

***Congregational
United Church of Christ***

Sunday Worship Schedule

In-Person 10:00am (MDT) & 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!: CUCC Buena Vista CO

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
June 2022



MODERATOR'S MOMENT

Dear Generous Congregation and Friends,

At our Congregational Meeting on May 15, we broke up into groups of four to talk about three questions: "What do you love about our church?" "How are we connecting with the community?" "What is your understanding of our financial situation?"

The first question was the easiest to answer, since there are so many things we love about our church, including loving the theology, which is open and welcoming of everyone, and the dialogue style of Rebecca's message that makes the congregation think and respond. I'll write more about those ideas in future issues.

The next question was a little harder to answer. "How are we communicating what we love about our church to the community?" We all agreed that we tried to live our lives and model ourselves in the way Jesus would ask us to. We also offer our church and educational opportunities to the community. However, speaking our love of Jesus and our church out loud to others was harder.

The last question our small groups pondered was how we understand the financial situation of the church. This part was very confusing and interesting. We all know that our church is facing a difficult financial situation at this time, like many other churches, so a lengthy discussion broke out about what the General Fund is as compared with the Restricted Funds. Someone suggested that I clarify it in the easiest terms possible, and so I will try.

There are two basic types of funds here at CUCC where donations can go. The first is the General Fund, which is used to pay bills, such as salaries, heat, electricity, water, etc., much like the bills you pay monthly at home. The second are the Restricted Funds. These are donations given specifically to pay for special purposes and cannot be used for anything else. They are funds directed to the Shower Ministry, Backpack Program, One Great Hour of Sharing, Windows Fund, memorial funds, and many more. Thankfully, there is sufficient money to do those things in the various Restricted Funds.

However, the General Fund, which covers necessities, needs your help. Our dilemma is that even though there are specific funds for missions and other things through the Restricted Funds, we need more for the General Fund which keeps our staff fed and our building alive. If we don't have a healthy General Fund, then the whole thing falls apart and the missions can't be done. In essence, the General Fund is the glue that holds everything together. What I'm asking you to do is to think and pray about how you might give on a regular basis to the General Fund. You could even write General Fund on the memo line of your check. Then whatever extra you have, give to those special funds.

Unfortunately, if we keep doing things the way we always have, our church will only be able to exist for another five or so years! This is a wake-up call for all of us! I ask you to pray for our church and decide what will work best for the common good.

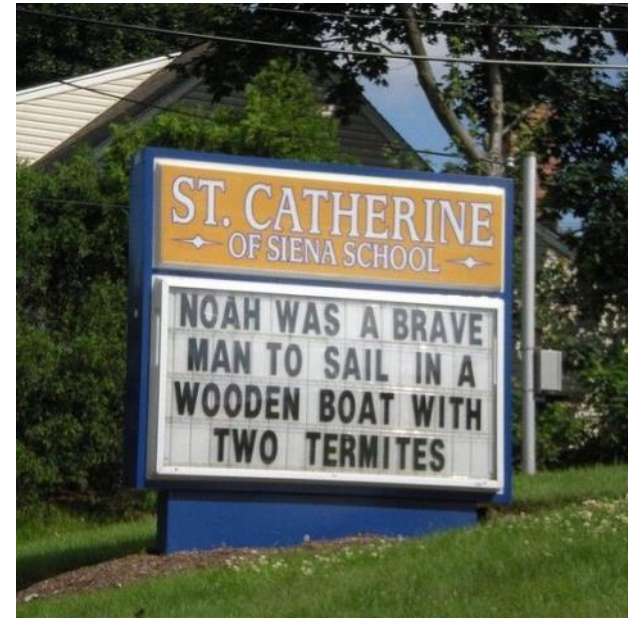
Your Moderator,
Betsy Neas

**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 WORSHIP AT CUCC!
Every Sunday at 10:00am
See you there!**

CHURCH HUMOR



CUCC GOOD-TO-KNOWS

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

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.*

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.**

Earn a \$10 bag of compost for every friend/neighbor/colleague you refer to our residential or business waste diversion programs! It's easy - just click [here](#) to fill out the form and we'll contact you when your referral has signed up.

