



THIS WEEK IN WORSHIP

Senior Pastor, Steve Autrey

Do you remember your first sleepover?

For a child, spending the night away from home for the first time is a big deal. One of my earliest sleepovers was with my friend Mark, who would later earn the nickname “Bubba.” I think we were in second grade, though the exact date doesn’t matter. What matters is how that single night deepened our friendship. Staying with someone does that. It builds bonds that go far beyond a brief visit or casual conversation.

When you stay with someone, life is shared. You eat together, experience ordinary moments together, and—sometimes without realizing it—you begin to feel like family.

I saw that even more clearly when I was four years old. A woman named Jeanette and her son, Stuart, came to stay with my family while Jeanette was going through a painful divorce and had nowhere else to go. What began as temporary housing turned into a lasting relationship. Jeanette became an adopted grandmother to my brothers, and Stuart became as close as a brother to my oldest sibling. Jeanette had a place of honor at my wedding years later (Bubba was my Best Man), and my brother Jeff and I officiated at Jeanette’s funeral a few years ago. Staying with someone changes the relationship forever.

That may help explain a curious moment in John’s Gospel. In [John 1:35–42](#), John the Baptist identifies Jesus as the Messiah. Andrew begins to follow him, and Jesus turns and asks, “What are you looking for?” Andrew doesn’t answer, “The Messiah.” Instead, he asks, “Where are you staying?” Jesus simply replies, “Come and see.”

The relationship begins not with a theological statement, but with an invitation to stay. The Greek word John uses can also be translated “abide.” To stay. To dwell. To share life.

What might it mean that Jesus invites us not just to believe something about him, but to stay with him—to observe, to learn, and to begin a relationship that reshapes everything?

This Sunday, we’ll look closely at the moment that launches Jesus’ ministry and the world-changing friendships that follow. Our text is [John 1:35–42](#), and we’ll explore how abiding with Jesus still has the power to change the course of lives—and history.

I hope you'll join us, in person or online, this Sunday.

Blessings,
Pastor Steve



Contemporary Worship Playlist

Our Contemporary Service meets in the FLC at 9:00am (unless otherwise announced). To hear this Sunday's music early and prepare your hearts, please click the icon below.



January 11, 2026 Worship Attendance

9:00	130
11:00	102
Children	24
Total	256
Average Online Views	60



For questions about giving, please reach out to Cameron Wilson at finance@denverumc.org.
We appreciate your generosity and support!

2025 GIVING STATEMENTS

2025 giving statements will be emailed to you no later than Saturday, January 31, 2026.
Please make sure to update your email address in Elexio
at <https://denverumc.elexiochms.com/user/login>.

If you'd rather have your giving statement mailed to you, or if you have any trouble getting signed into Elexio, please email Cameron Wilson at finance@denverumc.org. Thank you!

[Give Now](#)

6 for '26

We are well into 2026, and we invite you to be part of our 6 for '26 campaign.

What is *6 for '26*? It's a simple, shared commitment. We're asking each person who calls DUMC home to consider giving an additional \$6 per week through the remainder of the year.

If you are already a faithful giver—thank you. Your generosity sustains our ministry, and we are deeply grateful. If you're able, please consider adding just \$6 per week to your regular offering.

If you haven't given before, *6 for '26* is an easy and meaningful place to start. It's a small step that allows you to participate in the work of Christ through our church and begin actively stewarding the gifts God has entrusted to you.

Here's the remarkable part: if we do this together, those \$6 commitments add up to approximately \$130,000 in additional ministry funding for 2026—resources that will directly support worship, mission, outreach, and care in our community.

Small gifts, shared faithfully, can make a powerful difference. Thank you for prayerfully considering how you might be part of *6 for '26*.



For information about upcoming events, go to <https://www.denverumc.org/events>

Upcoming Events

1/18 3pm | **MLK Commemoration at Unity Presbyterian** | 704.483.5266

1/18 4pm | **Prayer Shawl Ministry** | shawnwyatteudy52@gmail.com

1/19 **MLK Day/Church Office Closed** | news@denverumc.org

1/21 **Staff Planning Day/Church Office Closed** | news@denverumc.org

1/21 5:30pm | **Table Talk** | discipleship@denverumc.org

1/21 6:45pm | **Leadership Discipleship Experience** | discipleship@denverumc.org

2/2 10:30am | **Helping Hands Meeting** | helpinghandsdenvernc@gmail.com

2/4 9:30am | **Chicken Pickin'** | denzilmbell@gmail.com

2/5 10am | **Prayer Team** | prayers@denverumc.org

2/5 11am | **First Thursday Lunch** | denzilmbell@gmail.com

2/6 7pm | **Father Daughter Dance** | discipleship@denverumc.org

2/12 11am | **J.O.Y. Group Meeting** | rosannekocher@gmail.com

2/15 4pm | **Prayer Shawl Ministry** | shawnwyatteudy52@gmail.com

2/18 7pm | **Ash Wednesday Service** | worship@denverumc.org



Events Calendar



Scan to Give



LIFE AT DUMC

things to know, celebrate, & look forward to!



