



Progressive Spirit News

ST. PAUL'S United Church of Christ
602 Garfield St., Laramie, WY 82070
www.laramieucc.org

JUNE 2019 – VOLUME 10, ISSUE 6

Pastor's Post



Well, Summer is almost here, once the snow stops. Mowing the lawn one day, shoveling snow the next. I love it here, but I can't be the only one puzzled by the weather here in Laramie. I wonder what it was like

before climate changes started happening. Something for me to ponder.

I had a pretty full month, as did we all! Graduations, the Big Boy Train (twice), and a trip to see my father. I really enjoy going to see him, and I have told him I will do it more often. I hope I can fulfill that for both of us.

Church wise, June will be a super busy month, and July will be pretty busy too, for me. I know a lot of you are traveling for pleasure, and for work, and traveling for

June Events

- June 2
 - Communion Sunday
- June 6 – June 13
 - Rev Ken Away
- June 9
 - Pentecost Sunday
 - Hymn Sing
 - Strengthen the Church Offering
- June 10-14
 - Vacation Bible School
- June 16
 - Fathers Day
- June 17 - 21
 - Rev. Ken away
- June 26
 - Council Meeting : 6 PM
- June 30
 - ONA Sunday, PRIDE Sunday

All events are in the Church or Church Basement, unless otherwise noted.

work is what I am doing. My first stop will be Grand Junction, Colorado, where the annual celebration of the Rocky Mountain Conference will be held. I will spend a couple extra days away, while I am in that part of the country.

Next, I will be attending the national ONA conference in Milwaukee, and also attending OWL (Our Whole Lives) training. We will be offer OWL training to middle and high school students here in Laramie, in conjunctions with the Unitarian Universalist congregations, who also has a trained facilitator. I'm looking forward to that training, and being able to be a resource for our youth in town.

In July I am off to Luther Seminary in Minneapolis for a conference about change in the church. It's a topic we clergy bring up in conversation at almost every gathering. I'm excited to see what the current trends are.

For our last youth group event, we planned to do some gardening. Well, the weather did not really cooperate. I would like to thank everyone who came out to help, and hope you all enjoyed the pizza. Youth Group is going to meet sporadically over the summer, mainly to go to events and perhaps have a movie night for all the congregation.

I have not gotten much further with plans for updating the sanctuary. I am continuing our conversations with the design firm.

Our Vedauwoo worship this year will be on July 21st.

These verses seems quite appropriate now. Not only for Pride Month, but everyday.

"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" John 13:34-35

Peace and Blessings to all,

Rev. Ken

JUNE BIRTHDAYS



- 1 – Don Denham
- 13 – Taylor Ballard
- 15 – Collin Ballard
- 16 – Rusty Ridley

If your birthday is not listed, then our directory is not updated with your information. Please let the church know your current contact information, address, phone and birthday/anniversary at stpucc@gmail.com

A Note From Marcus to us

With a bit of bitter-sweetness, I want to say goodbye to my St. Paul's family. I'm sure many of you know, but in case you hadn't heard, I'm moving to Oklahoma City for the summer and then will be moving to Miami Florida in the fall. I will be interning with the UCC's Young Adult Service Communities program. While in Miami I will be working with immigrants and refugees and well as potentially with homeless populations. I just want to say that I am grateful to have found St. Paul's when I did. I found this church when I was most in need of a faith community, and you all showed me a lot about what it means to be a member of a church family. Participating in church with all of you has helped me in ways I will never be able to express. The acceptance and affirmation that you all showed to me has helped me heal from the toxic religious culture that I was raised in. The work that all of you are doing, simply by being the kind of church that you are, is nothing short of life changing. Please, continue to grow, learn, reach out, sing, cry, make mistakes, and love each other. After attending this church, I understand more fully what it means for the Gospel to be "good news" for the poor and the broken hearted. I promise to stay in touch (Reverend Ken has made me promise to send quarterly updates), and if anyone would like to contact me, my email is fryemarcus@gmail.com. I know we will all meet again, in one way or another.

In Christ,
Marcus Frye



St. Paul's UCC

Our Mission:

*To be an emphatically inclusive,
progressive community
on the Path of Christ,
seeking justice and peace for all Creation
through creative ceremony and celebration,
soulful questioning,
and acts of compassion and service.*

Vacation Bible School

St. Paul's will again participate with our faith brothers and sisters in Cooperative Bible School. This year the dates are June 10-14, from 9:00 am to Noon, at Frist Baptist Church, 1517 E. Canby St. The cost is \$5 for the week, and children ages 4 up to 6th grade are welcome and encouraged to attend. St. Paul's will be providing snacks for one day, so see Carol Uhl to give money toward snacks, or to find out what you might contribute.

