

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](#)

February 2026



We Love Because He First Loved Us.

-1 John 4:19

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We will be hosting a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper for our congregation and their guests on Tuesday, **February 17**, from **5:00 to 7:00 p.m.** To prepare for this event, we are in need of griddles for cooking pancakes, as well as volunteers to help prepare and serve the pancakes and sausage. If you are able to lend a griddle or assist with cooking, please contact the church office.

The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, *love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously* in local communities and worldwide connections.



Pastor Koreen is out of town. Here is a Blog Post from her from January of 2022 titled *Is Worship For Me Or God.*

It's been a long time since I was here, because life happens. We have been dealing with medical issues at my house since last spring. We finally seem to be on the downhill side of that. Thank you, Jesus! So now it is time to start working on all of those extra things again. This blog is one of those extra things. I make no promises, but I hope to have a fairly frequent and regular appearance here.

I guess a good place to start, since I have nothing better to say at the moment, is with the topic of my sermon last week. The sermon was based on the words of Nehemiah 8:1-10 and the subject was worship. I have received a lot of comments on it. I don't think that it is any secret that most mainline Christian denominations are declining in the United States these days. I'm pretty sure the same can be said for much of the world, but I am not up on those statistics. It has made me, and a lot of folks a whole lot smarter than me, ask the question "why?" To date, there is not a really good, broad-based answer. If there was, I think a lot of churches would be flourishing where they are not and some people, again those who are a whole lot smarter than me, would be more than a little bit wealthy.

Of course I don't know the "answer." However, it is probably true that there are a lot of reasons. One of those, I think, is that we have forgotten – or perhaps were never taught – what worship is supposed to be about. Somewhere along the line we forgot that worship is supposed to be all about God. Somewhere along that same line, a lot of someones decided that worship needed to be about entertaining the congregation. In my opinion, that is where we have gone wrong.

Don't misunderstand me, entertaining worship has a place. It is one thing that attracts people and makes them come through the church doors to begin with. But when content and context are sacrificed in the name of entertainment, then I have a problem with it. Worship should be about giving our thanks to God for God's provision of our needs and for God's grace and mercy that are always forgiving our sins and our mistakes. It should be about coming to learn God's Word as contained in Scripture, to recognize where we are falling short of that, and to be convicted toward becoming more like Jesus Christ everyday. Worship should be about having our internal tanks filled with God's love so that we are refueled, refreshed, renewed, and ready to leave the church building and go to work for God's kingdom. For those of you who are reading this and are not schooled in the "words of the church," that means we are supposed to go be like Jesus Christ in our communities and beyond. We are supposed to love people and care for their needs. At the same time, we are supposed to help people to recognize the sin in their own lives for themselves (without judgment and condemnation on our part), to make changes, and to learn and grow from their mistakes. Because believe me, everyone – and I mean EVERYONE – has sinned and made mistakes. We can entertain the masses, but there must be a healthy dose of all the other parts as well.

The problem with worship is that everyone who gathers is different. What works to refuel, refresh, and renew one person in worship will likely be off-putting to someone else. That is one reason why a worship service has so many different parts and pieces. What you absolutely hate in your weekly worship service is the one thing that speaks to someone else's heart and vice versa. It

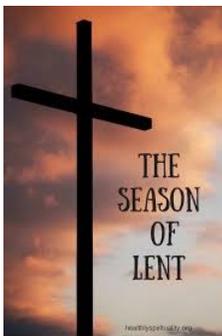
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is why worship looks different at different times and different places. Remember this the next time you want to complain that something in the service isn't working for you. Worship is not about you and your entertainment. It is about God and our response to the things God has done and continues to do. When we come to church on Sunday morning, or Wednesday evening, or whatever day of the week we worship, we should be there solely for those reasons listed above. We should be there to give thanks to God and to worship God's name. We should be there to learn and grow. We should be there to expect to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

This leads me to a few of questions that I asked in my sermon on Sunday: When is the last time that we were excited to read Scripture just to find God there instead of just quickly breezing through today's devotional because it is on the calendar? When was the last time we looked forward to coming to worship so we could be moved and surprised by the Holy Spirit instead of socializing with our friends? When was the last time we approached God like we were going to the biggest and best party of the year? And this leaves me pause to ask a couple more questions. Why are we in worship in the first place? Is it just for us, or is it for God? These are questions that we all need to answer for ourselves, and yes, that includes me.

