

*Congregational  
United Church of Christ*

*Sunday Schedule  
10:00am Worship Service  
& Children's Church  
11:00am Coffee Hour*

217 Crossman Ave.; PO Box 610

Buena Vista, CO 81211

Office: 719-395-2544

Fax Number: 719-395-3789

Email: office.bvcucc@gmail.com

Website: www.bvcucc.org

Like us on Facebook! Look for Congregational UCC Buena Vista

No matter who you are, no matter where you are  
in life's journey, you are welcome here at the  
Congregational United Church of Christ in  
Buena Vista.



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# News and Views

Congregational United Church of Christ  
August, 2018

## MODERATOR'S MOMENT

### “LOVE IS STILL THE WAY”

#### “The Touch of the Master’s Hand”

“Make love your aim and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts.”

My soul was deeply touched on Sunday, July 8th, as Janet, our MSG group, guest violinist Dennis, vocalist Matthew, and our Pastor Rebecca led us to experience the song, “The Touch of the Master’s Hand,” a musical story. This music, a favorite of Janet Steiner’s, tells the story of a violin that was up for auction. She told us about the composer and the quick inspiration that brought it into being. My own joy in following God’s call on my life in a quick moment of guidance was restored and renewed by the sacred moments of the music.

The master’s hand was seen in another way during this past few weeks on the other side of the world in Thailand, as 12 boys, ages 12 to 16, and their soccer coach were rescued miraculously from a deep mountain cave where they had been trapped for 17 days. Thanks be to God and the team of divers and other men and women who worked tirelessly to release them from the cave. Stories of how they could survive for such a long time with little food and drinking water are still coming forward. The news program “20/20” carried quite a detailed story. We celebrate with the boys, their families, and the village high in the mountains of Thailand that has welcomed them back. The world is rejoicing that these boys have been saved.

This story has reminded me that when adversity comes, it is not enough to weep in fear and curse the darkness! Instead, we must recover our courage, take our belief in hope and, putting it beside the word love, try to live the Christian life we believe in, no matter what the challenges! The Apostle Paul’s words can guide us. “And now faith, hope and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love. Make love your aim and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts.” (1 Corinthians 13:13-14:1) I believe that as a Church God’s hand is leading us.

I wrote last month about an [Identity Statement](#) that articulates our core values as a congregation. I would like to share the 2nd Section of that statement with you.

Growing Spiritually By:

- Committing ourselves to life-long learning
- Deepening our relationship with God through prayer, worship and study of scripture and other sources
- Opening ourselves to teachings and insights from many sources
- Cherishing and teaching our church community’s children and youth
- Strengthening family relationships
- Openly discussing important issues
- Honoring tradition while embracing new ideas

These are actions we believe in and act on; can we increase our desire for a *Closer Walk With God*? What spiritual growth ideas would you like to explore?

Walking together in faith, hope and love!

Marjorie Erickson, Moderator



PASTOR’S ARTICLE, August, 2018

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing. (I Thess 5:11)

A CONGREGATION: SOULS IN COVENANT WITH ONE ANOTHER

We’ve been talking about Covenant this past year, as we round the bend into ten years together as pastor and congregation, and consider our next chapter in ministry and mission and what it holds. We see covenants of many kinds in the Bible, and find there examples of how to live and move and minister together with each other as the priesthood of all believers, following in the Way of Jesus, as Christians in beloved community.

As we continue to explore the nature of our covenant at CUCC, I share some resources and insights from the wider church world here in the newsletter. Part One – The Local Church and Part Two – The Pastor. I hope you will reflect together with me on our covenantal commitments in *all* our relationships—our communications and relations, decision-making processes, service and support to each other and our wider community, and how we uphold and encourage one another as we fulfill our purpose and calling.

Theological Grounding for Covenant

*God calls us into holy relationship with one another, sharing our joys and sorrows, building each other up in truth and love, and exhorting us to forgive and seek forgiveness. The Bible is full of passages and stories that speak to these values, particularly in a congregational context. In particular, the importance of honest, direct communication within a congregation. How people treat one another within the church reflects on how people tend to treat others outside the walls of the church.*

*Much of the time, congregants treat each other with kindness and grace, observing boundaries of appropriate behavior and striving to respond to conflict faithfully. Such graces include the importance of telling one’s own truth and listening respectfully to others’ truths, holding confidences appropriately, assuming good intent, seeking reconciliation directly from one who has hurt another, and approaching matters in a spirit of prayer. Sometimes, however certain behaviors undercut the values the congregation professes to hold, such as gossip, slander, “parking lot” conversations that denigrate decisions made or those who made them, and inappropriate comments to or about one another (including pastoral leadership or the wider church).*

I particularly loved these “conversation and relationship norms” for a Congregational Covenant. I see us at CUCC practicing many of these and striving to live-into these ideals even more as we move into God’s preferred future for us.

- ~Be fully present, extending and presuming welcome to and from others.
- ~Listen generously and suspend judgment about anther’s story. Hold stories with care and respect.
- ~Author your own story and share your own gifts.
- ~Wonder. Welcome discomfort. Love the questions.
- ~Be mindful and respectful of time.
- ~Practice hospitality and inclusion, especially when diverse cultures meet. There are many excellent methods for discernment, but not all of them model intercultural awareness; therefore, be discerning about discernment together: appreciate many ways of hearing God together.
- ~Believe that it is possible to emerge from our time together refreshed, surprised, and less burdened than when we came.  
(A Sure Foundation: Resources for the relationship between pastors and congregations, Ministerial Excellence Team, UCC)

Next month, I will share with you my understanding of pastoral covenant, sense of mission, and my call to ministry in this place, working and serving with you. Happy August!

Blessings, Rebecca

Mission and Ministry News  
August greetings from the M&M team!

\*\*\*Chaffee County Habitat for Humanity: Are you interested in helping with a volunteer build day this August? A duplex is being developed in Poncha Springs as a partnership with the Salida School District and your own Chaffee County Habitat. Future residents will be teachers and town workers. Contact Bowie Duncan at 719-395-5768 or Ron Rak at 303-456-9058.