Memoirs/Memories of St. Paul's United Church of Christ - Laramie, Wyoming History Book Project

In honor of the 130 year history of St. Paul's Church, a history book is being completed. One section of the book will include memoirs/memories from individuals and families who attended the church over the 130 year church history. If you are interested in being included in the book, please click here to go to the [link on the webpage](#). Please note: your text may be edited to fit into a specific space in the book. Once completed, please e-mail your WORD file to stpucc@gmail.com or mail the completed form to: St. Paul's UCC, History Book Project, 602 E. Garfield, Laramie, WY 82070. To be included in the history book, all submissions must be received by September 1, 2019.

Betty Holmes has been digitizing our historical documents, and you can find them on the web, on our website, under the history tab. [Click here to go there now](#). Follow the link to see our historical anniversary booklets.

Freedom Has A Birthday

Freedom has a birthday will again be held on July 4th, and St. Paul's will have a booth there. We will need you to sign up, and I will have a sign up sheet downstairs in the social hall. See Carol Uhl for any questions, and let her know also if you are signing up.

Worship calendar:

June 2019 Worship Calendar and Church Happenings

- June 2
 - Communion Sunday
 - Worship Leader: Crystal Ballard
 - Accompanist: Sean Stone
 - NCH 260: Hail The Day That Sees Christ Rise
 - NCH 390: Eternal Christ, Who, Kneeling
 - NCH 252: Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us
 - Acts 16:16-34, John 17:20-26
 - Communion: SING 59: Yours Is The Wheat

- June 9
 - Pentecost Sunday
 - Guest Preacher: Hymn Sing
 - Worship Leader: Carol Uhl
 - Accompanist: Nathan Sonnenschein
 - NCH 84: This Is The Day
 - NCH 267: Come, O Spirit, Dwell among Us
 - SING 194: Go In Peace
 - Acts 2:1-21, John 14:8-17(25-27)
- June 16
 - Trinity Sunday
 - Father's Day
 - Worship Leader
 - Accompanist: Nathan Sonnenschein
 - NCH 547: Amazing Grace
 - NCH 278: Creator God, Creating Still
 - MV 143: We Cannot Own The Sunlit Sky
 - Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31; John 16:12-15
- June 23:
 - Worship Leader:
 - Accompanist: Sean Stone
 - MV 12: Come Touch Our Hearts
 - NCH 286: Sprit, Spirit of Gentleness
 - Sing 213: Wherever You May Go
 - 1 Kings 19:1-4(5-7),8-15a; Luke 8:26-39
- June 30
 - Pride Sunday
 - Worship Leader:
 - Accompanist: Nathan Sonnenschein/Sean Stone
 - MV 1: Let Us Build A House
 - MCH 391: In The Midst Of New Dimensions
 - MV 120: My Soul Cries Out
 - 2 Kings 2:1-2,6-14; Luke 9:51-62

Flower Chart Sign-ups

There is a flower sign up chart downstairs in the social hall. If you would like to bring flowers for the altar, sign up. After services, you can take the flowers home, or leave them for the next week.

PFLAG Laramie

PFLAG, (Parents and Friends of Lesbians And Gays) will meet on June 13 at 6:30. During this meeting, planning will continue on their involvement with Laramie Pride.

Annual Celebration of the Rocky Mountain Conference

This year the annual meeting of the Rocky Mountain Conference is June 6 to 8 (Thursday through Saturday) in Grand Junction. Rev. Ken will be attending the conference.

