

***Congregational
United Church of Christ***

***Sunday Worship Schedule
Indoor In-Person 10:00am (MDT)
Past Services anytime on YouTube at
[CUCCBuenaVistaCO](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNKA2oUfDbUT2zWA62aqDhg)***

Physical: 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
Subscribe on YouTube! <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNKA2oUfDbUT2zWA62aqDhg>

As followers of Jesus, we are committed to exploring
together Jesus' teachings, his actions, and his justice,
to better love, respect, and welcome all people.
(CUCC's Mission, Identity & Purpose)



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
August 2021



MODERATOR'S MOMENT

Some of us have already begun to harvest items from our gardens, with more veggies to come. What a joy it is to put in little seeds or place starters in the soil and hope and wait for something marvelous.

I want to share the story of my El Paso friends, Jerry and Susie Hobson, now in their mid 70's. For ten years they have owned and operated Jardin de Milagro (Garden of Miracles), a non-profit organization which raises fresh vegetables to help feed the food insecure in El Paso, Texas. Their main mission is to help their neighbors via healthy nutritious farm fresh vegetables. The farm is located in New Mexico, just south of La Union, NM, and west of Canutillo, TX. Approximately 3 acres of land are under cultivation for raising fresh vegetables.

In addition to helping feed the hungry, an educational component is furnished. Several youth groups come to the farm to assist and learn about food production, and this experience is important for youth to understand. Volunteers are critical to the success of JDM and include individuals, pre-school, elementary, middle and high school students, university groups, religious organizations, businesses, and public and civic groups, with 1,300 volunteer hours as of June 12. The food harvested is all donated, primarily to Kelly Memorial Food Pantry—one of the largest food pantries in El Paso.

During the summer growing season, vegetable picking occurs daily. During the cooler weather periods, picking slows substantially and more focus is placed on field preparation for the next summer season. After harvesting is finished here, volunteers go to neighbors' fields to glean what was not picked up by machines.

In a recent update, they stated they have harvested two types of zucchini, yellow squash, onions, radishes, and beets. Total production through June 12, 2021 was 12,587 pounds, of which 10,300 pounds came between May 31 and June 12. Several other vegetables were within 2-4 weeks of being ready to pick, including several varieties of chilies, eggplant, bell peppers and spaghetti squash. Cucumbers, sweet potatoes, and melons will come closer to fall.*

Jerry has also traveled to Democratic Republic of Congo over the years, working on a project to get reliable water to the people.

Jerry and Susie are outstanding examples of our church's three focus areas of Mission, Education, and Extravagant Welcome and are just wonderful people. The following scripture certainly applies to them.

Matthew 13: 23 But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.

*Note, much of the wording came directly from the JDM website and recent emails.

Merilee Daugherty, Moderator

WORSHIP AT CUCC! SINGING AGAIN!
Every Sunday at 10:00am
INDOORS
(If not vaccinated, please wear a mask.)
See you there!

PASTOR’S ARTICLE, August 2021

“Come away to a quiet place all by yourselves and rest a while.” (Jesus)

On Monday, June 21, 2021, which was a *beautiful* day in the mountains of Colorado, a group of eight women came away to a quiet place to tend to our bodies and souls in a Day Retreat at the Poos Labyrinth. Jesus knows we need to take times of retreat and was present with us in our walking, praying, pondering, and sharing life and faith, tears and joys together. Perhaps you’ll consider joining us (men and women both!) for future retreats. Here is a guide for you to experience this yourself at home, on a walk, in a virtual labyrinth, or just in a quiet place.

Here is what we pondered for soul-care.

A) Walking Toward the Center in Wonder

*What do you wonder about, as you walk? I *Wonder* _____ about the air, sun, breeze, mountains around me. To wonder in the beauty of creation is to practice Gratitude and Awe. I *Wonder* what my soul is longing for today—how I have grown and changed during this pandemic season—what “moving or growing at the speed of *Enough*” looks like for me? I *Wonder* if I believe that I AM enough, just as I am? I walk softly and reverently on the earth in this moment and chant to myself:

I am enough.....I have enough.....I am doing enough.....I am being enough.....

