

***We proclaim Jesus Christ
and promote
communities of joy,
hope, love, and peace.***



Communicator

A monthly newsletter of

Community of Christ

Fort Collins, Colorado

A Welcoming Congregation

February 2013

"Love..."

—Debbie Jones, Worship Ministries Pastor

February is the time of year our thoughts turn to LOVE... assisted by the ads, movies, and flower and candy sales. Love—it's just one word in the English language, but it has so many different meanings. In the days of the New Testament, there were four Greek words that were used to define "love."

There is *Eros* or *romantic love*. This kind of love is an emotion we fall in and out of. It is based on physical aspects and feelings, mostly our own feelings. It's about our desire to be accepted and loved; it is selfish in nature and expects to be rewarded.

There is *storge* or *familial love*. This is the natural bond between mother, infant, father, children, and kin. These bonds begin at birth, and sometimes need to be rewarded.

There is *philos* love—a love based on friendship between two people. It's a "give-and-take" relationship, where two people benefit each other in a mutual way.

And then there is *agape* or *unconditional love*. This is a love that is totally selfless, where a person gives out love to another person even if it doesn't benefit them back in any way. Agape is a love for love's sake. It expects no rewards; it wants nothing in return. Agape is God's kind of love. It is "seeking the welfare and betterment of another regardless of how we feel."

Finally there is the highest type of agape love—the one that is not human at all, but divine—God's unconditional love. It is perfect, total, complete, selfless, undying, eternal, and it is for all of us.

Paul provides a perfect description for agape love: "If I speak in human and angelic tongues but I do not have love, I am a resounding gong or a clashing cymbal. And if I have the gift of prophecy and comprehend all mysteries and all knowledge; if I have all faith so as to move mountains, but I do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away everything I own, and if I hand my body over so that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing.

"Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, love is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things. Love never fails."

—I Corinthians 13:1–8

So faith, hope, love remain, these three; But the greatest of these is love." —1 Corinthians 13:13

Let's endeavor to ignore the media hype this year and focus instead on the greatest love, God's kind of love, agape, as we "seek the welfare and betterment of others" in our service to God.

Communicator

Editors in Chief: The Pastorate
Managing Editor: Rich Kohlman
Copy Editor: Mary Kohlman
Monthly Reporters: Beverly Doig,
Betty Jones,
Jon Mendenhall,
Max Coopwood

www.cofchristrm.org/FortCollins
cofchristfc@gmail.com



Communion Emblems Brought to You

If you are unable to attend a Communion service on the first Sunday of the month, and would like the sacrament 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 who would like the sacrament 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.



Sacrament of Administration

Brian Entwistle is coordinator for the sacrament of administration. Please contact him at (970) 310-0665 or entwistlebrianc@gmail.com if you have need for administration or to schedule it for someone else.



Second Sunday Social

February 10, 2013, at 5:00 p.m.

Please bring your favorite antipasti (appetizer) or your favorite dolce (dessert).

While feasting on these, Pat and Bill Miner would like you to join them on their tour of the Amalfi Coast and the Tuscan countryside of Italy, the Isle of Capri, and bits of Austria and Germany. They look forward to sharing their adventure with you. If you have been to any of these areas, feel free to share as well.



Community of Christ Sings

The new hymnal for the church will be released in October 2013. We will be doing a pre-order for the congregation to get the discounted price of \$19.55 for the pew hymnal. If you would like to order a hymnal to have at home, the musician's large-print edition (no price yet) or the USB digital flash drive (no price yet) of keyboard accompaniment track recording for every song in the hymnal, please notify Rich Kohlman and we will add that to our congregation order. This will give all of us the best price and may also reduce the shipping costs.

February Birthdays



Susanna Garner	02/04
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
Bill Norwood	02/19
Teri Bridwell	02/20
Marcia Bridwell	02/22
Joyce Worthington	02/24

Financial Report



December Income

World Church

Use where needed most	\$2,915.00
Invite People to Christ	0.00
Abolish Poverty/End Suffering	290.00
Pursue Peace on Earth	10.00
Develop Disciples to Serve	0.00
Experience Congregations in Mission	0.00
Total	\$3,215.00

Local

Local Offering	\$3,771.00
Building Fund	55.50
2 Cents a Meal	62.00
Family Assistance	150.00
Daily Bread	19.95
Christmas Dinner	115.00
Pancake Breakfast	2.00
Total	\$4,175.45

—Betty Jones, CFO



Getting to Know You!

