

Messenger

The Lewiston First UMC

...a bi-monthly newsletter publication of
the Lewiston First Methodist Church

Pastor's Path "The Butterfly Transformation" By: Rev. Chuck Cram

If you are ever in the Denver area and are interested in something unique to do for an afternoon, head up highway 36 (the Denver-Boulder Turnpike) and stop by the Butterfly Pavilion located just outside of Boulder. The Butterfly Pavilion is a photographers heaven; all sorts of butterflies, in a contained space with very natural surroundings. I can spend hours there just looking at the butterflies and shooting a few pictures in the process. Many of you have noticed a "butterfly" necktie I wear every once in a while, I purchased that tie at the Butterfly Pavillion.

Butterflies are a great metaphor and symbol of the Christian story - I much prefer the butterfly to the cross, but then again no one asked me and I wasn't around when the cross became the symbol for Christianity.



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Weekly Events

Sundays

- Choir - 8:45am
- Bell Choir Rehearsal 9:45am
- Adult Sunday School - 9:15am
- Worship - 10:30am
- Coffee Fellowship - 11:30am

Tuesdays

- Bible Discussion - 10am

Regular Monthly Meetings

SPRC: 2nd Tuesday - 3:30pm -

Liz Chavez

Worship Committee: 1st Wednesday -
10:00am -

Salvation Army Dinner: 2nd
Wednesday - 3:00pm

Trustees: 2nd Thursday - 4:00pm -
Monte Boardman

Revitalization: 2nd Thursday - 3:00pm

Finance Committee: 3rd Tuesday
- 9:30am - Susan Driskill

UMW - 3rd Thursday - 1:30pm -
Mary McNish & Kathy Bostrom

Men's Breakfast: 3rd Saturday -
9:00am - Main Street Grill

Church Council: 4th Thursday -
3:00pm - Cottie Hood

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That being said – the butterfly is still, for me, much more meaningful than a cross. I believe it is because the butterfly represents a process; a story from beginning to end of faith and transformation, death and resurrection, old life and new life, crawling versus soaring all wrapped up into one little butterfly. Besides, butterflies are cool!

Lent has come a little early this year and that means Easter is early as well. Lent is a good time for us to focus on the butterfly. As we enter this season of Lent and preparation, it seems appropriate for us to focus upon the season itself as well as the season we find ourselves in as a congregation.

One of my favorite authors is Henri Nouwen, who wrote some comments about the Lenten season which I have found to be particularly appropriate for Lewiston First United Methodist as we look to the future. Nouwen wrote; “Lent is the most important time of the year to nurture our inner life. It is the time during which we not only prepare ourselves to celebrate the mystery of the death and resurrection of Jesus, but also the death and resurrection that constantly takes place within us. Life is a continuing process of the death of the old and the familiar, and being reborn again into a new hope, a new trust, and a new love.”

Moving forward as a congregation into an unknown and often unfamiliar future can be an anxiety producing process; however we can take comfort in knowing that God calls us to be renewed and recreated constantly. As we begin to focus on renewal during this season of Lent and the risen Christ, let us also focus on the resurrection, the renewal, the re-creation, and the renaissance that is happening in our midst. Lewiston First United Methodist is emerging from our past with wings to the future! Thanks be to God! It is a joy and honor to be witness to this transformation.

For a couple of years now the Revitalization committee and the church council have focused on the idea of “creating a sustainable future”. As we move into 2018 and beyond, we must find new and transformative ideas that will help secure our futures. Simply put, what that means for us is a reminder that we are called to think and act like butterflies rather than caterpillars. We are to picture ourselves soaring, rather than crawling along the ground, we are to imagine ourselves emerging from a cocoon of the past into a bright and wonderful future. It's time to spread our wings, it is time to soar.

Revitalization has been our path to accomplishing some great and needed repairs and refurbishing of certain areas of the church. The exterior courtyard area, Fellowship Hall, Wesley Hall, the nursery and other projects have transformed our physical space. Now it is time for us to look beyond the physical plant and search for other transformative actions that will help sustain us into the future.

Stay tuned and watch for more news of what Revitalization might be up to next; or better yet, join the committee and actively participate in the spreading of our new wings as we emerge from the cocoon of our past!

