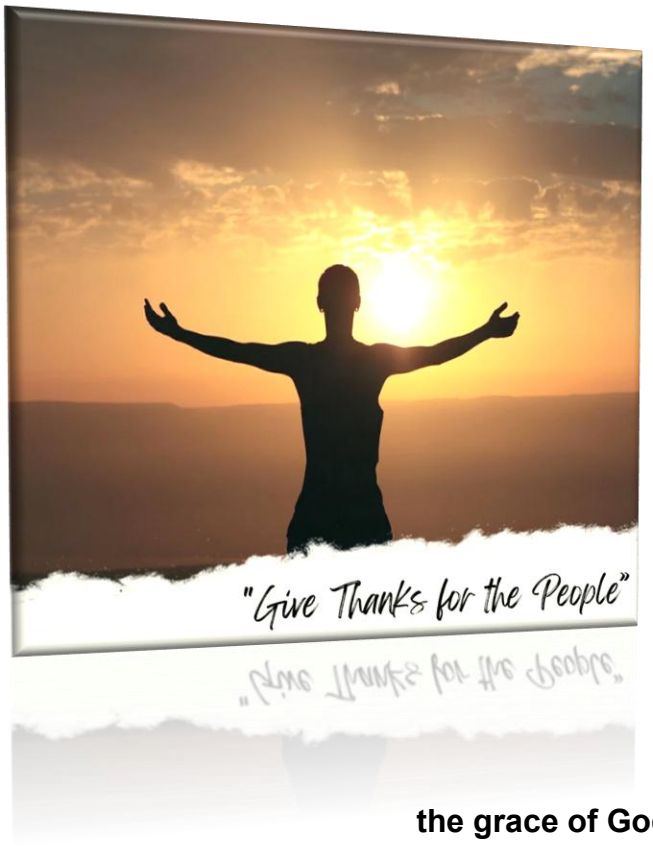
First United
Methodist Church
of Fort Lupton
306 Park Ave., Fort
Lupton, CO 80621
303-857-2257
11.5.26

Staying in Touch

→ First United Methodist Church of Fort Lupton

Email - office@fumc-fortlupton.org
Website - www.fumc-fortlupton.org



Message

"Give Thanks for the People"

Rev. Lee Anderson-Harris

1 Corinthians 1:4-9 (NRSV)
I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.







WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR CHURCH



Safeway cards -available downstairs after worship

Endowments

SAFEWAY

DONATE TO THE CHURCH ONLINE.

KING Soopers

King Soopers Community Rewards Program:
Visit http://www.kingsoopers.com search for First United Methodist Church of Fort Lupton either by name or VY166. Need assistance call church office.

What's Happening

11.6.26	10-4:00 pm	Silent Auction and Bake Sale
11.7.26	10-6:30 pm	Silent Auction and Bake Sale
	5-6:30 pm	Turkey Dinner
11.11.26	6:30 pm	Church Charge Conference
11.15.26	9:00 am	Shoebox Dedication
11.26.26		Office Closed – Happy Thanksgiving
11.21.26	9:00 am	Community Thanksgiving Giveaway
11.28.26	9:00 am	Hanging of the Greens
Mondays		
1st & 3rd	9:00 am	Cup of Hope – small conference room
Wednesdays		
9:30 am	Wednesday Bible Study	
7:00 pm	Choir	
Fridays		
5:30 – 6:30 pm	Youth Group	

We now have a lock on the dumpster. The code is 2011.

Jan. 1 - September 30, 2026 Financial Update	
Income	$ 174,306.96
Expenses	$ 146,997.31
Revenue/(Loss)	$ 27,309.65
*Income includes $9000 interest from Endowment	
* Income includes $30,000 principal from CD	

Administrative Board Meeting Minutes

Click on link for Adminstrative Board Meeting minutes.



Silent Auction & Bake Sale

- Friday 10-4:00 pm
- Saturday 10-4:00 pm

Turkey Dinner
5:00 – 6:30 pm

Chance to Win Quilts
$1 each or 6 for $5


THE ANNUAL
CHURCH/CHARGE
Conference
11.11.26
WEDNESDAY
6:30 PM


Coffee
Tea
Hot Chocolate
Cup of Hope
Facilitated by
Stephen Ministry Group
A Safe Place to Talk.
A Caring Place to Listen.
Life can be difficult sometimes.
We all need a place where we can talk,
be heard, and know that someone cares.
Cup of Hope
is a welcoming and confidential gathering for anyone who would like to share, listen, encourage and support one another.
JOIN US
First and Third Mondays
of Each Month
9:00 AM
Fort Lupton First United Methodist Church
Main Floor Conference Room
All Are Welcome!
You don't need to have all the answers.
You don't need to be a Stephen Minister.
You don't even have to talk.
Come as You Are
Whether you are facing a challenge, going through a season of change, or simply looking for meaningful connection—
you are welcome here.
This is a place to build friendships, share life's ups and downs, and find encouragement in a supportive, caring community of faith.
Come for a cup of coffee or tea, a listening ear and the opportunity to help build a caring ministry within our church and community.
A safe place to talk
A caring place to listen
A place to find support
A place to share hope
Fort Lupton
First United Methodist Church
Together in Faith, Hope and Love

Shoeboxes Available in Cry Room.

