



First United Methodist Church, Loveland, CO  
Sept. 7, 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.*



### **VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION SUNDAY**

Volunteers, we want to celebrate YOU! On **September 14th**, FUMC staff will say thank you to all the laity volunteers who have helped FUMC "be the church" over the past year. There are two ways we will extend our thanks.

**Before worship, between 8:15 and 9:15 am**, the FUMC staff will serve a **volunteer appreciation breakfast** to anyone who has volunteered for the missions and ministries. This includes those who serve at FUMC as well as

those who serve through FUMC with one of our community partners - (see a list of Ministries and community partners [HERE](#). ) Please, if you are a volunteer, know that you are welcome and we ask you to **please RSVP by Sept. 7th. at [office@fumcloveland.com](mailto:office@fumcloveland.com), or at the RSVP form on the Ask-Me Desk.** We look forward to sharing our gratitude with a good meal and time together! **After breakfast**, join in a special worship experience led by the music duo, Skip & Gayn. **See more info below.**

### **GOD OF JUSTICE: WHERE ANCIENT WISDOM MEETS CONTEMPORARY LONGING**

**LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER IS SEPT. 9TH.** This

**4-week class** brings together distinguished scholars from biblical studies, theology, history, and faith leadership to offer exactly what our moment demands: the rich, textured wisdom of multiple academic disciplines speaking into our contemporary quest for justice. Here you'll discover how ancient texts illuminate modern struggles, how theological reflection deepens social action, and how historical understanding opens new possibilities for faithful engagement with our world's brokenness and beauty. **Join participants from FUMC and TUMC** in this study that

begins September 3 by livestream, but lectures are recorded to be viewed anytime. **The class is online and can be completed on your own time, and we will have one or two in-person gatherings to discuss what we've learned on Sundays, September 21 and 28, from 11:30-1:00. Light lunch will be provided.**

Learn more about the study [HERE](#). Please contact Pastor Lee for details and registration instructions at [lee@fumcloveland.com](mailto:lee@fumcloveland.com).



## UPCOMING GROUP: UNDERSTANDING YOUR GRIEF

Join Pastor Lee and pastors and leaders from Zion Lutheran Church for this valuable support group for grievers that uses Dr. Alan Wolfelt's book *Understanding Your Grief: Ten Essential Touchstones for Finding Hope and Healing Your Heart*. Through reading, journaling, and group discussions, we will work together to understand the normal and necessary process that we call grief. The group meets at Zion Lutheran Church on Thursdays from 6:00-7:30pm, from October 2-December 18 (excluding Thanksgiving). Contact Pastor Lee with questions and to register at [lee@fumcloveland.com](mailto:lee@fumcloveland.com) or (970) 667-0876. **Please register by Sunday, September 21.**



## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION SUNDAY - SEPT. 14TH

Pastors Leslie and Lee are **excited to welcome the musical worship duo, Skip & Gayn**, to lead a special worship experience Sunday morning **after the Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast.**

Gaynor Nelson is a musician, artist and mother of one, playing guitar, ukulele and singing for the Skip & Gayn duo. Skip Strickland is a retired pastor and District Superintendent in the Mountain Sky Conference of the UMC and has been playing, singing and leading some form of music and worship all his life. For the past three years, Skip and Gayn have also been leading worship at churches throughout Colorado, combining music with a message centered around themes of love, kindness, and acceptance.

Learn more about Skip & Gayn [HERE](#)

## FIRST SUNDAY ALTERNATIVE WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Do you prefer a relaxed, come-as-you-are, non-traditional worship experience, at least from time to time? Does being able to sleep in a little longer and still gather for worship appeal to you? If so, join us at FUMC's **First Sunday Alternative Worship Experience**, this **Sunday, September 7th**. Worship begins at 11:30am. We'll sing and enjoy music a bit, listen a bit, dialogue a bit, share communion and support one another by sharing our joys and concerns, all under the shade of the Big Tree outside. Bring your own chair!

## GUATEMALA CONSTRUCTION & ENGLISH CAMP MEETING

Join us for an informal informational meeting **Wednesday, September 10th at 6:00pm** in the Soul Shelter (Youth Range) Spanish Room. Come and see slides and hear stories about this joyful experience of teaching, working and learning with the Guatemalan people. Hear how you can experience the joy by participating with the mission teams to Guatemala in 2026. **Call Carolyn Bouchard** at 970-481-2818 to reserve your spot and snack ticket!

