

**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



November 2019

## "Listen"

—Travis Savage

Invitation and Hospitality Minister  
Rocky Mountain Mission Center

Friends,

Listen! Listen! Listen!

Listening, that is something my wife Megan and I have really been working on lately with our son Eli. He has always been so energetic and go, go, go all the time that we find he is always thinking about the next thing and not always staying focused or listening. We know that most of the time he hears us, but he just really isn't listening. We also know that sometimes he is just choosing not to listen to something we just talked about five minutes before. It is a work in progress for Eli sometimes, but he is always trying to listen better.

I have always strived to be a good listener in my life. I have always been a quiet observer and listener. Soaking in conversations and learning and understating. But I know that many times I fall short and realize that I am just hearing someone tell me something and not really listening. I have been distracted because I feel I am too busy; or I catch myself thinking about what I want to say next; or I want to say something because of the uncomfortable silence; or because I really want to help fix someone's problem or issue. I am hearing but not always listening and not always present. It is a work in progress for me as I continue to work on being a better listener.

On a recent weekend I had the opportunity to share with the Grand Junction and Delta congregations for a Latter-day Seekers workshop on the Western Slope led by Apostle Robin Linkhart. It was a wonderful spirit-felt weekend as we listened, learned, dialogued, and gained new understanding of welcoming Latter-days Seekers and being present for them. As I have reflected on the weekend, I continue to think about what Robin emphasized to us on many occasions. One of the most important things that we can do as individuals and congregations for Latter-day Seekers and any seekers in general, is to *Listen! To Really Listen!* To be welcoming and share in hospitality...and to *Listen!*

Friends, as we strive to be welcoming in our congregations and to share in deeper relationships with others, we are also called to be present for *All*, and to *Listen*. To listen to their stories without judgment, without response if none is needed, without trying to fill times of uncomfortable silence with talking, without trying to fix someone's pain or issue in that moment. We are called to just listen. We are called to create a safe place in our lives and in our congregations so that Seekers and others feel comfortable to share. So that they can begin to trust who we are as individuals and as a community and feel safe to be vulnerable so that they can share their struggles, their pain, their hopes, their dreams. And in that listening the Spirit is ever present, moving, and flowing. And in that listening is when relationships are



formed, and relationships go deeper. And in those relationships, we connect with each other and with the Spirit of God!

May we strive each day to create safe and welcoming spaces of listening! May we strive to always be present in those moments and just listen. May we recognize the Spirit working in that listening and may we allow it to guide us into a deep connection with others and with God's Spirit. May we listen to the Spirit moving in us, around us, and ahead of us as we create those safe spaces of listening!

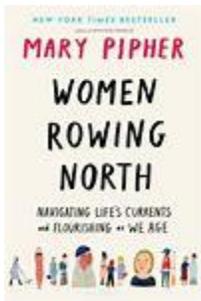
## A Novel Bunch November Meeting

**Date:** November 21

**Time:** 2:00 p.m.

**Host:** Jean Newman

**Book:** *Women Rowing North*  
by Mary Pipher



## November Second-Sunday Social



The Second-Sunday Social on **November 10** will be a birthday party. Shirley Remmenga's family will be hosting a celebration for her 90th birthday. The family will provide refreshments,

and we will extend the invitation to the Mission Center and Shirley's friends in the area. Everyone is welcome to join us in the Fellowship Hall any time after church until about 4:00 p.m.

## Seasonal Overflow Shelter

Our seasonal overflow shelter will begin operating on November 1 and run to April 30. It will again be operated by Catholic Charities and utilize our Activity Center. It will serve only women again this year. It will operate seven days a week depending on need.

