

***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**

**May 2015**

## ***“Glad Game”***

—Kay Bunch, Outreach Ministries Pastor

**I**n March our Community of Christ book club read *Seeking Peace: Chronicles of the Worst Buddhist in the World* by Mary Pipher. This is where I first heard of “the glad game.” In this book they mentioned the book *Pollyanna*. When Pollyanna received crutches instead of a doll in the church charity basket, her minister father encouraged her to be glad she didn’t need the crutches. They invented a game to remind them to be grateful at all times. This passage has two meanings for me: First, be appreciative of people in our lives, like Pollyanna’s father, who help us look at situations in different ways; and second, be grateful for what we do have, and be open to opportunities to share.

Rick and I lived in Tahiti when our girls were three and one years old. One lovely day when we were staying on the island of Tubuai, about 30 church people were going to spend the day across the ocean on another island. There were



already about 15 or 20 people sitting on the edge of the small motor boat that was our means of transportation. The edge of the boat was

only about six inches above the water. I was trying to get up the courage to get into the boat with our two little girls when Jane Breckenridge (a church appointee wife who had lived in Tahiti many different times) said to me, “Kay, you can get in. You and the girls will be safe.

We have traveled like this many times.”

Without hearing those assuring words from Jane, I don’t know if I would have gotten in or not. I am so grateful for her presence in my life and for the blessing of traveling many places with the Tahitians, usually singing on the journey. Out of uncertainty, I found a way to be “glad.”

A couple of months after we returned to the states after living in Tahiti for two years, our doctor discovered Kerby had leukemia. The doctors told us to go to the University of Iowa Hospital right away. We drove to a friend’s house and left Amy with her for the weekend. This friend said to me, “Kay, I have read that they are making enormous strides in leukemia research every day. Kerby will be in good hands at this hospital.” I was scared and, in fact, could hardly say the word “leukemia;” however, I held on to those exact words said to me, and I repeated them over and over. They gave me such comfort and courage. Out of fear, I found a way to be “glad.”

Some years later Rick and I and three other couples were canoeing in the Boundary Waters in Minnesota/Canada. We got caught in a storm in the middle of a large lake. The waves



were high, and I knew I could not miss a beat paddling. As we paddled, I kept praying “Help us God” with each strike of the oar

in the water. Finally we got to shore. I was very scared, relieved, and never wanted to get on the water again. After about five minutes, Rick said, “OK, let’s walk around this point and get

back on the water.” Oh my gosh, I did not want to do that. I started praying again, and I received a comforting feeling that God’s arms were wrapped around us and all would be well. I actually felt calm and courageous. I am grateful for the Spirit’s presence in my life—for the comfort given to me on numerous occasions and for helping me look at situations and people with “new eyes.” And I am “glad.”

This past year our church was asked if we would be willing to be an overnight emergency shelter for homeless women. Our congregation overwhelmingly wanted to provide this service for our community by sharing our gymnasium. When we found out city council would not give the variance, the matter was dropped. Soon a new person came on the scene and was able to push it through city council to make way for a shelter in our facility for 20 women. In the face of seemingly impossible obstacles, we are “glad.”

David Brock said, “The presence of God’s love can come as healing words: ‘Peace be with you.’ Find your own genuine way to speak that transforming truth. The soul of a person of great worth needs to hear such words. You are one through whom God can provide that blessing.”

We can imitate “the glad game” in our lives, and this coping device could become deeply ingrained in us. Life is about choices and our attitude. As you think back over your life, can you remember moments of gratitude for your choices? Let’s look for opportunities from this moment on to be grateful and opportunities to play “the glad game.”

