



*Congregational
United Church of Christ*

Sunday Schedule

9:00am Adult Education

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.



Congregational United Church of Christ
217 Crossman Ave.
P.O. Box 610
Buena Vista, CO 81211
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



News and Views

Congregational United Church of Christ
February, 2019



MODERATOR'S MOMENT

“LOVE IS THE ONLY THE WAY”

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son...”!
John 3:16

It was a moving experience Sunday to watch Pastor Rebecca lovingly touch the foreheads of the three children who came for Baptism, Skyler, Gabby and Ryan Tucker.

They were rapt wrapped in full attention as she touched their foreheads with baptismal water and softly said the words: “You are a ‘Beloved’ child of God!” A beautiful moment of dedication to a loving God!

Then another wonderful experience began of looking into the eyes of those who came for a renewal of their baptismal vows and of hope. As I lovingly looked into the eyes of all who came the words became more and more significant: “You, are a ‘Beloved’ child of God. Chosen and marked by God’s love!” I had written those words on my hand so I would be sure to remember them, but as each of you came to be marked by the waters of Christ’s baptism, the words and the feelings flowed easily. I have also been moved this week to have one of those whom I blessed on Sunday send a word of inquiry as to the exact wording of the blessing. She wanted to capture the words again for her remembrance of the morning and the reassurance of God’s abiding love.

I’ve often, over the years, pondered the mystery of why Jesus began his public ministry in this way. Why did he come to John the Baptist, his cousin, to be baptized in the Jordan River? John, a fiery preacher, had a following of new, repentant believers who were finding their way back to God. John was telling them how to have a new relationship with God the Creator, by seeking forgiveness, but that wasn’t Jesus’s reason for coming. His commitment to *speak out* was just at its beginning and he wanted John’s blessing. But Jesus received more than he was seeking. The Holy Spirit appeared in the form of a *dove*, symbolic of purity and calling, but somehow it is the words of God that ring in our ears, that we remember and focus on—words from heaven: “You are my ‘Beloved’ Son, in whom I am well pleased.” Luke 3:21-22

Jesus opens our eyes to seeing God in new ways. Two of my favorite biblical scholars in recent years are Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossen. Both have been in Buena Vista as guest speakers of the Collegiate Peaks Form and indeed have spoken all over the world. Both have written numerous books on God and Jesus. Dr. Borg’s book entitled *Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time* can provide a picture of Jesus as a *real* person.

My heart resonates with Dr. Borg’s description of God’s love. He writes: “I have learned that how we image God matters. The images of God that we hold will reveal our ideas of God’s character. Two frequently held images of God are:
1. God as lawgiver and judge who also loves us. In this image God’s love is conditional and requires belief before it can be received.
2. God as lover. God loves every person with compassion which is nourishing and life-giving. It has tenderness, hope, and concern and is fierce in defense of persons.

With February being the one month that has a day devoted to *LOVE*, I urge you to take the opportunity to express and claim both the human and the heavenly love you feel toward God, others, and the “Beloved YOU!”

Happy Saint Valentine’s Day!



PASTOR'S ARTICLE, February, 2018

*“To **ble**ss means to wish, unconditionally, total, unrestricted good for others and events from the deepest wellspring in the innermost chamber of your heart...”*

A dear friend gave me a book awhile back that was very special to her and she wanted to share it. *The Gentle Art of Blessing: A Simple Practice That Will Transform You and Your World*, by Pierre Pradervand. The book sat on my “to be read” windowsill at the cabin for awhile, until recently, I felt led to pick it up and delve-in. Practicing Blessing. It seemed the perfect message for a new year and new season. Inside I found a fascinating story of lives changed by the adoption of a seemingly-simple spiritual practice: **The Art of Blessing**.

I love to see lives and hearts changed in a myriad of ways, so I have endeavored to undertake this practice and thought I would invite you to do the same. Let's see how this new year unfolds!

Here are the GUIDELINES for THE ART OF BLESSING:

*On awakening, bless this day, for it is already full of unseen good which your blessings will call forth; for to bless is to acknowledge the unlimited good that is embedded in the very texture of the universe and awaiting each and all.

*On passing people in the street, on the bus, in places of work and play, bless them. The peace of your blessing will accompany them on their way and the aura of its gentle fragrance will be a light to their path.

*On meeting and talking to people, bless them in their health, their work, their joy, their relationships to God, themselves, and others. Bless them in their abundance, their finances...bless them in every conceivable way, for such blessings not only sow seeds of healing, but one day will spring forth as flowers of joy in the waste places of your own life.

*As you walk, bless the city in which you live, its government and teachers, its nurses and street sweepers, its children and bankers, its priests and prostitutes. The minute anyone expresses the least aggression or unkindness to you, respond with a blessing: bless them totally, sincerely, joyfully, for such blessings are a shield which protects them from the ignorance of their misdeed and deflects the arrow that was aimed at you.

*To bless means to wish, unconditionally, total, unrestricted good for others and events from the deepest wellspring in the innermost chamber of your heart: it means to hallow, to hold in reverence, to behold with utter awe that which is always a gift from the Creator. He who is hallowed by your blessing is set aside, consecrated, holy, whole. To bless is yet to invoke divine care upon, to think or speak gratefully for, to confer happiness upon—although we ourselves are never the bestower, but simply the joyful witnesses of Life's abundance.

*To bless all without discrimination of any sort is the ultimate form of giving, because those you bless will never know from whence came the sudden ray of sun that burst through the clouds of their skies, and you will rarely be a witness to the sunlight in their lives.

*When something goes completely askew in your day, some unexpected event knocks down your plans and you too also, burst into blessing: for life is teaching you a lesson, and the very event you believe to be unwanted, you yourself called forth, so as to learn the lesson you might balk against were you not to bless it. Trials are blessings in disguise, and hosts of angels follow in their path.

*To bless is to acknowledge the omnipresent, universal beauty hidden to material eyes; it is to activate that law of attraction which, from the furthest reaches of the universe, will bring into your life exactly what you need to experience and enjoy.

