

***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*

**March 2015**

## ***“Living Lent”***

—Rich Kohlman, Communication Ministries Pastor

As I sit down to write this column, it is Wednesday, the beginning of the Lenten Season. In my early years, Lent was not observed in our denomination. It has only been in the last few years that we have begun to study it and observe it as we have found its disciplines can be an important part of our spiritual journeys into a deeper relationship with the Divine Mystery.

There are many ways we can walk the path through the Lenten season, and there are many resources available on the World Church's website: <http://www.cofchrist.org/a-guide-for-lent>.

For many of us, Lent has meant giving something up for 40 days to focus more clearly on our relationship with God and the meaning of the Resurrection. I am a neophyte when it comes to Lent. Most years I have just let it pass by with hardly a notice. Some years I have given up game playing on my computer or chocolate. There are many things we can choose to fast from that, hopefully, open up time to spend in thoughtful meditation. But, unfortunately, I think for many we have focused on the “giving something up,” rather than “making time for Divine Mystery to work within our spiritual lives,” deepening and broadening them.

I've found myself in the years I have “given something up” feeling gratified that I was able to survive the 40 days and then have gleefully returned to my life and those things I'd given up. I didn't grow spiritually. “Oh, I can play

games again! Oh, the sweet taste of dark chocolate!”

As I have contemplated what I might do this year, I have decided that giving something up is not what I want to focus on. Rather I want to focus on some spiritual disciplines that will stay with me after the Lenten season is over. Isn't that the real point? Not removing something from my life but adding something to it. Of course, I am immediately aware that to add something to my life means removing something from it. What a dichotomy!

However, by focusing on what I want to add, I already become aware that there are a multitude of things I will give up to make room for the needed spiritual disciplines, not just one thing. It does require a resurrection of sorts: a new life that will extend beyond the end of Lent, rather than returning to what was briefly left behind—the old life. It is the arrival of Easter, the evidence of new life arisen.

There are two scriptures that come to mind as I enter this Lenten season:

*The work of preparation and the perfection of the saints go forward slowly, and Zion conditions are no further away nor closer than the spiritual condition of my people justify.*

—Doctrine and Covenants 140:5c

*The expectation for priesthood to continually magnify their callings through spiritual growth, study, exemplary generosity, ethical choices, and fully accountable ministry is always present. How can the Spirit fill vessels that are unwilling to expand their capacity to receive and give according to a full measure of God's grace and truth?*

—Doctrine and Covenants 163:6c

## 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.

## Financial Report



### January Income

#### World Church

Use where needed most	\$2,787.50
Abolish Poverty/End Suffering	306.00
Invite People to Christ	10.00
Pursue Peace on Earth	5.00
Develop Disciples to Serve	5.00
Experience Congregations in Mission	55.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,168.50</b>

#### Local

Local Offering	\$2,289.52
Building Fund	55.00
Two-Cents-a-Meal	72.00
Family Assistance	85.00
Youth Fund	207.00
Other	55.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,763.52</b>

—Betty Jones, CFO

## Fort Collins Congregation Offerings 2015 Disciples' Generous Response

Month	Total World Initiatives	Total Local Operating	Total Operating Giving
January	3,168.50	2,289.52	5,458.02
February			-
March			-
April			-
May			-
June			-
July			-
August			-
September			-
October			-
November			-
December			-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 3,168.50</b>	<b>\$ 2,289.52</b>	<b>\$ 5,458.02</b>
<b>Balance</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>42%</b>	

## March Birthdays



Bianca Clark-Bennett	3/1
Carol Birks	3/5
Tim Sundell	3/12
Sara Rolfe	3/15
Taylor Bridwell	3/15
Marta Remmenga	3/16
Shari Smith	3/17
Kelly Jackson	3/22
Lee Cook	3/24
Bill Florom	3/25
Ashley McKenzie	3/27
Jared Clark	3/31

## The Lenten Season

A rich blessing of a Lenten journey is using ancient practices to guide us into what is new. Though the path ahead is not easy or certain, an abundance of wisdom from generations past can help us live even deeper into the meaning of resurrection.

## March Calendar



Check the website

- Mar. 1: 11:00 a.m., Communion Service  
First-Sunday Giving  
12:15 p.m., Potluck-lunch
- Mar. 4: Pastors Meeting, 1:30 p.m.  
Worship Coordinators, 3:00 p.m.  
Leadership Council, 4:00 p.m.
- Mar. 8: Church School, 9:45 a.m.  
Worship, 11:00 a.m.  
Two-Cents-a-Meal Offering
- Mar. 9: PFLAG, 7:00 p.m.
- Mar. 13-14: RMMC Leadership Retreat
- Mar. 15: Church School, 9:45 a.m.  
Worship, 11:00 a.m.  
Third-Sunday Fellowship, "St.  
Patrick's" Theme, 5:00 p.m.  
*Communicator* items due.
- Mar. 22: Church School Classes, 9:45 a.m.  
Worship, 11:00 a.m.
- Mar. 26: Book Club, 1:00 p.m.
- Mar. 29: Palm Sunday  
Church School Classes, 9:45 a.m.  
Worship, 11:00 a.m.

## March Third-Sunday Social



St. Patrick's Activity, 5:00 p.m. Led by Kurt and Danise Remmenga, Rick and Kay Bunch, Joyce Jordeth, and Jean and Jan Newman.

