

**Congregational
United Church of Christ**

Sunday Worship Schedule

10:00am MST—Indoor Worship

(Bring a mask! - Reservations required!)

and

9:00am MST—YouTube

CUCC Buena Vista CO

217 Crossman Ave.; Mailing: 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
November, 2020



MODERATOR'S MOMENT

I confess; I have become addicted to TV news. I could blame it on the restraints Covid has imposed on our habits, behaviors and interactions. And we all want to do the right things to protect ourselves and others from a relentless virus, about which we know so little. We observed a shutdown of businesses which included bars, restaurants, gyms, plus schools, churches, meetings and other gatherings of family and friends. It left many people with time they didn't anticipate having.

Some of us used it for accomplishing postponed do-it-yourself projects, yardwork, house cleaning and the like while others of us devoted time to keeping in touch through social media, and others, like myself, filled the void with increased attention to TV, especially news. Besides the times when I intentionally wanted to listen for coronavirus updates and what's happening in the world in general, the TV stayed on until I realized that I was filling silence with noise, not merely noise, but a constant cacophony of pitches for products, services and, of course, politics. None of the above totally reflects truth, so I turned off the TV and momentarily basked in the silence. I turned next to a website called Bible Verse of the Day where I found this:

When words are many, transgression is not lacking but the prudent are restrained in speech. (Proverbs 10:19 NRSV)

From another translation we get *"he who holds his tongue is wise,"* and from the Common English Bible: *"with lots of words comes wrongdoing, but the wise restrain their lips."*

Wisdom, in the vernacular, would be to "zip your lips."

No doubt, there have been times in most of our lives when we have failed to exercise the wisdom of the proverb and lived to regret it. But, over time, we have learned discretion in not reacting immediately, but listening more in resisting the tendency to fall for the latest "cure" for our ailments or offers on how to get more "free" benefits from Social Security. We have learned to use discretion in our personal relationships by using our God-given gifts of understanding, empathy and compassion before "popping off" and causing hurt and pain, realizing that we have more in common than whatever it is that divides us by "holding our tongues" and keeping our lips zipped. We have also learned that we don't always have to be right to share God's gifts but being "prudent and restrained in speech" can lead us in a better direction to becoming our best selves and worthy of those gifts.

In the words of James, brother of Jesus, as he wrote to the early church: *"So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God."* (James 1:19-20 NKJV) Maybe we could all pray for better "filters," greater discretion, and slower tongues.

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

Be good, be kind, and be well.

Kathy Roman, Moderator

Need to get in contact with me? I welcome your calls to 395-6812 or 395-5301 and emails to kroman@bresnan.net.

SUNDAY MORNING INDOOR WORSHIP CUCC

10:00am

See the article elsewhere in the newsletter for all the details!

YOUTUBE WORSHIP

9:00am

Our YouTube worship is always happening!: [CUCC Buena Vista CO](http://www.bvcucc.org)

ZOOM COFFEE HOUR RESUMES!

Sundays, 11:00am

Since ya can't linger at the church, zip on home, fire up the computer or phone, and join us on [Zoom](https://zoom.us) for social time! Yippee!!! (click on [Zoom](https://zoom.us) or see any weekly email blast for [link](#))

PASTOR'S ARTICLE, November, 2020

Happy Thankful Living and Giving Season. *You* might call it November! It's also Election Season, and we may all well be very thankful when it's behind us. This month, especially, I am giving thanks that we live in a democracy that has elections, that everyone is invited to be part of our policy-making and process, and all are invited to the table to bring their input to vote and to support the policies we feel are important to the common good of our communities, earthly home and families.

I am also thankful that we have free and open churches (even if the building might be closed at times for safety!) where we can live out our walk of faith and follow the God of our choice without coercion, arrest or even imprisonment. These freedoms are not something I take for granted, along with the responsibility to bring my faith life and convictions to bear on our decisions as civic citizens.

Rev. Cameron Trimble, author of *Piloting Faith: Helping Your Congregation to Take Flight*, wrote this week about this important connection. She gave her permission to share these wise and timely thoughts, as well as her warm greetings to our congregation.

I was talking with a neighbor a couple of weeks ago when the topic of the presidential debates came up. "I do not talk about politics or religion with people," she said. "I do not think any of that matters in the whole scheme of things." I was dumbfounded. I do not know anything more important than talking about politics and religion, and I believe it matters more today than ever before in human history.

Let me state the obvious. **Our theology—what we believe and say about God—shapes our politics.** Look at the jihadists as an example. If you believe that God is an angry, vengeful God, then likely you will behave in angry and vengeful ways. If you believe God has a predetermined history and everything is "meant to be," then you might feel justified staying silent in the face of violence, oppression, and injustice. If you believe God is active in our lives and a loving force for good in the world, then you likely behave in active, engaged ways that channel God's love into the world. Because we live in community, we shape our laws and social codes through the lens of what we believe about God and each other. **Talking about religion and politics matters.**

We cannot escape the obvious connection between religion and politics. When you listen to people who passionately stand in opposition to others being treated equally (as they are treated)—gay people, black people, Latino/a people, women, immigrants, people of other faiths, people who are differently-abled, etc.—you come to understand that their God is an angry God—a God of law, judgment, and rigidity—who will not be mocked. It is their Christian duty to ensure God's law (whatever that is) is upheld. Many supporters of equal rights and respect are also Christian, but they argue that God is "still speaking," still revealing ways of understanding and expressing loving and life-giving human experience.

God is a teacher, a prophet, a mystic, showing us more ways to give and offer grace to each other.

