



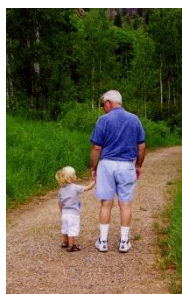
# *The Communicator*

## **"Lift Up Mine Eyes"**

—Rick Bunch

**Vision and Mission Ministries Pastor**

"I will lift up mine eyes to the hills. From whence cometh my help? My help comes from the Lord."  
—Psalm 121



A year ago we took a picture of our then three-year-old grandson on a mountain pathway. He was looking up at Grandpa with those trusting, blue, toddler eyes and asked, "Where are we going, Gumpa Gumpa?"

Recently it got me to thinking, where do we put our trust? Who do we look up? Who looks up to us? Do we trust ourselves? Do we rely on God to make all of our decisions? A number of years ago, during my days as a youth minister, I overheard one of our young men remark, "I rely on God for all my decisions. I don't even put on a shirt each morning without first asking God, which one?" Where does our stewardship of choice come into focus?

In recent weeks the adult class has been considering collaborative kingdom building. That concept certainly calls into question our personal stewardship. God has the idea but is dependent on human skills and effort, inspired by the Spirit's presence, to accomplish kingdom reality. Jesus announced the presence of the kingdom, but it was obviously an on-going

enterprise. Too often it is said that God's kingdom will come only when Jesus returns or ushers in the kingdom in spite of the human condition. Does that mean it is a forced issue? The chances are very good that the Christ will not do now what he refused to do 2,000 years ago.

So the question then arises: In whom do we place our trust to make the kingdom happen? Is it you? Is it me? The answer is "YES." But it does require a passion for the task. Where do our passions lie? When I look up at you, standing beside me, holding my hand, will I discover a passionate gaze that says "I'm here. I'm ready. Let's get on with the task of making the kingdom happen—for real—here and now!"

"Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself to have grasped it fully even now. But I do concentrate on this: I forget all that lies behind me and with hands outstretched to whatever lies ahead I go straight for the goal—for the prize of the high calling in Christ Jesus."

—Philippians 3:13-14 Phillips Translation

Then the Lord of Hosts said, "Whom shall I send and who will go for us?" Then said I, "Here am I send me!" spoken as he gazed upward and observed the Divine Spirit resting on him as a dove might have descended from the heavens.

—Isaiah 6:8 paraphrased





## Speakers, Keyboard, Greeters, and Nursery



### Speakers

- ❖ February 5: Kathy Bridwell
- ❖ February 12: WEAVERS
- ❖ February 19: Youth Ministry
- ❖ February 26: Rick Bunch and Jay Newcom

### Keyboard

- ❖ February 5: Tom Beck
- ❖ February 12: Sharon Troyer
- ❖ February 19: Kay Bunch
- ❖ February 26: Jean Newman

### Greeters

- ❖ February: Lee Cook and Nancy Simon

### Nursery

- ❖ February 5: Marilyn Garner
- ❖ February 12: Bettie Miller
- ❖ February 19: Marta Remmenga
- ❖ February 26: Pat and Bill Miner



## Second-Sunday Social

The February Second-Sunday Social, February 12, will be our annual **"Red Heart Dinner."** It's a family affair with everyone invited. Appropriate dress is anything RED. The dinner starts at 5:00 p.m. in the Activity Center. Please RSVP to Marilyn Garner by February 5.



## Communion Emblems Brought to You

If you are unable to attend a Communion service on the first Sunday, and would like the sacrament to be brought to you, please contact either Bob Fulton, 484-6943, or Dave Simons, 282-0969. Every effort will be made to provide

this ministry. Also, if you know of any member that would like the sacrament to be brought to them, let Bob or Dave know in advance, and one of them will get in touch with that individual so arrangements can be made.

## 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

## Financial Report



### December Income

#### World Church

Use where needed most	\$2,116.00
Abolish Poverty/End Suffering	232.00
Pursue Peace on Earth	25.00
Invite People to Christ	20.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,393.00</b>

#### Local

Local Offering	\$3,026.86
Building Fund	110.00
2 Cents a Meal	56.00
Family Assistance	61.00
Organ Fun	\$1,500.00
Christmas Dinner and Offering	467.44
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 5,185.30</b>

—Betty Jones, CFO





## A Better World

Shandra Newcom presented the workshop “A Better World” for the youth of our congregation on November 13, 2011. She talked about some of the products that are produced under “Fair Trade” labels and explained to us what the term means. One activity had the kids compare the goods and services used by their families with companies graded A to F based on their records in human rights, the environment, animal protection, community involvement, and social justice. It was an eye-opening experience! Complete background information can be found in the book *The Better World Shopping Guide* or on the website [www.betterworldshopper.org](http://www.betterworldshopper.org). We have one copy available in the library for checkout.



