

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



Community of Christ

A monthly newsletter of

Fort Collins, Colorado

A Welcoming Congregation

For everyone born, a place at the table

September 2014

“Minimums and Maximums”

—Dave Simons, Pastoral Ministries Pastor

Recently I overheard someone say, “I’m all maxed out!” I’m not sure if she was referring to her credit card(s), time spent at the fitness center, or just feeling no energy left at the end of the day. I’ll have to admit there are times when, at the end of a long, busy, active day, I feel much the same way.

Employment, family needs, school, exercising, church work, keeping up with e-mails, contact with families, yard work, vacations (for some anyhow) all place demands on our daily lives. Is there any more that we can squeeze in? Can we find even a few more minutes for personal time, quiet time, just.....down time?

To find that time may mean that we cut corners somewhere. That we say, “What is the least I can do, and still get by?” We look at minimizing our efforts in some areas, often to our detriment, and neglect seeing something really important.

Follow me....and find life!

Then we read Gospel passages that state we need to give more, to give everything for the sake of the kingdom. Matthew 16:24 reads: *“If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”* (NRSV)

Other passages commanded the early disciples to sell all and give to the needs of the poor. Well, I don’t know if this means us or not, but how many are ready to respond in that manner?

And so we search for a balance. What’s right for me? What time and energy can I give to the needs of the church community? persons and families in need of a call or visit? time spent in worship planning and sermon preparation? pastor and leadership meetings, etc.?

We’re also encouraged to find time daily in spiritual practices to nourish and nurture our soul. Prayer of Examen, noticing, mindful cooking and eating, meditation, scripture study (Lectio Divina), and other ways can help us find that balance—and perhaps discover extra minutes that we’re searching for. (See World Church website under Resources—Spiritual Formation—Practices.)

We are a blessed community! Many give countless hours in service and ministry, not thinking of min’s or max’s—just doing what is needed and inviting others to participate in what it takes to be a loving and caring fellowship.

Please share your thoughts with one of the pastors or other leaders as we formulate teams and plans for a new year ahead.



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.

September Birthdays



Joy Jones	9/2
Felicia Bridwell-Deshner	9/9
Donna Clark	9/11
Caren Alton	9/13
Gabriel Pagat	9/15
Shawnea Pagat	9/15
Deb Friesz	9/19
Mike Davis	9/21
Kathy Graybill	9/22
Tom Beck	9/23
Jan Newman	9/25
Ets Cunningham	9/30

Financial Report



June Income

World Church

Use where needed most	\$1,712.50
Abolish Poverty/End Suffering	229.00
Invite People to Christ	5.00
Pursue Peace on Earth	25.00
Develop Disciples to Serve	5.00
Experience Congregations in Mission	5.00
Total	\$1,981.50

Local

Local Offering	\$2,606.50
Building Fund	50.00
Two-Cents-a-Meal	44.00
Family Assistance	92.00
Youth Fund	175.00
Other	40.00
Total	\$3,007.50

July Income

World Church

Use where needed most	\$1,512.50
Abolish Poverty/End Suffering	247.00
Invite People to Christ	5.00
Pursue Peace on Earth	5.00
Develop Disciples to Serve	45.00
Experience Congregations in Mission	5.00
Total	\$1,819.50

Local

Local Offering	\$2,254.50
Building Fund	20.00
Two-Cents-a-Meal	54.00
Family Assistance	90.00
Youth Fund	730.00
Memorial Fund	145.00
Other	10.00
Total	\$3,303.50

—Betty Jones, CFO

September Calendar



Check the website

<http://cofchristrm.org/FortCollins>

- Sept. 7: 11:00 a.m., Communion Service
First-Sunday Giving
12:00 p.m., Brunch
- Sept. 3: Pastors Meeting, 1:30 p.m.
Worship Coordinators, 3:00 p.m.
Leadership Council, 4:00 p.m.
- Sept. 8: PFLAG, 7:00 p.m.
- Sept. 12-14: RMMC Silent Retreat
Men's Retreat
- Sept. 14: Worship, 11:00 a.m.
Two-Cents-a-Meal Offering
- Sept. 21: Worship, 11:00 a.m.
Communicator items due.
Third-Sunday Social, 5:00 p.m.
- Sept. 25: Book Club, 1:00 p.m.
- Sept. 28: FFH meal this week

Speakers, Keyboard, Greeters, and Nursery



Speakers

- ❖ September 7: Rich Kohlman
- ❖ September 14: Contemplative Worship
- ❖ September 21: Gil Pagat
- ❖ September 28: Shari Smith

Keyboard

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

Greeters

- ❖ September: Vergean Wood and Bill Norwood

Nursery

- ❖ September 7: Debbie Jones
- ❖ September 14: Betty Miller
- ❖ September 21: Marta Remmenga
- ❖ September 28: Voni Simons

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			-
September			-
October			-
November			-
December			-
TOTALS	\$ 13,343.50	\$ 20,419.35	\$ 33,762.85

September Third-Sunday Social

Calling all writers, artists, crafters, hobbyists, photographers, etc., gather up your artwork, craftwork, poetry, writing, cooking, **WHATEVER!** and we will get together on Sunday, September 21, at 5:00 p.m. to share. Soup will be provided, so bring something to go with that if you would like.

Where Were We This Summer?

Summer 2014 has been more than eventful for our Fort Collins congregation:

Marilyn Garner went to Germany this summer as a part of the Friendship Force organization—they sponsor travels for goodwill by connecting people from various lands in pursuit of peace. This Germany was visited. The group flew into Hamburg where they spent two and a half days seeing the local sights, and then they took the train across to Kiel where they each spent a week with a host family. Marilyn was paired with a single



women as her host. Besides group tours she spent her meals with the host lady and was able to see lovely gardens in the area. They spent some evenings playing games and drinking tea. Also the hostess took her on a car ferry to a charming seaside village where she had moored her sailboat in past years. Then the hostess bought smoked fish in the village shop to take home for supper. They enjoyed seeing the many sailing boats on the North Sea.

