

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



Community of Christ

Fort Collins, Colorado

A Welcoming Congregation

For everyone born, a place at the table

October 2013

“Constantly Changing Lives”

—Kay Bunch, Outreach Ministries Pastor

“This will happen to all of you at some time in your life, and you will have to figure out how to move on.” These are the opening lines of the play, “A Year of Magical Thinking” at Bas Bleu Theater, which Rick and I saw when we were docents. After a few more lines we discovered she was talking about death and life—moving on. Someone dies, and you continually look for ways to move on—to live.

Many people in Colorado have been hit with fire and flood disasters. Many people in our congregation have physically moved to a different house. Some have lost the life of a loved one. Other things have changed in the rest of your lives—children change schools and children go to college or another country to continue their education. Our children grow up, get married, and have babies. Something has changed in all of our lives. If we look at geology, oceans, nature— They are constantly changing and moving on. Change is one constant in life.

A few years ago when we were in Alaska, I ran across the book, *Two Old Women*. These women belonged to a tribe close to the Arctic Circle, and their tradition was to leave behind anyone who could no longer keep up with their tribe when it had to move to find food. As these two old women leaned against a tree and watched their families and entire tribe walk away, one of them said to the other, “Shall we see how long it takes for us to die or shall we

see how long we can live?” They found many ways to “move on and live”—even to the point that they were much later able to help their own tribe survive.

We always have choices. There is another book, *100 Year Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared*. The man in the story decided he wanted to go on living, and he changed the place and way he had been living.

Jesus’ disciples had to figure out how to live when Jesus died. They were able to rely on his Spirit to enable them to “move on.”

Our Fort Collins Congregation is always experiencing change and supporting others who are trying to make positive changes in their lives. We are hosting a Crossroads Safehouse Benefit Concert on Friday, November 22, 2013. Crossroads Safehouse is the only comprehensive domestic violence shelter that serves all of Larimer County. They provide safety, shelter, and resources for abused women and children in a state-of-the-art facility helping them to build lives without violence. Chad Elliott, a Graceland University graduate, folk singer guitarist, Iowa artisan, and songwriter will be performing. We will provide an evening of fellowship, food, fun, and spirited giving in honor of Crossroads Safehouse that evening. This facility is consistently overtaxed with a growing demand to provide services and safety to an increasing number of women.

We, the Fort Collins Community of Christ, have accepted the challenge to grow, move on, live, and help others enrich their lives. May we

always look for ways to enrich our own lives, search, and be alert to ways we can help others. This is my challenge to all of us.

Communicator

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Communion Emblems Brought to You

If you are unable to attend a Communion service and would like the emblems brought to you, please contact Bob Fulton, 484-6943, or Dave Simons, 282-0969, to make arrangements. Also, if you know of anyone 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.

Second Sunday Social

October 13: Annual Harvest Party, 5:00 p.m. Bring chili, side dishes, or desserts. If you are planning to bring chili, please contact Marilyn so we don't end up with too many. You are encouraged to wear costumes. We will have a costume contest, carve pumpkins, and have prizes for jack-o-lanterns. There will be treat bags for the children.



Updated Addresses

The Pagats: Gil, Merly, Shawnea, Gabriel
 5855 Calgary
 Timnath, CO 80547

October 2013 Communicator

Kohlman, Rich and Mary
 939 Snowy Plain Rd. (effective October 5)
 Fort Collins, CO 80525

October Birthdays



Eric Fronapfel	10/2
Mary Kohlman	10/7
Jon Mendenhall	10/14
Gilbert Pagat	10/21
Ben Miller	10/21
Beverly Doig	10/21
Nancy Simon	10/21
Nancy Miller	10/23
Brian Entwistle	10/26
Rick Bunch	10/28
Aidan Dicke	10/30

Financial Report



August Income

World Church

Use where needed most	\$1,557.00
Invite People to Christ	5.00
Abolish Poverty/End Suffering	338.00
Pursue Peace on Earth	19.00
Develop Disciples to Serve	15.00
Experience Congregations in Mission	5.00
Total	\$1,939.00

Local

Local Offering	\$2,369.00
Building Fund	5.00
2 Cents a Meal	54.00
Family Assistance	35.00
NewWestFest	12.00
Total	\$2,475.00

—Betty Jones, CFO

"We cannot hope to create a sustainable culture with any but sustainable souls."

