



Progressive Spirit News

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

MAY 2019 – VOLUME 10, ISSUE 5

Pastor's Post



I'm still too new to Laramie to get the weather. I thought "It's spring, let's go buy plants for the yard." Yeah, I did, then it snowed, two days in a row. Luckily I had been told "Don't plant

anything outside before mother's day." We have many plants in our piano room, and they do smell nice. I'm hoping they survive until I get them planted outside, and will flourish once they do. Hopefully, these last two storms are the end of the snow this spring. We shall see.

It's always interesting to me how much we here in Laramie are guided by the weather. If it's snowy, you can't get out of town, either east or south. And usually if there is a problem

May Events

- **May 2**
 - Holocaust Remembrance Day
- **May 5**
 - Communion Sunday
- **May 9**
 - PFLAG
- **May 12**
 - Mothers Day
 - Youth Breakfast Fundraiser
- **May 19**
 - Council Meeting
 - Youth Group – 4 PM
- **May 21 – May 30**
 - Rev. Ken away
- **May 26**
 - Marcus Frye – guest

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

in those directions, there are problems in the other two as well. I'm learning about weather and how it impacts us all.

Our Lent collections were blessed on Easter Sunday. Thank you to all who contributed items that went to the clothing cottage. They were very appreciative. I asked that if possible, these things be given away, but I also know that if that can not happen, they price things really reasonably, so we are helping others whatever the cottage decided to do.

Our Easter service, I thought, was a service that was great, and our youth group did a great job leading worship. In the future, we will be asking them to help me out more. As always, your ideas are always appreciated by me. I am very glad we have a music committee, and that they are planning some very nice services. Our special music has been wonderful, we all look forward to the choir and special music.

Plans are continuing on our updating of the sanctuary. Not much progress forward has started, but it's the planning that we need to ensure is good before we move forward.

It's so sad, but in light of the recent events that have taken place, the administrative council has authorized me to check into other security that we can implement here at the church. More cameras and preparation of an emergency plan are in the works. If you would like to help develop that plan, please come and see me. We all see things differently, and what I miss you might not.

This month is graduation at UW. Marcus Frye will graduate this year, and will then be off to Florida for his internship that starts this fall. We will be having a sendoff for him on May 19. Then on May 26 he will be in the pulpit one last time before he head off to first Oklahoma to visit a friend, then off to Florida for his internship. Marcus will be going to Miami to an internship with Coral Gables UCC, working on immigration issues with the Young Adult Service Communities.

At our council meeting we talked about a bible study. I will soon be sending out a poll to see what times might work best for everyone. There are a few options. One would be on Sunday morning at 9:00 am, before our service,

MAY BIRTHDAYS



- 2 – Abigail Mattimoe-Harris
- 10 – Ginny Vincenti
- 18 – Moss Plant
- 30 – Katie Uhl

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,

with also the possibility of changing worship time to 10:30 to accommodate the bible study. Another is bible study at 9:00 am, service at 10:00 like now. We could also have bible study in the evening. One idea is a pot luck bible study, like a dinner church, where we would have dinner and bible study, probably every other week or some schedule like that. The council and I are open to suggestions, so if you have an idea, let us know. I am excited that we will have a fall and spring bible study. I am open to suggestions, so please contact me, or send an email to stpucc@gmail.com and let me know what you think.

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

"God is Love" 1 John 4:8

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares our GOD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

Jeremiah 29:11

Peace and Blessings to all,

Rev. Ken



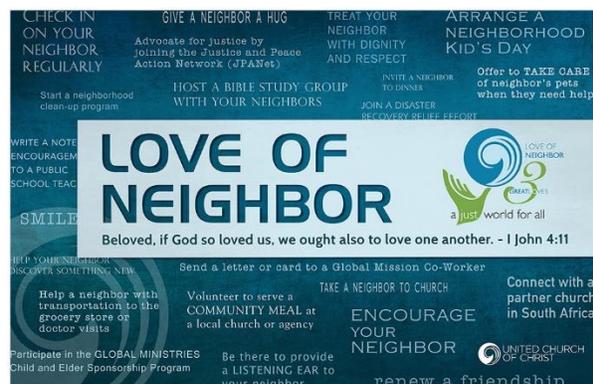
St. Paul's UCC

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.*

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.



