

# Christ UMC Vision



## Thank You!

**Dear Christ United Methodist Friends,** Thank you for sharing your faith and fellowship over the years. CUMC is blessed with talented musicians and committed Christians who make it a special congregation. Cindy Osborne.

**To Everyone at Christ United Methodist,** Thank you so much for letting us use the fellowship hall for warping day. The lighting and space suit our needs so well. New Weavers Class.

**Thank You to all who have so generously contributed to the Food Bank for Larimer County.** Non-perishable food donations are being collected in the narthex through December 3.

Thank you for partnering with the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). Through your gift, you are helping to provide humanitarian relief when war, conflict, or natural disaster disrupts life to such an extent that communities are unable to recover on their own. You can find out more about UMCOR's work at [www.umcor.org](http://www.umcor.org). Grace and Peace, Roland Fernandes and Russell Pierce, General Board of Global Ministries

**Another big thank you to all the Faith Family Hospitality (FFH) volunteers.** It could have been a challenging rotation with

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A publication of Christ United Methodist Church of Fort Collins

## Unwrapping Christmas

This year, I noticed Christmas decorations and items in the store before Halloween! As with every year, it seems the Christmas celebration starts sooner and sooner. Part of me is aware that what I find in the stores and on the Internet is driven by marketing and advertising. For years, I have struggled with the commercial part of the season and the celebration of Jesus' birth.



This year, our advent series is titled "Unwrapping Christmas". We're peeling back the paper to look at some of the things that we sometimes miss in all the hustle and bustle of the holiday season.

For those of you who are new to advent... well, advent is a season of anticipation. A season of awaiting the arrival of the Christ child into the world.

As nice as that sounds, the reality is, for many of us this can be a season of high stress. A season where we do too much, spend too much, eat too much, and where we miss the true reason of the season.

Our scriptures and sermon titles for advent and Christmas this year are as follows:

- 12/03: *Unpacking Christmas* Luke 1:5-80
- 12/10: *Unwrap Technique* Matthew 1:18-25
- 12/17: Chancel Choir Cantata, *Let There Be Christmas*
- 12/24: 9:30 a.m. worship: *Undoing Excess* Luke 2:1-7  
5 & 7 p.m. communion / candlelight worship;  
*Unwrapping Christmas* Isaiah 9:2-7
- 12/31: Hymn Sing

One other important date in December is Monday, December 4, when we will have our yearly charge conference. A big change this year is that it will be held with five other churches in our circuit. We have been divided into circuits by our District Superintendent and Bishop, so we can get to know other United Methodists in our region. So, on December 4<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm there will be a potluck at First United Methodist Church in Loveland followed by the meeting at 7 pm. First UMC Loveland is located at 533 Grant Avenue, Loveland, CO 80537. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Grace & Peace,  
Rev. Nancy

## Thank You!

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two families of nine, including lots of teenagers with big appetites, but our volunteers came through in flying colors. Also, a big thank you to Don and Millie Raymond who have served many years as coordinators, but would like to step down. Luisa and Inez Silva and Ken Gage are stepping up to help. Don and Millie will continue to be a presence as volunteers and a source of words of wisdom. Carol Strong

Number of volunteers and the number of hours worked for the last FFH rotation :

CUMC: 31 volunteers,  
221.5 hrs.

St. Paul's: 14 volunteers,  
75 hrs.

Mary of Magdala -  
17 volunteers, 69 hrs.

Total: 365 hrs completed by  
62 volunteers.

## Bible Studies

### Mondays, 6:30 a.m.

Who is really in control when the world looks so topsy-turvy? For a scriptural answer, we are studying Ecclesiastes on the author's process and discovery. Study books are available, consider joining us for prayer, study, and coffee.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays, 7 p.m.

Using the video *A Clash of Kingdoms* with Ray Vander Laan, we are exploring the historical context of Paul's Second Missionary Journey. New participants are always welcome, so feel free to drop in.

### Seekers Bible Study

We meet every Tuesday morning from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Light refreshments are served followed by the Bible study.