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

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) 784-7121
Rm. 213B
Bruce McCandless Colorado Veterans Community Living
Center
903 Moore Dr., Florence, CO 81226

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

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

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

ANNIVERSARIES

June 1—Lindsey & Koby Close
June 16—Norm & Shirl Holloway
June 18—Bob & Lyntha Nelson
June 19—Ron & Linda Rak
June 23—Ron & Marge Erickson
June 25—Scott & Mary Fons Colvin
June 26—Roger & Debby Cason
June 30—Rod & Sarah Struthers



Don't see your special day listed?
Please contact Nancy in the office at 719-395-2544
or office.bvcucc@gmail.com.

Please Remember in Your Prayers

Sarah & Rod Struthers—Healing
Roger Cason—Healing
Pam Hughes—Healing
The Family of Nan Bohe—Comfort
Brooke Davis (Doyle & Leonard Nyberg's cousin)
—Healing
Pat & Jim Driskel (aunt & uncle of Doyle and Leonard Nyberg)
—Healing
Dale Rak (Ron Rak's brother)—Healing
Nevzat & Claire (friends of Debby Cason)—Healing
Rojdah & Maryann Shepherd (friends of Debby Cason)
—Strength
The Family of Ed Simons (Rebecca's brother-in-law)—Comfort
Phyl McCall—Healing
Judy and Dave McChesney (friends of Jennie & Toby Talbot)—
Healing & Strength



COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

WALDEN CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY CONCERT

Sunday, June 5

3:00pm

Salida SteamPlant

Enjoy Haydn, Kodaly, and Beethoven played on violin, viola, cello, and piano!
This is the last concert for the 2022 season - and it's live and in-person!

Tickets - \$20 Go to waldenchambermusic.org to purchase.
Live stream tickets are available through the Salida SteamPlant
at salidasteamplant.com.



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)



view from the Mountain

“Miss Aggie Speaks Her Mind”
The Winchester Sun—April 25, 2006



I, Miss Aggie, am a Snowbird Cat. Well, I’m not white and I’m not a bird, but I definitely am a Snowbird Cat. I am spending the winter on an island where it’s hot year round, where I can laze all day on the side porch where the sun keeps the tiles warm just for me. And when I’m not snoozing, I can watch the pelicans, seagulls and terns flying low over the ocean, looking for fish to catch. The best ones to watch are the pelicans, because Jean says they are comical. I think they are just plain stupid.

Do you know how they catch a fish? Get this. They spot one swimming around, so they nosedive straight down, but just before hitting the water (I swear this is true), they flip their body over and bash into the fish with their own heads! The fish is stunned senseless and the pelican eats him. Now, is that stupid? It’s no wonder they act funny. I would too, if I went around knocking fish out with my own head!

The most exciting bird to watch comes alone in the evening. It’s an osprey and he is huge. I mean, when he spreads his wings wide and skims over the water, it makes me very glad I’m not a fish. What he does is he swoops down, skims, seizes his prey with long talons, and then he heads skyward, the fish hanging beneath him. The thing is, I can’t figure out where he stops for dinner. Does he eat in flight, or does he have a special spot somewhere that he can land, relax, maybe have a nice glass of wine with his fresh fish meal? I doubt I’ll ever know.

I also watch the iguanas—a huge, warty, prehistoric-looking reptile. One day, about a three-foot iguana somehow climbed up the bushes in front of the porch and slithered right across the tiles and stared at us through the sliding doors. Big Gene said to me, “Look, Aggie, do you want to go out there and meet the iguana?” I guess he thought he was being funny, but he wasn’t.

No way on this planet would I wish to make the acquaintance with something so eyeballing ugly who just might not like me. Jean says that God made iguanas just like He made cats like me, so we have to be kind to them. Well, I think God might’ve been having a very bad day when He developed iguanas!

