

***Congregational  
United Church of Christ***

***Sunday Schedule***

***IN-PERSON SERVICES CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE  
RECORDED SERVICES AVAILABLE AT YOUTUBE.COM,  
THEN SEARCH FOR CUCC BUENA VISTA CO***



217 Crossman Ave.; Mailing: PO Box 610  
Buena Vista, CO 81211  
Office: 719-395-2544  
Fax Number: 719-395-3789

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  
**June, 2020**



## MODERATOR'S MOMENT

..... "and the greatest of these is love" I Corinthians 13:13

How often have we all heard these words? And in what context? Maybe we've heard them so often, extending back to our childhood and Sunday school memory verses, that we think we know their meaning. Some people I know interpret it in the context of enduring romantic love, even extending that to include love for family. And that's a good thing!

This chapter from the Apostle Paul's first letter to the church he established at Corinth (in Greece) was written to a church in disarray, dissent, and conflict. It seems to be his attempt to "straighten them out," as it were, to "get everybody on the same page" on the issues that arose there and to bring a diverse group of people back together in their beliefs and practices. I frequently use and like The Common English Bible, not only for its simplified language, but for its interpretive notes. The interpretive writer here sees I Corinthians 13 as "a poem to perhaps the most important core value of the Christian faith: LOVE." He says that "In Paul, love is primarily about attachment or bonding to God and to one's own group. ... love involves commitment to and concern for the well-being of others to whom one is attached." Wow, that says it better than I ever could have. It's the kind of commitment that makes us a church, a community, a family bonded by covenant with each other and with God.

In these COVID and divisive times, aren't we all bonded to one another, like the sign at the stoplight corner and on our sign on our parking lot entrance: WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER. Sounds trite, but oh, so true. Love is accepting each as they are and still caring about and for them. As the presidential historian and prolific writer Jon Meacham has said, "faith is finding order amid chaos;" our religion is one of the things that ties us together.

These are chaotic times and I believe that our route to surviving them is caring deeply (loving each other), protecting ourselves and each other from the virus (thanks, mask makers), and whatever other threats to our community that may be out there. We have 140 years of history that tell us that we can persevere and do this TOGETHER! Could God be working in a new way to bring and bind us closer together? Is this one of those times to "be still and know?"

"Now faith, hope and love remain—these three things—and the greatest of these is love."

Missing you all. Be kind. Be good. Be well.

May God bless us all on this journey and may all of our efforts please Him.

Kathy Roman, Moderator

Need to get in touch with me? I welcome your calls to 395-6812 or 395-5301 and emails to [kroman@bresnan.net](mailto:kroman@bresnan.net).

## SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP ON YOUTUBE

**9:00am**

Please join us by going to YouTube channel and searching for CUCC Buena Vista CO.  
Then please SUBSCRIBE to our channel and help promote CUCC to a wider audience!

## COFFEE HOUR ON ZOOM

**9:30am**

After the service, zoom on over to our Zoom meeting to connect with others on a personal basis!  
During this time on Zoom you can see and be seen and hear and be heard!

If you haven't Zoomed with us before, please see the link in the Friday email blast to get connected.  
We'll look forward to fellowshipping with you!

## PASTOR'S ARTICLE, June, 2020

***I am the church! You are the church! We are the church together!  
The church is not a building; the church is not a steeple;  
the church is not a resting place; the church is a people!***

How are you doing right now? How are you experiencing this “enclosure time?” It’s easy to get into “survival mode” and struggle a bit to find purpose and meaning when we’re not able to do many of our usual activities.

But you know what?! We are serving God and humanity by doing exactly what we’re doing! You might not have thought of it that way before, but social distancing is a profound calling—a holy task of love! By staying safer at home we are loving our neighbors and caring for creation in profound, unprecedented, and lasting ways. We can also take some time to reflect, breathe, go deeper into our faith with prayer and study. We can consider the greater purpose of our lives, our church, and our walk with God in community. The church is most definitely not just a building! We are Being the Church in countless ways.

WHAT WE CAN DO—Right Now! Even while still apart physically.

- 1) PRAY—for one another. And strangers too, who are having a hard time with grief, illness, even death in their own families and circles.
- 2) CALL—Many of you are calling each other and checking in often. Let’s do as much of that as we can—always!
- 3) GATHER—in Community! Yep! We still can. Online, on Zoom, on the phone. Watch YouTube Worship (anytime) and join the Coffee Hour every Sunday. (If you need Tech Support, see instructions in the E-blasts each Friday, and call the office for guidance.)
- 4) SEND—an encouraging word. Drop a handwritten card or letter or an email.
- 5) KNIT/CROCHET/SEW!—Masks and prayer shawls or Bazaar items.
- 6) GIVE GENEROUSLY—to your church—to be part of the exciting and ongoing mission and ministry here. And give beyond CUCC—to community and vital charities.
- 7) LEARN CREATION! No social distancing needed from the trees, breeze, birds, water or sky! Immerse yourself in Spirit’s Presence and mystery in Creation.
- 8) WIDEN our WORSHIP—Worship with CUCC online and invite your friends and family to join us! Widen the Circle and ask them to connect and say hello!
- 9) READ & LEARN! The Bible, the SDSC Reflections, the Education Offerings, the spiritually comforting reflections in the E-blasts, newsletters, and devotional booklets.
- 10) SPREAD the LOVE! Send a message to the world, the civic leaders, those needing a voice and those needing to hear as they make decisions, that:  
*ALL God’s children are our neighbors, are beloved, and need our love and support. Not just some, but all means all! That God so loved the whole wide world enough to walk among us and God’s got the whole world in his hands!*

God’s got us. We’ve got each other.

Blessings on us, The Church,  
Pastor Rebecca

### PASTOR CHATS—3:00pm-5:00pm Tuesdays

**Pastor Rebecca will resume Pastor Chat/Drop-in Hours  
when services resume.**

During this extraordinary time, please reach out to Pastor Rebecca  
in any “virtual” way possible.

call or text: 719-252-6890; email: revbecca@icloud.com

Stay up-to-date by following CUCC on Facebook: Congregational UCC Buena Vista.

YouTube Sunday worship channel: CUCC Buena Vista CO

Zoom Coffee Hour: please see the link in the Friday email blast

## CUCC CARES FOR CREATION



**Please don't put cardboard  
boxes in the trash/dumpster.  
Instead, put them in the office  
or give them to Rebecca.**

### COMPOSTING AT CUCC—SIGN UP TODAY!

Sign up at <https://garna.org/chaffee-green-composting/for-your-own-personal-composting>.

