

The Monitor

January / February 2024

First United Methodist Church of Salida

“Love, Live, Give As You Have Received”

4th & D Streets (P.O. Box 945)

Salida, CO 81201 (719) 539-2755

Ministers: Everyone; Pastor: Rev. Laura Blackstone 719-539-2755 (O), 720-635-9172 (C);

Office Administrator: Licia Iverson; Lay Leader: Debbie Jackson 719-221-2181

Choir Director: Mary Sandell 970-217-0051; Accompanist: Rod Schleicher;

One Board Chair: Eduardo Brummel 719-293-3492;

Treasurer: Randy Bergstrom 719-539-5305; Finance Secretary: Paul Wilson 630-730-8590

Pastor's e-mail: revlaurabeth@outlook.com

Church website: www.salidaumc.org

Church e-mail: office@salidaumc.org



Reverend's Reflections

A Thought in the Morning

That morning I awoke to darkness without the aid of my alarm. No particular reason. I guess I just felt refreshed enough from sleep and was ready to pick up where I left off the day before. As I moved through my morning routine, I noticed a slight pink slowly overtaking the rocks behind my mountain home at the time, but paid little attention.

Had to rinse the dishes.

Needed to stack them.

Needed to organize them the correct way in the dishwasher.

All plates loaded, I moved to the family room to fold the blankets on the couch and saw this pink had lightly singed the creases of my sheers. I continued folding.

Had to get rid of the pile.

Needed to create the clean creases.

It wasn't until I moved around the corner to open the door and let the sun in for the day, that I saw it. Beyond the glass separating me from the outside world, wide expanses of smooth cloud billowed up from the mountaintop like cotton sheets blown on a breeze. The gentlest touch of the early morning sun set fire to the white, spreading yellow light throughout.



The pink I'd seen at the sink, scorched each curve and dip, warming the clean-sheet clouds just as it did my sheers, until all waved gently into a brilliant blue waiting in the west to ignite with the rest.

It was nice.

In fact, the sight was so gorgeous, I had to share it immediately with my cat. Lifting him to the window, we watched together that horrendous beauty moving ever so quickly before our eyes.

Standing still in that moment, I got to thinking about what we let ourselves see in life. About what

distracts us. About what opportunities we give ourselves to more fully experience the world. I didn't right away notice the sunrise in those early moments of waking; and I would have missed it entirely had it not been a normal part of my morning routine to open the front door for extra light during the day.

As we move through these final days of Christmas toward the season of Epiphany, let's remember the breathtaking light of God which enters our minds and our souls, and gives us direction through each day we wake up in this crazy life; and let's think of the ways we open ourselves to receiving it, all the while thanking God for this beautiful gift of being, and seeing what God has done.

***in God's Holy Peace,
Rev. Laura***



January / February 2024 CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

January 2	Fred Jackson
January 11	Linda Bergstrom
January 11	Eric Talla
January 16	Christine Richardson
January 22	Karen Yerkey
January 29	Judy Naviaux
February 10	Terry Frank
February 11	Mary Sandell
February 12	Bill Reeves
February 17	Tom Breunich
February 27	Barbara Rees
February 28	Alvin Edlund, Jr.

Anniversaries

January 1	Mary & Bill Reeves
January 6	Judy & Ralph Eyer
February 11	Sandy & Jack Gordon
February 28	Sherry & Burrell Welton



**THE ONE BOARD WILL MEET
IN JANUARY ON:
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17TH
AT 3:00PM; CENTURY HALL

IN-PERSON AND BY ZOOM**



*Ever wondered how you might be of service to the church?
Please consider being on the volunteer rotations for one of
these three areas of service!*

*You may sign up to usher or provide refreshments for
Fellowship Time on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board
in Century Hall. We are in need of coordinators for these
two areas of service.*

*For more information, please contact the following
coordinators:*

<i>Liturgists</i>	<i>Virginia Imig</i>	<i>(719) 203-0203</i>
<i>Ushers</i>	<i>Usher Volunteer Coordinator Needed</i>	
<i>Fellowship</i>	<i>Fellowship Volunteer Coordinator Needed</i>	

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS

January / February – Liturgists

Liturgist Coordinator: Virginia Imig

January 7	Paul Wilson
January 14	Jeff Stuyt
January 21	Libby Stuyt
January 28	Robin Fladebo
February 4	Rosie Bacun
February 11	Carol Mumma
February 18	Tina Oberheide
February 25	Jim Oberheide

January / February – Ushers

Usher Coordinator Needed - (2 ushers needed each Sunday)

January 7	(2 ushers needed)
January 14	(2 ushers needed)
January 21	(2 ushers needed)
January 28	(2 ushers needed)
February 4	(2 ushers needed)
February 11	(2 ushers needed)
February 18	(2 ushers needed)
February 25	(2 ushers needed)

January / February – Fellowship Host(s)

Fellowship Coordinator Needed

Sign up with a friend. We have volunteers to help in the kitchen.

