

***Congregational
United Church of Christ***

Sunday Worship Schedule

9:00am MST and anytime on YouTube

[CUCCBuenaVistaCO](https://www.cuccbuena 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
March, 2021



MODERATOR'S MOMENT

As I take on the yoke of Moderator, I want you to know those who served before me built a strong foundation for the members of our church, along with all those who choose to associate themselves with us. I do not intend to reinvent this church, merely to continue its growth toward being Christ's church. Thank you to all of you who chose to participate in the Annual Meeting on January 31.

Welcome to our newly elected Team members! A huge Thank You to Kathy Roman and Mark Wolters for their service as Moderator and Vice Moderator, respectively, over the last year. They worked hard for all of us, and with the COVID-19 restrictions, spent extra time figuring out how we might do church in person. They are not going away to rest; they have both signed on to be a part of the Facilities/Caring for the Church Team. They have also both volunteered to be on the committee seeking to bring our By-Laws up-to-date.

Since November, Council has met the first Wednesday of each month to focus on taking the results from the listening event last summer, along with your more recent feedback, to formulate who we should be as a congregation. In February, we set a small committee to work on a Mission/Purpose Statement. We are endeavoring to re-center on our Mission and Ministry role, finding ways we can all participate, regardless of age or ability. Participation builds family, because we spend quality time together.

Council reviewed the section in Rebecca's Call Agreement which addresses Freedom and Responsibility of the Pulpit in which we (the congregation) "accept your freedom of expression in the pulpit, as it pertains to matters of faith and faithfulness according to the insight of scripture, the work of the Holy Spirit, the traditions of the United Church of Christ, and the context in which we live our lives."

The UCC, as a denomination, has been taking a stand against injustice, inequality, and discrimination in any form. In this way, the work and words of Jesus and his apostles are brought into today's world. Council encourages Pastor Rebecca to help us explore and bring to life the scriptures for the 21st century. We ask that you pray for Rebecca to say the words Jesus and the Holy Spirit bring to her for us.

Colossians 3:12-14: "God loves you and has chosen you as his own special people, so be gentle, kind, humble, meek, and patient. Put up with each other, and forgive anyone who does you wrong, just as Christ has forgiven you. Love is more important than anything else. It is what ties everything completely together."

Merilee Daugherty, Moderator



YOUTUBE WORSHIP

Live Sundays at 9:00am (MST)

Our YouTube worship is always happening! [CUCCBuenaVistaCO](https://www.cuccbuena Vista CO)

ZOOM COFFEE HOUR!

Sundays, about 9:45am (right after worship)

Join us on [Zoom](#) for social time! (click on [Zoom](#) or see any weekly email blast for [link](#))

PASTOR'S ARTICLE, March 2021

*"I look to the mountains! Where does my help come from?
My help comes from the Lord, the Creator of heaven and earth." (Psalm 121)*

This is my favorite Psalm. Especially living here in the majesty of the mountains. I look to the mountains a lot—not that the *mountains* themselves are the source of our help, but the Creator of the mountains and of us all is, and the mountains are a wonderful reminder of our Maker's Presence all around us—as easy as a glance out the window!

This year, due to foot surgery, I can't walk up to the mountains, or even out on Ice Lake to ponder the mountains, as I have for many years on my prayer walks. But one of the Gifts of this time of "being made to lie down—or at least sit down—in green pastures," my forced Sabbath, has been exploring spiritual metaphors, and now taking "prayer sits" instead of walks. It's amazing how far your mind and heart can travel creatively and imaginatively when they have to!

We continue on our Lenten Journey this month. We are learning about Prayer—in many forms, expressions, and practices. I hope you'll engage the Journey—learning about and practicing prayer on your own, and also Zooming in with us and Grace Church every Weds. at 6:00 pm. Let's **"look to the mountains"** daily, even hourly, as an act of prayer for this season. We are blessed that it's easy for us here to do this!

We also consider looking at Lent through new eyes this year. Traditionally, Lent has been looked at as a time of somber penitence and "giving something up" to focus more fully on our spiritual lives without distraction. But we've already lived through a *year* of Lent, if you think about it! COVID started in the middle of Lent last year, and we might feel like we've never left! Perhaps we've given up enough.

We've given up many of our usual joys and things that fill our spirit reservoirs: Gathering in worship and uplifting fellowship. Hugs, singing the songs of our faith, communing together with "real touch." Real, tangible bread and cup and physical presence. We've been forced to *stop* in our busy tracks and *reflect deeply* on what matters. What we truly need and value in life. What Jesus would have us do in loving God, neighbor, and self in these tumultuous times. We've all been on a kind of "forced Sabbath" of body and soul.

