



THIS WEEK IN WORSHIP

Senior Pastor, Steve Autrey

Last Sunday, my transition was announced, and since then, I've felt a whirlwind of emotions. I'm saddened to leave, excited about the new calling God has placed before me, and immensely grateful for the love, support, and shared ministry we've experienced over these past ten years. Serving as your Senior Pastor has truly been one of the greatest honors of my life.

As I prepare to say my final goodbyes in the coming six weeks (my last Sunday preaching will be June 14), I find myself reflecting not only on our shared journey but also on what lies ahead for Denver UMC. I love this church deeply, and I am committed to ensuring that this transition is not merely something we endure but a process we navigate with faith, thoughtfulness, and a profound trust in God's guidance. I am genuinely excited for you as you prepare to welcome your next Senior Pastor, Rev. David Hiatt, and for all the ways God will work in and through you in this new chapter.

To guide us during this season, the upcoming six weeks of messages will center on a simple yet foundational truth: God leads us into the next chapter. Throughout Scripture, particularly in times of transition, we are reminded that while leaders come and go, God remains constant, ever-present, active, and faithful.

This Sunday, we kick off with [Exodus 13:17-22](#), where God leads the Israelites in a surprising manner, not by the quickest or easiest route, but through the path that keeps them moving forward. This serves as a powerful reminder that in times of change, the essential question is not just "Where are we going?" but "Who is leading us?" The comforting news is that God does not abandon His people in these transitional seasons. God goes before us, stays with us, and leads us into what comes next.

I hope you will join us for worship as we embark on this important journey together. These weeks will be meaningful for all of us, and I look forward to walking through them with you.

Blessings,

Pastor Steve

Faith, Finances, Fresh Start

2026
\$6 FOR

A Faithful Step

Give \$6 per week throughout 2026

Start your \$6 for '26 journey today!

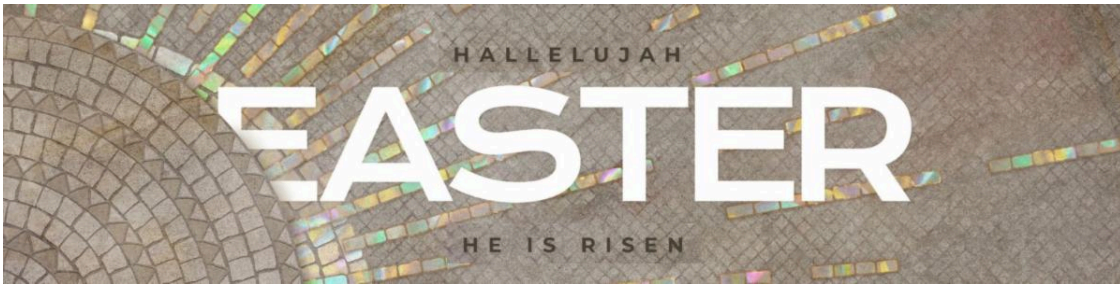
God's Guide to Financial Freedom

I want to remind everyone about our 6-for-26 campaign. This initiative is crucial for our church's future, as it calls for an additional \$6 per week commitment to our church budget. By participating, we can not only meet our operating obligations but also significantly support the vital work of ministry at DUMC. Together, let's strengthen our community and ensure that we can continue to thrive and serve effectively. **Your contribution matters!**



WORSHIP

join us in praising our Lord



Just coming through the miraculous Resurrection Sunday, it's important to remember the season of Easter continues! With that in mind, the Contemporary Service will feature a new song each week that reminds of Christ's ultimate sacrifice for all.

Click [here](#) to listen to this Sunday's Easter-focused song!



There are lots of special Sundays coming up in worship at Denver UMC. Below is a snapshot of April/May's schedule so you can plan to attend!:

May 17th: Graduation Sunday (*regular service times!*)

May 24th: Rock Springs 'Connected' Community Worship
(10:00 am at Rock Springs-no service at DUMC!)

May 31st: Blended Service/Confirmation Sunday (10:00 am in Sanctuary)

Please make note of the changes in our worship schedule and plan to join together as His children, lifting one voice to our triumphant King!

