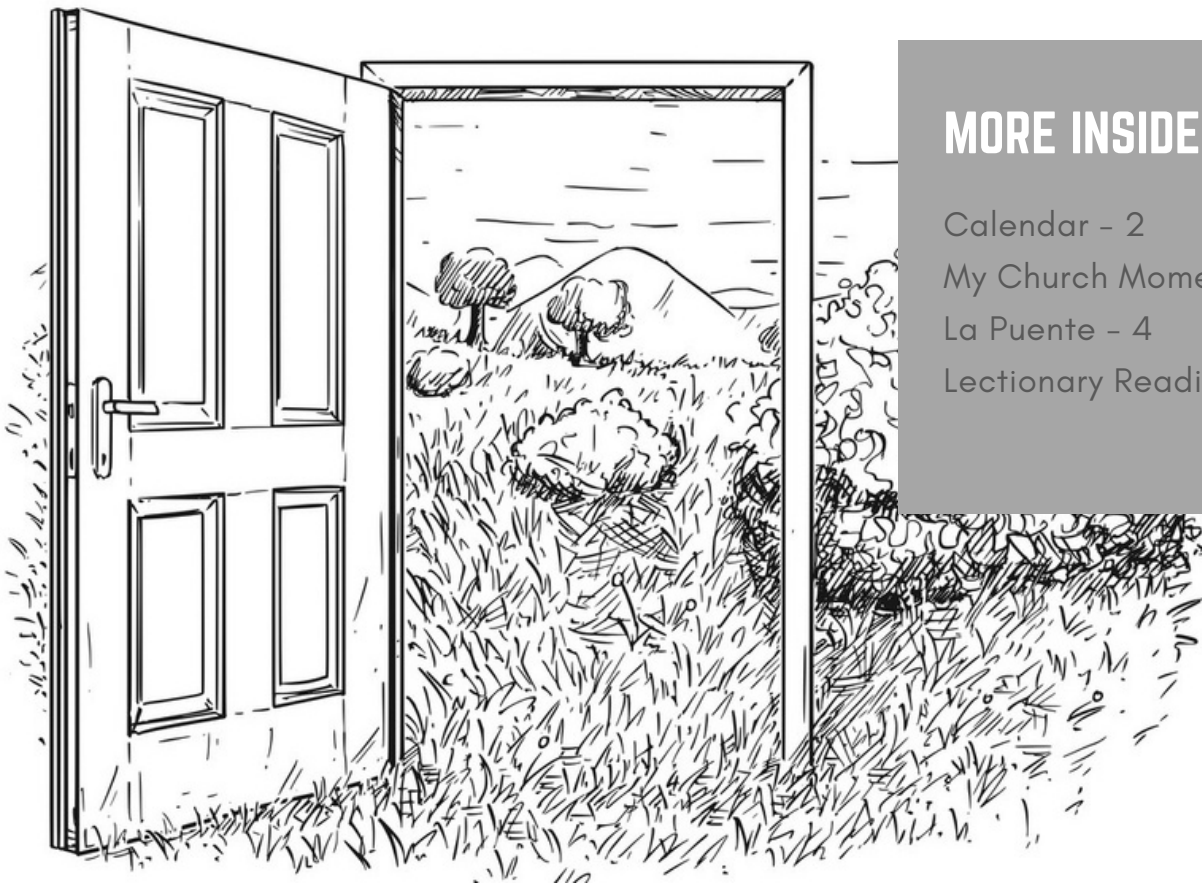


# Bethany

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

3501 W 1st Ave ♦ Denver, CO ♦ 80219



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## SACRED DOORS

A Ministry Collaboration

For over a year we, as a congregation, have been planning and dreaming about how Bethany UMC can become a vital and productive ministry.

We have discussed the possibility of a mission center that gives opportunities for mission teams (Youth Groups) from all over the country to come and volunteer in the Denver Metro area.

We are close to realizing that dream. There are many details and funding which need to be obtained - and many, many more prayers. But, the good news is we have a name: *Sacred Doors - an Introduction to Urban Transformation in the Denver Metro Area; A Ministry Partnership of Bethany UMC and Sacred Stones Ministries, Inc.* or Sacred Doors for short.

# August 2019

*Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday*

**1 2 3**

**4 5 6 7 8 9 10**

11AM Worship

1:00 pm Home Visits  
with communion

**11 12 13 14 15 16 17**

11AM Worship

**18 19 20 21 22 23 24**

11AM Worship

5pm Mission Dinner at  
Cameron UMC

**25 26 27 28 29 30 31**

11AM Worship

Pastor Denise  
Birthday  
Pastor Denise  
OUT OF OFFICE

Pastor Denise  
OUT OF OFFICE

Pastor Denise  
OUT OF OFFICE

Pastor Denise  
OUT OF OFFICE

Pastor Denise  
OUT OF OFFICE

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

September 1 - Board Meeting

September 3 - Home Visits w/ Communion

September 12 - Circuit Meeting, 10 am

September 25-29 - Deacon Convocation  
(Pastor Denise Out)

*Listening  
is the  
beginning  
of prayer.*

*-mother teresa*

## MY "CHURCH" MOMENT

by Pastor Denise

Mercy and Justice are not always found in great, dramatic ways. The poor don't just turn into the rich when the right laws are changed, or when they get enough food from the rich or when medical care is provided to all. The power of the spirit that people feel when they are able to ask for help, and are willing to do what needs to be done to improve their families lives can be seen in small, tender ways.

One of the times I took a group to Matamoros, Mexico a team of us was assigned to build a cinder block house for a family of four. The family had struggled, but finally saved the \$200 required to purchase the small plot of land. In the meantime, they had built a temporary shack out of bits and pieces of corrugated plastic sheeting and old boards. Of course, most of us couldn't speak any Spanish, nor did they speak English. But, smiling and nodding seemed to be enough.

“

**...the woman and her small child would peer shyly around the corners of their home as they watched us work.**



The family knew that I was the minister, and smiled at me when I was introduced. A woman minister is problematic because of the strong Catholic worldview. So, we had worked for several days and the woman and her small child would peer shyly around the corners of their home as they watched us work.

On the fourth day, we were taking a water break. The woman, carrying her new baby, followed by the little girl, tentatively came out of her shack and headed towards me. She motioned for me to sit on the unfinished wall of her new house. So, I did. Then she gently handed me her sleeping baby. She offered me the gift of sharing her baby. I was so touched. I cooed and kissed the baby, and then blessed her. Several minutes later when I handed the baby back, the mother smiled at me which said thank you.

The rest of the team just watched in silence. It was a holy moment of crossing all the boundaries that the world had set up between us and them. The moment of new life which will bring the promises of grace and the heart aches of living in poverty. That moment changed my life. That moment was church to me and will always be a defining moment of church, the body of Christ.



## LA PUENTE WORK TRIP

### *Lectionary Readings*

#### **August 4, 2019**

Hosea 11:1-11

Psalms 107:1-9, 43

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

Psalms 49:1-12

Colossians 3:1-11

Luke 12:13-21



#### **August 11, 2019**

Isaiah 1:1, 10-20

Psalms 50:1-8, 22-23

Genesis 15:1-6

Psalms 33:12-22

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Luke 12:32-40

#### **August 18, 2019**

Isaiah 5:1-7

Psalms 80:1-2, 8-19

Jeremiah 23:23-29

Psalms 82

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Luke 12:49-56

#### **August 25, 2019**

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Psalms 71:1-6

Isaiah 58:9b-14

Psalms 103:1-8

Hebrews 12:18-29

Luke 13:10-17

