bless us with special music and to offer a special program for the children during the service. It'll be a day you won't want to miss!

And speaking of not missing something - did you catch a glimpse of your pastor in the Longmont Times Call this *continued* →

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Sunday, July 13

Sermon: *Give Praise with Joyful Noises* - Pastor Emily Flemming

Scripture: Psalm 100

Reader: Matt Fowler

Special Musicians: Arvada UMC Youth Choir

Refreshments:

Flowers: Jean Schwenn

Greeter:



Arvada UMC Youth

Pastor's Message (continued)

week? Our District Superintendent Skip Strickland passed around the paper Wednesday night at the All-Church Conference (we voted unanimously to approve the parsonage reorientation into a Montessori school). So I figured I better share this story with you all, too. LEAF is doing some exciting things, and it is because of your prayer support and passion for your neighbors in need that it ever began in the first place. So thank you - I am humbled and awed by your generosity and compassion!



Feeling deeply blessed, and hoping you are too,

Pastor Emily

Prayers...

Jeanne, death of Steve's friend Tracy's father, Perky Huebner's father-in-law who fell down stairs and has brain and bone injuries, Steve's friend Vincenzo's father in hospital, Carol's niece Elizabeth's pregnancy and husband's Navy deployment, Debi and Richard's guests Harriet and Wayne and Richard's son and his wife, Pam and Mark traveling to Mark's nephew Michael's wedding to Jessica, Ellen traveling to Florida, Tanya's French friend Jeanne traveling alone to US at age 17 for the summer

Lyons church hosts weekly support, basic needs for residents

Lyons Emergency Assistance Fund, OUR Center partner to provide assistance

By Whitney Bryen

Times-Call community reporter

Boulder County nonprofits are pooling their resources to provide basic needs and assistance to Lyons residents every Wednesday at the Lyons Community Church.

The Lyons Emergency Assistance Fund (LEAF) — formerly a ministry of the church, but now a private nonprofit — is partnering with the Longmont-based Outreach United Resource (OUR) Center to bring weekly services to Lyons beginning this week.

OUR Center case managers and LEAF staff will offer financial assistance, budget counseling, food and clothing vouchers to homeless, low-income residents and families that need additional assistance following the flood.

A representative from Boulder County will also be available to answer questions about flood recovery needs. The church, located at 350 Main St. in Lyons, will be open Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. followed by the Community FoodShare pantry distribution from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Organizers recommend making an appointment by calling 720-864-4309 or emailing info@lyonsleaf.org. Drop-ins are also welcome.

Lyons Community Church pastor Emily Flemming said there are few services in Lyons that provide basic needs to local residents. Most services offered in Lyons provide support for aging adults or youth, but there are few programs that focus on the majority, said Flemming who also runs LEAF.

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Pastor Emily Flemming takes a call from a prospective Lyons Emergency Assistance Fund client Wednesday afternoon at Lyons Community Church, 350 Main St. (Lewis Geyer/ Longmont Times-Call)

Lyons church hosts weekly support *(continued)*

"The need was there before but the spike in need brought on by the flood made the lack of services more apparent," Flemming said.

The OUR Center serves the St. Vrain Valley area, and serves about 300 Lyons residents per year, said executive director Edwina Salazar. But the distance and lack of transportation for residents make services difficult to access, she said.

Only 14 Lyons residents received intensive case management that was offered by the OUR Center following the flood, Salazar said.

The collaboration and convenience of services is expected to increase the OUR Center's reach to Lyons residents, she said.

Emily Dusel, executive director of the Lyons Community Foundation and organizer for LEAF, said there are several agencies that support Lyons but residents either don't know about them or don't have easy access to them. Organizers are hoping to get representatives from organizations across the county to the weekly drop-ins to expand their accessibility to Lyons, she said.

Contact Times-Call community reporter Whitney Bryen at 303-684-5274 or wbryen@times-call.com

Announcements

The Ministry Council will meet this **Wed, July 16th at 6:30pm**.

The new and expanding Board of Directors for LEAF will meet this **Thursday, July 17th at 7:00pm**.

Camp Noah (**July 28-Aug. 1**) needs a few extra volunteers (for food, crafts, recreation, puppet time). See sign-up sheets at church, call or email Jani or Emily to volunteer or with any questions.

Last Wednesday, LEAF (the Lyons Emergency Assistance Fund) began its weekly "front porch" for anyone in the community who needs some extra help (financial or otherwise). We had 75% of the case management appointments filled, and are all booked up for the next 2 weeks. We also had about 10 walk-in clients. Pastor Emily will be at the church **each Wed. from 10am-3pm** if you or someone you know needs a hand. Please continue to pray for and consider financially supporting this important extension ministry of the church!