Do you see? How we see God in our own lives is not a private matter. It shapes our public policies. Religion and politics have always and will always be connected. But here is what we must remember—good theology always says that **faith overcomes fear, love overcomes hate, and grace overcomes judgment.**

We are fighting for what image of God we want to embrace....do we want a God of Love who celebrates the diversity of every single one of us as Her most precious creations? The choice is ours.

Go talk about religion and politics. It matters more than ever. We are in this together, Rev. Cameron

(Blessings and Virtual Hugs, Pastor Rebecca)

LET'S CONNECT!

Pastor Rebecca is available for Virtual Visits and Porch or Walk & Talk visits, with a mask and social distancing, by invitation.

To set up a time, call or text **719-252-6890** or email to **revbecca@icloud.com**.



Be brave
BECAUSE YOU ARE A
CHILD OF GOD.
Be kind
BECAUSE EVERYONE
ELSE IS TOO.

CUCC GOOD-TO-KNOWS

KUDOS COLUMN



The Facilities Team & Friends and Garden Committee for a fantastic season (ongoing) of beautifying CUCC in all ways.

RESOURCES ON CUCC WEBSITE

Looking for resources on race relations and/or COVID-19?

The CUCC website—www.bvcucc.org/resources/—features a Resources section with information on:

~COVID-19—Being the Church in New Times

~Talking About Race/Seeing in Color

~Chaffee County Community Resources

Hi Pastor Rebecca,

Sherry and I wanted to donate some money to CUCC. You and the church family were such a blessing to my folks, Lew and Jean Lowe, for all these years. You can use the money in a memorial project if you have any going on at this time, or anywhere you think best for the church.

We hope to get out there the next couple of summers and visit again.

God Bless Your Ministry!
Jim & Sherry Lowe

PASTORAL CARE TECH SUPPORT!



Need some help connecting with CUCC on YouTube for worship or Zoom meetings?

Pastor Rebecca and others can help! Contact us today to set up an appointment!

Email to **revbecca@icloud.com** or call/text **719-252-6890**.



TWINS!

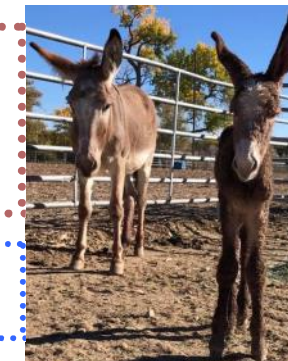
Kathy Roman's twin grandnephew Liam and grandniece Ely!

All together now:
"Aaaawwww!"

SURPRISE!

Rebecca's friend Lisa in Olathe rescued a wild burro and she turned up pregnant!

Proud mama Corabelle and baby Carina



When your sins are just too many



Communion Toast Crunch

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 (303) 756-1546 (nursing station)
Brookshire House, Rm. 12B
4660 E Asbury Circle, Denver, CO 80222

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

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

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

CUCC Special Dates



BIRTHDAYS

November 2—Angie Williams
November 5—Gale Shaw
November 9—Scott Colvin
November 9—Lindsey Fagerberg
November 10—Cindy Helm
November 12—Jasmine White
November 13—Zach Fagerberg
November 13—Bonnie Taylor
November 19—Scott McCuaig
November 20—Steve Jackson
November 25—Joan Wilder
November 27—Linda Rak
November 30—Leonard Nyberg

ANNIVERSARIES

November 20—Herb & Merilee Daugherty
November 25—Bob & Marilyn Frykholm



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

Janet Jones—Healing
Roger Cason—Healing
Nan Bohe—Healing
Sarah Struthers—Healing
Marcille Drake—Healing
Pam Hughes—Healing
Shirl Holloway—Healing
Dwight Griggs—Healing
Al & Phyllis McCall—Healing
Brooke Davis (Doyle & Leonard Nyberg's cousin)—Healing
Diana Lynn Hilt (Lucille Habeck's daughter)—Healing
Nancy Russell (Marge Dorfmeister's sister-in-law)—Healing
Sally Corman (Betsy Neas' sister)—Healing
Ed Simons (Rebecca Poos' brother-in-law)—Healing
Pat & Jim Driskel (aunt & uncle of Doyle and Leonard Nyberg)—Healing
Jim Padgett (Edie's husband)—Healing
Jean Brody—Healing
Johnnie & Nancy Schultz (relatives of Marge Erickson)—Healing from COVID-19
Tyler Reed (relative of Linda Rak)—Healing



CHURCH-COMMUNITY NEWS

COMPOST—PERFECT FOR FALL

Close the loop on local: the food scraps you've been dropping off are now available as finished compost! Fall is a great time to replenish your garden soil or give house plants a boost. Contact info@elementscompost.com or visit www.elementscompost.com to become a subscriber (contributing compostables) or add the receiving of garden-ready compost to your membership.

The compostables collection site is right here at CUCC by the shed/garage!



CUCC and community folks gathered with symbols of “Going Green” at CUCC to celebrate Jacy’s award!

JACY DOUMAS RECEIVES GARNA AWARD
(Greater Arkansas River Nature Association)



Jacy Doumas, an integral part of CUCC's Virtual Worship Team, won GARNA's Award for Sustainability.

As reported by the Ark Valley Voice:
Through Doumas's work with Envision Chaffee County, she helped form relationships with others concerned about single-use plastics, waste management, recycling, composting, environmental health, renewable energy and conservation throughout the region that ultimately grew into the creation of Chaffee Green. Since Chaffee Green has become a program of GARNA, Jacy continues to serve as a board member, promoting and inspiring engagement in GARNA's mission with hopes to contribute to a future County Sustainability Plan.

“As long as I continue to breathe, walk and drink, I will continue to be driven to protect the air, land, and water,” she says. “I have given a significant amount of time to GARNA because I believe it is a proven and dedicated nonprofit that protects that which cannot protect itself in a positive uplifting way.”

