

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.



November 2016

Communicator

A monthly newsletter of



Community of Christ



Fort Collins, Colorado

A Welcoming Congregation

For everyone born, a place at the table

“Being Grateful and Thankful”

—Gilbert Pagat, Vision and Mission Pastor

Ecclesiastes 5:18–20 After looking at the way things are on earth, here’s what I’ve decided is the best way to live: Take care of yourself, have a good time, and make the most of whatever job you have for as long as God gives you life. And that’s about it. That’s the human lot. Yes, we should make the most of what God gives, both bounty and capacity to enjoy it, accepting what’s given and delighting in the work. It’s God’s gift! God deals out joy in the present, the now. It’s useless to brood over how long we might live...

What if there was a solution to stress —so simple that it involved nothing more than feeling thankful for the good things in your life? In fact, there is. That solution is called gratitude.

I recently shared with our Leadership Council a reading about gratitude which had inspired me about being grateful and thankful for the gift of life and all the experiences, challenges, and opportunities that come with living that life. Let me share that reading:

“Gratitude is the finest prayer our souls can utter. Gratitude is also an attitude. As with any attitude, it can be nurtured, cultivated, and changed if need be. Gratitude, like laughter and humor, lifts our spirits and hearts and encourages us to ascend into realms of joy and appreciation. It makes us thankful for the incredible gift of life that we’ve been given and for people who have chosen to share it with us.

Gratitude gentles even the roughest roads and gives wings to the heart. Buoyed by gratitude, we can sail over most situations while keeping a healthy, and even joyful, perspective on the landscape of our lives. Gratitude is communion with God and graces our relationships with a high and holy soul-connection. Gratitude is meditation in action. Gratitude is the single most powerful medicine for physical, mental, and spiritual health for is individually and for our planet as a whole.” **The Woman’s Book of Soul** —Sue P. Thoele

Researchers Robert Emmons, Lisa Aspinwall, and Sonja Lyubomirsky suggest that we can be happier if we use the practice of gratitude; consistently grateful people are happier, more optimistic, more energetic, more hopeful, more helpful, more empathic, more spiritual, more forgiving, maintain a brighter view of the future and are less likely to be depressed, anxious, lonely, envious, neurotic, or sick.

We recently celebrated our Fort Collins congregation’s 100th anniversary “Honoring the Past-Envisioning the Future” with President Steve Veazey where we gave thanks and gratitude to Community of Christ members and friends past and present who contributed so much in time, talent, and treasure to the growth and nurturing of Community of Christ in Fort Collins.



Here are four ways to practice gratitude:

1. Keep a gratitude journal.

2. Cultivate an attitude of gratitude.
3. Vary your gratitude practice.
4. Express gratitude directly to others.

You don't have to wait for Thanksgiving to enjoy the benefits to your health and happiness that accompany gratitude.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

Happy Thanksgiving to all!

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

November Third-Sunday Social



The Third-Sunday Social for November is our annual Holiday Dinner to be held on Sunday, November 20 at 5:00 p.m. The planners are: Marilyn Garner, Kurt and Danise Remmenga, Kathy Graybill and Bill Johnson, Vergean Wood, and Karla Bencomo.



Zach Fronapfel, junior at Colorado Mesa University in Grand Junction, has been named to the Academic All-Conference

Team of the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference. He also serves as the SAAC

representative from the soccer team. Zach is majoring in Criminal Justice.

Financial Report



September Income

World Church

Use where needed most	\$2,400.00
Abolish Poverty/End Suffering	370.00
Invite People to Christ	10.00
Pursue Peace on Earth	45.00
Develop Disciples to Serve	10.00
Experience Congregations in Mission	10.00
Total	\$2,845.00

Local

Local Offering	\$2,833.00
Building Fund	90.00
Two-Cents-a-Meal	64.86
Family Assistance	180.00
Youth	0.00
Other	30.00
Total	\$3,197.86

—Gary and Ruth Chatburn, CFO

Fort Collins Congregation

Operating Offerings

2016 Disciples' Generous Response

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	2,489.04	4,921.04
July	3,132.73	2,911.50	6,044.23
August	2,729.00	2,469.00	5,198.00
September	2,845.00	2,833.00	5,678.00
October			-
November			-
December			-
TOTALS	\$ 27,567.23	\$ 28,578.94	\$ 56,146.17
Balance	49%	51%	

November Calendar



Check the website:

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

- Nov. 2: Worship Coordinators, 3:00 p.m.
Leadership Council, 4:00 p.m.
- Nov. 6 Church School, 9:45 a.m.
Communion Service, 11:00 a.m.
First-Sunday Giving
Potluck, 12:15
- Nov. 13: Adult and youth classes, 9:45 a.m.
Worship, 11:00 a.m.
Two-Cents-a-Meal Offering
- Nov. 14: PFLAG, 7:00 p.m.
- Nov. 17: Book Club, 1:00 p.m.
- Nov. 20: Adult and youth classes, 9:45 a.m.
Worship, 11:00 a.m.
Communicator items due.
Third-Sunday Social, Holiday Dinner
- Nov. 26: Saturday Morning Homeless Breakfast
(all are welcome to come by and help),
8:00 a.m.–noon.
- Nov. 26: Hanging of the Greens, 10:00 a.m.–
1:00 p.m.**
- Nov. 27: First Sunday of Advent**
Adult and youth classes, 9:45 a.m.
Worship, 11:00 a.m.



November Book Club News

Book Club will meet on November 17 at 1:00 p.m. **Note the change from 4th Thursday to the 3rd Thursday due to Thanksgiving on the 24th.** The book is, *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood. Kay Bunch will host the club in her home.

Lovingly invite others to experience the good news of new life in community with Christ. Opportunities abound in your daily lives if you choose to see them.

—Doctrine and Covenants 165:1c



Speakers, Planners, Keyboard, Greeters, and Nursery

Speakers

- ❖ Nov. 6: Kurt Remmenga
- ❖ Nov. 13: Gil Pagat
- ❖ Nov. 20: Rich Kohlman
- ❖ Nov. 27: Shirley Remmenga

Planners

- ❖ Nov. 6: Bob Fulton
- ❖ Nov. 13: Shari Smith
- ❖ Nov. 20: Kathy Graybill
- ❖ Nov. 27:

Keyboard

- ❖ Nov. 6: Deb Friesz
- ❖ Nov. 13: Sharon Fulton
- ❖ Nov. 20: Kay Bunch
- ❖ Nov. 27: Jean Newman

Greeters

- ❖ November: Bill and Pat Miner

Nursery

- ❖ Nov. 6: Debbie Jones
- ❖ Nov. 13: Bettie Miller
- ❖ Nov. 20: Marta Remmenga
- ❖ Nov. 27: Pat and Bill Miner

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

The Book Nook



It's here! It's for you! The Book Nook is located in the lounge room in the lower level of the church. There you can bring a book to share, take a book to read, and return a book—if you wish. Often I have a book that I have read and enjoyed, but no longer want to keep. Perhaps you have books like this. Now there's a place where one can bring their books to share with others. You are invited to bring a book, take a book, return a book, or keep a book. Happy reading! Happy sharing!

—Shirley Remmenga



The 100-Year-Anniversary Celebration of the Fort Collins congregation was a wonderful success. A big thank-you to the 100th Anniversary Steering Committee for putting together our celebration on October 16. Kathy Graybill, Chair; Marilyn Garner, Max Coopwood, and Dave Simons.

Thank-you also to the many others who helped in so many ways to prepare the building and carry out various tasks throughout our event. Please excuse any omissions.

Setup: Jon Ytell and others

Decorations: Lillian Wallace

Guestbook: Donna Clark

Refreshments: Ruth Chatburn

November 2016 Communicator

Meal: Nancy Miller and the Brighton Congregation

PowerPoint: Jon Mendenhall and Max Coopwood

Peace Pole: Kay and Rick Bunch for donating it. Gary and Debbie Jones, Mary Kohlman, Peter Postma, Logan Miller, Nancy Miller, Marilyn Garner, and Bob Fulton

Building Cleanup: Gary and Debbie Jones and the whole congregation

100th Anniversary Celebration Pictures



Steve and Cathi



Steve sharing the Word.



Gail and Marilyn



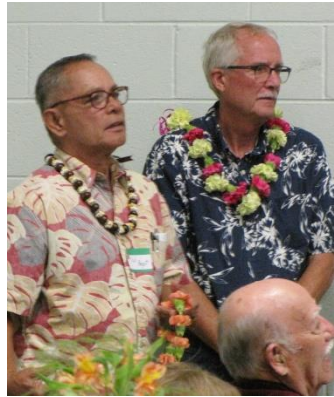
Celebration worship



Past and present pastors in attendance



Rick dedicates the Peace Pole. Gil and Dick



Bettie Miller works on her pumpkin.



Shirley Remmenga shares reflections.



Greyson Garner is pleased with his pumpkin.



Bill Johnson and Kathy Graybill sing.



Finished creations waiting for a front porch.

Harvest Party Pictures-2016



Ken Jones and a fantastic costume



What a wonderful mess we made!