*Be grateful for what we do  
have, and be open to  
opportunities to share.*

## 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



### March Income

#### World Church

Use where needed most	\$3,489.90
Abolish Poverty/End Suffering	351.25
Invite People to Christ	90.00
Pursue Peace on Earth	60.00
Develop Disciples to Serve	5.00
Experience Congregations in Mission	30.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,026.15</b>

#### Local

Local Offering	\$4,759.50
Building Fund	60.00
Two-Cents-a-Meal	86.00
Family Assistance	55.00
Youth Fund	166.00
Herald and Temple School	148.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,274.50</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	3,232.00	2,738.00	5,970.00
March	4,026.15	4,759.50	8,785.65
April			-
May			-
June			-
July			-
August			-
September			-
October			-
November			-
December			-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 10,426.65</b>	<b>\$ 9,787.02</b>	<b>\$ 20,213.67</b>
<b>Balance</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>48%</b>	

## May Birthdays



Porter Garner	5/3
Voni Simons	5/4
Awtumn Alcoser	5/10
Rose Julch	5/15
Jim Miller	5/15
Lisa Garner	5/25
Toni Martinez	5/25

## Mission Prayer

God, where will your spirit lead today? Help me be fully awake and ready to respond. Grant me courage to risk something new and become a blessing of your love and peace.

## May Calendar



Check the website

- May 3: Classes, 9:45 a.m.  
Communion Service, 11:00 a.m.  
First-Sunday Giving
- May 5: Priesthood meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- May 6: Pastors meeting, 1:30 p.m.  
Worship Coordinators, 3:00 p.m.  
Leadership Council, 4:00 p.m.
- May 10: Classes, 9:45 a.m.  
Worship, 11:00 a.m.  
Two-Cents-a-Meal Offering
- May 11: PFLAG, 7:00 p.m.
- May 17: Classes, 9:45 a.m.  
Worship, 11:00 a.m.  
Third-Sunday Fellowship, Annual  
Artisan Show, 5:00 p.m.  
*Communicator* items due.
- May 24: Classes, 9:45 a.m.  
Worship, 11:00 a.m.
- May 28: Book Club, 1:00 p.m.
- May 31: Fifth-Sunday Forum and Breakfast,  
9:00-10:45 a.m.  
A visit with our Muslim neighbors.  
Worship, 11:00 a.m.

## May Third-Sunday Social

### Annual Artisan Show



Come and enjoy our Second Annual Artisan Show planned by Beverly Doig, David and Carol Birks, Rich and Mary Kohlman, Kathy Bridwell, and Brian Cole. Stay tuned for more information in the bulletins and Church Updates.

### Upcoming Socials

June	Open
July	Karaoke
August	Annual Picnic
September	Game Night
October	Harvest Party
November	Holiday Dinner
December	Christmas Play





## Book Club News

Book Club meets on Thursday, May 28, at 1:00 p.m. Place and book to be determined.



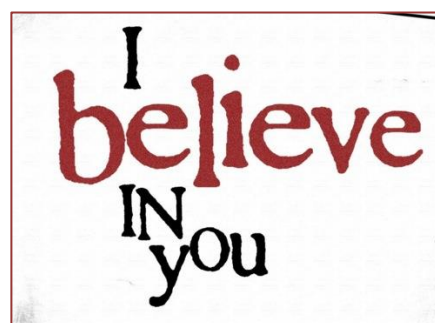
## 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Fort Collins Congregation

2016 will mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Fort Collins Congregation. Joyce Jordeth and Max Coopwood are already involved in gathering information about the church over these 100 years. If you have an interest in history and the church, and would like to share on a committee as we plan to celebrate this milestone, let Rich Kohlman know. ([rkohlman@comcast.net](mailto:rkohlman@comcast.net); (970) 484-1239) Dave Simons, Marilyn Garner, and Kathy Graybill have volunteered to help. There is still room for more to make this a memorable occasion in the life of our congregation.



## News Items

Pictures from the RMMC Jr. High Retreat leading the congregation in worship on April 12



# Wedding and Reception for Tom Beck and Max Coopwood



## *Into the Woods* with Alec Fronapfel