\*\*\*Bob Dwyer Children’s Fund/Global Ministries Child Sponsorship Program: Thanks for your continued support of Angelo Jesus Abellana in Dumaguete City, Philippines. His most recent letter to us, including photos, are posted on a FH bulletin board. Did you know that Jean Buster writes regularly to him? Blessings, Jean!

\*\*\*Our Church’s Wider Mission (special UCC offering): We will ask for special free will offerings from the congregation in August. This is one of our ‘5 for 5’ national UCC offerings. We join with all UCC congregations to support this outreach mission. More information will be shared in a short video and in pew flyers. Also see additional information elsewhere in this newsletter.

\*\*\*Enthusiasm is building and talking has begun for another youth mission trip—maybe post-secondary/college-age. We’ll keep you posted as to how you can help.

Respectfully submitted, Helen Duncan, M&M Chair



Board of Trustees Report for August, 2018

- Finances - Contributions are significantly behind by \$14,180.00.
  - General Contributions for June were under budget by \$4224.92.
- Council News - Marge Dorfmeister has resigned from the CE board
  - Teachers for Children’s Church are needed and being lined-up.
- From the Pastor - The church clean-up was a success.
  - Yard debris will be metered to better manage the dumpster (which is also getting a new key box).
  - The chains on the swings are being replaced.
  - Xeriscaping the front parsonage lawn is being explored, with the possibility of an RMC grant.
- Potential Projects - New windows in the sanctuary and FH
  - New hard flooring to replace a portion of hall carpet to remove the bubbles
  - Refurbish men” bathroom in front hallway



Diaconate Notes

The Diaconate continues to seek a willing individual to fill the vacancy on the board. If you are interested in joining us, please speak to any of the Diaconate members, Moderator Marge Erickson, or Vice-Moderator Kathy Keidel. The Diaconate works closely with Pastor Rebecca on worship services and related responsibilities.

Sign-ups for worship service opportunities [Coffee hour hosts, Flower providers, Greeters, and Lectors] may be filled in on the clipboard on the bulletin board leading to the fellowship hall. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your Diaconate Board members [Barb Groy, Betsy Neas, Doyle Nyberg, Ruthann Schoeffield, or Elizabeth Shelby]. We continue to offer free training for all opportunities. Please sign-up for these worship opportunities!!

- Upcoming events and activities for August 2018 include the following:
- Communion Sunday will be held on August 05, 2018
  - Diaconate meeting at CUCC on August 08, 2018 @ 4:00 p.m.
  - Church Council meeting at CUCC on August 15, 2018 @ 7:00 p.m.
  - Guest preacher [Marge Erickson] on August 26, 2018 @ 10:00 a.m.

God bless.  
~Doyle Nyberg, Diaconate Chair





Part of our church family who would enjoy Prayers, Cards, or perhaps a Visit

Diane Bails (720) 505-6540  
21833 Saddlebrook Court, Parker, CO 80138

Nan Bohe (719) 207-4850  
Columbine Manor  
530 W. 16th Street, Salida, CO 81201

Jean Brody (303) 720-9595  
Sterling House #505  
8271 South Continental Divide Road  
Littleton, CO 80127

Lindsey Fagerberg  
6380 NE Cherry Dr., Apt. 515  
Hillsboro, OR 97124

Pete Gibbens (719) 395-8100  
716 W. Main Street, Buena Vista, CO 81211

Bonnie Guenther (719) 395-2261  
PO Box 12  
318 Pinon Street, Buena Vista, CO 81211

Lew and Jean Lowe (719) 490-8288  
925 Willow Valley Lakes Drive, Apt. 326  
Willow Street, PA 17584

Albert & Phyllis McCall (719) 966-9552 -A  
(719) 659-9597-P  
7950 W. Byers Ave. #102, Lakewood, CO 80226

Millie & Tom Meardon (719) 221-2067 -M  
531 McAfee Avenue, Las Animas, CO 81054

Gail Moffat (719) 221-1131  
922 W. Main Street, Buena Vista, CO 81211

Ada Morrison (970) 481-2287  
Columbine Manor  
530 W. 16th Street, Salida, CO 81201

Charlotte Smith 303-684-5681  
129 Windwalker, Buena Vista, CO 81211

Sarah Struthers (719) 395-6888  
17100 CR 363, Buena Vista, CO 81211

Charlie Terrill (719) 395-8586  
PO Box 718  
28300 C. R. 301, Buena Vista, CO 81211

Gerry and Jean Venard (719) 966-9524  
3377 Mill Vista Road, Unit #3205  
Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

Wilma and Angie Williams (719) 395-2702  
PO Box 1808  
208 S. Colorado, Buena Vista, CO 81211



CUCC Special Dates

BIRTHDAYS

August 2—Jim Amster  
August 4—Betsy Neas  
August 6—Liz Anderson  
August 6—Bev Liddle  
August 10—Tom Meardon  
August 12—Les Messamer  
August 14—Linda Carpenter  
August 14—Charlie Terrill  
August 15—Glynette Smith  
August 17—Elvin Frantz  
August 17—Elizabeth Shelby  
August 20—Lew Lowe  
August 25—Marge Dorfmeister  
August 29—Jenna McMurry  
August 30—Rhonda Funston  
August 31—Bill Shelby

ANNIVERSARIES

August 5—Charles & Tricia Blake  
August 9—Bart & Loretta Cain  
August 15—Butch & Noel Ekin  
August 18—Mark & Alice Wolters  
August 26—Bowie & Helen Duncan  
August 26—Keith & Joan Sovereign



Don't see your special day listed? Please contact the office at 395-2544 or office.bvcucc@gmail.com.



