

Christ UMC Vision



Thank You!

Many thanks to all of you who purchased gifts and attended the Christmas party for the **Angel Tree** ministry. We served 17 children from 12 families and in so doing helped to maintain and/or restore their relationship with their incarcerated parent. Nathalee Novy, Angel Tree Coordinator

Thank you for the many kindnesses and love shown to me throughout the year. The gifts, words of encouragement, your prayers. All is appreciated more than you know. I also would like to thank you for your prayers for my husband Ken as he has been undergoing testing and is now diagnosed with a very slow growing lymphoma. We are thankful that at this time he requires no treatment. Your Administrative Assistant, Debbie Eiten

Thank you so much for letting us use your Fellowship Hall for my mother's funeral on Dec. 1st. It was a great setting for her friends and family to gather together to honor her. The table setup was perfect and we appreciate your kitchen facilities for us to serve our snacks. Thank you for opening your church to our family. Chris Meeker

As a supporter of the Food Bank, you know that hunger doesn't have a season. It is a year-round issue. Our drivers collect food, our pantry staff serve guests and our Nutritious

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A publication of Christ United Methodist Church of Fort Collins

A Future with Hope and A Way Forward

December 31, 2018 is more than New Year's Eve for our church as this year we also are celebrating the end of our capital campaign, *A Future with Hope*. If you have not completed your pledge, it is not too late to finish donating your contribution. Thank you to everyone who made this campaign a success.

Your generosity and leadership made the following facility maintenance and upgrades possible: new windows in the east and west wings, new window coverings throughout the building, new roofing on part of the south addition, a new west parking lot, and new flooring in the sanctuary.

The Morning Glory Preschool continues to thrive, as your contributions are making this a vital ministry of our church. Twenty-seven students completed the Fall semester and two more students will begin in January. The preschool is well on its way to financial stability.

We will celebrate the end of 2018 and the end of *A Future with Hope* capital campaign on **Sunday January 6, 2019 during fellowship time**. So plan to attend.

The remaining Sunday's in January and the first Sunday in February, we will be looking ahead to the special General Conference. This will be held in St. Louis, MO February 22 to 26, 2019. Delegates from every Annual Conference worldwide will be gathering to determine the United Methodist stance on human sexuality. The General Conference will be considering three plans offered by A Way Forward special commission. The plans are summarized below.

The One Church Plan would have the denomination recognize that marriage is between two adults, not explicitly between one man and one woman. It would allow pastors to decide whether or not to preside at same-sex weddings, and it would give local churches the right to decide whether or not same-sex weddings could take place in their sanctuaries. Finally, it would allow annual conferences to decide whether or not to ordain self-avowed, practicing homosexuals.

The Connectional Conference Plan would create three branches of the church, referred to as Connectional Conferences. While the three branches would share responsibility and receive support from a number of general church boards and agencies and operate under a unified Council of Bishops, each branch would have a significant degree of autonomy when it comes to sexual ethics, teachings on marriage, and ordination standards.

The Traditional Plan would reaffirm The United Methodist Church's present teachings on human sexuality and call for enhanced accountability standards for clergy, bishops, and annual conferences. United Methodist clergy would not be allowed to preside at same-sex weddings, and same-sex weddings would not be allowed on

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Thank You

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kitchen team prepares meals regardless of what the calendar says. Why do we do this? Because there is a need. Through your generous gifts, the Food Bank for Larimer County is able to serve our neighbors in need. Thank you for your continued support and for working to make a hunger-free Larimer County. Amy Pezzani, CEO

Thank you for your gifts through The Advance, the designated giving channel of The United Methodist Church. We are pleased to share that 100 percent of your contribution will support UMCOR'S U.S. disaster training and response. Roland Fernandes and Rev. Russell C. Pierce, General Board of Global Ministries

Bible Studies

Mondays, 9:30 a.m.

We are studying *Hope, Beyond your Tears* by Trevor Hudson. Christ can transform personal pain and sadness into channels of love. Please join us in the library for prayer, study, & fellowship. Study books are available.

2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 7 p.m.

The Tuesday evening Bible study will be starting again on January 22nd. Now that Christmas is over, it's time to look ahead to . . . EASTER! We'll be starting a seven-part study from the book *Easter from the Back Side* by J. Ellsworth Kalas in which we'll look beyond the traditional Gospel scriptures to connect the story of Christ's resurrection with other stories and scriptures throughout the Bible, both Old and New Testaments. Come join us on Tuesday, January 22nd at 7:00 pm in the Lounge (room 104).

