

Our mission is to faithfully witness of Jesus Christ so that:

- Our relationship with God can be nurtured,
- Our discipleship can be strengthened,
- The dignity and worth of persons can be valued,
- The recognition and contribution of others is accepted,
- We become aware of and respond to the needs of the community, and
- We will respect and care for God's earth.



August 2016

Communicator

A monthly newsletter of



Community of Christ



Fort Collins, Colorado

A Welcoming Congregation

For everyone born, a place at the table

“Everyone Does It”

—Debbie Jones, Worship Ministries Pastor

From the mouths of our children, our co-workers, or our neighbors, those three words are used to justify actions that are unsafe, illegal, or immoral. Children are bullied into shoplifting or smoking by their peers. Friends gather for drinks after hours to drown their troubles before driving home. Neighbors huddle behind their own doors with secrets of infidelities. All justified because “everyone does it.”

A church member in Florida, who is a recovering alcoholic, gave a testimonial and said, “A thief thinks everyone steals and an alcoholic thinks everyone drinks.” His rationale was because everyone drank, then it must be okay.

When I was younger I often heard, “Just because someone jumps off a bridge doesn’t mean you have to jump too.” (That was before bungee jumping.) You see, I would make decisions to do things that weren’t very wise: I rode in speeding cars, I stayed out late past my curfew, and I lied about where I was, all because I wanted to “fit in.” I told my parents “but everyone does it.” I was a follower.

I have read that only 3 percent of people are trendsetters. The rest are followers. We are a society of “followers” and find strength in the mob of “everyone.”

We might choose to follow for a sense of belonging, to be popular—a reason common with our youth. Or we join certain political parties, because we hope they will bring our favored leader into power.

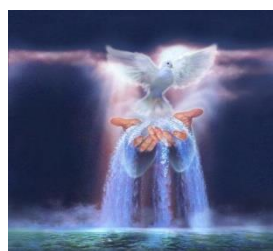
This makes being a follower sound rather negative, but it can also be positive to belong to a larger group. If the group has good beliefs and moral compasses, we can benefit from the strength of their numbers. The friend in Florida found strength in the local AA group and is no longer drinking. We, as members of Community of Christ, find strength to stand against injustices done to others.

Jesus wants us to be followers, his followers, his disciples. He said, “Follow me.” (Mark 2:11)

“And they, believing on his words, left their nets, and straightway followed him.” (Matthew 5: 19)

“Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children.” (Ephesians 5:1)

“And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost.” (I Thessalonian 1:6)



Yes, we are followers.

God, where will your Spirit lead us today?

Communicator

Editors in Chief: The Pastorate
Managing Editor: Rich Kohlman
Copy Editor: Mary Kohlman
Monthly Reporters: Beverly Doig,
Betty Jones,
Jon Mendenhall,
Max Coopwood,
Sharon Fulton

www.cofchristrm.org/FortCollins
cofchristfc@gmail.com

August Birthdays



Mary Heinrichs	8/9
Madie Birks	8/15
Kurt Remmenga	8/16
Keenan Fronapfel	8/19
John Garner	8/20
Ken Jones	8/26
Sierra Bridwell	8/26
Allister Garner	8/26

August Third-Sunday Social



The annual picnic at City Park shelter #7 will be held on August 14 at 6:00 p.m. Planners are Donna Clark, Bob and Sharon Fulton, Ruth and Gary Chatburn, Bill and Pat Miner, and Josh and Jenn Birks.

Upcoming Socials

September 18	Game Night
October 16	Harvest Party
November 20	Holiday Dinner

Picnic in the Park

Sunday, August 14, 6:00–8:00 p.m.
at City Park Shelter #7

Included:



Hamburgers, hotdogs, condiments, chips, drink, table service, and homemade ice cream will be provided.

Please bring a salad or side dish to share.

Entertainment this year will include FUN for one and all! A number of games and activities will be set up outside of the shelter house such as ladder ball, wet sponge races, croquet, etc. It is also suspicioned that a lot of chatting will take place. Feel free to invite your family and friends to join us at this annual congregation event.

The City Park outdoor pool, Sheldon Lake, City Park Railway, and the trolley are very close in proximity to the shelter house. Your family might want to include taking advantage of swimming, fishing, or train/trolley riding during the afternoon before the picnic.

Directions: From the intersection of Mulberry and College Ave., drive west on W. Mulberry St., past Shields, and turn right onto S. Bryan Ave. Continue straight on City Park Dr., and turn left by the miniature train to find the shelter house (**same place as last year**).

RSVP by Tuesday, August 9, to Sharon Fulton (970) 484-6943 or Donna Clark (970) 484-8009.

Don't forget BUG SPRAY and SUNSCREEN.