Congratulations, Jacy! We thank you and appreciate you!





view from the Mountain

“PRECIOUS MOMENTS”

I received an email that read, “Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.” I read it and then asked myself if I had moments that took my breath away. Further, how many of these moments had been recently? Bad moments that scare us can take our breath away, but that’s not the question. I’m talking about moments so filled with pure feeling, passion, awe, or reverence that one forgets to breathe, moments so precious that time stops.

The first such moment I can recall came when the doctor handed me my first born. After eighteen endless hours of hard labor with no anesthesia, my little boy came into the world breach and two months early. Trying to realize that this living, breathing person was the same one who lived inside my body, the very idea took my breath away. I never wanted to spoil the magic of that moment. And lo and behold, when I delivered my three precious girls, the very same feeling came over me. The birth of a baby to me is the miracle of miracles.

Another such moment occurred in the high mountains of France. Gene and I had been away from home for three weeks. It was a dream trip for us, but there was a problem. We had a big yellow tabby cat named Perry Fat Cat who was my constant companion. I was missing him, the feel of him, the sound of him; I literally ached for him. One misty morning as we were loading our car to leave, the people in the next car were also preparing to leave. The woman was holding a Siamese cat and I could not take my eyes from that beautiful cat contentedly purring in her arms. The woman looked at me and literally “heard my need” and understood without a word spoken. She simply walked over to me and held out her cat to me. She only spoke French and I only English, but it mattered not. I took her cat into my arms and buried my face in her fur. For a moment the cat extended her claws, but because it was truly a “take my breath away moment,” she retracted her claws and began to purr. It lasted only a few moments, but when I was filled, I simply handed her back to the lady. Still, not one word was exchanged. You know, I still feel breathless when I recall the pure joy, not only of holding the French cat, but how two people who didn’t know each other could communicate on such an instinctual and intimate level.

One of my most precious and powerful breath-taking-moments in my life happened in Kentucky. I have written about my best friend Judy. One day, she left this world and mine changed forever. During the last three or four weeks before she died of breast cancer, there were several of us friends who took turns staying with her because she did not want to be alone. She would go hours without saying a word and we always praised those hours because they meant she was resting from pain. One day, I was standing next to her bed, holding her hand, smoothing back her hair, trying to drink in her essence, and knowing it would soon be over.

Suddenly, she opened her eyes, focused on me, and said, “Jean, sing to me.” Of course I said I would, but what did she want to hear? She closed her weary eyes, but then opened them again and said, “Sing Jesus Loves Me.” I’ve known this song all my life, so I began to sing, “Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.” Suddenly Judy began to sing with me, and to this day I don’t know where she got the strength to sing on key, but then as we sang, other friends sitting in the living room heard us and came into her bedroom. Can you hear it? We stood around her bed holding hands and we all sang Jesus loves me. It may have been the most spiritual, precious moment in my life. That simple children’s song raised me right to the floor of God. For a few moments, breathing was unnecessary.

Another time I choked as I silently watched Gene, my husband, at his eighty-second birthday party. He got up from his chair and danced with two of his grandchildren, ages one and two and a half. It wasn’t the dance that touched me so much as it was the adoration of those two babies’ faces, looking up at the face of their grandpa. It made me cry at the beauty of it.

Once, at my beautiful horse farm in Kentucky, we had a number of family, including my brother Jim. It was fall and everybody was out back enjoying the perfect day. All of the sudden, Jim asked each one of us to stop whatever we were doing and realize that we were all inside a most magical day. He said he didn’t know why, but that we should not miss a moment of it. The rest of us stayed very still so that the painfully beautiful moment would pour over us. There was stillness, spiritualness and, one by one, we knew deep inside not to breathe, but to just feel, because there are no words to describe such a feeling.

I could go on forever. I have come to realize that my life has been enriched with these breath-taking moments. I see that these moments don’t have to be dramatic, but rather can be of the simplest kind. It’s just for us to recognize them when they happen. Please, I beg of you, slow down your life and be ready to recognize these gifted moments, for they are surely right there in your life. Let’s not be so preoccupied and busy and tired to know them when they come to us. Don’t miss your precious moments. The view from the mountain is wondrous! ~ Jean Brody



REV. TRACEY PERRY
Let’s Talk About It—Bold Conversations on Race and Social Justice
Thursday, November 19
5:00pm-7:00pm (MST) via [ZOOM!](#)
 (see [bvcucc.org](#) for [zoom link](#))

With the racial and social injustice going on in the United States, the intentional racist division, police brutality, and systemic racism—It is Time for the Talk. We will gather and have candid, open, and honest conversations to address race, activism, and making the decision to stand against oppression and racism. This is your time to speak, and to listen, as Tracey helps you to dispel myths that may have been taught and accepted by you as truth about Black people and people of color.

Be brave—attend the Zoom sessions and Let’s Talk About It!

This vital event is sponsored by CUCC’s Faith Education Team and the Chaffee County Anti-Racism Group—Silent No More.

Suggested Donation \$10-15

(send via PayPal to RevBecca@icloud.com, or CUCC PO Box 610, Buena Vista, CO 81211-0610)

WOMEN’S LABYRINTH RETREAT **“And Dog Makes 12” – Retreat #1 of Many to Come**

On a beautiful, fall-ish day in September, ten women and one Cheyenne dog joined Pastor Rebecca for a “Labyrinth Day Retreat” at the Poos’ cabin in Fairplay. We masked up, packed a lunch, and caravanned in socially-distanced cars up over Trout Creek Pass to spend a few blissful and peaceful hours together in the sunshine and light breeze, “away from it all.”