January 7	Available
January 14	Available
January 21	Available
January 28	Available
February 4	Available
February 11	Available
February 18	Available
February 25	Available



A Delicious Fundraiser for SUMC



Remember ... Using our Safeway cards, raises money for our church. Get your cards today.

This fundraising program is year round. But especially as we approach this time of the year, when many of us are planning delicious meals for family and friends, please consider using our Safeway gift cards for your purchases at Safeway.

You may pick up a reloadable gift card for **FREE**. Take it to Safeway, and then, before scanning your items, just have the cashier add your desired amount to the gift card and you're ready to go! **You can also do this at the Customer Service desk before shopping!**

We also have Safeway Gift Cards in denominations of \$25, \$50 or \$100, which make fabulous gifts!

Your Safeway card can also be used at the Safeway pharmacy and their gas stations at stores that provide that service.

Our church receives 5% of your purchases. This is a very convenient fundraiser for our church and your participation is greatly appreciated!

If you have any questions, please see Allison Groom, or Licia in the office.

Thank you for using our Safeway Gift Card program.

Your gift cards are waiting for you....

Mend It Mondays

The next two Mend It Mondays will be on Monday, January 15th & Monday February 18th from 1:00-3:00pm in the basement. Light mending of clean items! FREE & Donations appreciated.



Music Director Update

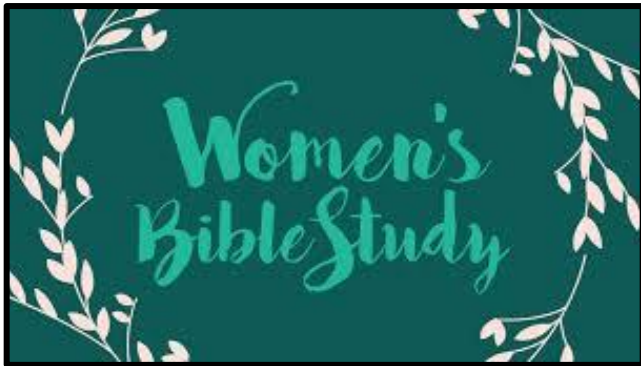
While there are no words to describe how much we will miss having Mary Sandell as our Music Director after the first of the year, we have deep trust in God... to have all of us, and Mary, in His loving care through this time of transition. And in that trust, we are open to finding the best, NEXT Music Director for Salida UMC.

Below is the employment ad that is currently running in our local newspapers and is posted on social media. Please keep your hearts and minds open and if you know of someone who might be interested in applying for this position, please encourage them to do so!

MUSIC DIRECTOR

“Salida United Methodist Church seeks a part-time director to guide our dynamic music program from Sept. through May. Responsibilities include coordinating pieces with our Pastor and organist/pianist as well as conducting the chancel choir and leading the congregation in song during Sunday worship. Musical knowledge is essential with chime choir experience a plus. Opportunity for individual performances. Compensation is \$4500 or more, depending on qualifications. Position starts in January 2024. Please email your cover letter & resume to office@salidamuc.org or bring it by the church office at 228 E. 4th St., Salida, CO 82101, 719-539-2755.”

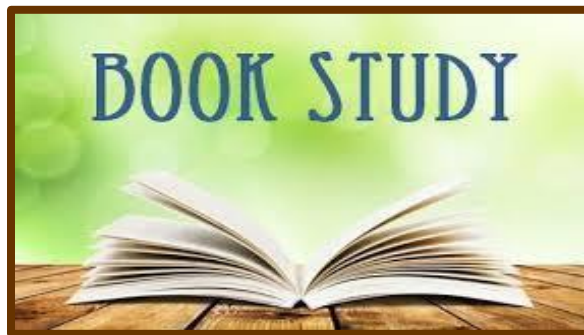
It will be a fabulous part-time job for the right person!



Our Women's Bible Study meets on Wednesdays at 9:30am in Century Hall and on Zoom. This is an open group and you are welcome to attend anytime. If you have any questions, please see Ginny Biglow.