*When you pass a prison, mentally bless its inmates in their innocence and freedom, their gentleness, pure essence and unconditional forgiveness; for one can only be prisoner of one's self-image, and a free man can walk unshackled in the courtyard of a jail, just as citizens of countries where freedom reigns can be prisoners when fear lurks in their thoughts.

*When you pass a hospital, bless its patients in their present wholeness, for even in their suffering, this wholeness awaits in them to be discovered. When your eyes behold a man in tears, or seemingly broken by life, bless him in his vitality and joy: for the material senses present but the inverted image of the ultimate splendor and perfection which only the inner eye beholds.

*It is impossible to bless and to judge at the same time. So hold constantly as a deep, hallowed, intoned thought that desire to bless, for truly then shall you become a peacemaker, and one day you shall, everywhere, behold the very face of God. **Blessings on us all, Rebecca**

P.S. And of course, above all, don't forget to bless the utterly beautiful person YOU are!

(Printed with permission, from *The Gentle Art of Blessing*, by Pierre Pradervand)

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, teams, 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
- ◆ Learning, stretching, connecting—all of us reaching out to others, especially those of different cultures and religions



We need YOU!  New Bees Is looking for Volunteers!

YOU!  New Bees Is looking for Volunteers!

It's time again to request additional volunteers to help in the store for the school year. In this cheerful environment, you can work as little or as much as fits your schedule. Training is provided and physical limitations are not an issue.

Please contact New Bees at 719-395-6295
Tuesday-Saturday and ask for Margaret.

HEIFER INTERNATIONAL CONTRIBUTORS: It's come to Helen Duncan's attention that it's taking HI longer than usual this year to process all your generous checks from the Living Gift Market in December. You should all, however, be receiving an acknowledgement from HI. Please call Helen at 719-395-5768 if you have any questions. Thanks again!

Dear Rev. Poos & Family,

Happiest of New Years to you and the congregation—Here at last is the “rent” for 2018. We in OA so appreciate your generous use of the room on Wednesday evenings. It took a while to build our treasury to the point at which we could pay anything. We are still a very small group.

Sincerely, May Jane, Treasurer

P.S.—Would you kindly pray for us to know God's will for Overeaters Anonymous in BV. We would like to grow, but it's up to H.P., as we say in the program. (Higher Power)
Many thanks!

Ahoy there! Adventure, anyone?

New England and Canada Autumn Cruising

**stops in Portland, Maine, Bar Harbor, Maine, Saint John, New Brunswick, and Halifax, Nova Scotia
departs September 21, 2019 from NYC**

See the kiosk in the narthex for more information. Also contact Barb Rudolph for more information and reservations at 303-358-3410 or barb@etravelunlimited.com.



Dear Rebecca:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the new Chaffee County Community Foundation (CCCF), we are pleased to present this grant award of \$500 to your organization, designated for the Backpack Food Program for Kids. This grant comes as a collaborative effort between CCCF and the Freeport McMoRan Climax Mine.

Thanks to you and the dedicated volunteers at your church for their generous efforts to help kids in need in our community.

Any public or social media recognition of this grant should credit both CCCF and Freeport McMoRan, but please know that publicity is not a requirement of the grant.

This grant is an unrestricted grant, meaning you are free to spend these funds to create the highest impact on our community.

With best regards,
Michael Hannigan, Executive Director

Please Remember in Your Prayers

Nan Bohe—Healing
Marcy Adams—Healing
Jordan Conradson—Healing
The Family of Terri Holloway McNorton—Comfort
Maryanne Wells (Janet Jones’ sister-in-law)—Healing
Krissa Ferguson (Jean & Steve Ferguson’ daughter-in-law)—Healing
Mark Russell (Marge Dorfmeister’s nephew)—Healing
Gary Bragg (Ruth Amster’s nephew)—Healing
Linda Swanson—Healing
Ali Lufkin—Healing
Ed Simons (Rebecca K. Poos’ brother-in-law)—Healing
The Family of Ruth Lambert—Comfort
Vida Davis (Nybergs’ aunt)—Healing
The Family of Leon Hughes, Sr. (Nybergs’ uncle)—Comfort
Rick Fagerberg—Healing
The Family of Bob H. Smith—Comfort
Bill Shelby—Healing
Elvin Frantz—Healing
Laurie Riggs—Healing
Holden Benson (Poos’ newborn great-nephew)—Healing
Dennis Carpenter (Kay Allinger’s brother-in-law)—Healing
Ruby Hamilton—Healing
Craig Weissner (Jean & Steve Ferguson’s son-in-law)—Healing

**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

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

Rocky Kemper
934 NE 6th Ave. Drive (yes, both Ave. & Dr.)
Hillsboro, OR 97124

Lew Lowe (717) 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

Charlotte Smith 719-395-2939
129 Windwalker, Buena Vista, CO 81211

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

Gerry and Jean Venard (720) 489-4830
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



“The Space Between the Beats” — Sue’s Post-Sabbatical Reflections

November 28, 2018

Dear Friends and Colleagues in the Rocky Mountain Conference,

I don’t know how many times during my sabbatical I stopped to give thanks for your extreme kindness and generosity in providing a time of rest for your Conference Minister. I came to regard this time as the space between the heart beats—that precious time of void, that brief pause in which no work is required and stillness is celebrated. I took full advantage of the luxurious hollowness of that space between the beats.

For many, sabbatical provides a wonderful time for a majestic trip to see parts of the world otherwise unseen. For me, the space between the beats provided the opportunity for the stillness that allowed an inward dive into the parts of myself that often lay hidden by the busyness of my daily routine. The space between the beats allowed me a deep dive into my soul—and I am unendingly grateful.