B) Walking out from the Center—I Write a New Story Today

*What is One Thing, practice, habit, or obligation that I choose to approach differently in this New Day as we come out of this pandemic isolation, at least for a time? What are parts of my life that don’t feed my soul anymore? Perhaps things I’ve always done, just because I’ve always done them? Or messages in my Self-Talk that are not serving me?

C) Pondering Time—Find a quiet spot with your journal

*Write in your journal whatever thoughts came to you as you walked the Labyrinth.

*What bubbled up? Did things come to mind that surprised you? How might you “Wonder Differently” in the coming Season? About Creation, yourself, others—maybe strangers or new experiences you haven’t met yet, but can eagerly embrace with excitement and an open heart?

D) Praying for Friends & Family

Take another walk around the Labyrinth or walk to the creek or just around the hillside. Or sit in a chair in a quiet place by yourself and name/write down those you wish to prayer for in your Circle. Visualize surrounding them with Love & Light & Healing as you pray. Name them here:

Blessings, Rebecca



CUCC GOOD-TO-KNOWS

RECYCLING AT CUCC SUBSCRIPTION PROGRAM

- The dumpster with the yellow lid is CUCC's recycling bin. For \$8/month, you will receive the code to that dumpster, a list of what you can and cannot put in there (from the CCW website), and the convenience of single-stream recycling. The recycling is picked up every week. (Don’t dump your bag in with the stuff—empty the bag of stuff into the dumpster and reuse your bag!)
- The subscription program is now available to those outside of CUCC, so let your friends and neighbors know that they can also sign up for \$8/month.
- Contact Nancy in the office to sign up: 395-2544, office.bvcucc@gmail.com.
- Make checks out to CUCC and put "recycling" in the memo line.

COMPOSTING AT CUCC

- Sign up at <http://www.elementscompost.com/residential-composting.html> for your own personal composting.
- Compost generated directly by the church may be added for free, but individuals must sign up in order to be able to add their own personal composting.
- For those adding CUCC's compost, the lock code is available in the office. Please see the information sheet in the kitchen and on the composting bins for what is and is not allowed.

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 at 719-395-2544 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) 542-1776
Life Care Center of Westminster, Durango Hall, Rm. 123
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) & Coby Close
5413 W Caribbean Ln., Glendale, AZ 85306

Paul Dormeister (262) 344-2414
5522 64th St., Kenosha, WI 53142

Marge Dorfmeister (719) 395-8559
28728 CR 313, Buena Vista, CO 81211

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

Lorraine Green (719) 207-4827
Columbine Manor, Rm. D6
530 W 16th St., Salida, CO 81201

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

Lucille Habeck
942 Wiggins Pkwy., #1215, Mesquite, TX 75150

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
813 Evergreen Place, La Junta, CO 81050

Charlotte Smith (303) 986-2216
Morrison Manor
Rm. 403
9875 Morrison Rd., Lakewood, CO 80227

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

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

Doris Westerlund
c/o Sue Stanek, 8045 183rd St. W
Lakeville, MN 55044

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

August 2—Jim Amster
August 4—Betsy Neas
August 6—Liz Anderson
August 6—Bev Liddle
August 10—Tom Meardon
August 11—Ellen Kely
August 12—Les Messamer
August 14—Linda Carpenter
August 15—Glynette Smith
August 17—Elvin Frantz (100!)
August 17—Elizabeth Shelby
August 25—Marge Dorfmeister
August 29—Jenna Wilton
August 30—Rhonda Funston
August 31—Bill Shelby



ANNIVERSARIES

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

Don't see your special day listed?

