I felt a lot of “Leaning IN . . .” on Sunday the 17th of February when our CUCC All-Team Launch party began. Everyone gathering around to meet new friends, put a puzzle together of opportunities for the work of the team, a shared meal, and then the JOY of discovery. How will we organize? Who will be our leaders? What are our team’s tasks in the year ahead? Everyone seemed both enthusiastic and eager—“Leaning IN . . .”—ready to make the team come together. Pretty remarkable!

The same thing happened at the Church Council meeting on Wednesday, February 20. A full table of church leaders, Officers and Team Representatives eager to begin the task of shaping the year of ministry and mission ahead. Everyone—“Leaning . . .IN.”

This is not the normal, routine year of ongoing worship, service to our community and world, education, music, reaching out, and spiritual growth that we are embarking on! No, we have opened our hearts to a new encounter with God, with each other, and with the fast-paced world of CHANGE that is happening all around us... COMPLACENCY is NOT a choice we have!

To make a difference in the world and our community we have to “Lean IN . . .” put the force of who we are as Christian people and as a Church to work right here. The possibility exists that as we reach out in love and compassion, that God is opening a new chapter in the life of this faith community.

We’re in this together—we need your energy, your input, your ideas. We’re ready to break out of the comfort zones we have established in order to try new things:
- New Worship Styles, New Music, New Foods, New Bazaar Ideas,
- New Windows to Beautify our Sanctuary, New Meeting Times,
- New Groups Welcomed, New Creativity and Art Festivals,
- New Caring for one another and Caring for the Environment,
- New people worshipping with us and growing in their relationship with God,
- New Embracing of God’s Word in the Natural World.

Only with God’s help can we do these things!

Let’s each one of us “Lean IN . . .” and be a part of the transformation already begun!

With optimism and love we can Imagine, Inspire, Ignite the Future.
Rev. Marjorie Erickson, Moderator
PASTOR’S ARTICLE, March, 2019

“We will choose to be a blessing for life...”

Ah.....winter! Still here and in great abundance! As I write this article, I am sitting by a warm fire, in a warm house, with my kittens and dogs snuggled nearby. I am looking out at a beautiful sight of snow on the patio, and a snow sky over the mountains, with more snow in the forecast! And I am grateful. I remember the pain last winter of wondering if we were ever going to get snow, of driving by Blue Mesa and other lakes and wondering if they’d ever return to their beautiful fullness. I remember the agony of wondering if there would be hay for our horses anywhere, for any price. And part of my gratitude is to the Miles for always looking out for us and Satin and Dolly— even if it means saving last year's hay for us, when they weren't sure they had enough for themselves.

I am grateful for this church and its inspired and forward-thinking leadership, in the past, present and future. We are so grateful for this woodstove that has literally changed our family’s quality of life. (The cats say thanks, too—they love it and can’t imagine how we ever got through the winter before!) Experiencing the Spirit’s presence in the warmth of a fire, talking together about the day, unwinding to sleep after long meetings, even starting the day with coffee and writing articles and sermons and ministry emails—this truly is an experience of the Holy—not to be taken for granted!

My gratitude for our church’s leadership extends far beyond the gift of this home and woodstove, of course! For last Sunday we gathered in a large, full room for our “Launch Party” and enjoyed getting acquainted, a delicious taco lunch, inspiring words and scriptures, a fun and thoughtful “puzzle game” and a very fruitful time in our teams around the table. We came together to learn of the tasks and responsibilities of each team, dream of new ideas for the future, and welcome a wider circle of participants than we ever have had before. Talk about an experience of the Holy!

Last week in worship, we explored “Blessings and Woes,” and the choice that life presents us each day and in each situation to count our blessings or wallow in our woes. Many churches are wallowing these days. Many congregations are aging, shrinking, struggling to pay the bills for ministry staffing and maintaining old and declining facilities. That is not us!! True, we have seen some reduction in numbers in worship attendance and giving in the past few years, as people have passed away or needed to move away to different climes. But we have also welcomed a myriad of new folks into our church family, with all their gifts and spirit and talents. We have also embraced the changing times with changing imagination and vision, explored new organizational structures and brought divine creativity to our worship, music, administration, communication and leadership models.

And now, we launch! Into a new chapter, a new season in our life together in beloved community, with vision, excitement, a full cadre of teams and officers. We are full of new ideas and passion for mission models.

