

# The Monitor

## February / March 2024

First United Methodist Church of Salida

“Love, Live, Give As You Have Received”

4<sup>th</sup> & 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

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](mailto:revlaurabeth@outlook.com)

Church website: [www.salidaumc.org](http://www.salidaumc.org)

Church e-mail: [office@salidaumc.org](mailto:office@salidaumc.org)



## Reverend's Reflections

This year, Ash Wednesday falls on February 14<sup>th</sup> (yes, it is Valentine's Day; but who better to share our love with than God? I'm sure our spouses would agree without batting an eye.) Ash Wednesday is an intensely personal and private time between you and God. It is a day of recognizing the ways we “missed the mark” in different moments throughout the past year, making some mistakes and smudging moments with an unwanted darkness we'd like cleared from our soul so we can start again new. It's a day of recognition with God, when we can look into the eyes of God and not turn our gaze but let God in so we may reveal things hidden in the deepest corners of our mind. In these Ash Wednesday moments, we open a door in our soul to let loose those self-destructive things inside so they may go away into whatever recycling facility God sends our mistakes in forgiveness. In Jesus' practice (Jewish practice) the equivalent of this day would be Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement), the *holiest* day of the year; and we practice the same in this time of spirit cleansing.



It isn't about just receiving the smudge and being on our way—painting our faces ‘Team Christian’ so everyone knows the One we cheer for. The smudge is, in truth, the least important part of Ash Wednesday. What matters is spending some intentional moments acknowledging ourselves fully, in truth, so we might face the parts of

ourselves we don't recognize as who we are or want to be and, in God's grace, move on without them.

This second Wednesday of February, we will set up prayer stations at the church so you can spend some quiet time with

God, on your own, in your own time. Each station will pose a thought and open some space for prayer. The pews will be open for you to come sit with God in the silence; and ashes will be imposed at the final station. The sanctuary will be open for this between 3-6pm. You may come and go as you wish; and we'll close up the church in time for you to stay out of trouble with your Valentine. God bless you and your journey into this holy season of Lent!

***In God's Whole and Holy Peace,  
Rev. Laura***



## February / March 2024 CELEBRATIONS

### Birthdays

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.
March 3	Dick Isenberger
March 7	Susan Little
March 10	Bob Campbell
March 12	Virginia Imig
March 12	Ginny Cunningham
March 12	Randy Bergstrom
March 13	Debbie Jackson
March 20	Licia Iverson
March 28	Alan Adams
March 31	Judy Talla

### Anniversaries

February 11	Sandy & Jack Gordon
February 28	Sherry & Burrell Welton
March 25	Judith & Ed Kinzie

**THE ONE BOARD WILL MEET  
IN MARCH ON:  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6<sup>TH</sup>  
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**

#### February / March – Liturgists

Liturgist Coordinator: Virginia Imig

February 4	Rosie Bacun
February 11	Carol Mumma
February 18	Tina Oberheide
February 25	Jim Oberheide
March 3	Karen Yerkey
March 10	Sue Glasgow
March 17	Rosie Bacun
March 24	Jeff Stuyt
March 31	Libby Stuyt

#### February / March – Ushers

Usher Coordinator Needed - (2 ushers needed each Sunday)

February 4	(2 ushers needed)
February 11	(2 ushers needed)
February 18	(2 ushers needed)
February 25	(2 ushers needed)
March 3	(2 ushers needed)
March 10	(2 ushers needed)
March 17	(2 ushers needed)
March 24	(2 ushers needed)
March 31	(2 ushers needed)

#### February / March – Fellowship Host(s)

Fellowship Coordinator Needed

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

February 4	The Shively Family
February 11	Allison Groom & Sue Glasgow
February 18	Available
February 25	Church Celebration Potluck Lunch
March 3	Salida UMC
March 10	Available
March 17	Licia Iverson
March 24	Available
March 31	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!

