

FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH
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GLENWOOD SPRINGS CO
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First News



MARCH 2011

From The Pastor

Pancake Day and Fat Tuesday

I generally write about Ash Wednesday or Lent but I wanted to do something different this time. I came across this article by David Katski and found it interesting and thought that you might enjoy it as well.

Shrove Tuesday occurs the first Tuesday before Ash Wednesday, usually February 2nd or March 9th. It officially ends the season of Epiphany and is the vigil for the starting of Lent.

Traditionally viewed as a day of repentance, Shrove Tuesday has become the last day for celebration and feasting before the period of fasting required during the Lenten season. The name "Shrove Tuesday" is derived from the word "shrive", which means to confess and receive absolution. The name denotes a period of cleansing, wherein a person brings their lusts and appetites under subjection through abstention and self-sacrifice.

The concept behind this practice is found in I Corinthians 9:27, where the Apostle Paul states: "I buffet my body and make it my slave..." Ironically, Shrove Tuesday has evolved into a day of frivolity and indulgence, during which people participate in as much pleasure and self-gratification as they can before Lent begins.

The Origins of Shrove Tuesday

Shrove Tuesday originated during the Middle Ages. As in contemporary times, food items like meats, fats, eggs, milk, and fish were regarded as restricted during Lent. To keep such food from being wasted, many families would have big feasts on Shrove Tuesday in order to consume those items that would inevitably become spoiled during the next forty days. The English tradition of eating pancakes on Shrove Tuesday came about as a way to use as much milk, fats, and eggs as possible before Ash Wednesday began. In France, the consumption of all fats and fatty foods on this day coined the name "Fat Tuesday" or *Mardi Gras*.

Originally beginning on Sunday, Shrove Tuesday was a three-day celebration that culminated in large feasts on Tuesday night. By the beginning of the 20th century, however, the event was restricted to the Tuesday observance. *Carnival* became associated with Shrove Tuesday, in part from the Spring Equinox celebrations that were practiced by the Romans and the ancient tribes of Europe. The word "carnival" comes from the Latin *carne(m) levare*, meaning "to take away the flesh". However, in the New Orleans and Rio de Janeiro celebrations, public revelry and carousing have become the tradition for Carnival around the world. It was mostly as a result of the Carnival celebrations that the Church restricted the observance to a single day.

Shrove Tuesday Traditions

Shrove Tuesday has a variety of customs that have derived from different regions around Europe and the Americas. As previously mentioned, England began the tradition of serving pancakes, and for this reason the day is known as "Pancake Day". In addition, there are the annual Pancake Day Races, where contestants dress in aprons and scarves and race down a course flipping a pancake in a frying pan or skillet.

In Eastern Europe, the Carnival celebrations include boisterous processions where people in large masks parade around and play jokes on bystanders. The masks are often caricatures of individuals from traditional folklore. Men and women will dress as one another and engage in gendered mimicry. The day is filled with eating, drinking, fortune telling, and practical jokes. Perhaps the most prominent customs are the balls and pageants in New Orleans and Rio de Janeiro. Like Eastern European celebrations, participants wear masks and costumes, many of which are quite flamboyant and elaborate. Rio has a parade of multi-colored feathers, which include hundreds of dancers dressed in costumes decked with feathers, all dancing the samba. In New Orleans, Mardi Gras includes a variety of parades featuring grand floats and giant effigies of eccentric characters. There is much eating, drinking, and dancing, as well as practical jokes and humorous street plays.

For many Protestant believers, Shrove Tuesday holds no particular significance. For Catholics and Anglicans, however, the day is still observed with confession and absolution, in addition to modest feasting and rejoicing.

Enjoy your Fat, Shrove, or Pancake Tuesday. But on Ash Wednesday join us for a service of ashes and communion. Ashes remind us of our mortality and the need of forgiveness. This service will help us to begin 40 days of reflection to help prepare us to celebrate God's gift of grace through Jesus Christ. Come and join us in holy service that begins our journey to Easter. *Michael*

Coins for Colombia

The Colombia mission team would like to say a big Gracias! To all who baked and bought desserts. You helped us to meet our goal of \$2,000.00 to buy materials to rebuild the Methodist pastor's house in Rincon del Mar.

