

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.

Communicator

A monthly newsletter of

Community of Christ

Fort Collins, Colorado

A Welcoming Congregation

For everyone born, a place at the table



December 2017

The Trumpet Shall Sound and We Shall Be Changed!



My favorite *recitative* and *air* of the *Messiah* is by the bass soloist and the trumpet, “Behold, I Tell You a Mystery” and “The Trumpet Shall Sound.” I can hardly wait to hear these numbers near the end of the performance. I can listen to these two pieces over and over and over. There is something about that trumpet that lifts me up when I am down and lifts me higher when I am up. As the trumpet goes up the scale, so does my heart soar, and I believe that I can indeed be changed. What *mystery* there is in this promise! It doesn’t make me incorruptible, as the words continue, and it is not about a final resurrection of immortality, as the sound penetrates my carefully built walls of invulnerability to grace. It is more about the present than the end for me.

It is an experience about the everyday resurrection and presence of God that is available to each of us as we spend time with God in our spiritual disciplines. I believe there is a trumpet, deep in the soul of us, and that trumpet calls forth the very presence of God incarnate in us. It seeks to mold our lives into the creature God would have us be. Sometimes we can’t hear it because of all the cacophony of

other distractions in our lives. In silence, however, there is no uncertain sound and we are pierced through and through. We are changed into more whole or holy spiritual beings of creation.

As you celebrate the birth of Christ this Christmas season, amidst the various activities that claim your attention and time, may you hear the trumpet of *your* soul and be changed!

Peace and Wholeness,

Rich Kohlman

Behold, I tell you a mystery; we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet.
(1Corinthians 15:51–52)

The trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption and this mortal must put on immortality.
(1Corinthians 15:52–53)



Toiletries for the FFH Day Center



The Mennonite Day Center for FFH families and families on the wait list continue to need shampoo, conditioner (any size bottles), and

toothpaste. Please take donations to the Day Center or give them to Kay Bunch.



One of the most needed items when families obtain housing is lamps. If you have lamps that need a new home, please get them to

Kay Bunch. Thanks.

Fort Collins Congregation Directory for 2018



It's that time again. Last year's directory was published January 28, 2017. If you know of any changes since then, please let Jon Mendenhall know.

To be included in the Directory, the following information is needed:

1. Names and DOB of each member of the household
2. Address including zip code
3. Phone numbers (cells and landline if applicable)
4. Email addresses

Thanks for helping make our directory as accurate as possible.

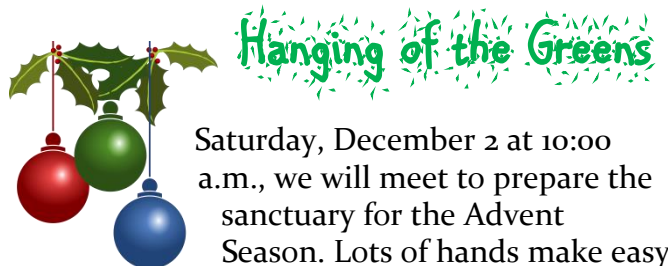
Reminder: Known updates since the last directory are shown in green on the website Directory. Contact Jon if you need the password for the website Directory.

SENIOR HIGH WINTER TRIP 2018!



Who: Youth in grades 9–12
Where: Monarch Ski Area
When: January 21–23, carpools will be arranged
Cost: \$100–\$150 depending on activity

Join us for an awesome weekend of games, skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing, hot springs, fun, and fellowship! Deadline for registration is Sunday, December 10. For registration or more information, contact Jordan Wight at wight.jordan@gmail.com and/or Naomi Barlow at nonebarlow@gmail.com.



Hanging of the Greens

Saturday, December 2 at 10:00 a.m., we will meet to prepare the sanctuary for the Advent Season. Lots of hands make easy work. Pizza lunch will be served. We look forward to seeing you.

Annual Christmas Tree Clothing Drive

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas. The tree will be up on Saturday, December 2, and decorated. There is always room for more gloves, mittens, socks, caps, and scarves. Make the tree burst with color and energy. Make it a special Christmas for some special people, PLEASE. Any questions contact Max Coopwood.



Business Meeting



There will be a congregation business meeting on December 10 immediately after the morning worship service for the election/sustaining of the remainder of the officers not considered at our September business meeting.