Christian Condolences

Please continue to be in prayer for the family of Kathy Jordan (husband Jeff), who died at home under hospice care on December 31, 2025. A celebration of life service will be held this Saturday, January 17th, at 2:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center. The family will host a reception in the CORC following the service. Memorials can be made to

<https://presby.supportnovanhealth.org/campaign/756763/donate>

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

1.19.26



Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

The DUMC office will be closed on Monday, January 19, in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Did you know that MLK Day is celebrated as MLK Day of Service? If you are looking for ways to make this day more meaningful, visit <https://thekingcenter.org/2026-mlk-day-service-project/>

Unity Presbyterian will also be hosting a commemoration celebration of Dr. King on Sunday, January 18, at 3:00. See below for more information.



Staff Planning Day, January 21

The DUMC office will be closed on Wednesday, January 21, as we plan for the coming months. The office will reopen on Thursday. We appreciate your understanding and are excited to see what God has planned for us!



2026 Father-Daughter Valentine's Gala

It's that time of year again when we look forward to treating our daughters like princesses. [Ticket registration](#) is now open. For more information on this year's gala, click [here](#).

Father Daughter Gala Valentine's Basket Auction

We are once again offering a Silent Auction to allow dads the opportunity to purchase Valentine's gifts for loved ones. Proceeds will benefit our ministry partner, Operation Smile Home for Children, in Trinidad. Please email carol.brown@denverumc.org to support this ministry by donating a Valentine's Basket for this Auction.

All the details are available at the link above, and we look forward to making this the best year yet!



Table Talk and Wednesday Night Classes

Take a midweek break and join us for Wednesday night dinner, Table Talk, in the FLC from 5:30-6:30 pm for 10 weeks! Enjoy a delicious meal, great conversation, and meaningful fellowship with your church family. This is a perfect time to connect, share, and grow together. Bring your appetite and your heart—there's a seat at the table just for you!

Dinner:

- \$5 per person
- \$20 max per family

Following dinner, stay for one of our two classes, [The Leadership Discipleship Experience](#), or a study of [Matthew's](#)

Menus:

1/21 - baked ham, green beans, potatoes

1/28 - spaghetti, salad bar, garlic bread



Thank You!

Thank you for spreading Christmas cheer by filling the Goodie bags all the way to the top. They were received with great joy, and all of the items were greatly appreciated.

Thank you to all the Christmas Carolers who delivered your blessings of love.



OUTREACH

unleashing compassion

Helping Hands

building community through service

Helping Hands Local Outreach Opportunities

Find ways to serve our neighbors through the many ministries and partnerships of Helping Hands! Click [here](#) for the January HandUp Newsletter for current needs and opportunities. Contact [Helping Hands](#) with questions.

Helping Hands

building community through service

Charlie Blackburn Memorial Golf Tournament

Helping Hands Golf Tournament - April 27th!

Registration is open to anyone wanting to sponsor and/or participate in the annual Charlie Blackburn Memorial Golf Tournament at Verdict Ridge Golf and Country Club! All proceeds benefit the many ministries and partners of our Helping Hands Community Service Group. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

New Golf Planning Team members are also needed. Email helpinghandsgolftournament@gmail.com with questions.



DISCIPLESHIP

Small Groups, Bible Studies, & Connection Groups

Discipleship Opportunities

Sunday Small Group/Sunday School hour is 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Click [HERE](#) for specific **Sunday school classes, weekday Bible studies, Wednesday night, and small group** offerings with locations, descriptions, and contact information.

Email David Washco with any questions at discipleship@denverumc.org



Sunday Morning Study Opportunity Beginning Jan. 18 Sundays, 10:00 a.m. in the CORC

Have you ever wondered what it means to be a United Methodist? What do we believe? What is our theology, and where did this denomination come from? The Open Circle class will begin exploring these questions on January 18. Everyone is invited to join this time as Pastor Steve leads the conversation. The time starts on Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. in the CORC (old fellowship hall), with a time of fellowship, followed by teaching from 10:10 a.m. until 10:50 a.m. If you are new to DUMC and looking to get connected with others, this is a great way to meet new people and learn about the church. No need to sign up, simply show up!



