

On Generosity

Jesus talked about money and possessions more than any other topic. Scripture is full of teachings about wealth, giving, gifts, generosity, offerings, charity, sacrifice, and sharing with those in need. I tell you this not because I want to guilt you into thinking about giving, or giving more. I tell you this because it is fundamental—it is at the core—of our faith. Giving is central to Jewish and Christian living because we perceive that God is extravagantly generous, the giver of every good gift, the source of life and love. Think about that most often quoted verse from scripture, John 3:16. God so loved the world that God did WHAT? God gave. How much did God give? God gave a son. Extravagantly. Christians give because we serve a giving God.

Beyond all the stories, teachings and parables about possessions, wealth, and giving, disciples of Jesus recognize the ultimate self-revelation of God in the gracious and costly gift of Jesus' sacrifice and death.

In every story you can think of about possessions, whether it be the one about Abram and his tithe, or Zacchaeus and his transformation, or the widow and her mite, or the Macedonian church, or God's self-giving in the death and resurrection of Jesus, giving is always extravagant, life changing, and joyous.

How much would your life change if you decided to stop trying to fulfill the "law" of giving and instead started practicing generosity? What does generosity mean in your life? How can you be generous? Is it different than the ways others are generous? How would your prayer life change if you asked God to show you how you can be generous—even extravagant—in your giving?

Generosity funds the missions and programs of our church. The words you are going to hear frequently are: "because of your generous giving, this church is able to connect people with Christ in the following ways." This is the reputation we want to develop. We want to be Mountainside UMC, a beacon on the mountain, generously connecting people to Jesus.

Pastor Mills

Bithell Berries Money For Missions

Orders for the Bithell berries will be coming out in early June so start thinking about what you may want to order. You may want to round up people you can split an order with. The changing seasons have made the berries and fruits ripen later so deliveries keep getting pushed later. This year (2018) will be the last time we will order at the end of June for delivery in September. In 2019, we will be ordering mid-March for delivery in June. This allows us to have the berries and fruits in time for Asbury Café pie making. The Bithell berries benefit two missions: The Asbury Café pies, where proceeds go to local charities, and the money from the berry sales themselves go into the Missions fund at Mountainside for our various support of missions, both local and far. **If you have questions or want an order blank early, please see Karen Blackmore at church or email her at blackmorekd@aol.com**

Habitat for Humanity Long-range Planning

Mountainside's next opportunity to participate in a Habitat for Humanity build will be **Wednesday, October 3rd**. If you would like to be added to the list of potential workers on this date, please **contact Rob Easterling, rgeaste@comcast.net, or 379-9683**.



#nochildforsale HIDDEN CRISIS



It's up to the church!

There are approximately 5000 homeless youth across New Mexico with most of

them being in the Albuquerque metro area. These youth, 17 and younger, are very vulnerable to sexual exploitation. With the funds raised through the "12 for 12" campaign, the New Mexico Dream Center will open an outreach drop-in center and a transitional living program to address this crisis head on.

- *1000 of these youth are actively in sex trafficking and 2750 of them are engaged in "survival sex".
- * Albuquerque is the hot-spot for traffickers to pick up homeless youth and coerce them into the commercial sex industry
- * NM currently has a 0 grade in Legislation, Response, and Services available in DMST (Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking).
- * The department of Health and Human Services reports that "Children (both boys and girls) are solicited for sex, on average, within 72 hours of being on the street."

Our Mountainside missions currently supports an outreach program with Spoken For, and organization who strives to assist adult trafficking victims to get out of the trade through prayers, living accommodations, life and job skills, and health services, both mental and physical.

MUMC is going to have a "12 for 12" fund-raising campaign in May and June to help fund a facility (New Mexico Dream Center) specifically for youth who are being sex trafficked. They have some land chosen for this facility.

What does "12 for 12" mean?

We are asking 12 people for \$12. Will you ask your neighbors, your co-workers, and your friends for \$12 for this cause? Donation envelopes are available. **You can also Text \$12 to 505-207-0082. Visit NMDREAMCENTER.ORG to learn more. There will be a table in the Welcome center with more information. If you have any questions, please call Margaret Langdon 505-263-9558**

April Mission News

S.E. Coleman

Praises:

- S.E. is back in Guatemala for 6 months
- While in Uganda, she gave out pillowcase dresses from our church

Prayer Requests:

- Her adopted daughter Karla, can get her visa.
- The KCPS (school that she supports) needs \$200 to build a fence around a building and helpers to tear down an old building.
- \$700 to \$800 to build a new building for the nursery and 1st grade classes
- She's been diagnosed with asthma so please pray for her health.

