

The Lyons Community Church

Mid-Week Message

Thursday, December 19, 2013



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Twas one week before Christmas...

and all through our house, the only creature stirring in the middle of the night is me. I don't know about you, but I love this season of twinkling lights (isn't Main St. beautiful?!?), baking and decorating treats, planning parties, drinking hot apple cider, snow and time to catch up with family and friends... and I hope that's all going to happen NEXT week ;-)

No, in all seriousness, there is much to do this week - like preparing for our All-Age Pageant, which will be held during worship on Sunday morning, 10am. Calling All Angels - you won't want to miss it. I'll be preaching about the arrival of that sweet little baby Jesus - the main event that we've all been waiting for!



And we've been gathering food and toys to pack into boxes for the hardest-hit families in Lyons. They will be distributed this Thursday, Dec. 19th 4-6pm at Sam Tallent's annual Christmas extravaganza at The Stone Cup. A small party at

Oskar's afterwards will celebrate with those families.

AND together with outgoing Lyons Community Foundation Chair, Dr. Liz Erley, I've been writing over 250 checks from the Rebuild Lyons - One Life at a Time campaign. We are determined to get the award money in the hands of the recipients before Christmas, though that is proving to be no simple task! However, this is an exciting ministry that the church is supporting, and we are "moving mountains" to make it possible. We've had over 800 donors give over \$900,000 to this cause (and we'd love to break a million by the end of the week, but we're about \$42,000 short, in case you can help or know someone who could). We've had almost 300 applications, so it's been a BIG job with lots of heartache, work, and prayer. Thank you for your support.

Please remember that you are invited to our home this Sunday, Dec. 22nd, from 2:00-5:00pm to celebrate the holidays, River Cliff Cottages at 5th and Railroad (just in front of Meadow Park). Mom and I ARE making time to bake some

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Sunday, Dec. 22

Sermon: *Jesus Christ:
Embracing the Greatest Love*

Scripture: John 4:7-14

All-Ages Christmas Pageant

Christmas Pageant December 22

Calling All Angels!

This Sunday is our all-ages Christmas pageant. We don't want you to miss it. If you or your children would like to participate, it's not too late. We could still use more angels, shepherds, animals and wise persons. The rehearsal is on Saturday morning from 9:00-11:00am. If your children want to be in the pageant and can't come on Saturday, they just need to come on Sunday at 9:15am.



Christmas Pageant

treats, and we and Regis and Lillian look forward to welcoming you.

Yes, there is much to do - but there is also much to share and celebrate. Whether in the middle of the night, or in the wee hours of morning, whether in a whirlwind schedule or in silent stolen moments... God is here, with us, around us, among us, within us. Emmanuel - God with us. Can you feel it?

Love in Christmas lights,

Pastor Emily

Community Carol Sing

Friday, December 20, 7:00 PM, in the warmth of our Sanctuary. All are invited to join in a Community Carol Sing hosted by a few of the Quarry Gals. The theme is "I'll Be Home For Christmas," and it will be a celebration of so many being back in Lyons for Christmas.



Dear members and friends of LCC:

While the Give and Take Center was up and running, and later when we hosted Food for All, we were all encouraged to take our share of the gifts. After all, we were told, all of us suffered from the flood, and we all have to acknowledge our own needs as well as the needs of those more severely affected.

Many of us have suffered in ways that cannot be helped with food, clothing or cleaning supplies. We all know of community members who have been emotionally traumatized by their experiences, and many of us have as well. Please see information on the next page about a drop-in center for mental health being established in Lyons, and share this news with others.



Mental Health Partners
Healthy Minds, Healthy Communities

Mental Health Partners opens new Drop-in Help Center in Lyons to help residents cope with emotional distress following flood

BOULDER, COLO. (Dec. 10, 2013) Mental Health Partners opens a Drop-in Help Center in Lyons Dec. 12 to aid residents there who are coping with emotional distress related to the September flooding. This site was selected because Lyons was extremely hard hit by the 2013 Colorado flood. In addition, the Lyons facility is near surrounding mountain communities that were also impacted by the flood whose residents can use the new center's services. The center, at 329 Main Street, Lyons, is a room at Ferg's Inn, donated for this use by owner Craig Ferguson.

The Drop-in Help Center at Longmont's First Evangelical Lutheran Church, 805 3rd Ave., has closed. In addition to the new Lyons center, Mental Health Partners has two others in operation: Mental Health Partners, 1333 Iris Ave. (Broadway and Iris), Boulder, with limited Spanish-language services at this location; and OUR Center, 303 Atwood St., Longmont, with English and Spanish-language services available. The hours for all MHP Drop-in Help Centers are Monday-Friday, noon to 7 p.m. For information, the public should call 720-415-9740.

"We decided to reallocate our staff to where there was a greater need," said Janine D'Anniballe, MHP's Director of Emergency and Community Services. "The traffic had slowed at the Longmont location and we wanted to have a greater presence in the mountain communities, so we are sending staff to Lyons."

Each Drop-in Help Center is staffed with a case manager and a clinician. The case manager assists people with finding resources, such as housing and rental assistance, food, clothing and the replacement of lost articles. The clinician provides emotional support and helps people normalize their feelings.

"People are exhausted and drained physically and emotionally," said D'Anniballe. "When a catastrophic event like this flooding occurs, people often experience a wide range of distressing emotions. Our trained staff help flood survivors process feelings and explore ways of coping with the current circumstances."

No appointments are necessary to visit the Drop-in Help Centers and the first three visits are free. Starting Dec. 17 the Drop-in Center at the Boulder location (1333 Iris) will be offering a flood support group from 5:30-6:30 p.m. The group will not meet Dec. 24 or Dec. 31 and will resume Jan. 7.

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