

The Lyons Community Church

Mid-Week Message

Thursday, August 28, 2014



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Weird results from good intentions

Dear friends and neighbors,

Did you know Martin Luther, the "founder" of Protestantism, was a devout Catholic priest? He never wanted to break off and start a new branch of the Christian family tree. In the same vein, Jesus Christ was a devout Jew - he didn't want to start "Christianity" - he just wanted people to love and care for one another better. And did you know that the "founders" of United Methodism, brothers Charles and John Wesley, were devout Anglican (Church of England) priests? Their goal was to bring the Gospel out of urban churches and into rural farmlands, so that every man, woman and child could learn about Jesus, whether or not they could afford a lift into town, were literate, or even had much time to take a break from the labor on their family farms (yes, something else we'll be recognizing with a holiday to kick off next week!)



Sometimes good intentions produce weird results. I don't believe that these 4 men set out to start revolutions (they did want to create change, but they didn't want to create new institutions, just improve the ones they were already a part of). In fact, it is unlikely that any of them would recognize or be thrilled about the fruits of their labor. We have some strange fruit among us today - religious divisions, new branches from the tree and differing understandings of what it means to be Christian, Protestant, Methodist or even a good person. We'll talk more about some of these early beginnings on Sunday at 9am in the Fellowship Hall. Join us for a one-time, 45-minute crash course in United Methodist history and beliefs, and You and Your Beliefs. All are invited!

Despite all that separates us in today's religious landscape, there remain a few rituals and sacraments (holy acts) that most Christians agree we should continue doing to celebrate and remember what Jesus taught us. For Methodists,

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Sunday, August 31

Sermon: Keep Church Weird #4: *Sacraments #1 of 2: Baptism, a Once in a Lifetime Opportunity* - Pastor Emily Flemming

Scripture: Mark 1:4-11

Reader: Nancy Reckling

Refreshments:

Flowers: Pam & Mark Browning

Greeter: The Salmons and Lia Malito

The Sounds of Lyons Festival

is in its 6th year and happening Sept. 12-14. Continuing with its genuine exploration of ways to make music accessible, available, and attainable for all, the 2014 season will feature three evening concerts, one outdoor free event, and a three-day workshop for children. More information can be found on:

<http://jemmoore.com/sol/?p=295>

Pastor's Message (continued)

we recognize 2 of these sacraments: Baptism and Communion. These are two acts that Jesus himself took part in, as described in the Gospels. We'll wrap up our Keep Church Weird series in the next 2 weeks by diving into each of these. This week will be the waters of baptism, next week - the mystery behind the body and blood of communion.

Two boys have come forward to be baptized this Sunday - Jason and Byron Curton - and we will celebrate with their families and our whole community. Others have decided to join our church, and we will close our worship service with a New Member Reception. In addition to these 2 joyous events, we'll also be graced with the music of the ever-evolving Lil White Church String Band. It's going to be an unforgettable day, and I sure do hope you can join us.

With love for now from Devil's Tower, WY - where I hope we can find a decent lunch after Regis wraps up his work here.

Pastor Emily

Announcements

Regis is planning a hike for the youth (grades 4-12) at the slide along Twin Sisters (7.2 miles round-trip) near Estes Park on Saturday, **Sept. 6th**. If you, your tweens or teens would like to join, please speak with him or shoot him an email: regisschoedel@gmail.com for more details.



SPRC meets Tues, **Sept. 2nd** at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall.

The Lyons Valley Preschool next door invites us to their ribbon-cutting ceremony on Thursday, **Sept. 4th** at 3:30pm. Come and visit the former parsonage (you won't recognize it!) and congratulate Drew, Lesley, Amy, Jenelle and their whole team on a gorgeous renovation, a full roster of kids, and an ever-growing waiting list. We are so blessed to support them in their important mission.



Prayers...

Showers of peace, calm, blessings for Annie and Brian in their new marriage, and traveling mercies for their friends and family. Be with Donna L., Joanne and Alan in their travels, and with those planning to be baptized and join the church this Sunday.

Remember Jeanne S., Jim Redy in the death of his grandchild, Debbie's elderly friend who was scammed financially in Longmont, health of Matt F., Steve M., Geneva (who did not have her surgery this week), Marty, and Kitty's friend Wally's knee, and Iraqi Christians, immigrant children and those suffering war and persecution everywhere.



ART on the RIVER

at River Bend

Sunday, Sept. 21 2PM-7PM

501 West Main Street Lyons



Betsy Hubner



**Art, Libations, Food Trucks, Demonstrations and an Autumn Bon Fire.
Art Invitational Benefit for the Lyons Art and Humanities Commission
and the Boulder County Arts Alliance.**

Sponsored by River Bend

For Questions: 303-818-7276

Poster art by Ruth Wilson