



Community of Christ

# The Communicator

## Perfection...

I hope you had a wonderful Christmas Season!

Now that it's over, we have a chance to sit back and review 2009. Our congregation lost several members that will be deeply missed. Pastor Sharon is into her second year. Additional Sunday classes are in progress. Special WOW Worship and Enneagram workshops were held. We opened our doors to the Homeless Day Shelter. Our youth took part in 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday activities. We are growing in numbers, and became a WCN Welcoming congregation. We have accomplished a great deal this past year!

With 2010 upon us, it is also important to make plans for our future. Where do we want to be at the end of 2010? 2011? And beyond? Many times, we choose to make those dreaded New Year Resolutions. They lump our entire goal into one big, indistinct, often unachievable "thing" that looms over us every day. And then we forget about them come February or March.

A better approach is to set smaller goals. Like taking a bite of the apple instead of the entire fruit. Just invite one friend to a second Sunday Social. Save your loose change and put that extra \$5 or \$10 in the First Sunday Oblation and Two-cents-a-meal. Something simple we can actually live with.

Sometimes those goals push us towards perfection but we shouldn't try to be perfect in our daily lives. In a note from Jan Kraybill was included this from Paul Vasile: "As much as folks in the church (and outside the church) like to project an image of having it together, of confidence and skill, we are human. We make

mistakes, we forget important details, the flowers are a little crooked, words get misspelled or mispronounced, a singer in the choir misses a cut-off. Thankfully church isn't about getting it right but it's a place where we can be ourselves, where there is the grace to start over again if we've gotten off on the wrong foot, where we can celebrate that we are fully-loved, imperfectly beautiful people. I'm not saying that we shouldn't strive for our best or be sloppy but that when mistakes and imperfections do happen, we can approach them in a spirit of grace and love, with a relieved laugh, and thank God that we're not perfect and neither is anyone else. Thanks be to God!"

## Make space for imperfection.

Debbie Jones



## January Birthdays

Sierra Jones	01/01
Julie Foster	01/03
Glenn Smith	01/04
Laurie Stone	01/08
Brian Cole	01/09
Greyson Garner	01/11
Donna Miller	01/13
David Garner	01/18
Nancy Mendenhall	01/19
Sharon Fulton	01/19
Warren Williams	01/21
Bonnie Oberoi	01/26
Bob Fulton	01/29
Jessica Julch	01/29

## January Calendar



**January 3<sup>rd</sup>:** First Sunday Giving

**January 6<sup>th</sup>:** The Upper Room at 9:30 a.m.

**January 6<sup>th</sup>:** Worship Coordinators Team Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

**January 7<sup>th</sup>:** Afternoon Women's Group

**January 10<sup>th</sup>:** 2 Cents a Meal

**January 10<sup>th</sup>:** Second Sunday Social at 5 p.m.

**January 13<sup>th</sup>:** The Upper Room at 9:30 a.m.

**January 14<sup>th</sup>:** Leadership Team Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

**January 15<sup>th</sup>:** Friday Morning Breakfast Club will meet at Perkins at 8:30 a.m.

**January 17<sup>th</sup>:** Communicator items are due

**January 20<sup>th</sup>:** The Upper Room at 9:30 a.m.

**January 27<sup>th</sup>:** The Upper Room at 9:30 a.m.

**January 31<sup>st</sup>:** 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Forum

## The Communicator

### BE GREEN!

The full-color version of the communicator is available [online](#). Please consider receiving your communicator by e-mail to cut down printing cost and save trees.



**The congregation would like to express their gratitude to Joyce Jordeth for many great issues of "We Saw It in the Paper".**

## We Saw It in the Paper!



Spellbinders Oral Storytellers of Larimer County named Joan Green and Dottie White its Storytellers of the Year. Joan also received a Making a Difference Award. Joan is a storyteller for Johnson Elementary third graders.

Beverly Doig will be teaching a workshop on Feng Shui starting April 3, at the Senior Center.