Please Remember in Your Prayers

Nan Bohe—Healing  
Mary Lou Bouman—Healing  
Marcy Adams—Healing  
Linda Baldwin—Healing  
Kim Hughes (Doyle Nyberg's cousin)—Healing  
Bryce Kelly—Healing  
Liz Carpenter (Kay Allinger's sister-in-law)—Healing  
Sarah Struthers—Healing  
Jordan Conradson—Healing  
Terri Holloway McNorton—Healing  
Randy Wagner—Healing  
The Family of Janice Fletcher (Jeff Keidel's sister)—Comfort  
Codi Miller—Healing  
Rod & Sarah Struthers & Family—Comfort in the loss of grandson-in-law  
Lindsey Fagerberg—Healing  
Maryanne Wells (Janet Jones' sister-in-law)—Healing  
Marlene Summers (Janet Steiner's sister)—Healing  
Krissa Ferguson (Jean & Steve Ferguson's daughter-in-law)—Healing  
Mark Russell (Marge Dorfmeister's nephew)—Healing  
Courtney Shucker—Healing

Garden News!

The Jim Close Memorial Garden is thriving. Despite a dearth of rain and with a learning curve that comes with any new project, the garden has sprung to life with both vegetables and carefully chosen flowering plants to serve as natural insecticides.

16 of the 24 plots are being used with approximately 16 individuals taking part. Initially, the local Boys and Girls Club was offered space, but while interested, they didn't have the transportation necessary to ferry the kids back and forth and so had to decline. Most of the plots are being used by CUCC congregants, but there are at least two outside community members involved.

The deer fence is working well and the sign on the main gate is very attractive. It's been encouraging to have the gardeners bring their issues and suggestions to the church's attention so that together we can make the garden better and better.

In fact, one of the gardeners organized a meeting of the group to discuss whatever was on their mind in relation to the garden. Having them take ownership of this project was something unlooked for and yet highly gratifying.



Just some of our enthusiastic gardeners!



Do you remember what it stands for? (No, you're not being graded!)

1. BV CUCC has a personal connection to the Smithsonian. One of our former members, Marilyn Johnson, who passed away in 2002, was an expert tole painter. Many of our church family have some of her wonderful pieces. She received the honor of having one of her creations placed in the Smithsonian! Research hasn't given any information about where it might be displayed or if it still is, but if you're there, you now might know what to watch for.
2. Would you like to play shuffle board in our church? Well, you can!!! Unfortunately, though, you would have to pull up the carpet in the sanctuary. Before the fellowship hall was created and the extended hallway was added, the sanctuary was tiled with game designs. Everything was held in the sanctuary—lots of tables were carried and set up for potlucks, the bazaar was all in one room, and the kitchen faced into the area. After all these years, it's hard to remember, but that's the truth!!!





## View from the Mountain

### “The Souls of Animals”

Do animals have souls? This has been a controversial subject for as long as I can remember, and though I personally believe they do, I’ve never found proof. Then, in December of 1994, my lifelong friend Holly VanMeter, gave me a book, *The Souls of Animals*. In this little gem of a book I found all of the proof I needed. Let’s talk about this.

First of all, what is a soul? The word ‘animal’ comes from a Latin root that means ‘soul.’ It is the channel through which we become conscious of the essence—the inward beauty—that dwells within all living beings.

To me, animals have all of the traits indicative of souls. We can’t see souls, but we surely can see outward manifestations like when they are sad or happy or show courage and generosity and, certainly, forgiveness. If we humans open our hearts to other creatures and allow ourselves to feel their joys and struggles, you will find they have the power to touch us—even transform us.

If we let ourselves listen closely, we can learn from animals. In fact, “Ask the beasts and they will teach you,” counsels the book of Job. They have lived on earth much longer than humans. Their instincts about how to live are often smarter and more proven to work than ours.

One aspect of the presence of souls is being aware of death. The consciousness of our own mortality is part of what makes us human and a spiritual creature. There is much evidence among animal species that they both understand and honor death—their own and the death of their group members.

*The Souls of Animals* goes into detail of the elephants, the gorilla, and some species of birds and their consciousness of death. It tells of documented true stories of how they grieve, bury, and deal with the deep depression.

A number of years ago my daughter Phoebe and her husband Steve had two wonderful horses—Sunny and Dandy. They were best of friends, playing together constantly and always staying close. But two days before Christmas, with no warning of illness, Sunny just dropped dead in the field. It was minus twenty degrees at the time, but for the next three days his beloved friend never left his side. He wouldn’t leave, wouldn’t eat or drink. Until the man came to remove the frozen body, he never moved. It’s a wonder it didn’t kill Dandy as well.

Don’t tell me animals don’t love and mourn at the loss of a loved one—animal or human. Here’s what I want you to do after you read this. I want you to look deeply into the eyes of an animal. As you become aware that this cat, dog, elephant, etc., is not like you, but not wholly unlike you either, it will be easier—realizing this creature is one hundred percent unique and a work of art just as we are.

Do you see in its eyes all of the days of living within those eyes through memory? They remember good and bad, scares, abandonment, just like us.

As you look deeper, pay attention to what you can’t see—the inwardness of this being. Now, what you are seeing is living spirit. Greet and respect that spirit. Appreciate it.

Ask yourself, what does it feel like to be this creature? What does the world look like through those eyes? Realize the creature is alive and has needs and desires and walks the same ground as you and breathe the same air. It feels pain and enjoys senses—the warmth of the sun, cooling shades, and refreshing tastes of pure water—just like you do. In all of this we are kin.

I believe animals are our spiritual soul guides and emotional companions. We can have truly mutual relationships with them. First, though, humans must stop feeling superior to animals. Humans too often relate to an animal as a thing, or an object to own even, instead of a friend. This cannot work, because we are not.

If you feel superior it may be easier to take out your anger and frustration on the animal; however, if you view it as a child of God with a soul, it should be much harder to be cruel. I earnestly pray so.

To be made in the image of God is to be somebody, not something. Animals, like us, are living spirits. The God who made each of us is inside each of us. If you believe that, and believe we are of Him, then how could animals not have souls?