April 16, 2026 Combined Worship Attendance	
10:00	215
Children	0
Total	215
Average Online Views	89



GIVING REPORT

updated financial news

Ministry Operations

DONATIONS RECEIVED FOR THIS FUND GO TOWARDS MINISTRY AND OUTREACH, IN ADDITION TO ALL NECESSARY STAFFING AND OPERATING EXPENSES FOR HOSTING WORSHIP SERVICES AND MAINTAINING OUR CHURCH GROUNDS AND BUILDINGS.

BUDGET INCOME EXPECTED TO DATE: \$411,713
ACTUAL INCOME RECEIVED TO DATE: \$388,573

2026
MINISTRY OPERATIONS ANNUAL BUDGET: \$1,382,987

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

Give Now

CALENDAR

we'll see you there!

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 3 5PM	Last Youth PARTY! youth@denverumc.org
MAY 4 10:30AM	Helping Hands Meeting helpinghandsdenvernc@gmail.com
MAY 6 1PM	Chicken Pickin' helpinghandsdenvernc@gmail.com
MAY 7 10AM	Prayer Team prayers@denverumc.org
MAY 7 11AM-1PM	First Thursday Lunch helpinghandsdenvernc@gmail.com
MAY 9 9AM	Sisterhood outreach@denverumc.org
MAY 10	Baby Bottle Boomerang Begins outreach@denverumc.org 
MAY 14 11AM	J.O.Y. Group rosannekocher@gmail.com
MAY 17 9 & 11AM	Graduation Sunday youth@denverumc.org
MAY 17 4PM	Prayer Shawl Ministry shawywyatteudy52@gmail.com



Events Calendar

www.denverumc.org

Scan to Give





LIFE AT DUMC

things to know, celebrate, & look forward to!



Next Sisterhood Event - Saturday, May 9th!

Registration is open for our May Sisterhood event! Ladies of all ages are invited to join us in the CORC at 9:00 a.m. for worship, breakfast, and fellowship, and then break into groups to make fragrant shower steamers, enjoy a morning outside learning or improving your skills in the game of pickleball, participate in a color analysis experience to determine what colors look best on you, or create spring coasters to suit your decor! Click [here](#) to register. Contact [Janet Chubb](#) to donate breakfast items or volunteer to welcome other ladies, lead the devotion, or pray. See you there!



Attention Graduating Seniors - and Parents, too!

If you or your child is graduating high school or college this year, please contact Cortni at youth@denverumc.org by this **Sunday, May 3**, so we can celebrate and include you in Graduation Sunday, May 17. Click [here](#) to submit your graduation information. We look forward to recognizing and honoring our seniors for all they've accomplished!



Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who played a part in the huge success of the Charlie Blackburn Memorial Golf Tournament! On behalf of all Helping Hands' ministries, we appreciate your financial and in-kind donations, your volunteer time, and your active participation in this annual event! It is the largest fundraising event for Helping Hands, and your support allows us to make a real difference in the lives of others in our community! Thank you to Leslie Matz, Pam Niemeier, members of the tournament committee, and to all who gave their time and other gifts to this event!

Check out our [Facebook post](#) to see pictures from the day!



Farewell Celebration for Pastor Steve

Please mark your calendars now for Pastor Steve's Farewell Celebration on June 14th at 5 pm in the Family Life Center. We will share more information soon!



OUTREACH

unleashing compassion



Community Garden Opportunity - This Saturday, May 2nd!

Thanks to all who helped plant our late spring vegetables, pulled weeds, picked strawberries, and completed other garden tasks last week! What a beautiful day! Join us again this Saturday, May 2nd, from 9:00 - 11:00 am to help maintain the garden and pick MORE strawberries! Bring trowels, gloves, friends, and family! Email outreach@denverumc.org for details or to help other days of the week.