Dedication Sunday will be11.15.26.

Community Thanksgiving Giveaway



Our church has been asked to supply 150 boxes of stuffing/dressing for the turkey boxes.

Please bring donations to the church by Thursday, November 19, 2026





Gwen will be working on a new directory. If you want to be included, please complete the form and return it to the church office.

First United Methodist Church Contact Information

Name(s):_____

Household Members (optional):_____

Address:_____

City/State/ZIP:_____

Phone:_____ ☐ Mobile ☐ Home

☐ OK to include in directory ☐ Staff use only

Email:_____ ☐ OK to include in directory ☐ Staff use only

Photo

☐ I will upload/attach a photo

☐ ☐ No photo in directory, please

Celebrations (Optional)

Birthdays:_____

Anniversary:_____

☐ OK to include in newsletter ☐ Staff use only

Interests & Involvement (Optional)

Ministry interests:_____

Skills or gifts I'd like to share:_____

Care & Prayer (Optional)

Prayer requests: ☐ Public prayer list ☐ Pastoral staff only

Privacy & Permission

☐ I give permission for the information I selected to appear in:

☐ Printed directory, (Newsletter – Staying in Touch/Web page)

☐ Please do NOT share my information publicly; staff use only

Signature:_____ Date: _____



Pastor's Page

Scripture: Matthew 7:1-12

Sermon: Robin Riley Nov. 1, 2026

Sermon title: "I see fine with a log in my eye"

I picked this scripture today because I hate it. I can't stand it when someone tells me when I'm doing something wrong, especially when it's God. I try to find the scriptures that make me feel good, like Psalm 23. I can feel sorry for myself. But this one, it's straight trip to humility. Not crazy about that.

Yah, I like to judge people a lot. I judge everyone. I'm driving and see the car in front of me and say to myself, "I wouldn't drive that car. It's inferior. That color, how could anyone like it?"

I've been going to 12-step meetings for it. JA, Judge-acholic anonymous. I've been in recovery for two years. I'm Robin and I'm a judge-acholic. I figure church would be a good place to talk about it, around caring, non-judgmental people like yourselves.

But I keep breaking my sobriety. It only takes one thought and there I am again. I was at a prayer meeting, and couldn't help myself, I was sizing everyone up. Yah, I had them all figured out. I was better than all of them.

My one-month chip was meaningful. Didn't last though. I'm a chronic JA relapser. Am I all alone in this? Any of you ever relapse?

You're probably sizing me right now. "The smart alec minister coming out here to tell us what to think. Who does he think he is? Yah, take the ponderosa out of your own eyeball man!"

It's easier to stew on someone else's bad behavior than see my own failings and deal with my own inner world.

Jesus really screwed that all up. He said we should look at our own moral failings first. He tells all of us to look right into the mirror.

That's a little bit confrontational! I might get self-conscious doing it. Uncomfortable! Besides it means I might have to change myself.

I don't like that. I'm a Christian. Which reminds me, how many Christians does it take to change a lightbulb? None, we hate change.

Think about it. How many people are listening to Jesus words, in our political world? In our business world? on Facebook and social media? It's judge-aholism run amuck!

I get judgmental watching TV. The news is always great for finding things and people to judge.

Let's see, I know nothing about that person, have no idea what's going on in the background. I don't know the context. But that doesn't keep me from finding something wrong with him.

It's almost like the commentators put me on a judgment throne or something.

Social media makes judge-acholic out of all of us. Gives us permission to look down our noses at others. "Did you see that post?" OMG!

I like being judgmental because it makes me feel superior. That warm, fuzzy self-righteousness is just delightful! I feel good about me because I'm not them! So much to be thankful for.

If people would just believe what I believe, everything would be fine.

The problem of course is when I look gleefully down my nose at others, it gets me in trouble. I mean at home. It's easy to judge someone you'll never see again. Or post some nasty comment knowing that person can't get back at you.

