



The Communicator

“Becoming an Inclusive Community”



Ft. Collins Community of Christ says a big THANK YOU to Lindsay Melsen from Lambda Community Center for facilitating the workshop, “*Building an Inclusive Community*” for our Fifth Sunday Forum on January 30th! Lindsay invited us to share how we feel when we encounter words like “pity,” “tolerance,” and “acceptance.” Participants shared that being pitied is not a good feeling, and that self-pity is also self-defeating. Lindsey helped us realize that even the word “acceptance” sometimes comes with an unspoken “but.” “I accept you, but...” does not feel welcoming. It became clear that, even though we want to be intentionally welcoming to those often marginalized because of race, ethnic background, social status, sexual orientation, marital status—to name just a few—it is normal to sometimes feel awkward.

Lindsay also helped us see the importance of examining underlying attitudes. In order to truly “embrace” each person as a person of worth, we learned that first embracing our need to change helps a lot! Perfection is not required, and, of course, we don’t want to “walk on eggshells” to never make mistakes.

The encouraging outcome was that there was a desire for further discussion and many statements of gratitude for the opportunity to learn more about becoming truly inclusive!

The workshop was followed by a brief devotion where we turned to scripture to experience some of the attitudes Jesus expressed in what are called “the beatitudes.” Dave Simons and Shari Smith read ancient and contemporary versions of how Jesus described being blessed, found in Matthew’s Sermon on the Mount. Hopefully, we will treat ourselves to the same kind of tune-up we give our cars if they are to serve us well. Looking to see what Jesus said and did proved to be a “scriptural tune-up!”

—Sharon Troyer, pastor



Homeless Gear Volunteers Needed

We serve as many as 400+ homeless and near homeless children and their families in our community and we are in need of volunteers to help in a variety of ways. We have been told over and over that families love our program because their children can be involved as well! We welcome young volunteers with parental supervision.

Positions Available

Personal shoppers, Spanish interpreters, haulers/runners, product tables, check-out.

Homeless Gear is looking for a volunteer (or two) who is available during the weekday to run errands. This could include: making product pick-ups in Fort Collins and Loveland or other pick-up and deliveries as they become necessary.

If you are interested, please send me an e-mail at the address below and put **RUNNING ERRANDS** in the subject line.

Product Sorting

Every month Homeless Gear is blessed with a large amount of donations delivered to the Murphy Center. On the second Tuesday of each month we have a sorting event to sort through and organize all of these donations.

This is a great opportunity for small groups and individuals who only have evenings available or a limited amount of time to volunteer.

If you are interested in helping with our sorting, please send me an e-mail at the address below and put **TUESDAY SORT** in the subject line.

Homeless Gear relies heavily on our many dedicated and generous volunteers. If you know anyone interested in becoming a part of our volunteer team, please consider forwarding this newsletter.

Liability/Release Forms:

All volunteers **MUST** have a completed Liability Form on file.

Sincerely,

Eileen Corbiere
Volunteer Coordinator
Homeless Gear
eileen@homelessgear.org



Stolen Television Returned

"I was raised a Christian and fell away from God for what seems like too long. I started stealing and one night I got really drunk, broke into your church, and stole your television. I felt no remorse for this action for a long time, but since then, have somehow, through God's grace and forgiveness, come back to him and have given my life back to him completely. The Holy Spirit woke me up tonight and told me to take this television back to your church, so I followed what I was told. I am sincerely sorry for what I have done and for the financial costs that might have been put onto you. May God bless all you do and his will be done in your lives."

—Anonymous



Herald-in-Every-Home Program

Our congregation participates in this program. It is paid for out of the congregation Operating Fund. If you would like to support this program and the budget, consider giving \$26.50 beyond your regular offering. Identify it as *Herald* in Every Home. Thank you.



Second-Sunday Social

The Red Heart dinner will be held February 13 at 5:00 p.m. at the church.



Congregational Retreat

February 25–27, 2011

Following the Spirit:

An Adventure on Common Ground

Save this date! Dave Schaal, a member of the First Presidency, has adjusted his calendar to be with us during our retreat.

