

***Congregational
United Church of Christ***

Sunday Worship Schedule

In-Person 10:00am (MST) & Zoom

YouTube at [CUCCBuenaVistaCO](#) (for previous services)

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)

No matter who you are, no matter where you
are on 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 2022



MODERATOR'S MOMENT

When I work at the Arkansas Valley Christian Mission, many clients over the years have been in dire straights. Of course, the Mission does what it can to help them, but many times it's beyond the Mission's capability. The clients often say that God will help them through their dilemma and seem rather calm about it! Over the years, I have wondered how it was possible to have that much faith and trust in God.

Well, I prayed to God for inspiration for the direction of this reflection. When I do that, usually I get something 'hands on' to write about. God didn't fail me this time either. My heat went out that night when it was -20° outside! I had no heat in the main part of the house where the bedrooms, bathrooms, and kitchen are. It just happened that Ben from Helping Hands was shoveling the sidewalks and decks. I called out to him to see what he knew about furnaces. He did some diagnostics on the furnace and determined I would need a plumber. So I contacted Budget Heating and Plumbing, but had to leave a message. About an hour later, I was called back by the owner's wife who said the message was really garbled but with some research she was able to find me! A plumber would be out in the afternoon. Of course, I was very relieved. Then shortly after that, out of the blue, Marge Erickson just dropped by with some gluten free cookies, and later Kathy Roman brought a tower heater. I was cared for by four wonderful people. I realized that this whole day was a lesson in trusting God.

Then I thought about those who didn't have heat the night before when it was -20°. What did they do? What did Dan do that night when he didn't have propane to heat his RV? What did the woman who lives in her van do?

Well, on February 4th our church started a ministry for people to take free showers. Mike Orrill, who started the Shower Ministry in Salida, said the most important thing we can do is listen to our guests' stories. We can help them find physical warmth and emotional and spiritual warmth for a few hours.

The next day was the church's 'opening day' for the Free Showers. Dan showed up. He was very disheveled and grateful for the ability to get warm, take a shower, and feel human again. Kathy Roman was working in the room where we store books for the bazaar and she very graciously gave him a tour of the boxes of books. She told him he was welcome to take one of the books. I asked if he had eaten yet and he replied, "No." All I could find was an energy bar, but he appreciated that. Our co-host, Helen Duncan, offered him a cup of coffee and he loved that. We were not able to fix his homelessness problem, but he appreciated that there were people at the church to help him in his need. He returned the next week much more relaxed. The church was called to be the hands and feet of Jesus. We were also called to help this fellow find trust in God that caring people would be there for him.

Last fall, the congregation collected over 300 pairs of socks for people without homes. It has been said that what they need the most is socks. And when you think about it, of course they need socks, because they do a lot of walking. So the church is also giving out socks, as well as new underwear, hats, and gloves to our guests. Your donations are appreciated.

Your Council would like to hear what you think we can do to help people without homes.

May you trust in God's love,
Betsy Neas

**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)**

IN-PERSON/ZOOM HYBRID WORSHIP AT CUCC!
Every Sunday at 10:00am
Masks encouraged.
See you there! - click [here](#) for Zoom link

PASTOR'S ARTICLE, March 2022

“If you build it, they will come!” (from *Field of Dreams*)

Over the years that I’ve been in ministry (pushing 30 now!), all sorts of different “techniques for reaching people,” ideas, suggestions, programs, plans, and philosophies have come down the pike. The latest “Church Growth Guru” would tell all the pastors and congregations they need to be doing things this way or that. And then, in the next one or five or ten years, they’d come around again and say, “Well! That was old school. Those ideas are dated and, frankly, they don’t work anymore! The world is changing faster than the church; technology has turned everything we used to do on its head, and now you’d better change, switch it up, buy this new “guaranteed program” (or your money back!), or take a whole new approach or reimagine, re-envision, renew, and re-energize your church, etc.”

Years ago, when I was starting a new church in Castle Rock with Rocky’s dad, Cal, we watched the movie *Field of Dreams* and saw how when they built a beautiful new baseball diamond, people showed up! They came from miles away—to Iowa, in fact! Some even came from past generations across The Veil! The basic idea (why it was being shown at a Church Growth Workshop) became the mantra for church development, “If You Build it, They will Come.”

And then, they didn’t. Churches spent tens of thousands of dollars building bigger and better new auditorium/worship centers, ball fields, and gymnasiums. They installed the biggest and best video and computer and gaming equipment in the Youth Center, thinking it would attract a bunch of young people like magnets and ensure a vibrant youth program. And then, folks started saying it “didn’t feel like church,” so the Ancient Future Worship Movement emerged that went “back to the beginning” with ancient symbols and intimate gatherings and “high touch/low tech” approaches.

