



Fort Collins, Colorado

June 2010

The Communicator

All Things Made New

Greetings from Your Pastor

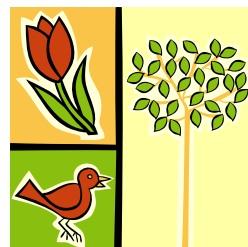
With warmer weather finally here, I recently planted tomato plants in large pots outside my condominium door. This year I have four tomato plants, located where they get lots of sun; they are now thriving with close to ten tomatoes already set! But there's a catch. I never know if there are enough bees in my neighborhood to pollinate the blossoms, so I learned from my father—who was a master gardener—that if I spray the tender blossoms with something called “Tomato Set,” they produce fruit generously! I think there's an analogy here. When we regularly apply large doses of unconditional acceptance and love in our interactions with others, our relationships flourish. The Master Gardener, our Creator, lavishes the light of love on us in countless ways. If we let our gratitude take the shape of loving others, we experience the “peaceable kingdom” or reign of God NOW!

And speaking of being grateful, I am definitely that! I was greatly blessed to have Debbie Jones serve as my counselor during the first half of my three-year contract as your pastor. I affirmed her decision to step down from that role and was so glad we could thank her by presenting the beautiful signature quilt you all helped create! We know Debbie and Gary will continue to share their many gifts in countless other ways within our congregation.

In the meantime, our congregation will be blessed by prayerful decisions made by **Gary**

Gordier and Kay Bunch to serve as my new counselors. Though you all know that Gary Gordier continues to seek employment, he decided to “plant his feet” more firmly in Fort Collins by agreeing to share his gifts in this way, all the while knowing that he and Peggy “could” need to relocate. Both Gary and Kay bring rich backgrounds of church service. Though the Bunches are retired and want to continue to enjoy freedom to be out of town, I know I can turn to Kay and Gary for counsel in ways that will enrich our congregation.

On June 27, we will conclude the month-long special ministry of Shandra Newcom by having a special Communion service. We are asking **all priesthood to meet together at 9 a.m. that day. They are invited to think about how they felt when first ordained and how their testimony of God's love has grown since that time.** Priesthood, come prepared that day to hear each other **share a current sense of call.** Consider what brings you the greatest sense of joy in life. For all of us, **when we identify our heart's greatest desires, it is often right where God is desiring us.** Let's prayerfully plant seeds of peace in ministry together for the month of June!





June Worship Series Planned

To begin our month series of worship services, the worship team for June is coordinating efforts with our Mission Developer, Shandra Newcom. The first Sunday, June 6, will be a contemplative worship service in the style of Taizé, something we have done in the past with favorable feedback. Our traditional Communion service is planned for the last Sunday of the month as a culmination worship experience.

Be prepared to become recharged in a calm atmosphere of reflective meditation, personal and communal prayer, music, scripture, and silence as we seek God and bask in the Divine presence. The service will be held in a candlelit environment with a focus on meditative music from instrumentalists, vocal soloists, and congregational singing. Expect periods of silence for personal reflection and times for active participation in candle lighting, meditative singing, and, for the children, coloring mandalas—a meditative coloring experience.

Bring your family and friends for this unique worship time.

—Tom Beck

Mission Journey



Greetings, friends. What an honor it has been to be invited to journey with your congregation over the next year or so. As you may know, the Fort Collins congregation is responding to God's call to be a missional community, and I get to be a part of that process. I feel so blessed to be able to create and nurture relationships with you, and I look forward to our upcoming year together.

The journey has already begun, as God is already at work in you and through you. Part of our time together will be listening for the yearnings of God for the Fort Collins congregation. We will be discerning God's call in a variety of ways. Our first time together will be in June. I will be sharing in worship with you each Sunday in the month of June as we "dwell in the word" together. We will be listening to scripture and hearing the voice of God through God's word for our time. Our first service will be June 6, and it will be a contemplative worship. During each service there will be activities for our children and youth. They are an important part of our process! In addition, on the second and fourth Sundays, you are invited to join me for lunch at the church. We will be having a potluck on June 13, so bring a dish and come ready to share food and stories.

I look forward to a good time of connecting, learning, and listening. I believe that God, who is always with us, will be in our midst and that the Spirit has a desire for us to live God's mission in the world. Let's come together in June and begin a process of discerning how we, as a congregation, can respond to that call in our lives, the life of the Fort Collins congregation, and the life of the broader community. See you then!

—Shandra Newcom

WEAVERS



New Standing Committee Appointed

A new standing committee has been appointed to replace the WCN committee as previously announced. The committee is named **WEAVERS**, which is an acronym for:

Welcoming all,

Educating ourselves about the marginalized,

Accepting our giftedness,

Visioning for peace and justice,

Exploring the spirit of diversity,

Responding to our community, and

Serving all.