NOTEABLES COMMUNITY CHOIR WILL BEGIN REHEARSALS ON JANUARY 25TH AT SALIDA UMC. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SINGING WITH AN AMAZING CHOIR, PLEASE REACH OUT TO THE DIRECTOR: LINDA TAYLOR, 719-539-2428

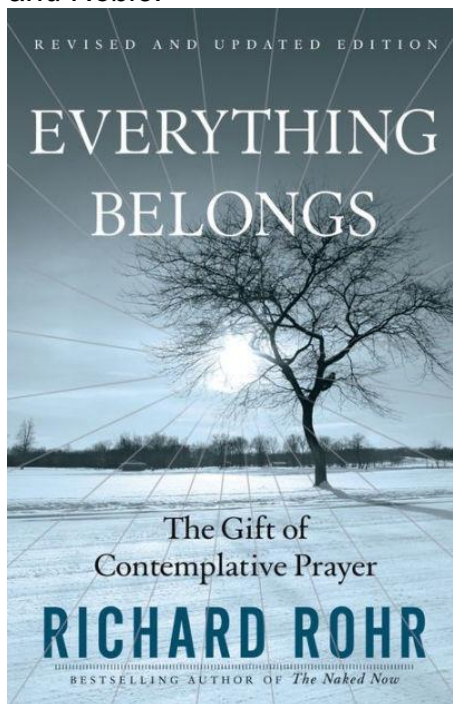


A Message from Rev. Laura:

Hi All,

I'm happy to share with you that book group will be resuming on 1/10/24, still Wednesdays at noon. Our new book will be Everything Belongs: The Gift of Contemplative Prayer (by Richard Rohr).

It is currently out of stock on Amazon, but here is a book cover and link to the title through Barnes and Noble:



Everything Belongs: The Gift of Contemplative Prayer | Paperback
barnesandnoble.com

Licia has preordered books in case some of you don't want to directly purchase the book online.

Looking forward to gathering together again!

God's Peace,
Rev. Laura

Sharing Our Prayers, Praise, Needs & Celebrations

Please continue to hold these prayer requests deep within your heart. We will keep you posted, as we know more:

Rob Coe – Please continue to pray for Rob Coe as he recovers from a serious heart attack that he had in early December. He is now home. He had been transported from Corpus Christi to San Antonio, where he was treated and released the Tuesday after Christmas. Jeannie is keeping us posted and says, “He is doing well, although, exhausted as anyone who has spent two and a half weeks in the hospital would be- and also having his heart plumbing rewired. But every day just a little better. We are celebrating the little victories each day. Merry Christmas and we are SO READY for a new year!! Please let folks know that we so appreciate their prayers.” Please continue to pray for Jeannie as well as she cares for Rob and they establish the most beneficial healing routine for Rob.

If you would like to send Rob & Jeannie a card, feel free to mail it to:

Rob & Jeannie Coe
1919 Hwy. 35N. Box 93
Rockport, TX 78382

We will keep you posted as we know more!

Linda Bergstrom - Continued Prayers for Linda. She is starting to feel better and we pray for her continued healing and restored strength and well-being.

Prayers for Eric Talla, as he recovers from a nasty bug which required hospitalization. May Eric's health be fully restored. Prayers for all medical staff who have cared for and will care for Eric. Prayers for Judy as she cares for Eric and navigates his healing needs.

Anita Scanga - We ask for prayers for the family and friends of Anita Scanga who passed away on December 25th. Her obituary was in the Mountain Mail paper on Thursday, January 4th. Anita was a beloved member of our church who had been living in Parker, CO at the BeeHive Homes of Parker for the last several years. We were very glad that she joined the Bible Study via Zoom when she could do that. She will be sadly missed. Here is a link to her obituary.

https://www.themountainmail.com/obituaries/article_0ac036e0-ab23-11ee-8d8c-1b1229abbcdf.html

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VITA

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

FREE TAX PREPARATION SERVICE

February 3rd through April 13th on
Saturdays, from 8:30am-12:30pm in
Century Hall - By Appointment Only
CALL TODAY TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT!

719-458-0055

Mend-It Mondays

[Third Monday of Every Month]

Want to get more use out of your clothing, but don't have the skills or equipment to repair them?

Bring your items to Mend-It Monday and we'll see what we can do to give your clothes new life!

Methodist Church basement
228 E. Fourth Street
(enter from parking lot)

1:00-3:00 pm

~ Clothing must be clean ~
Same day repairs only!
(No zipper repair or work on
leather accepted)



Even if you don't see yourself as a fashionista, consider this: The fashion industry — all the phases responsible for getting us dressed each day — creates more CO2 emissions than international flights and maritime shipping combined. Repair and Reuse!