### NEW CHURCH PEWS? :)



### Kudos Kolumn

Many thanks to Herb and Merilee Daugherty  
for lending a huge assist to the Chaffee  
County high school graduation celebration!

Many thanks to Barb & John Groy for facilitating the  
Buena Vista High School graduation at the Comanche  
Drive-In!

### 2020 CENSUS

Be a part of history and help  
shape Chaffee county's future!

Complete the 2020 Census:  
online: [my2020census.gov](https://my2020census.gov)  
phone: 844-330-2020

**EVERYONE  
COUNTS** Census 2020

### Pastor Rebecca would love to connect with you!

Make an appointment or request a virtual  
visit to assure her undivided attention.

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



## GIVE BACK A BOX

Retailers such as Amazon are teaming up with local charities to use empty shipping boxes and get rid of clutter filling homes. After removing your order from your shipping box, fill it with clothes, etc. that you want to donate, & visit [GiveBackBox.com](https://GiveBackBox.com) to print a free shipping label. The box can be dropped off with USPS or picked up. You can also print a receipt for tax use.



### “ESSENTIAL”

by Rev. Jenny Schultz-Thomas  
Senior Pastor at First Plymouth, UCC, Englewood, CO

What a bittersweet gift it has been to remember the “essentials” of life. Thankfully, we have known all along: faith, hope and love. As a young child, I grew-up going to church in homes, in a rented Century 21 building, in a school—even my own bedroom became a place for exploring the wonders of fantastical bible stories. Each night, my brothers and I would gather on our parents bed for Bible story trivia with our mother. Never once did a church steeple or a stained glass window or a pipe organ interpret for me what was essential. In fact, the absence of the four walls to contain my growing spiritual and moral imagination led me to reach for a faith born not of the institution, but from those who had freed themselves from it.

Do our religious buildings and sacred sites hold meaning? Of course they do, but opening our buildings now will not only wreak havoc on the health of our members and our communities, but it will prevent us from reimagining what is truly essential: “now these three remain: faith, hope and love.”

It has never been about the building, the rituals, the clothes, or even the clergy—the church is the people, and we don't need a building to BE.

WE ARE THE CHURCH.  
AND WE ARE ESSENTIAL.



**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 (720) 542-1750  
Life Care Center of Westminster, Durango Hall, Rm. 101  
7751 Zenobia Court, Westminster, CO 80030

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

Roger Cason (719) 581-0243 (C)  
Life Care Center of Colorado Springs, Room 306  
2490 International Circle, Colorado Springs, CO 80910

Elvin Frantz (719) 395-6982  
c/o Kathy Garrett  
PO Box 1106, Buena Vista, CO 81211-1106  
30535 CR 371, Buena Vista

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

Betty Gwynn (719) 395-2966  
29155 CR 331, Buena Vista, CO 81211

Lew Lowe (717) 490-8288  
925 Willow Valley Lakes Drive, Apt. 326  
Willow Street, PA 17584

Al & 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

Doris Westerlund  
c/o Sue Stanek, 15075 Dutchman Ct.  
Apple Valley, MN 55124

Glen & Joan Wilder (719) 395-8722  
29531 CR 372A, Buena Vista, CO 81211

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

Lindsey Fagerberg Close  
1920 Frontage Rd., Apt. 1714  
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034



**CUCC Special Dates**

***BIRTHDAYS***

June 3—Kathy Roman  
June 5—Rod Schofield  
June 4—Al McCall  
June 5—Janet Steiner  
June 10—Lisa Blake  
June 10—Scarlett-Rae Pomfret  
June 11—Frank Carpenter  
June 15—Jeff Keidel  
June 17—Joan Sovereign  
June 19—Debby Cason  
June 19—Kay Patton  
June 30—Gabby Tucker

***ANNIVERSARIES***

June 5—Jeff & Kathy Keidel  
June 8—Bill & Susan Helms  
June 11—Reggie & Judy Nelson  
June 16—Norm & Shirl Holloway  
June 18—Bob & Lyntha Nelson  
June 19—Ron & Linda Rak  
June 23—Ron & Marge Erickson  
June 25—Scott & Mary Fons Colvin  
June 26—Roger & Debby Cason  
June 30—Rod & Sarah Struthers



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

**Please Remember in Your Prayers**

Roger Cason—Healing  
Nan Bohe—Healing  
Sarah Struthers—Healing  
Marcille Drake—Healing  
Pam Hughes—Healing  
Shirl Holloway—Healing  
Marcy Adams—Healing  
Dwight Griggs—Healing  
Al & Phyllis McCall—Healing  
Steve Poos-Benson (Rebecca's brother-in-law)—Healing  
The Family of Linette Williams—Comfort  
Maryanne Wells (Janet Jones' sister-in-law)—Healing  
Norma Hughes (Doyle & Leonard Nyberg's aunt)—Healing  
Brooke Davis (Doyle & Leonard Nyberg's cousin)—Healing  
The Family of Mardy Cason (Roger Cason's brother)—Comfort  
Brendan Stuart (Molly Stuart's niece)—Healing  
Diana Lynn Hilt (Lucille Habeck's daughter)—Healing  
Kayleigh & Family (Barb Wilder's friends)—Healing  
Jarron Davis (Doyle & Leonard Nyberg's cousin)—Healing  
The Family of Frank Russell (Marge Dorfmeister's nephew)—Comfort  
Nancy Russell (Marge Dorfmeister's sister-in-law)—Healing  
John Adams (Edie Padgett's friend)—Healing  
Sally Corman (Betsy Neas' sister)—Healing  
Corey Johns (Roberta Merrill's son)—Healing  
Peggy Coggins (Marge Dorfmeister's daughter)—Healing  
Gloria Close—Comfort in the loss of her sister  
David Sprain (Marge Dorfmeister's nephew)—Healing

**CUCC CIRCLE GROWS WIDER!**

“Dear Rebecca-Thank you so much for sharing your thoughtful and beautiful musings! It's truly a blessing to have you in my life. God is good. Love, peace, and blessings to you.” ~ Avis Rutkowski

“Dear Rebecca, How wonderful to hear from you! I've thought about you often and imagined how exceedingly busy you must be! I'm sure life as we've known it will never return. Hugging people which has been in my nature my whole life must be greatly curtailed. Rebecca, I appreciate you so very much! You mean so much to our church and the community! Thank you again for writing! Much love, Bob Tolar” (relocating from BV to Tuscon)