Perhaps the biggest insight from that deep inward dive was a reflection on my compulsion with activity; this somehow insatiable need to be “doing” all the time. Resting is hard for me, and having been raised with what has been dubbed the “Midwestern Work Ethic,” the idea of Sabbath—a time of intentional rest and self-care—rubs against a long-instilled value of constant productivity. This is a value I clearly learned from watching my grandmother work in her kitchen, her house, and her garden from well before sunup to well after sundown, rarely even stopping to catch her breath. This pattern of constant self-servitude to perceived never ending responsibilities has informed my work habits most of my life.

It is only when I have the luxury to stop working (that precious space between the beats) when I can embrace my God-created human being-ness. You see, in theological terms, rather than understanding myself to be of inestimable worth to God by just “being”—which is my understanding of God’s unending love and inordinate goodness for all of us—it is cross-wired in my brain that it is only through doing, and doing, and doing some more, that I am worthy. It is all too easy in the midst of my busyness for me to be a human “doing” rather than a human “being.” So, I have emerged from my sabbatical with a commitment to living as a human being rather than a human doing, and you are welcome to call me on it if you see me doing otherwise.

And so, dear friends, the gracious gift of this space between the beats proved fully refreshing for me personally, and has renewed my focus for our shared ministry, which I will share more about further down.

Along with the quiet reflection of my time away, I would also like to share a brief travelogue of some sabbatical experiences that inspired deep joy in my soul.

I celebrated fully with my daughter Meghan as she married the love of her life, Myles Potter, on August 18 at La Foret.

In early fall, I toured Colorado for its magnificent color and sights, and I reconnected with my father’s family on the Western Slope. While in Grand Junction, I toured the space [where] we will meet for Annual Celebration 2019 (it will be great!).

On occasion, I took the opportunity to be a Denver tourist. Among other sites, I visited our Colorado State Capitol, marveled at the beauty of its stone architecture, and spent a bit of time with the fabulous fabric quilt honoring various women’s contributions to the state’s founding. The irony that our forefathers are etched in stone and bronze and our foremothers stitched in floss (let alone the nearly total omission of the contributions from people of color) may be an article for another day.

I played tour guide for some of my conference-ministry colleagues, leading them through my beloved Yellowstone National Park... which many of you know is my holy space. Ahhh...

A quick trip to Kansas City and its extraordinary Nelson Art Gallery, along with a bounty of time spent decorating my house for Christmas, rounded out my sabbatical time.

Oh, by the way, I took an “Improv” class, too. Don’t be surprised if some of those techniques show up at Annual Celebration!

Again, I give unending thanks for your generosity of time, treasure, and spirit. Please be likewise supportive of your pastors when their time for sabbatical comes, and really challenge yourself to find that holy space between the beats in your own lives.

Wishing you all a joyous Advent,
Sue Artt, RMC Conference Minister



CUCC Special Dates

BIRTHDAYS



February 1—Steve Allinger
February 2—Bowie Duncan
February 2—Ric Houseman
February 2—Charlotte Smith
February 3—Merilee Daugherty
February 6—Tom White
February 8—Will Bullock
February 12—Sharie Schofield
February 14—Adam Blake
February 16—Bill Waldorf
February 20—Del Jones
February 20—Rebecca Kemper Poos
February 26—Mary Fons Colvin
February 27—Bill Helms
February 27—Ken Rehborn
February 28—Butch Ekin

ANNIVERSARIES

February 2—Steve & Kay Allinger

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





view from the Mountain

“Dash Crash”

My dash crashed last summer. One night at supper, I coughed. A red light went on because my number one health fear is pneumonia. That disease nearly took me home two times in my four years here at assisted living. Something told me, even though I only coughed, that I was on the wrong path. By morning, I was very ill and couldn't even get to the bathroom or feed my cats by myself.

Blood work and x-rays showed I had double pneumonia. Every day we had to make a new decision whether or not to go to the hospital. My doctors know I do not do well in hospitals, and with the right drugs, nebulizer treatments, and help from RA's, I believed I might do better here.

As I write this in August, I have been sitting in my recliner ever since doing everything asked of me. Now I wait to see if I could turn a corner by myself or not.

I mean, after all, I am eighty-six with badly damaged lungs. Antibiotics were changed and seemingly slowly trying to change the downward path I probably was on.

It's been quite the experience. With much prayer, determination, a calling for patience, tomorrow's blood work will tell us if I've now turned the corner. I do believe I have.

You know, such an illness does more than play havoc with your body. It makes my inner self sort of step up. It makes me think about the “what if's” and rearranging my priorities. The list goes on and on. However, after a while, I begin to dwell on the “what if's” and I get depressed. But I have learned that somewhere in my DNA there's this fight, this determination to focus on my place in this world, and I try to dwell on when I'm well again and try to find a positive side to it all.

You know, I have a distinct flashback. I feel compelled to add this.

As I was growing up in Atlanta, Georgia, we had two homes—the other on St. Simons Island. It was a three-hundred-mile trip the day after school let out and it was the trip I lived for as far back as memory serves. Why?

That was and still is where the ocean and the wide sandy beaches were. It was the salty air, the seagulls hovering above me, and I was convinced from the beginning that it was my life coach to feeling free.

So, on one such trip, as my daddy turned the car and stopped, I thought my ten-year-old heart would burst. I shoved open the car back door, kicked my shoes aside, and simply started running as fast as possible.

Running at water's edge, my arms splayed wide, like asking God to live with me, I simply abandoned myself to the water and the salt and the air and the gulls. I was still running when I awoke.

Why did I add for you this old memory? After mulling it over, it reminds me to not give up to pneumonia. I ran and ran and jumped, looked up, reached for God.