So, let's ask the questions. If the answer points to anything other than worshipping God for who God is and what God does it may be time for a change of heart and attitude. This week why don't we try coming to worship just to worship. Let's try coming with hands raised and faces bowed before the Lord. Let's try coming with joy and an eagerness to encounter the Holy Spirit at work in our midst. Let's turn our focus toward God and away from ourselves and see what happens. I think we will all be pleasantly surprised.

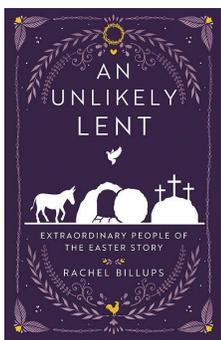


As the season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (Feb 18), we are invited into a sacred time of reflection, repentance, and renewal. Lent is a forty-day journey that leads us toward Easter, offering us the opportunity to slow down, examine our hearts, and listen more closely for God's voice in our daily lives.

This season is not meant to be a burden, but a gift. Through prayer, fasting, generosity, and acts of compassion, we intentionally make space for God to work within us. Some choose to give something up as a reminder of Christ's sacrifice, while others take something on—such as daily Scripture reading, intentional prayer, serving others, or practicing gratitude. Whatever discipline we choose, the purpose is the same: to deepen our relationship with God and to grow in faith.

Lent also calls us to honesty and humility, reminding us of our need for grace and forgiveness. It is a time to turn away from distractions that pull us from God and to refocus on what truly matters. As we walk this journey together as a church family, we encourage one another through worship, study, and service, preparing our hearts for the joy and hope of Easter.

May this Lenten season be a meaningful time of spiritual growth, renewal, and transformation for each of us, as we walk together toward the promise of resurrection and new life.



Pastor Koreen will facilitate a Lenten Study utilizing the book *An Unlikely Event: Extraordinary People of the Easter Story* by Rachel Billups. The study is will start on **February 25** and will be held every Wednesday through April 1 (dates are 2/25, 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25, 4/1). Copies of the book are available for purchase at the church office for \$16. Couples are welcome to share a book if they wish.



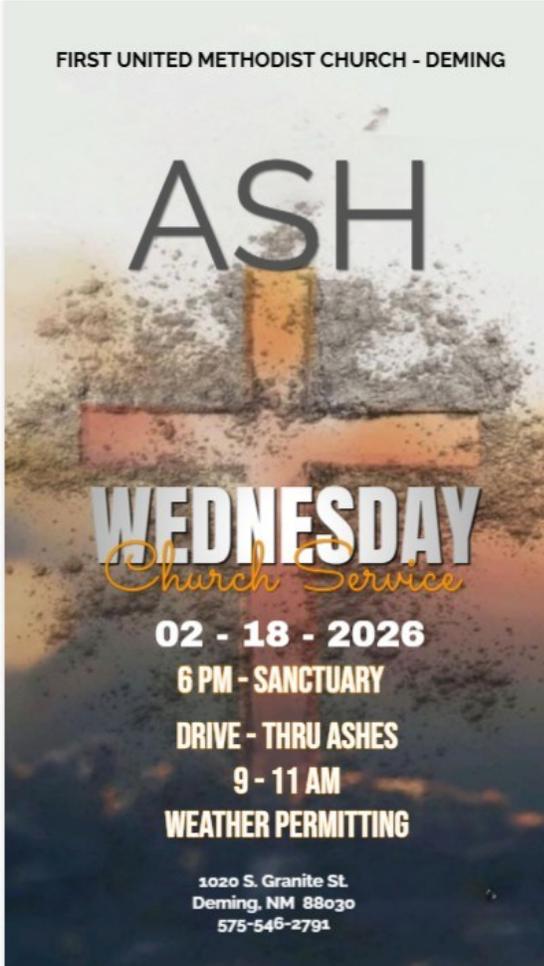
MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- February 17**—Fat Tuesday
Pancake Supper
- February 18**—Ash Wednesday
- March 29**—Palm Sunday
- April 2**—Maundy Thursday
- April 3**—Good Friday
- April 5**—Easter Sunday

Watch for more information in the upcoming newsletters and bulletins.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - DEMING

ASH



WEDNESDAY

Church Service

02 - 18 - 2026
6 PM - SANCTUARY
DRIVE - THRU ASHES
9 - 11 AM
WEATHER PERMITTING

1020 S. Granite St.
 Deming, NM 88030
 575-546-2791

If the weather is cold and windy, you may drive up to the door by the office and honk your horn. Pastor Koreen will come out for the imposition of the ashes.