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Let it be said of us, while we walked among the living,
Let it be said of us, by the ones we leave behind,
Let it be said of us, that we lived to be a blessing for life.
And let it be said of us, that we gave to reach the dying,
Let it be said of us, by the fruit we leave behind,
Let it be said of us, that our legacy is blessing for life.
This day, you set life, you set death right before us,
This day, every blessing and curse is a choice now,
And we will choose to be a blessing for life.
Let it be said of us, that our hearts belonged to Jesus,
Let it be said of us, that we spoke the words of life,
Let it be said of us, that our heritage is blessing for life.

Blessings be upon us!
- Rebecca

Thank you all so very much for making Mother’s Celebration of Life a wonderful time, at the church and the Hall. We appreciate everything you all did to make it a celebration! May God bless you all!

Love,
Carol & Floyd Fauser and the Lambert Families

From Rebecca and Family: THANK YOU from the bottom of our hearts for the generous donations from CUCU and individuals to our memorial for Mom & Dad

“Memorial Legacy for Pastor Rebecca’s Mother & Dad: Rasmussen’s Retreat

Funds will go to renovating a lodge room at Camp Arrah Wanna, a location dear to her late husband George’s hearts, as well as Pastor Rebecca’s entire family. In 1941 the camp opened, and Mildred served as one of the camp’s first volunteers and then counselors. It was also at this mountain retreat where the pair, who enjoyed an almost 50 year marriage, first got engaged.”

Memorial Donations can be sent to:
Camp Arrah Wanna, 24075 E Arrah Wanna Blvd, Welches, OR; 97067.
Or donate online: “In Dedication to: Mildred Rasmussen” at www.camparrahwanna.org.

Thank you! Thank you!
Thank you!
I love my job here! The people are great, my boss is wonderful, and the work is fun. :) And I so appreciate the fact that you show me in both small and large ways that my work is valued.

Specifically, I want to express my deep gratitude for the raise this year. As we all know, living in BV is not as cheap as it could be, so every bit really helps. It will be used wisely!

Very sincerely,
Nancy Best in the office
officially your friendly, neighborhood Office Communications Administrator

SONNIE McFARLAND, 40+year Montessorian, teaches topics such as “Discovering the Authentic Child,” “Creating Nurturing Home Environments,” and “Centering Skills for Adults.”

Email sonnie4peace@gmail.com or call 719-207-2227 to register.
$200 for all six sessions.

Available at the church:
“ cultivated vegetables, including tomatoes, squash, and peppers, from our garden. In addition to fresh produce, we have laid out a variety of reading materials, including a selection of books and magazines. We encourage our members to contribute to this collection, sharing the fruits of their labor and the joy of reading with others.

For last Sunday we gathered in a large, full room for our “Launch Party” and enjoyed getting acquainted, a delicious taco lunch, inspiring words and scriptures, a fun and thoughtful “puzzle game” and a very fruitful time in our teams around the table. We came together to learn of the tasks and responsibilities of each team, dream of new ideas for the future, and welcome a wider circle of participants than we ever have had before. Talk about an experience of the Holy!

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Let it be said of us, that our heritage is blessing for life.

Blessings be upon us!
- Rebecca

Rev. Rebecca Pons, Nancy, & Teresa,
Thank you all so very much for making Mother’s Celebration of Life a wonderful time, at the church and the Hall. We appreciate everything you all did to make it a celebration! May God bless you all!

Love,
Carol & Floyd Fauser and the Lambert Families
Part of our church family who would enjoy Prayers, Cards, or perhaps a Visit

Diane Bails  (720) 505-6540
21833 Saddlebrook Court, Parker, CO  80138

Nan Boho  (719) 207-4850
Columbine Manor
530 W. 16th Street, Salida, CO  81201

Jean Brody  (301) 720-9595
Sterling House #505
8271 South Continental Divide Road
Littleton, CO  80127

Lindsey Fagerberg
6380 NE Cherry Dr., Apt. 515
Hillsboro, OR  97124

Bonnie Guenther  (719) 395-2309
PO Box 12
318 Pinon Street, Buena Vista, CO  81211

Albert & Phyllis McCall  (719) 966-1131
Willow Street, PA  17584

Lew Lowe  (717) 490-8288
925 Willow Valley Lakes Drive, Apt. 326
Willow Street, PA  17584

Albert & Phyllis McCullough (719) 966-9522-A
(719) 659-9597-P
7950 W. Byers Ave. #102, Lakewood, CO  80226

