



# Christ UMC Vision

A publication of Christ United Methodist Church of Fort Collins

## Thank You!

I want to thank you for the many cards and good wishes I received for my 90th birthday. I am so fortunate to belong to such a friendly and caring congregation.  
Gen Maul

### FFH...Thanks!

Here are some impressive numbers so you can all pat yourselves on the back!

CUMC Volunteers 30  
Hours 181.5

St. Paul's Volunteers 15  
Hours 98

Mary of Magdala Volunteers 14  
Hours 59.5

Total Volunteers 59  
Hours 339

**Thank you for partnering with the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR).** Through your gifts, you are helping to provide humanitarian relief when war, conflict, or natural disaster disrupt life to such an extent that communities are unable to recover on their own. 100% of your gift through The Advance, the designated giving channel of the United Methodist Church, will go directly to the people who need it most. Thank you for giving so generously. Roland Fernandes and Mary Andreolli, General Board of Global Ministries.

## Season of Creation

The powerful effects of creation have been in our hearts and on our minds as we watch the arrival and devastation of hurricane Harvey in the southern US. The scenes of people being rescued or returning to their ruined homes moves us to want to do something. As with our own experience with a wildfire and then a flood in recent years, we know that the response, rescue, and recovery from a disaster will take years.

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is always ready to respond and was on the ground in Houston before Harvey made landfall. For now, UMCOR is asking us to pray for the survivors and responders. We are requested to make monetary donations to CUMC and put US Disaster Response #901670 in the memo line of your check. Remember, 100% of your donation to UMCOR for disaster relief goes to the people who need it most. The final way we can help right now is to offer to organize the collection of supplies for flood buckets or hygiene kits to be sent to the UMCOR Depot in Salt Lake City—if you are interested in helping in this way, please see me.

I always find it interesting when sermon plans are in alignment with current events in our world. Our plan for worship in September is a series titled "The Season of Creation." The Season of Creation is an ecumenical observance during the month of

September begun by a Lutheran pastor in Australia in 2000, which expanded and spread worldwide. Creation is a wonderful gift that God has given us, so that we care for it with great respect and gratitude. Season of Creation invites us to reflect on the world in which we live using selections from the book of Exodus.

Here are the sermon titles and scriptures for this series:

- 9/3/17 *Season of Creation: Fire*  
Exodus 3:1-15
- 9/10/17 *Season of Creation: Food*  
Exodus 16:2-15
- 9/17/17 *Season of Creation: Wind, Sky & Sea*  
Exodus 14:19-31
- 9/24/17 *Season of Creation: Death*  
Exodus 12:1-14

On October 1<sup>st</sup>, the first Sunday in October, there will be a blessing of the animals at 1 pm in the Peace Garden, on the south end of our property.

Another special event in September is a visit by our Global Mission Partner, Ken Cruz. He will be joining us on Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm in fellowship hall. Please come and meet Ken or greet him again, listen to an update of our mission work in Cambodia as well as enjoy some refreshments.

See you in worship.  
Grace & Peace,  
Nancy

## Bible Studies

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

*God's Plan for Women to Walk in Power and Purpose* -- Jesus DID break some rules to set women free!! We welcome any and all to meet with us for prayer and study of Scripture. Join us at 6:30 on Monday mornings in room 105, the church library.

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

Please consider joining us twice a month for Bible Study in room 104 beginning September 13.

### **Seekers Bible Study**

Seekers group meets every Tuesday morning, 9:30 to about 10:45 at the church. There are light refreshments followed by the study. We welcome new members. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Dorothy Bondurant.

### **Adult Sunday School:**

Theology 101 meets in room 104: On September 10<sup>th</sup>, we will look at *Living the Questions 2.0*, a video series featuring 30 acclaimed scholars. The producers describe this course as "an open-minded alternative to studies that attempt to give participants all the answers and instead strives to create an environment where participants can interact with one another in exploring what's next for Christianity." Gerry Fitzgibbons is leading the class. Everyone is welcome!

### **8:15 a.m. People of the Book:**

What's your idea of what "Heaven" will be like? A rocking chair on a cloud? An endless church service? Join us as we look at the bible references to "Heaven" in the book *Heaven, Finding Our True Home*. Learn what Jesus is preparing for us in Heaven and what WE need to do to prepare. Class meets at 8:15 a.m. Sunday mornings in Rm. 107. Drop-ins, new members are always welcome. Books provided.

## Church Women's Communiqué

**Explorers' Circle** will meet September 12 this month. They usually meet the first Tuesday of each month at 6:45 p.m. Contact Barbara Burford, chairman, to learn more about Explorers' Circle.

**Friendship Circle** meets the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. Call Chris Coats, to learn more about Friendship Circle.

**Outreach Social Circle** will meet on Tuesday, September 5 at 1 p.m. at the new home of Virginia Sandborn. Virgil and Virginia have moved to their new location. If you would like to join us for an afternoon of food and fellowship, call Gen Maul for more information.