This Lent, this "lengthening" of days and spiritual muscles, what if we look at Lent through fresh eyes in this different kind of year? What if we "lean in?" Lean into life more fully—not just live on the surface anymore. Lean into learning more about Jesus. Embrace the faith journey more fully. Lean into scripture and spiritual practices.

On Ash Wednesday we are reminded: "You are created from dust and to dust you shall return." We are in fact, Dust! Earth! Humus! We can be "humbly mindful" as we remember this. Yes, we are dust, but we are earthly dust, part of the soil, part of creation with one another. And dust is *good*, after all; it is the place of fecundity, of moist dark soil, and germinating new life, promising seeds and growth. Lent invites us to take a "beauty break," open to the awe-filled, precarious world in which we live. Remember we are dust –earthly, but also stardust.

Life is beautiful, but often too short. A Jewish saying counsels that each person should have a note in each pocket. In one pocket, the note should announce **"for you the universe was created."** In the other, **"you are dust."** What about a note on the mirror, or at your bedside table, or in your journal?

I invite us to take a new look at Lent this year. Take a Pause, pray, gaze at the mountains every now and then—or several times a day—throughout this Lenten journey of Prayer. God is found in the pausing, if we will look.

Blessings, Rebecca

PASTOR REBECCA WANTS TO CONNECT WITH YOU!

~Pastoral care & counseling, spiritual companioning, or just a warm conversation.

Please set up a time for a porch visit, distanced/masked visit, phone call, text, email or Zoom conversation.
Email to revbecca@icloud.com or text/call: 719-252-6890.

Pastor's Week:
Church Ministry Days: Sunday through Thursday
Family & Sabbath Days: Friday & Saturday

CUCC GOOD-TO-KNOWS

NEW ADDRESS FOR TUCKER FAMILY

Corey & Bridgett, with their three children Skyler, Gabby, and Ryan, now live on a farm. Their new address (physical and mailing): **Tucker, 17560 CR 386, Buena Vista, CO 81211.**

**NEW PHONE NUMBER FOR
GAIL MOFFAT
719-398-3030**



EQUAL EXCHANGE COFFEE

A fresh order of coffee is now at the church for sale! We have Midnight Sun beans, Ethiopian beans, and Mama Tierra blend 1 lb. ground, plus more Baking Cocoa and Hot Cocoa. We also still have available Love Buzz beans and five other varieties of ground coffee.

Same prices, self serve.

Support Equal Exchange coffee growers!

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



PASTORAL CARE TECH SUPPORT!

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

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

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

BE IN THE KNOW!

- ♦ Copies of Sunday messages can be found in the file box outside the pastor's office door or received in the mail or via email.
- ♦ 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.*

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

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

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) 398-3030
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

March 6—Barb Groy
March 6—Lucille Habeck
March 6—Ron Rak
March 8—Rick Fagerberg
March 13—Joe Holub
March 16—Skyler Tucker
March 17—Millie Meardon
March 20—Bob E. Smith
March 20—Arlene Waldorf
March 22—Lyntha Nelson
March 22—Ruthann Schoffield
March 23—Matthew Maloney
March 26—Nancy Best
March 27—Barb Wilder



ANNIVERSARIES

March 1—Rick & Lesley Fagerberg
March 8—Mike Bullock & Ruthann Schoeffield
March 14—Farrell & Dorothy Coy
March 22—Bill & Arlene Waldorf
March 24—William & Elizabeth Shelby
March 27—Del & Janet Jones

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

The Friends of Karen Bowers—Comfort
Roger Cason—Healing
Nan Bohe—Healing
Sarah Struthers—Healing
Pam Hughes—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
Pat & Jim Driskel (aunt & uncle of Doyle and Leonard
Nyberg)—Healing
Betty Gwynn—Healing
Friend of Barb Wilder—Healing
Julia Munson (sister-in-law of Adele Jackson)—Healing
The Family of Jim Price—Comfort



WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY NEWS

“We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your word of faith and labors of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know sister's in Christ that you are beloved by God, that he has chosen you.” (1st Thessalonians 1:2-4)

The letters of Paul to the early churches at Corinth, Ephesus, Galatia, Thessalonica, and Phillippi make it clear that if you choose to follow Christ, there will always be times when our faith is tested, that there will be disagreements, loneliness, fear and despair. This past year with so many of our daily and weekly rituals turned upside down, we have had to rely on God's leading and sustaining love in a whole new way.

I have spent many hours sorting old documents and files from responsibilities of the past. Notebooks and journals full of writings from seminary classes, retreats, seminars, meetings and conferences, presentations for National Spiritual Growth and Prayers Conferences with American Baptist Women and Church Women United, USA. Travel notes with the Board of International Ministries to visit Mission work in the Orient, Central America, Mexico, Cuba, and the Philippines. Also I have spent time going through pictures and notes from trips searching for family roots in Sweden, Norway, Denmark, England, Scotland, and Ireland. Doing genealogy with my sister, Nancy, has been very exciting to find our family roots in America go back to the 1700.