Seekers Bible Study

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

Women's Group

Friendship Circle's **January meeting will be held on Thursday, January 10th at 7 pm at the home of Chris Coats.** There will be tasty refreshments following the fellowship and program. We welcome new ladies who wish to join in this good time! If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Chris Coats. Thank you. Hope to see you there. It will be a wonderful way to start 2019!

Explorers Circle's January meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 8th at 6:45 p.m. in room 107 at the church. Contact Linda Glover for more information. New members are always welcome.

Outreach Social Group meets the first Tuesday of the month at 1:00.

If you're wanting an afternoon of fun & fellowship, come and join us. Contact Gen Maul if you are interested in finding out more about this group.

Men's Group

Warren William United Methodist Men: Our next meeting will be January 24, at 7 p.m. All men are invited to join us for a program and dessert.

Dates at a Glance

January 5: All invited at 10 a.m. for removal of the Greens.

January 6: "Celebrating 2018" Fellowship time after worship.

January 12: QuarterMania raising money for the Alms Fund. Open to all men and women.

January 13: UMW Sunday

February 8: Good Timers 6 p.m. Sign up in advance.

Feb. 17-24: Future FFH Rotation Date. Watch for the sign-up invite.

Fun For All



All are welcome to attend QuarterMania, Saturday, Jan. 12, in support of CUMC's Alms Fund. The Fellowship Hall doors open at 6 p.m. and the auction starts at 7 p.m. It is \$5 to buy 1 paddle at the door or \$10 to buy 3 paddles. Each person must purchase their own paddle(s). You use the paddles and quarters to bid on items. So bring a couple of rolls or more of quarters. Arrive early to preview the 50+ auction items and meet the vendors.

Take a moment to invite friends and family to this fundraiser. Let's create lots of excitement and anticipation for this event. It's possible with everyone's support to raise \$2,000 - \$4,000! **Something new this year:** Sponsor a table for only \$70 (the cost of the paddles). Invite 6 friends, have them each bring 2 rolls or more of quarters and you provide the paddles for each of them. OR have them buy their own paddles. Reserve a full table or seats at a table by calling Debbie in the church office.

How does it work??? For a few quarters, you can win items valued at \$25-100! Jane really wanted this beautiful new necklace. Its retail value was \$50 and it required 2 quarters to bid. Jane had two paddles, numbers 6 & 104, and since she REALLY wanted the necklace she put four quarters in the bowl (two quarters per paddle) and raised both. The announcer called her first number, "2." Joe had 2. He didn't bid on the necklace so he hollered out, "No bid." The announcer called the next number, "104." "Right here!" yelled Jane. So, for a \$50 item, Jane won it for mere quarters!

If you have questions or if you haven't been to a quarter auction, contact Debbie in the church office for details.

Faith Family Hospitality

FFH Volunteers Needed: Our **first rotation** for this year is **February 17 – 24**. Watch for your e-mail invite in late January and use SignUpGenius to get first choice of available slots. We are always happy to see new faces and this is an opportunity to help those in need in our community. If you have questions or need help with the electronic sign up, please contact Nathalee Novy.



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year, everyone! It's such a fabulous time of the year! My goal this year is to slow way down and try to enjoy it instead of getting caught up in the hustle & bustle.

Our November Spirit Word, Peace, was a success! I heard one of my little guys several times tell me about his friend "Miss Molly, he's not having peace!" I loved it! December brought Patience, which means waiting for something without complaining, even when it's hard. We've specifically talked about waiting while mom's on the phone and being patient while I hand out snack. We've also talked about waiting for presents—especially hard! January will bring Gentleness, which I think will be a good word to tie in with all the new baby siblings in the building.

Thank you all for your support, I look forward to 2019!
Molly

A Future with Hope and A Way Forward

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United Methodist property. Self-avowed, practicing homosexuals would not be eligible for ordination if this plan is affirmed.

Our study at Christ UMC will be led by myself, Laurel Kubin and Nathalee Novy. Each 90-minute session was developed by the United Methodist Discipleship Resources. Conversations about human sexuality and denominational issues can be passionate and anxiety producing. However, we have committed ourselves to studying each plan with courtesy and an open mind. Below is the schedule of topics:

- January 13, 2019 Introduction
- January 20, 2019 One Church Plan
- January 27, 2019 Connectional Conference Plan
- February 3, 2019 Traditional Plan

Please plan to attend these informative sessions. If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to talk with me. We are the church whose vision is to experience and demonstrate the wonder of God's love and our future is hopeful.