## 2025 CROP HUNGER WALK

**Sept. 28, 2025, 1:00 pm.** No child should have to suffer from hunger in our world. That's why we're participating in the 2025 CROP Hunger Walk to support Church World Service and help families who are struggling with hunger. Please join us with your steps and your donations! It is hard to see the starvation in the world and feel helpless. This is one way to help! 25 percent of what we raise will be donated to The Community Kitchen here in Loveland. 75 percent will support those in countries that lack food for nourishment and seeds for growing. **Sign up online** to walk with us or donate to help us meet our goal of \$2,000 from our church [HERE](#). For more information, Sarah will have a table set up beginning on **September 7th** at church.

## SPECIAL MUSIC IN SEPTEMBER



**Sept. 7** – Chancel Choir, Gil Garcia – trumpet, Ben Clegern and Sarah Clegern, vocal duet

**Sept. 14** – Spirit Sounds Bell Choir, Skip Strickland & Gaynor Nelson, guitar/vocal

**Sept. 21** – Chancel Choir, Duet with Melanie Pepper, flute & Joanne Scheihing, clarinet

**Sept. 28** – Lutheran Men of Song (guest choir)

## SPECIAL CONVERSATION WITH REV. JERRY HERSHIPS!

Union Spiritual Community is excited to welcome Rev. Jerry Hershops as our guest speaker for our Bi-Monthly "Convo" gathering on **Tuesday, September 17th**, from **6:00 to 7:30pm** at **Artworks Loveland, 310 N. Railroad Ave., Loveland, CO 80537**. Learn More [HERE](#) or Contact Bryson Lillie or Molly Waller at ([unionloveland@gmail.com](mailto:unionloveland@gmail.com))



## BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

On **September 21st**, we'll be holding a backpack blessing during the children's message. Please encourage your child to bring their backpack to church that day to participate and receive a blessing for the school year ahead.

## HCHC - Health Coaches for Hypertension Control

**10:00-11:30am, Mondays, September 15-November 10**. HCHC is an evidence-based program that's been proven to help improve the health of those diagnosed with high blood pressure. These 9-weekly classes help participants manage hypertension by focusing on lifestyle change. Please call 970.495.8565 to register for this program. Cost: Suggested donation of \$15 for materials, payable by cash or check at class. This class is one of many **offered by UCHHealth Aspen Club**, which provides health-related programs and support to people over 50. FUMC has a good partnership with Aspen Club by hosting several of their classes. Look for more classes here at FUMC in the future!

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### • FUMC & TUMC COLLABORATE IN MISSION

**The Truscott Community Garden Project**, a mission collaboration between FUMC & TUMC, is coming together nicely under the leadership of TUMC Pastor Bryson. Our two congregations, along with Truscott Elementary staff and families, will give the Truscott Elementary School Garden (two blocks north of FUMC on Grant Ave) a fresh new look! We need FUMC members to join the fun on **Saturday, September 6th, 8:00–10:00am** as we clean and refresh the space for the school year. Bring gloves, sunscreen, a hat, and your favorite gardening tools—we'll provide water, snacks, and heavier equipment. Pastor Bryson says, "Even if they can't get down in the dirt, we are inviting people to stop by just to chat. The big goal is to build relationships and we need people who can test the benches we are building." On **Sunday, September 7th**, after worship around **11:30 a.m.** join us **on site** as we **bless the garden and pray for the students**, teachers, and families who will use it. **More FUMC volunteers are needed!** Sign-up at the Ask Me Desk. And, more money gifts will be a big help as well. Any gift should be made to FUMC and marked "Truscott Garden." Questions? Contact Barry Wehrle ([barrywehrle@gmail.com](mailto:barrywehrle@gmail.com)) or TUMC's Pastor Bryson ([pastor@tumc-loveland.org](mailto:pastor@tumc-loveland.org)).



- **CALLING ALL SUNDAY SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS!**

**Get Involved in Sunday School this Fall!**

- **Sunday School Starts September 7th!**

- **Opportunities Available:**

- \* Sunday School Lead
- \* Sunday School Shepherd
- \* Nursery Helper

- **Easy & Rewarding:** The curriculum and activities are *completely* planned and prepared.

- **Support Provided:** Desiree Aragon will send you a personalized email with all the details after you sign up.

- **Ready to Make a Difference? Here are the ways!**

Take a look at a special invitation from Desiree [HERE](#), then **sign up online to volunteer** [HERE](#) or use the sign up sheet at the Volunteer Hub.