We will begin on Friday night at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall with a pizza dinner and will end on Sunday morning at noon. Breakfast will be served on both Saturday and Sunday mornings. Meals will also be provided for Saturday noon and evening.

The Brighton congregation will be providing the service for our meals and assisting with some youth activities so every member of the congregation will be freed to attend the retreat.

We are looking forward to a meaningful experience as we continue to discover a sense of both individual and corporate mission.

We will be using Doctrine and Covenants 161:1b for our activity focus.

“Claim your unique and sacred place within the circle of those who call upon the name of Jesus Christ. Be faithful to the spirit of the Restoration, mindful that it is a spirit of adventure, openness, and searching. Walk proudly and with a quickened step. Be a joyful people. Laugh and play and sing, embodying the hope and freedom of the gospel.”

We look forward to seeing you at the retreat!

February Birthdays



Marcia Wood	02/02
Susanna Garner	02/04
Hoss Davis	02/05
Jacee Davis	02/05
Marie Ytell	02/05
Donna Palmer	02/06
Don Worthington	02/10
Brett McKenzie	02/14
Janny Kay McKenzie	02/16
Gene Bridwell	02/17
Jean Newman	02/19
Teri Bridwell	02/20
Marcia Bridwell	02/22
Joyce Worthington	02/24



Upper Room Study Group

Meets Every Wednesday, 9:30 a.m.

This open group invites people to participate in a discussion where we share thoughts on our daily meditations. We use *The Upper Room Disciplines: A Book of Daily Devotions* as our study guide. Participants enjoy an exchange of ideas that vary from quiet, humble thoughts to creative, more expressive ideas! We listen to each other's interpretations, always with respect. Often we share personal experiences inspired by our daily devotional and scripture readings.

There is no requirement for “perfect attendance” every week; participants attend as they are able and according to their own schedules. As we complete our Upper Room Study Group for 2010, we are looking forward

to beginning 2011! **We've ordered a few extra books. Do you want to join us?** How about helping set up an evening group that might work for those without daytime flexibility? Contact Shari Smith, Sharon Troyer, or Rich Kohlman for more information.

Financial Report



December Income

World Church

World Ministries	\$1,450.00
Oblation	393.00
World Hunger	120.00
Total	\$1,963.00

Local

Local Offering	\$5088.96
Building Fund/Bazaar	44.00
2 Cents a Meal	61.50
Family Assistance	70.00
Christmas Dinner	68.00
Rockies Family Camp	10.00
Total	\$ 5,342.46

January Income

World Church

World Ministries	\$1,507.00
Oblation	245.00
World Hunger	165.00
Total	\$1,917.00

Local

Local Offering	\$3,120.00
Building Fund/Bazaar	53.00
2 Cents a Meal	46.50
Family Assistance	60.00
Pancake Breakfast	89.00
Total	\$3,368.50

—Betty Jones, CFO



Names in the News

Our congregation is being used as an emergency shelter, First Night venue
Carrie Newman is hired as executive director of the Fort Collins Symphony.
Rick and Kay Bunch are in the Graceland University *Horizons* magazine

Speakers, Keyboard, Greeters, and Nursery Schedules



Speakers

- ❖ February 6: Shirley Remmenga
- ❖ February 13: Testimonies
- ❖ February 20: David Nii
- ❖ February 27: Dave Schaal

Keyboard

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

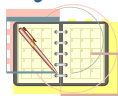
Greeters

- ❖ February: Lee Cook and Voni Simons

Nursery

- ❖ February 6: Marta Remmenga
- ❖ February 13: Bonnie Thomas
- ❖ February 20: Bill and Pat Miner
- ❖ February 27: Lisa Garner