The second week the group took a cruise ship from Kiel to four ports of call in Sweden and Norway. In Gothenburg, Sweden, they



visited the Volvo museum. In Stavenger

and Geringer, Norway, they enjoyed the fjords and high water falls, with a final stop in Christensen, Norway. There were interesting shops and museums to explore at some of the stops and “Trolls” everywhere! At one stop the longest hand dug road tunnel was amazing.

Donna Clark and her sister, Carol, also took the Friendship Force tour. Donna says that it was a whole new adventure for her since she had never been to Europe before.

Christina and Hans Balzar were their hosts for the week, and they were the ones who made sure Donna and Carol visited their grandmother’s early childhood and birth place, Schuby and Shleswig in the Jutland Peninsula. The week with their host family was delightful, with numerous hours visiting, eating dinners in the patio garden, learning the Lindy Hop dance, hiking in the countryside nearby, and eating at a hundred-year-old restaurant with a grass roof located a short block from their home in Flugendorf. The Friendship Force group toured around Kiel



learning about the history of the area from the Vikings to present time, and of course, enjoying the beautiful lakes and countryside.

The cruise off the coast of Norway and Sweden on the *MSC Orchestra* was Donna’s first cruise; she felt like she had landed in the lap of luxury. The ship was beautiful and there was so much to enjoy—great evening gourmet dining; incredible, relaxing massages; entertaining nightly shows; dance classes; balcony ocean viewing; and the fun of sharing it all with friends. They found the sights absolutely amazing—beautiful mountains, glaciers, fjords, rivers, and lakes. She and Carol left the ship as often as they could to enjoy the treasures of the country and its history, including an excursion where they climbed a glacier.

On July 15, **Rich and Mary Kohlman** left the USA and traveled to Recife, Pernambuco, Brazil (a city of 4 million people); it was their seventh trip to this beautiful country. During most of their three-week visit they were able to share time with their grandchildren (Jasmin and



Eduardo) and children (Simeon and Emilia), who were on vacation from either work or school. Recife’s “winter” weather made it not so

uncomfortable as past visits with more ocean breezes and slightly lower temperatures.

On July 24 their family group and about 30



other members of Emilia’s family met them at the beach resort Vila Gale at Cabo de Santo Agostinho (Cape of St. Augustine)—located about 25 miles south of Recife—for a four-day, Rabbani family reunion. At the resort they

enjoyed getting to know Emilia’s family better, the delicious Brazilian food, the air conditioning, and the gorgeous scenery.

They also enjoyed sharing with their son on



his 40th birthday. Visiting Olinda—a village founded in the early 16th century—is another highlight of most of their Recife visits. It's located on a hill a few miles north of Recife and boasts spectacular views, 20 historic cathedrals, and crafts created by the local people.

A couple of days after returning to the “good-ole USA,” they drove to Dillon, Colorado, with their friends, the O'Daniels, and spent a week hiking and biking in that area. They have enjoyed a great summer but are happy to be home at last!

Tom Beck and Max Coopwood attended the Samish Island Reunion in the early summer. The visiting minister was Brad Martell. They were glad to meet up with relatives and friends from Montana there. Also, they enjoyed some sailing through the San Juans and a visit to Seattle. In early August they headed north once more for the first Beck family reunion in Butte, Montana. Tom renewed friendships with cousins he has not seen for 45 years.

This summer they have been taking time to enjoy the assets of a Colorado summer, sharing with friends, and just enjoying being home in Loveland. In the fall they have planned a historical tour of church sites in Missouri and Iowa with Shari and Glenn Smith.

Shari and Glenn Smith sailed on a Pearl Seas ship up the New England coast from Halifax with 10 ports of call along the way—stopping at such places as Martha's Vineyard and Portland, Maine. Their son, Matthew, and his wife and three children from Arkansas visited in August. In September their granddaughter, Lauren, is planning a visit with a trip to Mesa Verde on the agenda. They are looking forward in October to take the Historic Tour with Tom and Max.

Rick and Kay Bunch had a busy summer on the road. They traveled to Branson, Missouri, in June for a reunion with Rick's brother and sister. From there they went to Tulsa for a few days and returned home with their daughter,

Kerby. They then went to Steamboat Springs for 10 days, returned home for three days, then flew to San Francisco for a week. Kerby had never been there, so it was fun to see the sights in Muir Woods, Napa and Sonoma Valleys, and Monterey. They were home four days when Rick and his brother, Bill, headed north to spend nine days in Glacier National Park and four National Parks in Canada including Banff and Lake Louise.

Don and Joyce Worthington have been here and away during this past summer. In May they headed to Indiana to attend Joyce's granddaughter, Sarah's, graduation party. Then Don's son, Bruce, came for a long weekend to celebrate Father's Day with his dad. Recently they returned from a trip to Washington State where they visited the McFarlins (Bill and Beth) and Bruce and Janet Worthington. They have a planned trip to South Carolina for September to share with Don's siblings: twin sisters Betty and Shirley and brother Bob and also trips to Washington. Rumor has it that they may have a house full of guests for Thanksgiving (still in the “perhaps” stages).

Dick and Julie Foster have spent the summer preparing for their move to Carlsbad, California. Their house has been sold and they have packed up and made their way southwest. Luella is looking forward to joining them when they finally get settled in a new house there. They shall all be much missed!



Directory Update

Mendenhall, Jon and Nancy
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