

First United Methodist Church, Loveland, CO November 30, 2025

Our mission: Loveland FUMC strives to bless and serve our local and world communities while living the teachings of Jesus Christ. We accept people as they are and strive to live in harmony with God and all of divine creation.



CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING

The Church office will be closed on November 27th and 28th for the Thanksgiving Holiday. Happy Thanksgiving!

ALTERNATIVE WORSHIP SERVICE CANCELLED

Sadly, after over a year of trying with consistently low attendance, the decision has been made to cancel the First Sunday Alternative Worship Experience. This decision is not made lightly, as we are aware that a less traditional service is desired by some. We will continue to ponder and pray about how to meet the needs of our less-traditional friends and worshipers.

HANGING OF THE GREENS

Hanging of the Greens is **THIS Sunday, November 30th at 4:00pm** in the sanctuary. Come be a part of this special service to start off the Advent Season!



LAST CHANCE TO ORDER YOUR CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Today is the final day to purchase a **Christmas Poinsettia**(s) for \$10.00 each to be used for our Advent services. A **sign up sheet is at the Ask Me Desk** in Lobby Court with spaces to dedicate the poinsettia in memory or honor of loved ones. Place your check and order form in the basket labeled "Christmas Poinsettias". Thank you for helping beautify the sanctuary for Christmas! Please pick up your poinsettias after the 6:30pm service on Christmas Eve.



UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY

Special Offering - November 30th. United Methodist Student Day focuses on the value of education. By supporting our students now, we contribute to community transformation and leadership empowerment, building future leaders. Your gift is a practical expression of care, equipping students to shape a hopeful future.

Supporting United Methodist students provides both financial and spiritual boosts, showing them the church's confidence in their potential. 100% of your donation funds scholarships for United Methodist students. **Pick up your special offering envelope on the small table at the back of the sanctuary** and drop in the offering plate. You may also donate at www.fumcloveland.org, on the give/support tab. Be sure to write "UM Student Day donation" in the Write a Note field. Thank you!

WINTER CLOTHING AND SUPPLY DRIVE

From December 7th-14th, we will be collecting winter clothing and supplies to help our unhoused neighbors get through the winter. This drive is being coordinated by a local group of women known as Loveland Cares who are working to address the emergency needs of these folks. Items will be taken to and distributed at the Loveland Resource Center. Click <u>HERE</u> for a list of needed items, or see the list at the Volunteer Hub. You can bring these items to the church on Sundays, December 7th & 14th, or during office hours (M-Th, 8am–3pm, F, 8am–Noon). Look for the donation table in Lobby Court.



CHRISTMAS GIFT "BASKETS"

FUMC will continue its tradition of providing food to those in need this Christmas by way of grocery gift cards to low-income individuals and families. The gift cards will be provided with a small gift to brighten their Christmas, and will be given to Loveland Salvation Army to give to those in need. If you would like to make a donation toward these gift cards, please make a check payable to First UMC and write "Christmas Baskets" in the memo line. Drop it in the offering plate or bring/mail to the church office. Thank you for your generosity for the sake of others! You may also donate at www.fumcloveland.org, on the give/support tab. Be sure to write "UM Student Day donation" in the Write a Note field.



COOKIE BAKERS NEEDED!

Cookie Jar is one of FUMC's sweetest traditions—and our largest fundraiser for Youth Missions. Each year, our church comes together to bake hundreds of beautiful, homemade Christmas cookies, candies and fudge to share with our community.

To make this year's event a success, we need your help!
We are asking for volunteers to donate a couple dozen of your best,

prettiest, fully homemade treats—no store-bought items, please. Homemade goodies are what make Cookie Jar special!

Drop-off Details: Friday, December 12th, 3:00pm–6:00pm in the Heart Hub (formerly Coy Hall) kitchen. Or Contact Matthew Utley (youth@fumcloveland.com) for special drop off options! Sign-up to bake cookies at the Ask Me Desk or at the link HERE. Your baking helps send our youth into mission to love and serve our community. Thank you for making Cookie Jar happen—one homemade treat at a time! And don't forget to shop at the event Saturday, December 13th from 9:00–11:00am—come early for the best selection!

PRE-ORDER YOUR COOKIE JAR MYSTERY BOX

The youth are offering something new this year: The opportunity to pre-order a mystery box of yummy Christmas cookies! Great for gift-giving or a bit of personal splurging! Each box includes a hand-picked variety of homemade cookies, candies, and fudge. All proceeds support FUMC Youth Missions. Here are the details:

Pre-orders are **due by December 7th**.

- Pick-up at the Cookie Jar event on December 13th, or schedule a time with Matthew at youth@fumcloveland.com
- Please have payment ready (cash or check) at time of pick-up.
- Selections are assorted and cannot be customized. Scan the QR Code or click HERE to order!





SPECIAL MUSIC IN NOVEMBER

Nov. 30th – Chancel Choir, Alaina Bongers, harp

NOVEMBER CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

If you would like a copy of the minutes for November, please contact council chair Judy Stout at jstout@lpbroadband.net or click <u>HERE</u> to read online.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Help spread Christmas joy! This year we will meet at the church on **Sunday**, **December 21st at 2:00 pm** to go caroling to our homebound members. This is a wonderful way to share the love of the Christ Child to those who are unable to attend church during the advent season. Please plan to join this lovely Christmas tradition. If you have questions, please contact Judy Graff at 970-218-4944.



CHAIR YOGA CLASSES AT FUMC

Curious about the Christ-centered chair yoga happening at FUMC? Class instructor Susan Van Meakins has put together a video to talk more about it, and even guides you through a short movement prayer. Watch the video by clicking <u>HERE</u>.