I have just one problem with this porch. It is one of these that has a high white metal railing all the way around it. When we first arrived here, Jean said before I could go out there they’d have to put screening around the outside rails to keep me in. I am not dumb and I just pretended to have no interest whatsoever in escaping the porch. It took several days of observing me lazily lolling on the porch tiles, but finally she said, “I guess I underestimated Aggie. She’s even smarter than I thought. She doesn’t want to leave us, so we don’t have to put screening up.”

When I knew she was no longer watching me, I decided to slip my beautiful body right up through the railings and go exploring. Casually, I sauntered over to the rail and stuck my head through. Then I quietly stepped both front legs through. Halfway free! I took a deep breath, checked one more time to see if she was looking, and decided to go for it. I could not move forward! “What is this?” I thought. Once again, I heaved forward. Nothing! Do you know, my stomach was so big it would not fit through the dadgum opening.

I could. not believe it, but there I was, stuck, half in, half out. It was not funny and I let out a yowl of humiliation and panic. Jean and Gene heard me and came running. I almost can’t tell you what happened next. They laughed! Here was their pride and joy feline princess, utterly defeated, and they laughed. But kindness returned and Jean gingerly dislodged me by pushing me backwards. Then she held me in her arms, cradled me, and said she was sorry they laughed at me.

I can tell you one thing. I am never trying that again. I am just fine right where I am, secure between my pair of Jeans.

The view from my porch by the sea is wondrous.

Jean Brody

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



**CELEBRATION OF OUR
LIVES TOGETHER**
70th Anniversary Gathering
for
Ron and Marge Erickson!

Saturday, June 11
Dinner—5:30-7:30pm
Dancing to Follow

McMurry Ranch Meadow
22405 Hwy. 285, Nathrop
Go to the Nathrop post office road, go down the hill,
and look for the tent!

We hope you can join us!
RSVP—406-366-3296

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

What a surprise! The biggest snow storm of the season on the 3rd weekend of *May*. Unexpected as this gift of moisture was, our earth has been blessed. In the closing pages of the book we will be studying in the Celtic Journey group on Thursday mornings (May 26-June 30, 10-11:30am, Rainbow Room), the author John Phillip Newell’s thoughts are about gratitude. These are his thoughts:

“A major feature of the wisdom tradition (Creation Spirituality) we have been drawing on in these pages is gratitude. Remembering that what shines most deeply in the face of a newborn child is sacredness and that this sacredness, deep within each of us, infuses every creature and life-form leading to a deep posture of gratitude. Gratefulness for the sacredness of one another and the EARTH, including gratitude for the gifts of sight and sound, of touch and taste and scent, that we may know one another and the body of the earth—this is what we are being invited to awaken to. It will change the way we live and relate and act.” (Let it be so!)

Our June gathering of the WMS will be a summer picnic held at the center picnic pavilion in McPhelemy Park by the lake at 12:00 noon on Thursday, June 23. Please bring picnic items like potato salad, chips and dip, vegetables or fruit, to go with the fried chicken that will be provided. Men are invited to join us for this luncheon and celebration of summer.

Have a terrific and blessed summer with your family and friends.

Marge Erickson, President



CHURCH-COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS



TELLS
Tuesday Evening
Ladies
Literary Society
Tuesdays, 7:00pm MST



All women are welcome!

The group is reading *Feel Good, Look Good for Life* by Angela Geffney.

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

Contact Pastor Rebecca to get on the email list:
revbecca@icloud.com

“CELTIC JOURNEY “
STANDING IN THE LIGHT AT A TIME OF
DARKNESS:
DANCING WITH CREATION AND CELTIC
SPIRITUALITY

Thursdays, May 26—June 30
10:00am-11:30am
CUCC Rainbow Room

Our Guides: John Philip Newell and Matthew Fox
Awakening people to conscious memory of who we are in the depths of our souls and what we already know from our souls, hearkening back to traditions of Celtic spirituality and Creation-centered spirituality.



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

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.

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

APPRECIATIONS



KUDOS KOLUMN

Kudos to Nancy Best, Marge Erickson, the Worship Team, and the Tech Team who do such a beautiful job of hosting, prepping, and leading memorial services, both within and outside our church community. This is a key mission of our church!