December Calendar



Check the website:

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

- Dec. 2: Hanging of the Greens, 10:00 a.m.
 Dec. 3: Adult Class, 9:45 p.m.
 Worship, 11:00 a.m.
 Communion Sunday
 First Sunday Giving
 Dec. 6: Worship Coordinators, 3:00 p.m.
 Leadership Council, 4:00 p.m.
 Dec. 10: Adult Class, 9:45 a.m.
 No Children and Youth Classes
 Worship, 11:00 a.m.
 Second-Sunday Offering
 Business Meeting following Worship Service
 Dec. 14: Take-Away Lunch volunteers at
 Murphy Center, 10:00–noon
 Dec. 17: Adult Class, 9:45 a.m.
 Worship, 11:00 a.m.
Communicator items due.
**5:00 p.m. Third-Sunday Social,
 Christmas Party**
 Dec. 23: Saturday Morning Homeless Breakfast
 (All are welcome to come by and help.)
 Dec. 24: Adult Class, 9:45 a.m.
 No Children and Youth Classes
 Worship, 11:00 a.m.
Dec. 25: CHRISTMAS DAY
 Dec. 31: Adult Class, 9:45 a.m.
 Worship, 11:00 a.m.

JUST A REMINDER

Anyone is welcome to come and participate in any of the monthly meetings of the leadership council. If you would like to be on the email reminder list, please notify Rich Kohlman

Financial Report



September Income

World Church

Use where needed most	\$4,447.00
Abolish Poverty/End Suffering	285.70
Other	340.00
Total	\$5,072.70

Local

Local Operating	\$3,221.62
Building Fund	840.00
Two-Cents-a-Meal	75.22
Family Assistance	90.00
Other	80.00
Total	\$4,306.84

—Gary and Ruth Chatburn, CFO

Fort Collins Congregation

Operating Offerings

2017 Disciples' Generous Response

Month	Total		Total
	World Operating	Local Operating	Operating Giving
January	2,788.65	3,149.00	5,937.65
February	2,706.86	3,082.69	5,789.55
March	2,785.00	2,866.00	5,651.00
April	2,776.00	5,015.36	7,791.36
May	2,076.50	2,878.50	4,955.00
June	2,733.00	3,395.87	6,128.87
July	2,787.00	2,431.11	5,218.11
August	2,405.29	2,430.90	4,836.19
September	5,072.70	3,221.62	8,294.32
October			-
November			-
December			-
TOTALS	\$ 26,131.00	\$ 28,471.05	\$ 54,602.05
Balance	48%	52%	

December Birthdays



Marilyn Garner	12/2
Karla Bencomo	12/4
Julie Wallis	12/7
Pat Miner	12/16
Michael Davis	12/16
Ilan Levy	12/16
Juliette Garner	12/17
Kathy Bridwell	12/20
Bill Miner	12/22
Hawkins Garner	12/22
Carrie Levy	12/23
Melanie Fronapfel	12/28
Goddy Chungag	12/28
Nona Woelfle	12/29



Giving Tuesday to World Church

Although Giving Tuesday is primarily a social media event that functions through electronic gifts, checks are welcome, too. Several designated for the campaign have arrived in the mail, putting the total received at **\$397,448**. The campaign total in 2016 was \$312,500. The goal for this year was \$200,000. What a wonderful response.

Michele McGrath, director of finance, reported that the number of contributions through eTithing was three times what it was last year.

Thank you so much for your generosity! Your contributions make a difference in the lives of people in many nations. We especially thank the generous families who provided matching funds for our Giving Tuesday campaign.



Speakers, Planners, Keyboard, Greeters, and Nursery

Speakers

- ❖ Dec. 3: Deb Friesz
- ❖ Dec. 10: Gil Pagat
- ❖ Dec. 17: Shirley Remmenga
- ❖ Dec. 24: Rich Kohlman
- ❖ Dec. 31: Worship Experience

Planners

- ❖ Dec. 3: Donna Clark
- ❖ Dec. 10: Marilyn Garner
- ❖ Dec. 17: Kay Bunch
- ❖ Dec. 24: Ruth Chatburn
- ❖ Dec. 31: Gil Pagat

Keyboard

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

Greeters

- ❖ December: Shirley Remmenga, Paul Urioste, Marilyn Garner

Nursery

- ❖ Dec. 3: Marilyn Garner
- ❖ Dec. 10: Bettie Miller
- ❖ Dec. 17: Marta Remmenga
- ❖ Dec. 24: TBA
- ❖ Dec. 31: Pat Miner



Third-Sunday Social Christmas Party



Our Christmas party will be Sunday, December 17, at 5:00 p.m. This year we will again have a fun WHITE ELEPHANT gift exchange. We will have a time for you to share a short Christmas reading or skit, if you would like. Soup will be provided and we will have dessert. If you would like to help with either of these, please call Marilyn Garner. We will need help to set up and clean up. Thank you!

Holiday Dinner Pictures