The committee's responsibility will be to help us more fully live out our covenant of welcome within the community of Fort Collins. Members of the committee are: Dick Foster, Jon Mendenhall, Max Coopwood, Tom Beck, Sharon Troyer, Shirley Remmenga, and Rich and Mary Kohlman, serving as co-chairs. Please contact any member of the committee with ideas and opportunities as we strive to flesh-out our covenant of welcome.

Directory Update



Carrie Newman

1407 Glen Haven Dr.
Fort Collins, CO 80526-2405
Cell Phone: (970)391-4962

Financial Report



April Income

World Church

World Ministries	\$1,162.50
Oblation	431.50
World Hunger	216.75
World Conference	15.00

Local

Local Offering	\$3,240.25
Building Fund	48.00
2 Cents a meal	29.00
Family Assistance	74.00
Bazaar	5.00
(which is added to the Building Fund)	
Campership	136.00
Mission Center Conference	5.00

—Betty Jones, CFO

Thank You, Debbie!

During the May 23 worship service, Debbie Jones was presented with a quilt signed by many of the congregation. The quilt was a gift from the congregation and Pastor Sharon Troyer for Debbie's service as her counselor.



l to r: Judy Wallace-Petty, Kay Adams, and Judy Scott, were the quilters.

Second Sunday Socials



June 13: Volleyball and Root Beer Floats
5:00 p.m.

July 11: Annual Picnic
Coordinators, Sharon Fulton and Pat Miner

June Birthdays



Scott Watkins	06/02
Oceana Alcoser	06/04
Kate Ytell	06/09
Don Struble	06/09
Katie Watkins	06/12
Cash Robinson	06/14
Gary Jones	06/17
Ben Swall-Yarrington	06/19
Matt Jackson	06/19
Bonnie Thomas	06/20
Les Cunningham	06/21
Wanda Florom	06/21
Marc McKenzie	06/26
Max Coopwood	06/29

August Glacier View Reunion

The August Glacier View Reunion will held August 4–8. Shandra Newcom would like to encourage as many members of the congregation who can, to plan to attend this reunion. Additional details for this reunion can be found at the Rocky Mountain Mission Center Web site, <http://cofchistrm.org>.

Spirit in the Park



“Infinite Expressions, One Community”

June 5 at Civic Center Park, corner of Howes and Laporte

8:30–9:00 a.m. Meditation

9:00–9:50 a.m. Service (3 speakers and Northern Harmony Chorale performing)

9:50 a.m. Closing prayer

9:55–10:30 a.m. Dances of Universal Peace, led by Sára Rain, and drum circle

Keyboard, Greeters, and Nursery Schedules



Keyboard:

- ❖ June 6: Sharon Fulton
- ❖ June 13: Kay Bunch
- ❖ June 20: Sharon Troyer
- ❖ June 27: Tom Beck

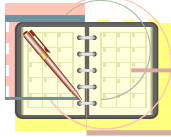
Greeters:

- ❖ June: Nancy and Logan Miller

Nursery:

- ❖ June 6: Voni Simons
- ❖ June 13: Pat Miner
- ❖ June 20: Nancy Miller
- ❖ June 27: Debbie Jones

June Calendar



Check the Web site

<http://cofchstrm.org/FortCollins>

- June 2: *Upper Room*, 9:30 a.m.
Worship Coordinators, 7:00 p.m.
- June 9: *Upper Room*, 9:30 a.m.
Prayer Shawl Group, 1:30 p.m.
- June 13: Business Meeting after church and
potluck.
Second Sunday Social, volleyball and
root beer floats.
- June 16: *Upper Room*, 9:30 a.m.
- June 17: Leadership Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- June 18: Friday Morning Breakfast Club
meets at Perkins, 8:30 a.m.
- June 20: *Communicator* items due.
- June 23: *Upper Room*, 9:30 a.m.
- June 27: Communion Service
- June 30: *Upper Room*, 9:30 a.m.

Homeless Gear

In the eight years I have been working with the homeless in Fort Collins, I have unfortunately seen members of the homeless community die of exposure each year and numerous others suffer from frostbite that ultimately led to loss of fingers, toes, feet, and even legs. However, this winter we have seen a significant reduction of those suffering from hypothermia and frostbite. Even more important, we did not lose a single individual to exposure this winter, and I believe this is a direct result of programs like Homeless Gear. Homeless Gear enables us to make sure that the people we work with everyday have at least the bare essentials to stay alive. While I have no way of knowing exactly how many lives have been saved by Homeless Gear, I have no doubt that their

efforts have spared countless people the suffering of frostbite and potentially death.

—Zachary Penland

B.A. program supervisor
The Murphy Center

Homeless Gear Needs

Volunteer help:

- ✓ REI Collection Day: First Saturday of every month
- ✓ Gear, Clothing, Hygiene Donations Group Sorting: First Tuesday evening and 4th Saturday morning
- ✓ Distributions: Children and Families—Second Saturday, Adults—Third Thursday



We specifically need the following items to help meet the needs of the homeless *adults* and *children* that we serve. If you have any of these items or could do a drive for these things within a group in which you are affiliated, that would be terrific!