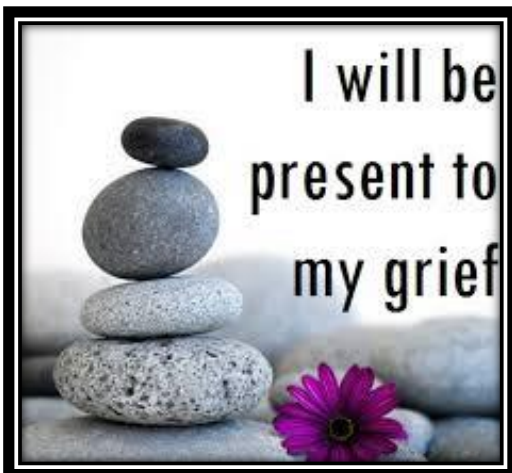
Your Safeway card can also be used at the Safeway pharmacy and their gas stations at stores that provide that service.

**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....***



## Our Search for our Next Music Director

***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](mailto:office@salidamuc.org) or bring it by the church office at 228 E. 4<sup>th</sup> St., Salida, CO 82101, 719-539-2755.”*

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

**Thank you to our Chancel Choir and Chime Choirs for continuing to support our Sunday morning worship services.**



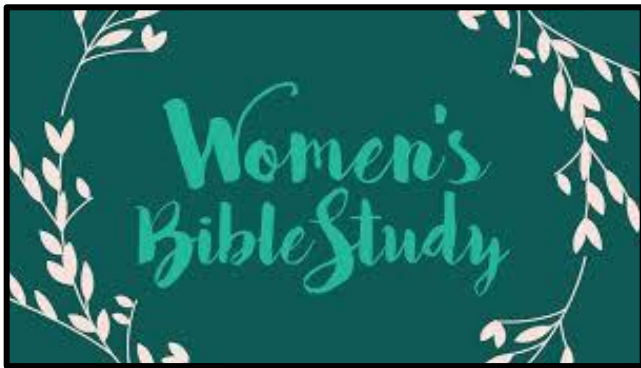
# VITA

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

## FREE TAX PREPARATION SERVICE

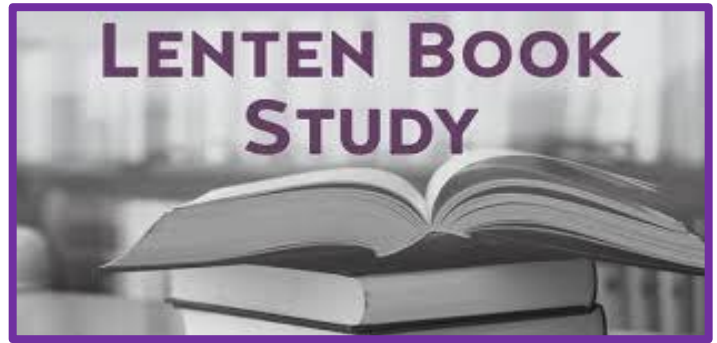
February 3<sup>rd</sup> through April 13<sup>th</sup> on Saturdays, from 8:30am-12:30pm in Century Hall - By Appointment Only  
CALL TODAY TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT!

**719-458-0055**



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.

**FAITH  
HOPE  
LOVE**



*This year, through the season of Lent, we will be reading *The Last Week* by Marcus Borg and Dominic Crossan, and would love for you to be with us as we explore and discuss each day of Jesus' last week (Holy Week). Cover to cover, Borg and Crossan examine the historical and cultural background of what occurred each of these days leading to and beyond the cross, and journey us back to Christ's own time and experiences in mind-opening and soul-growing ways. Books are available for purchase online or at the church office for \$12.00, through Licia. Our first discussion begins Wednesday, February 21st, at noon. See you then!*



**Plan to attend our Annual Church Celebration**

*Save the Date... Our Annual Church Celebration will be held on Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup> after worship. We will have a potluck luncheon as we review 2023 and prepare for 2024. Watch for the sign-up sheet in Century Hall.*

# Mend-it Monday celebrates first birthday

BY GUINNEVER STROPE  
Mail Staff Writer

Mend-it Monday celebrates its first birthday this month, as well as the completion of repairs to more than 100 garments from 50 different individuals.

