

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.



January 2016

Communicator

A monthly newsletter of



Community of Christ



Fort Collins, Colorado

A Welcoming Congregation

For everyone born, a place at the table

“Do a New Thing”

—Rich Kohlman, Communication Ministries Pastor

*I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.—Isaiah 43:19*

*In the end, this is the most hopeful thing any of us can say about spiritual transformation: **I cannot transform myself**, or anyone else for that matter. What I can do is create the conditions in which spiritual transformation can take place, by developing and maintaining a rhythm of spiritual practices that keep me open and available to God.*

Sacred Rhythms. Ruth Haley Barton. Pg. 12.

Our mission is to faithfully witness of Jesus Christ so that our relationship with God can be nurtured.

These are the opening lines of our new mission statement (see above). God tells Isaiah in chapter 43 that God is about to do a new thing. We in Fort Collins are about to do a new thing, but to do so we must first realize that it is not us but God who does the transforming in us, as Ruth Haley Barton reminds us.

If we are to be nurtured by God and spiritually transformed, then we must create the conditions in which that transforming can take place.

A few years ago some in our congregation began a few years ago to use a daily meditation book from Upper Room Books, and they continue to use it. Some use the *Daily Bread* published by our own denomination. Others read Richard Rohr's daily meditations sent by e-mail. There are a multitude of resources available to help us create space in which God's transforming spirit can meet us.

We have been encouraged by the church to pray the mission prayer each day. *“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.”*

If we are to increase our commitment as people and as a congregation to witness faithfully of Jesus Christ, we need to commit to building a deeper relationship with God. We can do that individually and corporately. It may mean doing some things that create feelings of uncomfortableness, because the work of building relationships and community is sometimes very uncomfortable. But it can also be the most rewarding thing we do.

We have a very blessed congregation but one that is also aging. Can we attract younger disciples? How might we do things differently? Who will be willing to accept leadership responsibilities for 2017? Who of us will be willing to follow the Spirit today? Who will risk something new this year? Who is ready to respond? Who will develop the spiritual practices necessary to create sacred community? Will we do a new thing?

Communicator

Editors in Chief: The Pastorate
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Financial Report



November Income

World Church

Use where needed most	\$3,360.00
Abolish Poverty/End Suffering	458.00
Invite People to Christ	5.00
Pursue Peace on Earth	5.00
Develop Disciples to Serve	15.00
Experience Congregations in Mission	5.00
Total	\$3,848.00

Local

Local Offering	\$2,502.00
Building Fund	80.00
Youth	252.00
Two-Cents-a-Meal	64.25
Family Assistance	150.00
Other	30.00
Total	\$3,078.25

—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	3,748.16	2,244.50	5,992.66
November	3,848.00	2,502.00	6,350.00
December			-
TOTALS	\$ 36,424.41	\$ 29,955.37	\$ 66,379.78
Balance	55%	45%	



Save The Date!

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

The committee wants to notify former members so if you have current contact information (check your Christmas card list), please notify Marilyn Garner.

January Birthdays



Glenn Smith	1/4
Lillian Wallace	1/8
Brian Cole	1/9
Greyson Garner	1/11
David Garner	1/18
Nancy Mendenhall	1/19
Sharon Fulton	1/19
Nanga Chungag	1/20
Paul Urioste	1/25
Jessica Julch	1/29
Bob Fulton	1/29

January Calendar



Check the website:

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

- Jan. 3: Classes, 9:45 a.m.
Communion Service, 11:00 a.m.
First-Sunday Giving
Potluck, 12:15 p.m.
- Jan. 6: Pastors Meeting, 1:30 p.m.
Worship Coordinators, 3:00 p.m.
Leadership Council, 4:00 p.m.
- Jan. 10: Classes, 9:45 a.m.
Worship, 11:00 a.m.
Two-Cents-a-Meal Offering
- Jan. 11: PFLAG, 7:00 p.m.
- Jan. 15-16: Leadership Retreat
- Jan. 17: Classes, 9:45 a.m.
Worship, 11:00 a.m.
Communicator items due.
Third-Sunday Social, 5:00 p.m.
- Jan. 21: Priesthood meeting, 7:00-8:30 p.m.
- Jan. 28: Book Club, 1:00 p.m.
- Jan. 23: Saturday Morning Homeless Breakfast
(all are welcome to come by and help),
8:00 a.m.-noon
- Jan. 24: Classes, 9:45 a.m.
Worship, 11:00 a.m.
- Jan. 31: Fifth-Sunday Forum and pancake
breakfast, 9:00 a.m.
Worship, 11:00 a.m.



Book Club News

The book club will meet on January 28, 1:00 p.m., at the home of Donna Clark. The book for January is *Lila* by Marilynne Robinson.

Looking for Work

David Bryant is looking for work. Odd jobs (cleaning, painting), or part-time, full-time work. If you have some jobs you need help with or know of any possible full or part-time work, please let David know.

Speakers, Planners, Keyboard, Greeters, and Nursery



Speakers

- ❖ Jan. 3: Kate Ytell
- ❖ Jan. 10: Debbie Jones
- ❖ Jan. 17: Youth
- ❖ Jan. 24: Nancy Miller
- ❖ Jan. 31: Deb Friesz

Planners

- ❖ Jan. 3: Deb Friesz
- ❖ Jan. 10: Tim Sundell
- ❖ Jan. 17: Bettie Miller
- ❖ Jan. 24: Debbie Jones
- ❖ Jan. 31: Bettie Miller

Keyboard

- ❖ Jan. 3: Sharon Fulton
- ❖ Jan. 10: Jean Newman
- ❖ Jan. 17: Deb Friesz
- ❖ Jan. 24: Kay Bunch
- ❖ Jan. 31: Sharon Troyer

Greeters

- ❖ January: Nancy and Logan Miller

Nursery

- ❖ Jan. 3: Debbie Jones
- ❖ Jan. 10: Bettie Miller
- ❖ Jan. 17: Marta Remmenga
- ❖ Jan. 24: Voni Simons
- ❖ Jan. 31: Rose Julch

Christmas Play and Social Pictures





Dave Simons



Logan Miller



Shawnea Pagat



Gil Pagat, Nancy Miller, Kurt and Danise Remmenga



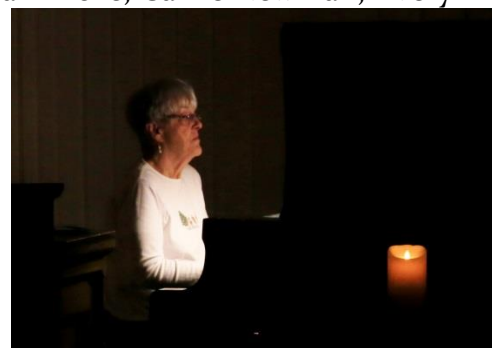
Gil Pagat, Max Coopwood, Bob Fulton



Aidan Dicke, Carrie Newman, Avery Dicke



Bianca Clark, Oceana Alcoser, Keenan Fronapfel



Jean Newman



Tom Beck and Mary Jane Heinrichs



Carrie Newman and Ilan Levy



Gil Pagat



Wendell Wallace and Shirley Remmenga

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

Unity in Diversity

- Community of Christ is a diverse, international family of disciples, seekers, and congregations.
- Local and worldwide ministries are interdependent and important to the church's mission.
- The church embraces diversity and unity through the power of the Holy Spirit.
- We seek agreement or common consent in important matters. If we cannot achieve agreement, we commit to ongoing dialogue and lovingly uphold our common faith in Jesus Christ and the mission of the church.
- We confess that our lack of agreement on certain matters is hurtful to some of God's beloved children and creation.