One document which I discovered was my Service of Ordination to the Christian Ministry, from Sunday, September 13, 1992. On the front of the bulletin, enclosed in an elliptical circle, with a cross and a circular line rising to the top of the bulletin are these words -

HARMONY - GROUNDING - SOLITUDE - COMPASSION

These four words have guided my years of ministry since that time. I studied at United Theological Seminary, a Congregational Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota from fall of 1989 to 1992. My call following Seminary was to the University of Wisconsin, LaCrosse, an Ecumenical ministry, representing five denominations, to Crossroads Campus Ministry. It's hard to believe that this is all almost 30 years ago now. My ordination to ministry was a new beginning in my Christian journey after spending some 20 years as an Executive Director in three YWCAs in three places—Beatrice, NE, Winona, MN, and LaCrosse, WI. The YWCA's main goal was the "Elimination of Racism," along with increasing the well-being of women and girls, providing shelter and work.

The words I have mentioned above come from a formative book from Ron's years of working on a Doctor of Ministry degree from United Seminary. The book entitled “Mutual Ministry - New Vitality for the Local Church” by James Fenhagan gives us the following insights: "IF we are serious about the Christian journey, the place to begin is not with how we say our prayers but with how we spend our time. The Christian journey is to discover the kind of harmony that reflects the humanity of Christ and therefore the best humanity that is ourselves. The Christian journey is a journey to wholeness and service to others.” Let us continue to support our ministries of caring, even in this difficult time.

We are looking forward to the time we can gather together as a group, Some have mentioned a picnic as soon as the weather would allow. I would appreciate hearing your ideas of how and when we could be together.

Shalom,
Marge Erickson, WMS President





view from the Mountain

“DETOUR”

So, so, unlike him, this man—Ray—who loved people and would rather talk than do most anything. When he stopped talking all together, even to his wife Ruth, it was a sign to his friend and family just how critically ill he was. Some say he simply kept going at life until he had no more energy or strength to go anymore. A four-way bypass was necessary to give him a new start, which he endured well, and all his family settled in to help him through his unexplainable recovery.

But something went very wrong and his health did not continue to come back. Fatigued to his depths, he was unable to do any simple exercises, right down to the essential lung clearing exercises he had to do daily. He quit speaking, gesturing that he simply could not find the strength to do any of it. What he did say he said in breathy whispers, and because of all that, pneumonia settled in both lungs.

Day after dark day he lay in intensive care, detached and getting weaker and weaker. Every so often, as he felt the need to communicate, he fell into sign language. He found by simply moving fingers to form words he was able, with the least amount of effort extended, to stay connected a little bit with other human beings. But other than that, Ray, at age 68 was slipping away from the world. Quietly, with eyes closed and body still. He really seemed to be saying, “That’s all. I’m out of touch. I’ve lost the connection, so I can’t go on.”

The picture was bleak and everyone was so sad. The only one who knew him best felt that he seemed trapped and was just giving up on life and that was his problem. One night she leaned down close to his ear and said, “Ray, you love to sing. Ray, if you can’t speak or you can’t sign, then sing to us.” There were family members in the room, and they thought she was out of line. I mean how in the world could anyone sing when they couldn’t talk?

It was totally silent in that hospital room. Had he even heard her? Then his mouth opened and it was like angels came. Low at first, then bold, he sang Amazing Grace.

*Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now I’m found,
Was blind, but now I see.*

He sang it beautifully. As the family stood around his bed, they had surely witnessed a miracle. Tentative at first, his words gained in strength with every word, and at the end Ray lay in the Light. And in the Light he reconnected and began in that instant new strength which eventually healed this man named Ray.

Now I did not know this family, but I had heard of Ray—a Godly man who loved people and loved to share what life was teaching him. The miracle was that God provided a detour to tell his life lessons. I am humbled by this story.

The view from the mountain is wondrous!

Jean Brody



UCC NOTES: REMEMBERING OUR HISTORY

An Agitator, by Richard H. Taylor, Jan. 2021

Jesus was a common man, able to slip through a crowd unseen, and often not recognized by religious authorities.

Don West (1906-1992) could as well. The son of Georgia sharecroppers, he was a poet, editor, professor, teacher, coal miner, farmer, pastor, labor organizer who immersed himself in the lives and stories of “peasants, slaves, and workers.” During high school he led a protest against the showing of the racist film “Birth of a Nation.”

Inspired by the Danish Folk School Movement, he is perhaps best known as co-founder of the Highlander Folk School in Tennessee. It was begun to “teach Appalachians about their progressive history and to train activists and union organizers.” It helped train and support the non-violent work of Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King, and John Lewis.