Millee & Tom Meardon  (719) 221-2067-M
531 McAfee Avenue, Las Animas, CO  81054

Gail Moffat  (719) 221-1131
922 W. Main Street, Buena Vista, CO  81211

Charlotte Smith  719-395-2939
129 Windwalker, Buena Vista, CO  81211

Sarah Struthers  (719) 395-6888
17100 CR 363, Buena Vista, CO  81211

Gerry and Jean Venard  (720) 489-4830
3377 Mill Vista Road, Unit #3205
Highlands Ranch, CO  80129

Wilma and Angie Williams  (719) 395-2702
PO Box 1808
208 S. Colorado
Buena Vista, CO  81211

CUCU Special Dates

BIRTHDAYS
March 1—Lindsey Dietrich
March 3—Matthew Maloney
March 6—Barb Grov
March 6—Lucille Habeck
March 6—Ron Rak
March 8—Rick Fagerberg
March 13—Joe Holub
March 13—Pat Kobe
March 15—Tyler Keidel
March 16—Skyler Tucker
March 17—Millsie Meardon
March 20—Bob E. Smith
March 20—Arlene Waldorf
March 22—Lynnae Nelson
March 22—Ruthann Schoffield
March 26—Nancy Best
March 27—Barb Wilder
March 30—Dave Kobe

ANNIVERSARIES
March 1—Rick & Lesley Fagerberg
March 8—Mike Bullock & Ruthann Schoffield
March 14—Farrell & Dorothy Coy
March 20—Dave & Pat Kobe
March 22—Bill & Arlene Waldorf
March 24—Bill & Elizabeth Shively
March 27—Del & Janet Jones

Please contact the office at 395-2544 or email to office@bcucc.com.

Please Remember in Your Prayers

Nan Boho—Healing
Marcy Adams—Healing
Jordan Conradson—Healing
Maryanne Wells (Janet Jones’ sister-in-law)—Healing
Krissa Ferguson (Jean & Steve Ferguson’s daughter-in-law)—Healing
Mark Russell (Marge Dorfmeister’s nephew)—Healing
Gary Bragg (Ruth Amster’s nephew)—Healing
Ali Lutheran—Healing
Ed Simons (Rebecca K. Poos’ brother-in-law)—Healing
Vida Davis (Nyberg’s aunt)—Healing
The Family of Leon Hughes, Sr. (Nyberg’s uncle)—Comfort
Rick Fagerberg—Healing
Elvin Frantz—Healing
Laurie Riggs—Healing
Gail Moffat—Healing
Pam Hughes—Healing
Craig Weisser (Jean & Steve Feguson’s son-in-law)—Healing
Rob & Kate Ferris—Healing
Ronald Clodfelter (Virtueean William’s brother)—Healing
Jenny Bley-Sandoval (friend of Becky Mahon)—Healing
The Family of David Brainard (Merilee Daugherty’s father)—Comfort
Jeanne Kemper (Rocky Kemper’s sister-in-law)—Healing

March 22
March 20
March 17
March 13
March 10
March 8
March 6
March 3
March 1

CUCC Special Dates

Tuesday, March 5
5:30 pm—Healing
CUMA
504 South Main Street
Strasburg, CO

Please contact the office at 395-2544 or email to office@bcucc.com.

SAILING INTO SABBATICAL CUCU, March, 2019

A “sabbatical journey” is a shared journey by Pastor and Congregation. We have received a “Clergy Renewal Grant” for this journey, and information will be shared throughout the year so that we can all engage in sabbatical renewal and refreshment and learning together. See the Bulletin Board for the full description of the Sabbatical—both the pastor’s and congregation’s parts and focus.

The theme for the sabbatical is “Natural World as Word” from a particular theme of Celtic Christianity referred to as “Two Books.” John Scottus Eriugena (9th c) expressed it: God speaks to us through two books: the ‘little book’ of Scripture and the ‘big book’ of creation.” Our sabbatical will explore Celtic Christianity, already begun at CUCU, with a specific focus on this “Two Books” stream, which also has parallels in Native American spirituality. This will encompass study of nature, music, ancient stories, sites and experiences.

Christian Theological Seminary Announces 148 Congregations Awarded Lilly Endowment 2018 National Clergy Renewal Program Grants

Christian Theological Seminary and the Lilly Endowment National Clergy Renewal Program has awarded grants to 148 congregations located in 33 states and DC. The grants provide congregations support to enable their pastors to take time away from ministerial responsibilities for reflection and renewal. Pastors use the respite to engage in renewal experiences that often include travel, scholarly research and immersive experiences with different cultures and traditions.