## November Calendar



Check the website:

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

- Nov. 1-3: Mission Center Conference, Estes Park
- Nov. 3: 9:30 a.m. Adult Class,  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
Communion Sunday  
**First-Sunday Giving**
- Nov. 5: Worship Coordinators, 5:30 p.m.  
Leadership Council, 6:00 p.m.
- Nov. 10: 9:30 a.m. Adult Class,  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
**Second-Sunday Offering**  
Youth and Children's Classes  
11:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. **Second-Sunday Social, 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party for Shirley Remmenga**
- Nov. 14: Take-Away Lunch volunteers at Murphy Center, 10:00-noon
- Nov. 17: 9:30 a.m. Adult Class,  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
*Communicator* items due.
- Nov. 21: 2:00 p.m., A Novel Bunch meets
- Nov. 23: Saturday Morning Homeless Breakfast (All are welcome to come by and help.)
- Nov. 24: 9:30 a.m. Adult Class,  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
Youth and Children's Classes
- Nov. 28: **Thanksgiving**

## From Your Facilities Management Team

**Exterior Building Lighting Project:** The exterior LED wall pack lighting fixtures have been installed and are operational. The big LED parking lot flood lights are not installed, because the contractor is waiting on photocell parts for them. The parts are expected to be received within 3-4 weeks.

**Educational Wing Entrance and Hallway Lighting Project:** The exterior "220 Entrance" recessed lighting has been replaced with new

LED fixtures and is operational. The LED flat panel lights for the entrance interior and hallway areas have been received, but the contractor is waiting on receipt of the required surface mount kits before he can mount the flat panels. The surface mount kits are on back-order, but they are expected to be received within the next 4-5 weeks.

**Foyer Entrance Doors Project:** The door design/build documents have been approved. The door contractor has not placed the order yet due to last minute requirements regarding controlled building access. These requirements should be taken care of shortly with an order for the doors soon to follow. Delivery of the doors is expected to take 6-7 weeks.

**Landscape Team:** Our facility is in need of having its surrounding landscape upgraded. We have been looking for 4-5 individuals to staff this team and begin working on a plan to begin beautifying our property landscaping at the start of spring in 2020. *So far, only one person has committed to being a part of this team.* If you would like to participate on the Landscape Team, please contact Gary or Ruth Chatburn.

**What Do You See? Have You Seen Anything Yet?** When you come to church for services, meetings, and events, what do you see when you approach our building? When you enter the church foyer, sanctuary, classrooms, Fellowship Hall, Activity Center, etc., what do you see? What do other people think when they see our facility from the outside and then come inside for the first time? Is it something that would cause them to feel at home and want to come back again? Is it something that exemplifies our mission and our stewardship of what God has entrusted to us? Sometimes we see things for a long time and they eventually become the norm when maybe they should not be. So, when you come to church for services, meetings, events, etc., ask yourself if what you are seeing is really what you want to see. Does it cause you to want to enter the church and find out what is taking place within its walls?

Once you have entered, does the facility make you feel welcomed and cause you to want to engage in conversations with the people and join with them in worship? We realize that you cannot necessarily tell a “book by its cover,” but a lot of people start with the cover. If you have observations and/or suggestions for improving our facilities, big or small, please pass them onto Gary Chatburn. *To date, there has been no feedback, one way or the other, on this subject.*

### Notes from the CFO's Desk

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Contribution Receipts:

Contribution receipts for your 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter are in the process of being distributed. If you have questions about your receipt, please contact Ruth Chatburn, Fort Collins Co-Financial Officer.

### Financial Income and Expense Report

There are a few things to note when you review the financial summaries below. While the congregation did not have any youth attending Spectacular, it did make a contribution to the Mission Center in support of the event. Stewardship line items in August 2019 and September 2019 are rather large. An explanation for these large stewardship expenses can be found in the “notes section” below their respective financial summaries. Funds were transferred from the appropriate fund accounts to cover these expenses.