**Please contact Nancy in the office at 719-395-2544
or office.bvcucc@gmail.com .**

Please Remember in Your Prayers

Joan Wilder—Healing
Roger Cason—Healing
Nan Bohe—Healing
Sarah & Rod 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
Pat & Jim Driskel (aunt & uncle of Doyle and Leonard
Nyberg)—Healing
Friend of Barb Wilder—Healing
Julia Munson (sister-in-law of Adele Jackson)—Healing
Charlotte Smith—Healing
Consuelo Arriola (friend of Debby Cason)—Healing
Janet Jones—Healing
Ron Erickson—Healing
Jay Wonders (Herb Daugherty's brother)—Healing
Maritza Kaniewski (friend of Debby Cason)—Healing
Lisa Hust (friend of Bob Stocker & Ellen Kely)—Healing
The Family of Don Taylor—Comfort
Paul Dorfmeister—Healing
The Family of Shirley Daugherty—Comfort
Elvin Frantz—Healing



WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY NEWS

ALL-CHURCH BAZAAR!

Friday, Sept. 17! 9:00am-1:00pm

The plan for the Annual Church Bazaar: Simplification! The Bazaar is set for September 17 this year to deal with the improving COVID situation. The entire event will be held in the meeting rooms and fellowship hall, departing from the usual disruption of the sanctuary. No lunch will be served. It will be only conducted from 9am - 1pm on one day, a Friday, which will allow cleanup on the following Saturday.

Blessings, Marge Erickson, WMS President, Phone: 406-366-3296

NEW WMS MEETING TIME!

WMS is now meeting on the 4th Thursday of the month at 12 noon (instead of 1:00pm).



CHURCH-COMMUNITY NEWS

CHRISTIAN MISSION IN NEED OF FOOD

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)
*peanut butter**

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



view from the Mountain

“PLAIN OL’ KINDNESS”

After two months in Florida, the return trip involved flying from Fort Lauderdale, Florida to Chicago on a big new plane and then a rickety prop plane back to Lexington. Don’t even ask me why, but by that time the temperature had changed from eighty-eight degrees in Florida to twenty degrees in Chicago and I had no coat. I was ice cold.

When we had to walk to the prop plane in that cold, I thought I would freeze solid. There was one seat on each side of the aisle and when I sat down, I couldn’t even get the buckle buckled I was shaking so hard. Right across the narrow aisle sat a stunning lady. Her clothes were the latest and she was tall and beautiful. In her hands was a rather fashionable book on motivation and success and she had a soft leather briefcase. She was obviously somebody.

Over top of her black wool suit she wore a truly magnificent fur coat (I don’t believe in fur coats for people or for myself), and suddenly this beautiful lady took this coat off, reached over, and without a word wrapped it around me like a soft loving blanket. At first I was speechless. I mean I had never even seen her before, but when I looked into her face, she smiled and said, in the most nurturing quiet voice, “You’ll be warm in a minute. Why don’t you take a little nap now?”

And almost instantly I did, but as my body warmed, so did my heart. She was so kind and nurturing—more than anybody I knew. Somehow she knew my need both physically and emotionally. When we landed, she insisted I wear it across the field into the terminal, and when finally I gave it back to her, she kissed my cheek.

Kindness, plain old kindness, but the kind that goes far beyond the capacity beyond what most of us would do. When I first saw her, I thought she had to be someone famous and special. She had the courage and the grace.

Well, I still don’t know who she was and I don’t know about famous. But let me tell you she was special. She nurtured when she saw the need. She recognized the cold and she sacrificed her own comfort for the comfort of a stranger. Kindness epitomized. Kindness from the very heart of a woman.

This incident became the center of Thanksgiving for me that year. I pray that each one of you will be touched and warmly wrapped in the same depth of kindness that lovely lady tenderly bestowed upon me.

The view from the mountain is wondrous!

Jean Brody



As followers of Jesus, we are committed to exploring together Jesus’ teachings, his actions, and his justice, to better love, respect, and welcome all people.