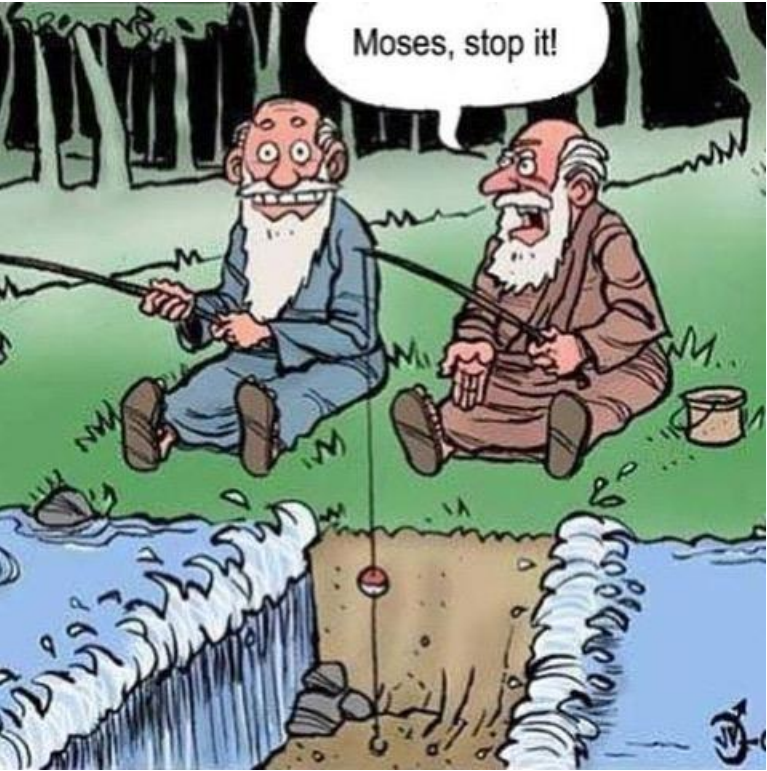
The view from the mountain is wondrous.

*Jean Brody*

Join the Prayer Team and make a difference right from you own home!

Please surround in love, light and your continual prayers:

- ◆ Persons and families on the Joys and Concerns list—healing and comfort
- ◆ CUCC stretching and connecting in new, life-giving and inspiring avenues in the coming year
- ◆ Leaders of staff, boards, classes and committees, as they serve faithfully
- ◆ Music and Worship—growth in participation and experiencing God in our midst and feeding our souls together
- ◆ Welcoming efforts—grounds, programs, outreach to make CUCC accessible for all , spiritually, emotionally and physically



#### What is the Bazaar?

As we start to mention info about the bazaar, it's possible that we just think everyone knows what we're talking about, but we're learning that maybe we need to do a little more explaining.

The bazaar date has had many places on the calendar. Some years it was more than one day. Currently, it is on the first Saturday of November. This year is our 91st year! and falls on November 3. Although it is listed as a Women's Missionary Society activity, it requires "all hands on deck." Everyone may be asked to help.

Departments are:

**Crafts**—new, homemade items, covering all interests

**Baked goods**—yum!

**Candy**—also yum!

**Books**—yes, people do still read turn-the-page editions

**Collectibles**—people collect everything, so this is a broad category

**Treasures**—what’s been in your attic/spare room that you’re finally ready to part with?

**Lunch**—and yet again yum!

The money is collected and used by WMS for its many worthwhile programs.

*Please, if you still aren't sure, don't be afraid to ask!!*

**Dear Friends at CUCC,**

**I want to thank you again for being there for me when I was in a hard place. If you had not been willing to help me out by allowing me to use your space, I would have been unable to make a living these past few months. You have blessed me with your kindness and it is much appreciated! I will “pay it forward” in my world when I can!**

**Thanks again,  
Judy Phelps**



***EQUAL EXCHANGE**  
by RON July*

***COFFEE REVIEWS**  
August 2018*

***A new order***

We have plenty of *fresh* Breakfast Blend, French Roast, and African Roots (BEANS). If you like flavored coffee, we have French Vanilla, Toffee Caramel, and Hazelnut Crème. Also stocked are all the Keurig-style varieties that Equal Exchange offers: French Roast, Breakfast Blend, and Unwind Decaf. And plenty of Baking Cocoa!

African Roots has a lingering mellow flavor somewhat like Salvadoran or Columbian, but not as unique as Kenyan or Ethiopian. On our next order, to treat us as we enter the fall season, I will get some “Congo” beans for comparison, and resupply the Salvadoran, Columbian, and Nicaraguan varieties.

See our sales display almost every Sunday at the Fellowship Coffee Hour after church.

And, occasionally if you can, drop a dollar or some change in the green cup in our display to support the Holy Joe’s Military Chaplaincy. *Thank You!*

Ron Rak, rak\_roll@ yahoo.com  
Coffee comments appreciated!



## PLUG INTO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

### WE ARE FAMILY & WATCH OUT FOR EACH OTHER.



If you or someone you know from CUCC has been missing, been ill, or just not around, please let Pastor Rebecca know. Also, let them know we miss them and are concerned about how they're doing.

If you're going to be away traveling, please let us know as well!

### Did you know that CUCC has an All-Church Email blast each week?

Be sure you're on the list! Call Nancy at 395-2544 or email to [office.bvcucc@gmail.com](mailto:office.bvcucc@gmail.com).

### AFFAIRS IN ORDER?

*Don't forget your church!*

CUCC has a form for "Memorial Instructions." This is a helpful tool for you, your family, and your pastor to know your wishes for your memorial service and memorials. See Pastor Rebecca or the office for a form, email for a copy to [office.bvcucc@gmail.com](mailto:office.bvcucc@gmail.com), or pick one up in the kiosk at church.

### LET'S BE GREEN!!!

Please recycle everything possible at CUCC. We have bins in the office and Fellowship Hall to make it easy. Please do not put cardboard boxes in the dumpster. Flatten and put next to the recycle bin in the FH or give to Pastor Rebecca.



### Backpack Program

Food items always in demand:

\*Shelf-stable milk (Horizon milk in cartons on shelf at Walmart, white or chocolate)

\*Fruit cups (individual)

\*Chef Boyardee, pasta, etc.

\*Pudding Cups \*Granola or Cereal Bars

As always, cash donations are appreciated, too!