Leadership Discipleship Experience #4 Wednesdays, 6:45 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. in the CORC

The Leadership Discipleship Experience is a ten-week journey designed to move beyond surface-level faith and into deep, life-changing transformation. Over the course of this experience, you will

- Discover your God-given purpose
- Learn how to clearly hear and discern God's voice
- Identify and use your spiritual gifts to serve alongside others in community

Click [here](#) for more information and [here](#) to register.

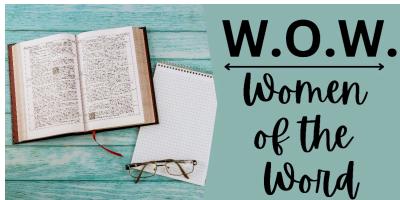


The Gospel of Matthew

Wednesdays, 6:45 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. in the Chapel

This study of the Gospel of Matthew, taught by Pastor Steve, is designed to engage participants in conversation, allowing us to learn from one another. Please bring your Bible and an inquiring mind as we seek to discern how God is speaking to us today through Holy Scripture.

One note: For those who feel like they do not know the Bible well enough to come to an open study, please do not shy away. The point is for everyone to learn together, regardless of biblical knowledge!



Wednesday Bible Study

The WOW Bible study has a new study on Acts and will be led by Michell Turner. All are welcome, and they meet Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel. Any questions, contact Rachelle Roberts at Orachelle@hotmail.com.



Men's Alliance - Sunday Nights!

Sunday nights | 6:00 p.m. | Rain or Shine
Join us for a rugged workout and real devotion.
For more information, [email Caleb Hendren](#).

Women's Alliance - Wednesday Nights!

Wednesday nights | 7:00 p.m. | Rain or shine
For more information, reach out to Shelby Hobbs at shobbs0623@gmail.com. All women are invited!



HARBOR YOUTH

DUMC's 6-12th grade ministry



be like
JESUS
EPHESIANS 5:1

[Click to sign up for Harbor Youth updates!](#)

[Follow Harbor Youth on Instagram!](#)

January

Jan 11
Youth Kickoff Party

February

Feb 6
Father Daughter
Gala
Feb 14
Valentines Day

March

March 8
Daylight Savings
March 17
St. Patricks Day
March 29
No Youth
March 29
Palm Sunday

April

April 4
Daylight Savings
April 5
Easter Sunday
April 5
No Youth
April 12
No Youth



Sign Up to Help With Sunday Night Meals!

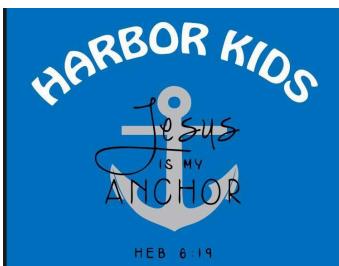
Dinner is getting a fresh spin to become an elevated concession-style. We'd love for friends & parents to be part of the evening by sponsoring a meal and/or helping run the concession stand. While you're absolutely welcome to, **there is NO cooking required**— you can choose to just serve snacks and drinks, and we'd love if you'd bring along a dessert to share! You can scan the QR or click the button below to sign up to sponsor a youth meal!

[Sponsor a Youth Meal](#)



HARBOR KIDS

DUMC's birth - 5th grade ministry



We are committed to helping your child grow in every aspect of their relationship with Jesus Christ and knowledge of His Word. Thank you for your support and prayer!

Harbor Kids is open every Sunday 8:45 a.m. - noon!

We have programs at 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. and at 10:00 a.m., join us for hands-on activities to help serve our community!

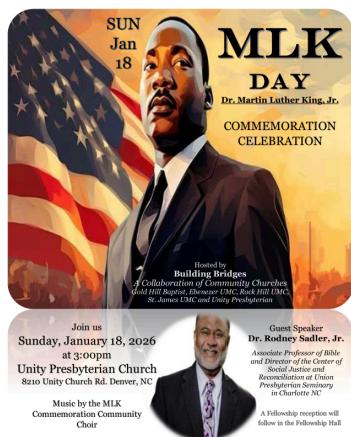
Click to sign up for updates from Harbor Kids!

Follow Harbor Kids on Instagram!



IN THE COMMUNITY

what's happening around town



MLK Commemoration Celebration

Unity Presbyterian is partnering with five historically African American churches to host an MLK service on Sunday, January 18 at 3:00 p.m. All DUMC members are invited to attend. This is the only MLK service in the eastern part of Lincoln County. Click on the flyer for more information. Our speaker will be Rev. Dr. Rodney Sadler, professor at Union Theological Seminary.

Staff Connections

Click [here](#) to connect with our staff.

Visit our website at www.denverumc.org for the latest information



Denver United Methodist Church | 3910 N Hwy 16 PO Box 661 | Denver, NC 28037 US

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