Helping Hands

building community through service

Helping Hands Meeting - May 4th

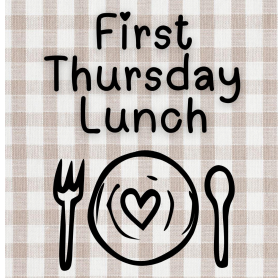
The next Helping Hands Community Service Group meeting will be on Monday, May 4th, at 10:30 a.m. in the Chapel. Everyone is welcome to come and learn of the many opportunities to serve others in our community. Email helpinghandsdenvernc@gmail.com for details.



Handicap Ramp Build - May 6th

Join the Building and Repair Team and help build a ramp so a neighbor can safely access her home. The build starts at 9:00 am. Contact Wally, wzm.fish@gmail.com, for details.

First Thursday Lunch - May 7th!



Join us for the last First Thursday Lunch fundraiser of the season on May 7th, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the FLC! We'll have chicken pie, baked spaghetti, chili dogs, sides, homemade desserts, and lots of fellowship! Dine in or take out. To order 8"x8" whole pies, call the church office at 704-483-1601 or email [Beth Bynum](mailto:Beth.Bynum) by Tuesday, May 5th, to ensure availability.

Join us on Wednesday, May 6th, in the FLC at **1:00 pm** to help pick chicken! **Please note the time change! AP testing will take place in the FLC that morning!** New pickers are always welcome! All

proceeds support local children and their families.



Foster Care Appreciation

Foster Care Appreciation Event - May 15th

It takes a special love to open your heart and home to these beautiful, vulnerable children! Help us honor these foster parents by participating in this Foster Care Appreciation Event, Friday evening, May 15th, from 6:00-7:30 pm. Volunteers are needed to play games with the children. Adult door prizes and raffle baskets are also needed. Contact outreach@denverumc.org for details.



Missional Network's Community Fun Day - May 16th

Join us for this biannual event hosted by DUMC and our Missional Network partner churches. This event will take place at Tucker's Grove Campground from 11:00 am - 2:00 pm and include food, bouncy houses, crafts, and raffle prizes. Teens looking for volunteer hours are encouraged to come! Contact outreach@denverumc.org for more information.



Hello Matthew 25ers!

Due to overwhelming support and space limitations, **we must temporarily refrain from accepting pill bottle donations.** In the meantime, you can continue to support this ministry by making a small financial contribution toward shipping costs or by volunteering your time to assist with the ministry in person.

We will have a short planning meeting on May 4th in the Chapel immediately following the Helping Hands meeting. If you are interested in becoming a part of this ministry please attend. Also, you can contact Lis Tucker (1941Lizard@gmail.com) or Shawn Eudy (shawnyatteudy52@gmail.com) for information.



"...you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life" (Philippians 2)

Every year, Japan CCC hosts a Spring Camp for university students across Japan, and this year's theme was *Continue to Shine*. In a nation where less than one percent of its people know the love of Christ, believing students are truly

shining the light of Christ in their families, classrooms, friend circles, and workplaces. For this four-day conference, students gathered together in Kobe, Japan, to be refreshed, challenged, and encouraged in the reality of Christ living inside of them. This year, over 100 students attended, and something that made it extra special was that a handful of students who were not Christian but curious or interested also joined. Of those students, two decided to give their lives to Christ! Please join us in celebrating these two precious lives, and know that you—as you generously give and pray—are playing a part in their stories. We are so grateful for each of you! Click [here](#) to continue reading.



DISCIPLESHIP

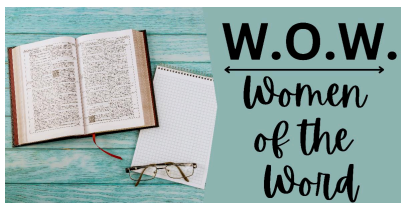
Small Groups, Bible Studies, & Connection Groups

Discipleship Opportunities

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

Visit denverumc.org/ministries/adult-ministries 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



W.O.W. Bible Study

W.O.W. Bible study will meet every Wednesday, April 8 - May 15, in the Chapel for our study "12 Daring Women of the Bible" from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00. Everyone is welcome! For more information, contact Rachelle Roberts: Orachelle@hotmail.com or Susan Nickel: snicke@bellsouth.net



Sunday Morning Study Opportunity 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? 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!