THANK YOU FROM LA PUENTA FOR BAGS

Dear Congregational UCC Buena Vista,

Thank you for your generous donation of hygiene kits to the shelter. These kits are critical for our sheltered and unsheltered community members who may not have access to such supplies. We appreciate your support for our mission.

Sincerely,
La Puente guests, shelter staff, and AmeriCorps members

THANK YOU FOR CHARLOTTE SMITH'S SERVICE

Thank you for showing love and sharing resources to those who wanted to celebrate Charlotte.

In Christ,
Bing (Charlotte's grandson)



CALORIE BUSTING ACTIVITIES

Activity	Calories Burned
1. Beating around the bush	75
2. Bending over backwards	75
3. Jumping to conclusions	100
4. Dragging your feet	100
5. Climbing the walls	150
6. Jumping on the bandwagon	200
7. Eating crow	225
8. Pushing your luck	250
9. Wading through paperwork	300
10. Running around in circles	350
11. Swallowing your pride	450
12. Making mountains out of molehills	500

June 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
AE=Adult Ed. Rm. CH=Choir Rm. D=Drama Rm. FH=Fellowship Hall K=Kitchen	S=Sanctuary PO=Pastor's Office RR-Rainbow Room #7—Room #7		1 1-3:30pm Games-FH 3:30-5:30pm LWV Geranium Drive-by Pick-up-Back Door 6-7pm Clef Notes-CH	2 9-9:30am Backpacks-FH 10-11:30pm Celtic Journey -RR 7-9pm Finance Team-FH	3 9:45am-12pm Strong Women -AE 12-2pm Shower Ministry-SS wing	4 9-10am AA -AE
5 PENTECOST 10am Communion Worship	6 9:45am-12pm Strong Women-AE	7 9am-12pm Mobile Com. Medical Clinic 6:30-8pm Scouts-FH 7pm TELLS	8 10am-12pm Stew/Vis Team-AE 12am-1pm Lunch & Learn Emergency Preparedness Seminar-K, FH 1-3:30pm Games-FH	9 9-9:30am Backpacks-FH 10-11:30pm Celtic Journey -RR	10 9:45am-12pm Strong Women -AE 12-2pm Shower Ministry-SS wing	11 9-10am AA -AE
12 10am Worship Clef Notes Sing	13 9am-4:30pm Monarch Quilters -FH, K 9:45am-12pm Strong Women-AE 2:30-3:30pm Caregiver Support Group-RR	14 9am-12pm Mobile Com. Medical Clinic 10-11:30am Faith Ed. Team -AE 4-5:30pm Outreach Team -Zoom 6:30-8pm Scouts-FH 7pm TELLS	15 11am-5pm Coletrain Music Camp -whole building 7pm Council-AE	16 9-9:30am Backpacks-FH 10-11:30pm Celtic Journey -RR 11am-5pm Coletrain Music Camp -whole building	17 9:45am-12pm Strong Women -AE 12-2pm Shower Ministry-SS wing	18 9-10am AA -AE
19 FATHER'S DAY 10am Worship 11am Coffee Hour/ Birthday Celebration 	20 9:45am-12pm Strong Women-AE	21 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 9am-12pm Mobile Com. Medical Clinic 6:30-8pm Scouts-FH 7pm TELLS	22 1-3:30pm Games-FH	23 9-9:30am Backpacks-FH 10-11:30pm Celtic Journey -RR	24 9:45am-12pm Strong Women -AE 12-2pm Shower Ministry-SS wing	25 9-10am AA -AE
26 10am Worship	27 9:45am-12pm Strong Women-AE 2:30-3:30pm Caregiver Support Group-RR	28 9am-12pm Mobile Com. Medical Clinic 6:30-8pm Scouts-FH 7pm TELLS	29 1-3:30pm Games-FH	30 9-9:30am Backpacks-FH 10-11:30pm Celtic Journey -RR		

NAN BOHE PASSING

Nan Bohe passed peacefully at Columbine Manor on Thurs 5/12/22
 Cards may be sent to her daughter Debe Bohe - PO Box 3165, Buena Vista, CO 81211-3165.