We learned about Labyrinths and their central role in spiritual practice through the centuries in Christianity and other faith traditions. This particular design is an indigenous one called “The Man in the Maze.” While walking toward the center on Walk #1, we considered: What do I bring to this time and space? What am I feeling, holding inside, coming with—positive and not so much? What needs to be set aside for awhile in order for me to be Present?

In the middle is a bench where one can rest a moment, reflect, and look at the land, mountains and sky in all directions. Cheyenne greeted each soul as they came to the center with a dose of love and hugs. Walking out from the center, we considered: If the Man in the Maze represents death to old things and looking forward to new life, what needs to be let go in your life—an old way of thinking, acting, reacting, responding to circumstances—in order for you to experience new breath, a fresh start, and find “new life” in some way?

Quiet time with our journals followed, with everyone dispersing to the beautiful hillsides and creek, either sitting or continuing to walk and explore. Lunchtime was a heartfelt sharing of how we are coping and communing in these isolating times and how we seek to stay centered and connected—with our own souls and our loved ones. Jacy led us in “Holy Ground” and “By My Side” for meal grace and reflection.

After lunch we did Walk #2 with a different focus—Look to the Horizon. The instructions were: Look up, look out. See if you can do a “trust walk”—eyes up, looking at the mountains, *while* putting one foot in front of the other. Look *beyond* this current state of life and our world. Look forward in *hope* to the mountains, the horizon, the clouds and sun, and ever-changing vistas.

And then we went home, renewed and refreshed and eager to gather again at some future time. Thanks to all who gathered this time. Hope you’ll consider joining us next Retreat!



CUCC ANNOUNCEMENTS

INDOOR WORSHIP RESUMES! 10:00am!

As winter approaches and the weather cools, we are offering Sunday worship in the sanctuary. *The YouTube service that we have been doing for several months will continue for those who are unable or uncomfortable attending an inside service.* The indoor service will be a hybrid service where Judy will play introductory music while we are getting settled and Rebecca will do a brief Joys and Concerns at the beginning, to be followed by the YouTube service on the monitors. Rebecca will give a benediction before exiting.

The number of people that will be permitted inside will be limited and groups of chairs have been spaced 6 - 10 feet apart for social distancing purposes. The maximum capacity is 13 groups, a group being a 'household,' so it could consist of, for example, one person, a couple, or a family with children. The service will be shortened to approximately 30 - 40 minutes to limit time spent indoors. Windows will be opened and box fans used for ventilation purposes. MASKS ARE TO BE WORN BY ALL ATTENDING FOR THE ENTIRE TIME ONE IS INDOORS. If you forget your mask, one will be provided.

How do I attend an indoor service?

If you are considering attending an indoor service, you should consider your overall health. The age of our congregation puts us at higher risk, and it has been shown that having pre-existing health issues increases that risk. The YouTube service continues to be available on line. (YouTube Channel: [CUCC Buena Vista CO](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUCCBuenaVistaCO))

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

Since the number of people indoors is limited, *you will need to call the office (395-2544) and inform Nancy that you would like to attend the current week's service.* **Reservations need to be made prior to 2:00pm on Friday.** Reservations are taken on a first-come, first-served basis.

When you arrive at church, mask up and remain socially distanced as you move from outside to inside the church. Hand sanitizer is provided as you enter; please use it. Chairs have been spaced as needed; pick a seat or grouping that best fits your needs. *Someone will be there to help with seating arrangements.*

When the service is over, you will be directed when to exit and you will exit out the double doors at the front of the sanctuary. Please don't congregate around the entrance and exit.

Thank you, and we look forward to seeing you!

WORSHIP EVERY SUNDAY & ANYTIME! CUCC SERVICES ON YOUTUBE

Go to **youtube.com** and search for **CUCC Buena Vista CO.**

To watch services "live," tune in at **9:00am** Sunday mornings and anytime after.

We'd love for you to **SUBSCRIBE** to our channel!

1. Go to CUCC's YouTube channel.
2. Click on the red SUBSCRIBE button on the right.
3. Sign in with your google/gmail account (or create a google/gmail account in two easy steps if you don't have one).



All recorded portions of Sunday services will be delivered to the church via zip drive by Riley, trusty canine courier. He takes his job very seriously! What a good boy!

CUCC ANNOUNCEMENTS

LA PUENTE HYGIENE BAGS

25 Hygiene Bags are being delivered to La Puente for those in need. Thank you so much for your donations and support!

Women's Missionary Society



WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY NEWS

"O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder consider all the worlds Thy hands have made..."

Hello Ladies of Women's Missionary. I hope you are continuing to work on your craft goods for our Bazaar to be held sometime after Easter 2021. Those of you famous for your baked goods and candies, we will let you know when to get started.

November is when we turn in our Blessing Boxes. We will have a meeting November 19, as scheduled. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall, spaced out, wearing masks. There will be no speaker and no refreshments, but we can take the opportunity to verbally share our blessings over the last eight or nine months. Despite the different year we have had, I am sure you have continued to take time to see the blessings in your life. Some of you have seen 2020 bring new family members into the world, others have lost loved ones that were blessings in their lives. I haven't heard of any of you ill with COVID-19, thank God. What a blessing to receive a note or phone call from someone, totally unexpected. The beauty of the September snow and later the vivid colors—what a blessing. If you are uncomfortable attending the November meeting, you can mail to the church office your monies for the Blessing Boxes. We rely on your donations to fund those in need in the mission field. Just notate in your check's memo line "WMS" and it will find its way to Kay.