CARE MINISTRY TEAM

More than two years ago, the leadership team of our church attended a workshop on “Single Governance”, a more streamlined and simplified “method” of administering the various committees in our church. As a part of that philosophy whenever a need for ministry arose that need could be met by one or more of our church family. The CARE Ministry Team has been in service with Prayer CARE and Card CARE since the summer of 2017. Beginning with Prayer CARE the members of the Ministry Team have daily, nightly, weekly offered prayers for those whose names have been mentioned during worship or sent to the church office. These faithful prayer warriors have also begun the Card CARE piece of the Ministry, with the very generous donation of cards, stamps and funds for stamps from our church family. There's always room for more and we would welcome your participation, if you're interested check with Liz Chavez.

208-746-1169 or 1stsisteresc@gmail.com

Church Council Minutes

January 25, 2018

Happy
Birthday!

March

02 - Connie Alford
10 - Bill Jacobs
11 - Dawn Gortsema
17 - Mei Chu Eggleston
17 - Jerry Moores
24 - Ed Statham
24 - Rafferdy Hewett

April

02 - Irene Roth
04 - Bob Culbertson
04 - Melody Boardman
05 - Millie Ingram
07 - Jim Bostrom
09 - Carl Paulson
11 - George Follett
16 - Kathy Bostrom
22 - Steve Forge
30 - Kathy Walker

May

02 - Megan Ralstin
04 - Alyssa Ralstin
05 - Greg Gilliam
07 - Pat Heimgartner
08 - Dorianda Gilliam
10 - Cottie Hood
10 - Fred Willet
18 - Troy Stoddard
30 - Heath Hewett

June

02 - Kris Haynal
05 - Mary Jo Fursteneau
11 - Marian Combellick
13 - Wanda Thompson
17 - Barbara O'Brien
20 - Brett Mills
20 - Evelyn Jordan
22 - Pat Schrupp
23 - Laurie Herndon
24 - Arrie Vogel
30 - Nancy Follett

Present – Sue Driskill, Carl Paulson, Cottie Hood, Lois Chesnut, Chuck Cram, Rita Mills, Liz Chavez, Deb Snyder.

Cottie opened with prayer at 3:00. Minutes were reviewed and approved.

Finance: Sue Driskill distributed the 2016 and 2017 budgets. The audit is being conducted by an experienced auditor, Joyce Stapleton, and should be finished soon. The Finance Committee is working on a budget for 2018.

Old Business: none

New Business: We discussed ways of growing our church spiritually and demographically; how to provide outreach and bring new people into our church family. Some suggestions were using the parking lot and lawn for outreach events such as a luau, an ice cream feed (4th of July) or having speakers/workshops on a variety of issues such as care giving and respite care information. We also discussed fund raising.

Revitalization Committee: No new projects are planned at this time. The committee is taking some time to review policy regarding how to designate any future projects. The office remodel is complete.

SPR: Report is included. Rita Mills as Memorial Chair has spoken to other members of the Memorial Committee and all agreed with the suggestion that Memorials contribute to Kris Haynal's salary (\$300/month) for one year. Motion to accept this was made by Rita and seconded by Lois. Motion passed.

Trustees: Prices for the defibrillator are \$1,199 (American AED in Florida) and \$1,346 (Norco in Lewiston). Circles will be helping with the landscaping in the spring. Snow removal will be more coordinated with use of equipment from Gary Chesnut. Carl repaired the light on the organ. All the items which were stored on the floor or the counter in the mechanical room have been removed.

UMW: Report made by Liz. Colleen Mahoney showed a movie, "Sex Trafficking", at the last meeting. Discussion was held about showing the movie as a community outreach. Cottie will check with Colleen about availability dates.

Worship: Kris Haynal meets with Chuck weekly. They're doing some long-range planning. They also meet monthly with Lois Chesnut, Lois Woefel, Pat Heimgartner and Pat Schrupp as the Worship Team.

Lay Leader: no report. Rita assists Chuck any time she's needed.

Pastor's Report: Chuck has been appointed to the LC Valley Medical Foundation which has \$25 million, \$300,000 of which must be spent in 2018 through grants which address local health care needs. Chuck suggested we all think about how First UMC might make use of the opportunity to help meet needs in the valley. He reminded us of the upcoming Lenten series.