(CUCC’s Mission, Identity & Purpose)

August 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10am Communion Sunday Indoor Worship	2 9:45am-12pm Strong Women 5:30-8pm Nurturing Fathers Class - AE, N	3 6:30-8pm Scouts-FH 7pm TELLS	4	5 10am Nurturing Joy Class-RR	6 9:45am-12pm Strong Women	7 9am AA-AE 9am AI-Anon-#7
8 10am Indoor Worship	9 9:45am-12pm Strong Women 9am-4:30pm Monarch Quilters-FH 5:30-8pm Nurturing Fathers Class - AE, N	10 6:30-8pm Scouts-FH 7pm TELLS	11	12 10am Nurturing Joy Class-RR	13 9:45am-12pm Strong Women	14 9am AA-AE 9am AI-Anon-#7
15 10am Indoor Worship 11am Birthdays Celebration	16 9:45am-12pm Strong Women 5:30-8pm Nurturing Fathers Class - AE, N	17 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 6:30-8pm Scouts-FH 7pm TELLS	18 7pm Council-FH	19 10am Nurturing Joy Class-RR	20 9:45am-12pm Strong Women	21 9am AA-AE 9am AI-Anon-#7
22 10am Indoor Worship	23 9:45am-12pm Strong Women 5:30-8pm Nurturing Fathers Class - AE, N	24 6:30-8pm Scouts-FH 7pm TELLS	25	26 10am Nurturing Joy Class-RR 12pm WMS	27 9:45am-12pm Strong Women	28 9am AA-AE 9am AI-Anon-#7
29 10am Indoor Worship	30 9:45am-12pm Strong Women 5:30-8pm Nurturing Fathers Class - AE, N	31 6:30-8pm Scouts-FH			AE=Adult Ed. Rm. CH=Choir Room D=Drama Room FH=Fellowship Hall K=Kitchen S=Sanctuary PO=Pastor's Office	

CHURCH-COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS



TELLS
Tuesday Evening
Ladies
Literary Society
Tuesdays, 7:00pm MDT
via Zoom & In Person
All women are welcome!



The group is reading
“Small Great Things” by Jodi Picoult.

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

BIBLE STUDY

Invitations from Grace Church

CUCC folks are heartily invited to join a Women’s or Men’s Bible Study at Grace Church. Currently on Zoom, they will be in-person later this season.

MEN’S BIBLE STUDY

Fridays at 10:00am, via Zoom

led by Bob Yinger

Get on the list and receive a zoom link by contacting Robert Yinger at **robertyinger@mac.com** or Ray Stwalley at **araystwalley@gmail.com**.

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY

Mondays at 9:30am, via Zoom

led by Rev. Catherine Tran

Get on the list and receive a zoom link by contacting Catherine at **cathctran@gmail.com**.

APPRECIATIONS

KUDOS COLUMN



Kudos this month go to Barb Wilder, the entire Facilities Team and Clarke Poos! They all have worked endless hours beautifying the church grounds and encouraging the weeds to go elsewhere! THANK YOU! It’s looking lovely and welcoming!

GREETINGS FROM LUCILLE

Lucille Habeck was in BV briefly and visited with Pastor Rebecca. She sends her warm hugs to all and misses CUCC very much!

THANKS FOR RETREAT—ELLEN KELY

Dear Rebecca,

Thank you for having the retreat at your adorable place in Fairplay. The views were awesome. (I had never seen South Park from that perspective). And the wild flowers were wonderful. It was good for the soul.

Gratefully,
Ellen Kely

THANK YOU, THANK YOU FROM NELSONS

Dear Pastor Rebecca and the wonderful members of CUCC,

Your good wishes for our 66th wedding anniversary was a very special hug. We miss you, but we have to be here with our family and we are so blessed with the loving care they take of us. We still attend our Cowboy Church - it is our best and loving grace from God.

A big Texas hug from the old folks,
Reggie & Judy Nelson

THANK YOU FROM POLENEK

“Rebecca – Enclosing a check as an affirmation of your ministry and the progressive theology in evidence at Congregational UCC.

We are proud to call BVCUCC our Buena Vista church home and pray for your ministry and outreach to thrive.”

Rick & Terry Polenek

THANK YOU FROM JOHN & CLAUDETTE SELPH

Good morning and I hope all is well for you this beautiful summer day.

I’m still drawn to BV and the church. I read the newsletters but seldom click on a link. I did this am and watched the entire Tom Rawlin’s Celebration of Life. It was so well done and even though we never knew him well, felt such joy, sorrow (tears included), and pleasure at the photos, remembrances, music (Ol’ Kentucky Home), and your comments. All-so beautiful! Thank you Rebecca for a lovely service and being you! was amazed to hear Claudette’s name mentioned as well-very sweet!