- ✓ Jeans
- ✓ Tennis Shoes
- ✓ Sunscreen
- ✓ Diapers (size 4 or larger)
- ✓ Diaper Wipes
- ✓ Deodorant
- ✓ Disposable Razors

Thanks for everything you are doing. Together we are making a difference!

—Ken John, www.HomelessGear.com

Christian Education Program



The congregation has been blessed by a very active Children's Christian Education Program this year. The children have learned about Jesus and their own special relationship with Him and the community through lovingly prepared lessons in their weekly classes. They have also learned to glorify God through special activities such as Fourth Sunday projects, the Christmas program, Bell Choir, and Children's Sabbath. Finally, many children have been mentored to participate in worship services where we have all been blessed.

A huge thank-you goes out to our classroom teachers, many of whom have also provided leadership in other activities. These would include Marilyn Garner, Debbie Jones, Shauna Clark, Nancy Miller, Sharon Fulton, Tom Beck, Gil Pagat, Mary Kohlman, and Max Coopwood. Fourth-Sunday guidance was provided by Bill and Pat Miner and Rick and Kay Bunch. Teacher assistants, who cheerfully provided an extra set of hands, were Betty Miller, Marta Remmenga, Jon Ytell, Rose Julch, Max Coopwood, Donna Clark, Shirley Remmenga, Julie Foster, Voni Simons, Bob Fulton, Gary Jones, and Sharon Fulton.

The commitment to our young people continues on with a more-condensed summer program provided each week during the church-school hour.

—Sharon Fulton

Upper Room



The *Upper Room* gathering is a wonderful once-a-week experience. We are diversified in our Bible study backgrounds. We discuss, compare, and encourage one another as we find deeper meaning to the daily scripture messages. There is love and respect as participants share ideas. Each week we leave refreshed, creating the desire to return the next week. Come join us. Can't meet at this time but would like to share in a similar experience? Contact Pastor Sharon Troyer.

—Shari Smith

Kudos



Gabriel and Shawnea Pagat participated in the Fort Collins Country Club Satellite Junior Tennis Tournament on May 22–23, 2010. Gabriel won two matches on his way to the finals. He finished in second place having to go to three sets (7–5, 3–6, 3–6) to decide the outcome. He received a second place trophy. Shawnea also won two matches on her way to the finals and finished first with the score 6–0 and 6–2 and won the first place trophy. Gabriel played in the boys' 12s, and Shawnea played in the girls' 12s.

Fort Collins Interfaith Council Awards—**Les Cunningham** received the award for community volunteer.

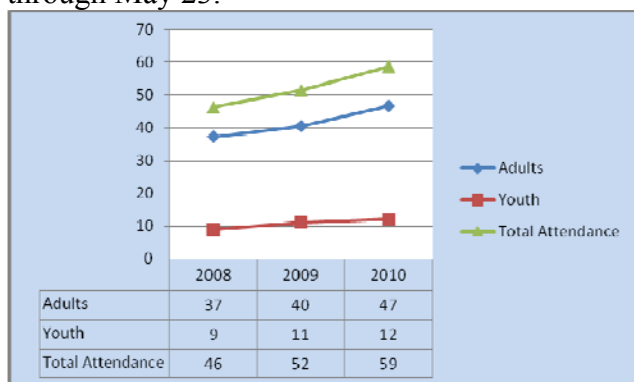
World Conference Offering



The goal for the 2010 World Conference offering was \$135,000. The Presiding Bishopric would like to say thank you to all the Saints who participated in exceeding the goal with an offering of \$252,852.

Church Attendance Report

Below is a chart showing the average attendance over the last 3 years. 2010 is through May 23.



The Mothers Say Thank You!

About 20 or so mothers and others attended the annual Mothers Day Brunch on May 8. A wonderful meal was served even though the food took longer than anticipated. The thermometer on the stove was not accurate, reported the cooks and helpers. A big thanks especially to Gary Jones, John Garner, and David Garner for heading up the cooking. Also helping were Gary Gordier, Bill Miner, and Rich Kohlman, and a few others pitched in as well.



Radical welcome is the spiritual practice of embracing and being changed by the gifts, presence, voices, and power of The Other: the people systemically cast out of or marginalized within a church, a denomination and/or society. . . Radical welcome is concerned with the transformation and opening of individual hearts, congregations and systems so that The Other might find in your community a warm place and a mutual embrace *and* so that you are finally free to embrace and be transformed by authentic relationship with the margins.

—*Radical Welcome*. Stephanie Spellers, pg. 6.

Community of Christ



220 East Oak Street
Fort Collins, CO 80524

First Class
Stamp Here

Mailing Label Here