“Rock on, Rev! I've subscribed and sent info to various folk. My church's page name on Youtube is First Unitarian Church, Worcester, MA. Xo, Kris Johnson”

“I certainly watch and enjoy our Sunday service. I haven't figured out how to sign into chat, but that is fine too. I say hi at coffee hour.” ~Kay Allinger

“Watching from Scotland!” ~Kaylynnne and Fraser Pomfret and family

“Thank you, Pastor Rebecca. I so enjoyed the Easter sermon and could hear comments of members. It was fun! Happy Easter Sunday. I enjoy the SDSC reflections and Jean Brody's articles — thanks for sharing!” ~Gale Shaw

“I look forward to the many ways we can stay in touch... SDSC....And it is amazing how you and Matthew are technically learning and working together to provide for and keep all of us engaged and part of the life of our worship services, and in fellowship with one another. May all take care and be well.” ~Jean Ferguson (Nathrop)

“Loved the worship today, and joining you all for Zoom Coffee Hour! Feels like being home!” ~Liz Hansen (Arizona)

“Loved seeing you all again. Feels like being home!” ~Gerry and Jean Venard (Denver)

“The Easter cross for worship was beautiful! Loved that we could see the church even though we missed this service as we were having brunch with friends! Rejoice, Christ is risen! Love and peace, Margie & Ron Erickson” (Montana)

**FEEDBACK for SDSC — Socially Distanced but Spiritually Connected Reflections**  
(sent out by Pastor Rebecca and Nancy Best once a week)

“Hi R. I like this piece! I am one with all that is.” ~Butch (Buena Vista)

“Thank you for your beautiful words! I needed this today.” ~Jeanie (Washington State)

“I LOVE this! And the cartoon at the bottom so nicely ties it all in.” ~Cindy (Buena Vista)

“I really liked your analogy. Great words after 2 months of this pandemic!” ~Jeanne (Louisville, CO)

“Rebecca, Only you can compare the horse to worship. As always, the connection is so appropriate. Thank you for that!” ~Katie (Buena Vista)

“Very meaningful message, thank you.” ~Merilee (Buena Vista)

“Lovely, Rebecca. And so true. Thanks!” ~Helen (Nathrop)

“So enjoyed reading your words! The song, "I Believe" is hauntingly beautiful! Love, Bob” (Arizona)

“I so enjoyed that. I can't believe she's 22!” (Satin Horse) ~Susan (Denver)

“Peace and trust be with you also.” ~Mike (Buena Vista)

“Love it! Such a beautiful image. You're lucky to have this creature to ride just now.” ~Tracey (Parker, CO)

“Beautiful, Becca!” ~Cal (Denver)

“Rebecca, I appreciate your sending this link to “Hello in There” - what a beautiful, touching song. I am the youngest of four children and was always hanging around older people when I was a child, and I think that ended up being really good training for being a pastor. I totally relate to what you say about being a pastor and wanting to be with people, offer a hug, just sit with them and be present.” ~Rev. Peter (Aspen)

“Rebecca, Thanks for this. Thanks for putting into words my feelings and thoughts. I appreciate what you are doing. I don't have these skills. I also feel the loss of John Prine. I have often sung his songs, making me see through his eyes the humor, sadness, joy and perplexity of the human condition. Great reflection!” ~Debra (Hartsel)



## view from the Mountain

### “TECHNOLOGY”



I hate technology. Well, really I don't hate technology. To be honest, if it weren't for the advancement of medical technology I probably wouldn't be alive. But machines make me feel stupid. I do not understand how they work and no amount of instruction gets through my brain. As soon as the human element is replaced by iPad's, computers, phones that guide your life, I am lost, and frankly I don't want to learn.

And one of the most amazing inventions takes place in one's car or truck. If you don't know how to get where you're going, you just tell some lady and she guides you right to the front door. She also will dial a telephone number if you're driving so your hands stay on the wheel. Who IS this woman who never sleeps?

When the first newspaper hired me, it was 1989 and I was to submit a column once a week. I did this typing the column on a Royal manual typewriter and using a piece of carbon paper for my copy. Then we would hand-deliver it to the newspaper office and I was perfectly happy with this arrangement.

Then it hit the fan. I was told to buy a computer and learn to use it. I was fit to be tied. I fought it, but lost the battle to technology. I have not ability to operate or understand all the machines in my life. If they even come unplugged I'm lost.

So the height of my discomfort came way back in 1996 during my mother's hospital stay in Florida. OK, so you know what a robot is. Talking about mechanical substitutes that are hard to fathom, this is it!

My eighty-seven year old mother was in awful pain and the doctors were trying to find out what was causing it. I kept her quiet and calm, but suddenly she screamed out in pain. I ran out of her room and began yelling. I grabbed the head nurse, "You help my mother this very minute. Give her a pain shot now!" I was screaming. The nurse calmly answered she would give mother a pain shot as soon as it arrived.

"What are you saying?" I wheezed. "What do you mean arrive?" And while I am sputtering and spewing, the elevator door opened and – listen, I swear this is true – out glided a machine that looked like a refrigerator on wheels. On top was a TV screen, and out of the mouth of this refrigerator it was saying clearly and loudly, "Excuse me please." My mouth fell open. It stepped (rolled) out of the elevator and proceeded right down the hall, took a mean right and right to my mothers room.

Every person it passed in route was comfortable with the robot's presence. I watched as it even moved left or right to avoid bumping into anyone else. You know, like a robot with manners. When it stopped at mother's room it announced, "I have the meds for Mrs. Peters."

Honest, this is all true. I fully expected it to fold itself and sit right down until the nurse came. She patted that big machine affectionately, opened its door, and out came the shot for my mother. Have you ever heard of such a thing? I just could not take my eyes off that square box on wheels with a TV screen for a head. It continued on down the hallway stopping at room after room delivering meds. The interesting thing is it does this without developing a personal relationship with a nurse or patient.