Alongside this “build it bigger and better than your neighbor” theory, was a push to “take it to the streets!”—getting pastors and church programs out of the building. Preachers started hanging out in coffee shops, working on their sermons or Bible Study prep out in the open, hoping people would be curious and drop in for a conversation about faith. Some even put little signs up on the table inviting people to stop. I was encouraged by my senior pastor to do this many times, and thought about doing it in BV when we came here, but you know what? I’ve never been able to study or write anything if I didn’t have a lot of quiet concentration time! I have never once written a sermon in a coffee shop. (There’s my confession!)

Churches went to the bars then, for “Pub Theology.” “Beers & Hymns” came to life. All in an attempt to reach people “in the middle of their lives,” many of whom would never darken the door of a church. The idea is a good one. Church does happen everywhere—not just in the church building, and I have never, in thirty years, believed that my most effective ministry was done in an office behind a computer. Ministry happens where the people are.

And you know what? Church is happening right here in our area, all over the place! Some of us are communing at Silver Sneakers a couple of mornings a week—having “Church in the Pool!” and inviting folks to come check out our welcoming community. Meanwhile, at 217 Crossman Ave., Church is also happening in the building—with support groups gathering and showers offered. We are offering welcoming space and top-notch facilities for an affordable “suggested donation.” We now have technological capabilities for Zoom meetings, webinars, video education, and more! And now, the sanctuary is being transformed into a stellar quality venue for music lessons, workshops, and “Fireside Concerts.”

“If you build it, they will come” takes on a whole new meaning and message in this new season of being the Church. Why? Because it is both/and! It’s not either/or. We are welcoming folks into our beautiful and welcoming church home *and* going out into the highways and byways (and lap lanes!) of the community and meeting the people, learning of the needs, and reaching out a helping hand—perhaps a lift up; a chance to make friends in these isolating times; a bag of food every week; a connection with a county resource; guidance of all kinds in navigating health and social systems; perhaps some affordable clothing or counseling; support groups of many kinds; retreats to tend to the soul. Perhaps what folks will find here is a chance to learn—about issues of aging, current events, faith and religion through different lenses than they’ve experienced before.

I’m so excited to see where CUCC is being led by the Spirit. I sure hope you are too! Come into the water with us—it feels fine! Jump in with both feet! Show up wherever Jesus calls us together and find a place of belonging, inspiration, and community! I’ll see you at Church!

Blessings, Rebecca

CUCC GOOD-TO-KNOWS

NAN BOHE - NEW ROOM PHONE NUMBER 719-207-4803

Her cell number remains the same - 720-616-3546.

ELVIN BENTON PASSING

Elvin passed on Feb. 14

His wife Pat’s address:
Pat Benton
1710 Durum Dr.
Walla Walla, WA 99362

BOB E. SMITH PASSING

Bob passed on Feb. 9.

His wife Glynette’s address:
Glynette Smith
1123 3rd St.
Columbus, NE 68601

BE IN THE KNOW!

- ♦ 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 or anniversary.*

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

RECYCLING AT CUCC SUBSCRIPTION PROGRAM

The dumpster with the yellow lid is CUCC's recycling bin. For \$6/month, you receive the code to that dumpster, a list of what you can and cannot add, and the convenience of single-stream recycling. The recycling is picked up every Thursday.

PLEASE - If you talk to someone who is interested in signing up, have them contact the office. It's important that Nancy gets contact information from them and goes over the do's and don'ts. Thank you!

Contact Nancy in the office to sign up: 395-2544, office.bvcucc@gmail.com. Make checks to CUCC; "recycling" in the memo line.

NOTE: The recycling fee has been reduced from \$8/month to \$6/month starting January 2022. If you have paid in advance, the \$2/month difference will be factored in to what you owe when you pay again.

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 bins for what is and is not allowed.

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

Nan Bohe cell (720) 616-3546; Rm. 719-207-4803
Columbine Manor, Rm. C-3
530 W 16th St., Salida, CO 81201

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

Lindsey (Fagerberg) & Koby Close
5413 W Caribbean Ln., Glendale, AZ 85306

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

Marge Dorfmeister (970) 812-5119
Mesa View, Rm. 133
601 Horizon Pl.
Grand Junction, CO 81506

Lorraine Green (719) 207-4827
Columbine Manor, Rm. D2-1
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

March 6—Barb Groy
March 6—Lucille Habeck
March 6—Ron Rak
March 8—Rick Fagerberg
March 16—Skyler Tucker
March 17—Millie Meardon
March 20—Arlene Waldorf
March 22—Lyntha Nelson
March 22—Ruthann Schoeffield
March 23—Matthew Maloney
March 27—Barb Wilder

ANNIVERSARIES

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



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
Pat & Jim Driskel (aunt & uncle of Doyle and Leonard Nyberg)—Healing
Julia Munson (sister-in-law of Adele Jackson)—Healing
Charlotte Smith—Healing
Consuelo Arriola (friend of Debby Cason)—Healing
Maritza Kaniewski (friend of Debby Cason)—Healing
Fred Stearns (friend of Betsy Neas)—Healing
Warren Montgomery—Strength
Kaylynne Pomfret—Healing
Frank Tooze (friend of Debby Cason)—Healing
Cathy Surgenor (friend of Debby Cason)—Healing
The Family of Sandi Van Ausdal (friend of Helen & Bowie Duncan)—Comfort
Ron Hassell—Healing
Mary Simmons (Betsy Neas' daughter)—Healing
The Family of Elvin Benton—Comfort
The Family of Bob E. Smith—Comfort



ANNOUNCEMENTS/GOOD TO KNOWS

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

Feel free to join at any time!



CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

2nd and 4th Mondays February 14–April 25, 2022
2:30pm–3:30pm
CUCC Rainbow Room (masks recommended)
217 Crossman Ave.
Buena Vista, CO 81211

CONTACT Lois Amdt, Group Leader, for more info: 719-322-4124 or
amdtilcm@gmail.com

Do you find yourself in a caregiving role and wonder if you are the only person doing what you do or become overwhelmed with your role? Caregivers need support and time to practice self-care. Come join us for support, conversation, ideas and insights.

ABOUT LOIS:
Lois is a highly educated and experienced Somatic Trauma Resolution therapist, who has recently moved to Buena Vista from Colorado Springs with her private practice. She has been a lifelong educator and group leader in public, private and international education, and holds a Master's Degree in School Counseling. She holds certifications in Somatic Trauma Resolution (STR) and Strategies for Trauma Awareness and Resiliency (STAR). See her website for more background: LoisAmdt.com

**SHOWER MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS
REQUESTED**

Please contact Helen Duncan at 203-313-2845 or
Betsy Neas at 719-966-9894 if you would like to
help with this vital ministry.



**FREE
SHOWERS**

Men, Women and
Families
ALL are welcome!

FRIDAYS, 12PM TO 2PM

Buena Vista Shower Ministry

**at Congregational United Church of Christ
217 Crossman Ave. (behind Post Office)**



Provided



**LA FORET RETREAT
The School of Earth & Soul
May 6-8**

A weekend retreat for Celtic spirituality and natural beauty! Author & speaker John Philip Newell founded the School of Earth and Soul in the belief that Celtic wisdom is urgently needed at this moment in time. It is a spiritual tradition in the Christian household that can nurture vision of mind, strength of soul, and compassion of action. La Foret is pleased to welcome Mr. Newell for this retreat! Onsite and commuter options will be available.

Click [here](#) to register.



view from the Mountain

“ISLAND LAUGHTER”

The Winchester Sun—April 4, 2006

We stood in the noon sun as they drove away, heading north. They had been with us for five days, during which the four of us laughed so much our faces hurt. You know how you can laugh at something and somehow it sets the tone for laughing more, and pretty soon just about everything seems funny, which turns the laughter into peals of giggles. At that point you could say, “Telephones ringing,” and everybody would fall out of their chairs laughing.

Laughter is really strange that way, and it is good for you. Gene and I were so ready for a visit from Kentucky friends that when Betty Hayes and Johnny Nunan drove up to our Key Biscayne condo, we were out front, waiting for them to come into view. When they did, I literally was jumping up and down. It had been three months since we’d seen any of our close friends from Winchester and we were like starving children, eager to partake of all the familiar feelings that good friends bring us.

We talked non-stop, trying to absorb all the news around Winchester. We spent hours and hours around the pool and beach. We only ate out one time, because cooking together as we talked and laughed was so much fun. You know, there is something very intimate about sitting in one’s PJ’s at midnight, when all the world is quiet, and talking, listening, sharing, understanding. It is easier to say what is truly on your mind and heart when you’re cloaked in quiet and dimmed lights. We did this a lot, and our friendship will never be like it was before they came, because we know each other’s hearts so much better.

We went to Mass after such a Saturday night talk-fest and the priest’s message was about exactly what I have been dealing with in my family. He talked about listening with compassion and talking with love. Had we not shared our deepest concerns the night before, his message would have possibly gone right over my head.

We watched the Academy Awards together all piled up on the two big sofas in the living room. We cheered, booed, oohed and aahed, and when “Crash” won Best Picture, I imagine we woke up everyone in the building with our “yeas.” One of the directors was Johnny’s cousin, and we never expected “Crash” to win over “Brokeback Mountain.” It was a personal victory simply because Johnny and Betty Hayes were here with us.

My brother Jim took us on an island tour in his Yellow Banana, his six-seater golf cart with stereo. They got to really see the unbelievable opulence, the mansions one after another after another, bigger houses than any of us had ever seen anywhere, all jammed onto this tiny little island. Jim should retire and become a tour guide because he knows every inch of this island and all the famously wealthy people who have lived and are living here. Whenever we have visitors, he drops everything to take them on “the tour” because that’s just the kind of brother he is.