We miss our friends in BV and you—and Clarke!
John Selph



MOM’S MEALS

Mom’s Meals delivers healthy, affordable meals right to your home, with your choice off their menu. They even offer special diet meals, such as gluten-free, vegetarian, and low-sodium. These meals are designed to help you stay healthy and remain independent in your home. There are programs for Medicaid and Older American Act recipients, Medicare Advantage recipients, and self-pay individuals.

Get more information by clicking [here](#), going to momsmeals.com, or calling 866-971-6667. Information is also in the kiosk in the narthex.

The Right Nutrition

Nutritionally tailored menus to meet the requirements of most major health conditions.

- Heart-Friendly
- Renal-Friendly
- Diabetes-Friendly
- Gluten Free
- Vegetarian
- Pureed
- Lower Sodium
- Cancer Support
- General Wellness

RMC CONNECTIONS

WORSHIP WITH THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST!

UCC's General Synod 2021 "Rooted in Love" has just concluded, and you can watch many pieces of it online.

Go to UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST on YouTube—<https://www.youtube.com/user/uccvideos>

SPECIAL MUSIC! A couple of inspiring mass choir pieces were put together from folks across the country. Check it out!

Our own Pastor Rebecca, with Matthew Maloney's help, represented CUCC and the RMC.

"Queen's Prayer (Hawaiian anthem)/We Shall Overcome"

<https://youtu.be/yGzdAJyHHxs?t=4616>



TOM RAWLINS CELEBRATION OF LIFE JULY 18

Thanks to all who helped host a lovely service for Tom Rawlins.

Click [here](#) to watch the service.

RON & JUDY IN GERMANY

Ron and Judy Hassell & Family ventured to Germany to conduct the wedding of their daughter Jackie and Henning!



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 TEAM REPORTS

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

Faith Education is on sabbatical during July and August. In June, Rebecca led us on an enlightening conversation on Sexuality and Scripture. TELLS continues to meet, exploring racial issues with Jody Picoult's "Small Great Things." Conversations that Matter will reconvene in September, so stay tuned. The team would love to hear from you with suggestions on topics!

NURTURING JOY CLASS, led by Molly Stuart, meets Thursdays at 10:00am in the Rainbow Room through August 26. There's still time to join! See the box with more information under Plug Into the Life of the Church in this newsletter.

Donna Maloney, Chair

Outreach/Community & World Team News ***—August greetings!***

Thank you, thank you, thank you for your increased and enthusiastic support for the Backpack program. The program will continue through the summer with packs going to the Boys and Girls Club. An increase in requests in the fall is anticipated. We still need your continued giving of food and, of course, cash. We are applying for several grants from the Rocky Mtn. Conference and the Chaffee County Community Foundation. However, those grants will not be available immediately, so please be generous. Just drop off a check at the office.

Our Church's Wider Mission (one of the five-for-five UCC special offerings) will be taken during August. Flyers explaining the work of OCWM are available in the narthex. This is a national offering which the UCC uses to support conferences, associations, and local churches with resources and guidelines for many programs. Put OCWM in your check's memo line.

A special thanks to all who participated in the Restore Innocence backpack program initiated by Jean Ferguson on June 17. It was a great success.

Helen Duncan, Chair

Stewardship/Visioning Team News

The Team has completed the revisions for its portion of the bylaws—definition and vision.

Bob Stocker, Chair

PASTOR/CONGREGATION RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The PCRC is working to maintain an open relationship between the ordained pastor and members of the congregation. Each of the members are open to listening to concerns, acting within an atmosphere of confidentiality. Let us hear from you.

Helen Duncan Arlene Waldorf Mike Evans Kathy Roman Ron Erickson

Finance and Budget Team August News

FAITHFUL GIVING **HOW ARE WE DOING?**

Giving for June 20-July 25: \$14,036
For an average of \$2,339 per week.

To meet our Budget, an average of \$3000 per week and \$12,000 per month is needed.