### SUMMER SONG AND PSALM SERIES!

August	Scriptures
Sunday, August 5	— TBA
Sunday, August 12	— TBA
Sunday, August 19	— TBA
Sunday, August 26	— TBA

### SUMMER SONG SERIES continues!!

*Sing Out!*

This summer we are exploring hymns, songs, history, theology, and why songs touch our souls.

Send song titles that are meaningful to you and comments about why to Pastor Rebecca—either notes in the office or [Revbecca@icloud.com](mailto:Revbecca@icloud.com).



If you have special music or a drama idea to share this summer, please let Pastor Rebecca know!



*Let's sing, and dance and play in worship!*

### DID YOU KNOW?

Sermons can be received via email each week or found in the file box outside the office door, sorted by date.

Email [office.bvcucc@gmail.com](mailto:office.bvcucc@gmail.com) or call 395-2544 to receive a copy.

Also available in large print before the service—ask a greeter.

## CHURCH-COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS



Collegiate Peaks Forum Series presents  
Avalanche Science—The Cold Facts  
Thursday, September 13, 7:00pm  
BV Community Center

Dr. Ethan Green, Director of the Colorado Avalanche Information Center (CAIC), gives the scoop on all things avalanche—good information for us living here in the mountains!

**BV Optimist Club  
Charity Golf Tournament**  
Thursday, August 16, 8:30am  
shotgun start  
Collegiate Peaks Golf Course, BV

Two-Person Team Scramble  
\$65 per-person registration—includes greens fees, breakfast and lunch

Registration deadline is August 9—contact Todd Allen at 720-626-1884 or Eric Gibb at 719-207-0296.

Funds help support BV youth projects, including college scholarships, Boys and Girls Clubs, backpack program, Odyssey of the Mind, high school trips, and youth appreciation awards.



### Gold Rush Days

**Pancake Breakfast in Columbine Park!**  
presented by the Optimist Club  
Saturday, August 11  
8:00am—10:30am

All you can eat!  
Best pancakes in town!  
Pancakes, sausage, OJ, coffee, milk

\$7 for 12 & up  
\$3 for kids 5-11

Proceeds benefit Optimist Club  
BV youth projects!

### Arkansas Valley Christian Mission

The first Sunday of each month CUCC collects cash and food donations for the Mission. They are always in need of peanut butter & jelly and canned fruit.

Thank you!



**BV COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE**  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1  
10:00AM-3:00PM  
BV LDS CHURCH (611 ARIZONA ST.)

CONTACT BONFILS BLOOD CENTER TO  
SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT BY CALLING  
800-365-0006, EXT. 2 OR VISIT [BONFILS.ORG](http://BONFILS.ORG)  
AND USE SITE CODE 0038.

### Not a fan of plastic bags?

Sustainable BV/Chaffee Green has begun an initiative to reduce/eliminate plastic bags. There is now a 'Take One! Leave One!' bin in the City Market foyer. If you have any bags you're willing to share, please contribute to the bin. If you forget your bag when shopping,



please use bags out of the bin. It'll be a fun game of pass the bag around! Pick out your favorite and look for it like an old friend. :)

Our own Boy Scout Troop 67 is helping to give away free 'gently-used' reusable bags. Look for the them, too, and say hello!



**A Little Help in BV!**  
Informational Meeting  
Thursday, August 9  
10:00am-11:00am, CUCC

Please come learn more about A Little Help.

For more information, call 719-966-7366 or email [sara@alittlehelp.org](mailto:sara@alittlehelp.org).



## CUCC Newsletter — New and Improved!!

### It's Going Green!

As part of our going green efforts and in order to use our budget in the wisest manner we can, this August newsletter will be the last one mailed out in bulk to all. **Beginning in September**, printed newsletters will be available in the Narthex and at Coffee Hour. A link to the online version can be found on the website at [www.bvcucc.org](http://www.bvcucc.org) (News and Events page) and will be sent each week in the email blast.

Please call Nancy at the office (719-395-2544) to:

- Be sure you're on the Weekly Blast email list and
- Request a paper copy by mail if picking one up or reading it online is not an option.

A Sunday School teacher asked her class to draw pictures of their favorite Bible stories. She was puzzled by one drawing—it showed four people on an airplane!

Teacher: "What Bible story is that?"

Kid: "It's the flight to Egypt."

Teacher: "I see. And that must be Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus. But who is the fourth person?"

Kid: "Oh, that's Pontius, the pilot."



### Reaching the Pastor

If I'm not at the church, I might be out visiting, at a meeting or writing a sermon.



Leave a message at the office at 719-395-2544, call my cell at 719-252-6890, or email me at [revbecca@icloud.com](mailto:revbecca@icloud.com).



Christ has no body now but mine. He prays in me, works in me, looks through my eyes, speaks through my words, works through my hands, walks with my feet and loves with my heart.

St Teresa of Avila



MYSTIC PRAYERS

"Christ has no body now but mine. He prays in me, works in me, looks through my eyes, speaks through my words, works through my hands, walks with my feet and loves with my heart."

~ St. Teresa of Avila

### The Legendary Blue Danube River Cruise

#### 11-Day River Cruise Holiday

Hungary • Slovakia • Austria • Germany •

Czech Republic

Departs September 5, 2019

For reservations or information contact Barb Rudolf

with E-Travel Unlimited at 303-792-9225 or [barb@etravelunlimited.com](mailto:barb@etravelunlimited.com).