## Church Women's Communiqué



### UMW Christmas Gathering

**DATE:** December 3, 2017 (Sunday)

**TIME:** 1:00 p.m.

**PLACE:** Fellowship Hall

### Be an Angel, Come Make an Angel!

Plan to join us to fill fruit baskets and make angels for others in our congregation. If possible, **please bring a basket that will hold some fruit — such as a couple apples, a couple oranges and a pear.** All ladies are welcome. This will be a great way to start out the Christmas Season.

**Friendship Circle Group** meets the first Thursday evening of each month [January - May and September - December] at 7 p.m. Our December and final meeting for 2017 will be held on Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at the home of Chris Coats. There will be tasty light refreshments that follow the gathering. We welcome new members, so any ladies who wish to join, we would love to have you come! If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Chris Coats.

### Attention All Ladies--

I hope you have been keeping track (in the back of your UMW Yearbook) of all the books you have read this year for the **UMW Reading Program!**

Please let me know your total before December 14th so that I can turn it in to the district.

Linda Glover will be replacing me next year for Program Resources. She and I will be processing the wonderful books which have been purchased for 2018, and they will soon be available in the UMW Library! Val Cornetet

### Put it on your calendar:

#### QuarterMania January 13

Want to have a good time, help raise funds for the CUMC Alms Fund, and try to get some great gifts for yourself or others at a nominal price? As you say "Yes, Count Me In", put QuarterMania on your calendar for Saturday, Jan. 13. To be held in the CUMC Fellowship Hall. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. and the auction begins at 7 p.m. Cost at the door is \$5 to purchase one paddle or \$10 to purchase three paddles. To bid on auction items, bring a roll or two of quarters.

Start looking for quarters in your car console, under the sofa cushions, and at the bottom of your handbag so that you'll have plenty to use in this fun fundraiser. The UMW members are providing several great gifts. The Alms Fund will receive the proceeds from this event. Benefit yourself and your neighbors at the same time. Remember - - put it on your calendar now!

### UMW LIBRARY NOTES

Faith-Enriching Book in UMW Library  
*The Case for Christ*  
by Lee Strobel

Category—Spiritual Growth

Lee Strobel, former legal editor of the Chicago Tribune, retraces his own spiritual journey from atheism to faith. He cross-examines a dozen experts who are recognized authorities in their fields of history, archaeology, and manuscript studies. Strobel concludes that it would actually require more faith for an atheist to maintain atheism than it would to trust in Jesus.

Val Cornetet,  
UMW Program Resources



## Angel Tree

**Angel Tree Christmas** – The gifts should be returned to the church **no later than 12/3** and should be **wrapped only as noted** on the angel tag. If you have any questions or concerns regarding a gift request or wrapping, contact Nathalee Novy.

**You're Invited!!** We will be distributing the Angel Tree Christmas gifts at a party here at the church on **Sunday, December 10 at 2:00PM**. If you would like to help or have any questions, contact Carole Lee Brown.

## Dates at a Glance

**Yearly Church Conference:** Monday, December 4 at First United Methodist Church, 533 Grant Ave. Loveland. Potluck at 6 p.m. Meeting at 7 p.m.

**Be an Angel, Come Make an Angel!** (UMW Party): Fellowship Hall, Sunday, December 3, 1 p.m.

**Food Bank Drive:** Last day for this special holiday drive is Dec. 3.

**Angel Tree Party:** Sunday, December 10, 2:00 p.m.

**Chancel Choir Cantata, *Let There Be Christmas*:** Sunday, Dec. 17 during worship, 9:30 a.m.

**December 24 - Christmas Worship Services:**

Sunday Morning Service, 9:30 a.m. Candlelight & Holy Communion Services with Chancel Choir and Joyful Noise Belles at 5 & 7 p.m.