Friday Ladies' Bible Study

Michell Turner will be our guest leader for this study, "The Greatest Story Ever Told, A Bird's Eye View of the New Testament". We meet in the Chapel on Fridays from 10-12. Childcare is available, just contact Sara Lee 704-230-9004.



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](mailto:cah@duke.edu).

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!

Discipleship Video Series

Spiritual Gifts Assessment



HARBOR YOUTH

DUMC's 6-12th grade ministry



Youth Sunday School

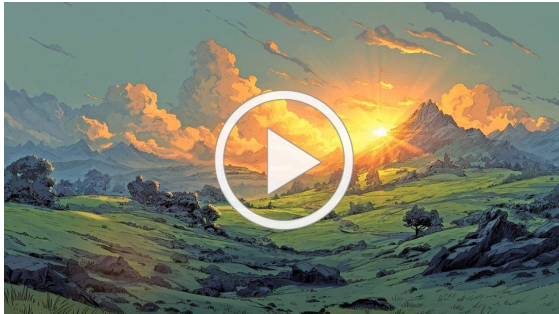
Get ready—something fun is happening in Youth Sunday School! We're watching an exciting video series (Alpha Youth series - check out the trailer!) designed just for youth, with real-life topics, engaging discussions, and a space where your voice matters. Join us Sunday mornings at 10 am in the youth room as we hang out, grow in our faith, and explore what it really means to follow Jesus in everyday life. Bring a friend and come be part of it—you won't want to miss this!

May	June	July
May 3 Last Youth PARTY!	June COMING SOON: a fun water surprise!	July 4 Independence Day
May 17 Graduation Sunday		July 12-16 VBS!
May 24 Rock Springs Campground Sunday		July 19-23 NTS Summer Camp
May 29-30 Confirmation Retreat		
May 31 Confirmation Sunday		

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

[Follow Harbor Youth on Instagram!](#)

[Email Harbor Youth](#)



NTS Summer Camp /July 19-23
We're going back to NTS camp at Erskine College, in Due West, SC! This year camp will be looking into the life of David in the Old Testament and the theme is "Pursuit." We hope our students see God's pursuit of them and, in turn, become people chasing after a God who chases after us, redeems us, and prepares us for greatness. As they see themselves in this story of pursuit, we pray they walk away being known as people after God's own heart!

Registration must be completed by a parent or legal guardian over the age of 18 and is complete when all the required information is entered, and either payment is made in full, or the \$150 non-refundable/non-transferrable deposit has been made.

After today, registration becomes \$435 until July 5. Final registration is \$455 for those last 2 weeks before camp. **Registration closes at 6pm July 18!** *You will receive reminder emails of payment due 14 & 7 days before the due date if there is a balance on your account.*

[Click here to register for NTS Camp! Hurry - the price goes up April 29!](#)



Sign Up to Help With Sunday Night Meals!

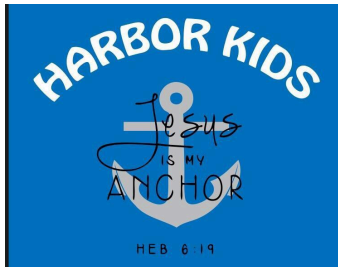
We'd love for friends & parents to be part of the evening by sponsoring a meal and/or helping run the concession stand. While you're absolutely welcome to, **there is NO cooking required**— you can choose to just serve snacks and drinks, and we'd love if you'd bring along a dessert to share! You can 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!



Join us in a time travel back to Rome for VBS: July 12th-16th
Explore ancient Rome where Scripture and history connect in **unforgettable ways!**

Drop off begins nightly at 5:45 p.m. in the Family Life Center (gym). On Thursday evening, parents are invited to join us for our Family Night including pizza and outside festivities. Please have the children wear bathing suits under a t-shirt and shorts and don't forget to bring towels!

Registration Deadline = Monday, July 5th!!

To register or for more detailed information, scan or click on the QR code.

Click to sign up for updates from Harbor Kids!

Follow Harbor Kids on Instagram!

Staff & Leadership Connections

Click [here](#) to connect with our staff and Church Council

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



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