## Financial Report



### July Finances

#### World Church Income

World Mission Tithes	\$2,065.00
Abolish Poverty/End Suffering	274.81
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$2,339.81</b>

#### Summary of Local Income

Local Operating	\$2,494.93
Building Fund	1,480.00
Two Cents a Meal	74.03

Family Assistance	100.00
Youth Fund	0.00
Narcotics Anonymous Pledge	105.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$4,253.96</b>

**Summary of Local Expenses**

Outreach Ministries	\$0.00
Worship Ministries	0.00
Youth Ministries	0.00
Mission, Vision, & Education	0.00
Pastoral Ministries	0.00
Fellowship Ministries	0.00
Administration/Communications	274.52
Stewardship	2,882.84
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$3,157.36</b>

**Activity Center Income**

Rentals & Donations	\$673.54
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$673.54</b>

**Activity Center Expenses**

Operating, Maint., & Insurance	\$553.28
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$553.28</b>

**Courtyard Building Income**

Rentals & Donations	\$850.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$850.00</b>

**Courtyard Building Expenses**

Operating, Maint., & Insurance	\$191.52
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$191.52</b>

**August Finances**

**World Church Income**

World Mission Tithes	\$1,870.00
Abolish Poverty/End Suffering	316.50
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$2,186.50</b>

**Summary of Local Income**

Local Operating	\$2,255.74
Building Fund	1,340.00
Two Cents a Meal	77.31
Family Assistance	80.00
Youth Fund	0.00
Narcotics Anonymous Pledge	60.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$3,813.05</b>

**Summary of Local Expenses**

Outreach Ministries	\$181.35
Worship Ministries	0.00

Youth Ministries (See Note 1 below.)	650.00
Mission, Vision, & Education	0.00
Pastoral Ministries	0.00
Fellowship Ministries	106.27
Administration/Communications	480.56
Stewardship (See Note 2 below.)	36,256.26
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$37,674.44</b>

**Activity Center Income**

Rentals & Donations	\$0.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

**Activity Center Expenses**

Operating, Maint., & Insurance	\$348.14
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$348.14</b>

**Courtyard Building Income**

Rentals & Donations	\$850.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$850.00</b>

**Courtyard Building Expenses**

Operating, Maint., & Insurance	\$189.54
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$189.54</b>

**Note 1:** The congregation approved supporting the Mission Center Spectacular trip with \$650.00 since it did not have a youth attending.

**Note 2:** Includes partial completion payment of \$34,374.00 for the new air conditioning systems, new tankless hot water heater, the new iWave air purification systems, etc.

**September Finances**

**World Church Income**

World Mission Tithes	\$2,870.00
Abolish Poverty/End Suffering	241.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$3,111.00</b>

**Summary of Local Income**

Local Operating	\$2,757.35
Building Fund	1,550.00
Two Cents a Meal	107.15
Family Assistance	60.00
Youth Fund	20.00
Narcotics Anonymous Pledge	30.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$4,524.50</b>

**Summary of Local Expenses**

Outreach Ministries	\$4.49
Worship Ministries	40.28

## Fort Collins Congregation Operating Offerings 2019 Disciples' Generous Response

Youth Ministries	0.00
Mission, Vision, & Education	0.00
Pastoral Ministries	0.00
Fellowship Ministries	0.00
Administration/Communications	104.28
Stewardship (See Note 3 below.)	8,337.49
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$8,486.54</b>

<b>Activity Center Income</b>	
Rentals & Donations	\$600.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$600.00</b>

<b>Activity Center Expenses</b>	
Operating, Maint., & Insurance	\$304.06
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$304.06</b>

<b>Courtyard Building Income</b>	
Rentals & Donations	\$850.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$850.00</b>

<b>Courtyard Building Expenses</b>	
Operating, Maint., & Insurance	\$190.61
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$190.61</b>

**Note 3:** Includes final completion payment of \$6,066.00 for the new air conditioning systems, new tankless hot water heater, the new iWave air purification systems, etc.

—Gary and Ruth Chatburn, CFO

### Food Bank and Murphy Center Donations

It has been our practice for a number of years to receive food donations for the Food Bank and for the Murphy Center Lunch-Bag program. Generally, the Food Bank Donations are part of our First-Sunday Giving, and the Murphy Center donations are received at any time. Please remember these opportunities to share generously for the good of our community.