Joys for Jim Bostrom going home; Petitions for Ed and Marylene Statham, Barb Maple, Jeanne Fordyce, caregivers, the homeless, those with addictions, human trafficking.

Note taker,
Liz Chavez

FUMC Year End Financial Summary of all accounts

Memorial Fund (P1FCU)

January 1, 2017 Balance		\$5,915.07
Income	\$8.35	
Expenditures	\$(45.58)	
December 31, 2017 Balance		\$5,877.84

Wespath Investments

January 1, 2017 Balance		\$15,504.10
Deposits	\$2,300.00	
Withdrawals	\$(8,500.00)	
Gain (-unrealized gain)	\$2,379.56	
December 31, 2017 Balance		\$11,683.66

P1FCU Share Account

January 1, 2017 Balance		\$35.19
Dividends Paid	\$0.12	
December 31, 2017 Balance		\$35.31

P1FCU Checking (Revitalization)

January 1, 2017 Balance		\$298.47
Dividends	\$6.97	
From LOC	\$18,660.00	
From Sale of Property	\$18,188.48	
Expenditures	\$(36,456.79)	
December 31, 2017 Balance		\$697.13

P1FCU Line of Credit

January 1, 2017 Balance		\$14,038.15
Withdrawals	\$12,200.00	
Dividends	\$30.18	
Sale of Property	\$(16,977.52)	
Payments	\$(878.80)	
December 31, 2017 Balance		\$8,412.01

General Fund (Twin River acct)

January 1, 2017 Balance		\$8,800
Deposits		
Tithing/Offering/Donations	\$133,052	
Rent of Facility	\$8,475	
From Wespath Investments	\$8,500	
Pumpkin Patch Income	\$11,571	
Fund Raising	\$810	
Misc Income	\$188	
Total Income		\$162,596
Expenditures		
Pumpkin Patch	\$11,571	
Local Missions	\$260	
Program Expenses	\$4,420	
Salaries/Benefits		
Pastor Salary/Housing	\$49,824	
Pastor Pension/Health Ins	\$20,772	
Pastor Sub	\$600	
Communications Coordinator	\$11,328	
Choir Director	\$960	
Organist	\$1,500	
Organist Sub	\$1,100	
Music Director	\$3,000	
AV Tech	\$312	
Travel/Conf Registrations	\$1,053	
Employer Expense FICA/WC	\$1,383	
Janitorial Services	\$6,000	
Conference Apportionments	\$5,493	
Admin/Office Expenses	\$7,791	
Revitalization	\$15,787	
Parsonage Maintenance	\$10,003	
Church Bldgs/Grounds	\$1,909	
Liability Property Ins	\$6,751	
Kitchen/Cleaning Supplies	\$1,774	
Utilities	\$11,150	
Total Expenditures		\$174,741
December 31, 2017 Balance		\$(3,345)

March Service Schedule

Greeters:

04 - Leonard & Barbara O'Brien
 11 - Wilma Greene
 18 -
 25 -

Ushers:

04 - Herb Hobbs & Doug Crook
 11 - John Ehrenreich & Lois Woelfel
 18 - Kay Walker & Larry Dean
 25 - Herb Hobbs & Jim Hood

Liturgists:

04 - Kathy Bostrom
 11 - Susie Paulson
 18 -
 25 -

Counters:

04 - Kathy Bostrom & Carl Paulson
 11 - Lois Chesnut & Larry Ballantyne
 18 - Sherri Kole & Lois Woelfel
 25 - Barbara O'Brien & Kay Walker

Accompanists:

04 - Kris Haynal
 11 - Kris Haynal
 18 - Kris Haynal
 25 - Kris Haynal

Coffee Shop:

04 - Potluck
 11 -
 18 -
 25 -

Hi Church Friends,

As you know, our church has been working hard at renovating our facilities which is very good news for our community. Our leadership has been motivational and committed to the sustainability of our church into the future. Our church council has established and stayed within a budget. The renovation costs have been covered primarily by the sale of some of our property and other gifts.