Merilee Daugherty, President



BAZAAR (BIZARRE?) NEWS

I wish to thank everyone for their hard work at the bazaar. Well, you know, I *would* be saying that. I know you all would have cooked, baked, made candy, and completed projects to thrill our generous buyers. Please continue to work on projects—except for the food making!!! (+_+) When the time comes, we should *reeeeally* be prepared!!

Anyone needing project ideas, magazines, patterns, or books, please check with me. I also might have something that you are not able to get out to buy. I enjoy looking for things and finding stuff I've forgotten about.

When our current bizarre can be spelled bazaar, I will be back with any further possibilities.

Please take care of yourselves.
Janet Steiner, Bazaar chairman

ARE YOU MISSING OUT?

If you're not an emailer and want to hear from the church regularly, know that Nancy sends out regular hard copy mailings of inspirational messages and all timely, important news.

To be added to the list, please call her at **719-395-2544**. She's in the office **M, W, F, from 9:00am-2:00pm**.



CHURCH-COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

ST. ROSE COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER

Thursday, November 26

12:00pm-2:00pm

To-Go Turkey Trolley!

Call 719-395-8424 or
Janine at 719-395-6597

Donations Gratefully accepted!



GINGERBREAD HOUSE BAZAAR

Saturday, November 14

9:00am-3:00pm

BV Community Center



The Lutheran Women in Mission of Faith Lutheran Church invite you to their temporary Bazaar location. Pick up cookies and candies prepackaged in plastic bags and other gifts for your self or others!

Masks required;
Attendance managed for social distancing.

COLLEGIATE PEAKS FORUM SERIES™



COLLEGIATE PEAKS FORUM SERIES presents:

Temple Grandin

“Different Kinds of Minds”

Thursday, November 5, 7:00pm (Mtn. Time)

via [Zoom](#)

Dr. Mary Temple Grandin is a faculty member with Animal Sciences in the College of Agricultural Sciences at Colorado State University.

Dr. Grandin is an author of more than 60 scientific papers on animal behavior. She is a consultant to the livestock industry on animal behavior and an autism spokesperson. She is one of the first individuals on the autism spectrum to document the insights she gained from her personal experience of autism.

She was the subject of the Emmy and Golden Globe winning semi-biographical film **Temple Grandin**, and she is an outspoken proponent of the autism rights and neurodiversity movements.

Get on the CPFS email list so you never miss a lecture! Send your email address to Butch Butler: treasurer@collegiatepeaksforum.org. For more information, visit www.collegiatepeaksforum.org.

TELLS

Tuesday Evening
Ladies
Literary Society
Tuesdays, 7:00pm
via Zoom



All women are welcome!

The group is reading “Sold On a Monday”
by Kristina McMorris.

We share life, faith, family stories, support, fun and humor—please 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:
revbecca@icloud.com

CHRISTIAN MISSION IN NEED OF FOOD

The Arkansas Valley Christian Mission continues to help those in need in our local community. Your donation of peanut butter, jelly, spaghetti sauce in jars, boxed dinners like Hamburger or Tuna Helper and mac and cheese, canned tuna, canned fruit and veggies, boxed potatoes, and other supplies is greatly appreciated!!! You all rock!



COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

ARK VALLEY HELPING HANDS LETTER TO THE EDITOR— CHAFFEE COUNTY TIMES, MTN. MAIL, ARK VALLEY VOICE—OCTOBER, 2020

Foodshed Alliance partners with Ark Valley Helping Hands

Over the summer, the Foodshed Alliance worked with many local vendors to provide 10 weeks of food boxes donated to the members of Ark Valley Helping Hands. Each week, AVHH received 10 food boxes to distribute. Overall, 123 people were provided with fresh healthy eating. Members also received a beautiful cookbook, which was quickly utilized. Each week a recipe was included that could be made with that week's ingredients.

The Foodshed Alliance worked with the following vendors to put together the much-appreciated boxes: Rocky Mountain Garlic, Sundial Pantry, Triangle Oasis, High Country Greens, Palisade Peach Shack, Mexican Tamales Brenda, Les Montagnes des Saveurs, Poncha Creek Gardens, Daisy's Daughter, Don't Go Nuts, Big Nugget Farms, FabSab Superfoods, Jewels Garden Gems, Badger Creek Ranch, and The Drunken Muffin.

AVHH expresses its heartfelt appreciation to each and every vendor, with an extra thank you to the Foodshed Alliance for coordinating the program and preparing each box. The giving nature of the Chaffee County community and the supportive neighborliness of its people is one of the reasons we choose to live and serve here. Thank you so much! But we can't say it better than two of our members, who let us know that: “It was like Christmas!” and “The jambalaya recipe made enough for two meals, but I just couldn't stop eating it!”

For information about Ark Valley Helping Hands, please visit
arkvalley.helpfulvillage.com or call 530-1198.

- Nancy Best, Sara Ward, and the Board of Ark Valley Helping Hands



CHAFFEE COUNTY WINTER HOMELESS SHELTER

It surprises many that in our little Shangri-La there are many adults, children, and families experiencing homelessness, but rarely a night goes by without someone needing a place to sleep. On cold winter nights, this is not a matter of convenience—it's a matter of life or death.

Chaffee County Hospitality Inc. (formerly known as the Chaffee County Homeless Coalition) is operating two shelters this winter—one for men and one for women. The men's shelter is in The Lighthouse, at 346 G Street in Salida, with space for 10 men. The women's shelter is in the 1st Christian Church, at 302 4th Street in Salida, with space for 10 women. Families are lodged in local motels. The shelters are open from 8:30pm–8:30am from November 1–April 30.

CCHI is seeking to raise \$76,000, which will be used to pay the night staff, purchase motel vouchers, sleeping bags and pads, tents, food, and other cold weather supplies as needed.