—Derrick Jensen, Endgame Vol.1: The Problem of Civilization

Speakers, Keyboard, Greeters, and Nursery



Speakers

- ❖ Oct. 6: Ron Harmon
- ❖ Oct. 13: Gil Pagat
- ❖ Oct. 20: Children's Sabbath
- ❖ Oct. 27: Shirley Remmenga

Keyboard

- ❖ Oct. 6: Kay Bunch
- ❖ Oct. 13: Sharon Troyer
- ❖ Oct. 20: Tom Beck
- ❖ Oct. 27: Kay Bunch

Greeters

- ❖ October: Nancy Simon and Jean Newman

Nursery

- ❖ Oct. 6: Marilyn Garner
- ❖ Oct. 13: Bettie Miller
- ❖ Oct. 20: Marta Remmenga
- ❖ Oct. 27: Bill and Pat Miner



Up With Youth

Summer Camp Impressions

Several children from the Fort Collins Congregation attended summer camp at Camp Paradise last June. Study for all of them was centered around the last book in the Narnia series of children's books in which the great lion Aztlán can be compared to Jesus Christ. (You may have to read the book to understand more fully.)

Highlights from Junior Camp, June 23-26:

Bianca Clark—Studied lions. Drew married the donkey. We went swimming. There was a huge fire around Camp Paradise, but the camp was spared. It was fun!

Oceana Alcoser—The best part was hanging out with all my friends, falling off of the top bunk, swimming, and especially the slides. Drew got married to the donkey.

Autumn Alcoser—Drew (Andrew) had Andy Larkins marry him to the donkey who in the book is named Puzzles. I loved the hikes, especially hiking to a waterfall where they read part of the story. At the end of the book the dwarves didn't believe in Aztlán's new world so they couldn't see the feast set before them.

Junior High Camp, June 23-28:

Sierra Bridwell—We communicated with kids. It was fun to meet new people and go swimming.

Taylor Bridwell—The food fight outside and the counselors were fun.

Brett Bridwell—We slept in a haunted room. I liked the high dive at the pool. I got whipped cream down my back.

Both **Taylor** and **Brett** liked making the stuffed lions, although Brett stabbed his finger while stitching. They both also liked the memory books they received.

Other Youth News

Logan Miller recently led Rick Bunch up the Well Gulch Trail in Lory State Park for a special outing. It was a glorious day and Logan did a super job hiking up the trail observing trees, birds, and flowers. Didn't see any bears or lions, however.



September 15 was a special day in the **youth/children's classes**. Rick Bunch took eight youth and four adults to Udall Natural Area, just north of the church, to observe the pollution abatement ponds that help to protect the river from the harmful effects of solid and chemical pollutants. The ponds are designed to filter storm water as it comes from Old Town and CSU campus areas. It was a good day to be there since it was



raining, and we got to see firsthand how the ponds handle storm water. This is a positive example of good stewardship of the environment. Now the adults in the congregation need to take the same trip.

Gabe Pagat is playing with the #1 Doubles Tennis Team for Fossil Ridge High School.



Congregation Mini Retreat

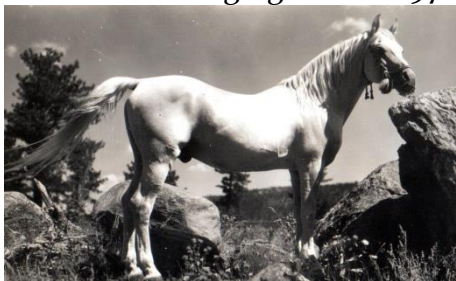
We will be having a mini congregation retreat on Saturday evening, October 5, and Sunday morning, October 6, with Apostle Ron Harmon. This will follow the mission center priesthood and leaders, and spouses retreat on Friday night and Saturday until 4:30 p.m. There will be a meal at 5:00 p.m. to start the retreat. Please let Marilyn Garner or Rich Kohlman know if you are planning to attend. We need to have a count for the meal. Look for more information in your Sunday bulletin.



Getting to Know You!

So you think that you really know **Dave and Voni Simons**, but ...

Did you know that Dave served as pastor of the Fort Collins congregation in 1970? Did you



know that Voni grew up on a Colorado farm and consequently is really,

really fond of horses? Did you know that Dave began his working career as an engineer at Ford Motor Company in Detroit, or that they lived for a time in Denver before being drawn to Loveland by a very attractive offer as a plastics engineer for Lego? Did you know that they were involved in the startup of the Loveland Congregation in early 1971? Have you seen some

of Dave's birdhouses? Did you know that Voni taught young children to dance at a dance studio? And did you know that Dave worked for a local painting contractor until he was forced to quit because the wages were just too low? (He still misses the kinship he developed with the crew.)