Both Betty Hayes and Johnny left a million shades darker than when they arrived from hours in the tropical sun. It was easy for Betty, but Johnny had to pretend he was a slab of meat. We turned him front to back and side to side every half hour or so, so he wouldn’t burn.

Before we knew it, the five days were spent and they were pulling out of the parking lot heading north. Gene and I waved ‘til they were out of sight and then returned to a very quiet apartment. Even Miss Aggie Cat seemed to be looking for them.

Friends are precious, and spending time together, laughing and talking and sharing hearts, is really the very essence of what sustains us. Memories accumulate over time, and when it gets a little harder to make new ones, all we have to do is open our memory book and revisit. I doubt any of the four of us will ever forget these memories we made together on this tiny, funny little island.

The view from the ocean is wondrous.

Jean Brody

(Pastor Rebecca’s dearly-departed mother-in-law.)



WOMEN’S MISSIONARY SOCIETY NEWS “WOMEN ON A MISSION OF COMPASSION AND SERVICE”

If you would like to share ideas about the next Annual Bazaar, please call me at 406-366-3296, Linda Rak at 303-456-9058, or Kay Allinger at 719-395-6804. We appreciate your input!

Meeting dates for 2022 are every other month, usually on the 4th Thursday from 1:00-3:00 pm.

Special date - Earth Day, Friday, April 22 - Plant some flowers and care for the Church gardens.

March 3 - Program by Suzy Kelly

April 28 - Program by GARN, the Greater Arkansas River Nature Association

June 23 - Summer Picnic at 12 noon, location to be announced

August 25 - Trip to visit La Puente in Alamosa

September or November - Possible times for Annual Bazaar

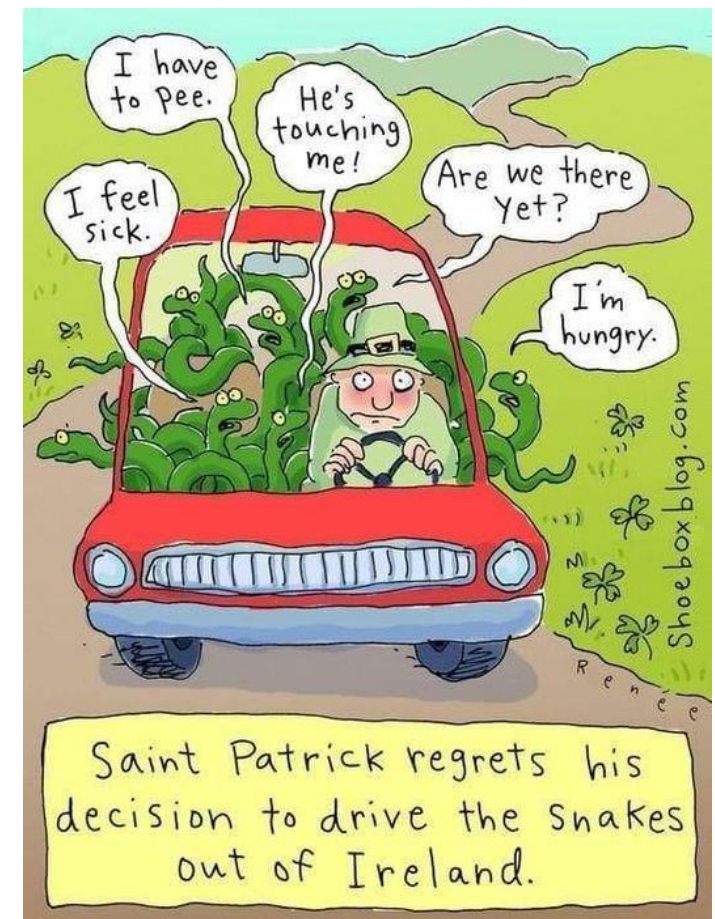
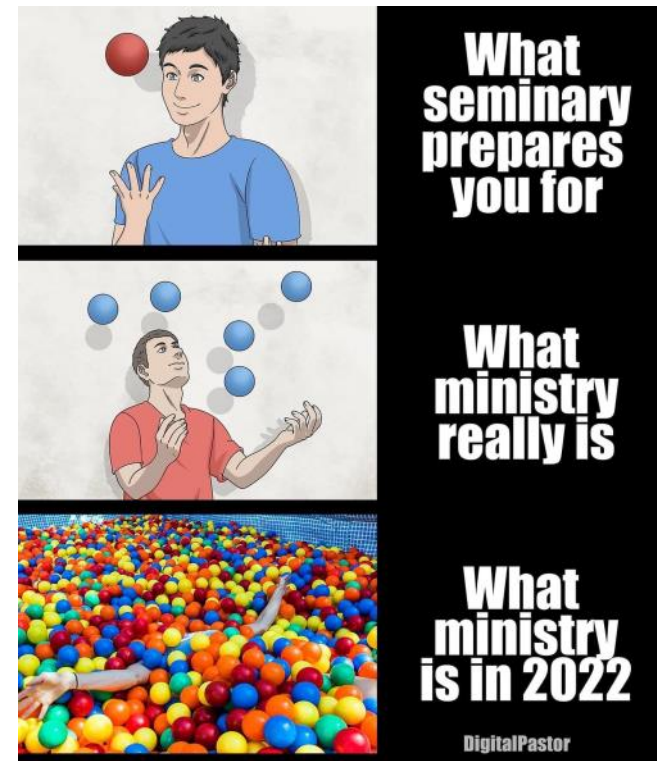
October 27 - Fall Luncheon