Click the graphic above to see a video about 3 Great Loves

Worship calendar:

- May 5
 - Communion Sunday
 - Worship Leader: Crystal Ballard
 - Accompanist: Sean Stone
 - NCH 234: I'll Shout the Name of Christ Who Lives
 - NCH 250: Listen to Your Saviors Call
 - MV 249: Peace I Leave You With My Friends
 - John 21:1-19, Acts 9:1-6(7-20)
 - Communion: NCH 332: As We Gather at Your Table
- May 12
 - Mothers Day
 - Worship Leader: Sam Burkett
 - Accompanist: Sean Stone
 - NCH 198: Lift High The Cross
 - NCH 479: God Is My Shepherd
 - NCH 32: God of the Sparrow
- May 19
 - Graduation Sunday
 - Worship Leader:
 - Accompanist: Nathan Sonnenschein
 - NCH 391: In The Midst of New Dimensions
 - MV 172: God Says
 - NCH 433: In The Bulb There Is A Flower
- May 26
 - Worship Leader:
 - Accompanist: Nathan Sonnenschein
 - NCH 237: I Come To The Garden Alone
 - NCH 537: Christian, Rise and Act Your Creed
 - Sing 217: Peace I Leave With You

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.

History on the web

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.

PFLAG Laramie

PFLAG, (Parents and Friends of Lesbians And Gays) will meet on May 9 at 6:30. During this meeting, planning will begin on their involvement with Laramie Pride.

Annual Celebration of the Rocky Mountain Conference

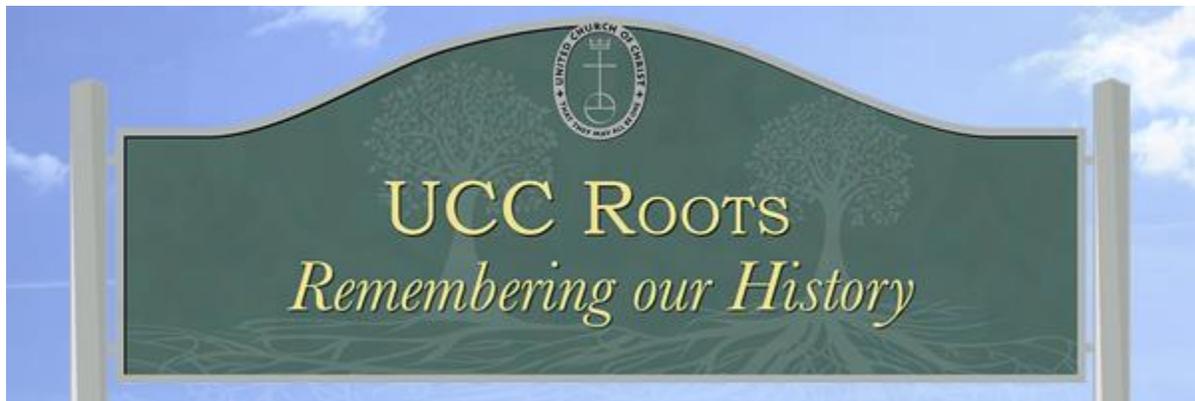
This year the annual meeting of the Rocky Mountain Conference is June 6 to 8 (Thursday through Saturday) in Grand Junction. If you would like to attend the annual conference, please let Rev. Ken know. Rev. Ken will be attending the conference.

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](#).



From the [UCC Historical Council](#)

A Theologian Passionate about Civil Rights and Justice



Sometimes people think that theology is boring. However, there is a memorable moment in the 1960s when a well-known professor at a major university jumped out of the window (of a first floor classroom) to help his students expand their views of theology. Shouting the rest of his lecture back through the open window he explained how a famous theologian (Schleiermacher) changed the ground on which theology was done.

This story about Frederick Ludwig Herzog (1925-1995), a teacher of theology at Duke Divinity School, was legendary. Herzog knew that historical theology focused on whether and how Jesus was the Christ. However, he also saw how Schleiermacher privileged white, bourgeois German society and saw experience as a theological category.

For Herzog, theology needed to be grounded in civil rights activism and advocacy for justice. Born in North Dakota, he grew up in German Evangelical churches. Later he studied in Europe with Karl Barth, and earned a doctorate from Princeton University in 1953. As a minister in the United Church of Christ he loved his church. However, throughout his adult life he was continually pushing the UCC General Synod to take bold actions for justice and peace, instead of issuing statements.

Herzog's commitment to racial justice was total. He regarded the widespread racial prejudice of the American south, where he came to live and teach in Durham, N.C in 1960, as truly systemic evil. In 1970 he wrote the first article in North America by a white theologian about Black Theology.

Herzog knew and often dialogued with Gustavo Gutierrez, the key voice of Latin American Liberation Theology. His own book, *A Liberation Theology*, was published in 1972. In a later book, *God-Walk: Liberation Shaping Dogmatics* (1988), Herzog summarized his theology. "The question is not 'Who Jesus is?'—It is 'What is Jesus doing now?'"

Contributor: Susan Brooks Thistlethwaite

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