- **COME SING WITH THE CHOIR**

We love summer choir. If you sang with us and were blessed by the experience, please consider whether you just want to sing in the summer or if you're interested in singing during our regular season, August-May. Even if you didn't sing with the summer choir, but are interested in joining the Chancel Choir, we'd love to have you! Please call (no texts) or email Kathryn Peiffer, 970-624-8971, [kpeiffer@fumcloveland.com](mailto:kpeiffer@fumcloveland.com).

- **ALTERNATIVES TO VIOLENCE**

FUMC has the opportunity to support Alternatives to Violence at the **15th annual 2025 Pastels on 5th!** If you would like to volunteer **Saturday, September 13th** walking around handing out popcorn and water to artists and the public, **please sign up at the Ask Me Desk** or **contact Andrea Ortega at 970-631-2971**. Pastels on 5th is a benefit for Alternatives to Violence (ATV) a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Alternatives to Violence provides shelter, advocacy, education and resources for people impacted by domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking. Learn more about ATV [HERE](#).

Fun Fact! ATV operated out of the basement of a First United Methodist Church in 1982!

- **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY & FUMC**

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

**Faith Build with Habitat for Humanity**

Join us Saturday, September 27th 8:00am - 3:30pm to help build a home with Habitat for Humanity. No experience necessary. **Lunch** will be provided by FUMC. Sign up [HERE](#) or at the Volunteer Hub in Lobby Court.

**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](http://lovelandhabitat.org/volunteer).

**Veterans Build**

**Thursday, September 11th at Grace Gardens.** Help us honor those who have served with a special build day. Our opening ceremony will include an opening prayer, performance of the National Anthem, a presentation of the colors, and a speech by Larimer County Commissioner Jody Shaddock-McNally. Veterans, service members, and first responders are invited to register at [lovelandhabitat.org/veterans-build](http://lovelandhabitat.org/veterans-build). For more information, contact [development@lovelandhabitat.org](mailto:development@lovelandhabitat.org).



- **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](mailto:av@fumcloveland.com) to ask questions or volunteer.

- **STUFF THE TRUCK LOVELAND**

With Loveland's overnight shelter closing, more of our unhoused neighbors will be sleeping outside this winter. Help us provide lifesaving food and gear! There will be a **Drive-Thru Donation Drop-Off, Saturday morning, September 6th, 9:00am - Noon** at Zion Lutheran Church, 815 East 16th Street. Look for the silver utility trailer. **Learn more by scanning the QR code.** Coffee & pastries for all donors!



### CHANGES TO THE FUMC WiFi

To simplify logging onto the church guest network, there is now a single WiFi network name. Be sure to connect your cellphone or computer WiFi to: **BeMyGuest@FUMC**. The password remains the same as the one used for the prior WiFi networks. Check with our Office Manager, Pam Day or visit the Sound Booth on Sunday if you forgotten the password.



**Family Programming Coordinator - Desiree Aragon -**  
[familycoordinator@fumc-loveland.org](mailto:familycoordinator@fumc-loveland.org)

### SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

This Sunday, **September 7th**, our children will explore the timeless story of Joseph and His Brothers (Genesis 37) using the 'Celebrate Wonder All Ages' curriculum. This program honors children's spiritual understanding, and this week's lesson will focus on the vital theme of reconciliation.

**Parents:** Please note that there will be a better way to sign in your kiddo(s) for Sunday school this year. See **Desiree before the service** at the table with the balloons near the volunteer hub in Lobby Court.

**Sunday School volunteers** are vital for the success of children's ministries. **See above** for ways that you can support this ministry.



**Mid & Senior High Youth Coordinator - Matthew Utley -**  
[youth@fumcloveland.com](mailto:youth@fumcloveland.com)

**Sunday 09/07:** Regular youth group 4:00pm - 6:00pm. Snacks provided.

**Sunday 09/14:** French Fry Rally 4:00pm - 6:00pm. Meet at the church.

**Sunday 09/21:** Regular youth group 4:00pm - 6:00pm. Snacks provided.

**Sunday 09/28:** Regular youth group 4:00pm - 6:00pm. Snacks provided.





## **PERSONALS**

### **Prayers:**

Laurie Mullins, in hospice care, visits are welcome and encouraged

Barbie Clark, healing from heart attack in July

Jeanne Burns, healing from surgery

Lyle Gilroy, in rehab for torn muscle

### **Birthdays: Sept. 1 - Sept. 7, 2025**

Luann Ball

Karen Horn

Ryan Hennings

Steve Goodier

Kenneth Quick