December 8 - Christmas Meeting - Sharing Nativity Scenes and Stories, Devotional ‘Thought for the Day’ on taking time to read the Scripture.

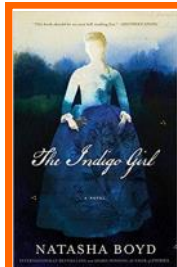
“Read and read again, and do not despair of help to understand something of the will and mind of God, though you may think they are fast locked up for you. Neither trouble your heads though you have not commentaries and expositions, pray and read, read and pray. There is nothing that so abides with us as what we receive from God . . . Things we receive of God’s hand come to us as things from the minting-house, though old in themselves, yet new in us. Old truths are new to us, if they come to us with the smell of heaven upon them.”

from *Daily Readings from Spiritual Classics* - edited by Paul Olstedal

Marge Erickson, President



CHURCH-COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS



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



The group is reading
The Indigo Girl by Natasha Boyd.

We share life, faith, family stories, support, fun and humor—please join us!

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.

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—Zoom/in-person hybrid

Contact Grace Church to get on the list
 and for any updates.
admin@gracechurchbvco.org or 719-395-8868

CHURCH-COMMUNITY NEWS

LENTEN JOURNEY WITH
MOLLY STUART & MARGE ERICKSON
has become Celtic Journey running Thursdays
May 26-June 30
10:00am-11:30am

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

2nd & 4th Mondays, Feb. 14—Apr. 25

2:30pm-3:30pm CUCC Rainbow Room (masks recommended)

Are you or someone you know in a caregiving role? Join with others for support, conversation, ideas, and insights. Led by Lois Arndt, an experienced therapist and educator new to BV and CUCC and a wonderful human being!

Contact Lois to learn more & sign-up: arndtjlc@gmail.com or 719-322-4124.

ARKANSAS VALLEY CHRISTIAN MISSION

The Christian Mission needs donations of peanut butter & jelly, non-perishable canned goods, fresh items from your garden, and, of course, financial contributions to help local families.

Checks should be taken directly to the mission on Tues., Wed., or Fridays, 11:00am - 2:00pm, or call Helen Duncan at 395-5768.



BACKPACK PROGRAM

Your continued support is appreciated!
 Please place items in donation box in the narthex (under coat rack).

Always welcome:

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

APPRECIATIONS



KUDOS COLUMN

Many thanks to all the new Officers, Team Leaders, and Team Members coming on-board for 2022! Thanks for stepping up and answering the call! We anticipate an exciting and inspiring year at CUCC!

OPTIMISTS THANK CUCC

Reverend,

The Buena Vista Optimist club sincerely appreciate you, members, and friends of CUCC for the club's use of the church facilities as part of the celebration of Youth Appreciation Week. This is one of club's favorite events and your generosity helped make it possible. For many years, with our gratitude, the awards ceremony has been held at the Congregational United Church of Christ.

The use of the sanctuary is greatly appreciated and allows for the attendance of the students and their immediate families as well as invited guests. Thank you for your support of this event and your continued support of the BV Optimist Club.

In Optimism,
 Don Caskey, Youth Appreciation Week Awards Committee Chair

CUCC IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

LA PUENTE HYGIENE BAGS

COLLECTING NOW THROUGH MARCH 20

The hygiene bags for the La Puente Home in Alamosa are made and ready to be filled with the following: bath towels, wash cloths, bar soap, shampoo, lotion, tooth brushes, toothpaste, shaving cream, shaving lotion, razors, socks for both men and women, nail files, nail clippers, and any other items that a homeless person could use. Cash is always welcome for purchasing any necessary items. The Women's Missionary Society appreciates your contributions. Thank you so much for your continuous support of this mission project.



