



The Grapevine
Newsletter
September 2011
Issue 9, Volume 4



United Methodist Church of Eagle Valley

☛ Serving Our Congregation and Community ☚

Events and Church Happenings:

- **Sunday, Sept 4th**
 - Performance by XYZingers
 - 9:30am Beth Fest, Beth's last day
- **Monday, Sept 5th**
LABOR DAY
- **Friday, Sept 9th**
 - Fire Dept. BBQ & Barn Dance
- **Sunday, Sept 11th**
 - Communion
 - All Church PicNic 12:30 pm
 - Patriot Day
- **Sunday, Sept 18th**
 - Pastor's Pantry
 - Baptism
- **Monday, Sept 19th**
 - Worship Committee Meeting 7pm
- **Friday, Sept 23rd**
 - First Day of Autumn
- **Monday, Sept 26th**
 - UMCEV hosts Simple Supper



Sundays in Eagle

(333 2nd Street)

10:00 am

Traditional Worship

Children's Church

- Grades: K - 2 & Grades 3 - 5
(We are on a summer schedule)
- Nursery: Newborn - 2 years old

Sundays in Gypsum

(118 Eagle Street)

4:00 pm Chapel Service

Pastor's Corner

☚ Pastor Sid Spain

There are countervailing winds in our culture. One wind blows and people seek shelter by building higher walls. The gap between the wealthy and the poor grows wider; a few have far more than they need and many have less. We see and feel the gap in disparity and in isolation. Wealthy neighborhoods become enclaves where even **next-door neighbors don't know each other**. There are still places where people meet their neighbors on the **street and talk about work or the kids or the lineup for tonight's game**, but more and more of us follow the lead of the gated community and live behind closed doors, ignorant of who lives within yards of our front steps. Do you know the names of the people who live next door, down the street, or down the Valley in your neighborhood? What is happening in their lives? What stories do they have to tell?

The countervailing wind is more a breeze these days. Rather than blowing us into shelter and isolation, it nudges us outside and across the street to meet our neighbor. Introduce yourself, offer a handshake, and say something like, *"It seems strange to me that we don't know each other. We live within shouting distance, but I don't your name."* Find your own words, your own *style of greeting*. What's important is to **take the step**. Some of you can plan an old-fashioned block party, some of you can invite them over for a cup of coffee, and some of you can simply offer a smile and a *"Hey, John. What's happening?"*

I'm not suggesting you meet your neighbor to invite them to church. There may be a time for that, but not in the beginning. There's no agenda but getting to know them. Let them know you and put a crack in the wall that separates us from each other. You will have to take a chance and there is **no guarantee you won't be met with suspicion or a chilly response**. It is worth the risk. We deprive ourselves and our community by staying in narrow, familiar places. Many of our presuppositions will be shattered when we meet our neighbors, and we will learn some fascinating things from and about them. People everywhere are feeling the nudging wind; people in gated communities, in tree-lined neighborhoods, and on urban blocks. These troubled times tempt us to hunker down and avoid the strange and the stranger, to let the fearful wind blow us inside. But we can choose to step out and meet our neighbors, learn their names, feel the freshening breeze, and take the chance of living in the wide, wider world.

Inspirational Thought

"The greatness of a nation is measured in how we treat those in the dawn of life, in the dusk of life, and in the shadow of life—the very young, the very old, those who cannot care for themselves."

~ Hubert Humphrey ~



All-Church and Community Picnic

Mark your calendars for Sunday afternoon, 11 September, beginning between 12:30 and 1:00. Terrie and Wayne Fischer have graciously agreed to host our fall picnic at their home at 2291 Brush Creek Road. Bring a dish to share if you can, but come nevertheless. We plan to include a brief service of remembrance early in the afternoon, time to speak again of some of the special people of our community who have passed away. Come for good food and conversation as we mark the beginning of a new season of worship, fellowship and service at UMCEV.

A Sad Note...

✻ Beth Nystrom

Effective Sept 4, 2011, I resign from my position as pianist and choir director at United Methodist Church of Eagle Valley. Time has come for me to move onward, eastward, into the deep southern Bible-Belt region of South Carolina. My son and daughter-in-law have been urging me to come "be our family" there in Columbia, SC. Michael is accepted into Seminary at Columbia International University and begins school in September. They foresee staying in Columbia at least 4 more years and want me close by. I cherish their devotion and eagerly move to join them now especially as their future after Seminary is obviously unknown. They do want to start a family soon and I was already planning to get closer to them for that adventure.

I am leaving a dear, sweet community in this beloved natural wonder called Eagle Valley, Colorado. I thank you for accepting me and upholding me spiritually through my 4 years here. I appreciate the opportunity to share my love for music with you Sunday after Sunday. The heart and soul devoted choristers are indeed jewels and I will miss them greatly. Sid, your leadership remains stellar in this community and this event will not daunt you for long. I am personally so thankful your sermons will be on the website as they always make me step up.

And that's what I challenge this congregation to do...to STEP UP. Music touches us all and adds greatly to our worship. The ministry of music is changing in this congregation and I will miss this exciting growth experience. There are talented singers and instrumentalists within the congregation who are not participating in music leadership. Perhaps my void will stir them to action, to explore their own gifts and step forward to share them. That will be my prayer.