February Calendar



Check the website

<http://cofchristrm.org/FortCollins>

- Feb. 2: *Upper Room*, 9:30 a.m.
Senior Meal Site, 11:45 a.m.
Worship Coordinators Meeting,
10:30 a.m.
- Feb. 6: Communion
First-Sunday Giving
- Feb. 9: *Upper Room*, 9:30 a.m.
Senior Meal Site, 11:45 a.m.
Prayer Shawl Group, 1:30 p.m.
- Feb. 10: Afternoon Women's Group,
1:00 p.m.
- Feb. 11: Senior Meal Site, 11:45 a.m.
- Feb. 13: Two-Cents-a-Meal Offering
- Feb. 16: *Upper Room*, 9:30 a.m.
Senior Meal Site, 11:45 a.m.
- Feb. 17: Leadership Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- Feb. 18: Friday Morning Breakfast Club,
8:30 a.m.
Senior Meal Site, 11:45 a.m.
- Feb. 20: *Communicator* items due.
- Feb. 23: *Upper Room*, 9:30 a.m.
Senior Meal Site, 11:45 a.m.
- Feb. 25: Senior Meal Site, 11:45 a.m.
- Feb. 25–27: Congregational Retreat

Many people are hungry not for bread only, but they are hungry for ... love. Many people are not only naked for want of a piece of cloth, but they are naked for human dignity ... Homelessness is not only not having a home made of bricks, but homelessness is being rejected, unwanted, unloved, uncared for. People have forgotten what the human touch is, what it is to smile, for somebody to smile at them, somebody to recognize them, somebody to wish them well.

—Mother Teresa



Community of Christ Hosted The Interfaith Council

Our congregation had the privilege of hosting the Fort Collins Interfaith Council twice in January. Pastor Sharon Troyer welcomed the council and shared some information about our church and the ways we are trying to live out the call of Christ in the Fort Collins community.



Be Green

If you are receiving this newsletter by e-mail, thank you! If you are receiving a printed copy and do have e-mail, please consider receiving it by e-mail instead. Not only will you receive it in beautiful color, but you will be saving the congregation between \$.50 and \$.75: the cost of mailing, ink, paper, and labor. It's good stewardship for the earth and for the congregation. And, if you receive it by e-mail and need it printed, you can always print it on your printer and still save money for the congregation.

Thanks for your consideration.

Contact Rich Kohlman:

rkohlman@comcast.net to change to e-mail delivery.

CONGREGATIONAL ADVENTURE REGISTRATION

Please complete, detach, and return by **February 20, 2011**.

Return to congregation office or Rich Kohlman, administrative assistant.

“Following the Spirit: An Adventure on Common Ground”

DAILY SCHEDULE

Adults: _____

Address: _____

Phone _____

Special needs: (meals, transportation, etc.) _____

Children:

Name: _____ **Age** _____ **Grade in School** _____

Name: _____ **Age** _____ **Grade in School** _____

Name: _____ **Age** _____ **Grade in School** _____

Name: _____ **Age** _____ **Grade in School** _____

We'll Be Eating:

Friday Evening Pizza: Yes _____ No _____

Saturday Breakfast: Ye: _____ No _____

Saturday Lunch: Yes _____ No _____

Saturday Dinner: Yes _____ No _____

FRIDAY

6:00–7:00 p.m.

7:00–8:00 p.m.

8:00–8:15 p.m.

8:15–9:00 p.m.

9:00– ? p.m.

Pizza, Registration, Nametags

Community Building

Break

"Meet the Press"-ident

Afterglow (Visiting for those who want to stay and chat.)

SATURDAY

8:30–9:00 a.m.

9:15–noon

12:00–1:00 p.m.

1:00–2:30 p.m.

2:30–2:45 p.m.

2:45–4:00 p.m.

4:00–5:30 p.m.

5:30–6:30 p.m.

6:45–8:00 p.m.

8:15–9:00 p.m.

9:00– ? p.m.

Breakfast

Appreciative Inquiry Activity with "Individual" Focus

Lunch

(Youth will meet with David Schaal.)
"Stories of Community and Mission"

Break

Continuation of "Stories of Community and Mission"

Free Time/Sharing

Dinner

Line-Dancing with Voni Simons

Campfire with Shandra

Afterglow (Visiting for those who want to stay and chat.)

SUNDAY

9:30–10:30 a.m.

10:45–noon

Light Breakfast/Emmaus Meal

Closing Worship with David Schaal



220 East Oak Street
Fort Collins, CO 80524

First Class
Stamp Here

Mailing Label Here