March 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
AE=Adult Ed. Rm. CH=Choir Room D=Drama Room FH=Fellowship Hall K=Kitchen S=Sanctuary PO=Pastor's Office RR-Rainbow Room #7—Room #7		1	2 ASH WEDNESDAY	3 9-9:30am Backpacks-FH 1-3pm WMS -FH, K	4 9:45am-12pm Strong Women -AE 12-2pm Shower Ministry-SS wing	5 9-10am AA-AE 9-10am Al-Anon -#7
6 10am Communion Worship 4-5:30pm Conversations That Matter -Zoom	7 9:45am-12pm Strong Women -AE	8 10-11am Worship Team -#7 11am—12pm Faith Ed. Team -AE 4-5:30pm Outreach Team -Zoom 6:30-8pm Scouts-FH 7pm TELLS	9 10-12am Stew/Vis Team -AE 6-7pm Lenten Service & Soup Supper-Grace Church	10 9-9:30am Backpacks-FH	11 9:45am-12pm Strong Women -AE 12-2pm Shower Ministry-SS wing	12 9-10am AA-AE 9-10am Al-Anon -#7
13 DST BEGINS 10am Worship Clef Notes Sing 4-5:30pm Conversations That Matter -Zoom	14 9:45am-12pm Strong Women -AE 2:30-3:30pm Caregiver Support Group -RR	15 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	16 6-7pm Lenten Service & Soup Supper-FH, S 7pm Council	17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY 9-9:30am Backpacks-FH	18 9:45am-12pm Strong Women -AE 12-2pm Shower Ministry-SS wing	19 9-10am AA-AE 9-10am Al-Anon -#7
20 10am Worship 4-5:30pm Conversations That Matter -Zoom	21 9:45am-12pm Strong Women -AE	22 6:30-8pm Scouts-FH 7pm TELLS	23 6-7pm Lenten Service & Soup Supper-Grace Church	24	25 9:45am-12pm Strong Women -AE 12-2pm Shower Ministry-SS wing	26 9-10am AA-AE 9-10am Al-Anon -#7
27 10am Worship 4-5:30pm Conversations That Matter -Zoom	28 9:45am-12pm Strong Women -AE 2:30-3:30pm Caregiver Support Group -RR	29 6:30-8pm Scouts-FH 7pm TELLS	30 6-7pm Lenten Service & Soup Supper-FH, S	31 9-9:30am Backpacks-FH		

LENTEN CELEBRATION INFORMATION

LENTEN SERVICES AND SOUP/BREAD SUPPERS

Wednesdays

6:00pm-7:00pm

March 2 - at CUCC - Ash Wednesday Service

March 9 - at Grace Church

March 16 - at CUCC

March 23 - at Grace Church

March 30 - at CUCC

LENTEN CLEF NOTES PRACTICE AND SING TIME CHANGES

During Lent on March 2 and April 6, the Clef Notes will practice from 5-6pm instead of 6-7pm.

The Clef Notes will sing on March 13 and Easter Sunday, April 17, but not on Sunday, April 10.

HOLY WEEK INFORMATION

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES

Palm Sunday Service, April 10, 10:00am

Maundy Thursday Service, April 14, 7:00pm

Good Friday Stations of the Cross, April 15, 2:00pm, Grace Church



Easter Celebration Service, Sunday, April 17, 10:00am
(Clef Notes sing, Flowering of the Cross; Coffee Hour)

BUENA VISTA, MY HOMETOWN

by Linda Anderson, Feb. 2022

My eyes see the changes, but my heart won't forget
Our sleepy little town come to life without regret

You can't stop progression or will it away.
Many old-timers loved Buena Vista and decided to stay.

To stay in the town, they knew from the start,
It changed over the years, but it never lost heart.

The world that is out there beyond this city limit
Cannot erase the memories of which there is no limit.

We have lost places too precious to name,
And got new businesses and a place called South Main.

I cannot forget the dirt roads when I came,
And kids played outside; we knew everyone's name.

People may come, and people may go,
But the love of Buena Vista will always show.

It shows as we descend Trout Creek Pass with that awesome view,
Of the magnificent Collegiate Peaks He painted for me and for you.

CUCC TEAM REPORTS

FAITHFUL GIVING HOW ARE WE DOING?

Giving for Feb. 4 weeks: \$18,021.47
for an average of \$4,503.37 per week.

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

Well done, you faithful!

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

The Faith Education Team Faith Education for Everyone

The Team is discussing how to use its available funds. Some suggestions are funding a Chaffee County High School retreat, teaming with the local mentor program, and offering music lessons to youth.

We're also considering doing another all-church book study. Stay tuned!

Conversations That Matter: upcoming guests include Lois Arndt talking about mindfulness and Kim Thomson telling the

Outreach/Community & World Team News—March greetings!

Lenten Services and Soup Suppers: We are tentatively scheduled to have Lenten services and soup suppers with Grace Church, with March 2nd, 16th, and 30th events being held at CUCC.

One Great Hour of Sharing: This is one of the "Five for Five" offerings that we send to the Conference each year. Monies from this fund promote international programs in health, education, and agriculture; disaster response and emergency relief; refugee ministries. Our collection for this fund will be in March and April.

NEWS FLASH — Merilee obtained a grant of \$3,500 for the Backpack Program from a private community fund by applying on behalf of the Optimist Club, which is a co-sponsor of the program. Way to go!!!