But when you live with the person you are judging, then it gets a bit risky. Of course, I'm not talking about my dog. When I judge Mojo, he just sits with a droopy look and acts like he must deserve it.

I'm talking about my wife. Who has a knack for pointing out the log in my eye. "How can you help me see better when your own vision is 2x4?"

Why, I happen to like it there!

My first strategy is to get her into an argument over who's log is bigger, "You're a hypocrite, no you're a hypocrite." Can't win that one. She's already three steps ahead of me.

When I point out my wife's flaws, I put myself in a corner that leads to only one place, a humbling moment. Okay, time to look inside at what's going on.

Eventually I realize it's time for some tree removal. I find my prescription for humility and take a full dose. Once it kicks in, I see things differently. I drop my defenses and soften this space in here. I feel clear headed and peaceful.

Once I've removed the log from my eye, I realize my wife is quite a lovely person and I love her very much. I wonder, how could I have been so judgmental? Reflection sets in. Must be my insecurity, my feeling of inadequacy. Or some Fear.

It's back to JA and my recognition that a power greater than my ego can restore me to sanity.

There may be a few recovering judge-acholics here today. We don't have all of them down in Denver. You could host a group at the church.

JOKE – SPELL LOVE

Jesus has helpful instruction in the second section of this scripture. In verse 7 he says, ask and keep on asking and it will be given to you. Knock and keep on knocking and the door will be opened to you.

Jesus' guidance helps us look at our own worst tendencies and habits. It protects us from the damaging effects of that judgment. I mean the damage to our selves. The condemnation and punishment don't end up with the person we judge. It's like mirror reflecting what's going on in our very own hearts.

The clincher comes with verse 12, "in everything treat others the same way you want them to treat you," He's telling us to see ourselves in those we are judging.

The great television producer, Normal Lear had an interesting take on Jesus' words. Once, when talking about writing and creating characters, he paused and said, "They are parts of who I am. and he looked at the interviewer and said, "I'm just another version of you."

I don't know about you, but I have made a lot of mistakes, done a lot of stupid things. I have even believed things that are just not true. And I was even sure of myself in these beliefs and judgements.

Everybody is doing the best they can with what they have to work with.

I'm hoping he has a little room for mercy and compassion from that person I have wrongly judged. Sometimes it's the guy in the mirror.

Thankfully, all of us have had people in our lives who showed patience and empathy while we were flailing along, lost in our idiocy and self-righteousness.

And the work we do in facing our own flaw is to feel gratitude again. You might even experience a miracle in the form of gratitude you feel for that person in your life who so deserves judgment.

Carl Jung did an insightful study Jesus' three temptations when he was fasting in the dessert for 40-days. Here I want to point to the second temptation; it points out how religious membership can cultivate a particular form of self-righteousness and judgmentalism.

In the temptation Satan took Jesus to the pinnacle of the temple in Jerusalem and told him to throw himself down, to suggest God would protect him. Jesus replied, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test'" (quoting Deuteronomy 6:16). For Jung, the temptation was to take on the role of religious leader that people will follow because of his special spiritual status.

For Christians the temptation is to feel superior to those who are not. Or to feel superior to other Christians. Like being a Christian is a license to be judgmental.

I'm a minister. I have years of religious education, decades of church experience, church work. A Bachelor of Theology. Master of Divinity. Thousands of hours of service and sermons.

No wonder I'm in JA! I have a lot of self-righteousness to deal with! I like to think I know it all. My wife helps me with that.

Jung recognized that this temptation to judge keeps us trapped in ego consciousness, it separates us from God and produces inner torment. Torment because self-righteousness and judgementalism never bring inner peace, only more turmoil. Only more insecurity.

The point is clear, if I want to deal with my judgmentalism, I must turn the focus from judgement to humility; from what's out here to what's in here.

In seeking we find. In knocking we receive. And the fruit of this finding and receiving is grace and gratitude, compassion and empathy. For ourselves and for others. Gratitude dissolves judgmentalism. I find these through meditation.

If you are suffering from judgementalism today, you can go to a meeting. Or you can take the time to examine what is going on inside of you to create your condition. Then, have a piece of humble pie and see, and feel, what's going on inside of you.

As I close, let's say these words to ourselves right now to start a process of recovery from our judgementalism.

God, I admit there is judgement in my heart. I admit I need a higher power to give me the courage to face my inner feelings and hurts. I am willing now to have this condition cleansed so I can see clearly again.