April "Czech-Up" from the McFredericks

Praises and Requests:

- Kerensa was 1 of 9 leaders in a 2 ½ week European Leadership Matters course where 17 countries were represented. One man there has planted 128 churches in Pakistan. One woman who attended is from the Ukraine and has served over 1000 refugees in her home.
- In their conversation club (an opportunity to share Christ) they discussed Easter which the Czechs think is a fairy tale. Pray for Wendula whose heart was touched by the truth.
- Also pray for these people; Aaron, Pavala, Miguel, Monzo, Lubo, Constantin, who are all seeking the Lord.
- Pray for Mollyn and Niam as they fly (school trip) to Belgium and France to culminate their studies of WWI, April 23 -26.

You may read the complete newsletters on the Missions bulletin board.

Diane Turner

Worship Committee 2018

If you would like to voice an opinion or help make new ideas happen, re-instate things that no longer are, add fresh insights to worship, and/or help with sanctuary “décor” please consider joining the Worship Committee. We meet infrequently and for an absolute max of 1 hour 30 minutes (most 1 hour). I will be chairing the next meeting toward the end of May. Sermons will revolve around the Gospel of Mark, until Advent (and maybe through that as well). Example items on the agenda will be to:

- Prepare a calendar so we include service items such as Prayers for and Recognition of graduates, returning teachers and students, Hanging of the Greens.
- Ideas for visuals or hands-on experiences to enhance worship.
- Pick dates when we may want to combine the two services.
- Bulletin suggestions.

If you are already on the worship committee, have no fear – you still are. **If you would like to participate or have questions/comments, please contact Karen Blackmore blackmorekd@aol.com or 505-264-1797.**

Food Boxes

In March the East Mountain Food Pantry served 200 families,

167 seniors 60 years and over

340 Adults

186 children

17 years and younger

A new shift — Wed. (1 to 3:30) was started in March.

Currently the hours are:

Tues: 9 to 1 and 1 to 3

Wed: 1 to 3:30 and 3:30 to 6

1st and 3rd Saturday: 10 to 12



A Problem Into An Opportunity

Sometimes, with the Lord's help, we can turn a problem into an opportunity.

As most of you know, the MUMC is facing difficulties balancing the budget for 2018. The Finance Committee and the Administrative Council have projected expenses of approximately \$48,500 more than pledged income for 2018. If those projections are correct, it would be necessary to reduce the expense budget. Unfortunately, most of our operating costs cannot be cut significantly so most of the cuts would come from the Ministries and Missions budgets.

We could ask all members and attendees to increase their giving over the amount they had planned on giving for 2018. While this may fix the problem in 2018, it is considered a “band-aide” solution.

One line item in the budget that has been an annual expense is \$48,000 to payments for the residual Loan from the construction of the MAC. We still owe approximately \$243,500.

The Admin Council and the Finance Committee have endorsed a plan to pre-pay the Loan in full, thus freeing up the \$48,000 per year to cover the expenses shortfall in 2018 and to provide additional funds for our operations in the future.

As of April; 23, we have received pledges and gifts in the amount of \$206,100. **This leaves approximately \$37,400 to reach the goal of MUMC being debt free!**

Because of MUMC Mountainsides generous giving, we have been able to touch people's lives in the name of Jesus. Please give prayerful consideration to supporting the vision of Mountainside being debt free. The Lord has been very good to all of us. This is an opportunity to allow MUMC to continue to serve the Community and Missions in the name of Jesus and to continue to bring Christ to our Community and the World.

If you are ready to support this vision, please fill out the pledge cards that were in the bulletins Sunday April 22 or find one in the Narthex and fill it out. Any gifts for this vision should have an indication that the gift is to be used for the Loan Prepayment.

Together we can accomplish this exciting opportunity and vision for MUMC.

