

First United Methodist Church – Deming

1020 S. Granite Street

Rev. Koreen Guillermo, Pastor

(575) 546-2791

Praise Singing: 8:15 AM
 Morning Worship 9:00 AM
 Bible Studies: 10:15 AM (All Ages)
 Nursery Available

Website: www.fumcdeming.org

Email: main@fumcdeming.org

Check us out on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)

March 2025



Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

-1 Peter 5:6-7

IN THIS ISSUE:

From the Pastor	2
Financials	3
Youth Sunday	3
United Methodist Men	4
Women’s Group	4
Communion	4
Fellowship Time	4
Receipts	4
5th Sunday Potluck	4
Class of 2025	4
VBS	5
Bread Basket	5
Journey Through the OT	6
Ash Wednesday	6
Good Friday Concert	6
Lent	6
Summer Camp	7
McCurdy Ministries	8
Community News	8
Calendar	9



We will be having a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper for our congregation and their guests on Tuesday, March 4, from 4:30 PM to 6 PM. We need to borrow griddles for making the pancakes. We also need volunteers to help cook the pancakes and sausage. If you can help cook or lend us a griddle, please let the office know.

Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world



As most of you know, we just finished a sermon series called *Lessons to a Teenaged Me*. Judging from comments from many of you, it was well received. As with any sermon or sermon series, my hope is that we don't just hear the message, but we also heed the message. And to tell you the truth, that is often hard for me to do as well. I hope you know that I do not pick on any one person or group of people any harder than I pick on myself. I often (always?) feel like I am stepping on my own toes when I preach.

I know our Book of Discipline says that some people are set apart for ministry in the church. Our church education usually echoes this fact. By position, pastors automatically are put in a position of authority. Many times, the church body places even more weight on the pastoral role, and we end up being on some sort of imaginary pedestal. Too often, too many people think that since we are ordained, we have all our stuff together. But I am here to tell you, we don't. Or at least I don't. I am still human. I still have all the frailties that each one of us has, and I often struggle to live in the tension created between trusting God's direction and wanting to do things my way.

The *Lessons to a Teenaged Me* brought out a lot of that struggle for me. What this series became was vastly different than what I envisioned when I was first forming the concept. I did a lot of thinking about what an awkward, shy, non-athletic teenager struggled with in the 1980s (ok...I did a lot of thinking about what I struggled with back then), and I thought I would be addressing those things...things that for the most part I have worked through in the last forty years...things that would be relatively easy to preach for me. Yet as always happens, God had different ideas. God used today's teenagers and their struggles to knock me off that proverbial pedestal.

I have said all of that so I can ask for grace. Grace for me. Grace for you. Grace for each other. Even grace for the stranger. Like you, I am not perfect. There is really nothing about me that warrants life on a pedestal. We are all ministers in God's kingdom. The only difference between me and any other person is how my ministry takes shape. All this to say that every topic we covered over the last month and a half is one that I struggle with almost daily, especially while I am also in graduate school. So, if you see me stressed out or if my perfectionist tendencies are getting in the way of things, have grace. Instead of judging, call me out in love and guide me back to the heart of God. And allow me the same privilege when I see it in you. We need each other for our own benefit and for the benefit of God's kingdom.

Which leads me to a second point. We are all ministers in God's kingdom. It is just that most ministries in the church do not look like pastoral ministry. Your church needs you! We need your gifts and graces. We need your time and your talents. Dwight Moody, the great American evangelist of the 1800s taught that there is a "job" for every person in the church, and every person in his church – which was the largest one in Chicago at the time – was expected to step up and do their job. We have gotten a long way away from that expectation in the years since then. So, what we have ended up with is the same 10% of the church's people doing 90% of the church's work. Frankly, we are all overworked and exhausted. Imagine what our church could do for God's kingdom if we could change those numbers. What would happen if 100% of the people each did even 1% of the work?

Continued on Page 3 →

Continued From Page 2

John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, stated that good works are a natural outpouring of faith and love. James, the brother of Jesus, writes, “*So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.*” (James 2:17, NRSV). I am calling each one of us to deliberately enter into a time of prayer and discernment, for however long it takes. It is way past time to figure out where and how we are called to serve. It is way past time for us to put our faith into action. Your church needs you. I need you. God needs you.

