

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



A monthly newsletter of
Community of Christ

Fort Collins, Colorado

A Welcoming Congregation

For everyone born, a place at the table

November 2015

“Finding Joy”

—Dave Simons, Pastoral Ministries Pastor

Recently, we enjoyed a visit from our grandson, Malakai, and his mommy, Cassi. Even though they were here just briefly, we hit several playgrounds, played in the sand, and celebrated his second birthday. We had a great time!

This brought a great deal of joy to our lives! We marvel daily at his enthusiasm, exuberance, energy, and vitality. When we're not right there with them, we get to talk to him and see him

via Tango, thanks to the marvels of smartphone technology. Seeing him smile and blow kisses brings joy and happiness to our lives.



This causes me to consider other ways that bring joy into my life: Several weeks ago we shared a meal with some families who were guests at the FFH program. I enjoyed seeing the young children eating the food we had prepared and hearing their expressions of appreciation for what we were providing.

I find joy in our fellowship together. Taking advantage of the opportunities that we have to share in a meal (yes, I do enjoy potlucks!), visiting after church, third-Sunday socials, friendly conversations—all combine to bring us closer together and help us experience joy and expand our friendships.

I enjoy exploring new hymns in *Community of Christ Sings* and finding ways that our worship together is enhanced through singing and listening to new melodies. We may miss a note or two, but I believe our singing brings joy to God as we worship and sing praises to our Creator.

And how can we not feel joyful as we experience the marvels, the colorful tapestry of nature around us! I delight in seeing the changing colors of trees and flowers and watching the animals as they prepare for winter just around the corner. Praise God!

Yet, I know that for some, joy is hard to come by. Sickness, recovery from illness, loss of loved ones, job changes and the lack of good-paying jobs, homelessness, separation from family, discouragement, and many other factors bring heartache and sadness. Where is joy for them? Can I truly be joyful when others don't feel that? How do I share my joy with others? Those are concerns that stir within me and cause me to respond in ways that I am able.

We are a community that seeks to bring joy, hope, and love to others. May we continue to do that in meaningful ways.

Tender God, your presence in all situations gives us reason to rejoice. We are not alone! May we encounter your joy in those places where we seem least likely to find it. Amen.

(A prayer from a past issue of *Alive Now*.)

Communicator

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Financial Report



September Income

World Church

Use where needed most	\$1,987.50
Abolish Poverty/End Suffering	243.00
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	\$2,260.50

Local

Local Offering	\$2,653.50
Building Fund	55.00
Two-Cents-a-Meal	108.00
Family Assistance	0.00
Other	0.00
Total	\$2,816.50
—Betty Jones, CFO	



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.

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	3,190.50	2,681.50	5,872.00
May	3,547.50	2,815.50	6,363.00
June	3,225.50	2,433.00	5,658.50
July	2,834.00	1,883.00	4,717.00
August	3,343.60	2,955.35	6,298.95
September	2,260.50	2,653.50	4,914.00
October			-
November			-
December			-
TOTALS	\$ 28,828.25	\$ 25,208.87	\$ 54,037.12
Balance	53%	47%	



Alec Fronapfel, a freshman at Fort Collins High School, is playing on the varsity soccer team this fall. He was also nominated for Homecoming royalty from the freshman class.

Zach Fronapfel's new address:

2007 Orchard Ave.

Grand Junction, CO 81501

Gabe Pagat and his tennis partner lost in the second match of the playback round in the state tennis tournament.



The fourth book in **Eric Fronapfel's** series about the seasons in Colorado has just been published. It is titled *The Twelve Days of Summer in Colorado*. He is the illustrator of these children's books as well as others. If you are interested in looking over his books, please call him at (970)310-0790.

November Birthdays



Makenna Jackson	11/1
Joyce Jordeth	11/2
Sharon Troyer	11/2
Shauna Clark	11/2
Shirley Remmenga	11/4
Jon Ytell	11/7
Emmaline Garner	11/7
David Birks	11/11
Brett Bridwell	11/11
Zachary Fronapfel	11/15
Alec Fronapfel	11/15
Debbie Jones	11/17
Vergean Wood	11/20
Dawn Gaffield	11/21
Wendell Wallace	11/28

November Calendar



Check the website:

<http://cofchstrm.org/FortCollins/>

- Nov. 1: Classes, 9:45 a.m.
Communion Service, 11:00 a.m.
First-Sunday Giving
Potluck, 12:15 p.m.
- Nov. 4: Pastors Meeting, 1:30 p.m.
Worship Coordinators, 3:00 p.m.
Leadership Council, 4:00 p.m.
- Nov. 6-8: RMMC Annual Fall Conference,
YMCA in Estes Park
- Nov. 8: Classes, 9:45 a.m.
Worship, 11:00 a.m.
Two-Cents-a-Meal Offering
- Nov. 9: PFLAG, 7:00 p.m.
- Nov. 15: Classes, 9:45 a.m.
Worship, 11:00 a.m.
Communicator items due.
Third-Sunday Social, Holiday Dinner,
5:00 p.m.
- Nov. 19: Book Club, 1:00 p.m.
- Nov. 28: Saturday Morning Homeless Breakfast
(all are welcome to come by and help),
8:00 a.m.-noon.