National ONA Gathering

The ONA Coalition of the UCC is holding their annual meeting this year in Milwaukee, the same site as General Synod. The meeting is June 18 – June 20. The theme for this year's meeting is Living Our Covenants: Into Life. Rev. Ken will be attending the meeting, and will be also be doing OWL (Our Whole Lives) training at the same time. If anyone is interested in attending, please see Rev. Ken. You can check out the link here: [ONA MEETING](#)

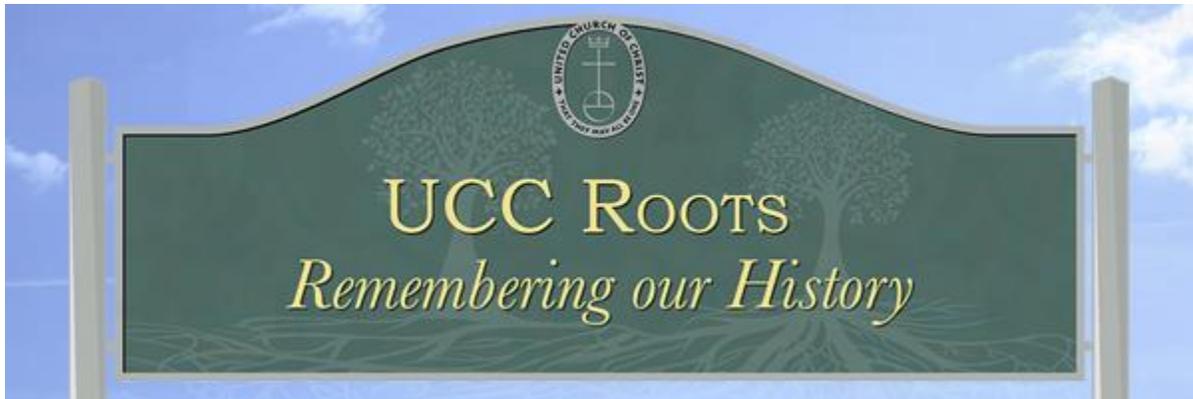
General Synod 32

General Synod of the United Church of Christ is being held June 21 through June 25 in Milwaukee. The theme this year is: SHINE: Let your light shine before others. Matthew Desmond will be the keynote speaker this year. He is the author of *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City*. This book has also been selected by the UCC as an all church read. We will study this book in the fall. If you would like more information, please [click here](#).

Wicked



This is the group from St. Paul's that went to see Wicked on June 1st. Thank you Katie for getting the tickets and organizing this outing. Next? How about a Rockies Game!



Rev. Jonathan Fisher: A Frontier Minister who made a Difference

In 1762, a handful of New Englanders settled in what eventually became Blue Hill, Maine, a harbored spot just east of Penobscot Bay. After the Revolutionary War, the New England frontier moved northward from the Boston area and by the first US Census in 1790 there were 274 residents in Blue Hill. The local Congregational Church managed with part-time clergy for nearly 20 years, but finally in 1796 they called a pastor named Jonathan Fisher (1768-1847) who served Blue Hill for forty years.

Fisher was born in New Braintree, Massachusetts in 1768 and grew up in the home of his uncle who was a minister. As a young man he explored several vocations, but his intellectual gifts led him to study for ministry at Harvard in 1788.



He was "industrious almost beyond belief, and possessed of an unflagging physical vitality, he relieved his omnipresent poverty and increased the few hundred dollars of his meager salary by farming his own acres, concocting medical remedies, braiding numberless straw hats, sawing out buttons from the bones of farm animals, and even of dead household pets, painting names on vessels or painting sleighs (at \$2.50) each, making pumps, chairs, chests, hair-combs, tables, bureaus, bedsteads, cradles, even drumsticks for the local militia (at 25 cents a pair), and by repairing much of the shaky furniture in Blue Hill. And, with all these labors, he found time to write many poems, and several books."

Fisher was a student of science, botany, the arts, classical language and Calvinist theology. He wrote sermons and sketched and painted. In 1917 his scientific notes on sunspot activity in 1816-17, attracted the attention of modern scientists at the *American Geophysical Union* a hundred years later. Throughout his ministry many young men who were unable to afford formal education, lived in the Blue Hill parsonage and studied with Fisher. His impact on churches in Maine was significant. *Contributor: Kendall H. Brown*

St. Paul's

United Church of Christ

602 Garfield St.

Laramie, WY 82070

Sunday Morning Worship at 10:00 a.m.



Rev. Kenneth Ingram

720-289-2394

revken1957@gmail.com

***Rev. Ken's hours: Tuesday,
Wednesday, Thursday, and
Sunday mornings, or by
appointment***

IF YOU KNOW OF ANY
ACTIVITIES AROUND
TOWN THAT YOU WOULD
LIKE MENTIONED IN THE
WEEKLY UPDATE OR THE
NEWSLETTER, PLEASE
SEND THE INFORMATION
TO REV. KEN AT
STPUCC@GMAIL.COM