Marilyn Garner is a very familiar face in the Fort Collins Congregation!

But did you know that she was born in Fort Collins and has lived here most of her life? Did you know that her parents' wedding was the first formal service in the Fort Collins church building (in spite of very newly stained floors and borrowed chairs from the mortuary across the street)? Did you know that she is part of the "Jones Clan"—there are at least 35 members living in the area. Did you know that she is the person who is responsible for the booking of our church facility to such groups as the Sweet Adeline's, a bridge group, the India Association, and a Brain Therapy group? She also sees that the necessary supplies are there for the kitchen, the restrooms, and the classrooms. If you haven't been to the Mother's Day Worship service, you have missed something unique. By tradition, Marilyn distributes plants to every woman, calling each woman, mother, and/or her children by name. She seldom misses a single name, and often weaves in how we are all family!

Speakers, Keyboard, Greeters, and Nursery



Speakers

- ❖ February 3: Vera Entwistle
- ❖ February 10: Shirley Remmenga
- ❖ February 17: Dave Simons
- ❖ February 24: Bob Walker

Keyboard

- ❖ February 3: David Birks
- ❖ February 10: Jean Newman
- ❖ February 17: Kay Bunch
- ❖ February 24: Sharon Fulton

Greeters

- ❖ February: Nancy Simon and Jean Newman

Nursery

- ❖ February 3: Marilyn Garner
- ❖ February 10: Bettie Miller
- ❖ February 17: Marta Remmenga
- ❖ February 24: Mary Kohlman

Marilyn has always been an extremely busy lady!

She has taught Sunday school classes and sung in musical groups at church. She edited the *Communicator* for several years and served as pastor for a couple of years. She actively engages in the socials for the congregation; she especially enjoyed the recent "bunco night."

She is serving this year as vice president for "Friendship Force," and since the group does a rotation of offices she will most likely be the president next year. "Friendship Force" was formed during the Carter administration when he was requested to speak to foreign diplomats about a program of exchange. Their motto was "a world of friends is a world of peace." Groups of about 20 people from a foreign land come to

stay in the homes of members locally. An exchange director from the club coordinates the choice of hosts and works with the exchange director from the country to match their interests. The same process is followed when families from here go to another country.

Marilyn has recently rejoined the American Sewing Guild which sponsors interesting programs. She enjoyed a presentation about computer generated patterns that could be transferred onto fabrics, including the generations of blocks to make up larger pictures as well as brocade designs to be embroidered. This group has a lot of local talent that enjoys “show and tell” of their work.

Cooking is a particular interest that Marilyn indulges with the “dinner exchange.” Families get together once a month, each bringing six dishes to exchange for other dishes to take home.

Then there is the “Keeping Up with the Joneses” family event that meets the last Sunday of each month.



One of the various Jones families plays host to the gathering.

There is a theme food for each time—such things as Stone soup, a basil theme, pineapple express, etc. Gathering for New Year’s Day is a Jones tradition. There were 29 of the extended family relatives at the last one.

Marilyn is very interested in story telling and she attended story telling conferences in Jonesboro, Tennessee, and Salt Lake City. In fact, she took her granddaughter, Emma, with her to the last one in Salt Lake City. It was a delightful experience.

Marilyn is very much involved with her children and grandchildren!

Her daughter, Susanna, manages a local travel agency. Her son John is choral director at Loveland High School where he produces outstanding musicals each year. “Jekyll and Hyde” was this year’s offering, and he did “Les Miserables” last year. His wife, Cinnamon, teaches seventh grade. They have two girls and a boy. In fact, Marilyn drives each school day morning to Loveland to help get the youngest two ready for school and onto the bus. Marilyn’s son David and his wife, Lisa, live in Steamboat Springs. He is director of Support Services for Yampa Valley Medical Center. They have two boys and a girl. Marilyn spent quite a bit of time recently with the children when Lisa’s mother was ill.

Marilyn was and still is involved in Earnie’s projects!

Some of you have fond memories of Marilyn’s husband, Earnie. He was devoted to his church and was actively engaged in its support. He was hired to serve as youth director in 1968 and went on to work for Denver Stake in 1969. He also served as pastor of the Fort Collins Congregation.