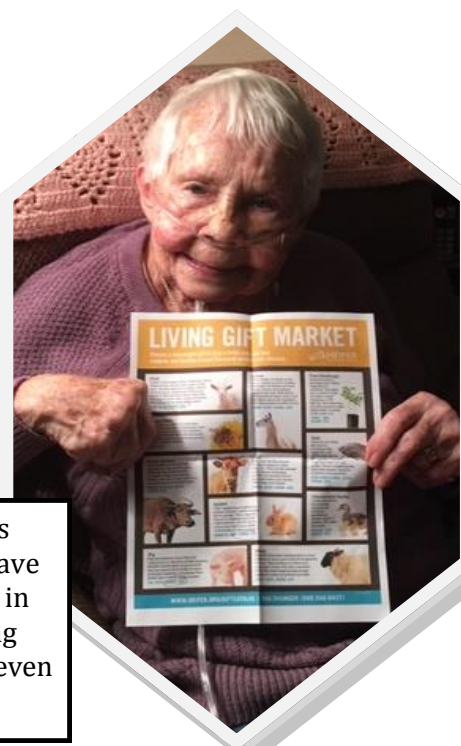
I was made in His image, so of course I had a purpose for good. I just have to heal these old lungs so I can get back to my dash. Thank you all for reading me for twenty-eight years.

The view from the mountain is wondrous.

~ Jean Brody



Jean Brody is pleased to have participated in CUCC's Living Gift Market even from afar.



As we undecorate and repack our Christmas treasures from 2018, here is Stuff You Might Not Know about items that have been a part of CUCC for many years.

SYMNK

The crèche figures were from Charlotte Smith. I heard that the missing Joseph was in need of repair and he was beyond help. So, I guess we're fortunate to have a stand-in—and the distance makes it work.

The stable was made by Art Williams, VirJeanne's husband.

The crocheted angel that graces the top of the Christmas tree was made by Roxie Smith. She and Frank moved to Oregon sometime around 2002. Both were very creative. Frank honored us with his violin talent many times.

The stand for the Advent candles was created by Bob Smith. (My plans were to ask about the process, but we know about plans!) No definite year could be remembered, but it has served more than 10 yrs. **** An interesting happening.... one year, a while after the lighting tradition, something caught Janet Steiner's eye as she sat next to the stand. One of the candles had burst its seam. There was wax flowing rapidly and steadily onto the carpet. She threw her bulletin down to catch as much as possible; however, most of it had already hit the floor. The very next week, Bob had installed plastic cups under the candles!



Siblings Skyler, Gabby, and Ryan Tucker were baptized by Pastor Poos and Rev. Marge Erickson on Sunday, January 13, 2019, as their proud family looked on.



To the church family,

Thanks to all of you for being there for our mother through the years—She truly loved the Lord, and her church.

Love,
The Lambert and Fauser Families



CHURCH-COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

2018 Statements of Giving are available on the table in the back of the sanctuary.

Get yours while the gettin's good! :)

Sunday Morning Adult Education 9:00am, AE room

The Sunday Morning Adult Class is studying Richard Rohr's Lenten study series called "Wondrous Encounters," which has 40 meditations for the days between Ash Wednesday, March 6, and Easter, April 21. See Marge Erickson if you wish to have a copy.

During February some prominent scholars, such as Joan Chittister, Karen Armstrong, Diane Eck, Huston Smith, and Marcus Borg, will speak to us via recording.

All adults are welcome! For those who sing in the choir the class is dismissed in time for them to be in the choir room by 9:45am.



TELLS
Tuesday Evening Ladies
Literary Society
Tuesdays, 7:00pm, at various
members' homes
You are invited!

(sorry, guys, but you've got the Monday Morning Men's Group) →

If you like reading, sharing, praying, supporting, exploring, and growing, then this the group for you!

February sees the start of the book "The Curious Charms Of Arthur Pepper" by Phaedra Patrick.

See Pastor Rebecca to be put on the email list and to get a copy of the book.

Notice an improvement in the narthex? Yep, it's been tidied up with a beautiful box handcrafted by Bowie Duncan for receiving food donations. Open the doors all the way and slide the blue bin out. The sections are labeled from left to right: Backpack Program, Women's Missionary Society, and Arkansas Valley Christian Mission. Enjoy!



The Backpack Program just received a \$500 grant from the new Chaffee County Community Foundation! Way to go Ken Rehborn and the whole team!!!

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!



MONDAY MORNING MEN'S GROUP Mondays at 8:00am Grace Church Annex

Adult Education for men of CUCC is being held at Grace Episcopal Church. There are three men from CUCC (Ron Rak, Ron Erickson, and Owen Lentz) and about five from Grace.

They are studying "Natural Grace" by Michael Fox and Rupert Sheldrake. Fox represents the theological tenant of Original Blessing and Sheldrake is a biologist. They discuss science and religion each from their own background.

The sessions last one to one and one-half hours and is open to men of CUCC and the community.

All Men are invited to learn, discuss and grow!

← (sorry, ladies, but you've got TELLs)



PLUG INTO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

On a Musical Note

Anyone with a song in their heart is invited to participate with the CUCC musical family. Our robed and lofted *Choir* sings most Sundays. Practice is on Wednesdays at 6:00pm.

MSG (Musical Support Group) is more casual and sings a variety of musical types. MSG sings on the 2nd Sunday of each month practices on the 1st Wednesday at 6:00pm.

We have a place for you!



Rocky Mountain Conference Congregations Alive 4 – a Just World for All Thursday, February 7 – Saturday, February 9 First Plymouth Congregational UCC, Englewood

Keynote Speakers—Rev. Traci Blackmon,
Rev. Amanda Henderson



Workshops, Fellowship, Worship,
Education, Faith Formation!
Something for Everyone!

For more information, talk to
Pastor Rebecca, see the flyer on
the bulletin board under RMC, or visit www.mcucc.org.

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 memorial gifts. See Pastor Rebecca or the office for a form, email for a copy to office.bvcucc@gmail.com, or pick one up in the kiosk at church.

February	Scriptures
Sunday, February 3	— Luke 4:21-30
Sunday, February 10	— Luke 5:1-11
Sunday, February 17	— Luke 6:17-26
Sunday, February 24	— Luke 6:27-38

Did You Know?

Copies of Sunday messages can be found in the file box outside the office door.