The group offers its sewing services once a month at Salida United Methodist Church. The volunteer sewers can do basic hand- and machine-mending, including repairing torn hems, missing buttons or ripped seams, but they cannot repair zippers or leather.

Local resident Jane Temple-

ton started the group in an effort to keep clothes out of the landfill, as well as provide an opportunity for people to retain clothes that are sentimental. She said, "Lots of people used to know how to sew a button or hem a pair of pants. They either lost the skill, gave away their tools or don't have the time anymore."

She said the group consists of nine members who rotate participation in the monthly sessions. Some of the more memorable mends include a three-piece plaid suit for Ken Brandon's giraffe costume and

a flag that a family brought in.

Sometimes, Templeton said, clients will have a single button they need sewn on, and the group will teach them how to do it instead of just fixing it.

She said it's important the community understands that higher-quality work is always better to spend money on, instead of spending money on low-quality clothing that falls apart quickly.

The group is always accepting donations of various sewing equipment, both for machines and for hand sewing.



PHOTO BY GUINNEVER STROPE

Diane Baker works on a knitted sweater Jan. 15 as part of Mend-it Monday at Salida United Methodist Church. The group of nine members offers Mend-it Monday once a month to help community members with minor clothing repairs.

**The next two Mend It Mondays will be on Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup> and Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-3:00pm in the church basement. Light mending of clean items! FREE Service & Donations appreciated.**

## 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!





# 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:

**Ed Brummel** - Our dear Ed had a serious hemorrhagic stroke on Tuesday, January 30<sup>th</sup> and was airlifted to UCHealth Memorial Hospital Central in Colorado Springs where he spent several days in the ICU and is now on the Neuro floor, Rm. 5536. As a result of the stroke, Ed is not able to talk, but does communicate through his eyes and squeezing of his left hand. He is paralyzed on his right side. Recently he had a surgery to place a permanent feeding tube. That surgery was successful and his vital signs are good and strong. We are hopeful that a rehab center can be identified soon where Ed will move to and continue to improve. We have established a Caring Bridge page for Ed where updates may be found as we receive them. You may also leave messages for Ed and words of encouragement to his friends and family as we navigate this road with Ed. If you would like to send a card to Ed, you may drop it off to our church or mail it to the church: Cards will be delivered and read to him. All cards are being saved in a basket in his room (after reading to him) so that he will be able to be read again God Willing!

**Ed Brummel** c/o Salida UMC PO Box 945 Salida, CO 81201  
We will keep you posted when we know more.

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

**Kevin Nelson** - Kevin passed away on January 25<sup>th</sup> in Salida. He was a beloved community member, friend of many at Salida UMC and a longtime employee with the City of Salida. See Kevin's Obituary in this newsletter, as printed in the Mountain Mail on

**Julie Moss' brother-in-law, Art Frank** - Art had a bad fall and his recovery has taken a while. Please pray for his full recovery.

**Jody West** - Please keep Jody West and her family in your prayers. Jody's brother, Roger Moon, passed away on Feb. 12. Jody expressed her prayers of gratitude to God for giving him peace and releasing him to a new life. Cards may be sent to Jody at: **Jody West PO Box 130 Poncha Springs, CO 81242**

**Prayers as we continue the search for the best NEXT Music Director for our church.** Any questions, please see any One Board Member, Rev. Laura or Licia in the office. Job description is in this newsletter.

**Expression of Gratitude from Licia:** Thank you to those who nominated me for the 2024 Chamber of Commerce Community "From the Heart" Award. Receiving this award is such an honor and the celebration on Friday night, February 9th at the SteamPlant was beyond fabulous. It meant so much to me, to have so many of you from the church there. I am so incredibly grateful that my brother-in-law, Dan, was able to be here from California. My sister would have been so happy for me. Thank you for your continued love and support as we travel this Life together! Stop by the office and see my beautiful award. Thank you to Debbie Jackson & Sue Glasgow for the photos from that night.