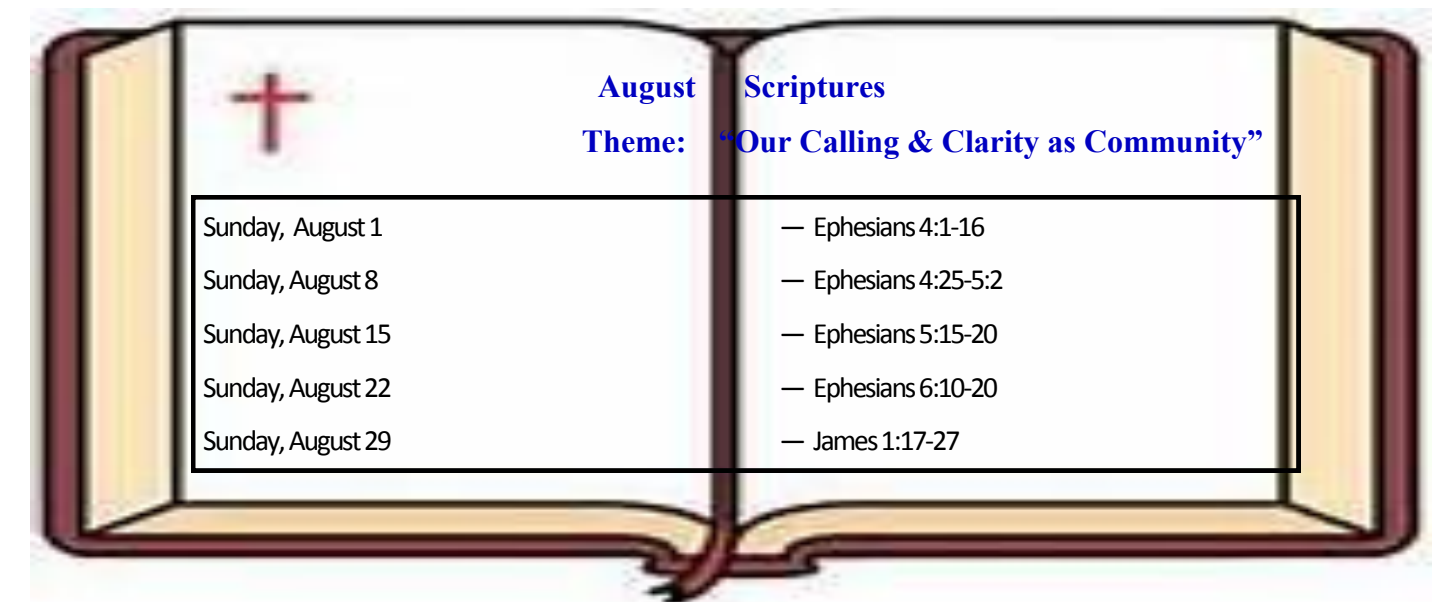
****Please remember to fulfill your Offering Commitment to CUCC's Ministry!****

FACILITIES TEAM NEWS

Facilities continues to focus on the outside grounds. All of the thunder showers have really contributed to the abundance of weed growth this year. Barb Wilder has been working tirelessly pulling weeds from our garden areas. Thank you, Barb! We are looking at ideas to eliminate weed growth that is creeping into the parking lot and rocked areas, as well as getting a quote for feed for our lawns. Effective August 1st, the combination to the front door will be changed. It's a little past due, as our current combination has been in use for many years! If you are needing the new combination, see Nancy. Also, the recycling program is off to a strong start. If you are interested, the cost is only \$8.00/mn. Again, see Nancy!

Respectfully submitted, Mark Wolters, Co-Chair

PLUG INTO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH



INVITE A FRIEND TO CHURCH!

Offer to pick them up!
Let's gather together as a church family!

NURTURING JOY CLASS

Thursdays, 10:00am, CUCC

June 24 – August 26—still time to join!

Led by Molly Stuart

Can you use more joy in your life? We all can! We encourage ALL people to come and join the fun, whether you have been regularly participating in church or not. This is a great place for new people to join in, too! Building on trust in this safe space, we'll share our life stories and learn from each others' journeys. Snacks are provided!