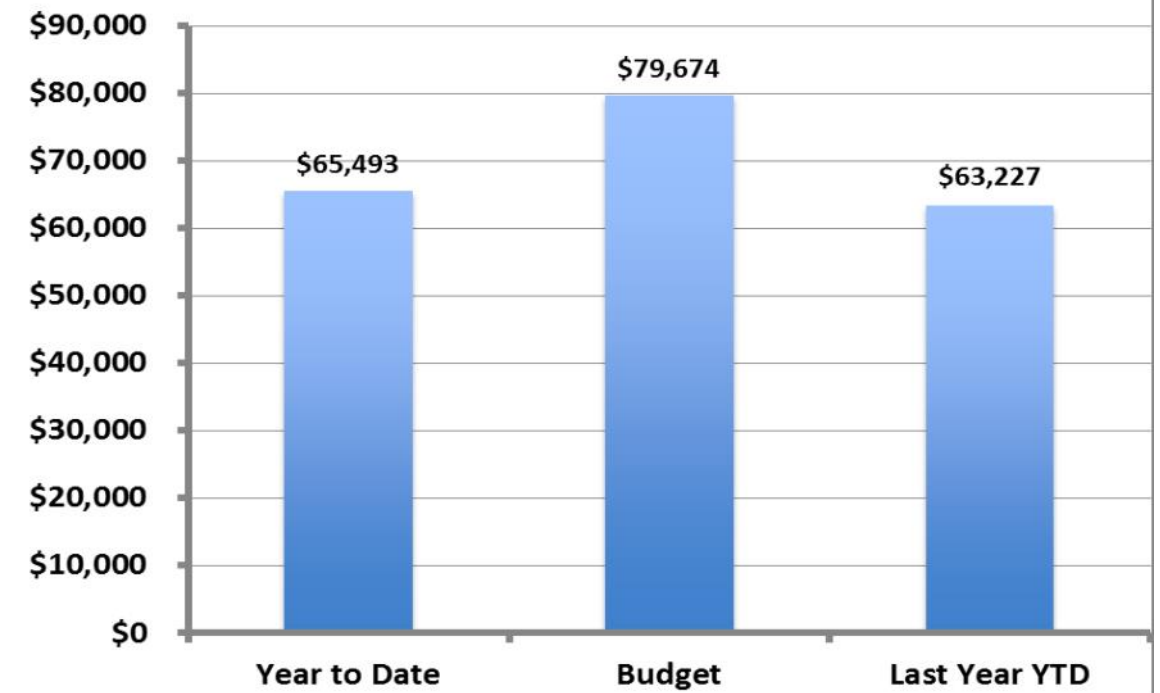
### Educational Tour of the Holy Land

December 29, 2018-January 10, 2019

Former CUCC members, Rod and Sharie Schofield, are leading a post Christmas trip to the Holy Land. They will be visiting holy sites throughout Israel and Palestine, as well as worshipping at Redeemer in Jerusalem.

If you are interested, please contact Rod and Sharie at [rodschofield93@gmail.com](mailto:rodschofield93@gmail.com) to receive an email brochure and video of a trip Rod led this past January.

### General Contributions through June, 2018



### A Little Help—Let Me Introduce Myself

Hello! I'm Sara Ward and I'm the new Chaffee County Coordinator for A Little Help, having started this past May. I'm excited for this new role and hope to meet all of our volunteers and members in the near future.

My family moved to Salida in 1984 from Southeast Colorado. After attending the Salida schools, in 1996 I began studies at the College of Atlantic in Bar Harbor, Maine, and then moved to Ecuador to do landscape design and teach English, returning to Chaffee County in 2006 to be closer to family. Since then, my sister and I started a small business doing landscaping and managing private properties. Through this line of work, I have met a lot of people in the area, both long-timers and newcomers.

I enjoy meeting new people and hearing their stories. I like being part of the process of connecting people to the resources they need. One of my goals is to grow A Little Help in the Buena Vista community. I have a lot to learn and am excited to be working with A Little Help Chaffee County.



A LITTLE HELP

### Who we are:

A Little Help is a Colorado nonprofit that connects neighbors to help seniors thrive. To that end, we equip neighbors of all ages to volunteer for direct services to empower the elders in our communities to live interdependently and with a high quality of life. Volunteers provide services including transportation, yard work, technology and handy help, companionship, and caregiver respite among others. As we've implemented our good neighbor model over the past ten years, we have honed our systems, have built our capacity, and have seen the gaps in service that our members and other area seniors find in their efforts to age well in Colorado.

### What is going on locally:

A Little Help came to Salida in 2015, and we currently have around 40 members, over 100 volunteers, an advising branch team, and one paid coordinator position. We work hard to fulfill our member requests, have social gatherings, and do two Service Saturdays per year. I would really like to see this model grow into the Buena Vista community. I am envisioning a local branch team that can aid in the functioning of BV's community needs. We currently have eight volunteers and six members for ALH in BV!



## Kudos Kolumn

### 4th of July PIE SALE in McPhelemy Park!!

Many CUCCers planned, baked, brought, sliced, served, sold, bought and ate pie. We raised almost \$950 for church activities and missions! Nancy's husband James thoroughly enjoyed the cherry pie he took home and Rebecca ate one of the best apple pies she's had in her life!

Thank you, Kay Allinger, for all you do for CUCC and WMS! M&M extends a special thanks and kudos to you for sending Thank You notes to all contributors to the Backpack Program.

And we aren't forgetting Jean Buster and Doyle Nyberg! Thank you, too, for sending out get-well, thinking-of-you, and condolence cards on behalf of CUCC. You are appreciated!

Have you noticed that the church grounds are looking beautiful? Thanks to all the tenders, mowers, waterers and weeders—too many to name! And to those who fix the irrigation systems at the church and parsonage to make it all possible—many thanks!



### New Senior's Exam (for people who are newly-become seniors?) You only need to get 4 correct out of 10 questions to pass!

#### Questions:

- 1) How long did the Hundred Years' War last?
- 2) Which country makes Panama hats?
- 3) From which animal do we get cat gut?
- 4) In which month do Russians celebrate the October Revolution?
- 5) What is a camel's hair brush made of?
- 6) The Canary Islands in the Pacific are named after what animal?
- 7) What was King George VI's first name?
- 8) What color is a purple finch?
- 9) Where are Chinese gooseberries from?
- 10) What is the color of the black box in a commercial airplane?

Remember, you need only 4 correct answers to pass.