They're also on the church website at www.bvcucc.org/home/sunday-messages. A link to the latest message is included in the weekly email blast.

Messages are also available in large print before the service—ask a greeter.

Did you also 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.



**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.

LET'S BE GREEN!!!



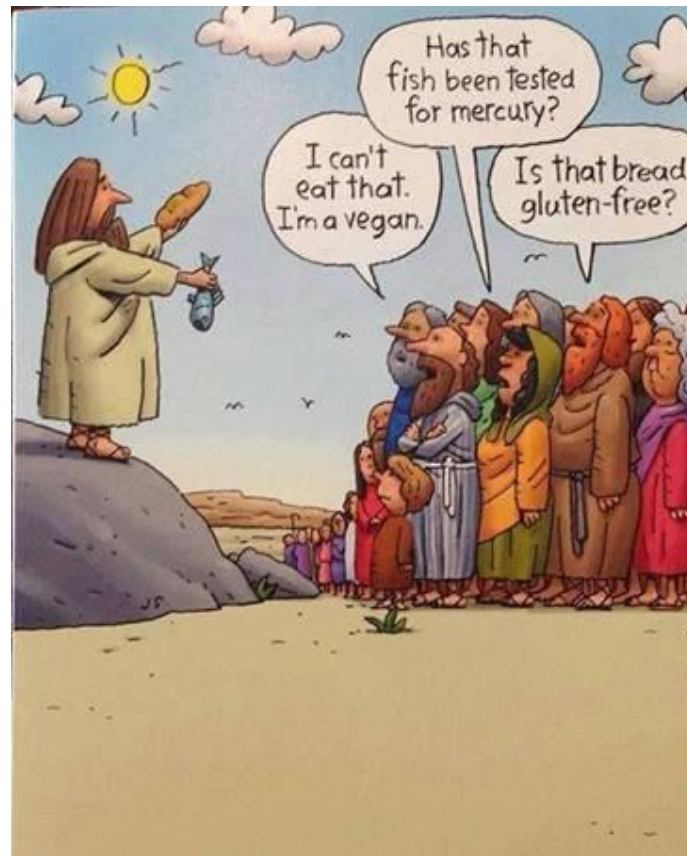
Please recycle everything possible at CUCC. We have bins in the office and Fellowship Hall to make it easy. Please do not put cardboard boxes in the dumpster. Flatten and put next to the recycle bin in the FH or give to Pastor Rebecca. The earth thanks you!





Kudos Kolumn

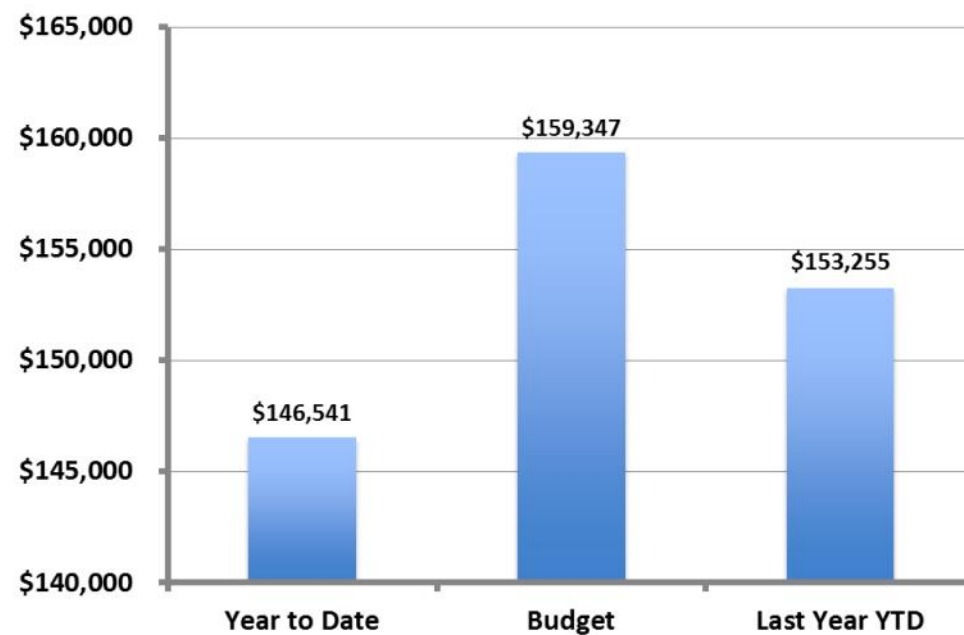
Trustees for bathrooms, new thrones, parsonage repairs, and snow removal; Bowie for the beautiful box in the narthex for mission collections; and all the worship leaders who made Advent and Christmas a beautiful, spiritual, and inspiring season.



WOW!!! So much showering of cookies, goodies Christmas! We grateful (and our and happy!) Clarke, Rebecca, Rocky, and the Critters (some of whom got carrots!) thanks for the cards, gifts, and hugs for are eternally tummies are full



General Contributions through December, 2018



MEMORIAL LEGACY for Pastor Rebecca's Mother & Dad: RASMUSSENS' RETREAT

In Mildred's memory, we invite you to join us in making a donation to Rasmussens' Retreat. Funds will go to renovating a lodge room at Camp Arrah Wanna, a location dear to Mildred and her late husband George's hearts, as well as Pastor Rebecca's entire family. In 1941 the camp opened, and Mildred served as one of the camp's first volunteers and then counselors. It was also at this mountain retreat where the pair, who enjoyed an almost 50-year marriage, first discussed getting engaged. Memorial Donations can be sent to:

Camp Arrah Wanna, 24075 E Arrah Wanna Blvd, Welches, OR; 97067.

Or donate online: "In Dedication to: Mildred Rasmussen" at www.camparrahwanna.org.



Mission and Ministry News (becoming Outreach Team)

February greetings!