Two ways to donate:

~Make checks payable to Chaffee County Hospitality Inc. and mail to First Presbyterian Church, 7 Poncha Blvd., Salida, CO 81201.

~Use this link to donate through GoFundMe: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/salida-colorado-overnight-winter-shelter>.

Chaffee County is a caring community and the CCHI board thanks you for your generous donations!

Questions? Please contact Tom Abbott at 719-539-6422, tom@salidapresbyterian.org, or Mike Orrill, 719-221-5418, morrill@chaffeecounty.org.

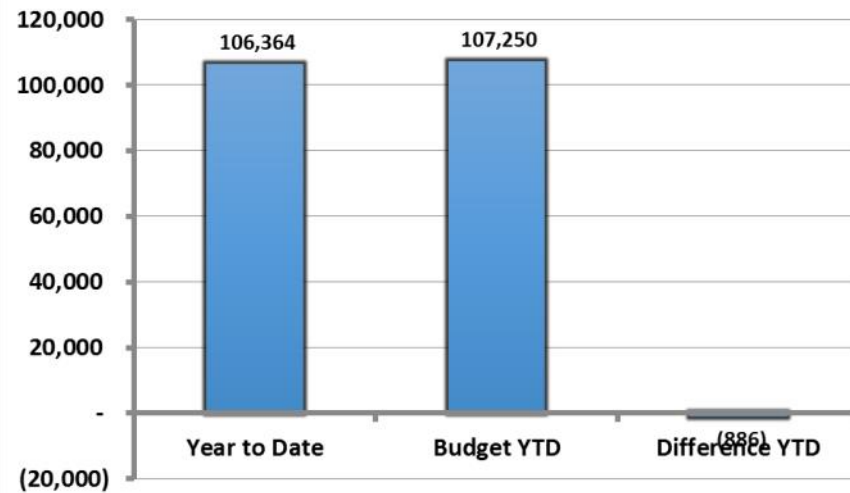
Peace,
Mike Orrill
Special Projects Coordinator
Chaffee County Public Health



CUCC REPORTS

PLUG INTO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

General Contributions through September



Finance and Budget Team November News

We are beginning to work on the Budget for 2021. All Team leaders have been asked to submit preliminary budget plans to us before the November Council meeting for review and discussion.

Should any congregants have ideas they would like to discuss with a Team chair, your input is welcomed. Please contact an appropriate Chair by Friday, November 13 (and don't be superstitious about that date!)

It appears that our financial health for 2020 is looking pretty good despite some "bumps in the road" resulting from COVID-19 and other factors.

FACILITIES TEAM NEWS

- The sanctuary replacement doors project is stalled due to the manufacturer being understaffed.
- The LED light upgrades project is continuing.
- A state-required back flow preventer is being installed.
- A speaker has been installed in the sanctuary to enable anyone outdoors to still hear.
- The sprinkler systems are drained—thank you to Miles and Mark Wolters!
- The garbage disposal in the parsonage died. A new one is being installed.

The Faith Education Team Faith Education for Everyone

We are planning several educational offerings for the fall for both adults and children. Please see the notices for Conversations That Matter on Sundays and the Rev. Tracey Perry event on November 19 elsewhere in the newsletter.

Worship Team

- The Strategic Planning Team has been working diligently on working through all the details necessary to resume indoor services.

Stewardship/Visioning Team News

The Team did not meet in October, so there is nothing to report. But stay tuned!

Outreach/Community & World Team News—November greetings!

The Team encourages all members and friends to think of those in our local community who are especially in need of your prayers and gifts during the COVID-19 pandemic. Several local non-profits are in need of financial gifts since the COVID protection measures may prevent donations of clothing and other used items. One specific organization comes to mind: The Chaffee County Homeless Shelter run by the Chaffee County Homeless Coalition at the Lighthouse in the Caring and Sharing building, 346 G St., in Salida.

We also thank you for your continued support of our local Mission, our sponsored young person in the Philippines, our Backpack Program and the UCC five-for-five collections.

November

Theme:

- Sunday, November 1
- Sunday, November 8
- Sunday, November 15
- Sunday, November 22

Scriptures

"Walking the Way with Jesus"

- Matthew 5-7
- Matthew 25:1-13
- Matthew 25:14-30
- Matthew 25:31-46

CONVERSATIONS THAT MATTER

Sundays, 9:00am

In the Fellowship Hall at CUCC

We are starting a new series Sunday, November 1. The group will be using a 40-minute podcast, [Learning How to See](#), followed by discussion. You can listen to the podcast by going to the [CENTER FOR ACTION AND CONTEMPLATION](#) website, click on podcasts, and find [LEARNING HOW TO SEE](#) with Richard Rohr, Brian McClaren, and Jacqui Lewis. We hope you will join us!

ONLINE GIVING APP FOR YOUR PHONE

It's so easy to set up!

Tithe.ly makes it easy to put their CUCC online giving app right on your phone!

Go to the App store on your phone and download the free app. Setting it up is easy! You'll be glad you did!

DID YOUKNOW?

6 Ways to Give!

Exciting Options for Supporting CUCC!

1. MAIL IN your contribution to CUCC, PO Box 610, Buena Vista, CO 81211-0610
2. DROP OFF at the church building during Nancy's working hours: MWF from 9:00-2:00.
3. Donate ONLINE with our new tithe.ly program! It's safe, secure, quick, and easy. You can even set up recurring payments so that you don't have to think about it each month! How nice is that?
4. DONATE through the CUCC website: [bvcucc.org](#), click DONATE.
5. WORSHIP with us on our YouTube channel, then click Please Support Our Church for giving options.
6. ACH - set up Automatic Giving at your bank. Never miss a month of ministry!