**January 7: All-Church Potluck** after worship.

**January 13: QuarterMania** raising money for the Alms Fund. Open to all men and women.

**Jan. 28—Feb. 4: Future FFH Rotation Date.** Pencil this date on your calendar!

## Trustees News

Trustees will not meet in December. The annual Charge Church Conference is being held on Dec 4th.

Trustees will plan to meet on Monday, January 8th since the first Monday of 2018 is New Year's Day.

Jerry Svoboda is going off the Board after serving many years as a trustee. Jerry is willing to continue to be a resource for the board. The trustees that have served with Jerry want to say thank-you.

## Just a Thought

### WITH US

By Dave Veerman

Months, weeks, hours, minutes, seconds

Years ticking away

Christmas suddenly upon us  
"Seems like yesterday!"

Baking, wrapping, entertaining  
Parties, pageants, tinsel, lights  
Evergreens, tree, ornaments  
Pressured days and shortened nights.

Relatives and friends, cards, cookies,  
Pressed year-end deadlines, more  
Traffic snarls, sales, mall Santas  
Frantic rushing store to store.

Immersed in season's tasks and trap-pings  
Pushing on but losing joy  
Good and busy but forgetting  
Immanuel was that baby boy.

Help me, Lord, to slow and wonder  
At miracle unfolded here  
Truthfully, in finite chaos  
My Savior, Lord, and God came near

And may I sense the Spirit's urgings  
Through my dwindling life on earth  
Living out my faith professions  
Sharing hope of Jesus' birth.

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## Congregational Care Team

The Congregational Care Team could use some additional members and invites you to join us. It is a very rewarding experience!

The goal of the Congregational Care Team (CCT) is to reach out to those in our community of faith who have special needs and to help make our church a friendly, nurturing faith community.

When the Care Team is made aware of someone who needs a little extra encouragement, they do their best to be there with cards, phone calls and visits. During the past month CCT members sent 53 cards and made 9 phone calls and 10 visits.

CCT meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 11:15 a.m. to update, review and to assure that the known needs of those in our community of faith are being met.

For more information, please call Linda Glover.

## Office Notes

**Sunday Bulletin** - If you have information you would like on the announcement page or for a bulletin insert you must request it by Noon TUESDAY of the week you want it included.

**January Vision Deadline-** Monday, December 18, 9 a.m. Please submit articles written and ready for proofing.

### CUMC Contact Information:

Address:

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Fort Collins, CO 80525

Phone: 970-226-2341

Fax: 970-207-4030

E-mail: [info@cumc-fc.org](mailto:info@cumc-fc.org)

Website: [www.cumc-fc.org](http://www.cumc-fc.org)

Check us out on Facebook!



Christ United Methodist Church  
301 E. Drake Road  
Ft. Collins, CO 80525

*Return Service Requested*

## CHRIST UMC VISION

December 2017 • volume 20 • number 11

### Morning Glory Preschool

Merry Christmas from Morning Glory Preschool! As you may know, a portion of our curriculum is Galatians 5:22-23, "But the Fruit of the Spirit is Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self Control."



Most recent was "joy." The children and I talked a lot about what joy means (happy!) and how someone's face might look when they're happy or sad or hurt or needing help. That led to a discussion of what we can do if we think someone is sad or hurt or needs help. The group

came up with a phrase that we've been using with each other when we think someone needs some help. The phrase is "Are you ok? Can I help you?" We used the phrase several times and then realized that sometimes someone doesn't want help or they don't answer and that that's ok too. I encouraged the children to know that we can have joy just by trying to help someone who may need it. Next is the word "peace". I wonder what these young minds will come up with!

### Life-Changing Gifts

Heifer International's mission is to end hunger and poverty while caring for the Earth. For more than 70 years, Heifer International has provided livestock and environmentally sound agricultural training to improve the lives of those who struggle daily for reliable sources of food and income. Heifer is currently working in more than 25 countries, including the United States, to help families and communities become self-reliant.

Nov. 26, Dec. 3, 10, and 17, catalogs, gift lists, and honor cards will be available in the Narthex.



**EVERYONE'S GETTING INTO  
THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT.**