The Church was one of the churches receiving a "thumbs up" for participating in the Fort Collins Crop Hunger Walk.

The wedding picture of Darin and Erin (Heyse) Slocum was published. They were married May 16. Darin is the son of Larry and Thelma Slocum.

Jennie Russell, teacher at Cache LaPoudre Middle School wrote an article on the value of small schools to the community. She reassured everyone that their campus will not be closing.

The art work of Randy Pijoan is on display at Lloyd's Art Center.

The December Herald announced the retirement of Richard Kohlman on September 1<sup>st</sup>.

Robin Linkhart wrote an article on the work of DeziRae Astle and her husband, Nefi Hernandez for the December Herald.

It has been fun scouring the papers for familiar names and putting together this article. But, now that I'm trying to eliminate stress and get over the dizzy spells, I'm giving up my church duties. May I suggest that if anyone sees an item of interest, they clip it out or write it up and give it to those who prepare the communicator. That way we can continue to hear about the good and fun things being done by members of our faith community.

-Joyce Jordeth

## Offerings

### OCTOBER - World

World Ministries	\$1,113.00
Oblation	230.00
World Hunger	165.00

### OCTOBER - Local

Local offerings	\$3,218.17
Building Fund	15.00
2 Cents a Meal	56.00
Family Assistance	35.00

### NOVEMBER - World

World Ministries	\$1,440.00
Oblation	338.00
World Hunger	180.00

### NOVEMBER - Local

Local offerings	\$3,155.00
Building Fund	15.00
2 Cents a Meal	95.00
Family Assistance	190.00
Bazaar Income to date	10.00



**We are looking for a volunteer to continue Joyce's great work preparing "We Saw It in the Paper". Please contact a Leadership Team Member if you would like to volunteer.**

**Thank you.**

## The Upper Room – For Our Inner Room

### A weekly Spiritual Formation Group

Beginning Wednesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30 a.m., a new small group ministry will begin. In recent years we've heard a lot about spiritual disciplines, and many of us acknowledge a growing hunger for a closer relationship with God. Most of us realize that in order for our spiritual hunger to be fed, it requires designated time for our "spiritual practices". You are invited to participate in what we are calling **The Upper for Our Inner Room**, by taking one hour a week to reflect together on our spiritual growth through daily use of **The Upper Room Disciplines: A Book of Daily Devotions**.

This group will offer time for silence, prayer, and scriptural reflection, but will do this in a casual setting where we can share together informally, about our spiritual lives. No one is an expert, and we'll share in facilitation. All that is required is an open mind, and a desire to be shaped more fully into the likeness of Jesus Christ. Bring an open mind, and don't stay away if you haven't yet ordered a book! We can still do that. Depending on the size of our group, we'll determine where best in the church we want to meet. We considered meeting during a weekday evening, but more folks were interested in a daytime group. We offer our apologies to those of you unable to join us at this time! We look forward to seeing you January 6<sup>th</sup>!

---Dave Simons and Sharon Troyer



## WHAT NEXT?

Now that we have voted to become a Welcoming Community Network

congregation – what's next? A couple of housekeeping tasks are being addressed by the WCN Group (*symbol or words on our sign to let the community know as well as displaying our covenant of welcome in several places in our building facility*). Then there is continuing education about diversity and how we can be a positive force for good in our community.

As a WCN congregation we want to encourage other congregations that are on a similar journey. We also want to help our worldwide church become welcoming and inclusive. A good starting place is being aware of the legislation that is coming before the world conference in April (one of which had its beginning here and was passed at the RMMC conference).

All the upcoming legislation will be published in the Herald and on the world church website (by January 4). As members of a WCN congregation we will want to be familiar with those resolutions involving inclusiveness and equality for all marginalized people. If you are a delegate, or know delegates to the world conference; share with them your support of those resolutions that promote the worth of all persons and seek justice for all.

We should be so proud to be the first WCN congregation in our mission center and yet humble enough to realize we are just at the beginning of our journey. May the New Year be one of joy, challenges, and growth.