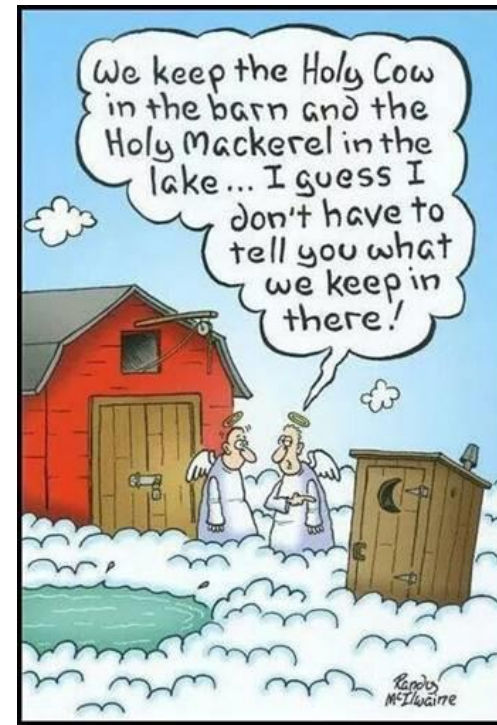
But the crowning blow came when, about an hour later as I was leaving, the elevator door opened for me. Yup, you guessed it. There was ol' Mr. Robot, or Ms. Robotee in the elevator, and it was making room for me to get in. In fact, when I just stood there, it said, "Are you coming or what?" Let me tell you, all this was way over my head.

For my young readers this all must seem really old stuff. Technology has changed almost everything about your life and you can't imagine life without the easy access to these things. But for us older folks, we, at least some of us, are just more comfortable looking up a word or idea in a dictionary than to asking some elusive female to look it up for us.

Well, I love to write for many people, but if anything goes wrong with the machine, it's a major catastrophe. Do you think I'm showing my age here? You bet I am!

The view from the mountain is wondrous!

~ Jean Brody



### THANK YOU, BOB & ELLEN

Thank you to Bob Stocker & Ellen Kely for your generous contribution of compost to the community garden. It's much appreciated!

Paul Dorfmeister

### NOTE FROM LINDA SWANSON

(niece of Gloria Close & Ruth Lambert)

Hi Rebecca,

Just wanted to thank you for doing Aunt Marie's [Gloria's sister] graveside service. And the church for the flower [for Mother's Day] today.

Hope you are doing okay. I am fine and Aunt Ruthie's cat Charlie is better than fine. She is loving her new life [with Linda].

Hope to see everyone when this is over.

Sincerely,  
Linda Swanson

### NAN BOHE

Nan is now in a private room and has a different phone number—720-542-1750.

She would love to hear from you all!

### THANK YOU FROM WILLIAMS/ALLINGER FAMILIES

The family of Linette Williams would like to thank everyone for the cards, phone calls, prayers, food, and flowers that were showered upon us these last few weeks. Your love was deeply felt.

Sincerely,  
Wilma and Angela Williams,  
Kay, Steve, and Alicia Allinger

### THANK YOU FROM AVIS & SCOTT

Thank you to everyone who is helping to keep things running and all of us connected while we're "social distancing" and staying at home to reduce the spread of covid-19.

May you all stay safe & well.

God's blessings—Avis Rutdowski & Scott McCuaig

### DIRECTORY CHANGES

Please note the following changes and mark your directory accordingly:

Del and Janet Jones (mailing)  
PO Box 5245, Buena Vista, CO 81211-5245

Nan Bohe (hall & room #, phone #)  
Life Care Center of Westminster  
Durango Hall, Room #101  
Westminster, CO 80030  
720-542-1750

Edie Padgett (phone number prefix)  
719-836-1444

Ron and Marge Erickson  
126 Spring Street  
Lewistown, MT 54601  
Home phone: 406-538-3296  
Ron's cell: 719-900-8685  
(Marge's cell & email remain the same)

Steve and Brenda Miles & Family (add)  
16235 CR 356  
PO Box 73, Buena Vista, CO 81211-0073  
mccibrenda@outlook.com  
(home) 719-395-6357  
(Steve cell) 719-207-0763  
(Brenda cell) 719-207-0762



**The Faith Education Team**  
**Faith Education for Everyone**

**SUMMER FUN IN A BOX!**

The Faith Education Team met via Zoom and we had a good time planning some possible “stay-at-home” activities. If you have children at home this summer and would like to participate, please call Kathy Keidel at 719-221-3886 and we'll deliver activity boxes to your family twice a month during the summer. You can choose how you want to do the activities. We just want the children to know we are thinking about them during this stressful summer and that God loves them and will help them through this time.

**ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES**

Please see the email blasts for summer offerings!

**Worship Team Notes**

The tradition of presenting flowers to all ladies of the church was continued, in spite of the church needing to stay empty. Carnations were donated and 62 names were gathered, including people like Nancy and Casey who work for the church, but don't attend. [Nancy, for one, was very happy to be thought of and is enjoying her beautiful flower. She says, “Thank you!”]

Over three days, houses were visited and carnations were delivered—from a safe distance. Linda Rak and Janet Steiner divided up the town and surrounding areas. All 62 flowers were successfully delivered. It was great to see smiles come to faces during this confusing time.

Also, Thank you to Matthew and Rebecca for all their hard work with the YouTube Sunday service. It is so good to see people at the Zoom Coffee Hour and to be able to visit. We still need some form of getting together weekly and connecting.

Remember to submit your Father's Day pictures. We enjoy seeing all the dads and grandfathers.

We miss seeing everyone. Take care and be healthy.  
Submitted by Linda Rak, chairperson

***Outreach/Community & World Team News***  
***June greetings!***

Our team did not meet in May and will no doubt not get together in person in June. However, we have stayed in touch by email.

One matter which concerns directly the OT is using some of our funds in either Short-Term Mission or Seed Funds to adopt a family in Chaffee County for the next three months. We have the monies on hand and we think this is a very worthy, Christian initiative.

Another matter: please support the UCC offerings. Envelopes for “Strengthen the Church” are found in the church office. Please note “Strengthen the Church” on your check's memo line. The church office is open during Nancy's working hours—M, W, F 9-2.

Donations of non-perishable food items to the local Mission are always needed and should be left in the bin in the church narthex. Thank you!

**FACILITIES TEAM NEWS**

- ~It's sprinkler and garden time. Work has been done to get the sprinkler back up to snuff and the water system in the community garden going again.
- ~We're moving on the door project. The cost should be in the \$3000 range. Part of the project is to upgrade the hardware to crash hardware on the front door for safety reasons. Apparently we've gotten away with the way it's been because it was grandfathered-in years ago. Current codes would not allow it to be like it is.
- ~ The LED upgrade lighting project is also underway, as is putting in vents in the doors in the hallway doors that need it for heat release.