January and February 2025 Financial Report

January

Needed Each Month to Meet Budget:	\$18,182.00
Received in January	\$20,944.70
Difference from Budget for January	\$2,762.70

February

Needed Each Week to Meet Budget:	\$4,196.00
Received Week of February 25 th	\$2,791.40
Difference from Budget for February 25 th	-\$1,404.60

Needed Each Month to Meet Budget:	\$18,182.00
Received in February	\$14,409.09
Difference from Budget for February	-\$3,772.91

Year-To-Date

Budgeted Year-to-Date	\$36,364.00
Received Year-to-Date	\$35,353.79
Difference from Budget Year-to-Date	-\$1,010.21



Mark your calendars! On Sunday, March 30th, our youth will take the lead in a special **Youth Sunday** service. From leading worship and sharing the message to offering prayers, our young members will step forward to serve and inspire. This is a wonderful opportunity to support and encourage the next generation as they grow in faith and leadership. We invite everyone to join us in celebrating their dedication and witnessing how God is working through them. Don't miss

this uplifting and meaningful service!



The United Methodist Men will be meeting this month. Please join them on Sunday, **March 16**, at 7:30 AM in the Memorial Classroom, for a light breakfast and devotional.



The Women's Group will be meeting next on Wednesday, **March 19**. The meeting will be at 2 PM in the Fellowship Hall.



Communion will be held on **March 2**. We will be taking our special **Local Mission Fund** offering. Please mark your checks and envelopes appropriately. Local needs are great. Your generosity brings hope!



In case you didn't know, the church continues to collect Peppers receipts. Peppers gives a percentage of the total amount back to the church as a way to support our church and say thank you for shopping at Peppers. So when you shop, drop off your receipts to us.



Join us after the service on **March 30** for some delicious food and a wonderful time of fellowship.



It's hard to believe how fast this school year has gone! The office is starting to gather names of graduating seniors from our congregation or graduating family members of our congregants, If you have a name to submit, please turn that in to the office by the end of March. We want to recognize all the graduates for their accomplishments throughout their time in school. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.



Food & Fellowship

We are looking for a group to sponsor refreshments for Fellowship Time on the 4th Sunday of each month. If your group is interested, we would greatly appreciate your support! Additionally, we kindly ask for more healthy options each Sunday to accommodate those in our congregation with dietary needs. As always, we invite everyone to join us after the service each Sunday in the Fellowship Hall for refreshments and community time. Thank you for helping make this time meaningful for all!



Saddle up for an exciting two-day Vacation Bible School on **June 25-26!** Planning is already underway, and we need **your help** to make this a wonderful experience for the children in our community.

We are especially in need of a **VBS Director** to help lead the way. If you're interested in volunteering in any capacity, please contact the office or join one of our planning sessions.

Let's work together to share the **Good News** and make this VBS an unforgettable adventure!



Our March Bread Basket offering will be taken on March 16 and will benefit Play Sharity.

Play Sharity Children's Museum and Library is a local non-profit serving the communities of Southern New Mexico. Their Mission is: *Creating A Better World Cared For By Happy Children Who Share*. Through sharing-based projects, Play Sharity helps families and children experience how the charitable act of sharing resources and talents leads to a healthier community. What is "Sharity"? Children who practice charity + sharing (Sharity) will grow to be spectacular adults who lead our world to a more interactive, helpful and kind place.

If you would like to make a donation, please mark the memo line on your check accordingly, or place cash in an envelope and drop in the baskets by the front pews during the final hymn Sunday morning.

Remaining 2025 Bread Baskets

April—Non-Food Commodities

May—Doing His Work

June—FUMC Building Fund

July—Casa de Amor

August—Alas de Amor

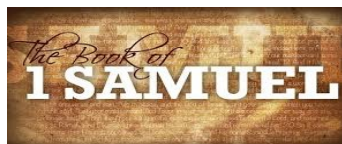
September—UMCOR

October—Doing His Work

November—Non Cancer Support

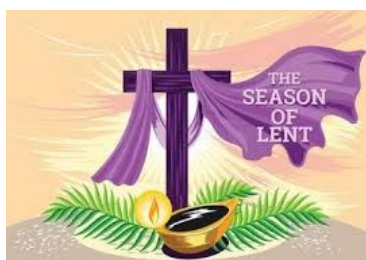
December—2 in 1 Offering

Christmas Eve—TLC



Join us on a Journey Through the Old Testament and rediscover our roots. Let's continue in the Book of 1 Samuel!