Financial Report



May Income

World Church

Use where needed most	\$2,175.00
Abolish Poverty/End Suffering	237.00
Invite People to Christ	5.00
Pursue Peace on Earth	5.00
Develop Disciples to Serve	5.00
Experience Congregations in Mission	5.00
Total	\$2,432.00

Local

Local Offering	\$2,478.72
Building Fund	85.00
Youth	100.00
Two-Cents-a-Meal	87.23
Family Assistance	35.00
Other	10.00
Total	\$2,795.95

—Gary and Ruth Chatburn, CFO

Fort Collins Congregation

Operating Offerings

2016 Disciples' Generous Response

(adjusted)

Month	Total World Initiatives	Total Local Operating	Total Operating Giving
January	3,375.50	4,032.00	7,407.50
February	2,589.00	2,731.50	5,320.50
March	3,677.00	3,344.00	7,021.00
April	4,114.00	3,876.00	7,990.00
May	2,673.00	3,892.90	6,565.90
June	2,432.00	2,478.72	4,910.72
July			-
August			-
September			-
October			-
November			-
December			-
TOTALS	\$ 18,860.50	\$ 20,355.12	\$ 39,215.62
Balance	48%	52%	



Save the Date!

100-Year-Anniversary
Celebration of the Fort Collins
Congregation
October 15–16, 2016

The committee wants to notify former congregation members. If you have current contact information (check your Christmas-card list), please notify Marilyn Garner. We have “postcards” for our local members to send to anyone they think might be interested in coming. Contact Dave Simons if you need some.

August Calendar



Check the website:

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

- Aug 3: Pastors Meeting, 1:30 p.m.
Worship Coordinators, 3:00 p.m.
Leadership Council, 4:00 p.m.
- Aug 3–7: Rockies Family Camp
- Aug 7: Fellowship time, 9:30 a.m.
Communion Service, 10:00 a.m.
First-Sunday Giving
No Potluck
- Aug 8: PFLAG, 7:00 p.m.
- Aug 12–14: NewWestFest
- Aug 14: No Local Service. NewWestFest
Third-Sunday Social on the second
Sunday. Annual Congregation Picnic,
6:00 p.m.
- Aug 21: Fellowship time, 9:30 a.m.
Worship, 10:00 a.m.
- Aug 27: Saturday Morning Homeless Breakfast
(all are welcome to come by and help),
8:00 a.m.–noon
- Aug 28: Fellowship time, 9:30 a.m.
Worship, 10:00 a.m.



Speakers, Planners, Keyboard, Greeters, and Nursery

Speakers

- ❖ Aug 7: Shirley Remmenga
- ❖ Aug 14: NewWestFest—No Services
- ❖ Aug 21: Debbie Jones
- ❖ Aug 28: Shari Smith

Planners

- ❖ Aug: 7
- ❖ Aug 14: NewWestFest—No Services
- ❖ Aug 21:
- ❖ Aug 28:

Keyboard

- ❖ Aug 7: Sharon Troyer
- ❖ Aug 14: NewWestFest—No Services
- ❖ Aug 21: Sharon Fulton
- ❖ Aug 28: Tom Beck

Greeters

- ❖ August: Joyce Jordeth and Vergean Wood

Nursery

- ❖ Aug 7: Marilyn Garner
- ❖ Aug 14: NewWestFest—No Service
- ❖ Aug 21: Marta Remmenga
- ❖ Aug 28: Pat and Bill Miner



Book Club News

No June, July, or August meetings. We will resume again in September.



Directory Update

Joyce Jordeth

2201 S. Lemay, #154
Fort Collins, CO 80525
Phone remains the same: (970) 493-2746

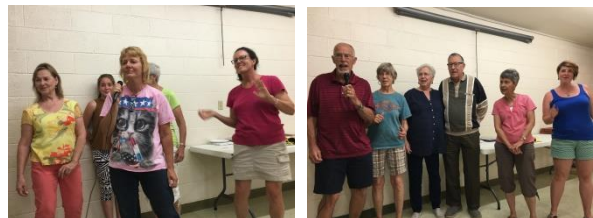
Karaoke and a Big Thank You!



Dave made a presentation of thanks to Betty Jones for her 35+ years of service and to Marilyn Garner, Don Worthington, and Marta Remmenga (not present) for their assistance over the years.



Various table groups sang their karaoke song that



they selected as a group.





What do we believe?

Jesus Christ is at the center of our faith and beliefs. These Basic Beliefs are not the last word, but an invitation to further explore your discipleship. To read the complete content go to: <http://www.cofchrist.org/basic-beliefs>

God

Jesus Christ

The Holy Spirit

Creation

Humanity

Sin

Salvation

The Church

Revelation

Scripture

Sacraments

Discipleship

Ministry

The Reign of God

Peace

Resurrection and Eternal Life

Christ is risen! Thus we believe that God is God of life, not of death. By faith we share in eternal life even now. In Christ, God's love finally will overcome all that demeans and degrades the

creation, even death itself. Easter also gives us hope that the tragic suffering and death of victims, throughout history, is not the last word. We believe the Holy Spirit will transform all creation to share in the glory of God.

Judgment

The living God whom we serve is a God of justice and mercy. God cares about how we treat our neighbors and enemies and how we make use of creation's gifts. It matters supremely to God how we welcome the poor, the stranger, the sick, the imprisoned, and the rejected. We affirm in scripture's light that Jesus Christ is advocate and judge of the living and the dead.

End Time

We press forward together in service to God, knowing that our labor is not in vain. The future of the creation belongs to the Prince of Peace, not to those who oppress, dominate, or destroy. As we anticipate that future, we devote ourselves to seek Christ's peace and pursue it. We do not know the day or hour of Christ's coming but know only that God is faithful. With faith in God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit, we face the future in hopeful longing, and with the prayer that Jesus taught us to pray: "Thy kingdom come! Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."