Respectfully submitted, Ron Hassell, Chair

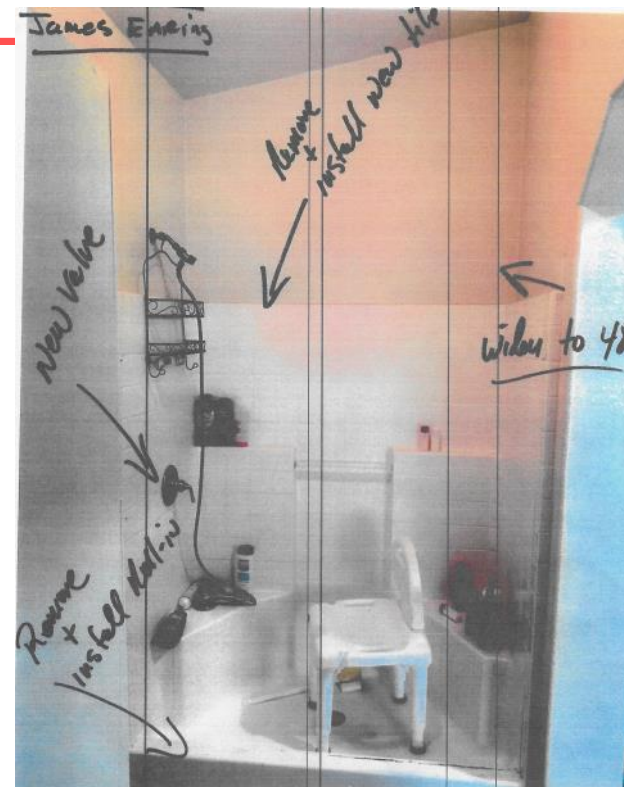
**THANK YOU FOR CUCC ASSISTANCE**

Earlier this year, James Earing, a local retiree and military veteran, requested the help of various Chaffee County non-profits in having his shower made wheelchair accessible. Along with other organizations, CUCC was able to assist using the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. Mr. Earing is extremely grateful and sent these before and after photos, along with a Thank You card.

“Congregational Church,

Thank you for helping out with our roll-in shower.

God bless,  
Jim & Denise Earing”



**COLLEGIATE PEAKS FORUM SERIES**

**Melanie Yazzie**

**An Overview of Various Contemporary Indigenous Female Artists**

**Wednesday, June 10**

**7:00pm (Mtn. Time), via Zoom**

Printmaker, sculptor, painter, and art practices and printmaking professor Melanie Yazzie will introduce her audience to several wonderful movers and shakers. The lecture will be filled with Melanie Yazzie's firsthand stories about her connections with these artists and their work. She will demonstrate how these artists are making a difference in the world.

Yazzie is informed by the Diné (Navajo) philosophy of hozho —blessings, beauty, and harmony. She holds a Master of Fine Arts from the University of Colorado, Boulder. She has had scores of solo and group regional, national, and international exhibitions. Her work is in the collections of more than 50 national and university museums.

Go to CPFS website—**www.collegiatepeaksforum.org**—for ZOOM info prior to the lecture.

Sign up for the CPFS Email List so you never miss a lecture! Send your email address to Butch Butler: **treasurer@collegiatepeaksforum.org**



# CHURCH-COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

**TELLS**  
**Tuesday Evening Ladies**  
**Literary Society**  
**Tuesdays, 7:00pm-9:00pm**  
**NOW ON ZOOM!**



Contact Rebecca for Zoom information.

**All women are welcome!**

The group is reading "The Nightingale" by Kristin Hannah, but book homework is not a requirement!



We share life, faith, family stories, support, fun and humor—and we'd love to have more of you join us! This is a PERFECT time to expand and enlighten our faith and life with our sisters in Christ!

Contact Pastor Rebecca to get on the email list & receive Zoom information.  
**revbecca@icloud.com**

## FATHER'S DAY PICTURES REQUESTED SEND YOUR PICTURES TODAY! (Father's Day is June 21)

We're creating a slideshow to share in worship of *your* special moments/people. Have a family picture that crosses the generations? A picture of you and your great-grandchild? Or you and a grandparent?

Please either email a picture or two of your father to Pastor Rebecca at revbecca@icloud.com or bring in (or mail) photos to the office for scanning. The photos will be returned to you. Please make sure the first and last names are indicated.

Thank you! This has been a special event in the past and will be so again this year.

## UCC FIVE-FOR-FIVE PROGRAM

**Strengthen the Church:** This May-June offering supports the expansion of ministry and growth of UCC local congregations. Your support helps the UCC fulfill its commitment to creating a just world for all by investing in new ministries and practices that meet the emerging needs of local communities.

Please mail (PO Box 610) or drop off checks to the church marked Strengthen the Church.



## EQUAL EXCHANGE COFFEE

Coffee hounds and bakers:

Since we are staying at home more crying into our coffee—or at least have more time to drink it while watching all the Covid news—a new coffee order was placed May 19, so we have new varieties.

Especially requested: Baking cocoa, African Roots, and 1-lb. varieties of Mama Tierra and Sister's Blend (same price as the 12 oz. varieties to keep it simple: \$9). Pass the word!

Coffee is self-serve and on the honor system.

-Ron Rak - Coffee Clerk

## DID YOU KNOW?

CUCC continues with its outreach and projects, social distancing simply adding an extra element to the work we do.

Contributions can be mailed to CUCC at **PO Box 610** or dropped off in the office where there is a basket and envelopes.



## CUCC LISTENING EVENT STILL ON!

Share your thoughts and vision for CUCC!

See Stew/Vis Team News below for more information.

## STEWARDSHIP/VISIONING TEAM NEWS

Thanks to all who signed up for the voluntary listening and sharing meetings with the representatives from the Rocky Mountain Conference. As you recall, we were to have individual interviews with conference volunteers to give everyone in the congregation an opportunity to express joys, concerns, and their vision of our church's function and mission moving in to the future.

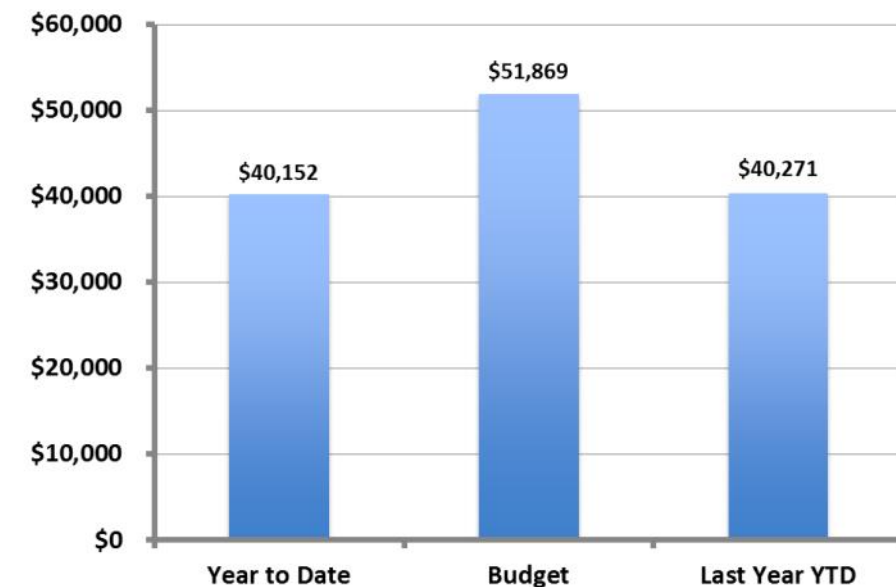
Then came the coronavirus. With the shutting down of churches and the need for social distancing, travel restrictions, and other factors beyond our control, it was necessary to postpone these meetings. However, we are working with the conference representatives and are rebooting, rescheduling, and redesigning this program.

