

***Our mission is to faithfully witness of  
Jesus Christ so that:***

- *Our relationship with God can be nurtured,*
- *Our discipleship can be strengthened,*
- *The dignity and worth of persons can be valued,*
- *The recognition and contribution of others is accepted,*
- *We become aware of and respond to the needs of the community, and*
- *We will respect and care for God's earth.*

# Communicator

*A monthly newsletter of*



Community of Christ

*Fort Collins, Colorado*

*A Welcoming Congregation*

*For everyone born, a place at the table*



**August 2018**

## Eucharist

### **A Universal and Unifying Meal**

Thursday, July 26, 2018

—Richard Rohr

The mystery of sharing food and a common table takes place on different levels. First there is the unifying idea of sharing the same food. Then there is the symbolism of the table itself: where you sit at the table, how the table is arranged, and who is invited. Together the food and table become a symbol of how our social world is also arranged. (Think of Anthony Bourdain's CNN series on food, *Parts Unknown*, which became the context for communicating an entire life philosophy, political commentary, and study of international friendship.)

Jesus' last supper was a meal of deep table friendship—with his closest followers—that evolved into the formatted, highly ritualized meal of bread and wine that many of us feel obligated to participate in today. The first disciples soon came to understand it as their special way of gathering, as the way to define their reality and their relationship with one another, a "memorial" meal with Jesus and thus with the larger society.

This Communion meal was originally somewhat of a secret ritual (especially during times of persecution) by which the community defined itself and held itself together. Frankly, most people have never been ready for the Eucharist's radically demanding message of

solidarity with both suffering *and* resurrection at the same time. Therefore, we made it into a worthiness contest and something that we could supposedly understand with our mind—both a terrible waste of time, in my opinion. Catholics even publicly say, "Lord, I am not worthy" in the Mass, immediately before we walk up as if we are "worthy"—and others are not. Ken Wilber would call this a "performative contradiction" right in the heart of the liturgy.

Yes, we are to recognize Jesus himself in the Eucharist, but we are also to "recognize the Body" (see 1 Corinthians 11:29) of those present as the Body of Christ, too (as Paul goes on to describe at great length in 1 Corinthians 12). There is no true Eucharist without a living assembly because we are being saved together and as one. The message is corporate and historical. (Yet I grew up with priests in great numbers saying "private" Masses all by themselves. And some still say we did not need a liturgical renewal!)

The Eucharistic meal is meant to be a microcosmic event, summarizing at one table what is true in the whole macrocosm: We are one, we are equal in dignity, we all eat of the same divine food, and Jesus is still and always "eating with sinners" (for which people hated him) just as he did when on Earth.



## Youth News

For a week this past June, Alec Fronapfel attended Colorado Boys State at UCCS in Colorado Springs. He was one of several boys entering their senior year in high school selected from the city based on demonstrated leadership skills. The boys participated through hands-on activities in learning about how government works. Alec enjoyed being part of the process and meeting other boys from around the state.

## Toiletries for the FFH Day Center



The Mennonite Day Center for FFH families and families on the wait list continue to need shampoo, conditioner (any size bottles), and

toothpaste. Please take donations to the Day Center or give them to Kay Bunch.



One of the most needed items when families obtain housing is lamps. If you have lamps that need a new home, please get them to

Kay Bunch. Thanks.

## Christian Education

Children, Youth, and Adult classes will begin again on Sunday, September 9.

## August Calendar



Check the website:

<http://cofchstrm.org/FortCollins/>

- Aug. 1: Worship Coordinators, 3:00 p.m.  
Leadership Council, 4:00 p.m.
- Aug. 5: Worship, 10:00 a.m.  
Communion Sunday  
First Sunday Giving
- Aug. 9: Take-Away Lunch volunteers at  
Murphy Center, 10:00–noon
- Aug. 12: NewWestFest  
No Services
- Aug. 19: Worship, 10:00 a.m.  
Second-Sunday Offering  
**Annual Picnic, 5:00 p.m.**  
**Communicator** items due.
- Aug. 25: Saturday Morning Homeless Breakfast  
(All are welcome to come by and help.)
- Aug. 26: Worship, 10:00 a.m.

## Just a Reminder

Anyone is welcome to come and participate in any of the monthly meetings of the Leadership Council. If you would like to be on the email reminder list, please notify Rich Kohlman.