They owned a furniture store in Fort Collins until 2007. Earnie used his influence to get some excellent deals for Camp Paradise and for Graceland. Earnie was overseer for the installation of the congregation’s handicap lift and new up-to-date bathrooms, working with the local contractors and Don Worthington (the fund raiser) to save many dollars. He made it a priority in his life to be a part of the planning and implementing of his projects. After the excessive heavy snow in the spring of 2003 caved in the roof of the gym, working with Dave Simons, Earnie used his contacts to facilitate the decision making and rebuilding process.

In 2006 Earnie began putting together an investment program buying local properties

(which Marilyn continues to manage). In 2009 Ernie lost his eight-year battle with cancer, but not without taking advantage of the excellent treatment programs of M.D. Anderson in Houston.

Marilyn and Earnie loved to travel!

Earnie got a great deal on a culinary/bicycle tour of Italy so they traveled with Gary and Debbie Jones enjoying the country and its cooking. In fact, several of their trips involved sightseeing and cooking. They went to Yucatan with Debbie and Gary as well. Acapulco was too hot for much more than lying by the pool and getting in the water in the evening. However, London was action-packed with lots to see and do, especially the many plays such as *Saigon* and *Kats*. Marilyn and Earnie also traveled in 2006 with the Newmans and the Slocums to visit Ireland.

—Beverly Doig, reporter



Listening to the Spirit

February 23, 2013

Saturday, 9:00–11:30 a.m.

Fort Collins Community of Christ

As we approach Easter next month, this Lenten season invites us to reflect personally on how we can more fully respond to God's transforming love! Matthew records Jesus telling his followers, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." What do you treasure most? Finding honest answers to that question requires intentional listening to our interior life. This experiential workshop will invite participants to trust the Inner Counselor or Holy Spirit to guide us to a deeper relationship with God.

We will begin by meeting Jesus in the desert, to learn how he responded to temptations of everyday life. This will help us consider the

difference between ordinary awareness, spiritual awareness, and the life transforming changes that happen, in St. Paul's words, when we "put on the mind of Christ."

We will look briefly at how we repeat habitual behaviors, see how "praying the scriptures" can offer personal encounters with the living Christ, and finally, be introduced to "centering prayer," a prayer of the heart that invites us to "rest in God."

Put this on your calendar now and plan to join us for a refreshing morning of learning, prayer, and fellowship!

Sharon P. Troyer, facilitator
Spiritual Formation coordinator
Fort Collins Community of Christ



PET(Personal Energy Transport)

With the start of 2013 comes another opportunity for our congregation to reach out to those in our communities, both near and far, who are struggling. Last quarter, everyone stepped up to the plate to ensure that Christmas would come to families in Fort Collins who might otherwise go without and to provide warm clothing to homeless people in our area. This time we will be looking to help those people who are unable to move about freely because they have either lost their legs or have lost use of them because of injury or illness.

Last Sunday Rick Bunch provided a glimpse of a three-wheeled vehicle called a Personal Energy Transport (PET) that provides those people unable to use their legs an opportunity to move about, thus freeing them from a life of

immobility. The devices, built by volunteers in Columbia, Missouri, enable their owners to move about using their arms to pump the pedals. There is a small trunk for carrying items, and PETs are available in three different sizes. The cost for each device is \$250, and this includes shipment to the nearest port for delivery.

The goal for our congregation is to raise enough funds to purchase at least one PET to be donated to someone in need. However, I have seen the amazing giving spirit of our congregation, and I believe we can easily raise more than \$250. There are several activities planned to help us reach, and hopefully surpass, this goal. The March 3rd First Sunday Potluck will be a sacrificial dinner followed by a magic show performed by The Walking Tall youth group. The main dish, beans and rice, will be provided by Marilyn Garner. Attendees are asked to bring side dishes to share with everyone. All donations will go towards the goal. A series of donation dinners will be hosted in church member's homes for small groups. Donations from these events will also go towards our goal. Several people have already volunteered to host, and several more will be needed. If you are interested in hosting one of these dinners, please contact Kay Bunch or Max Coopwood.

We will also be holding a Change for Change drive between now and March 31st. Please set aside your loose change during this time to be donated towards our goal. A place, as yet undecided, will be identified in the church where change can be deposited. And finally, donations can be left in the offertory plate each week. Please identify these as going towards PET so they can be easily counted. The funds from each of these activities will be totaled at the end of March, and they will be forwarded on to the group in Columbia, Missouri.