## Names in the News

Homeless Gear newsletter thanked **Community of Christ Youth Group** for their help and support during the month of November/December.



## Getting to Know You!

### Do You Know Jon and Nancy Mendenhall?

If you haven’t noticed Jon and Nancy Mendenhall sitting in the congregation for many of the recent activities, you have not been very observant. Perhaps you didn’t catch Jon setting up some of the electronic equipment for PowerPoint presentations or have you noticed when you receive an e-mail from the Fort Collins Congregation that Jon is usually the sender. That is because he installed the church wireless network, set up the current church



*On Mendenhall Glacier  
near Juneau, Alaska*

office, and trained an administrative assistant. Or if you ever wondered who maintains the website for the congregation and Rocky Mountain Mission Center— you guessed it, Jon Mendenhall! If you recently picked up your church directory, you have another example of Jon’s

work.

Although “retired” both Jon and Nancy have kept very busy since moving to Fort Collins from Denver. They have both been active with the Interfaith Council where Nancy has served on the board and Jon maintains their website.

### Volunteering is more than a sidelight.

Jon volunteered at the Larimer County Food Bank for five years and has been driving for SAINT (Senior Alternatives in Transportation) for over three years. He has also volunteered for the Fort Collins PFLAG chapter and helped with the Winter Homeless Day Shelter for the Fort Collins Congregation.

Nancy volunteers as an administrative assistant for the volunteer coordinator at the Canyon Lakes Ranger District where she has been associated for over a decade. She has been an active volunteer at the library as well as serving on the board of Friends of the Library. Nancy has worked with the Larimer Humane Society and helped the Sister Mary Alice Center for Hope get started on its first year of operation.

Volunteering is nothing new to this concerned couple. Several years ago Nancy traveled to all but one congregation in the Rocky Mountain Mission to do the Youth Protection program. She took applications and followed up with interviews of those who were involved in youth work and children’s activities.



## Proud Parents, Grandparents, and Great-Grandparents

Their four children are scattered about: the oldest, Kevin, lives in Monument, Colorado, with his wife, Mimi. Terri and her husband, Steve Dixon, just moved to Smithville, Missouri (north of Kansas City); Pam & her husband, Daryl Darnell, live in Big Lake, Alaska, where they have over 30 dogs in their mushing kennel. (Terri and Pam are elementary school teachers.) Amber lives in Tempe, Arizona where she works for Wells Fargo. They have five grandchildren and six great grandchildren (one in Carlsbad, New Mexico, four in Alaska, and one in Missouri).

## Why did they come to Fort Collins?

So why would they choose to retire to Fort Collins from Denver? They actually considered Spokane, Boise, Billings, Roswell, and Albuquerque but found many pluses when considering Fort Collins—including the Fort Collins Congregation as well as the small town feel of the place! They have been impressed with the many volunteer opportunities here and the easy access to DIA. Jon had been the branch manager of an international property casualty insurance company, and Nancy worked in HR with the phone company QWEST—so this life is quite a change. Nancy has discovered a wealth of classes, including yoga, “Strong Women Strong Bones,” and water aerobics. She keeps busy sewing, making teddy bears, and baking (have you had one of her pies?).

## What do they do for FUN?

AND when this “retired” couple is not out helping others, they enjoy biking and hiking. One of their favorite



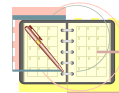
hikes is “the crags” on the back of Pikes Peak. They also try to camp at Mueller State Park near Cripple Creek every year. Not to mention enjoying their RV for various trips, they have developed a traditional trip to Wisconsin every

other year to join two of Nancy’s brothers on an RV/biking vacation. Jon even RVED the ALCAN to Alaska in 2010 with daughter Terri. (You might like to check out their website <http://jonnanco.net> where there is a log of their RV trips complete with photos!)