## Upcoming Socials

April	Old-Fashioned Campfire
May	Annual Artisan Show
June	Open
July	Karaoke
August	Annual Picnic
September	Game Night
October	Harvest Party
November	Holiday Dinner
December	Open



## Book Club News

Book Club meets on Thursday, March 26, at 1:00 p.m. at Lillian Wallace's home. The book for discussion is *Seeking Peace: Chronicles of the Worst Buddhist in the World* by Mary Pipher.



## Getting to Know You

### Do You Know Gary and Ruth Chatburn?

Certainly you have seen their names in the bulletin as they participate in our Sunday worship services. They have moved to Fort Collins recently from Lubbock, Texas, where Gary worked as an electrical engineer for Occidental Petroleum Corporation (OXY). They were lured here by their friendship with Rick and Kay Bunch and the appeal of this part of Colorado. They find that Fort Collins puts them midway between their children and their families in Missouri and Washington State, with easy access to DIA.

Previous to their four years in Lubbock, the Chatburns lived for six years in Houston, Texas, and prior to that in Tulsa, Oklahoma. They met at Graceland where they attended for two years. After those two years, Gary transferred to Tulsa University and Ruth transferred to Central Missouri University. They married after they each graduated.

They have two sons: Mark, their older son, is an electrical engineer like Gary. His wife, Stephanie, is a neonatal nurse. They have two precious daughters: Olivia who is nine, and Madeline who is five. They live in Grain Valley, Missouri, just east of Independence. Their younger son, John, and his wife, Andi, live in Spokane, Washington. John is mission center

president and financial officer for the Community of Christ Inland West Mission Center. Andi is a palliative care physician and director of ethics at the Providence Sacred Heart Medical Center. They have two dogs—a golden lab mix and a chocolate lab.

Ruth and Gary have had opportunity to travel to several destinations in conjunction with Gary's work. Business trips have included places in Canada (Vancouver, British Columbia; Calgary, Alberta; Banff, Alberta; and Toronto, Ontario) and the United States (Philadelphia, New York City, San Antonio, New Orleans, and San Diego). While Gary's sister and brother-in-law were in Europe on assignment, Gary and Ruth visited them in The Hague and also stopped over in London, England for sightseeing. Family vacations have taken them to such places as the Smokey Mountains; the Rocky Mountains; Washington, DC; Knoxville, Tennessee; Huntsville, Alabama; Honolulu, Hawaii; Los Angeles, and Kansas City. Gary and Ruth are looking forward to becoming involved with the One Village One Family program. Volunteering has always been important to them, and they know that there are many options open for them to consider.

The Chatburns enjoy hiking, biking, being in the outdoors, and spending time with family and friends. They look forward to developing additional interests as a result of now being in Colorado.

**God is calling for a prophetic community to emerge, drawn from the nations of the world, that is characterized by uncommon devotion to the compassion and peace of God revealed in Jesus Christ. This community has been given abundant gifts, resources, and opportunities to equip it to become such a people.**

—Doctrine and Covenants 163:11a

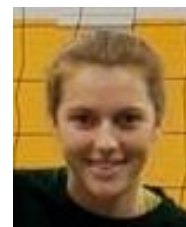


## Up With You

Our youth had a great opportunity on February 1, to work on their volleyball skills with Cassidy



Denny, a church member from Sacramento, California, and Sanja Cizmic, from Croatia, both members of the CSU volleyball



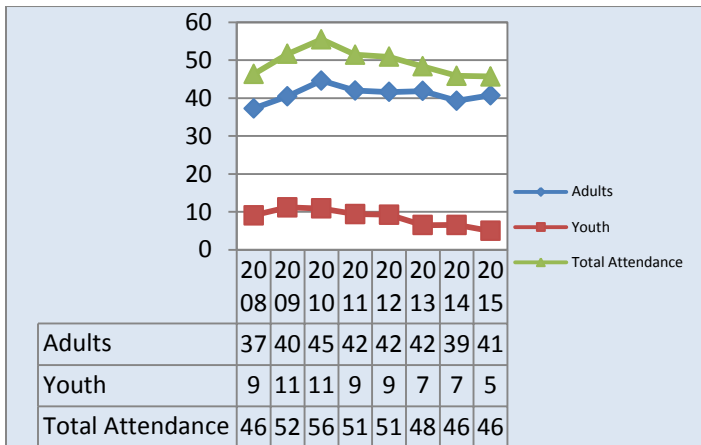
team. Cassidy has been to Spectacular and graciously accepted an invitation to come and help our youth, whose experience last year taught them they needed to learn more about the game of volleyball. We hope Cassidy and Sanja can return another time to continue their instruction.

Cassidy also was just named as one of the 38 CSU honoree athletes to the Fall 2014 Academic All-Mountain West.





## Average Attendance for the Complete Years 2008-2014, and 2015 Year-to-date.



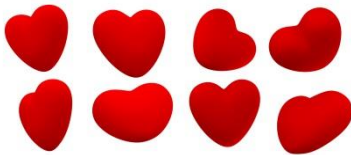
Got to get this love letter finished before Kathy gets back with the food.



If I go slow enough, maybe Brian can finish that love letter.

## Red Heart Dinner and Desserts Photos

by Max Coopwood



Your not taking my picture are you, Max?



You smile for the camera. I'm too busy eating.



The Out-of-Sequines serenaded us.