Deeply rooted in the social gospel and an ordained Congregational Christian and United Church of Christ minister, West developed a curriculum that affirmed the heritage of Appalachian kids, published the songs of Kentucky miners, and defended those who were falsely accused. Hounded by newspapers, he once had to flee a lynch mob, and the KKK burned down his home. In later life he and his wife organized the Appalachian South Folklife Center in West Virginia.

West was an extraordinary writer, and although he studied at the University of Chicago and Columbia, he chose to write in a common vernacular. His activism was controversial, and in the 1940s the House Un-American Activities Committee went after him. His family had to hide and serious academic work and his ministerial standing were laid aside in a difficult time. Later, however, he reconnected with the UCC and its social justice.

Here is one of his poems:

I was raised on a hillside farm
Where my Daddy’s sweat
Salted down the red clay.
I’m the son of my mother
The woman who plods between the cotton rows—
And I’m an Agitator!

Lemuel Haynes: Recognized in Vermont in 2018, by Bill Whiteman, Feb. 2019

He was an illegitimate child in Puritan New England. His mother was a white servant girl and his father was an African slave. A few months after his birth in West Hartford, Conn., his mother abandoned him and he spent his early years as an indentured servant. Yet Lemuel Haynes (1753-1833) is someone to remember. Last fall, the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation dedicated a Historical Marker to honor his life and thought. His story is part of our UCC past.

After his indenture expired, during the Revolutionary War Haynes served as a minuteman. Later he studied with clergy to become a minister and was ordained in 1785—the first African-American minister ordained in a mainstream denomination in the United States.

For two years, Haynes served a Congregational church in Torrington, Conn. New members were joining the church and although he was well received, racial prejudice among some influential members prevented his installation. Finally, in 1788, he moved his family to the wild frontier of Vermont where he became pastor at West Parish of Rutland. His church grew from 42 members to about 350 during his thirty-year ministry. He was a black pastor in a white church and Vermont was a society of independent settlers.

Haynes preached and wrote about the slavery issue repeatedly. When white Christians wanted to liberate slaves and send them back to Africa (the Colonization movement), Haynes argued that the revolutionary war promised liberty for all Americans. He wrote extensively about how combining Republican ideas and Calvinistic theology could end slavery and cultivate interracial accord. By blending new American political convictions and longstanding Christian theological ideas, Haynes insisted that freeing slaves would do more than simply liberate them. Rather, ending slavery would provide happiness and security for all citizens throughout the new nation. Haynes never faltered in his efforts to convince people of the “equality of all [humanity] before God.”

LENT-EASTER-HOLY WEEK AT CUCC

ENGAGE in LENT, HOLY WEEK & EASTER at CUCC!

*Worship with us each Sunday on YouTube (click [here](#)) as we journey with Jesus toward Jerusalem.

*Explore Prayer each Wednesday at Lenten services (click [here](#)).

*Watch for more special events and services for Holy Week & Easter.



Engage the
Lenten
Journey
with Your
Friends!

INSPIRATION CORNER

A MOMENT FOR SPIRITUAL REFLECTION

Good News in Action, by Rev. Dr. Bruce Epperly

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news." (Mark 1:14-15; see Mark 1:9-15)

In just a few verses, Mark describes Jesus' baptism, temptation in the desert, and the beginning of his ministry. Chosen as God's beloved and blessed, Jesus faces the temptations of greatness and survival – comfort, power, and security. He places his temptations in God's hands, trusting God and his own sense of mission. Now Jesus is ready to get to work.

Now is the time. God vision has come to earth, it is here in our world. Now is the time to repent, turn around and believe the good news that God is with us and will give us what we need to be faithful companions in God's mission.

We need good news. For many of us, good news is on the horizon. We have received our COVID vaccine or are lined up for an appointment. We see the light at the end of the tunnel. But, we know that good news doesn't mean our troubles are over. February and March will be difficult months with potential COVID variants. There will be much pain and inconvenience, and we will be tempted to be impatient. But we need to see the good news and then be the good news.

How can you be good news? How can you turn around and let go of negativity and become a gospel witness?

Good news is many faceted but it means, at the very least, our willingness to be lights in the world, living by the values of faith, hope, and love; bringing goodness and mercy to our encounters; safely reaching out to others; being positive in our realism; and acting with grace and reconciliation. We are the hands, feet, heart, and words of God to the world around us.

We have good news to share. God is with us. God's realm is here.

Let us listen to – Day by Day from Godspell - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ekoHxB4idmg>

+++

Let us share good news today. Let us be good news today. Day by day let us see you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly. Amen.