THANK YOU for all the ways you give of yourselves, your gifts, and your lives to CUCC!

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](#).
- ◆ To receive the CUCC weekly email blast, contact the office at 719-395-2544 or email to [office.bvcucc@gmail.com](#).
- ◆ Nancy is in the front office M, W, F from 9-2.
- ◆ Contact Nancy in the office to get on the birthday/ anniversary list. *Please include the year of said birthday/anniversary.*

CUCC Council Minutes - October 21, 2020

7:12pm Meeting called to order. (Clerk's Note: Meeting conducted via Zoom internet due to the Colorado Stay-at-Home/Safer-at-Home Orders started on March 26th due to the nationwide Corona Virus Pandemic.)

Sign on and Greeting: Moderator Kathy Roman, Kay Allinger, Merilee Daugherty, Helen Duncan, Betsy Neas, Pastor Rebecca Poos, Linda Rak, Ron Rak, Bob Stocker, Bill Waldorf.

Welcoming and Opening Prayer: Moderator Kathy Roman asked Pastor Rebecca to open the meeting with a prayer.

GENERAL BUSINESS AND REPORTS

Minutes from the September 16 Council Meeting, and the September 18 Special CUCC/RMC Meeting were presented for corrections. None were noted; both were approved and filed.

Clerk's Report: Ron noted no changes to the congregation since the last Council meeting. However, Rebecca noted the recent passing of Lew Lowe on September 16. Lew was a member.

Treasurer's Report: In the absence of our Treasurer Lloyd Martinez, Kathy asked Finance and Budget team chair Bill Waldorf if he would report, which he promised to do later in the agenda with the F&B Team report.

Moderator's Report: Kathy Roman expressed appreciation for the musical gifts of our musicians Jacy Doumas, Matthew Maloney, Shelby and Katie Lindsay, and Rebecca.

She and Vice Moderator Mark Wolters attended an RMC Moderators meeting via Zoom two weeks ago, with 11 other participants. The major focus was on re-opening for indoor worship. Some of the churches are using You Tube and Zoom. Others have used an FM transmitter for “parking lot” services. One church is going to produce a training video to prepare congregants for proper re-opening of sanctuaries. Changes/progress in adult study and Sunday School was shared, including offers to share resources and curriculum through the moderator's section of the RMC website. It was noted that several churches in the conference have as few children as we do. It was also noted that the Pinedale, WY church's pastor is retiring and they are currently seeking a replacement.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

Resumption of Services and Activities

- A procedure for indoor Sunday services has been formulated. Congregants should check the Monday and Friday email blasts from the office for details and plans, and will need to call the church office to make a reservation for the Sunday service.
- An idea was suggested to personally invite selected elderly and technologically un-equipped congregants to the Sunday services to increase their participation. However, there are some individuals who remain fearful of personally attending inside services due to the virus situation, and we may not be able to overcome those personal choices. Betsy impressed upon us that we are all getting fatigued and depressed with the situation, and that personal contact is really very important.

Outdoor and Indoor Services

Kathy pointed out that our outdoor services were quite successful, with an average attendance of 30.

Rebecca noted that Ron Hassell installed a speaker in the Fellowship Hall, and cables have been ordered to power outdoor speakers for overflow on nice days. A TV will be ordered to provide video in the FH.

- Rebecca emphasized that we should all try to reach out and communicate with those of the congregation that we are not seeing as often as before the coronavirus situation. She also cautioned that we should enter this indoor phase with a great degree of care, since the majority of the congregation is over age 65.
- She also shared that we have UCC COVID grant money available to upgrade equipment to the needs of the pandemic. We should “think BIG.” Maybe order two TVs for the Fellowship Hall. Maybe re-arrange the FH for the Adult Study to improve social distancing and ventilation, and not use the Adult Study room as it has very poor ventilation [Note: After the first indoor service on October 25, location of the TV was decided, and the current small speaker will have to be replaced with a powered speaker to cover the greater size of the FH.]

Pastoral and Congregational Relations Committee

- Helen Duncan reported that the PCRC group needs to conduct an annual review of both the pastor's and congregants' ministry, and include any new issues since the late summer Listening Sessions.
- Arlene Waldorf has drafted initial questions to be used in the Phase 2 congregant-PCRC sessions. The sessions are also planned to include evaluation of results and visioning for the future.
- The PCRC will be meeting several times over the next few months. Reminders will be set out in advance.

RMC Listening Team Report

Kathy Roman is working with Associate Conference Minister Pastor Erin Gilmore of the RMC to draft a cover letter to the received Listening Team report before it is sent out to the congregation. Erin's key comment was that we [the church, the Council?] don't have a good sense of our mission. Betsy echoed that our church's mission statement is far too broad, and that we should focus on only three things as the conference recommended. Rebecca suggested that our Council is well prepared to take on the task and proceed without waiting on more input from the RMC Team. Helen agreed that we already have a lot of examples of mission and identity statements that can be used to re-write our direction. Council should decide on next steps. Kathy suggested we follow the RMC Team idea to get started on Phase 2, an Educational Phase. Bob impressed on us that we should have a plan before sending out the RMC report, and we must answer the questions: Who are we? and Where are we going?

It was decided:

1. Council should send out the RMC report with the cover letter without delay and get things moving.
2. This should be followed up with bi-weekly, single-purpose meetings of Council to provide direction.
3. Council will meet November 4th at 7:00pm in person to focus on the job at hand.

Nominating Committee

Judy Hassell has agreed to chair the 2021 Nominating Committee. Council commented that most of the 2020 Team members are in their first term, and that most of them may continue. A key need is for a Vice Moderator (Kathy Roman will be retiring as moderator). Volunteers are needed to help Judy make calls to fill team vacancies. Merilee Daugherty offered to help. Team Chairs will be contacting their members to

encourage them to “re-up.” It was emphasized that it is also important to keep Council as consistent as possible until Phase 2 (educational), Phase 3 (healing), and Phase 4 (visioning) are undertaken.