HISTORY HAS BEEN MADE

Annual conferences across the globe have now voted on four constitutional amendments that were approved by the 2024 General Conference. Our Bishop Stoneking writes, "History has been made! Thanks be to God...for a new church which we are celebrating with the passage of all four amendments of the United Methodist constitution!...A commitment to inclusiveness has been strengthened [and] we have affirmed our commitment to combating racism, racial inequity, colonialism, white privilege, and white supremacy. For more information about the amendments and how they will shape the United Methodist Church going forward, click <u>HERE</u>.



AN ALTERNATIVE GIFT OPTION FOR A GOOD CAUSE

Pura Vida is once again offering Alternative Gift Cards for sale. You can make a tax-deductible contribution to support Pura Vida's Christmas Milk Program and Unsponsored Student Fund, and receive a beautiful card to send to friends and family, telling them a donation has been made in their name. Pura Vida is a mission partner of FUMC. For many years, members of this congregation have volunteered time and given financial

contributions to provide housing and support to students and families in rural Guatemala. To order your cards, click <u>HERE</u>.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGERS are needed to help raise funds for the Loveland Salvation Army this holiday season. FUMC partners with this program each year, ringing the bell to encourage donations at the Loveland Sam's Club on Saturdays. 2-hour shifts are available beginning November 22nd. Sign up at the "holiday" Volunteer Hub in Lobby Court!
- MORE BUS DRIVERS ARE NEEDED for Sunday mornings. Gary Small currently drives the bus to help some of our homebound members come to worship in person, and there is a need for additional drivers to help. You do not need to drive every Sunday. Contact Pastor Lee at lee@fumcloveland.com to help, or talk to Gary about what the job entails.

PURA VIDA

FUMC is a mission partner with Pura Vida. Here are some upcoming ways to support this valuable organization!

• Pura Vida Virtual Mission Trip...Join the FUMC Mission Trip to Guatemala virtually. Our team will be traveling in February and you can be an important team member by signing up at the following link: https://www.puravida.org/virtual-trip.html?trip_id=119. Joining as a virtual member helps cover construction costs and will provide you with exclusive access to photos and videos during our week of construction. If virtual membership isn't in the cards, any donation would be appreciated. Make donations at that same link or donate through FUMC with the memo "2026 Pura Vida Work Trip". Thank you for your support.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY & FUMC

FUMC is a mission partner with Loveland Habitat for Humanity. Here are some upcoming ways to support this valuable organization!

Colorado Gives Day

Early Giving is open! Your generosity will help us continue building homes, communities, and hope in Loveland for years to come. Colorado Gives Day is the biggest giving event in the state and is an amazing way to make a meaningful impact. As housing costs continue to rise, every dollar can make a difference in helping Lovelanders achieve the dream of safe, decent, and affordable homeownership in our community. From November 1st through December 9th, every donation you make is boosted by a \$1M+ Incentive Fund, thanks to Colorado Gives Foundation and FirstBank. Our 2025 goal of \$20,000 will help us continue building homes - from laying the foundations to the final coat of paint. Colorado Gives Day 2025 is on Tuesday, December 9th. Don't miss out on your chance to join the wave of generosity. Together, we build affordable communities.

Become a ReStore Regular!

Do you or someone you know love sorting and organizing? Our ReStore is overflowing with donations, and we're looking for regular volunteers to help us sort clothes and housewares, test electronics, and put things out onto our sales floor. Learn more at lovelandhabitat.org/volunteer.

• CALLING THOSE WHO CAN OPERATE A VOLUME BUTTON!

Volunteers are needed to assist with running the soundboard during the Sunday morning service. Training is available and prior experience is not required. Volunteers would not be expected to work every Sunday. Please contact Ryan Millard at av@fumcloveland.com to ask questions or volunteer.



Family Programming Coordinator - Desiree Aragon - familycoordinator@tumc-loveland.org

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Parents: Please note that there is a better way to sign in your kiddo(s) for Sunday school this year. You will find the scan code at the table with the balloons near the volunteer hub in Lobby Court along with the lead Sunday School teacher. Sunday School volunteers are vital for the success of children's ministries. You're invited to sign up for a date and time that works best for you. **Sign up** <u>HERE</u>



Mid & Senior High Youth Coordinator - Matthew Utley - youth@fumcloveland.com

Sunday 11/30: No Youth Group: Thanksgiving Break

<u>Sunday 12/07:</u> Regular youth group 4:00pm - 6:00pm. Snacks provided <u>Friday 12/12:</u> Youth Christmas Party and Lock-in starts at 6:00pm

Saturday 12/13: Cookie Jar Fundraiser 9:00am - 11:00am

Sunday 12/14: No Youth Group

Sunday 12/21: Christmas Caroling! 2:00pm

Sunday 12/28: Regular youth group 4:00pm - 6:00pm. Snacks provided

Tuesday 12/30: New Year's Eve Eve party (7:00 - 10:00pm)

Altar Flowers: If you'd like to provide altar flowers for a worship service, details on how to sign up can be found at www.fumcloveland.org. Scroll down on the Worship tab.

PERSONALS

Prayers:

Rich Stiverson, healing from hand injury/surgery Bob Link, declining health, at Good Sam Janeen Anderson, in rehab



We give thanks for the life of Royal Ryser, who entered eternal life on November 6th, and remember in prayer his family. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, December 6th at 2:00pm at FUMC.



Birthdays: Nov. 24th - Nov. 30th, 2025

Bentley Champion Bill McCreary Debbie Schwartz Susan Harding Bob Angelovic Charles Bouchard Harriette Eastman Kaitlyn Hirning