“Pastors play an important role in nourishing the spiritual lives of individuals and in guiding the work of the Christian congregations they serve. Through these grants we seek to honor pastors for their extraordinary service and enable them to engage in a brief period of rest and renewal. We have learned that such experiences invigorate the leadership of pastors and bring new vitality to their congregations as well.”

Congregations in the 2018 program represent diverse Christian traditions. The congregations and their pastors worked together to determine how the pastors will use the grants to replenish, restore and renew their ministries. Travel to domestic and international destinations and journeys into nature are popular activities for grant recipients. One pastor will travel with family to Rome and Florence to explore iconography and the ways that art can inspire understandings of God. Another pastor will journey to different parts of the United States experiencing sacred stories, family stories, and the stories that connect her with others as she encounters storytellers from many settings.

In addition to travel as a form of renewal, some pastors will use their time away from their congregations to engage in new spiritual disciplines, focus on time with loved ones and study topics that renew their excitement for preaching and leadership. The Renewal Program leverages the reciprocal dynamics of support, trust and encouragement reflective of healthy congregations.

The program is designed to respect the innate human need for times of service and replenishment. It provides a means for congregations to express appreciation for their leader’s service and respect for his or her health and energy for continued ministry. The grants recognize the tremendous amount of energy, time and leadership that pastors invest in their congregations.

Congregations were invited to apply for grants of up to $50,000. The application process was participatory in nature, involving congregations and their pastors in the design and development of the renewal experience. Up to $15,000 of the grant could be allocated to fund interim pastoral leadership, as well as renewal activities within the congregation. Pastors were encouraged to include their families in the renewal activities.

Award Recipients:

Colorado
Boulder, CO – Saint Aidan’s Episcopal Church, the Rev. Mary Kate Rejouls
Buena Vista, CO – Congregational United Church of Christ of Buena Vista, the Rev. Rebecca Sue Kemper Poos
Denver, CO – Christ Episcopal Church, the Rev. Terry McGugan
Denver, CO – New Beginnings Worshiping Community, the Rev. Theresa Annette Schjang
Littleton, CO – Littleton United Methodist Church, the Rev. Trudy Denise Robinson
Strasburg, CO – Saron Lutheran Church, Julie Brooks

It was about eight-thirty am when the Uber car drove up to the side entrance of our building. The driver stopped the car and out stepped this smiling elderly lady dressed in a pink nightgown and a white robe and little pink bedroom shoes. The driver shut the car door behind the lady and drove his Uber away. As it left our driveway, the delighted little lady stood just inside our side door. She spread her arms wide like a bird taking off in flight and announced to the staff and residents in the dining room, “I’m back!”

Everyone looked at this person that seemed to be overjoyed to be home again and they didn’t have the slightest idea who she was. Apparently she expected a welcoming committee thrilled to see her back. The least she expected was that somebody would take her back to her apartment. The trouble was, though, that she didn’t have an apartment here.

One of the RA’s took her arm and sat her down at one of the dining room tables and began trying to make sense of this bizarre situation. It seems this friendly elderly lady had been a patient in one of the local hospitals, and when it was time to release her and send her home, they sent her to the wrong home via Uber.

This RA was so kind and helpful to her. In fact, she asked the cook to make her a nice breakfast while someone tried to find where she belonged.

Afterwards, she was assured that we indeed had the right name and address of another assisted living that was anxiously awaiting her return.

Not once did she complain about this mistake. We sat her down in our front parlor, gave her some lemonade and said someone would be right here for her. About two hours later, someone in a bus did come and they took her to the appropriate location. She was telling the driver the whole story and how she announced her arrival with, “I’m back!” and how funny it all was to her.

During her wait, I was continually passing her in the parlor as I did my fifteen morning laps. Shallow me. On several times passing her I felt embarrassed at the mistake. I had never even heard of delivering a patient in her nightgown to the wrong address.

But, you know, that wise, friendly, elderly lady wasn’t the least upset by any of it. In fact, after I said I was so sorry she had to wait so long, she told me how she enjoyed meeting so many nice people and how tasty the breakfast was. Then she said she liked to live in such a generous friendly facility. Of course, I tried to sign her up right on the spot, but I guess she was happy at her real apartment.

I know people who would have been very upset at such a mistake at their expense. I even wonder how I would have felt if I had been that sweet lady.