Carol's Corner
By Carol McDermott

Furnace is on, winter coats are out, extra blanket on the bed – here we go! I knew it was coming, just not when. I do enjoy the different seasons; it just takes some getting used to when it all starts! Today there was no need for extra warmth as we had a great church family come together to worship and praise God in word and song. Sue Hubert had the Children's sermon about the passage in Matthew 7:1-2, where Jesus talks about judging others without realizing that we ourselves are in need of judgment, due to our attitudes toward others' behaviors. It was great and the kids contributed a lot also – they got it! The Sanctuary Choir sang a beautiful song, "He is Here in the Breaking of the Bread". The blend of voices and clarity of the words was really special today. Thanks to Marilyn Bangert for her direction! The new ministry, A Cup of Hope is meeting at 9 a.m. on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month. All reports are that it is great.

Pastor Lee is on vacation and asked a colleague, a retired pastor to preach this Sunday since it was a Communion Sunday. Rev. Robin Riley fit in like an old glove. His sermon was titled "I See Fine with a Log in My Eye", based on Matthew 7:1-12. He was entertaining, but would then zing us with a truth to which we could all painfully relate. He talked about picking this scripture passage because he dislikes it! He said he can't stand it when someone tells him he's doing something wrong – especially when it's God! He talked about judging people – everyone – other drivers, including the color of their cars. He said he goes to 12 step meetings for this problem – called JA, "Judge-aholic" anonymous, and thought today would be a good time to talk about it while at a caring, non-judgmental church like FUMC. You get the idea. He could be so funny and then hit us with a truth that hurts. He said Jesus' guidance "helps us look at our own worst tendencies and habits. It protects us from the damaging effects of that judgment". He said the condemnation and punishment doesn't end up with the person(s) we judge, because it's like a mirror reflecting what's going on in our very own hearts. He said thankfully "all of us have had people in our lives who showed patience and empathy while we were flailing along, lost in our idiocy and self-righteousness". He said if I want to deal with my judgementalism, I have to turn the focus from judgment to humility: from what's 'out there' to 'what's in here'. In seeking we find. In knocking we receive. The result of this finding and receiving is grace and gratitude, compassion, and empathy. He said we can take time to examine what's going on inside of us to understand our condition, then have a piece of 'humble pie' to see and feel what's really going on inside.

He closed with this prayer that he invited us to repeat, "God, I admit there is judgment in my heart. I admit I need a higher power to give me the courage to face my inner feelings and hurts. I am willing now to have this condition cleansed so I can see clearly again". What a great sermon with a punch! Thanks Pastor Robin.

Pic to Enjoy



Children's Time with Aunt Sue.

Bringing in the Light of Christ.





Choir preparing is for Communion



Priase Team warming us up.



Youth serving communion.





MASONRY WORK AT THE CHURCH









November Birthdays

Bob Payne	11/02
Jeanie Tiffany	11/05
Penny DeMille	11/05
Brian Bueker	11/06
Colleen O'Neil	11/08
Heather Gross	11/08
Jeff Hood	11/09
Joe Roper	11/09
Marty McDermott	11/10
Braxton Kokoszka	11/11
Nova Cook	11/12
Marcus Bucher	11/17
Kim Turner	11/18
KC Ray Contreras	11/21
Nathan Cummins	11/22
Brenda Wilking	11/23
Levi Marvin	11/23
Shea Goddard	11/26
Jillian Ceretto	11/29
Sean Gross	11/29

November Anniversaries

Bill & Laurie McCartney	11/10
Andy & Robin Anders	11/23

November 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Nov 1 9am Worship Servi 9am Communion 10:15am Adult Sunc	2 9am Cup of Hope 9am Stephens Mini	3	4 9:30am Bible Study 12pm Worship Plan 7pm Choir	5	6 5pm Youth Group	7
8 9am Worship Servi 9am Children's Sur 10:15am Adult Sunc	9 9am Stephens Mini	10	11 Veterans Day 9:30am Bible Study 2 more	12	13 5pm Youth Group	14
15 9am Worship Servi 9am Children's Sur 10:15am Adult Sunc	16 9am Cup of Hope	17	18 9:30am Bible Study 7pm Choir	19	20 5pm Youth Group	21 9am Community Th
22 9am Worship Servi 9am Children's Sur 10:15am Adult Sunc	23 9am Stephens Mini 6pm Mission/Cong 7pm Ad Board Mee	24	25 9:30am Bible Study 7pm Choir	26 Office Closed Thanksgiving Day	27	28 9am Hanging of th
29 9am Worship Servi 9am Children's Sur 10:15am Adult Sunc	30 9am Stephens Mini	Dec 1	2 9:30am Bible Study 12pm Worship Plan 7pm Choir	3	4 5pm Youth Group	5

Click for full calendar

https://fumc-fortlupton.org/calendar/