### Large-Print Hymns

This is a reminder that we have the availability of light-weight, large-print binders of the hymns for the current Sunday. They are available at the usher's stand in the foyer every Sunday.

Month	Total		Total Operating Giving
	World Operating	Local Operating	
January	2,427.00	2,974.22	5,401.22
February	2,584.00	4,670.00	7,254.00
March	2,982.00	3,562.00	6,544.00
April	1,809.00	3,565.00	5,374.00
May	2,840.00	3,670.52	6,510.52
June	2,822.50	3,274.25	6,096.75
July	2,186.50	2,255.74	4,442.24
August	2,186.50	3,813.05	5,999.55
September	3,111.00	2,757.35	5,868.35
October			-
November			-
December			-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 22,948.50</b>	<b>\$ 30,542.13</b>	<b>\$ 53,490.63</b>
Balance	43%	57%	

## 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
Peter Postma	11/19
Wendell Wallace	11/28



## Speakers, Planners, Keyboard, Greeters, and Nursery

### Speakers

- ❖ Nov. 3: Stephanie Gustave
- ❖ Nov. 10:
- ❖ Nov. 17: Nancy Miller
- ❖ Nov. 24:

### Planners

- ❖ Nov. 3: Dave Simons
- ❖ Nov. 10: Nancy Miller
- ❖ Nov. 17: Jean Newman
- ❖ Nov. 24: Mary Kohlman

### Keyboard

- ❖ Nov. 3: Sharon Fulton
- ❖ Nov. 10: Jean Newman
- ❖ Nov. 17: Kay Bunch
- ❖ Nov. 24: Sharon Troyer

### Greeters

- ❖ November:

### Nursery

- ❖ Nov. 3: Marilyn Garner
- ❖ Nov. 10: Gary Chatburn
- ❖ Nov. 17: Marta Remmenga
- ❖ Nov. 24: Sharon Fulton

## 2020 Church Directory



Jon Mendenhall is beginning work on the 2020 Congregation Directory. If there has been a change in your address, phone number, email, etc., please let

Jon know ([jon@jonnanco.net](mailto:jon@jonnanco.net)).

### Please check the following:

Names (All members of the family)

Address

Phone (Land and mobile for all members of the family)

Email addresses (For all members of the family including youth)

Thanks for your assistance. We want to complete this task before the end of the year.

**Rocky Mountain Mission Center Community Call**, November 12, 2019: Our next Community Call is scheduled for the evening of Tuesday, November 12, from 7:00–8:00 p.m. All are invited to join in this remote call. Specifics on the topics to be discussed, as well as access information, will be provided closer to the date of the call.

## Seasonal Overflow Shelter

Our seasonal overflow shelter will begin operating on November 1 and run to April 30. It will again be operated by Catholic Charities and will utilize our Activity Center. It will serve only women again this year. It will operate seven days a week depending on need.



### To the Congregation:

Once again you have come through with flying colors!

The donation of children's socks last Sunday netted about 240 pairs of socks.

The folks at Faith Family Hospitality and, consequently the Murphy Center, (they have now joined forces in distribution of clothing for families) were so very grateful. They were in great need of children's socks. So...thank you so much for your generous contributions.

## Annual InterFaith Council Blood Drive.

The regular meeting of the InterFaith Council in November will be the annual blood drive. This will be Thursday, November 7, at Trinity Lutheran Church on East Stuart, beginning at 9:00 a.m. Anyone interested in donating blood can sign up on the web site. If you cannot make it on that day, it is possible to go to the Englund Blood Center to donate at another date and time. For more information please contact Rick or Kay at (970) 493-3336 or [rakabunch@comcast.net](mailto:rakabunch@comcast.net). Thanks.

# October Harvest Party



Plenty of food for everyone



Pumpkin carvings



Hawkins the kitty cat



Kurt helping Gavin carve a pumpkin



Lillian and Wendell



Max and Danise clowning around for the camera



Ken, Porter, Hawkins, Gavin, Greyson, David, Lisa, and Donna