Our January meeting included those members who will begin their terms after the annual meeting: Ellen Kely, Laurie Stevens and Ken Rehborn. We all agreed that the Heifer International fundraiser should continue next fall. Over \$2,600.00 was donated, thanks to enthusiastic participants. Also very enthusiastic is Ken Rehborn and his Backpack team of volunteers, due to a \$500 grant recently received from the Chaffee County Community Foundation. Looking forward to the restructuring of our church's Boards and Committees, we will participate in a special leadership training session on February 17. Also ahead will be our preparations for the Lenten Soup suppers beginning in March. Other ongoing projects are the Bob Dwyer child sponsorship initiative and the Fair Trade Coffee sales benefitting small coffee growers and supporting cafes with chaplain services in our armed forces, a program begun by the United Church of Christ. We thank you all for your continued commitment to these programs.

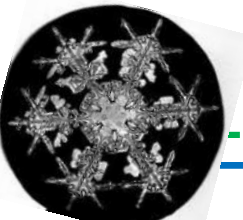
Respectfully submitted, Helen Duncan, Chair

CE News for February (becoming Faith Education Team—FE)

GOING FORTH IN THE NEW YEAR AS THE FAITH EDUCATION TEAM, YOUR NEWLY ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES WOULD LOVE NOTHING MORE THAN YOUR INPUT AND IDEAS ABOUT WHAT YOUR EDUCATION AND FAITH NEEDS ARE. WE STRIVE TO INCLUDE AS MANY ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS AS WE ARE ABLE IN ORDER TO PROVIDE SPIRITUAL INSPIRATION AND GROWTH FOR ALL OUR CHURCH FAMILY—FOR ALL AGES AND ABILITIES. WE NEED TEACHERS TO NURTURE OUR YOUNGER MEMBERS DURING CHILDREN'S CHURCH AND WE WANT TO PROVIDE MANY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR FOR EVERYONE.

THERE WILL BE COMMUNITY EDUCATION ON OPIOIDS PROVIDED BY THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 7:00PM-9:00PM IN THE SANCTUARY. ADULT EDUCATION HAS JUST BEGUN A NEW STUDY ON THE RICHARD ROHR BOOK "WONDROUS ENCOUNTERS" ON SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 9:00AM. BETSY NEAS IS HOSTING A SPIRITUAL STUDY AND LIGHT LUNCH ON THE THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH (IN LIEU OF JOURNEY GROUP AND RAINBOW PLACE UNTIL MOLLY STUART RETURNS IN MAY). TELLS IS BEGINNING A NEW BOOK, TOO ("THE CURIOUS CHARMS OF ARTHUR PEPPER"), SO BE SURE TO JOIN IN WHEREVER YOU INTERESTS LEAD YOU.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED, LAURIE STEVENS, CHAIR



Diaconate Notes

A combined group of outgoing and new members for the Worship/Congregational Life Team met January 9. Current duties and possible changes to the meeting date were discussed. Out-going members Doyle Nyberg and Elizabeth Shelby were thanked and recognized for their commitment and service.

Thanks to all who continue to sign up for the various duties for worship. The sign up clipboard is on the bulletin board in the hallway into the fellowship hall.

Diaconate came in at 54% of approved budget.

Christmas services went smoothly. The Christmas Vigil, Christmas caroling, and a well-attended Christmas Eve service were highlights. Thanks to all who helped unhang the Greens!

Services and Events:

January 12 - Ruth Lambert Celebration of Life service was held at 11:00am and was well-attended.

January 13 was Baptism Sunday. Three children were baptized and baptism renewal vows were a part of the service.

January 19 - Bob H. Smith Celebration of Life service will be at 11:00am. Lunch will be served in Fellowship Hall.

January 27 - CUCC Annual Congregational Meeting at 11:15am.

Ash Wednesday services will be held at **Grace Church on March 6**. CUCC will host Lenten services/soup supper on **March 13, 27 and April 10**.

The Congregations Alive conference will take place Feb. 7-9, 2019 at First Plymouth UCC in Englewood. CUCC members are encouraged to participate.

February 10 is Boy Scout Sunday.

Team Transition will be addressed at the **February 17 All-Team Launch Party**.

Rebecca will be gone the 2nd weekend in March (March 9-10). Ben K. from Greeley will be filling in.

Respectfully Submitted, Barb Groy (Diaconate vice-chair)