8:15 AM to 8:45 AM
Sunday Mornings
In the Sanctuary



The Men's Group will be meeting this month. Please join them on Sunday, **February 15**, at 7:30 AM in the Memorial Classroom.



The Women's Group will be meeting this month on Wednesday, **February 25**.

The meeting will begin at 2 PM in the Fellowship Hall



Communion will be held on **February 1**. 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! For those not aware, 10% of this special offering goes to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund with the balance paid to TLC.



During the Vacation Bible School (VBS) kickoff planning meeting in January, we determined that there was insufficient support to organize our traditional VBS this year. As a result, VBS will not take place at this time. If an individual is interested in chairing the committee, we may reconsider holding VBS in the future.



Our February Bread Basket offering will be taken on **February 15** and will benefit Doing His Work.

Doing His Work serves as the missions division of the church, responsible for extending outreach efforts within the community and beyond. This committee allocates resources to specific initiatives, such as Silver Linings, and also supports other church committees in their community engagement activities. Contributions received this month will enable Doing His Work to sustain and expand its outreach and support efforts.

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 basket during the final hymn Sunday morning.

Remaining 2026 Bread Baskets

March—Play Sharity

April—Non-Food Commodities

May—Cancer Support of Deming/Luna County

June—FUMC Building Fund

July—Silver Linings

August—Alas de Amor

September—UMCOR

October—Doing His Work

November—Non-Cancer Support

December—Transforming Luna County (TLC)

Christmas Eve—Cancer Support of Deming/Luna County

Heater Fund Drive

Now that colder weather has arrived, we've managed to get all our heating systems working except for the unit serving the East side of the sanctuary, which needs replacement. The west side unit has been able to make up for this loss so far. Since the new unit will cost nearly \$30,000, we're launching a capital campaign to raise money for it. We anticipate this process will take 18 to 24 months. We kindly ask you to consider donating to the fund as you're able—if you have some extra money one week, simply place it in an envelope marked “heater campaign” and drop it in the offering plate. In the fellowship hall, you'll find a thermometer that tracks our fundraising progress, letting you see how close we are to reaching our goal. Thank you for your support.



First United Methodist Church has a longstanding commitment to addressing food insecurity within the community. Over recent years, the nature of these efforts has evolved alongside changes in the congregation's composition. The women's group has officially disaffiliated from United Women of Faith (formerly United Methodist Women) and has chosen to dedicate its mission to supporting

community nutrition initiatives. The initial phase involves distributing blessing bags containing non-perishable food items, socks, and other essential goods. This outreach is designed to expand over time to include the provision of sack lunches and, eventually, monthly hot meals on Sundays for residents of Deming experiencing food insecurity. Further information regarding this ministry and opportunities for involvement will be provided in the near future.



Join us on a Journey Through the Old Testament and rediscover our roots. Let's continue in the book of 2 Chronicles.

2/2 – 2 Chronicles 5:1-14
 2/4 – 2 Chronicles 6:1-21
 2/6 – 2 Chronicles 6:22-42

2/9 – 2 Chronicles 7:1-22
 2/11 – 2 Chronicles 8:1-18
 2/13 – 2 Chronicles 9:1-31

2/16 – 2 Chronicles 10:1-19
 2/18 – 2 Chronicles 11:1-23
 2/20 – 2 Chronicles 12:1-16

2/23 – 2 Chronicles 13:1-22
 2/25 – 2 Chronicles 14:1-15
 2/27 – 2 Chronicles 15:1-19



February is American Heart Month—a time set aside to raise awareness about heart health and encourage all of us to take simple, meaningful steps to care for our hearts. Heart disease remains one of the leading causes of death in the United States, but many risk factors can be reduced through healthy



choices like staying active, eating well, managing stress, and keeping up with regular checkups. American Heart Month is a reminder that caring for our hearts is an act of stewardship—for ourselves and for those who love and depend on us. Whether it's choosing to move a little more each day, sharing a healthy meal with family, or checking in on someone who may need encouragement, even small actions can make a big difference. This February, let's commit to learning, living, and loving in ways that support strong and healthy hearts. National Wear Red Day® is the first Friday in February. (**Feb 6**) Wear red and encourage others to do the same. Help raise awareness that heart disease is the leading cause of death in the U.S. and largely preventable.