Lowell J. Wagner

Budget Report as of 4/30/2018

	Budget Needs	Actual Expenses
MONTHLY		
April Budget Needs	\$30,110.80	\$34,257.23
April * GF Contributions		\$36,920.05
Difference	+\$2,662.82	
YEAR TO DATE		
Year to date Budget needs	\$166,351.80	\$142,812.97
Year to Date *GF Contributions 2018		\$173,212.11
Difference	+\$30,399.14	
We have been blessed with some substantial pre paid annual pledges, giving us a solid financial start to the year, which places us ahead of our budget income projection.		
*GR (General Fund)		

Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast

The men will be making and serving breakfast on Mother's Day, **May 13th**. Breakfast will be served between the worship services, starting at **10:00AM**.



Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School is coming up **July 9-13, 12PM - 5PM**. Save the date and tell a friend or family member! Children and Youth, ages 3 through 18 are encouraged to join us for a week of discovering the beauty in a relationship with God! All age groups will be separated for certain activities and a Youth Program will be built upon even more this second year, with opportunities for youth to serve throughout the week. We will also end the week with a parent dinner celebration on **July 13, 5PM - 6PM**.

VBS depends on all the willing volunteers we have each year who want to make His love known. Come serve during one of the most exciting weeks of the summer! No matter what your age, interests, or availability, there are many places to serve each and every day. **We will be having our first volunteer meeting in the Fellowship Hall on Monday, May 14th, 5PM. Contact Tifani at 417-6309 or tvincent@mountainsidemethodist.org to get more information or sign up in the Narthex to volunteer.** Let's work with the Holy Spirit to reach as many kids with the love of Jesus as we possibly can.



It is nearing the end of the school year and MUMC will be having an extended Parent's Night Out for all ages on **May 25th, 5PM to 9PM**. Bring your kids to let loose with their friends and start the summer off right, while you get to enjoy a night off! Children and youth will enjoy movies, games, food, community door prizes every half hour, and a FREE GIFT for everyone who brings a friend. The nursery will be open for the little ones and pizza and drinks will be served at 6PM for all. Parents are welcome to stay as chaperones or leave and have a night out, or in. Please contact Tifani Vincent with questions or to sign up to chaperone.

Summer Youth Room Hours: May 29th – August 7th

Together Tuesdays	12PM – 3PM: Youth Room Open
	3PM – 5PM: Life Skills Class* (varies weekly)
God's Work Wednesdays	9AM – 12PM: Opportunities to Serve
Sanctuary Saturdays	5PM – 7PM: Ignite youth group EVERY WEEK through the summer

*If you would like to teach a 2hr class, please contact Tifani by **June 1st** at 417-6309 or tvincent@mountainsidemethodist.org.

Youth News

Since the turn of the new year, MUMC Youth Ministries has been undergoing a complete makeover. In the next few months, this transformation will be seen through a change in action reverberating throughout Youth Ministries. On **Thursday, May 3rd, 6PM** in the Fellowship Hall, we will be having our first meeting since this organizational shift and we invite every single one of you who has youth in their heart, to join us for a presentation on these changes, as well as to put our heads together to plan the next 4-6 months of ministry opportunities. Keep an eye out for more announcements regarding new opportunities to serve in Youth Ministries.

IGNITE

Calling all Youth, 6th through 12th grade! Join us **5PM – 7PM on the first and third Saturdays of every month** and ignite your passion for Christ with like-minded peers. All youth can bring a friend to join this growing youth group! We start with dinner at 5PM, and enjoy fellowshiping, either adult or youth-led devotionals, and a variety of fun activities. Do you know of a youth who has not attended Ignite yet? Pass the word and let them know about us. Yes, adults are welcome to do a devotional for the youth too! **Contact Tifani today at 505-417-6309 or tvincent@mountainsidemethodist.org for more information** or to sign up to HOST the next Ignite, either with food or your own devotional.



Easter Fun!



