

***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

For everyone born, a place at the table

December 2014

“A Room in the Inn”

—Kay Bunch, Outreach Ministries Pastor

As we approach the season of Christmas, we are reminded of the story of a young couple that traveled to another place to be counted among its citizens. They found themselves in a situation where there were no vacancies in the inns, and the young woman was about to give



birth. What would happen if we took the rudiments of this story and transported it into our current world?

A few years ago, close to Christmas, there was a young couple on their way home in a snowstorm, and the mountain pass was closed due to heavy snow. The young woman was seven months pregnant and she remembered they had a friend who owned a mountain home close by. When they called their friends they were invited to come up the mountain to get out of the weather. They were welcomed with open arms, asked to join them in a family dinner, and given a warm place to sleep. As soon as the pass opened up, the couple was on their way and thankful for their generous hospitality and friendship. Fortunately, as Mary and Joseph, they were also given shelter, because someone cared and made room. One of the young women remarked, “Isn’t it wonderful. It’s just like the Christmas story with a young

expectant couple needing shelter and finding it in the loving arms of caring people.”

Our Fort Collins congregation has a history of hospitality to the homeless because of our hosting the day shelter and overnight shelter for men during recent years. And, we are now opening up our space for a women’s emergency overnight shelter.



How are we doing individually? Can we make room for “more” in our lives? Are we open to new challenges and opportunities presented to us?

Christmas is a time of giving. Can we be more acutely aware of needs around us: someone who needs our friendship, someone who needs us to listen to them, or maybe someone who needs a coat? As we recognize the divine spark in ourselves, and others, is there room in the inn of our hearts?



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.

December Birthdays



Marilyn Garner	12/2
Karla Bencomo	12/4
Pat Miner	12/16
Michael Davis	12/16
Gordon Woelfle	12/17
Juliette Garner	12/17
Kathy Bridwell	12/20
Bill Miner	12/22
Carrie Newman	12/23
Melanie Fronapfel	12/28
Goddy Chungag	12/28
Nona Woelfle	12/29



October Income

World Church

Use where needed most	\$1,767.50
Abolish Poverty/End Suffering	234.00
Invite People to Christ	15.00
Pursue Peace on Earth	5.00
Develop Disciples to Serve	5.00
Experience Congregations in Mission	5.00
Total	\$2,031.50

Local

Local Offering	\$2,901.50
Building Fund	45.00
Two-Cents-a-Meal	65.00
Family Assistance	27.00
Youth Fund	115.00
Other	0.00
Total	\$3,153.50

—Betty Jones, CFO

Fort Collins Congregation Offerings 2014 Disciples' Generous Response

Month	Total World Initiatives	Total Local Operating	Total Operating Giving
January	1,522.50	2,405.00	3,927.50
February	2,344.50	3,437.50	5,782.00
March	1,872.50	4,311.50	6,184.00
April	1,927.50	2,663.00	4,590.50
May	1,875.50	2,741.35	4,616.85
June	1,981.50	2,606.50	4,588.00
July	1,819.50	2,254.50	4,074.00
August	1,873.50	3,081.00	4,954.50
September	1,762.50	3,047.50	4,810.00
October	2,031.50	2,901.50	4,933.00
November			-
December			-
TOTALS	\$ 19,011.00	\$ 29,449.35	\$ 48,460.35

Financial Report

December Calendar



Check the website

<http://cofchristrm.org/FortCollins>

- Dec. 3: Pastors Meeting, 1:30 p.m.
Worship Coordinators, 3:00 p.m.
Leadership Council, 4:00 p.m.
- Dec. 7: 9:45 a.m. Christmas play practice
11:00 a.m., Communion Service
First-Sunday Giving
12:00 p.m., Potluck-lunch
- Dec. 8: PFLAG, 7:00 p.m.
- Dec. 13: Christmas play practice
- Dec. 14: 9:45 a.m. Christmas play practice,
Adult Class
Worship, 11:00 a.m.
Two-Cents-a-Meal Offering
Christmas program, 6:00 p.m.
- Dec. 18: Book Club, 1:00 p.m.
- Dec. 21: Classes, 9:45 a.m.
Worship, 11:00 a.m.
Communicator items due.
- Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Service
- Dec. 25: **MERRY CHRISTMAS**
- Dec. 28: Classes, 9:45 a.m.
Worship, 11:00 a.m.

December ~~Third~~ Second-Sunday Social



The Second-Sunday Social this month will be our Christmas program on December 14 at 6:00 p.m. Come and bring a friend.