Someone said, anything we have loved becomes part of us forever – and so with you. I do take you with me. Thank you. At present, I have no job, no church, no living quarters. I do have faith, hope and love, the love of Michael and Amanda and the greatest love of all, our Heavenly Father. My way will open just as it did here in Eagle County, that I do believe. I welcome your prayers for me as I "step out of the boat". Thank you.

God speed to you all and His bountiful blessings,

Beth Nystrom



Beth, you are more than a Music and Choir Director. You have been an amazing asset to our church and a great friend to so many of us.

This is not a goodbye, it is
"See You Later, Very Soon, We Hope."
Join us for "Beth Fest" on Sunday, September 4th, at 9:30 am in Fellowship Hall to wish Beth all the best in her new adventure.

Why can't I find a photo of Beth at the piano?????

Contemplative Service Resumes in October

The Sunday evening contemplative service begins again at 6:00 Sunday, 2 October. The service will include *Lectio Divina* or the meditative reading of scripture, music from Taize and other contemporary sources, contemplative and spoken prayer, and Holy Communion. There will be times for silence and times for extemporaneous or impromptu moments of sharing. It is a brief service of worship, a time for seeking the Presence of God and the consolation of the Holy Spirit, a time to reflect on the past week and to prepare for the coming week. *Come to me all you who labor and carry heavy burdens...and you will find rest for your souls.*



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God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.



Abundant August ✞ Christie Plymell

August 16th - Not only did we receive a steer and our hog from the Virginia Rose Foundation, *delivered to our doorstep* by George McCollum, but we received another hog and lamb, *delivered to our doorstep*, from the Eagle River Foundation and the Lengel Family. The same afternoon we took delivery of the 78 cases from Food Bank of the Rockies. We are FULL and ready to serve this fall!

What a blessing!

God has been so good to us in this ministry. We have been the recipients of many generous donations time and again. And as usual, we had our wonderful volunteers show up and work fast to get it all unloaded and stocked in our freezers; one generously donated by Bob and Diane Holmes and the other purchased using money from many other Eagle Food Pantry donors. Thank you all for the helping hands and thank you for all you do in our community.

We had wonderful problem of abundance so we were able to share with the Bright Future Foundation (the local domestic violence shelter) as well as the Salvation Army in Avon. It is truly a community outreach.

We give a heart-felt **“thank you” to our Food Pantry leaders and all of our wonderful volunteers.** Thank you for all of the important work you do in our community. Please keep in mind that we would love to have more volunteers to help distribute our bounty to the families in need. Please contact our volunteer coordinator, Liz Merrick, if you are able to help out for a couple hours per week, once a month.

eaglefoodpantry@gmail.com or 328-9190

Please contact Ashley Patriacca at 328-7303 or ashleylewis@earthlink.net if you are able to help with our Monday evening, Simple Supper. We always need hands for set up, service, cooking and clean up.

We need you!



September Birthdays

- 9-01 Dale Mosier
- 9-01 Orin Reichardt
- 9-03 Chris Boyd
- 9-04 Taylor Macik
- 9-05 Ann Reese
- 9-05 Jonas Sanchez
- 9-06 Amy Casey
- 9-06 Greg Macik
- 9-07 Teri Nelson
- 9-08 Heather Erwin
- 9-10 Annie Park
- 9-11 David Driver
- 9-11 George McCollum
- 9-11 Caitlyn Weathers
- 9-11 Cole Weathers
- 9-13 Vince Jones
- 9-14 Maddy Fields
- 9-15 Francis Reynolds
- 9-15 Randy Schapiro
- 9-15 Luke Wilson
- 9-16 Claytie Crabb
- 9-16 Karen Lee
- 9-17 Ron Book
- 9-18 Jody Anderson
- 9-19 Maureen Henderson
- 9-19 Carrie Wild
- 9-21 Raenette Johnson
- 9-22 Miles Kipp
- 9-23 Versiellen Driver
- 9-24 Kevin Buckelew
- 9-25 Reece May
- 9-26 Sarah Reichardt
- 9-26 Pam Westfall
- 9-26 Robert Habiger
- 9-27 Tegan Terbush
- 9-28 Josh Farmer
- 9-28 Barbara Meese
- 9-28 Michael Pritchard
- 9-28 Caitlyn Yarger
- 9-29 Tom Allen



Above: Food Bank of the Rockies truck and volunteers.
Left: Super-Volunteer, Brian Lydman and our indispensable Inventory Coordinator, Alan Holub, proudly showing our newly-stocked freezers.



United Methodist Church of Eagle Valley

333 2nd Street
 Corner of 2nd & Howard
 PO Box 546
 Eagle, CO 81631

Open Hearts.
 Open Minds.
 Open Doors.

970-328-6598
 fax 970-328-0407
 office@valleyumc.com
 www.valleyumc.com

ReThink Church!
www.10thousanddoors.org



Scriptures for the month of September

- Sept 4th: Ezekiel 33:7-11; Psalm 119:33-40; Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20
- Sept 11th: Genesis 50:15-21; Psalm 103:8-13; Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35
- Sept 18th: Jonah 3:10-4:11; Psalm 145:1-8; Philippians 1:21-30; Matthew 20:1-16
- Sept 25th: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32; Psalm 25:1-9; Philippians 2:1-13; Matthew 21:23-32