CUCC ANNOUNCEMENTS



LENTEN WORSHIP AND REFLECTION ON PRAYER & HEALING

Wednesdays in Lent

6:00pm-7:00pm MST

via Zoom (or telephone)

Nourishing our Souls With (Virtual) Soup & Prayer

Click [here](#) for the Lenten services on Zoom with Grace Church

Meeting ID: 936 8097 3314

Passcode: 123456

Phone-in to join: 669-900-9128

HEALTHY CONGREGATIONS WORKSHOP OPPORTUNITIES

March 6 or April 24

8:30am-4:30pm

via Zoom

Some Council members have already attended or plan to attend an all day workshop designed by Lombard Mennonite Peace Center titled "Healthy Congregations: Equipping Leaders with Tools for Vitality." I found this very beneficial and hope others will register to participate for either March 6 or April 24. The skills covered in this class will benefit you in all your life's relationships. The Zoom class runs from 8:30am to 4:30pm with a break in the morning and afternoon, an hour for lunch, and small group discussions.

On May 22 there is another workshop, "Conflict Transformation Skills for Churches." I hope that many of us participate in that one, too. For these workshops the cost is \$15 per person or \$50 for a group of four or more.

As I have said before, it will take all of us, working together, to heal and grow.

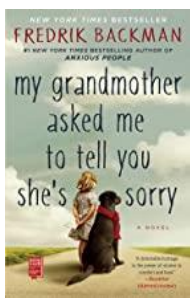
Please contact me, Merilee, at 719-966-2004 or merileekb53@gmail.com with questions or to register.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

This 5for5 offering collected throughout March is channeled by UCC's Wider Church Ministries and Global Ministries into resources for international programs in health, education, agricultural development, refugee ministries, and domestic and international disaster response. Envelopes are available on the table in the narthex and in the church office, along with a little donation box (folded cardboard) that you can take with you. Donations can also be made on-line using the tithe.ly app, setting it up for CUCC if you haven't already, and then choosing One Great Hour of Sharing for your donation.

CHURCH-COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS



TELLS
Tuesday Evening
Ladies
Literary Society
Tuesdays, 7:00pm MST
via Zoom
All women are welcome!



The group is reading
“My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She’s Sorry”
by Fredrik Backman.

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
and Zoom link list:
revbecca@icloud.com

WORSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP
EVERY SUNDAY
& ANYTIME!
CUCC SERVICES ON YOUTUBE

Go to **youtube.com** and search for
[CUCCBuenaVistaCO](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuCBuenaVistaCO).

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

GATHER FOR COFFEE HOUR AND
FELLOWSHIP ON ZOOM!
Sundays, about 9:45am MST
(right after worship)

Join Zoom Meeting:
[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/92782808568?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/92782808568?pwd=bG1POHIURHBIT2FDNENsVXBDVTMydz09)
[pwd=bG1POHIURHBIT2FDNENsVXBDVT](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/92782808568?pwd=bG1POHIURHBIT2FDNENsVXBDVTMydz09)
[Mydz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/92782808568?pwd=bG1POHIURHBIT2FDNENsVXBDVTMydz09)

Meeting ID: **927 8280 8568**
Passcode: **019834**
Phone-in to join: **1-253-215-8782**

CHURCH-COMMUNITY NEWS

CHRISTIAN MISSION IN NEED OF FOOD
—and yes, even peanut butter!

The Arkansas Valley Christian Mission continues to help those in need in our local community. Your donation of the following is greatly, greatly appreciated!

***toiletries *cereal *coffee (regular) *jelly (not grape)**
***toilet paper *paper towels *honey**
***relishes/condiments (catsup, mustard, pickle relish)**

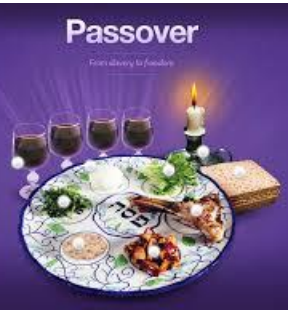
Due to the unprecedented number of requests from Mission clients for assistance with utilities & rent, your cash donations are especially appreciated.



BACKPACK PROGRAM

Your continued support is
always appreciated!

Always welcome:
Tuna — Chef Boyardee
Juice Boxes — Fruit Cups
Pudding Cups — Granola or Cereal Bars



APPRECIATIONS

THANKS FROM NAN BOHE

Dearest Rebecca,

I thank you so much for the great books! I received them last evening and chose to embark on the Dave Barry “Lessons from Lucy.” Partly due to the fact I always appreciated his dry humor and partly because anything “doggie” appeals to me!

Thank you also for reminding me of Charlotte’s upcoming Birthday. I got a card off to her this morning. I know I’ll enjoy the others also. I was getting low on books so they are especially welcome! Again, my thanks!

Love you all — Nan Bohe



KUDOS KOLUMN

Kudos to the Worship Team and Education Team for creative, adaptive, and vital gatherings and conversations at CUCC!

NOTE OF GRATITUDE FROM THE POOS!!

Rebecca and Clarke send a huge THANK YOU from the bottom of our hearts and tummies!