February 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 8:15am-12pm Strong Women -#7	2 9am AA-AE 9am Al-Anon -#7
3 9am Adult Education-AE 10am Communion Worship & Children's Church 11am Coffee Hour	4 8:15am-12pm Strong Women -AE 6:30-8:30pm CPC Rehearsal -S, CH	5 8:30am TOPS-CH 9:30-10:45am Strong People-AE 11:30am-1pm Republican Women -FH,K 6:30-8pm Scouts -FH 6:30pm Al-Anon-#7 7pm TELLS	6 12pm AA-AE 3-4pm Optimist Set-up-FH 6pm Choir/MSG -CH 7pm OA-#7	7 6-8am Optimist Appreciation Breakfast-S, FH, K 9-9:30am Backpacks-FH 9:30-10:45am Strong People -AE 7pm AA-#7	8 8:15am-12pm Strong Women -#7 7:30-9:30pm Community Dance -FH	9 9am AA-AE 9am Al-Anon -#7
10 Boy Scout Sunday 9am Adult Education-AE 10am Worship & Children's Church 11am Coffee Hour	11 8:15am-12pm Strong Women -AE 9am-4:30pm Monarch Quilters-FH 6:30-8:30pm CPC Rehearsal -S, CH	12 8:30am TOPS-CH 9:30-10:45am Strong People-AE 9am-4:30pm Monarch Quilters-FH 6-7:30pm Webelos -D, FH 6:30-8pm Scouts -FH 6:30pm Al-Anon-#7 7pm TELLS	13 9-9:30am Celtic Prayer Circle-RR 12pm AA-AE 6pm Choir/MSG -CH 7pm OA-#7	14 VALENTINES DAY 9-9:30am Backpacks-FH 9:30-10:45am Strong People -AE 7pm AA-#7	15 8:15am-12pm Strong Women -#7	16 9am AA-AE 9am Al-Anon -#7 9:45am Al-Anon Bus. Mtg.-#7 7-9pm Next Step Dance-FH
17 9am Adult Education-AE 10am Worship & Children's Church 11am Coffee Hour 12-2:15pm Teams & Officers Meeting	18 8:15am-12pm Strong Women -AE 6:30pm-8:30pm CPC Rehearsal -S, CH	19 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 8:30am TOPS-CH 9:30-10:45am Strong People-AE 6:30-8pm Scouts -FH 6:30pm Al-Anon-#7 7pm TELLS	20 12pm AA-AE 6pm Choir/MSG -CH 7pm Council 7pm OA-#7	21 9am-9:30am Backpacks-FH 9:30am-10:45am Strong People -AE 11am 3rd Thursday	22 8:15am-12pm Strong Women -#7	23 9am AA-AE 9am Al-Anon -#7
24 9am Adult Education-AE 10am Worship & Children's Church 11am Coffee Hour	25 8:15am-12pm Strong Women -AE 6:30-8:30pm CPC Rehearsal -S, CH	26 8:30am TOPS-CH 9:30-10:45am Strong People-AE 6-7:30pm Webelos-D, FH 6:30-8pm Scouts -FH 6:30pm Al-Anon-#7 7pm TELLS	27 9-9:30am Celtic Prayer Circle-RR 10am-4pm Fiber Guild-FH 12pm AA-AE 6pm Choir/MSG -CH 7pm OA-#7	28 9-9:30am Backpacks-FH 9:30-10:45am Strong People -AE 10am-4pm Fiber Guild-FH 1-3pm WMS 7pm AA-#7	AE=Adult Education Room CH=Choir Room D=Drama Room FH= Fellowship Hall K=Kitchen PO=Pastor's Office RR=Rainbow Room S=Sanctuary #7=Room 7	



2019 Camp Dates

Rocky Mountain Conference | UCC
Recharge, Reflect, and Radically Connect!



The schedule for RMC camps at La Foret is posted on the bulletin board.

See www.rmccucc.org/camps for more info.

CUCC has scholarships available!
Talk to Pastor Rebecca.

Dear Friends,

Norm & I thank you for 7 years of prayers, hugs, & kind words to us and for our daughter, Terri. You have helped to carry us through this unwanted journey & we are so grateful for your kindness to us. We were able to spend a week with Terri, Andy, & her two girls at Christmas—a special gift. Again, thanks for each of you. We look forward to being with you in church in the spring.

Love, from us,
Norm & Shirl Holloway



SAVE THE DATE FOR THE
CUCC ALL-TEAM LAUNCH PARTY!
Sunday, February 17
12:00pm - 2:15pm
Food! Fun! Fellowship!



In lieu of the old Boards or the new Teams meeting in February, we will be launching the new Teams and beginning this new venture in the life of the church.

Whether you've served on boards for years at CUCC, are brand new to this exciting adventure, or are someplace in between, we are all beginning together on a new journey – and we want to begin **together**.

Please join us to get better acquainted, gather around the table for food and fellowship, and have time to bond together as a new team.

Opening Fun in Fellowship Hall
Introduction to Our New Team Structure
Lunch with Your Team
Individual Team Meetings

Please RSVP to aawaldorf@mac.com that you'll be there. If you absolutely, positively cannot make it, please let her know that also. If you have any questions feel free to call Arlene at 719-395-8873.

Reaching the Pastor

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

Leave a non-urgent message at the office at 719-395-2544, call my cell at 719-252-6890, or email me at revbecca@icloud.com.

Feel free to set up an in-person appointment by phone or email.



CUCC Council Minutes for January 16, 2019

Present: Kay Allinger, Merilee Daugherty, Helen Duncan, Marge Erickson, Ron Erickson, Barb Groy, Ron Hassell, Rebecca Kemper Poos, Ron Rak, Kathy Roman.

Marge E. called the meeting to order by lighting a candle inviting Christ’s light to be among us, followed by an opening prayer.

Calendar Review: A review of upcoming events on the church calendar was noted on the Meeting Agenda.

General Business and Reports

Minutes from the October 17 Council Meeting were reviewed and approved as written (Helen moved/Ron R second).

Clerk’s Report: (Ron R.) Changes since the Oct. 17 Council meeting: Deaths - Ruth Lambert (Dec. 4) and Bob H. Smith (Dec 14). Transfer Letters—Brett & Shawna Kinkaid (Jan. 9). Three Baptisms - Skyler Tucker, Gabriella Tucker, and Ryan Tucker (Jan. 13).

Treasurer’s Report: Ron H. reported in general on the end-of-year church Budget, such that the church ended up in the black. Final 2018 figures will be available and discussed at the January 27 Annual Congregational Meeting.

Moderator’s Report: (Marge E.) The Special Congregational Meeting Minutes of November 11 stated that the 2019 church Teams will be composed of 3 - 5 persons, but the Nominating Committee was able to nominate 6 persons for each team. The 2018 By-Law Review which amended the existing church bylaws was approved at that meeting, but need be changed at the Jan. 27 Annual Meeting to allow the changes. The Moderator cancelled the scheduled December 19 Council meeting due to illness.

Due to the December cancellation, a Special Council Meeting was held on January 6, 2019, to approve the Pastor’s 2019 salary and benefits package and the 2019 church budget. Ron R. read the minutes of that meeting, which reported that Council had approved the complete budget. Merilee moved/Kay seconded a motion to accept the January 6 minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Marge passed out the 2018 Annual Report that includes the Agenda for the scheduled January 27 Annual Congregational Meeting.

Pastor’s Report: Planning and preparations for Bob Smith’s memorial on January 19th were well under way.

Recent visitations included Elvin Frantz (healing) and the McCalls in Denver (conducted memorial service for their son).