Why did the Simons choose Fort Collins?

When it came time for Dave and Voni to retire, although their children all lived elsewhere, the community awareness and the climate of Fort Collins attracted them to settle permanently in Voni's native Colorado. They love the mountains nearby, and their whole family had made many lasting friendships when they lived in Loveland for 10 years—enough to be considered by their kids as a special place to come visit.

Besides Detroit, Denver, and Loveland, where else have they lived and traveled?

As a church appointee family, they were assigned to Independence, Missouri; Warrensburg, Missouri; and Des Moines, Iowa. Although friendships at each of these places were developed, they were always aware that they were only there temporarily.

Cruises have been one of their favorite ways to travel. They have been on the Caribbean and cruised along the coast of Mexico. A particularly wonderful cruise was enjoyed along the eastern part of Canada starting at Montreal. They saw Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island. Of course, they often go to southern California to see their daughter Cassi and her husband Brian. When Dave's father was under appointment in England, they took the opportunity to travel in Europe (B.C.—before children).

Dave and Voni are a concerned couple.

Besides being involved in many of the projects of the local congregations where they have attended, Dave and Voni have made time to volunteer. Voni served as a victim advocate with the Fort Collins police for 4 years and she

was active with CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate for Abused Children) in both Kansas City and Des Moines. She currently is an assistant Master Naturalist working in the local parks. Voni has shared her love of horses by actively engaging in horse therapy for handicapped people. As an Eagle Scout, Dave has applied his skills in many ways, including advising in the Junior Achievement program. By the way, did you know that he was a bugler at Boy Scout camp?

What's been happening for the Simons?

Many of you attended and enjoyed the reception that was held for their 50th wedding anniversary. But did you know that they also celebrated by taking a cruise in the Mediterranean with stops in Portugal, Gibraltar, Spain, Monte Carlo, France, and Italy (finishing with a day in Rome)? And, they are recently continued to celebrate by going to a Dude Ranch near Alamosa to do some fishing and of course ride horses!

Where are their kids?

Dave and Voni visit their children often. They have been helping Shannon fix up her condo in Independence. (Dave says he has mastered the art of painting with his left hand.) Their son, Darton, lives in Lee's Summit with his wife, Rhonda, and his teenage step children, Brie and Jay (a senior and junior in high school). Darton works in video graphics and Rhonda is a doctor in family practice in Independence. Cassi is an area manager for MaitenX, a company that provides emergency maintenance contracts to support large companies and corporations. Her husband, Brian, is a maintenance engineer servicing water lines for military bases. They met through *Match.com*. Dave and Voni are looking forward to becoming grandparents in October when the California branch of the family will be increased by one.

Dave and Voni date the events in their lives B.C., A.C., and A.A.

B.C. (before children), A.C. (after children), and A.A. (after accident). A.C., they took advantage

of the many outdoor opportunities to be found living in Colorado—particularly hiking and climbing. Did you know that they have climbed 13 14ers? Quite an exciting achievement! A.A., they are still finding outdoor activities that they enjoy such as tennis and golf. They have had a very full 50 years together.

—Beverly Doig, reporter

October Calendar



Check the website

<http://cofchristrm.org/FortCollins>

- Oct. 2: Pastors, 1:30 p.m.
Worship Coordinators, 2:30 p.m.
Leadership Council, 4:00 p.m.
- Oct. 4-5: RMMC Priesthood and Leaders
Retreat in Fort Collins
- Oct. 5-6: **Congregation Mini-Retreat**
- Oct. 6: Communion Service
First-Sunday Giving
Potluck
CROP Walk, 1:00 p.m.
- Oct. 10: Women's Group
- Oct. 11-13: Graceland University Homecoming
- Oct. 13: Two-Cents-a-Meal Offering
Second-Sunday Social, Annual Harvest
Party, 5:00 p.m.
- Oct. 14: PFLAG, 7:00 p.m.
- Oct. 20: *Communicator* items due
Classes, 9:45 a.m., Worship, 11:00 a.m.
- Oct. 27: Classes, 9:45 a.m., Worship, 11:00 a.m.
- Oct. 31: Book Club, 1:00 p.m.

Up-Coming Second-Sunday Socials

- November 10: "Games"—Tom and Max
chairmen. 5:00 p.m.
Anyone for Mahjong?



- December 8: Annual Holiday Dinner