More than likely, the interviews will not happen with physical one-on-one meetings, but will happen via phone, email, snail mail, or Zoom. Please don't think your opportunity to speak about your likes, dislikes, or your vision of the future of BV CUCC has ended. I am working with the conference on dates and details.

Again, this project is active and in process. The interviews will probably occur in July. I thank the congregation for your interest and desire to participate.

Bob Stocker, Chair

## General Contributions through April, 2020



## Finance and Budget Team June News

The Finance and Budget Team has been meeting over Zoom ever since its last in-person meeting in March.

In early March we put together a working version of a Revised Proposed Budget to replace the one not approved at the Annual Meeting. Shortly after this, fallout from the virus became evident and we put that version on hold, pending analysis of giving patterns and other income and expenses as social distancing guidelines have prevented the continuation of services in the sanctuary. This effort continues, so further changes to a proposed budget are expected before one is ready for presentation to the congregation later this year.

Income year-to-date has tracked closely against the actual numbers in 2019. Expenses are under budget, as one might imagine considering the reduction in various efforts due to the coronavirus. Overall, we are modestly behind budget in bottom-line results.

We have assisted in the transition of the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer positions to new persons and report that this has been brought to a successful conclusion. Thanks go to Cindy Helm and Doyle Nyberg for their service, and we welcome Lloyd Martinez and Judy Hassel, who have graciously agreed to serve in those capacities.

As a follow-up to our worship services being moved from the sanctuary to the internet, we became aware that many other congregations have placed a facility on their websites to allow for online giving. After reviewing the possibilities (thanks to Nancy Best for her analysis of several alternatives) the Team has agreed that CUCC should implement this as well. We have selected a software service provider and expect to have this alternative method for financial giving available in early June.

We continue to look for ways to streamline our financial reporting processes to make them more efficient/understandable and pursue a few ideas to help in that regard.

## FRESH IDEA

Meanwhile, somewhere in Germany....

Good social distancing practice? You decide!





HOME AWAY FROM HOME—ROGER CASON  
by Debby Cason

Joy or concern? This one is a JOY worth sharing. Thank you, God, for putting all the pieces together.

On Monday, May 18, I drove to Colorado Springs in our wheelchair van for my weekly visit to Rog who was admitted to the Health Care “Resort” on April 6th after his femur surgery on April 1st. This surgery was performed on the same right leg that sustained injury from a prior fall on October 29th of last year, resulting in his hip replacement surgery on October 30th.

I planned for a little longer visit this time, packing up the van for overnight “camping” inside the van on Monday night to see if it would work out okay for future visits. I arrived in the parking lot of the “resort”/nursing home at about 11:00am, and as I pulled into their parking lot in view of Roger’s window, my cell phone rang. It was Amber in admissions at Life Care Center of Colorado Springs, maybe 10 miles away. They had just lifted their restriction on admissions and had accepted Rog into their facility. Could I expedite his arrival the following day?

I telephoned the social worker at the “resort” and as usual, left a voice mail passing on Amber’s message. During the course of the rest of the morning, arrangements were made for me to transport Rog to his new home. This one will FINALLY become his home now, and wait until I tell you why I am so excited about this!

As usual, I talked with Rog on our two iPhones through the window of the “resort” a couple of times on Monday, explaining his move. I telephoned our close square dance friends, Barb and Larry Williams, who chose “The Gardens” after a long and careful search for their retirement and moved there after selling their gorgeous Salida home about 10 months before the pandemic struck America. And my night in the van was peaceful and comfortable—a success!!!

On Tuesday morning, May 19, I got up and tidied up the van so that Rog could get his power wheelchair into it. This is the closest we ever get to each other these days: when I transport him to either a doctor’s appointment or in this case, to his new home. We stopped at McDonald’s to buy him his favorite—a chocolate milkshake—and an iced hazelnut coffee for me. The next stop was Walmart to buy Rog a new fanny pack since the buckle had broken on his old one. Then on to The Gardens. This campus, so to speak, is located two blocks from Memorial Park and is at about 1:30 on the outer rim of Independence Circle. There are three buildings: The Inn, which is the retirement building for able-bodied souls; The Bridge, which is for assisted living; and The Life Care Center for those in need of skilled nursing.

Roger’s and my first stop at The Gardens was the parking area for The Inn. Barb and Larry came out of the building with their face masks on to welcome Rog to The Gardens. All four of us were very happy to see each other. Then we drove the tenth of a mile to The Life Care Center and were very warmly greeted by Lori from admissions. She assisted us in getting Rog into his private room and in setting up Face Time so that I could see the room and Rog could see me. Next she came out to talk with me. She said that the best feature of Life Care was the staff and that they were going to “love up” on Rog and make him a part of their family!!! Such WONDERFUL news, a real JOY to my ears!!! She gave me two of her business cards, one for me and one for Barb and Larry, telling me that any of us could call her at any time to check on Rog or to get help in any way. Such a difference from the past six weeks when I had such difficulties connecting with Roger’s social services rep at the “resort.” I was thrilled!

Just to wrap it up, I then went back to The Inn and spent a very enjoyable hour and a half with Barb and Larry on the patio closest to their apartment and learned so much more about The Gardens. Thanks in large part to these dear friends, I believe that Rog has finally found a wonderful home away from home.