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!

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!

"CONVERSATIONS THAT MATTER" **(Adult Education at CUCC)**

CTM will meet again in September.

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

CUCC Council Minutes - June 16, 2021

There was no Council meeting held in July.

In-person meeting held in the church Fellowship Hall.

Sign on and Greeting: 7:10pm Moderator Merilee Daugherty, Pastor Rebecca Poos, Bowie Duncan, Helen Duncan, Marjorie Erickson, Donna Maloney, Linda Rak, Ron Rak, Bill Waldorf.

Welcoming and Opening Prayer: Moderator Merilee Daugherty shared a prayer “Deep Listening.”

General Business & Reports

Minutes from the May 19 regular Council meeting were approved as published.

Clerk’s Report: Pastor Rebecca reported two additions to the congregation since the April 21 Council Meeting: Jennie Talbot transferred from Storrs Congregational Church, CT, and Rev. Gregg R. Meserole transferred from Christ’s Reformed Church, MD, both recorded June 6.

Treasurer’s Report: Finance and Budget Co-Chair Bill Waldorf re-iterated that the income portion of the “Monthly Income Report” is accurate but it does not report on expenses. At the end of each calendar quarter (March, June, September, and December) the more detailed Income and Expense and Balance Sheet reports will show the church’s financial condition. Bill cautioned that income YTD is still below projections, noting that the church needs to receive about \$12,000 per month in order to balance the budget. Our reduced contributions are probably a result of the lack of in-person worship due to the COVID situation. The 2021 Paycheck Protection Plan loan to the church is helping greatly with covering payroll, helping to avoid drawing on reserves for the time being.

Moderator’s Report: Merilee reported significant progress on rewriting the Bylaws, with addition of new bylaws regarding electronic voting procedures for virtual Zoom meetings. At the June 7 - 13 virtual Rocky Mountain Conference Annual Celebration, Pastor Rebecca’s 25 years as an ordained pastor were applauded.

Continuing Business

An attendance sheet for in-person Sunday services has been initiated as of the June 6 service to document attendees in case of subsequent COVID-19 virus infection. This procedure will also be suggested to all groups using the church at each of their meetings, effective immediately. The Strong Women’s group has already started documenting attendance.

The SPT (Strategic Planning Team) presented this month written guidelines to enable the church to prepare a **COVID-19 Protocol** for all visitors, meeting and church service attendees. Council discussed the guidelines and noted that most if not all insurance carriers exclude any coverage for COVID-19 incidents. A Chaffee County Public Health Order #2020-08-Amendment 2 dated June 4, 2021, provided additional recommendations and mandates for indoor and outdoor gatherings. Based on this information, Council agreed that a written COVID Protocol was prudent and necessary for CUCC. A written COVID Policy for the church was drafted and agreed upon. It was further agreed that this Policy must be approved by Council, posted on and in the church, a copy included with these minutes for publication, and the Facilities Use Agreement (for church user groups) be updated and accepted by those groups. ***Helen moved/Donna seconded that the COVID Policy for CUCC as finalized and published with these minutes be adopted by the church. Motion passed.***

COVID-19 Pastor & Staff Indemnification Statement. The Rocky Mountain Conference strongly recommended that the church immediately adopt a statement to hold the pastor and staff innocent of negligence or intentional conduct that might have caused COVID-19 infection of any persons entering the church premises, despite best efforts used by the church to follow CDC and local protocols and mandates for their protection. The Council discussed the matter and agreed to adopt and sign a suggested statement from a lawyer/pastoral colleague of Rebecca’s for CUCC, following a vote of Council and minutes to support the vote. ***A motion was made and seconded to adopt this Statement. Motion passed. The Statement is hereby attached to these minutes.***

Team Reports

Facilities: Bowie reviewed a June 14 update from Chair Ron Hassell. The current main grounds problem is weeds growing in the rocked landscape areas, which will be treated. Comments from the floor on recent outside worship noted pine needles in the lawn sanctuary, and cottonwood seeds, twigs, and webs at the base of the building and on the bench seats. It was suggested that the custodian could increase outdoor cleaning since indoor cleaning is minimal for the summer season. Item referred to Facilities Team. Housekeeping and repair issues can be noted on a whiteboard in the kitchen.