All the soup, chili, stew, casseroles, salads, desserts—you name it!—that have arrived on our doorstep these past couple months are so appreciated! The recovery from foot surgery has been one of great love and comfort care!

CUCC — you are the best!!

GREETINGS FROM LINDA SWANSON

Another day, another 59¢, but that’s okay. Personally like my drama at the theatre; not so much in real life. Hope all is well with everyone.

Love, Linda

HEARD AROUND THE AIRWAVES

COMMENT ON FEBRUARY 7th YOUTUBE SERVICE

Thank you, Rebecca, for sharing your many points of ‘common compassion’ as we slide over like Christ does for us for our many neighbors.

Another wonderful point elucidated this morning was the old paradigm that Rev. Matthew Fox, in his old book Original Blessing, gives us a totally new and refreshing perspective on original sin or that we are ‘sinners.’ We are blessed beings who are created in the ‘imago Dei’ and likeness of a loving God.

Thank you for sharing from the heart. May you be blessed with joy and good health always!!!

Thanks to Matthew, Jacy, and Merilee for all the rest.

JaPe Monat, Colorado Springs

CUCC REPORTS

The Faith Education Team Faith Education for Everyone

Conversations that Matter has been meeting on Sunday afternoons at 4:00 via zoom. We have finished discussing "Acting Against Racism." There were some great discussions and many additional resources shared! This month we will start *Who Stole My Bible* by Jennifer Butler, which explores Bible stories in light of today's environment, and it should be quite enlightening! Books are being ordered from the author, price and arrival TBD. Sign up to be on the CTM email list and we will let you know when they are in, or check with the office.

TELLS is reading "My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry" by Fredrik Backman.

Donna Maloney, Chair

Outreach/Community & World Team News —March greetings!

The OT thanks all of you for your continued support of the various mission projects we work on. We especially would like you to contribute your change to the glass jar in the church vestibule or office; these collections are sent to the Philippines through Global Ministries, a world-wide non-profit sponsored and directed by the UCC and the Disciples of Christ. Monies are used to pay tuition for Angelo Abellana.

Even though we are unable to carry out traveling missions as we have in the past, we are encouraging everyone to share their mission experiences by writing a short article for the April newsletter. Many of us have done mission work with CUCC and other communities of faith. Please share.

The OT and the Worship team are thinking about doing an Easter drive-through, handing out spring flowers and hot cross buns. Stay tuned.

March is the month when we contribute to One Great Hour of Sharing, one of the five for five UCC offerings. Please use the envelopes in the office/narthex or send in a check marked OGHS. Thank you so much!

Helen Duncan, Chair

FACILITIES TEAM NEWS

The Team is replacing the microwave in the parsonage and repairing the parsonage garage door opener. The new sanctuary doors haven't yet arrived.

Ron Hassell, Chair

Worship Team

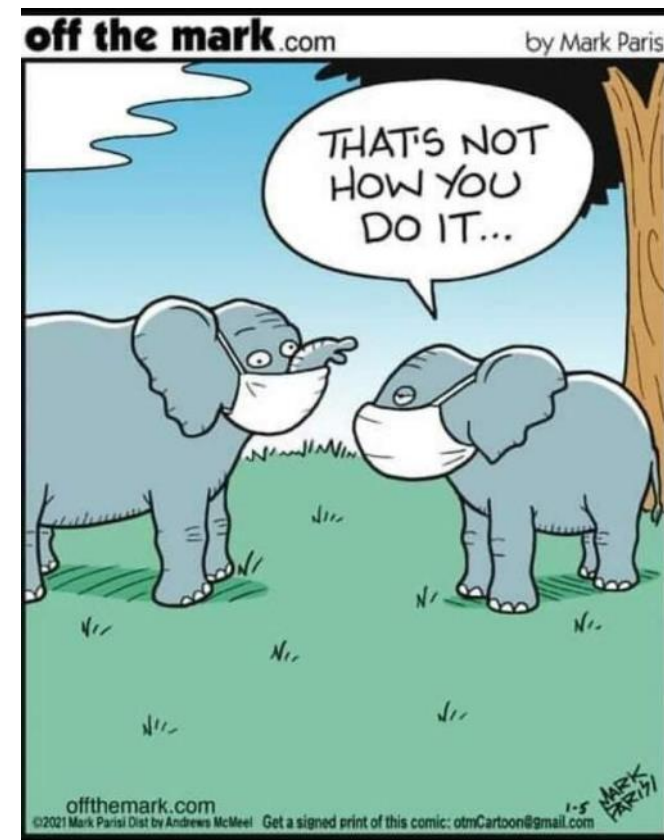
Lenten Services with Grace Church will continue every Wednesday night from 6-7pm MT on Zoom. Our team will meet in March to discuss Holy Week and Easter. We do plan to do something for Easter.