Roger’s contact information:

Roger Cason, Room 306  
Life Care Center of Colorado Springs  
2490 International Circle  
Colorado Springs, CO 80910  
Roger’s cell phone: 719-581-0243  
Roger’s room phone: 719-313-4048  
Life Care Center: 719-630-8888



PLUG INTO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

June	Scriptures
Theme: Love Your Neighbor, Even When...	
Sunday, June 7	— Matthew 28:16-20
Sunday, June 14	— Matthew 9:35-10:8
Sunday, June 21	— Matthew 10:24-39
Sunday, June 28	— Matthew 10:40-42

CUCC SERVICES ON YOUTUBE

Go to **youtube.com** and search for **CUCC Buena Vista CO**. You’ll be able to watch all recorded services beginning with Easter, April 12, 2020. To watch them “live,” tune in at **9:00am** Sunday mornings.

COFFEE HOUR VIA ZOOM!  
Right after the service, come Zoom with us!

Please see *any* weekly eblast for the Zoom sign-in information. It never changes, but always stays the same from week to week—yay!

THANK YOU FOR REMEMBERING YOUR CHURCH!

*Church* is not cancelled!

CUCC continues to operate and support its outreach programs. Please send your essential support to PO Box 610 or drop in to the office anytime. You and your contributions are greatly appreciated!

BE IN THE KNOW!

- ◆ Copies of Sunday messages can be found in the file box outside the pastor’s office door.
- ◆ Sunday messages are also posted on the church website at [www.bvcucc.org/home/Sunday-messages](http://www.bvcucc.org/home/Sunday-messages).
- ◆ To receive the CUCC weekly email blast, contact the office at 719-395-2544 or email to [office.bvcucc@gmail.com](mailto:office.bvcucc@gmail.com).
- ◆ Nancy is in the front office M, W, F from 9-2, but feel free to leave a message at any time.
- ◆ Contact Nancy in the office to get on the birthday/anniversary list. *Please include the year of said birthday/anniversary.*



## CUCC Council Minutes - May 20, 2020

**7:11pm Clerk’s Note: Meeting conducted via Zoom internet due to the Colorado Stay-at-Home Order started on March 26<sup>th</sup> due to the nationwide Corona Virus Pandemic.**

**Present:** Moderator Kathy Roman, Vice Moderator Mark Wolters, Pastor Rebecca Poos, Kay Allinger, Merilee Daugherty, Helen Duncan, Lesley Fagerberg, Judy Hassell, Ron Hassell, Kathy Keidel, Betsy Neas, Linda Rak, Ron Rak, Bob Stocker, Bill Waldorf.

**Sign On and Greet, Welcoming and Opening Prayer:** Moderator Kathy Roman began the meeting with a prayer.

### GENERAL BUSINESS AND REPORTS

**Minutes** from the April Council Meeting were presented for corrections. Hearing none, the minutes stand approved as previously published in the May church newsletter.

**Clerk’s Report.** Ron noted one transfer of membership: On May 11 by letter, Fred and Nancy Dare requested a formal transfer of membership to their new church. They were active members of CUCC.

**Treasurer’s Report.** Treasurer Lloyd Martinez was not present for the meeting. Bill Waldorf noted that no financial reports for the month of April had been received prior to this meeting, so there was nothing new to report. Financial Secretary Kay Allinger was asked to comment in general on April contributions. She replied that the “regulars” were still contributing. She was not aware of any donations from YouTube viewers of the Sunday services, but there is no mechanism set up so far to receive online donations. Bill noted that a Finance Team meeting is set for Friday the 29<sup>th</sup> to discuss options for donations, including Direct Deposit at Collegiate Peaks Bank. Other possibilities for receiving donations are being discussed with other churches and the Conference Office. Rebecca will try to incorporate “hints” for giving in the YouTube Sunday services, since the church is getting a much larger Sunday “audience” through this online venue, and also on the church weekly Facebook page.

**Moderator’s Report.** Kathy Roman opened the floor for kudos and thanks for recent activities. She thanked: 1. the congregation for continued giving and other support; 2. Matthew Maloney for his expertise with YouTube for the Sunday services; 3. Kathy Keidel for making and distributing face masks; 4. The Team Chairs for keeping the work of the teams going and on track.

She cautioned the congregation to be aware of new email scams relating to the current Covid Virus pandemic. Pastor Rebecca’s email was hacked recently, resulting in fake requests for recipients to purchase Amazon gift cards to send to the scammers. Bill suggested the extent of a hacking can be reduced by an email sender using only one addressee on the “To” address line and all others on the “BCC” address line (Blind Carbon Copy).

### CONTINUING BUSINESS

**Resumption of services and activities.** Kathy Roman referenced a document created by the Rocky Mountain Conference dated May 14 which did not suggest any specific date but recommended that “all congregations commission a strategic planning team within their own church to assess the wide range of issues associated with a decision to hold in-building worship and other activities,” and was packed with strategic questions to ask and answer. Key issues noted were liability, no more person-to-person meetings, personal health checks upon entering the building, other methods of giving, and adding more pandemic-related info and required changes on the church website. Council commented that liability may be the biggest issue—there’s a lot we don’t know about liability, and we will need to communicate with the Conference and other churches for guidance. Bill suggested in the meantime that “acting in good faith” is the best deterrent and a wise way to act for conducting church activities. It was suggested we check with the church insurance board for clarifications. Mark Wolters will initiate calls to our insurance representative.

Kay asked: How can the sanctuary be properly cleaned with everything being cloth? Kathy Keidel emphasized that we need to form a group to oversee the required changes [a “Strategic Planning team”]. Rebecca stressed that the church is “a different animal” in contrast to other businesses and different procedures specific to a church will be needed. It’s not just a state and county thing, but a church thing also. Bill noted that no one is going to be 100% safe until there is a vaccine.

Kathy also reported that she and Vice Moderator Mark Wolters joined a Zoom meeting on May 14 of moderators from around the Conference where topics of discussion included the Conference's recommendation of establishing a strategic planning group in each church. Some of the topics considered were taking a survey of congregants regarding social distancing and related issues, insurance liability, continuing virtual worship, and possibly having drive-in worship. The moderator at Grand Junction announced they are holding no in-person worship for the foreseeable future. Regarding giving, one church is using pre-paid envelopes, while another has placed a PayPal button on their website. On May 19 Kathy and Rebecca joined a Zoom meeting of pastors and lay leaders called by Chaffee County Public Health and Rev. Tom Abbott of First Presbyterian in Salida. The Public Health nurses announced that the County has requested a variance from the state's re-opening directives. The nurses recommended the standard precautions. Questions included the liability issue and re-opening buildings to community groups.