#### Answers:

- 1) How long did the Hundred Years War last? 116 years
- 2) Which country makes Panama hats? Ecuador
- 3) From which animal do we get cat gut? Sheep and Horses
- 4) In which month do Russians celebrate the October Revolution? November
- 5) What is a camel's hair brush made of? Squirrel fur
- 6) The Canary Islands in the Pacific are named after what animal? Dogs
- 7) What was King George VI's first name? Albert
- 8) What color is a purple finch? Crimson
- 9) Where are Chinese gooseberries from? New Zealand
- 10) What is the color of the black box in a commercial airplane? Orange

(Yeah, Nancy failed, too—but she did know there was some sort of trick to it!)

### La Puente Hygiene Bag report

On July 10, 29 hygiene bags were delivered to La Puente, along with pillows, a box of sheets, a bag of stuffed animals, two boxes of miscellaneous hygiene items, and two large garbage-size bags of bedding.

They were very happy to receive all of these items, especially as the need has been greater recently due to the fires.

Thank you to everyone who contributed items! WMS appreciates you immensely!!



### WMS Program

The next one will be  
Thursday, September 27  
at 1:00pm.

“Strengthening Ourselves”  
with Lacey Trusty

Enjoy your summer!

## August 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>AE=Adult Education Room</b> <b>CH=Choir Room</b> <b>D=Drama Room</b> <b>F=Fellowship Hall</b>	<b>K=Kitchen</b> <b>N=Nursery</b> <b>PO= Pastor's Office</b> <b>RR= Rainbow Room</b>	<b>S= Sanctuary</b> <b>#7= Room 7</b> <b>#8= Room 8</b> <b>PL= Parking Lot</b>	<b>1</b> 12pm AA-AE  6pm MSH-CH 7pm OA-#7 7-9:30pm Youth Core -S, side rooms	<b>2</b> 10am-12pm Journey Group-RR  7pm AA-AE 7-9:30pm Youth Core -S, side rooms	<b>3</b> 8:15am-12pm Strong Women-AE	<b>4</b> 9am AA-AE 9am AI-Anon - #7
<b>5</b> 10am Communion Worship & Children's Church 11am Coffee Hour	<b>6</b> 8:15am-12pm Strong Women -AE  1-2:30pm Piano Lessons-S	<b>7</b> 8:30am TOPS-CH  6:30-8pm Scouts-FH 6:30pm AI-Anon-#7 7pm TELLS	<b>8</b> 12pm AA-AE  4pm Diaconate -AE  7pm OA-#7	<b>9</b> 10am-11am A Little Help-AE, K 4:00pm CE -PO 7-8:30pm Trustees - #7 7pm AA-AE	<b>10</b> 8:15am-12pm Strong Women-AE	<b>11</b> 9am AA-AE 9am AI-Anon - #7
<b>12</b> 10am Worship & Children's Church 11am Coffee Hour	<b>13</b> 8am-4pm Monarch Quilters-FH 8:15am-12pm Strong Women -AE  1-2:30pm Piano Lessons -S	<b>14</b> 8:30am TOPS-CH  5pm M&M -AE 6:30-8pm Scouts-FH 6:30pm AI-Anon-#7 7pm TELLS	<b>15</b> 12pm AA-AE   6pm Council -AE 7pm OA-#7	<b>16</b> 10am-12pm Rainbow Place-RR   7pm AA-AE	<b>17</b> 8:15am-12pm Strong Women-AE	<b>18</b> 9am AA-AE 9am AI-Anon -#7 9:45am AI-Anon Bus. Mtg. - #7
<b>19</b> 10am Worship & Children's Church 11am Coffee Hour	<b>20</b> 8:15am-12pm Strong Women -AE  1-2:30pm Piano Lessons -S	<b>21</b> <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b> 8:30am TOPS-CH  4pm Stewardship -PO  6:30-8pm Scouts-FH 6:30pm AI-Anon-#7 7pm TELLS	<b>22</b> 12pm AA-AE   7pm OA-#7	<b>23</b>    7pm AA-AE	<b>24</b> 8:15am-12pm Strong Women-AE	<b>25</b> 9am AA-AE 9am AI-Anon - #7
<b>26</b> 10am Worship & Children's Church 11am Coffee Hour	<b>27</b> 8:15am-12pm Strong Women -AE  6:30pm-8:30pm CPC Rehearsal -S, CH	<b>28</b> 8:30am TOPS-CH  6:30-8pm Scouts-FH 6:30pm AI-Anon-#7 7pm TELLS	<b>29</b> 12pm AA-AE   7pm OA-#7	<b>30</b>   7pm AA-AE	<b>31</b> 8:15am-12pm Strong Women-AE	



CUCC Council Minutes  
June 27, 2018

**Present:** Marge Erickson, Ron Erickson, Doyle Nyberg, Lesley Fagerberg, Rebecca Kemper Poos, Bill Waldorf, Arlene Waldorf, Norma Smith, Kay Allinger, Betsy Neas, Ron Rak

Marge Erickson called the meeting to order at 7:03pm, opening with an inspiring Psalm reading. Marge reviewed a calendar in the Agenda of upcoming events through July 18, noting a change in the Stewardship/Task Force meeting to July 24 at 4:00pm.

General Business and Reports

**Minutes** from the May 16 Council Meeting prepared by Doyle were approved – Ron/Kay - as submitted and reviewed at the Council Meeting.

**Clerk’s Report:** Ron R. reported that 1) in June we received an official letter of transfer for Reggie and Judy Nelson from CUCC to Western Trail Cowboy Church in Texas and 2) in late May received an official letter of transfer for Stephan and Adele Jackson to CUCC.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Lesley, speaking for Treasurer Cindy Helm, highlighted the May 30 Financial Statement, which was concisely summarized on a one-page handout to Council members. Key points made were that General Contributions for May were under budget by \$2,096.92 and total expenses YTD exceeded total income by \$7,531.99. As requested by CE, a new line item was added to their budget recently: “CE Special Projects.” The Community Garden Fund showed a balance of \$839, although most of the \$1500 Garden Grant from the UCC has been spent. The recent Family Camp program was funded in large part by designated contributions, and Arlene commented that she did not feel that the program reduced general church giving for the month. Lesley warned to expect under-budget contributions through June, which may result in being \$14,000 under budget, and possibly continuing through July and beyond, which could consume all of the \$36,939 in the Contingency Fund.