TEAM REPORTS AND UPDATES

Stewardship and Visioning: Bob Stocker had nothing additional to report aside from the above comments.

Outreach Team: – Helen Duncan. The Neighbors in Need UCC program will be the current emphasis for our world outreach. The Christmas Fund is planned for December. Information will be sent to the congregation by way of the weekly email blasts and the monthly newsletter. The Backpack Program has restarted after a COVID-hiatus, with packing of the backpacks by a dedicated crew every Thursday morning. Rebecca noted that Mary Lee Bensman, formerly of the Chaffee County Times, is hand-making wood toys, and has graciously agreed to donate some to the CUCC nursery.

Finance and Budget Team: Bill Waldorf was apologetic that he sent out two emails with budget updates to Council members just before the meeting. The Treasurer expects to disburse all required Restricted Fund distributions, including the “5 for 5 program” contributions, by the end of October. Treasurer Lloyd Martinez is near completion of his transition to Treasurer by formalizing preparation of Balance Sheets and Income and Expense Statements, which were attached to Bill's email. The separation of duties will be that Lloyd prepares monthly statements, and Asst. Treas. Judy Hassell processes weekly bill payments.

- **In summary**, the church is only \$1,000 behind budget on contributions through September, based on the approved 2020 Budget. Savings to the church include pastor's underspending of \$4,000 on medical care, meetings, and education and reduced operating expenses of about \$13,000 owing to the church being closed due to the pandemic.

- **Report on Musician's Status:** Bill reported that his research revealed that some churches classify regular musicians as independent contractors, and others as employees. In consideration of IRS rules and complicating factors, it is safest to classify our pianist as an employee, although that would involve additional paperwork and paycheck withholding for the church and tax filing obligations for the musician. To date, our pianist has been listed as an independent contractor, but an official, legal change can be made using IRS Form 8952, attested to by an officer of the church, changing his/her designated status from independent contractor to employee as of January 1, 2021. [Such was signed by Kathy Roman on 10/28/2020 and mailed by Nancy Best on the same day.]

- o **Bill moved/Bob seconded that the above change be made for the cost of \$53 to the IRS. Motion passed.**

- **Investing Reserves:** In answer to a congregant's question from the January Annual Meeting, investing the church reserves at a better rate of return was investigated. Re-investing \$40,000 of reserves was considered. Bill reported the team studied the matter and solicited outside advice. The safest fiduciarily invested return would be about 1% interest, which would return \$400 to the church annually, but the funds might not be as liquid as might be required by the church. Bill suggested we keep the funds invested as they are, since it is not worth the extra income considering the reduction in liquidity.

- **Increasing the church internet upload speed:** Bill investigated and negotiated a satisfactory upgrade for a minimal charge to the church.

- **Team Budgets for 2021:** Bill reminded team chairs it is time for budget planning for 2021 to begin. He requested that the teams send requests for their 2021 budget to him before November 13, so that a preliminary budget can be prepared and forwarded to Council prior to the end of the year.

Facilities Team: Kathy referred everyone to details in the email sent out by Ron Hassell.

Worship Team: – Linda Rak. Outdoor services have been the priority considerations for the past month. For the first indoor service since March to be held on October 25, all preparations and considerations have been made. A Zoom Coffee Hour will follow the service about 11:00am. Assuming success, future Sunday services will be indoors with adjustments as needed.

Faith Education Team: – Betsy Neas. A new program, “Learning How To See” based on a series of three podcasts by Richard Rohr, Brian McLaren, and Jacqui Lewis, will begin on November 1 for six sessions. This will be a new approach to Adult Study, which will require the participants to view the podcast prior to the Adult Study sessions. Rebecca suggested we devise a system to invite more attendees, perhaps via the e-blast, who might be interested in coming to the Sunday sessions.

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

Women's Missionary Society: – Merilee Daugherty. No October meeting of the group was planned. A November meeting is planned as a “Blessing Box” gathering.

Southeast Association Meeting: Merilee reported on the October18 annual SEA meeting. Helen Duncan joined the Executive Council of the SEA to complete Bob Stocker's term. Rev. Rebecca K. Poos joined the Committee on Ministry as a Clergy Member.

NEW BUSINESS

Vote on musician's status: The vote on changing the musician's status from independent contractor to employee was taken following the discussion held during the Finance and Team report (above).

140th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Kathy raised the question of whether it would be safe to hold such a celebration in a pandemic year or would it be better to celebrate 140 years in our 141st. Rebecca suggested we postpone for a year, and keep collecting memorabilia. We will skip 2020 as the “year that never was.”

PASTOR'S REPORT

Rebecca is working on service ideas to celebrate the “Sermon on the Mount” and the theme of “Being a Matthew 25 Church” for the next several Sunday services. Advent and Christmas season planning has also started. Regarding the first indoor communion service for Nov. 1, she is open for suggestions and guidance. A key consideration is the communion elements considering virus concerns, such that everyone needs to bring their own elements. “Wine” suggestions were to use coffee cups with lids to guard against spills, and “Bread” ideas were whatever is your pleasure. After seeing how the service goes, changes can be made for the following month.

ADJOURNMENT Pastor Rebecca offered a closing prayer and Helen closed the meeting with a benediction. Meeting was adjourned at 10:00pm.

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING NOVEMBER 4, 7:00pm

NEXT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING is scheduled for November 18, 7:00pm.

Prepared by Ron Rak, Clerk