**Betsy Neas made a motion/Bill Waldorf seconded that “we will not open the church building to any organization or activity until further notice.” Council voted and the motion passed.**

**Parking lot use by various groups was discussed**, especially AA, Al Anon, WMS, Strong Women, Boy Scouts. Kathy Keidel asked: “How will we police the group size [to comply with the 10-person gathering state mandate]? We should close the lot if the church is closed.” Discussion centered on how the group size can be controlled without having a monitor for each gathering. Council consensus was that the lot can be used as long as there is a responsible leader for each group.

**Ron Hassell made a motion/Betsy seconded that “We allow parking lot use under current rules.” Motion passed.**

**Celebration of Life for Verona Taggart scheduled for June 11.** Council agreed that the event will have to be conducted at a private residence, since it will be impossible to control and conduct such an activity on the unsuitable outside church grounds. The host will need to be very diligent to follow current gathering rules. A large group puts the Pastor at risk. Rebecca will talk to the family with the church recommendations to help organize the event.

**Reschedule Listening/Visioning Event.** RMC does not see an in-person meeting as possible during the current crisis. A virtual format such

as Zoom would have to be done. Council responses noted that there are other means of communicating with the RMC counselors, including phone calls, letters, and emails. Council suggested that the congregation first be informed of the plan to continue the previously scheduled sessions by the Weekly Email Blasts and the June Newsletter. The Stew/Vis Team will continue to work with the RMC Team on a Plan and Schedule for the Event, using all the means of virtual communication available to us. Plans and dates will be announced to the congregation as they become clear for gathering input from individuals and sharing findings in community. ***Judy made a motion/Bob seconded that the church resume discussions with RMC after knowing what the majority of the congregation prefers to do. Motion passed.***

### NEW BUSINESS

**Appoint Assistant Treasurer.** Bill announced that Judy Hassell has volunteered to take the position of Assistant Treasurer. Bill noted that Cindy Helm has agreed to train the new candidate. ***Bill made a motion/Kathy K seconded that Judy Hassell be appointed as Assistant Treasurer. Motion passed.***

**Signature Card for Collegiate Peaks Bank.** New signatories are required for maintaining the church checkbook. Bill presented a document called “Excerpt from Minutes of Council” to provide sufficient proof to the bank of who is being removed as signatories and who is being added. The document was prepared with the assistance of the bank. ***Bill made a motion/Lesley seconded to include the document as part of these minutes. Motion passed.***

### TEAM REPORTS AND UPDATES

**Finance and Budget Team.** Bill said he will contact Treasurer Lloyd to acquire the April Financial Report and will assist Lloyd in preparing subsequent monthly reports in a timely manner before each monthly Council meeting. Kathy Roman also thought it would be very useful for Lloyd to attend the next Council Meeting and will call him to set that up. Lesley suggested that Bill encourage Lloyd to also add some written narratives to the monthly reports, which have been extremely useful in the past.

**Stewardship/Visioning Team.** Bob Stocker had nothing more to add to his previous comments during the Reschedule of the Listening/Visioning Event.

**Faith Education.** Kathy Keidel talked about several possibilities for reaching children during the summer months. Our church families with children will individually be contacted to see what they prefer. Ideas: "Bolt!" ("To Jesus") is a three-day quarantined program with Bible-based videos, games, and activities for the children to do at home, facilitated by the parents/grandparents. Cost is \$25 per family, paid by CUCC. Alice also suggested a "Church in the Box" program she found online. We would take large pizza boxes and fill them with a theme and associated activities to last a two-week period, including coloring sheets on compassion that Rebecca suggested. We could also use the SS Blue curriculum that we have in the SS office to support our program. Each of the five teachers would take a week and supply this box to the family to be used during a two-week period at the family's leisure.

**Adult Study.** Betsy suggested that we can tune into other church Zoom meetings to participate in their study programs. The ongoing Columbine Church Adult Study is a current example, and they are using the same book as our group was using in March. Rebecca suggested this crisis might be a great opportunity to increase the Adult Study awareness and participation, which has always been low. Adult Education information can be included in the weekly Email Blasts offering the education to the whole congregation, but without adding more unwanted email communicating. Betsy made an observation that many older members of the church do not understand how to tune in to the YouTube Sunday services or Zoom coffee hour meetings. Kathy Keidel expressed her frustration in trying to coach a member over the phone on the computer use, with limited success. She was of the opinion that one-on-one in-person teaching was the only way for many individuals. Betsy suggested forming a cadre of volunteers who can go one-on-one with those individuals to teach and physically show them how to connect.

**Outreach Team.** Helen said the team liked the “Adopt-a-Family” suggestion from last month. The program is relatively inexpensive at \$100 a month for a 3-month sponsorship. Funds can be taken from the Pastor’s Discretionary Fund or The Seed Fund. Families are vetted for need. The team asked for Council endorsement. Rebecca emphasized that the church should not remain anonymous as an “adopter.” Kathy Roman suggested we could afford to expand the support to two families. Helen will discuss the program further with Kathy and the program administrators. ***Kay made a motion/Kathy Keidel seconded to support two families in the program as described. Motion passed.***

**Worship Team.** Linda reported that the Mother’s Day YouTube service was very well received, with the photo video of many of members’ mothers. The same thing is planned for Father’s Day. Nothing but good comments were received from the personal distribution of carnation flowers to all the women of the church prior to Mother’s Day, planned and orchestrated by Janet Steiner and assisted by Linda Rak. Rebecca commented on the YouTube “hits” (or “views”) on Sunday services. “The whole world is our parish”—opportunities are unlimited. Matthew Maloney is working on continuing the video presentations with a team, even after the church building reopens.

**Facilities Team.** Ron Hassell noted a few projects that the Team was working on during the church closure, which are budgeted. Included are selected re-staining of the church building exterior, replacing the single pane windows around the south sanctuary door, and replacing the south double doors with better insulated ones.

### AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

**Women’s Missionary Society.** Merilee is hoping to conduct a June gathering—may have to do a parking lot party! Betsy raised the possibility of using the pavilion at the River Park if available.

**PASTOR’S ADDITIONAL COMMENTS.** Keep doing what’s new and valuable to us and be open to reach out farther, look at ourselves differently. Evaluate what’s really important to us, be aware of what’s happening in the community. Keep looking for ways to connect, look for new opportunities. Bill added that we should reach out to the disadvantaged not only in our community, but the world. Almost no one in our congregation is disadvantaged; let’s look beyond.

**ADJOURNMENT.** Adjourned with a closing prayer from Rebecca.

**Meeting was adjourned at 10:06pm.**

**NEXT COUNCIL MEETING is scheduled for June 17, 7:00pm.**

Prepared by Ron Rak, Clerk