Eat a Chip

Persons, places, vistas we have seen

Enjoy the crunch. Eat a chip!

National Potato Chip Day – March 14

National Potato Chip Day celebrates the ever-popular potato chip. Potato chips are America’s #1 snack food, but it’s not just a snack food. It’s the potato of choice for many lunchtime and dinner meals. Regular (or plain) potato chips are by far the most popular. Other popular flavors are barbecue, sour cream & onion, oil & vinegar, and ranch. Potato chips were first made by Chef George Crum in Saratoga Springs, NY on August 24, 1853 and Americans have been in love with them ever since. So have a bag of chips on March 14 and honor the potato chip.
Catherine’s Commentary

Our Easter preparations during the season of Lent conclude with Holy Week. Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday on April 5th. We will observe Maundy Thursday on April 9th with a service at 6:00pm and will do Stations of the Cross at noon on Good Friday, April 10th.

Our Maundy Thursday observance will begin with a Communion service. After the Eucharist, the altar will be stripped, and the blessed sacrament will be processed to the altar of repose in the Parish Hall. A vigil will begin at approximately 7:30pm and will conclude on Friday morning. The Maundy liturgy enacts the events of the evening before the crucifixion as described in St. John’s gospel. The liturgy reminds us of the call to obey the Lord’s new command, to “love one another as I have loved you.” This is also when Jesus instituted the Holy Eucharist and commanded us to “do this in remembrance of me.” The altar is stripped to remind us of how Jesus was stripped when he was crucified, and the blessed sacrament is removed from the church to symbolize our banishment of Jesus to death on the cross.

We participate in an all-night vigil out of our devotion to Jesus when he asked the disciples to

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David’s Column - Hands

When we were born, we started with soft chubby hands and as we grow, they grow with us adding size, strength, scrapes and scares, and character. We use them every day. Depending on what we do in life, our hands change over time. Couples hold hands so they feel as one. Parents hold children’s hands to make them feel safe and secure. Friends and family members hold hands for many caring reasons. Have you ever given much thought to Jesus’ hands? First, they were baby hands. Surely, He sucked his thumb, played in the dirt and clapped his hands as other children did.

As he grew into boyhood, His hands probably played various games with His young friends. Yet by age 12, His hands held the scrolls in the temple—and He astonished the priests.

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Church Council Report
by Ray Stwalley, Chairman

The Grace Church Council met on February 13, 2020 at 10:30 am in Parish Hall. Susan Shampine, Becky Arthur, Judy Epperson and David Erickson were in attendance. The rest of the council was either ill, out of town, or both. Since there wasn’t a quorum present, no decisions were made but many items were discussed.

The financial report was discussed by our new Treasurer, Dorothy Miller, who stated that everything was in order and we were on track for February.

The Annual Council Retreat will be held on Friday, April 17, 2020 and Saturday, April 18, 2020. The Friday session will begin at 5:30 pm with wine and cheese followed by dinner. The Saturday session will begin at 8:00 am with breakfast. The purpose of the retreat is to discuss goals for the church year and ways to implement those goals.

Another item of business was the fees charged for the use of the church facilities by members and outside groups. There hasn’t been a change in the fees in five years and the Council felt that some revisions might be necessary. Suggested fees were for the Parish Hall, Sanctuary, and weddings which would involve the Sanctuary and the Parish Hall. It was also suggested that we set a fee for the Sound Technician, should one be necessary. Judy is going to check into the cost of the utilities for each of these facilities and report at the March Council meeting.

Women’s Sewing Group
by Bonnie Young

YOU’RE INVITED TO JOIN THE WOMEN’S SEWING GROUP.

We were a larger group at one time but have dwindled and need more people if we want to continue our missions. We are a year-round active group working in three areas: Service projects. We have made denim quilts for La Puente in Alamosa, pillow-case dresses for girls in Africa, suitcases for children taken into Child Custody filled with blankets and stuffed animals, touchy-quilts for Alzheimer patients, breast cancer pillows and many more.