Linda Rak, Chair

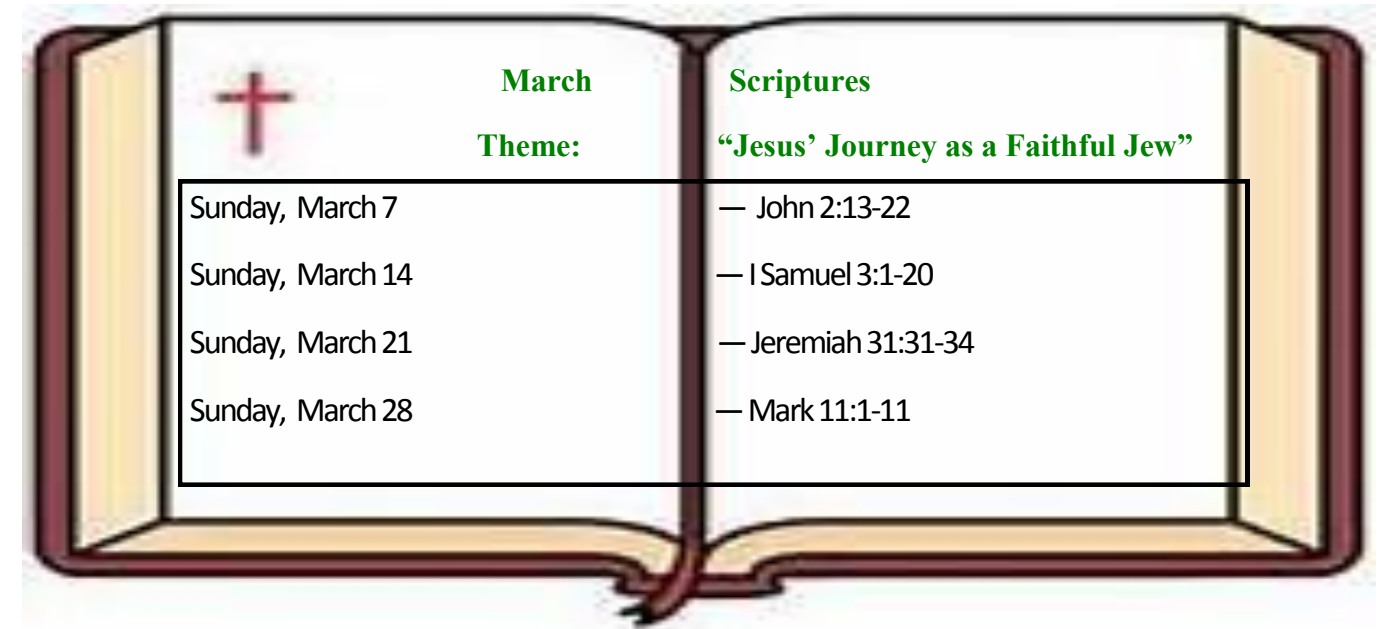
Stewardship/Visioning Team News

Though there wasn't an official meeting in February, your Stew/Vis Team continues to work behind the scenes to keep the mission of CUCC moving ahead.

Bob Stocker, Chair



PLUG INTO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH



CONVERSATIONS THAT MATTER

Sundays, 4:00pm MST
via Zoom

Please join us as we begin our discussion on the book *Who Stole My Bible?* by Jennifer Butler.

For questions, comments, get on the list, or to receive the Zoom link, contact:
cucc.conversations@icloud.com

We hope you'll join us!

ONLINE GIVING APP FOR YOUR PHONE

It's so easy to set up!

Tithe.ly makes it easy to put the 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!

WE WANT TO CONNECT WITH YOU!

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**.

DID YOU KNOW?

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!

CUCC Council Minutes - February 17, 2021

7:07pm 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: 7:07 p.m. Moderator Merilee Daugherty, Vice Moderator Betsy Neas, Pastor Rebecca Poos, Helen Duncan, Marjorie Erickson, Judy Hassell, Donna Maloney, Linda Rak, Ron Rak, Bob Stocker, Bill Waldorf

Welcoming and Opening Prayer: Moderator Merilee Daugherty began the meeting with a prayer.

GENERAL BUSINESS AND REPORTS

Minutes from the January 20 regular Council meeting were approved as written. The February 3 Listening Session minutes were similarly approved.

Clerk's Report: Ron reported one change to the congregation since the beginning of the year: Bob Tolar and Debra Olsen-Tolar were re-added to the rolls by their request on January 28, as non-members-active.

