

***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

October 2015

“Put on Your Oxygen Mask”

—Kay Bunch, Outreach Ministries Pastor

First, let's find ways to take care of ourselves. You have all heard the message from the stewardess on the airplane to put on your oxygen mask first and then help whomever you can with theirs. Well, this is exactly the subject of this letter to you.

We all need to be rejuvenated. One afternoon on an especially busy day I looked out the window onto our deck with the sun shining on it and decided I had 15 minutes to take a break. What a wonderful break that was! I sat in the sun in a comfortable chair and looked up at the sky—that is one of my favorite pastimes. The beautiful blue sky and magnificent, differently shaped clouds brought me peace, and I felt refreshed. I took time to feel relaxed sitting with my feet up, observing the beauty of the blue sky, discovering so many wonderful shapes in the clouds, feeling the warm sun on my back, feeling the wind blowing my hair, and letting my mind and body be quiet. What a blessing that was to me and a realization that I needed to feel this way more often, and, that I could, if I would, take the time.

One of the books I just finished reading asked the question, “How is your heart?” After that short 15 minutes of rest and refreshment, I felt like my heart was healed, happy, and peaceful. I have experienced an especially busy summer, yet one of the most refreshing to the health of my heart and soul. There were moments of being with family, friends of more than 50

years, and friends of only a few years. I experienced adventures of rafting and being tossed on the rocks at the bottom of the Poudre River and coming out with no bruises, walking through paths in the woods along a stream assisted by my hiking poles and caring friends, walking hand in hand with a friend who can no longer speak, watching and listening to a waterfall, traveling to favorite places and to absolutely new horizons. These experiences were healing and refreshing to my heart and soul. We can all find ways to refresh and renew.

Second, remember the instructions of the stewardess? Well, now you have on your oxygen mask and you are ready for the next step. Do you also remember the story of the sparrow lying in the street with its legs straight up in the air? When asked what he was doing, he said, “Haven't you heard? The sky is falling and, well, one does what one can. I'm ready to help catch and hold up the sky.”

We are ready to look beyond ourselves and observe the needs and cares of others around us, and do what we can. It can mean smiling at a stranger, talking to a small child, calling a person with whom you want to reconnect with or letting someone know you care about them. It could be giving an extra vacuum you have to someone who desperately needs one, sending a card, folding paper cranes for a time capsule placed in a peace sculpture. There are so many things each one of us can do that we think are small, but really make a big impact on others. Look for opportunities and discover the joy in giving.

These are the words to a song I learned many years ago at a Bible school,

"Love is nothing 'til you give it away, give it away, give it away; It's just like a magic penny. Lend it, spend it, and you have so many they roll all over the floor."

That is what we do when we show we care about ourselves and others. We feel the joy of magic—God's love flowing through us.

Communicator

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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			-
October			-
November			-
December			-
TOTALS	\$ 26,567.75	\$ 22,555.37	\$ 49,123.12
Balance	54%	46%	

Financial Report



August Income

World Church

Use where needed most	\$3,012.60
Abolish Poverty/End Suffering	301.00
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	\$3,343.60

Local

Local Offering	\$2,955.35
Building Fund	65.00
Two-Cents-a-Meal	90.35
Family Assistance	35.00
Other	25.00
Total	\$3,170.70
—Betty Jones, CFO	

October Birthdays



Eric Fronapfel	10/2
Mary Kohlman	10/7
Jon Mendenhall	10/14
Irene Chungag	10/14
Nancy Simon	10/21
Gilbert Pagat	10/21
Ben Miller	10/21
Beverly Doig	10/21
Nancy Miller	10/23
Danise Remmenga	10/26
Rick Bunch	10/28
Aidan Dicke	10/30

God

We believe in one living God, revealed in Jesus Christ, who moves through all creation as the Holy Spirit. We affirm the Trinity—God who is a community of three persons. All things that exist owe their being to God: mystery beyond understanding and love beyond imagination.

October Calendar



Check the website:

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

- Oct. 4: Classes, 9:45 a.m.
Communion Service, 11:00 a.m.
First-Sunday Giving
Potluck, 12:15 p.m.
President's address, 5:00 p.m.
- Oct. 7: Pastors Meeting, 1:30 p.m.
Worship Coordinators, 3:00 p.m.
Leadership Council, 4:00 p.m.
- Oct. 11: Classes, 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service, 11:00 a.m.
Two-Cents-a-Meal Offering
- Oct. 12: PFLAG, 7:00 p.m.
- Oct. 18: Classes, 9:45 a.m.
Worship, 11:00 a.m.
Communicator items due.
Third-Sunday Social, Harvest Party,
5:00 p.m.
- Oct. 22: Book Club, 1:00 p.m.
- Oct. 24: Saturday Morning Homeless Breakfast
(all are welcome to come by and help),
8:00 a.m.–noon.
- Oct. 25: Classes, 9:45 a.m.
Worship, 11:00 a.m.



October Third-Sunday Social Harvest Party

The Third-Sunday Social on October 18 will be our Harvest Party. Planners are: Josh and Jenn Birks, John and Cinnamon Garner, Jim and Betty Miller, and Wendell and Lillian Wallace.

Upcoming Socials

November 15	Holiday Dinner
December 20	Christmas Play



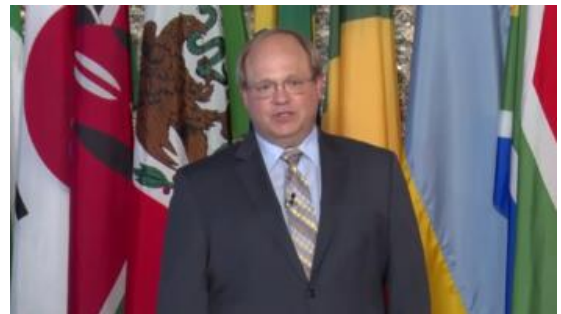
Book Club News

Book Club will be held Thursday, October 22. Place and book to be decided at September's meeting. Don't forget to bring a snack to share!



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.



President Veazey to Address the Church

President Veazey will address the church in an interactive, *webcast-only event* on 4 October 2015 at 5:00 p.m. MDT.

Following the address, President Veazey will answer questions. E-mail questions to AskSteveVeazey@CofChrist.org or send questions on social media using [#AskSteveVeazey](https://twitter.com/AskSteveVeazey).

Karaoke Pictures



Marta Remmenga and Lillian Wallace



Ken Jones



Debbie and Gary Jones



Bianca Clark and Nancy Miller



Nancy Miller



Don and Joyce Worthington



Wanda Florom

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

All Are Called

- God graciously gives people gifts and opportunities to do good and to share in God's purposes.
- Jesus Christ invites people to follow him by becoming disciples who share his life and ministry.
- Some disciples are called and ordained to particular priesthood responsibilities and ministries for the sake of the community, the congregation, and the world.
- We respond faithfully, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to our best understanding of God's call.



karaoke

A Japanese word meaning empty orchestra, used to mean the pastime of singing a popular song to a prerecorded backing tape.