Grace & Peace,
Rev. Nancy

Just for Fun

A rancher lived in Minnesota, right on the border with Iowa. One day he saw a team of surveyors working along the road. They measured and argued and measured again. Finally they came up to the farm house.

"Sir, we have some news for you," they said. "It looks like the old map was completely wrong about the border. Your farm is actually in Iowa!"

"That's wonderful!" cried the farmer, "No more of those terrible Minnesota winters!"

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 52 cards and made 6 phone calls and 4 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.

February Vision Deadline- Monday, January 21, 9 a.m. (One week later than usual.) Please submit articles written and ready for proofing.

CUMC Contact Information:

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Fort Collins, CO 80525

Phone: 970-226-2341
Fax: 970-207-4030

E-mail: info@cumc-fc.org

Website: www.cumc-fc.org

Check us out on Facebook!



Thank You from Homeward Alliance

Thank you—on behalf of myself (Development Director), David Rout (Executive Director) and Ken John (Murphy Center Development Director), our Board of Directors and the entire staff of Homeward Alliance—for Christ United Methodist Church's sponsorship and support in 2018! Last weekend, we featured your support at our final events of the year: the Mission to Hope Walk and the Murphy Center Community Dinner, held in honor of Homeless Awareness Day on December 8th.

The events were an enormous success! Please click [here](#) for our latest newsletter, highlighting the event activities and our sponsors. I have also attached a photo of our 2018 Sponsorship Banner, which hangs next to the front door at the Murphy Center, where it will remain for the next year. Thousands of people walk through our doors each year, and the banner is just one way to recognize your support.

Thanks to your partnership and the support of thousands of donors, volunteers, partner agencies and other community stakeholders, we empowered thousands of individuals to survive, move forward and thrive throughout 2018. Highlights include:

- Helped at least 150 people escape homelessness, including at least 28 children;
- Helped secure more than 220 jobs for participants in our Hand Up program;
- Expanded evening hours at the Murphy Center from November through April, 5pm- 10pm, to operate as a warming and resource center. This provides a safe place for people to be during cold-weather months, but also provides increased access to services for people who cannot access the Murphy Center during the day;
- Implemented a new database system that integrates data collection across all of our programs and the Murphy Center, positioning us to provide the community with actionable data on the issue of homelessness; obtained funding to provide more comprehensive intakes at the Murphy Center and hire a Spanish-speaking Intake Specialist.

We will send you our 2018 Year-in-Review in early January, which will provide comprehensive information about our community impact and outcomes over the past year.

Everything we achieve is possible because of people like you. We cannot thank you enough.

Pam Brewer,
Development Director of Homeward Alliance
(970) 829-1162

Homeless Gear's New Name is Homeward Alliance!



www.HomewardAlliance.org - www.MurphyCenter.org
(Murphy Center is Operated by Homeward Alliance)

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Return Service Requested

CHRIST UMC VISION

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Who are the “Good Timers”?

Adult couples and singles who get together in small groups to have fun and get to know each other better. These small groups meet several times during a six-month period.

The semi-annual pot luck get-together will be Friday, February 8th, 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Current members and anyone who would like to join this group, please let us know by Sunday, February 3rd, if you will be

continuing with or joining Good Timers. Your names will then be included on the list for the small groups. Also, at this time, let us know if you will be attending the potluck. Current members, please let others know how much you enjoy this group and invite them to join us.

Pot Luck: Please bring your own table service, a dish of your choosing—meat, veggie, salad, or dessert to share. Beverages will be provided. After fellowship time, there will be an opportunity to meet with your new group.

Coordinators:
Larry and Linda Glover
Kevin and Valerie Utter

Please Note....

Sunday, January 6, after worship, we will be “**Celebrating 2018**”. One of the best parts of our previous church conferences was to celebrate the blessings of the year. We are continuing this tradition by gathering after worship on Jan. 6, to acknowledge God’s blessings we experienced in 2018. The church conference booklet will be available, volunteers will be recognized, and the staff will provide refreshments.

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Coat Trade Again! The coat I wore to church is red with leather gloves in the pocket and has gone home with someone else. A similar red coat is hanging in the narthex coat closet. If your red coat seems a bit different than usual, please check...it might be mine. You can bring it to the church office and get yours from the closet. Thanks! Jane Saathoff.