A Celebration of Life will be held at CUCC on Thursday, July 7, at 1:00pm
 with refreshments to follow. (all are welcome).



UCC 5-FOR-5 OFFERING

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH

We are collecting for the 5-for-5 Strengthen the Church from May through mid-June. This special fund supports youth and young adult ministries, lay and pastoral leadership development, and full-time leaders for new churches in parts of the country where the UCC does not have a strong presence and provides support for existing churches' new initiatives. Thank you so much!

RMC CONNECTIONS

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN CONFERENCE
The election is Saturday, June 11, at the RMC's Annual Celebration Business Meeting.

There are **two openings on the Endowment Board Trustees** for the Rocky Mountain Conference. One nominee will be elected for a one-year term to fill a current vacancy, then eligible for re-election the following year to a full term. The other nominee will be elected for their first three-year term.

There are **two openings on the Conference Finance Committee**. The Finance Committee terms are two years, re-electable once.

Please submit nominees to Rev. Ken Ingram at revken1957@gmail.com.

CUCC TEAM REPORTS

FAITHFUL GIVING HOW ARE WE DOING?

Giving for May—4 weeks: \$11,114.31
for an average of \$2,778.58 per week.

To meet our Budget, an average of \$3,000 per week and
\$12,000 per month is needed.

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

Outreach/Community & World Team News—June greetings!

There has been increased use of the CUCC building by community groups, including musical concerts, community dances, memorial services, and other activities.

The special offering "Strengthen the Church" will be collected June 5 (Pentecost) through the end of June. This is one of the UCC '5-for-5' funds.

Short-term missions funds will be sent to the Chaffee County Family & Youth Initiatives (FYI) and the UCC Disaster Ministries fund for Ukrainian relief.

Avis Rutkowski

Worship Team

We will celebrate Father's Day on Sunday, June 19, with a special gift for CUCC's men. During the summer, the Worship Team will meet as needed and stay in contact by e-mail. If there are any activities you would like to do, please talk with any of the members of our team. If you have any questions, please talk to me or any member.

Linda Rak, Chair

FACILITIES TEAM NEWS

Spring clean up for the front of the church was a great success! Several people showed up to help! Windows were washed, rafters were dusted, chairs were wiped down and fabric touched up, cobwebs were obliterated! Thanks to Betsy Neas for providing food and drinks and thanks to Kathy Roman for organizing the clean up!!

Sanctuary doors have been ordered and should be in later this month or early June. When replaced, the doors will be more weathertight and secure than our current doors. We will also be turning on the sprinkler system later this month and taking a look at touch up painting the outside handrails.

Mark Wolters, Co-Chair

The Faith Education Team Faith Education for Everyone

Welcome to summer! Education opportunities continue with Molly and Marge leading us on a Celtic Journey. They will discuss the books *Julian of Norwich: Wisdom in a Time of Pandemic-And Beyond* by Matthew Fox and *Sacred Earth, Sacred Soul* by John Phillip Newell. The books will be summarized by the leaders and do not need to be purchased. It will be Thursdays at 10:00 starting on May 26 and continue through June 30.

Conversations that Matter will take a summer break. Stay tuned for opportunities for spiritual growth and learning come fall. We look forward to returning to Adult Sunday School prior to Sunday services. Please let us know what topics are of interest!

Donna Maloney, Chair

PLUG INTO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH



CONVERSATIONS THAT MATTER (CTM)

Currently on summer hiatus.

See you again on Sept. 11!

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

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.

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—May 18, 2022

Welcome and Opening Prayer at 7:10pm, followed by the Lord’s Prayer in unison.
Attendees: Moderator Betsy Neas, Vice Moderator Kay Allinger, Linda Rak, Donna Maloney, Mark Wolters, Ron and Marge Erickson, Ellen Kely, Bob Stocker and Debby Cason. Pastor Rebecca was attending a Clergy Retreat in Oregon.