Nov. 28: Hanging of the Greens. Time TBD.

Nov. 29: Classes, 9:45 a.m.

Worship, 11:00 a.m.

First Sunday of Advent



Book Club News

Book Club will be held Thursday, November 19, 1:00 p.m. at Lillian Wallace's home. The book being discussed is *The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel James Brown. Don't forget to bring a snack to share!

Speakers, Keyboard, Greeters, and Nursery



Speakers

- ❖ Nov. 1: Gary Chatburn
- ❖ Nov. 8: Deb Friesz
- ❖ Nov. 15: Nancy Miller
- ❖ Nov. 22: Dave Simons
- ❖ Nov. 29: Gil Pagat

Planners

- ❖ Nov. 1: Dave Simons
- ❖ Nov. 8: Jean Newman
- ❖ Nov. 15: Mary Kohlman
- ❖ Nov. 22: Nancy Miller
- ❖ Nov. 29: TBD

Keyboard

- ❖ Nov. 1: Sharon Fulton
- ❖ Nov. 8: Sharon Fulton
- ❖ Nov. 15: Sharon Troyer
- ❖ Nov. 22: Tom Beck
- ❖ Nov. 29: Deb Friesz

Greeters

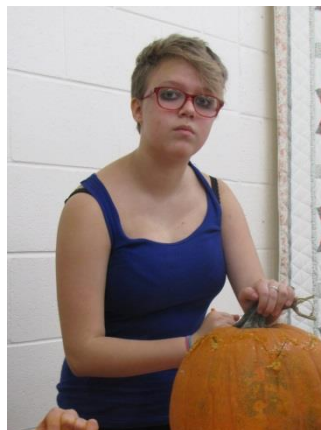
- ❖ November: Bill and Pat Miner

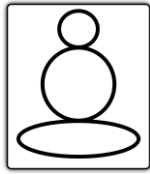
Nursery

- ❖ Nov. 1: Debbie Jones
- ❖ Nov. 8: Bettie Miller
- ❖ Nov. 15: Marta Remmenga
- ❖ Nov. 22: Bill and Pat Miner

❖ Nov. 29: Rose Julch

Harvest Party Pictures





Prayer

Offered by Shari Smith on September 27

Protector God, you receive me today just as I am. You examine me and know me just as I am. I want to become closer to you, because you will help me examine my actions as well as inactions.

Lord, when I am alone with my mind—my thoughts, reflections, question—I know I have a tendency to justify my innocence. I defend myself. However, if I allow you to be part of my search, I see my responsibility. Life is not predictable. You help me remember, remember, “Here is where God met me and helped me.”

As contemporary people, we do not value self-knowledge the way people used to. We are caught up in technocratic knowledge and allow it to reign supreme. I need to allow you to help me avoid connecting tightly to that philosophy, rather than to connect with myself. Examined life pursues peace and prosperity. Socrates stated the famous dictum, “Know thyself.” After all, the offering of myself can only be the offering of my lived experience, because that alone is who I am. It is who I am and not who I want to be. It is the only offering I have to give.

I must give you not only my strength but also my weakness, not just my giftedness but also my brokenness. Moreover, through that faith in you I wish to find self-acceptance and self-love.

Precious Savior, you deliver love, till I hesitate to pour out myself—afraid of what might surface. Even so, I invite you to search my depths so I may know myself—and you—in fuller measure. Amen.

Enduring Principles



Our Enduring Principles define the essence, heart, and soul of our faith community. They describe the personality of our church as expressed throughout the world.

Enduring Principles

- Grace and Generosity
- Sacredness of Creation
- Continuing Revelation
- Worth of All Persons
- All Are Called
- **Responsible Choices**
- Pursuit of Peace (Shalom)
- Unity in Diversity
- Blessings of Community

Responsible Choices

- God gives humans the ability to make choices about whom or what they will serve. Some people experience conditions that diminish their ability to make choices.
- Human choices contribute to good or evil in our lives and in the world.
- Many aspects of creation need redemption because of irresponsible and sinful human choices.
- We are called to make responsible choices within the circumstances of our lives that contribute to the purposes of God.