Speakers, Keyboard, Greeters, and Nursery



Speakers

- ❖ December 7: Rick Bunch
- ❖ December 14: Shirley Remmenga
- ❖ December 21: Dave Simons
- ❖ December 28: Nancy Miller

Keyboard

- ❖ December 7: Jean Newman
- ❖ December 14: Sharon Troyer
- ❖ December 21: Kay Bunch
- ❖ December 28: Tom Beck

Greeters

- ❖ December: Pagat Family

Nursery

- ❖ December 7: Marilyn Garner
- ❖ December 14: Bettie Miller
- ❖ December 21: Marta Remmenga
- ❖ December 28: Voni Simons



Book Club News

The Book Club meeting for December will be held at Beverly Doig's on Thursday, the 18th, at 1:00 p.m. The book to be discussed is *Christmas in Steamboat* by Craig Johnson, and Beverly will lead the discussion. There will also be a Christmas-cookie exchange. If you want to participate in the cookie exchange, please bring two dozen cookies or more. RSVP to Beverly if you will be attending. Everyone is invited and welcomed.

—Kay Bunch

Do You Know Where Our College Students Are?

Our young people are off to college and they might like to hear from you. They would appreciate receiving cards, notes, or CARE packages.



Kate Ytell is in her third year at Graceland. She is majoring in international studies and Spanish, but is also studying environmental biology and sustainable agriculture. Kate has been very busy as part of a student-lead club called “Sustainable Lamoni” with community activities that include working at the “hoop house” and community gardens she helped set up her first year at Graceland. She is also playing varsity soccer. Her address is:

Kate Ytell
1 University Place, Box 401
Lamoni, IA 50140



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

Ben Miller will finish up this semester at Graceland on December 11. He will then be headed to Florida to go to school for his junior and senior year. Graceland and Florida don’t have the same requirements, so Ben will attend Tallahassee Community College starting January 6 to pick up those classes and will then start at Florida State University in the fall as a junior. His major is exercise science. He will be doing physical therapy with sport injuries. After Christmas break, Ben’s address will be:

Ben Miller
2566 Tennessee Street,
Tallahassee, FL 32304



Zach Fronapfel started at Colorado Mesa University in Grand Junction, Colorado, in

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August with a soccer scholarship. He’s been “red-shirted” which means that he is training with the team this year, but not competing. This allows Zach to compete four additional years after this first year of training. Zach is enjoying the Grand Junction area and the university environment (including his classes)! He’s having a great first year, gets along well with his roommate, and has made many new friends—especially from the soccer team.

Zach’s address is:

Zach Fronapfel
1102 Elm Ave #225
Grand Junction, CO 81501



Avery Dicke is studying to be an automotive technician at Front Range Community College. He has just started a two-year program. He is living at home:

Avery Dicke
1407 Glen Haven Dr.
Fort Collins, CO 80526



Jay Ytell started at Western State Colorado University in Gunnison this fall. He is taking general education courses and is really enjoying classes. Jay stays very busy camping and climbing in the nearby Colorado and Utah mountains. He hopes to get in some snowboarding as soon as the slopes at Crested Butte open. Jay’s address is:

Jay Ytell
Western State Colorado University
Box 5769
600 N. Adams St.
Gunnison, CO 81231

Many thanks to Marta Remmenga for scouting out this information. —Beverly Doig

Rocky Mountain Mission Center Delegates from Fort Collins.



Max Coopwood
Tom Beck
Shirley Remmenga
Dave Simons

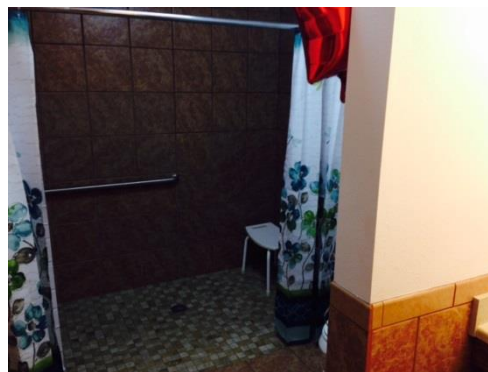
2014 Holiday Dinner



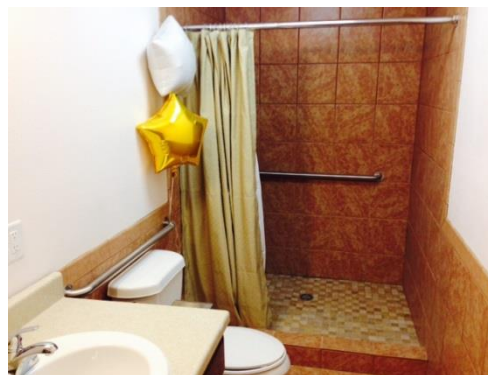
FFH Open House at the Mennonite Church Day Center Improvements



Two new washers and dryers



Handicap bathroom and shower



Additional bathroom and shower

“Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?” And the king will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.”

—Matthew 25:37-40