3/3 – 1 Samuel 9:1-26	3/10– 1 Samuel 12:1-25
3/5– 1 Samuel 10:1-27	3/12– 1 Samuel 12:1-23
3/7– 1 Samuel 11:1-15	3/14– 1 Samuel 14:1-23
3/17– 1 Samuel 14:24-52	3/24– 1 Samuel 17:1-30
3/19– 1 Samuel 15:1-35	3/26– 1 Samuel 17:31-58
3/21– 1 Samuel 16:1-23	3/28– 1 Samuel 18:1-30
3/31– 1 Samuel 19:1-24	



Lent is a season of reflection, renewal, and repentance. It's a time to pause and draw closer to God by reassessing our lives, shedding distractions, and seeking deeper meaning. As we enter this sacred time, let us remember that it is not just about giving up something, but about making room for God to work in us. It's an invitation to reflect on where we are, where we're going, and how we can love others more fully. In this season of fasting and prayer, may we not only surrender material things but also our pride, fears, and the barriers we put between ourselves and others. Let this Lent be a journey of healing, a time to rediscover God's grace, and a call to grow in compassion, humility, and selflessness. May we emerge from these forty days renewed in our faith and ready to serve with a heart transformed by God's love.



We will be having two different ways for you to observe Ash Wednesday on March 5. Pastor Koreen will once again be offering Drive Thru Ashes in the church parking lot from 10 AM to 12 PM. In the evening at 6 PM, we will observe our traditional Ash Wednesday service in the Sanctuary. We hope to see you as we start our Lenten journey.



As we prepare our hearts for the solemn remembrance of Good Friday, our Chancel Choir is honored to present selections from two moving cantatas during this year's Good Friday Service. This special musical offering will serve as a powerful reflection on Christ's passion, drawing us deeper into the story of His sacrifice and love.

We invite you to join us for this sacred evening of Scripture, song, and reflection on Friday, April 18, at 6 PM. Whether you have been attending our Good Friday services for years or will be joining us for the first time, we pray this time of worship will be a blessing to all who attend. May this service deepen our understanding of Christ's sacrifice and prepare our hearts for the joy of His resurrection.

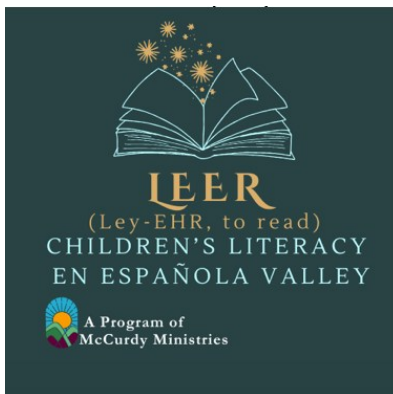
Come and be uplifted by the Chancel Choir's musical ministry as we journey together through this solemn yet hopeful moment in our faith. We look forward to worshipping with you.



Even though we haven't officially made it to Spring yet, it's never too early to be thinking about Summer Camp! Sacramento Camp and Conference Center is once again gearing up for a full summer of camping opportunities. If you are looking for gospel-oriented, discipleship-driven, camp for all ages, then you are at the right place. Once again, the church will be offering

scholarships to help defray part of the cost for camp. Pick up a scholarship form in the office and return it no later than March 30. For more information about the camps being offered this year, you can check out the [Sacramento Website](#), email info@sacramentocamp.org, or call 575-722-2267. Registration is online at <https://bit.ly/SCCCregister>. See below for the list of available camps this summer.