## August Birthdays



Madie Birks	08/15
Kurt Remmenga	08/16
Keenan Fronapfel	08/19
John Garner	08/20
Sierra Bridwell	08/26
Ken Jones	08/26
Allister Garner	08/26

# Financial Report



## Speakers, Planners, Keyboard, Greeters, and Nursery

### June Income

#### World Church

Use where needed most	\$3,278.00
Abolish Poverty/End Suffering	245.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,523.00</b>

#### Local

Local Operating	\$2,920.00
Building Fund	635.00
Two-Cents-a-Meal	83.80
Family Assistance	75.00
Youth Fund	865.00
Narcotics Anonymous Pledge	90.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,668.80</b>

—Gary and Ruth Chatburn, CFO

### Speakers

- ❖ Aug. 5: Stephanie Gustave
- ❖ Aug. 12: No Services
- ❖ Aug. 19: Rich Kohlman
- ❖ Aug. 26: TBD

### Planners

- ❖ Aug. 5: Nancy Miller
- ❖ Aug. 12: No Services
- ❖ Aug. 19: Jean Newman
- ❖ Aug. 26: Mary Kohlman

### Keyboard

- ❖ Aug. 5: Kay Bunch
- ❖ Aug. 12: No Services
- ❖ Aug. 19: Sharon Fulton
- ❖ Aug. 26: Deb Friesz

### Greeters

- ❖ August: Joyce Jordeth and Kathy Bridwell

### Nursery

- ❖ Aug. 5: Marilyn Garner
- ❖ Aug. 12: No Services
- ❖ Aug. 19: Marta Remmenga
- ❖ Aug. 26: Sharon Fulton

## Fort Collins Congregation Operating Offerings 2017 Disciples' Generous Response

Month	Total World Operating	Local Operating	Total Operating Giving
January	2,574.04	3,033.55	5,607.59
February	2,584.95	2,650.39	5,235.34
March	2,667.00	3,309.30	5,976.30
April	3,030.74	3,364.31	6,395.05
May	2,618.00	4,093.00	6,711.00
June	3,523.00	2,920.00	6,443.00
July			-
August			-
September			-
October			-
November			-
December			-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 16,997.73</b>	<b>\$ 19,370.55</b>	<b>\$ 36,368.28</b>
<b>Balance</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>53%</b>	



## August Social

### *Picnic in the Park*

**Sunday, August 19, 6:00–8:00 p.m.  
at City Park Shelter #7**

#### **Included:**



Hamburgers, hotdogs, condiments, chips, drink, table service, and homemade ice cream will be provided.

**Please bring** a salad or side dish to share.

**Entertainment** this year will include FUN for one and all! A number of games and activities will be set up outside of the shelter. It is also suspected that a lot of chatting will take place. Feel free to invite your family and friends to join us at this annual congregation event.

The City Park outdoor pool, Sheldon Lake, and the trolley are very close in proximity to the shelter house. Your family might want to include taking advantage of swimming, fishing, or trolley riding during the afternoon before the picnic.

**Directions:** From the intersection of Mulberry and College Ave., drive west on W. Mulberry St., past Shields, and turn right onto Sheldon Dr. Continue straight as far as the stop sign, and then turn left onto City Park Dr. Find shelter house #7 on the right just past the pool area.

**RSVP by Tuesday, August 14, to Sharon Fulton (970) 484-6943 or Donna Clark (970) 484-8009**

**Don't forget BUG SPRAY and SUNSCREEN.**



## *New West Fest – August 10-12, 2018*

New West Fest is just right around the corner. We are still in need of volunteers for the Saturday afternoon and Sunday afternoon time periods. If you are planning to help, please sign up as soon as possible. If we are unable to get enough volunteers, we may have to close our facility earlier than planned each day. If you have any questions, please contact this year's New West Fest coordinators, Gary and Ruth Chatburn.

### *From Your Facilities Management Team*

#### **Building Ventilation:**

We have met with Poudre Valley Air regarding the building air quality and ventilation. They have responded with several ideas for us to take a look at in order to resolve our issues. We hope to have a recommendation in the near future for the congregation to consider.

#### **Building Air-Conditioning:**

Not all areas of our building are air-conditioned. Due to our summers being somewhat warmer now, some of the areas of our building are beginning to be uncomfortable for meetings and classes due to the heat. One area under consideration for the installation of air-conditioning is the Upper Room classroom, Office, Library, and Joy classroom.

We are also trying to be proactive with our existing air-conditioning systems so we are not caught short on a hot summer day. The current air-conditioning compressors for the sanctuary and basement areas are operating beyond their life expectancy. Cost estimates are being assembled along with recommendations on how to proceed.

#### **Courtyard Building:**

We were finally able to get a qualified foundation contractor to come to our property



to evaluate the Courtyard Building structure. While onsite, he also reviewed the engineering report that we had performed and offered some alternatives to the report based on the experience of their foundation engineers. A proposal and quote to perform the work will be developed and sent to the Facilities Management Team for review and consideration.

### *Notes from the CFO's Desk*

**Youth Camps and IYF/Spectacular:** We want to say thank you for your extra support of our youth and their activities. Sufficient funds were received to meet the congregation's support of our youth for their summer activities.

**Narcotics Anonymous Support Fund:** We also want to say thank you to those that have donated or pledged financial support to the Narcotics Anonymous Support Fund. We are currently on track to meet our goal for 2018.

**Contribution Receipts:** Distribution of mid-year contribution receipts will begin at the end of July 2018. If you have any questions regarding your receipt, please contact Ruth Chatburn.

## Ordination of Max Coopwood to the Office of Deacon



## Saying Goodbye to the Ballantynes

