

The Lyons Community Church

Mid-Week Message

Thursday, September 10, 2015

Dear friends and neighbors,

In this warm summer weather, it is hard to remember that 2 years ago during this time, Colorado was receiving record amounts of rainfall. The flood that affected 17 counties in September 2013 is still having deep effects on many communities, including our home-town in Lyons. Confluence-homeowners are crying out for assistance with rebuilding permits, former mobile home park residents long to return from exile to some type of affordable housing, and many of us are simply tired of all the activity and energy that recovery requires.

There have been flood commemoration events all week, and I am sure some of you are ready to avoid any further mention of the destruction we survived. Thinking back on those first 3 days when we were cut off and trapped can still bring tears to my eyes, just as I weep to read the recent news articles about those still displaced and unable to move on. These are the same tears that flow when I listen to NPR reports about the global refugee crisis and the grace-filled response from countries like Germany and Iceland, as well as the fear-filled response from our own country. People are on the move across the globe, looking for safety and opportunity, and a place to call home.

This Sunday, I propose that we are or become that place. We'll look to Psalm 30 to consider whether or not our hope is too small as we ask God to help us and our friends and (some former) neighbors to continue healing from the flood tragedy. With special music by our own musicians, we will commemorate how far we have come, and pray blessings on all the work that is still to be done.

Psalm 30 says that even after a night of weeping, the morning sun will rise. And so we, too, will leave our sanctuary and move downstairs to Wesleyan Hall right after the service, where we invite the whole town to join us for our annual Ice Cream Social (12-1pm). Jani and Zeke are already preparing the homemade ice cream, and Ian Brighton and his band Good Manners are warming up to get us dancing. Don't get me wrong - we know there are some things to celebrate, and some

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Sunday, Sept. 13

Sermon: *Is Our Hope Too Small?* Rev. Emily Flemming

Scripture: Psalm 30

Reader and Greeter: Vance French

Flowers: Sam Miller and Bonnie Richards, in celebration of visiting family

Refreshments: Ice Cream Social

Children's Ministry: Dana and Jocelyn



Pastor's Message (continued)

things to mourn, but we will try to get caught up in the joy of ice cream and laughter together, even amidst the sadness of so many dreams lost and hope slipping away.

I hope you will join us, and bring along your friends and family. I know that with all the work we've done in the last 2 years, I could use some delicious ice cream and even a dance or two... how about you?

Shinin' up my dancin' shoes,

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

Prayers

Joys: for Ellen's son Nico's birthday (in Korea) and the baby girl they are currently expecting, Richard Bennet's progress in recovery, Steve M. back at church with us Sunday;

Concerns: for the Syrian and other refugees worldwide (estimated 15 million people), this weekend's emotional flood anniversary events, Donna Lee, Debbie's cousin Chris, Annie's niece Katherine, Vance's mother Betty, Kathy Ralston, Cheryl's radiation, Liz's aunt Sally, the Fikes

You may make prayer requests by contacting Pastor Emily Flemming (Emily@lyonscommunitychurch.org) or Prayer Team Chair Kitty Keim. (kathkeim@earthlink.net).



Announcements

This Sunday, in commemoration of the 2nd anniversary of surviving the flood, we'll all have a chance to show off our Good Manners and enjoy some delicious dessert at our annual Ice Cream Social, 12-1pm in Wesleyan Hall (downstairs). The whole community is invited, and we'll be graced by the toe-tappin' sounds of an amazing local band Good Manners, complete with percussion and woodwinds from our church's own Ian Brighton!

Good Manners plays 20's and 30's era swing as well as salsa, calypso and samba. Songs like "Ain't Misbehavin'" and "I'm Beginning to See The Light" will inspire you to get up and jitterbug even if you don't know how! Since we expect a good crowd, dancing may take on place outside on Main Street, reminiscent of the block parties that sprang up all over town in our first 3 days post-flood. So please join us with Ian and his bandmates for a jumpin' good time: Brian Schey (vocals, ukulele), Kim Franco (vocals, percussion) , and KC Groves (vocals, bass).



Our fall **Rummage Sale** has been scheduled for Thurs-Sat. Oct. 1st-3rd. Jani Little is coordinating, but we will need lots of help. Please consider donating goods, time, etc.