Ellen Kely, Co-Chair

impact

You never really know the true impact you have on those around you. You never know how much someone needed that smile you gave them. You never know how much your kindness turned someone's entire life around. You never know how much someone needed that long hug or deep talk. So don't wait to be kind. Don't wait for someone else to be kind first. Don't wait for better circumstances or for someone to change. Just be kind, because you never know how much someone needs it.

PLUG INTO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH



DID YOU KNOW? 5 Ways to Give!

1. MAIL IN to CUCC, PO Box 610, Buena Vista, CO 81211-0610
2. DROP OFF at the church.
3. Donate ONLINE at tithe.ly.
4. DONATE through the CUCC website: bvcucc.org.
5. ACH - set up Automatic Giving at your bank.

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

ONLINE GIVING PHONE APP It's an easy 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.

CONVERSATIONS THAT MATTER (CTM)

Adult Education at CUCC

Sundays, 4:00pm-5:30pm via Zoom

Click [here](#) to join by Zoom or call in by dialing 346-248-7799, meeting ID: 839 7229 4056, passcode: 590045

Get on the email list! Write to cucc.conversations@icloud.com.

INVITE A FRIEND TO CHURCH!

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

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 is open to listening to concerns, and acting within an atmosphere of confidentiality. Let us hear from you.

Arlene Waldorf Mike Evans Kathy Roman

CUCC COUNCIL MINUTES—February16, 2022

Welcome and Opening Prayer: 7:13 pm. Opening prayer by Moderator Betsy Neas.
Attendees: Moderator Betsy Neas, Vice Moderator Kay Allinger, Pastor Rebecca K. Poos, Donna Maloney, Bill Waldorf, Arlene Waldorf, Linda Rak, Ron Rak, Avis Rutkowski, Debby Cason, Mark Wolters, Bob Stocker, Ellen Kely.

Team Reports: Betsy began the discussion by emphasizing the importance of centering our activities upon our Mission Statement and asked Bob Stocker, the Visioning Team Leader, to lead the discussion.
Outreach: Ellen reported that their team activities encompass all aspects of the Mission Statement and especially justice. In helping other people, the church helps to level the playing field for all persons. We share with Jesus’ love. Examples are the Backpack Program and the new Shower Ministry, which served one person the first Friday and two the second Friday.
Faith Ed: Donna shared that Conversations that Matter is building bridges so that the divide between persons will narrow. They learned new skills to alleviate frustration by opening a door for people who are uncomfortable sharing with their family and others about issues. Not only are issues discussed, but also what can we do about these issues. The Faith Ed team overlaps with Outreach by offering the use of our building to groups. Betsy asked for a moment of silence so that the Holy Spirit could work through us to suggest how we can offer the use of our building to outside groups. Some of the ideas that emerged were:
Offer the building to Chaffee County High School for youth retreats
Invite youth from city parishes to come to Chaffee County for one or two day retreats that might include a field trip to Bob and Ellen’s goat farm, hiking where they can experience wildlife, and perhaps a session with Mark’s falcon
A 12-step retreat which could include anger management
Teaching children about faith
Set up tables in the community with a sign such as “What’s on Your Mind?”
Offering our ALIVE pamphlet with updated inserts to visiting groups, events we sponsor, and perhaps at outdoor tables
Betsy pointed out that Faith Ed has restricted funds for youth ministry.
Ellen suggested that we could help the Boys and Girls Club by offering retreats. Many of their members are recipients of our Backpack Ministry.
Things that CUCC is already doing to advance our Mission Statement include offering our building and grounds for AA and Al-anon groups, Boy Scouts, Boys and Girls Club, Monarch Quilters, High Country Fine Arts, recycling, gardening, composting, and Strong Women. It was suggested that we could attach a welcoming flag to our split rail fence too.
Worship Team: Linda reported that the team tries to help the elderly attend live services, but when they are unable to do so, the team reaches out during special seasons and occasions by delivering small gifts for Easter, Mother’s Day, Father’s Day, caroling, etc. Janet and Rebecca are working on plans and music for only one service on Easter at 10:00am, followed by Coffee Hour. Planning for Lent and Easter is underway.
Facilities: Mark reported that the team works to make CUCC a welcoming place where people can feel safe. Examples include signs in the hallway for temperature control, clocks in shower rooms, and Ron taking lots of showers to make sure they work properly! After growth of the shower ministry is ascertained, any extra supplies could be shared with Women’s Missionary Society’s La Puente Hygiene Bags project.
Clerk’s Report: Ron said that no changes in membership have been brought to his attention since January 1. Elvin Benton passed away peacefully on the night of February 15 at the age of 97, but he had never joined CUCC.