Now we are asking you to dig deep into your pockets and save your coins. We will have jars available during church service on Sunday, March 13 for you to take home.

The team would like you to save your coins during Lent. Then on Easter Sunday, April 24 you will return your coin jars to one of the Easter services to be dedicated. Again, Muchas gracias for your continued support of missions.

Roxann & Michael, Wendy, Joel, Jamie & Jake, Klaus, LeAnn, Tristen & Cera.

Mission Trip possibilities

- 1) Mission Trip to Oglala, South Dakota. June 4– 11 2011. \$250 covers room, board and materials fee. Work will be done on three homes, plumbing, roofing, painting and electrical. Contact Bob Henman the team leader for any questions at bobh@mesanetworks.net.
- 2) Mission team from Hollywood UMC to Haiti on April 12th (departing eve of April 11). They need 2 more volunteers so that their team will have the necessary 10 people. Contact the team leader Michael Kelley @ mail-to:michael.w.kelley@40gmail.com.
- 3) Another opportunity to go on a mission trip to Haiti. Dates are April 25—May 2. Evergreen UMC team is leading and may have three or four openings. If interested contact Bill Graf ASAP at mailto:billgraf2@40earthlink.net.



United Methodist Women

The March 10th UMW meeting will be held at Elizabeth Pruett's home. Connie Hubbell is co-hostess and Dixie McClenahan is scheduled to present the program: Working Together Peacefully "Finding Peace Through Action." June Robinson will give a book review. Have you been in the church library to see all the interesting books to read or to pick up the February Response magazine? It is the most interesting one I've ever read and it has an article about McCurdy School and mentions Dee Dee Hefner, Covenant Missionary that our church partially supports. This is the time to make a decision to go to the 2011 Spiritual Retreat at YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park April (29) 30-May 1. The Leader will be Kathleen Stone, Chaplain, The Church Center for the United Nations—Tillman Chapel. Registration forms are available at the church office and scholarships are possible. — Fran Ralff

Youth Group



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YLC

Nine kids and three adults went to the Youth Leadership Conference in Colorado Springs. During the event on Saturday, all participants divided into groups and performed 5 hours of mission work at places such as Ronald McDonald House, The Mission, Good Will Stores, ARC Thrift Stores etc., for a total of 750 hours of mission work.

Some of the youth that did not go to YLC that same Sunday, participated by bidding \$190 at the Mission Committees dessert auction to help raise money to go to Columbia this summer. This money came from the proceeds of the pumpkin patch fundraiser. In addition to the \$190, the youth voted to give \$70 to Lift Up, \$70 to Haiti, and \$70 to Nothing But Nets, for a total of \$400 which is 10% of our gross income.

CHILI:

C- Chilies

H -Hot + Hungary

I-Incredible

L-Lunch

I-Irritable

Date: Sunday, March 13, 2011

Time: Right after church

Place: Fellowship Hall

Amount: \$5

What: Chili chef's competition! Minimum vote \$1. Most votes gets a prize! There will also be finger foods and desserts.

After votes are counted....Bible Jeopardy!!! (fast paced game) Sign up for your teams! We can have up to 14 chili chefs, so far we have 3...WE NEED MORE!!!

See Michael if you want to be in the Jeopardy game.

See Joel if you want to be in the chili completion.

Lenten Study

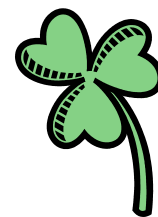
Lenten study will begin on Wednesday, March 16th at 6:00 pm in the prayer room and will go for seven weeks. We will be reading the book "24 Hours That Changed The World" by Adam Hamilton.

No other 24-hour event in human history has had more impact than the last 24 hours of Jesus' life. Join Adam Hamilton as he guides you from the Last Supper, to Gethsemane, to the trial, and the Crucifixion. Experience and understand the significance of Jesus' final hours in ways you never have before.