Moderator’s Report: Betsy mentioned the success of the Congregational meeting after church on May 15 which was sponsored by Council. After enjoying the food provided by Council, attendees broke out into groups of four and talked about each other’s answers to three questions:
What do you love most about our church?
What are you most proud of regarding CUCC? How are we doing with extravagant welcome and connecting with the community?
What is your understanding of CUCC financial statements and how can we improve our CUCC financial situation?

Team Reports:
Outreach Team by Ellen Kely:
— \$80 is being sent to Global Ministries, which is the agency through which CUCC adopted a Philippine boy from the Bob Dwyer Fund. After his graduation from high school, we requested to adopt a girl from the Philippines, and for the past year and a half the agency has not sent us the name of a girl to adopt. The reason CUCC has been sticking with Global Ministries thus far is because of their reputation for providing the best schooling program. However, we now have the option of broadening our request to a girl from any needy country, and if Global Ministries still does not provide us with someone to adopt, we can select a different organization to work with.
— Ukraine: Thus far, CUCC has donated \$2000 for Ukraine relief from the funds collected through One Great Hour of Sharing. Outreach would like to send another donation through the UCC Disaster Relief program from their restricted Short-term Mission Fund. Kay believes there is \$4000 in that fund.
— Shower ministry: Volunteers are needed for June; Ellen will make an announcement this Sunday and put the sign-up sheet on the table at the back of the sanctuary. In addition, Outreach would like to use some of the \$2500 in the Shower Ministry restricted fund to purchase either a metal sign or a perforated cloth sign to hang on our chain link fence announcing our free shower program to the public. A 20x30” metal sign costs about \$100. Bob moved and Donna seconded our approval for the sign. In the discussion following, several suggestions were made: Approval for a sign must be obtained from the City of Buena Vista, and while applying, it is important to determine size restrictions for the sign. Also a fee will be owing to the City once every six months for the sign permit. The Boy Scouts pay \$20 every six months. Mark suggested that mention of the shower ministry can perhaps be added at the bottom of the CUCC sign on our fence opposite the post office which announces our sermons. Ellen will talk with Janet Steiner about this possibility. Debby suggested that an additional sign should be colorful. The motion then passed unanimously.

Worship Team by Linda Rak:
— Father’s Day: Janet will be coming up with an idea.
— Linda raised the question as to the necessity of monthly team meetings since team members communicate via email. Betsy suggested Linda take that question up with Pastor Rebecca.

Facilities Team by Mark Wolters:
— An access door has been installed so that team members will no longer have to climb into the crawl space to deal with leaks.
— New sanctuary doors should arrive in one week.
— The team has been meeting every month, but might go to every other month since they, too, communicate back and forth via email.

Women’s Missionary Society by Marge Erickson:
— WMS is seeking advice on replacement of the large cooler in the kitchen, because the current one generates a loud hum when turned on and might not be cooling well. Mark suggested the group choose a unit with the same footprint as the current unit to be sure it will fit properly. It can be smaller, but not larger. He also suggested that they could dispose of the old one through BV Bargains as a free item. Before purchasing a new one, Mark suggests that Marge show the potential new unit to the Facilities team for their approval. Marge said WMS might decide to buy a unit that has a freezer on one side and a refrigerator on the other side.
— The WMS annual picnic will be held on June 23 in McPhelemy Park. Chicken will be provided, but otherwise the event will be a potluck. WMS proposes to present Nancy Best with a gift.
— Plans for a small CUCC annual bazaar on November 4 are moving forward.

Faith Ed Team by Donna Maloney:
— The CTM meeting on May 22 will be the last one until the fall.
— Adult Sunday School will start on September 11 before the church service. Muffins and coffee will be provided. Ron Erickson and Bowie Duncan are making plans, but once started, participants will be taking turns leading the sessions.
— The Journey Group starting May 26 in the Rainbow Room will be led by Marge Erickson and Molly Stuart.