Lesley suggested a plea to the Congregation to consider additional contributions. Bill and Lesley will announce the budget status at Sunday services through July. It was agreed that the Office Staff will also continue to include a bar graph presentation of the church budget in the weekly Sunday bulletins through July.

A suggestion was made by Arlene Waldorf to increase contributions by encouraging church members to pay an additional \$14 per person, which is the \$2 SEA and \$12 RMC per capita payments, which for 153 members would amount to \$2,142.

**Moderator’s Report:** The All-Church clean-up accomplished many of the needed tasks on Saturday June 16<sup>th</sup>, with a good crew of volunteers. Janet Steiner and others worked at cleaning the windows of the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall, which led to a generous offer from Janet to start a fund to replace these windows with more energy efficient and easier to clean windows. This suggestion will be discussed at the Trustee meeting in July. The June 7-9 Rocky Mountain Conference Annual Celebration was held at La Foret and was well attended by the Rocky Mountain churches. Ron, Marge, and Rebecca attended.

**Pastor’s Report:** Rebecca suggested that we “look bigger” to solve our financial issues. Good examples of this approach were the recent Family Camp and the Community Garden “In the Mud Grant” programs, which reach out to the community and can result in immeasurable returns. She also noted that the Church Office is reducing mailing costs for the monthly newsletter by changing distribution methods, which will start in September.

Continuing Business

**Community Garden Progress:** Ron E. noted that the garden was fully operational and that good signage had been installed announcing that it is a “community garden,” not just for church members. 8 of 24 spaces remain to be taken.

**Additional Cleanup Day:** Marge queried whether another cleanup day was needed in the fall, especially for grounds cleanup of fallen leaves.

New Business

**Moderator:** Marge presented the resignation of Marge Dorfmeister from the CE Board. Arlene moved/Betsy 2<sup>nd</sup> to accept the resignation with regrets. Council voted unanimously to accept. The CE Board has begun looking for a replacement, noting that Council must approve any nomination.

Reports of Boards, Affiliated Organizations, Committees

**Trustees Report:** Doyle noted that all pertinent financial information was in the published Trustees meeting minutes. A new need for a Vice-Chair was experienced by Ron Hassell’s frequent calls to Fire Duty, but was satisfied by Bowie Duncan offering to fill the position.

**Christian Education:** Ron E. emphasized that clutter in the church is a major issue. There is a problem of removing items without hurting peoples’ feelings and dignity. He noted it takes a great deal of communication to not hurt emotional ties individuals may have with particular items.

Regarding budget issues, Ron suggested that a lot of contributions to the church are unreported. It was also a concern that Bowie Duncan was currently in Puerto Rico on a humanitarian mission to rebuild house roofs damaged from last season’s hurricane Maria, and suggested recognizing Bowie’s efforts. (He was volunteering with a Chicago-based UCC church group).

Arlene expressed a sense of overload for CE with all the summer activities. One more activity remained: the 4<sup>th</sup> of July booth and pie sale in McPhelemy Park, and volunteers have been solicited. She emphasized that a major reason for the success of the Family Camp program was the donated food. Food is certainly a draw for people who work and don’t have the extra time for meal preparation during the program.

**Diaconate:** Doyle noted that Rebecca is on vacation the end of July and that substitute pastoral care and Sunday service was provided for. A similar situation for the week of August 26 will be addressed. Newsletter costs and distribution were also discussed by Diaconate to cut church expenses. The importance of Sunday coffee hour refreshments was noted and that efforts will be made to fill out a schedule of providers.

**Mission and Ministry:** Ron R. noted the successful completion of the recent BV Hope Restoration Bags program at the church and that BV Hope was very thankful for the church support of their program. Backpack program funding issues still exist, with the current budget for the program sufficient through the winter. However, the fund is steadily decreasing and additional contributors need to be identified to sustain the program through 2019. Ron E. queried whether the above BV Hope program was overly promoted to the Congregation, competing with the limited monies available in the Congregation for the UCC’s 5for5 programs. Ron noted that as an important point and that it will be discussed at the July M&M Meeting as considerations for future special outreach programs.

**Women’s Missionary Society:** Norma mentioned the upcoming June WMS Picnic, and added that a short business meeting will be included.

**Stewardship/Visioning Task Force:** Bill outlined the multi-facets of church reorganization being considered, such as changing Board names to Teams, considering whether “Team” members needed to be church members, and how many members are needed to make an effective team. The Task Force also felt that the Trustees functions need to be split into separate maintenance and finance. The Task Force suggests that the financial functions be moved to an “Executive Committee” composed of the church officers. It was also noted that the Church Annual Meeting is too perfunctory to adequately communicate the needs/expectations/ideas/direction of the church – additional Congregational meetings over the course of the year may be beneficial.

Announcements/Final Comments

Marge expressed an additional thought on church membership decline, suggesting that there is a change in people’s mindsets since the 50’s when the UCC was formed of how they want to belong to a church. We also need to be aware of more permeable interfaces in individuals and lifestyles in our modern society.

Marge Erickson adjourned the meeting with a unison reading of a portion of the Buena Vista United Church of Christ “Identity Statement.”

Next meeting is scheduled for August 15 at 7:00pm.

Prepared by Ron Rak, Clerk



Changing Lives—Our Church’s Wider Mission

*Never place a period where God has placed a comma,*

Here are CUCC we give to this special offering in August.

Because we believe in transformation, we believe the church’s mission is changing lives—individually, systemically, and globally.

- \*We support, encourage and uplift local churches where lives are being changed through worship, education, fellowship, mission, and justice advocacy.
- \*We identify, recruit, educate and support leaders who inspire others.
- \*We support churches and plant new churches as vital places of worship, learning, and justice advocacy.
- \*We change lives through our global partnerships, missionaries and advocacy.

Gifts to Our Church’s Wider Mission benefit the full range of the UCC’s mission across the country and around the globe.



“What concerns Jesus is what concerns us.”