Quilts of Valor has been an arm for 14 years. Each year, quilts made by the group have been displayed on the pews during the July 4 Patriotic Concert. They are dedicated, sponsored by members and shipped to service people and veterans touch by war with our gratitude. Of the 194 quilts completed, we have had the pleasure to personally present 5 quilts.

Two yearly craft shows that support Grace Outreach. On July 4, we open the Parish Hall to invite community attending the day’s activities including the parade, to use the facilities, visit the craft show and to eat free cookies and lemonade.

And finally, in December we have our Christmas Bazaar showing off the many items made through the year and our Christmas Candy Store. With the proceeds we support projects at the Pregnancy Center, St. George Episcopal Church in Leadville, disaster relief, Search and Rescue, firefighters and many more.

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He took his apprenticeship at His father Joseph’s carpenter shop. His hands now created boats for anglers some of whom even fished for souls.

He and His father most likely felled trees together from which they used in their carpentry. Jesus’ hands surely felt many splinters as He lifted and dragged just the right wood back to His father’s shop. Overtime His hands became strong and calloused.

He embarked upon His ministry to the world, His reason for leaving heaven and coming to live among us. His hands now touched the eyes of the blind and they saw—Him! His hands lifted up little ones onto his lap and He cradled them. He touched the lepers, “the unclean ones” and the scales fell off!

Yet the tale of Jesus’ hands is not all fine and kind. For the forces of evil determined to break the loving hands of our Savior, where our names are written. His hands bled as He bore the weight of the cross to Golgotha. When the heavy mallet struck blow after blow to set the cross into the earth on that hill, Jesus was already nailed upon it. The force of the cross pushing into the hole caused the large spikes

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pray with him in the garden of Gethsemane. This is the second year we will have the all-night vigil. Comments from last year’s participants were very positive. If you have never participated in the Maundy Vigil, I hope you will consider it this year. A sign-up sheet will be available at the Sunday services during Lent. If you not able to participate in the vigil, we will be collecting plants for the “garden” for the altar of repose and hope you can support us by providing some of your houseplants. They can be dropped off by noon on Thursday and will be available to be picked up after the vigil ends on Friday.

The Stations of the Cross is a re-enactment of the final steps of Jesus from the time he was condemned to death to his burial. Participants travel symbolically through the streets of Jerusalem to Calvary, reflecting on their own personal responsibility in Jesus’ crucifixion. The procession moves around the sanctuary stopping at each station to listen to a part of the story and to pray.

I encourage you to journey with us through the events of Holy Week that lead us to the joys of Easter. The new life of the resurrection is only complete when we do as Jesus asks when he says, “Take up your cross and follow me!”
**David’s Column**
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driven into His hands to tear through His flesh. Those beloved hands with our names written upon His palms, Satan tried to destroy. Jesus hung in agony. Blood oozed from His hands and ran down his body, dripping on the freshly dug soil. Yet he arose—The Victor.

Again, I ask, have you ever really considered the hands of Jesus? Luke 10:20 provides us the promise, “… rejoice because your names are written in heaven.” This because He bore the scars for our sins. Scars He will wear throughout eternity. The hands of Jesus: there is no other touch we need as much.

One day, Jesus’ hands will reach out to welcome us home to heaven. Before that day comes, each of us should use our hands similar to the way Jesus used his; wave to someone, greet someone with a handshake, support someone with a pat on the back, open a door, or carry something. In this season of Lent, we should remember those strong callous hands with nail holes that offer peace and love to us all. Most importantly, we should use our hands to pray for each other so that we feel the touch of His love!

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**Mountain Sky Conference News**

The District Gathering’s 2020 theme has been announced! "Connect the Dots; Tell the Story" District Gathering will be held on March 28 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at various locations. This year we hope to gather as many as possible throughout our entire region through local district gatherings and live video keynote speakers.