Finance and Budget: Bill offered to give a half hour of training to Council members on how to read Balance Sheets and Income and Expense Statements. The PPP loan that we received last year was discussed. We applied for this government loan in 2021 and received \$20,148 through the Small Business Administration (SBA). This amount covered last year’s deficit of \$15,696 and left us a remaining amount of \$4,452 which was added to our General Funds. From an accounting standpoint, this was considered a special event: our liabilities were decreased by \$15,696 and our net equity was increased by \$4,452. The team requested and received forgiveness from the SBA for the loan. Bill pointed out, however, that this year we will NOT have an incoming PPP loan. We will look for ways to utilize some of our remaining Temporarily Restricted Funds. Bill pointed out that when people are donating funds to CUCC for a specific purpose, it would be helpful for whoever is accepting the donation to ask the donor to state on a form: “My wish is that the money be spent on _____. If any money is leftover, it can be added to CUCC’s General Fund.”
General Fund Summary 1/1/22 - 2/13/22 submitted by Kay is simple to understand and shows that we are right on track so far this year. Kay, or the receiving financial secretary, has agreed to submit this summary every month.
Old Business: Donna moved to accept the January 19 minutes/Linda seconded - motion passed unanimously with no discussion.
New Business:
Lenten Worship Services and Soup Suppers: The worship services will happen and it was also decided that if we all pitch in, we will have enough people to provide soup suppers after the service—one vegetarian and one with animal protein. Ellen will provide a sign-up sheet for making soup. The people who make the soup will serve it, wearing masks and gloves. We can use tongs for the bread or put slices into plastic bags. Real bowls and plates will be used and washed afterwards in our dishwasher. We need set up and clean up volunteers. Lenten Services and suppers will be held at CUCC on 3/2, 3/16 and 3/30 at 6:00pm.

Increasing Use of CUCC Building: Donna reported that Matthew and Ron Rak worked to upgrade the sound system in our sanctuary from analog to digital. This improvement makes our building more attractive for music lessons, student concerts, teaching retreats, poetry readings, etc. A suggested donation to cover costs will be asked for these events and an additional donation basket will be used to collect funds for CUCC from these activities. [On Friday, 2/18, Debby mentioned this to a woman involved with fiber arts, who rotate their monthly meetings between BV in our church and Salida.]

Pastor’s Report:
Opportunities for use of our building and community collaboration have been bubbling up. A Caregiver Support Group, led by Lois Arndt, a new arrival to our community, is meeting in the Rainbow Room on 2nd and 4th Mondays from 2:30 to 3:30pm. The Alzheimer’s Association is exploring an Education Event in the future. The Mini-Blessings Board is considering a mini-horses retreat for caregivers. The High Country Fine Arts Assoc. was very grateful be able to practice their production of the Jungle Book two-three afternoons a week at the church. They have nothing else planned until next year.

Mike Orrill and Chaffee County Public Health is planning a Chaffee People’s Mobile Clinic one day per week and has contacted CUCC about hosting at our site. They will need one or two rooms and the parking lot for four to six hours. A planning meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 3/1 at 2:30pm for this ministry and Rebecca has asked some of us to attend.

We have received grants for the following: \$3,500 for the Backpack Ministry and \$450 from Chaffee County’s “Together We Protect.” A grant is pending for the Shower Ministry.
The Collegiate Peaks Forum Series donated eco-friendly cups for our use.
Pastor Rebecca would like to resume having quarterly Congregational Meetings.
In addition, she again discussed streamlining our communications and asked us to please consider carefully the subject line of our emails so that they can be easily located and referenced in the future. Arlene suggested that when using the Big List, send the email to yourself and use bcc for the Big List group. However, for smaller group emails, individual names and addresses should be on the To line so it is clear we are having group conversations and keeping everyone in the loop.

Prayer Concerns: Betsy suggested that each Council member choose one CUCC person we don’t see often and stay in touch with that person one-on-one, since we do not have a pastor care list.

Closing Prayer was offered by Rebecca.
Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 9:15pm
Next Council Meeting will be held at 7:00pm on March 16 in person.

Upcoming Events: CUCC Lenten Services/Soup Suppers on March 3/2, 3/16 and 3/30 at 6:00pm; Grace Church Services/Suppers on March 3/9, 3/23, 4/6. Good Friday “Stations of the Cross” at 2:00pm will return this year at Grace Church, with CUCC participating.
Prepared by Debby Cason, 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)

OUR COMMUNITY COVENANT
Congregational United Church of Christ of Buena Vista

- * We seek to think of each other as Children of God, made in the image of God, to be treated as sisters and brothers in Christ. We will strive to listen respectfully to how others prefer to be treated.
- * We will act with kindness and respect while speaking truth in love and being honest with each other. Therefore, we will seek to listen with interest and curiosity, keeping an open mind.
- * We will share our time, gifts, and talents, bringing positive energy to groups and projects.
- * We will build up the community by bringing any grievances we have directly to the persons involved or to the Pastor/Congregation Relations Committee.
- * We will seek honest reconciliation of disagreements and practice forgiveness.
- * We will each try to be worthy of the trust and confidence of our fellow members.

(Adopted by CUCC Council September 15, 2021)