## Locals Concert

Presented by Salida Concerts Inc

Saturday, Feb. 24 from 6:30 - 8:30pm & Sunday, Feb. 25 from 2- 4:00 pm at A Church, 419 D St.



Buy your tickets at [salidaaspenconcerts.org](http://salidaaspenconcerts.org) or from one of our Board Members

## Mental Health

### MATTERS

Common mental health challenges and how to respond

With Sarah Briggs from Solvista Health

Monday  
March 18  
10:30-11:30 a.m.

Reserve  
today at  
719-539-2755

Salida United  
Methodist Church  
228 East 4th St.

This 1-hour training is an introduction for non-mental health professionals who might have occasion to be with those experiencing mental health challenges. You will learn potential strategies that may be helpful in your interactions.

All are welcome! Refreshments will be provided!



### **Kevin Nelson's Obituary** - Kevin

*P. Nelson, age 65 of Salida, passed away on Thursday January 25, 2024 at his home in Salida. Mr. Nelson was born May 24, 1958 in Salida to William Starr and Bettie (Flock) Nelson. Mr. Nelson graduated from Salida High School in 1976. He married Becky Herman on May 26, 1979 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Salida. He went to work for the City of Salida in the Public Works Department in 1977 and retired in May of 2023 as an*

*Inspector. He was a Volunteer with the Salida Fire Department from 1976 until 1986. He drove the Chaffee County Ambulance from 1976 until 1984 and was also a past member of the Salida Police Department Auxiliary. He started working part time at Lewis and Glenn Funeral Home in 1984 helping Willard Lewis and Eadres Glenn. Then full time in 1987 when his longtime friend Tim Glenn bought the funeral home. He also started working with the Chaffee County Coroner's Office at the same time and was still working there until he passed away. During that time, he helped countless families in Chaffee County in their greatest time of need. Mr. Nelson was an encyclopedia when it came to Salida History. He loved collecting antiques, especially Salida Memorabilia and collecting cars. He cared about the town he lived in and was always willing to help others. He was preceded in death by his parents and daughter Tiffany Starr. He is survived by his wife Becky Nelson of Salida and son Timmy Nelson of Salida. Brothers and sisters Roger (Lilia) Escherman of Alamosa, CO, Starr Mumma of Salida, CO, Billie Nelson of Salida, CO, Tim (Janet) Nelson of Grand Junction, CO and Jason (Tammy) Nelson of Arvada, CO. He is also survived by many nieces, nephews and friends. A Memorial Mass is set for 11:00 AM February 16, 2024 at St. Joseph Catholic Church. Interment will follow at Fairview Cemetery. Friends who desire may make memorial contribution to St. Joseph Catholic Church through the funeral home. On line condolences may be sent to the family at [lewisandglenn.com](http://lewisandglenn.com). Arrangements are with Lewis and Glenn Funeral Home.*



**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2024  
3:00-6:00PM**

On the second Wednesday of February, we will set up prayer stations at the church so you can spend some quiet time with God, on your own, in your own time. Each station will pose a thought and open some space for prayer. The pews will be open for you to come sit with God in the silence; and ashes will be imposed at the final station. The sanctuary will be open for this between 3-6pm. You may come and go as you wish.



**TURN YOUR CLOCKS FORWARD 1 HOUR ON SATURDAY, MARCH 9TH BEFORE BEDTIME!**



### **Our Interim Music Director**

**We are very grateful to have hired Steve Tongue as an interim Music Director, while we continue our search for the next long-term Music Director for Salida UMC.**

**Steve brings a wealth of experience and talent to this commitment. Please join us in welcoming him to our church family!**

### **Message from Mary Sandell**

**Dear SUMC,**

**Thank you for all the love you have showed me these past 7 years. I will miss you all very much. Thank you for the lovely Angel figurine and picture. Both are in my new studio.**

**Choirs – Thank you for your generous gift and lovely plant.**

**♥ Mary**

**Watch for Easter Spring Memorial Flower Order Information in Early March!**