Please look for updates and information in the weekly bulletins and in the *Communicator*.

Questions can also be directed to Kay Bunch or Max Coopwood. Thank you all for reaching out and spreading Christ's love throughout the community.

February Calendar



Check the website

<http://cofchstrm.org/FortCollins>

- Feb 3: Communion
First-Sunday giving
Potluck
Priesthood meeting, 1:00–2:30 p.m.
- Feb. 6: Upper Room, 9:30 a.m.
Senior Meal Site, 11:45 a.m.
Worship Coordinators, 1:30 p.m.
Pastors, 2:30 p.m.
Leadership Council, 4:00 p.m.
- Feb. 10: Two-Cents-a-Meal offering
Second-Sunday Social, 5:00 p.m.
- Feb. 11: WEAVERS, 4:00 p.m.
PFLAG, 7:00 p.m.
- Feb. 13: Upper Room, 9:30 a.m.
Senior Meal Site, 11:45 a.m.
- Feb. 14: Women's group, 1:00 p.m.
- Feb. 17: Communicator items due
- Feb. 20: Upper Room, 9:30 a.m.
Senior Meal Site, 11:45 a.m.
- Feb. 23: Listening to the Spirit workshop,
9:00–11:30 a.m.
- Feb. 27: Upper Room, 9:30 a.m.
Senior Meal Site, 11:45 a.m.



FYI

Last year we donated space in our Activity Center for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program due to the renovations being done at the Old Town Library on Peterson. Renovations are now complete and the library will once again be the site for the tax program.

Fort Collins Congregation Offerings 2012 Disciples' Generous Response

Month	Total World	Total Local	Total Giving
January	1,890.00	3,119.50	5,009.50
February	1,803.50	3,035.00	4,838.50
March	2,278.00	21,746.00	24,024.00
April	2,353.00	3,938.00	6,291.00
May	1,736.00	2,870.50	4,606.50
June	1,809.00	2,385.00	4,194.00
July	1,883.00	2,781.00	4,664.00
August	1,605.00	2,401.00	4,006.00
September	2,083.00	3,220.50	5,303.50
October	1,654.00	2,934.00	4,588.00
November	2,015.35	2,994.25	5,009.60
December	3,215.00	4,175.45	7,390.45
TOTALS	\$ 24,324.85	\$ 55,600.20	\$ 79,925.05



Women's Group Needs Members

The afternoon Women's Group was formed five years ago and is presently down to four members. We welcome others to join us.

We meet the second Thursday of each month—except for December, June, July, and August—at 1:00 p.m. at Vergean Wood's home, 3402 Seneca St., Apt. A.

We selected making lap robes for Church Women United to give to nursing homes as our project when we formed. There is no sewing! If you can tie a knot, you're qualified to help. We also have book reports, exchange books, and do a lot of visiting.

If you want to bring your own projects and fellowship with us, that would be great! We are looking for a devotions chairwoman.

If interested, please call Vergean Wood, 204-1006, so she knows the number to plan for.

Our Leadership Team

Pastors:

Vera Entwistle, Vision and Mission
Kay Bunch, Outreach Ministries
Debbie Jones, Worship Ministries
Rich Kohlman, Managerial and
Communications Ministries
Dave Simons, Pastoral Ministries

Coordinators:

Marilyn Garner, Fellowship Ministries
Betty Jones, Stewardship Ministries
Gary Jones, Facilities Ministries
Carrie Newman and Sharon Fulton, Education
Ministries
Sharon Troyer, Spiritual Formation Ministries
Brian Entwistle, Youth Ministries

Recorder: Jon Mendenhall

Congregational Financial Officer: Betty Jones

Historian: Max Coopwood

Secretary: Shari Smith

Auditor (two-year term): Donna Clark

(Dick Foster has one year remaining.)

Standing Committees:

Building Committee
Facilities, Leasing, and Marketing
WEAVERS



Crop Walk Proceeds

The Fort Collins 2012 CROP Hunger Walk presented a check for \$4,129.49 to the Food Bank for Larimer County as the 25 percent portion that remains in the local community. MS Carol Rooze of Plymouth Congregational Church and Rick and Kay Bunch of the Community of Christ Church presented the check to Susan Kelly, volunteer manager for the Food Bank. This check will enable the Food Bank to provide enough food for more than 16,500 meals to Larimer County families in need.