Over the years our membership has continued to decline due to the natural attrition of death, ageing issues and medical complications. While we are attracting new members, it isn't enough to fill the void of those who have moved on. This year our annual year-end gifts received (possibly due to tax savings) was smaller than in years past. As a result it is becoming more difficult to meet our day-to-day operating expenses. Historically this church has responded well to problems like this if they are informed. The purpose of this letter is to let everyone know of our needs and our plans for the future.

The church leadership is working on long term fundraising plans and membership improvements. As these plans take time to develop a little more help is needed to cover the short term. We are looking forward to your kind donations to help make these plans successful. God bless you for your generosity and support of this church and the outreach ministries which are helping this community.

We offer a number of different ways you may give, including credit cards (if you want to earn points or miles) automatic monthly debits, non-cash gifts like property, automobiles or other valuable assets and of course, checks are always welcome! Please call either Carl Paulson or myself if you have any questions.

Blessings,
Gary Chesnut, Trustee
509-758-9559 cgary@5cees.com

Lenten Schedule

Events start at 4pm at the respective church.

Date	Host	Preaching
March 4	Lapwai	Hank Haschle
March 11	Kendrick	Stephen Kingsley
March 18	Grangeville	Kaylissa Beale
March 25 (Palm Sunday)	Cavendish/Orofino	Ryan Campbell

Megan Ralstin

Congrats on making the Fall 2017 honor roll at Montana State University! Great Job!

Planning Committee CALENDAR

We are planning to hold a Cinco de Mayo celebration on Friday, May 4th. This event will take the place of our Fall Festival We plan Mexican food, music, auctions and other fun.

YWCA Supply Drive

Suggested Donations

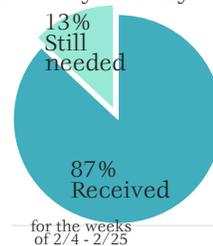
Diapers, Baby Wipes, Body Wash , Deodorant, Shampoo, Conditioner, Shaving Cream, Razors, Tampons, Dental Floss, Loofah, Nail Clippers, Emery Boards, Combs, Hair Brushes, Contact Lens Solution, Cotton Balls, Q-Tips, Lotions, Other Toiletries.

eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca

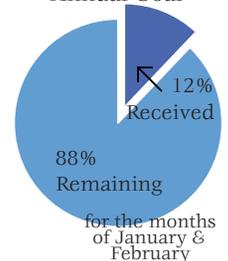
Financial SnapShot

In order to balance the FUMC budget, we need to bring in approximately \$12,500 a month or \$3,125 a week. In order to keep everyone informed, the Finance Committee will be updating this information each week and at the end of each month.

February Monthly Goal



Annual Goal



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING - 10:00A	8 TRUSTEES MEETING 4:00P	9	10
11	12	13	14 SALVATION ARMY DINNER 3:00P	15 UMW MEETING 1:30P SPR MEETING 3:30P	16	17
18	19	20 FINANCE COMMITTEE 9:30A	21	22 CHURCH COUNCIL 3:00P	23	24
25	26	27	28 CARE TEAM MEETING 1:30P	29	30	31

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4 WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING - 10A	5	6	7
8	9	10 SPR MEETING 3:30P	11 SALVATION ARMY DINNER 3:00P	12 REVITALIZATION MEETING - 3:00P TRUSTEES MEETING 4:00P	13	14
15	16	17 FINANCE COMMITTEE 9:30A	18	19 UMW MEETING 1:30A	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 CHURCH COUNCIL 3:00P	27	28
29	30					

We welcome you to Lewiston First United Methodist Church! Our church is always open to all the children of God in all our wondrous diversity.

Our Services are lively, informative, thought provoking and relevant to the challenges of living in the 21st Century. It is our view the warmth of the Spirit will be evident every time we gather for worship, Bible discussion or a small group



Discipleship gathering. We hope the love of the Divine will bring you comfort and serenity in our sometimes stressful and chaotic lives. Thank you for taking a minute to look over this newsletter and we hope to see you again in the near future, so you can *share our view!*

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday
8:00am - 12:00pm

Office
1906 Broadview Drive
Lewiston, Idaho 83501
(208) 743-2971
office@lewistonfirstumc.org
lewistonfirstumc.org

Pastor Chuck Cram
(509) 780-1636
chuckcram@gmx.com

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