AA meets at noon everyday in Fellowship Hall and 12:30pm on Sunday's. Extended Table is M-F in Fellowship Hall from 5-6pm. If you need to use the building please call the office.

Please submit newsletter articles for April Newsletter by March 21st.

March 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 5:30pm Sounds of Praise in Bethel 6pm Bible Study 7:15pm Choir practice	3 9am MOPS in Bethel 7 pm AI Anon/AA room	4 9 am Zumba Bethel 6:30 pm AA/AA room	5 10 am Women,s AA 5:30 pm AA district meeting F.H. 10 pm Young & Restless AA
6 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 5 pm Youth Group	7 5:15 pm OA Cooper Corner 6:30 pm Financial Peace Cooper Corner	8 6:30 pm Heartbeat Cooper Corner	9 Ash Wednesday 5:30pm Sounds of Praise in Bethel 6 pm Ash Wednesday Service 7:15pm Choir practice	10 9:30 am UMW Pruett's house 7 pm AI Anon/AA room	11 7:30 am Men's group at Village Inn 9 am Zumba in Bethel 6:30 pm AA/AA room	12 10 am Women's AA 10 pm Young & Restless AA
13 Daylight savings time begins 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Chili Challenge 5 pm Youth Group	14 5:15 pm OA Cooper Corner 6:30 pm Financial Peace Cooper Corner	15	16 5:30pm Sounds of Praise in Bethel 6pm Lenten Study 7:15pm Choir practice	17 St. Patrick's Day 9 am MOPS in Bethel <u>5 pm Ext Table our church hosting</u> 7 pm AI Anon/AA room	18 9 am Zumba Bethel 6:30 pm AA/AA room	19 10 am Women's AA 10 pm Young & Restless AA
20 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Committee meetings 5 pm Youth Group	21 5:15 pm OA Cooper Corner 6:30 pm Financial Peace Cooper Corner	22	23 5:30pm Sounds of Praise in Bethel 6pm Lenten Study 7:15pm Choir practice	24 7 pm AI Anon/AA room	25 7:30 am Men's Group at Village Inn 9 am Zumba Bethel 6:30 pm AA/AA room	26 10 am Women's AA 10 pm Young & Restless AA
27 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship No Youth Group	28 5:15 pm OA Cooper Corner 6:30 pm Financial Peace Cooper Corner	29	30 5:30pm Sounds of Praise in Bethel 6pm Lenten Study 7:15pm Choir practice	31 7 pm AI Anon/AA room		

March Birthday's

3/02	Cera Kocher	3/20	Angela Frale
3/03	Rich Doak	3/21	Maudie Weller
3/03	Victor Gabossi	3/23	Gary Broetzman
3/05	Ken Collins	3/24	Moriah Jennings
3/11	Sally Lippman		
3/13	Joel Shute		
3/13	Russell Brown		
3/19	Toni Yorty		



March Anniversaries

3/01	John & Paulette Parker
3/18	Charles & Elizabeth Pruett
3/25	Gary & Bonnie Broetzman
3/27	Dixie McClenahan & Bill Beerman
3/29	Bill & Phyllis Coleman

Upcoming Events

Wed. March 9th—6:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service in the Sanctuary.

Sunday, March 13th—Daylight Saving Time Begins. Don't forget to set your clock ahead 1 hour when going to bed the night before.

Chili Challenge & Bible Jeopardy after service on March 13th.

Sunday, March 20—Committee meetings & Ad Council meeting.

The Glenwood Springs Women's Connection

The Glenwood Springs Women's Connection invites all women to our March brunch. Our special feature will be Scott Niemann of Niemann's Gardens of New Castle, and will offer his expert advice in preparing our green thumbs for spring.

Our speaker will be Pat Houck, also of New Castle. She will play her mountain dulcimer and speak about "Pearls in the Making".

Join us at the AmericInn of Glenwood Springs (at the base of the tram) on Saturday, March 19 10:00 am—11:30 am.

Brunch and program \$10

First-time guests \$5

For reservations call Toni at 970-948-5831 or email haikaichi@msn.com.