Treasurer's Report: Merilee confirmed that Assisstand Treasurer Judy Hassell has permission from Treasurer Lloyd Martinez to vote for him at Council meetings. Finance Team Chair Bill Waldorf reported that there are two new contributors to the church from January records. He was pleased to announce that he successfully completed a PPP loan application with Collegiate Peaks Bank on February 12, which if approved will pay salaries for church's employees Pastor Rebecca, custodian Leonard Nyberg, and Office Communications Administrator Nancy Best. The loan can also be used, if there are enough funds, to pay for church utilities. He wanted to include pianist Judy Phelps, but the fact that she was a private contractor in 2020 disallowed that.

Moderator's Report: Merilee reported that the February 3 Listening session went well. She, Betsy, and Pastor Rebecca also attended the recent RMC's "Healthy Congregations—Equipping Leaders with Tools for Vitality" workshop online, thought that it was well worthwhile, and recommended the next offering of this same Workshop to others in the church, either March 6 or April 24. Another segment on May 22 on "Conflict Transformation Skills for Churches" on Zoom is strongly recommended. Merilee is willing to sign folks up for these future workshops.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

Purpose and Mission Statement Committee is currently composed of Betsy Neas, Bob Stocker, and Helen Duncan. The Listening Committee will plan on reviewing initial Statements at the next meeting on March 3.

Bylaws Revision Committee: A committee has been formed composed of Kathy Roman, Mark Wolters, and Merilee. Work will begin soon and will also include updating Council's Policy and Procedures as needed.

Setting Goals: Merilee encouraged Council to set a limited number of priority goals for this year. Immediate suggested by Merilee are "Extravagant welcome," "Faith Education," and "Mission." Extravagant Welcome was discussed, Education and Mission will be discussed in the future.

TEAM REPORTS AND UPDATES

Outreach Team: Helen Duncan suggested a special community service when the church re-opens and invite all the users of the church (groups AA, Al-Anon, Strong Women, Friday community dance, etc.) to congratulate them for participating in the life of the church and to show a true interest in them. She also suggested renewed emphasis on mission trips for the future. An idea for future newsletters is for people to write in and share some of their mission trip experiences in articles to build interest in mission trips and local outreach. The first UCC special offering for the year is One Great Hour of Sharing which will be featured in March.

Worship Team: Linda Rak reported that the Ash Wednesday imposition of ashes as a drive-by event went fairly well, with about 13 participants. The evening Ash Wednesday service on Zoom was a joint presentation with Grace Church and our church with 40 people tuning in. Rebecca announced that Lenten virtual services via Zoom will be coordinated with Grace Church through March 24. The topic is Worship and Reflection on prayer and healing.

Faith Education Team: Donna Maloney noted that the team is still keeping in touch with the Tucker family children and will be sending some children's project materials by mail to the family. A new topic for Conversations That Matter, our adult education program, has been selected to start on February 21. "Who Stole My Bible?" by Rev. Jennifer Butler will be ordered and discussed.

Affiliated Organizations—Women's Missionary Society: Marjorie Erickson asked for guidance on trying to include approximately five WMS members at home coffee gatherings to offer limited discussion forums to help members cope with separation anxiety, lack of social connection, etc., caused by the virus pandemic. It was hoped that with increasing vaccinations, these meeting will be increasingly possible.

NEW BUSINESS

Pastoral-Congregational Relations Committee (PCRC): Helen Duncan is chairing the committee, with current members Arlene Waldorf, Mike Evans, and Ron Erickson. They are looking for one more member. Helen asked Council to approve the current committee. Betsy moved/Donna seconded to approve the initial committee. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report

Rebecca is looking forward to getting off crutches and participating in musical recordings for the Sunday services. She expressed much gratitude for all the support in the form of casseroles, soup, visits, and teamwork during her surgery-recovery time. She had good news about her postponed Sabbatical, such as that she may request an extension of the timeline for the Lilly Grant due to COVID and pursue the planned Scotland study into 2022. She announced that Office Communications Administrator Nancy Best has asked for a month off to travel this summer. Council will need to cover for her absence.

Rebecca has been meeting with the Moderators and other Team leaders and Officers to launch into the new year with good organization and communication for a healthy congregation. One current area of focus is better coordination and communication of Pastoral/Congregational Care. Currently, congregational members assist the pastor in caring for and connecting with church folks, but the communication chain is not complete. Rebecca is also working with community organizations and social services to learn how we best support our folks in collaboration with other agencies and has been invited to attend community meetings for coordination and education for CUCC.

Prayer Concerns/Updates: Rebecca closed the meeting with several immediate prayer concerns and updates, followed by a prayer.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:50pm.

Next regular Council Meeting is March 17, 2021 at 7:15pm.

Next Listening Committee Meeting is March 3, 2021.

Prepared by Ron Rak, Clerk

IN MEMORIAM

KAREN BOWERS

Karen Bowers passed away peacefully in her sleep the night of Feb. 22. She was an active member of CUCC, the Women's' Missionary Society, TELS, and Strong Women for many years. She was cherished and will be missed. Information about a memorial service will be forthcoming.