Visioning and Stewardship Team by Bob Stocker:
— Bob reported that there was a lot of spirit amongst the attendees at the Congregational meeting on May 15. He summarized their answers to the three questions listed above under Moderator’s Report. Question 1: Friendliness, welcoming spirit, meeting people where they are spiritually, music, outreach, great pastor with interactive style, people feel valued, inclusiveness, Good News Bible, Judy Phelps, Nancy Best, sermons apply to our everyday lives. Question 2: Bazaar, Scouts, Backpack Ministry, Shower Ministry, upcoming liaison with Community Mobile Clinic, Dance Group, Senior game day, musicians, our use of technology which is head and shoulders above other small churches — kudos to Matthew Maloney!!! Question 3: Many of us stick our heads in the sand and say, “It’ll get better.” The reality is that we are falling about \$350 short each week and something needs to be done, because our financial boat is leaking and we have about five years or so to last at the rate we are going. People at the Congregational meeting didn’t understand the difference between general giving and restricted giving. Bob will be giving a sermon on this topic on June 12 explaining that the General Fund is the glue that holds everything together by paying our bills and our staff. Betsy read her proposed Moderator’s Moment for the June NL which also addresses this topic.

Finance Team:
There will be a meeting on June 2 to determine how each team chair can get the financial information they need on what their team is spending. In the meantime, Linda Rak is collecting receipts from the Worship Team and listing monies spent; Ron Rak of the Facilities Team is doing the same; Faith Ed is not spending much money and what they do spend comes mostly out of a restricted fund—Donna keeps track in the Faith Ed minutes; Ellen Kely reported that most Outreach expenditures also come out of designated funds.

Clerk’s Report by Debby Cason:
— We have lost one member due to the May 12 death of our dear Nan Bohe.
— Kay moved that the Council Minutes from April 20 be approved. Marge seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
— Debby requests that because Nancy Best will be resigning, all team minutes should be sent to *both* the office and to the Clerk until further notice.

Treasurer’s Report by Kay Allinger: Kay again provided us with a Financial Overview of the General Fund, which shows that on average, we have collected \$384 less per week than we need since the beginning of 2022. Discussion followed.

New Business:
Nancy Best will be resigning sometime near the end of this summer. She will be moving to the Washington D.C. area. Extensive discussion followed this news about our office and building staffing needs. With increased use of our building and technology by outside groups, our needs are shifting. Some suggestions were made:
— Nancy can write a Job Description to help us with the hiring.
— Once Nancy leaves, forego offering the use of our technological equipment to groups using CUCC until we get someone trained on the equipment who can teach the groups to use whatever tech equipment they need.
— Hire a tech person by the hour to run equipment *for* the various groups. If we do this, we will need to pass the expense on to the group using the service of the tech, which would probably mean that the group would cut back on the size of its CUCC donation.
— Write down any ideas which come to mind and share them with Council.
When Nancy leaves for 10 days at the beginning of June to look for a place to live, we will need volunteers in the office to answer the phone on those Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays that she is gone.
The Saturday night dance group has stated that they might look for another facility, because they don’t want to move a lot of furniture at the end of dancing when they are tired. Mark suggests that *prior* to Saturday night, we move all chairs out of the Fellowship Hall into the Drama Room, leaving only six tables for them to fold up before dancing.

Old Business:
— Representatives to Annual Conference, held June 9-11 via Zoom. Rebecca and Betsy will attend and ask Helen Duncan to represent CUCC in decisions being made by the conference
— Representatives to greet Community Clinic on May 31. Mark must check his calendar, but if available, he will greet Mike and the nurse(s) on 5/31 and 6/7. Donna can greet them on 6/14, and then perhaps they will be okay on their own. If Mark cannot make it on 5/31 or 6/7, Kathy Roman is very familiar with our facilities and can be asked to be the greeter.

Joys and Concerns:
— Betsy’s grandson was accepted into law school!
— Prayers were requested for Pastor Rebecca and her family and also for Roger Cason.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm with a prayer from Betsy.
Next Council Meeting: June 15, 7:00pm.
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)