The 2020 Trinity District Gathering will be meeting on March 28th at 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the following locations:

- First UMC, Alamosa, Colorado
- SonRise UMC, Pueblo West, Colorado
- First UMC, Rocky Ford, Colorado
- Fort Morgan UMC, Fort Morgan, Colorado
- Burlington UMC, Burlington, Colorado

**Trinity District Contact Information**

Contact - Kathy Jones
Phone - 719-546-1523
Email - trinity@mtnksyumc.org
Women’s Sewing Group
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As you can see, we are not just a sewing group so this is an invitation to anyone who wants to make a difference, who wants to be involved in worthy projects, who wants to serve God in positive ways and who likes camaraderie. We meet on Wednesday at 9:00 am in the church annex. Contact Persons: Martha Bauman, Bonnie Young or Vi Hardy.

WE CAN PUT YOU TO WORK.

Living Gift Market
by Judy Epperson

If you could receive any gift you wished, what would it be? Peace on Earth, an end to hunger, preservation of the environment, education for a child? Heifer International works to make dreams like these a reality every day through gifts from people like us.

There comes a time when your mother has enough sweaters, your children have enough toys, and no one needs another knick-knack to clutter up the house. A different way to honor the people you love is by holding a living Gift Market. Collaborate with others and give your friends, family and community the opportunity to provide meaningful gifts for any occasion.

A Living Gift Market is a chance to reach people in need both near and far. You can change the lives of people you will never meet but dream under the same stars as you do. The dream of having enough food, a chance to support their families and the opportunity to send their children to school. Meanwhile, you dream of less hustle and bustle and a way to connect in the spirit of sharing.

A Living Gift Market can last a few hours, a few days or just 30 minutes. Heifer animals are represented in decorated booths or on tables. Shoppers visit the booths, learn about each animal and select gifts from a list. Payments are processed at a central location and buyers receive honor Continued page 7
Living Gift Market
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cards and envelopes for each purchase of $10.00 or more. Each gift to Heifer International is tax-deductible and all donation envelopes must be postmarked by December 31 so that acknowledgements can be received in time for tax deduction purposes.

The CUCC is holding a Living Gift Market in conjunction with the Lenten Service at the CUCC on March 11, 2020 and the members of Grace Church have been asked to participate. So, come prepared to make purchase at the Market and help a family in need.

A Prayer for Lenten Grace

Loving God,
During the sacred season of Lent, bring me closer to you. Prepare a place in my home and heart for silence and solitude, so that I may re-discover the grace of a prayer-full life.
Help me to fast from those things that threaten the well-being of body and soul and remind me of the grace of simplicity.
Enlarge my heart so that I give to those in need and, in so doing, re-discover the grace of gratitude and generosity.
May this season be a grace-filled time to rekindle my love for and faith in you.
Amen.
Lenten and Holy Week

Lenten Meals
March 4 - Tenebrae – Grace Church
March 11 -Living Gift Market – CUCC
March 18 – Women’s Bible Study – Grace Church
March 25 – CUCC
April 1 – Men’s Bible Study- Grace Church

Holy Week Schedule
April 5, Palm Sunday Service – 9:00 am
April 9 – Maunday Thursday Communion 6:00 pm
April 9 -April 10 – Prayer Vigil – 7:30pm – 7:30 am
April 10 – Good Friday – Stations of the Cross – 12:00 Noon
April 12 Easter Sunday Service 9:00 am

Birthdays and Anniversaries

March Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays
3/2 Chuck Covert
3/11 David Erickson
3/14 Dorothy Miller
3/24 Kurt Miller
3/28 Tom Clark

Anniversaries
3/5 Bob and Maryanne Freed

Grace is an Episcopal-United Methodist Ecumenical Fellowship where people of all Christian faith traditions are finding a spiritual home.

Please send articles and pictures to editor Judy Epperson at eppersonJudy51@gmail.com