FEBRUARY 14
National Donor Day

National Donor Day, observed annually on **February 14**, is dedicated to promoting awareness and education regarding organ, eye, and tissue donation. Through the dissemination of the Donate Life message, individuals are encouraged to make informed decisions that contribute to saving and enhancing lives, while also honoring the legacy of generosity demonstrated by donors. This observance encompasses all types of donations, including

organ, eye, tissue, blood, platelets, and marrow. Participation may include attending local events, sharing information through social media channels, and encouraging others to register as donors. For additional details about organ donation or for registration information, please visit [this link](#).

COMMUNITY NEWS

February 2026, at the Deming Art Center will feature Deming native Joseph Chavez. Recognized internationally for his sacred art, Joseph Chavez has also documented historical events that have seldom received exposure. The One Man Show, will depict various native tribes of the Americas that have shaped the world's history. From the Aztec Empire and the cultivation of corn and tomatoes to the Navajo development of pain relievers, and antiseptics to the development of the syringe by Lakota Sioux. This exhibit will fascinate the viewer with credit given to numerous tribes throughout the Americas. The exhibit will be on display from February 3-27. There will be a time to meet the artist on Sunday, **February 8**, from **1-2:30PM**. 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 invite you to a Grief and Loss Support Group, offering a safe space for comfort and healing. It meets the First Tuesday of every month at 1:00 PM, in the Adult Day Room at the Deming Luna Senior Center, 800 S Granite St. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at 575-546-8823. You are not alone—support is here for you.

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.

Empty Bowl Fundraiser

Order Your Luncheon Tickets

Call to Order:
Call 575-544-2512 and ask for Margaret.
After hours, please leave a voicemail.

In-Person Purchase:
Visit Reader's Cove Bookstore
Tuesday-Saturday | 11:00 – 5:00 PM

Purchase online:
www.DemingSilverLinings.org



Help Fight Hunger

When: Saturday - February 28, 2026
Time: 11:30 - 1:00pm
Where: 119 W. Maple St., Deming
First Christian Church Fellowship Hall

Tickets are \$25 per person



February 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Communion 8:15A Praise Singing 9A Worship 10:15A Sunday School 10:30 Because Somebody Prayed 4th Sunday after Epiphany	5:30P Chancel Choir	7A Bible Study at Peppers 9A Pickleball 1P Grief Support Group @ Senior Center	10A Prayer Group 2P Coffee, Chat, and Craft	9A Pickleball		9A Pickleball
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
8:15A Praise Singing 9A Worship 10:15A Sunday School 10:30A Because Somebody Prayed 1P Meet the Artists 5th Sunday after Epiphany	5:30P Chancel Choir	7A Bible Study at Peppers 9A Pickleball	10A Prayer Group 2P Coffee, Chat, and Craft 2P Luna County Commissioners Mtg	9A Pickleball		9A Pickleball
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Bread Basket 7:30A Men's Group 8:15A Praise Singing 9A Worship 10:15A Sunday School 10:30A Because Somebody Prayed Transfiguration Sunday	12P Leadership Board 5:30P Chancel Choir	7A Bible Study at Peppers 9A Pickleball 5P Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 5:30P Deming City Council	9A Drive Through Ashes 10A Prayer Group 2P Coffee, Chat, and Craft 6P Ash Wednesday Service	9A Pickleball		9A Pickleball
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
8:15A Praise Singing 9A Worship 10:15A Sunday School 10:30A Because Somebody Prayed 1st Sunday in Lent	5:30P Chancel Choir	7A Bible Study at Peppers 9A Pickleball 12:15P Worship Committee	10A Prayer Group 2P Women's Group 3P Coffee, Chat, and Craft 6P Lenten Study	9A Pickleball		9A Pickleball 11:30A Empty Bowl Fundraiser @ First Christian Church
1	2	3	4	5	6	7