*If you haven’t stopped them to shake their hands and visit, you have missed something special.*

—Beverly Doig, Reporter

## February Calendar



Check the website

<http://cofchrstrm.org/FortCollins>

- Feb. 1: Upper Room, 9:30 a.m.  
Senior Meal Site, 11:45 a.m.  
Worship Coordinators, 10:45 a.m.  
Pastors meeting, noon
- Feb. 5: Communion  
First-Sunday Giving  
Potluck  
Graceland University class for  
Junior and Senior High youth
- Feb. 6: Soup supper, 6:00 p.m.  
Role of Scripture discussion, 6:30 p.m.
- Feb. 8: Upper Room, 9:30 a.m.  
Senior Meal Site, 11:45 a.m.
- Feb. 12: Two-Cents-A-Meal  
Second-Sunday Social, Red Heart  
Dinner, 5:00 p.m.
- Feb. 13: WEAVERS, 4:00 p.m.  
Soup supper, 6:00 p.m.  
Role of Scripture discussion, 6:30 p.m.  
PFLAG, 7:00 p.m.
- Feb. 15: Upper Room, 9:30 a.m.  
Senior Meal Site, 11:45 a.m.
- Feb. 16: Leadership Council, 7:00 p.m.
- Feb. 19: Youth meeting, 5:00 p.m.  
Communicator items due
- Feb. 20: President’s Day
- Feb. 22: Upper Room, 9:30 a.m.  
Senior Meal Site, 11:45 a.m.  
Ash Wednesday
- Feb. 29: Upper Room, 9:30 a.m.  
Senior Meal Site, 11:45 a.m.





## Congregational Leadership Team

### Pastors

Vision and Mission: Rick Bunch

(970) 493-3336, [rakabunch@comcast.net](mailto:rakabunch@comcast.net)

Outreach Ministries: Kay Bunch/Sharon Troyer

(970) 493-3336, [rakabunch@comcast.net](mailto:rakabunch@comcast.net)

(970) 672-6388, [sharontroyer@gmail.com](mailto:sharontroyer@gmail.com)

Worship Ministries: Debbie Jones

(970) 490-5993, [ganddjones@msn.com](mailto:ganddjones@msn.com)

Managerial, Communications: Rich Kohlman

(970) 484-1239, [rkohlman@comcast.net](mailto:rkohlman@comcast.net)

Pastoral Ministries: Dave Simons

(970) 282-0969, [dcsimons2@msn.com](mailto:dcsimons2@msn.com)

### Ministry Coordinators

Education: Carrie Newman

(970) 2132428, [carrie.j.newman@gmail.com](mailto:carrie.j.newman@gmail.com)

Stewardship: Betty Jones

(970) 223-4347, [mom2jones@yahoo.com](mailto:mom2jones@yahoo.com)

Fellowship: Marilyn Garner

(970) 493-4137, [garner.marilyn@gmail.com](mailto:garner.marilyn@gmail.com)

Facilities: Gary Jones

(970) 490-5993, [ganddjones@msn.com](mailto:ganddjones@msn.com)



## 2012 Directory Updates

Address change:

**Les and Ets Cunningham**

1899 A Seadrift Dr.

Windsor, CO 80550

(They are in the same house, with a new address.)

**Betty Axelsen**

Sterling House

1002 Rule Dr. Apt 205

Fort Collins, CO 80525-6734

Contact: Ken (970) 412-0779, or call the

Facility (970) 229-9777

Phone change:

**Joan Green** (970) 372-8816

The new church directories for **2012** are finished and will be available on Sundays in the foyer of the church.



## Holiday Christmas Dinner

Pictures taken at the Annual Holiday Dinner on December 11, 2011, are on the congregation website. The following link will take you there directly:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/cofchristfc/2011HolidayDinner>



## 2011 Fort Collins Recorder's Report

Baptisms: 0

Baby Blessings: 0

Ordinations: 0

Deaths: 3

Transfers In: 6

On our roles as of 12/30/11:

- Members 106
- Friends 48

—Jon Mendenhall, Recorder

### Fort Collins Congregation Offerings

## 2011 Disciples' Generous Response

Month	Total World	Total Local	Total Giving
January	1,917.00	3,368.50	5,285.50
February	1,567.00	3,454.00	5,021.00
March	2,033.00	3,621.20	5,654.20
April	2,073.00	3,366.80	5,439.80
May	2,341.50	3,995.40	6,336.90
June	1,630.00	2,699.00	4,329.00
July	1,825.00	2,949.50	4,774.50
August	1,678.00	1,836.00	3,514.00
September	1,927.00	2,854.00	4,781.00
October	1,963.50	2,879.00	4,842.50
November	1,818.50	2,865.16	4,683.66
December	2,393.00	5,185.30	7,578.30
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$23,166.50</b>	<b>\$39,073.86</b>	<b>\$62,240.36</b>