- ⇒ Young Elementary (grades 2-4) June 6-8
- ⇒ Elementary Horse Camp (grades 4-6) June 9-13
- ⇒ Sacramento Youth Camp (Grades 7-Grad) June 16-20
- ⇒ Youth Horse Camp (Grades 7-Grad) June 23-27
- ⇒ Camp Sunshine (mentally challenged ages 16+) June 23-27
- ⇒ Family Camp (families of all ages) June 29-July 4
- ⇒ Older Elementary Camp (grades 4-6) July 7-11
- ⇒ Whoz We R Camp (grades 4-6) July 14-18



McCurdy Ministries has begun a new Children's Literacy Initiative for the Espanola Valley. LEER (leh-EHR, to read), aims to improve children's reading proficiency through access to books and vetted, trained, caring and undergirded adults (Reading Buddies) who read one-on-one with children.

How can you help? Donate books. LEER has a cultivated book list to establish a leveled library available through Amazon. [Click Here](#) And we want your beautiful, gently used children's books.

Your church can come to McCurdy and be a Reading Buddy during Camp Kidspace this summer. LEER's goal is for every child to have a Reading Buddy every day this summer. For more information: Kercida McClain, Director of LEER, 505.753.7221 or Kercida@McCurdy.org.

Send your book donations to **McCurdy Ministries Community Center** 362A S. McCurdy Rd, Espanola, NM 87532.

COMMUNITY NEWS

The March 2025 Exhibit at the Deming Art Center will feature the beautiful creations of the local quilting club- The Quilting B's. On display will be bed-size quilts, along with wall hangings, challenges, dolls, bead art and smaller quilted items. Many will be for sale. This year there will be two quilts that will be raffled off (the raffle will begin on February 1, 2025), and the drawing for the winners will be March 29, at 2PM. A silent auction, which will feature quilts and miscellaneous quilt items, will also be ongoing throughout the month. The items may be bid on, or may be purchased outright. The exhibit will be up from March 2-30, 2025. There will be a time to meet the quilt artists on Sunday, March 2, from 1-2:30PM. Also in March, the Deming Art Center will see the return of the Guatemalan Mercado. Friday, March 28, the Mercado will be open from 10AM – 4PM, and on Saturday, March 29, the hours are 9AM – 3PM. Please come by and take a look. The Gallery is located at 100 S. Gold in Deming, NM, and the hours are 10 AM – 4 PM, Monday thru Friday and 10 AM – 1 PM on Saturdays. For more information please call 575-546-3663, check their [website](#) or see them on [Facebook](#). *This project is supported in part by New Mexico Arts, a division of the Department of Cultural Affairs, and by the National Endowment for the Arts.*

The Deming Luna Senior Center and Ambercare Hospice are hosting a Grief and Loss Support Group that meets the first Tuesday of every month at 1 PM. They meet in the Adult Day Room at the Senior Center. The group is facilitated by Rev. David Bonnell, Ambercare Hospice Chaplain. For additional information you can contact the Senior Center at 575-546-8823 or Rev. Bonnell at 575-694-0238.

Cancer Support of Deming and Luna County is needing volunteers to drive patients to and from appointments. If you think you might be able to help, please call 575-546-4780 or stop by the office at 217 N. Country Club Rd.

The Deming-Luna County Humane Society will once again be hosting their \$10,000 Cash Party on Saturday, March 22. The theme this year is Feline Flamingo Futurity. It will be held at the Special Events Center from 5:30 PM to Midnight. No one under 21 will be admitted. Food will be provided by La Fonda Restaurant, beverages provided by Lazy Lizard Lounge, and music by the Yarbrough Band. Wear your best derby hat and enter the Derby Hat Contest. Bring pet food and laundry supplies to be entered into a special drawing. Tickets are \$125/couple and can be found at various locations in the community. For more information, call 575-546-2024 or 575-546-1566.

Calling all youth! Join us for an exciting **City-Wide Youth Church Bowling Night** at Starmax on **Tuesday, March 4**, from 6 PM to 8 PM. This is a great chance to have fun, meet new friends, and enjoy some friendly competition with youth from churches across the city. Don't miss out—bring your energy and your best bowling game!

The Deming Mineral & Gem Society is sponsoring the 2025 Rockhound Roundup March 6-9. There are activities everyday including field trips. For a complete list of events and times, go to www.thedgmsclub.com/rockhound-roundup.