Outreach: Helen reminded everyone of the scheduled June 17 BV HOPE assembly of restoration backpacks for child human trafficking victims. The CUCC Backpack Program is receiving reduced contributions, probably a result of contributors not meeting in-person to consider donations. A UCC In-the-Mud grant has been applied for, but is limited to only \$1,000. A local group, the Chaffee County Community Foundation, also offers grant opportunities.

Worship: Linda updated everyone on the once-a-month plan for a cake & coffee social time after Sunday service.

WMS: Marge Erickson described the latest plan for the Annual Church Bazaar: Simplification! The Bazaar is set for September 17 this year to deal with the improving COVID situation. The entire event will be held in the meeting rooms and fellowship hall, departing from the usual disruption of the sanctuary. No lunch will be served. It will be only conducted from 9am - 1pm on one day, a Friday, which will allow cleanup on the following Saturday. It was also noted that Grace Church will be conducting a bazaar on July 4th and they would appreciate our support.

New Business: Merilee reported that a conference minister brought to the attention of the UCC the issue of changed liability insurance coverage due to the BSA recently filing for bankruptcy. Merilee was unable to verify tht the coverage from BSA or The Insurance Board will change in any way. Merilee will continue to monitor the situation and report to Council prior to the rechartering in November. Bill will review the church’s policy for its completeness.

Pastor’s Report

Rebecca already met with OCA Nancy Best to plan and schedule paperwork and email blasts during Nancy’s absence. She was very pleased with the advance preparations by Nancy prior to her scheduled vacation absence. Sunday bulletins, a mid-summer newsletter, and phone answering volunteers have all been prepared and scheduled.

The new community-involved recycling program is going well in its first month of use. The bin is being fully used, with over 15 persons signed up for the service.

A brief break in the YouTube recorded Sunday services will be taken in the next few weeks to give the musicians and recording team a break. They will re-evaluate the program in the fall. Currently, internet viewers outside of our church membership have decreased to an average of 9 or 10 per week.

A special Open and Affirming Sunday service will be conducted on June 27. The service is planned to be outdoors as usual.

Prayer Concerns/Updates

Rebecca ended the meeting with several immediate prayer concerns and updates, followed by a closing prayer.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:57pm.

Upcoming Events

UCC General Synod: July 11 – 18, Workshops July 7 – 10. Admission fee(s).

Next regular Council Meeting is July 21, 2021 at 7 pm in-person. July Council meeting canceled by Moderator.

Prepared by Ron Rak, Clerk

As followers of Jesus, we are committed to exploring together Jesus’ teachings, his actions, and his justice, to better love, respect, and welcome all people. (CUCC’s Mission, Identity & Purpose)

CUCC COVID-19 POLICY—June 16, 2021

Congregational United Church of Christ will adhere to recommendations/mandates set by Chaffee County Public Health: Effective June 4, 2021 Public Health Order #2020-08-Amendment 20 states:

For Indoor use:

Any individual, age twelve (12) and older, who is not fully vaccinated, is encouraged to wear a medical or non-medical cloth face covering that covers the nose and mouth when entering or within a public indoor space where members of different households are present.

Any fully vaccinated individual may go without any type of face covering in any setting, subject to the exceptions in this order. (see page 4 of the above-mentioned public order for a detailed listing of exceptions.)

CUCC requires that capacity is not to exceed the following:

Sanctuary - limited to 60 people

Fellowship hall - limited to 60 people

Education rooms/nursery - limited to 15 people each

Singing is permitted indoors.

Food and drink may be served, not buffet style, but by servers.

It is recommended that windows be opened during time spent inside.

For Outdoor use:

CUCC requires that capacity not exceed 200 people.

CUCC recommends unvaccinated individuals wear a mask and socially distance.

Food and drink may be served, not buffet style, but by servers.

Singing is permitted.

Additional information for code of conduct for Chaffee County can be found at chaffeecounty.org.