The **UMW Prayer Chain** in coordinated by Leona Brubacher, Helen Corl and Sharon Mann. If you'd like to be part of the Prayer Chain, contact Sharon Mann.

The **Quilt Group** meets the first and third Mondays at 1:00 p.m. in the Quilt Room (room 018 downstairs at CUMC). They make lap quilts to donate to Project Linus, FFH, and church members during their hospital stay. They also work on other projects and have a blast doing so. If you're interested in checking out the Quilt Group, just show up, or contact Regina Roberts. Join us!! You'll be glad you did.

## Potluck!

### **September 10th Potluck -**

Who doesn't love a Potluck? This year in addition to this being our annual fall kick-off we will be celebrating Rev. Nancy Boswell's 10th anniversary as our Pastor. Amazing - thank you Nancy for your work on behalf of CUMC.

The potluck and celebration will be held after church in the fellowship hall on Sunday, Sept. 10. Please note that cake will be provided, so salads, sides and other potluck items are preferred. Invite a friend or neighbor to join us for church and the potluck.

What a wonderful blessing CUMC has enjoyed for a DECADE having Rev. Nancy as our pastor! As part of the celebration of her anniversary here at CUMC, we are inviting you to write a personal memory of Pastor Nancy.

Possible examples are....

-Pastor Nancy helped me the most when....

-I remember when Pastor Nancy....

-The funniest thing Pastor Nancy said or did.....

The written memories will be collected for Pastor Nancy at the potluck September 10. Please plan to attend and share this special time together! When you attend you will note our decorations this year are inspired by Pastor Nancy's favorite color!



## Let the Good Times Roll!



**WHAT:** **Bunko** (Fun, easy game that EVERYONE can enjoy--men, women, family, friends, neighbors, etc.) & **Bling** (Silent Auction of previously treasured jewelry, scarves, purses, etc.)

**DATE:** September 30, 2017

**TIME:** Doors Open at 9:30 a.m. to view/bid on Bling, Bunko will be from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon and lunch/prizes will follow.

**PLACE:** CUMC Fellowship Hall

**COST:** \$12/person Advance Registration OR \$15/person At-the-Door (includes Bunko Games, Treats, Lunch and Prizes)

Mark your calendars and plan to attend this UMW sponsored **FUN FUND-RAISER** for local missions. Information Sheet/Registration Form can be found in this Newsletter and you can find extra copies in the Church Narthex.

## Morning Glory Preschool



Have you met Miss Molly, our preschool director yet? Here is a little something she has said about our program.

The core of our program at Morning Glory Preschool is Galatians 5:22-23, "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law."

Our program focuses on one of these "fruits" per month and we talk about them all throughout the year. If we can send our little ones into the world with these qualities in their hearts, then we've given them a foundation take on the world!



## Office News

We have a gracious donation of a grand piano which is in the Fellowship Hall. The donor is a member of the Larimer Chorale and we will share the use of this fine instrument with them, Singing for Seniors, and CCC. Our members are free to use it as well. However, the keyboard is locked and you will need to get a key from the office, Kevin Utter, or Rev. Nancy.

The Baldwin upright piano that is in the fellowship hall will be moved to the choir room. The Chickering piano that is currently in the choir room is being offered for sale for \$100, or best offer. The new owner will be responsible for moving it out of the church. If you are interested in purchasing this piano, please notify the office or Kevin before September 11. On that day we will be putting it in the narthex with a for sale sign on it.

## 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 47 cards and made 1 visit.

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.

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

### CUMC Contact Information:

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Check us out on Facebook!



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*Return Service Requested*



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Office closed Monday,  
September 4

## **CHRIST UMC VISION**

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### **CUMC Budget Update from the Finance Committee**

We are now well over halfway through the year and it seems like a good time to update everyone on the status of the operating fund and where we stand in relation to our 2017 budget.

First, the Finance Committee would like to thank everyone for their generosity and the many ways in which you help make our church a blessing to others in the world. Unfortunately, the amount given to our operating fund through July of this year lagged behind the amount needed for expenses. Please remember the operating fund is the one that pays our staff, utility bills, and various other expenses. Support for much of our mission work is also provided through this fund.

By the end of July church members had contributed a total of \$188,193 which was \$10,064 less than our total expenses for the period from January-July of this year. Despite this shortfall, everyone should realize that our staff and all bills have been paid so we

have no outstanding debts. Nevertheless, the gap between the amounts given and our expenses has forced us to reduce the amount provided for certain budgetary items, including the Tithe Plus payments owed to the Rocky Mountain Conference of our church. By the end of July, CUMC's Tithe Plus contributions totaled only \$26,365 of the \$34,318 (70.0%) requested through the first seven months of this year. In addition to not fully paying our Tithe Plus obligations, our current budget shortfall could also mean that we will be unable to fully fund planned mission work and other activities important to our church.

As we enter the last few months of the year, we would like to thank everyone for their contributions and hope all of you will contribute generously to the operating fund through the rest of the year and into the next. Your generosity is the means by which we can maintain our beautiful church and support its many worthwhile service, education, and mission activities.