The newly established online church newsletter appeared to be working out well, reducing labor and time as well as postage costs.

She is preparing for her Sabbatical later this summer. The final payment for the scheduled trip to Scotland was made.

Thought is also being given to a post-Sabbatical retreat on the Sabbatical theme. Ideas are being solicited on spending some of the \$12,000 in Sabbatical funding that the church will receive.

A shoe collection promotion is being planned to fund a summer tour with Up With People for Isaac Russell.

Planning for Lenten services/soup suppers and Easter is also well under way.

Continuing Business

Window replacements for the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall are being coordinated by Janet Steiner, Marge Erickson, and Rebecca. Kay Allinger suggested that the west office windows should also be included, since they significantly leak air during windy periods.

New Business

The Nominating Committee: Ron E. reported that as noted above under the Moderator’s Report an Amendment will have to be passed at the Annual Meeting changing the number of Team Members from 3-5-members per team to 3-6 members. The committee wants to thank all those who have accepted Team member positions for the 2019 year.

The Nominating report will be presented at the Annual meeting by Ron E. in consultation with Chair Arlene Waldorf.

The All-Teams Launch Party to initiate the new 2019 teams is February 17. Marge emphasized that each team have a facilitator to begin the decisions of the meeting. These will include setting a meeting time, officer selections, and orientation of all members to their duties. The meetings will be short, so all members *must be timely* to start the meeting.

Council Meeting time was discussed with pros and cons. It was decided to keep the third Wednesday for Council Meetings.

Boards Reports

Trustees: Ron H. reported that the Trustees decided to overlap the 2018 Board with the 2019 Team through February to ensure continuity with the new teams starting. Wi-Fi and sound system upgrades were completed, and training of several additional people on the soundboard is in planning. Restrooms renovations were also well under way. New projects suggested by attendees were pothole filling at the entrance driveways and a secondary light source for the main entrance.

Christian Education: (Ron E.) Children’s Church and adult education will be reported on in the upcoming February newsletter. Monday Morning Men’s Group will include coordination with Grace Church as has been the custom for several years. The Sunday morning adult education class will utilize a book by theologian Richard Rohr for the six weeks of Lent - “Wondrous Encounters: Scriptures for Lent.”

Diaconate: (Barb G.) Unhanging of the Greens went ahead of schedule; there only remained a few small storage options to be decided.

Mission and Ministry: Helen reported that the recent December Heifer Project outreach program was much more successful than expected, receiving more than \$2600 in contributions. Feedback on the program was very positive. M&M was hopeful that it would be continued annually. The Backpack ministry recently received a gift of \$500 from the new Chaffee County Community Foundation, and coordinator Ken Rehborn was very upbeat by the new community-side funding. A new collection box in the Narthex for three different ministries was described by Helen. The new Outreach Team is coordinating with Grace Church for Lenten Soup Suppers, which will start March 6, alternating each week between CUCC and Grace.

Stewardship Committee: (Merilee) Bill Waldorf has reviewed the future role of the Stewardship/Visioning Team with the new members and anticipated duties of the members.

Reports of Affiliated Organizations and Committees

WMS: Merilee noted org. details and some of the many outreach programs they support - La Puente, Arkansas Valley Christian Mission, the UCC’s CUE seminaries, Our Daily Bread subscription. Kay noted that over \$10,000/yr. goes to outreach. Details are in the Annual Report.

Announcements

Rebecca mentioned the upcoming RMC program “Congregations Alive.” Three members of our church are planning to attend.

The Collegiate Peaks Chorale is recruiting for a spring 2019 assembly and organization of the singing group.

Next meeting is scheduled for February 20 at 7:00pm.

Prepared by Ron Rak, Clerk

CUCC Board of Trustees Newsletter

New team members for both Finance and Facilities were invited to the meeting. Many projects have been or are close to being completed:

- * We have much improved WIFI now.
- * The Parsonage projects/repairs are finished.
- * The repair to the back hall flooring is completed.
- * The remodeling of the men’s bathroom is complete except for painting.
- * The women’s old bathroom now has one new hi-rise toilet that was recently donated.
- * The new women’s bathroom will have two new hi-rise toilets soon.



The Trustees are continuing to help during the transition period before the new Teams take over on February 17. Staff or others should continue to contact the Trustees if help or maintenance issues arise before then.

There is no scheduled Trustees meeting in February. This was the final meeting of the CUCC Board of Trustees if the new organization is approved by the congregation 1/27/19.

Respectfully submitted,
Ron Hassell, Chair



Pastor’s Week At a Glance:

Sunday — Church Family Day
Monday — Sabbath & Singing
Tuesday — Office(s) Hours, Meetings, Appointments, Worship & Education Prep, TELLS
Wednesday — Writing Morning; Office Work, Visiting, Meetings, Choir
Thursday — Inreach & Outreach Day
Friday — Catch-All & Catch-Up Day
Saturday — Final Prep for Sunday & Family Day



FREE COMMUNITY AWARENESS EVENT
on ADDICTION and the NATIONAL
OPIOID CRISIS

WRITTEN OFF: THE JOURNALS WILL EXPLAIN
EVERYTHING

A video documentary and discussion on the
science and struggle of addiction.

Behind all the statistics there’s a human story

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH
7:00 – 9:00 p.m. – FREE Program and Q & A

BUENA VISTA CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
(217 CROSSMAN AVE.)

Sponsored by Chaffee County Public Health
For more information contact Mike Orrill, 719-221-5418

Donate your gently-worn, used and new shoes
through February

Isaac Russell of Salida is collecting gently-worn, used and new shoes to take with him as he travels with Up With People. Collected shoes are used to support micro-enterprise vendors —small businesses in developing nations.

Up with People is a non-profit, touring performance and education program. They travel around the world, into different communities, becoming volunteers in the community through community service and leadership workshops.

Isaac can be contacted at 719-221-4410 or via email at lrussell3999@gmail.com.

A collection box is in the fellowship hall.