Had your head in the sand?!?!
Then, you haven't heard -

Lil' Dribblers Basketball Camp
Week of June 6th & 7th, K-8th Grades

Preregister = \$35* **On-site = \$40**

* includes pizza, Camp Shirt

* Fundamentals, Character, & Fun



Lead Coach:
Former Lobo
Great, Marvin
"Automatic"
Johnson

Contact Coach Salzwedel for more info at
286-1601, 321-2273, or sbratkid@aol.com



Easter Celebration Photos

Photos taken by Dave Berst



Palm Sunday



Easter Sunrise Service



Baptism



MUMC Choir Easter Presentation



United Methodist News

UMCOR allocates \$46 million for disaster recovery

By Linda Bloom

A new round of grants from the United Methodist Committee on Relief — including \$16.8 million to the Methodist Church of Puerto Rico — will build upon the denomination's response to Hurricanes Maria, Irma and Harvey.

Approved April 13 by UMCOR's board of directors, the more than \$46 million in grants also will further assist recovery efforts related to last year's Northern California fires and the historic 2016 flooding in Louisiana.

If you would like to read the whole story, go to:

<http://www.umc.org/news-and-media/umcor-allocates-46-million-for-disaster-recovery>



Volunteers from Chapelwood United Methodist Church in Houston "embody grace" by volunteering in homes flooded by Hurricane Harvey. (From left) Helen Crowe, Mary Fuller, Suzanne Musgrove, Daniel Solis and Dennis Crowe. 2017 file photo by Kathleen Barry, UMNS.

Left:

Lay adult members Emma Tousant of the Evangelical United Brethren and J.P. Zepeda of the Methodist Church shake hands as part of the uniting ceremony that marked the formation of The United Methodist Church in 1968. This moment of celebration was years in the making. Photo courtesy of Archives and History.

Amid Tumult of 1968, a Church Came Together

by Heather Hahn, UMNS

The year 1968 convulsed with assassinations, riots, war in Vietnam and student protests against that war. The Troubles revved up in Northern Ireland, and Soviet tanks rolled into Czechoslovakia.

At a time when it seemed much of the world was violently splitting apart, a group of Wesleyan Christians peacefully and joyfully were coming together.

On April 23, 1968, two bishops followed by two children, two youths, two adults, six ordained ministers, two church officers and finally all 10,000 people present joined hands and repeated in unison: "Lord of the church, we are united in thee, in thy church, and now in The United Methodist Church. Amen."

With those words in a Dallas auditorium, the 750,000-member Evangelical United Brethren Church and the 10.3 million-member Methodist Church became one church. The merger also brought people together in another way: marking the official dissolution of the Methodist Church's racially segregated Central Jurisdiction.

If you would like to read the whole story go online to: <http://www.umc.org/news-and-media/amid-tumult-of-1968-a-church-came-together>





Mountainside United Methodist Church

4 Penny Lane
Cedar Crest, NM 87008

office@mountainsidemethodist.org
www.mountainsidemethodist.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Newsletter Submission Guidelines

If you have an article or photos you would like to submit to the Mountainside United Methodist Church's newsletter, *The Beacon*, please follow these guidelines:

Submit articles as a pdf, Word document, or within the body of an email to office@mountainsidemethodist.org or to the Newsletter Editor at jeanneillustrates@gmail.com.

For photos, please always send separate jpg files attached within the email with each photo titled in this manner: ArticleTitle_MonthYear An example might be FoodBoxes_Jan2018.

The deadline for submission is the **20th of every month**. We are especially interested in Mission oriented messages. Thank you for submitting to the Newsletter.

May Birthdays

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Amy (Miszkiel) Duerre 5-02 | Ira Blackwell 5-21 |
| Janet Vertrees 5-02 | Carolyn Watermiller 5-22 |
| Judy Trever 5-03 | Troy Porter 5-23 |
| Becky West 5-03 | Caden Burke 5-26 |
| Ainsley Shelton 5-05 | Craig Mowrer 5-28 |
| Tim Spears 5-05 | Tomi Taylor 5-28 |
| Dianna West 5-05 | Joshua West 5-28 |
| Ron Dykhuizen 5-06 | Bethany Calderon 5-29 |
| Gene Church 5-08 | Dorothy Pine 5-31 |
| Kathy Ferris 5-08 | Ben Carrillo 5-31 |
| Ralph Amber 5-09 | |
| Bob Mason 5-12 | |
| Linda Rea 5-12 | |
| Sara Church 5-16 | |
| David Broadwater 5-16 | |
| Mike Seay 5-20 | |
| Laurie Anderson 5-20 | |