What I was reminded of by having this experience is that life is so short, very few things are worth having a fit over. Certainly, the elderly lady in the pink nightgown knew this and even seemed to enjoy the morning with us.

The view from the mountain is wondrous.

Jean Brody
Betsy Neas and Barb Groy are the new Co-Chairs. There is no Vice Chair. They will run the meetings together and Barb will attend Council Meetings. Ruthann Schoefield is the new Secretary.

The Worship Team will serve as ushers and greeters on Communion Sunday. Linda Rak will train people to ready the Communion trays and will also be in charge of communion.

Janet trained the team on the correct way to install the banners and paraments.

The meeting time for the team will be at 11:30 am on the second Sunday of each month to last one hour.

Instead of Social Sunday, there will now be Birthday Sunday each month on the fourth Sunday to celebrate all birthdays in that month.

The Worship Team will provide the food for Fellowship Time and a cake or something special. The funds for the cake will come from the Worship Team’s budget. Linda and Janet agreed to be in charge, with Linda ordering and picking up the cake.

Respectfully submitted, Betsy Neas, Secretary

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**Outreach/Community & World Team News**

March greetings!

Our very first meeting as OUTREACH/COMMUNITY & WORLD was held after the Launch Party at CUCC on Feb. 17, 2019.

Here are the highlights of that meeting:

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS:** Chair: Helen Duncan; vice Chair: Laurie Stevens; Secretary: Ron Rak

**BACKPACK PROGRAM:** Paper bags are now used. Hurrah for the "green movement!"

Ken Rehborn (director) announces a new initiative to change the BP program to a (501)c3 so that more donations from non-church related groups can be accepted. DONATIONS OF BOTH FOOD AND MONEY ARE STILL BEING ACCEPTED.

**HOLY JOE’S COFFEE PROJECT** is on firm financial footing and continues to supply the fellowship hour coffee. Purchases by church-goers are much appreciated. Keep up the good work!

**LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS WITH GRACE CHURCH.** The Lenten Service is at 6pm with a light meal following. Our dates: Wednesday, March 13, Wednesday, March 27, CUC. WE GOD Thursday, March 17, CUC. EASTER SonRise Service, Sunday, April 21, 7:00am

**Easter Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt, Sunday, April 21, 8:00am

**Easter Celebration Service, Sunday, April 21, 10:00am**
Marjorie Erickson, Acting Secretary

The organizational meeting for the Finance and Budget Team took place during the February 17 All-Team Launch Party. The day of our regular meetings was set for the second Thursday of the month at 6:30pm, making the next meeting March 14. Bill Waldorf was chosen to be Chair; Lesley Fagerburg, Vice-Chair; and Cindy Helm, Secretary.

The Team will focus on the following items this year:

- Establish a signing off procedure each month after books are reconciled
- Establish a Manual for Internal Controls
- Write a Policy and Procedures Update
- Compile a detailed list of the monthly activities of Treasurer

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Erickson, Acting Secretary

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**BE IN THE KNOW!**

- Copies of Sunday messages can be found in the file box outside the pastor’s office door.
- Sunday messages are also posted on the church website at www.bvcucc.org/home/Sunday-messages.
- Sunday bulletins are available in large print before the service—ask a greeter.
- To receive the CUCC weekly email blast, contact the office at 719-395-2544 or email to office.bvcucc@gmail.com.
- Nancy is in the front office T, W, F from 9 am to 5 pm. Please RSVP to Karen Milligan at 847-624-6866.
- Appetizers and beverages will be served.

---

**BV RED FLAG LAW FORUM**

**Tuesday, March 5, 6:30pm**

Karen Milligan’s house—29022 Teal Run, Buena Vista

Hear a presentation about environmentally friendly cleaning products which reduce waste, and catch up on the latest happenings with Chaffee Green, a local group pursuing comprehensive sustainable practices in our community.

Please RSVP to Karen Milligan at 847-624-6866.

---

**GREEN EVENING**

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**PLUG INTO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH**

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**BV RED FLAG LAW FORUM**

**Thursday, March 14, 6:00pm-8:00pm, location TBA**

BV residents Tiffany Campbell and Jim Hight facilitate a forum on the Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPO), also known as the Red Flag Law, for those willing to share their views in a civil manner.

BV residents Tiffany Campbell and Jim Hight facilitate a forum on the Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPO), also known as the Red Flag Law, for those willing to share their views in a civil manner.

Email Jim at jimhightwrites@gmail.com or call 707-407-9455 to learn more and register.

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**Lunch is provided!**

**LET’S BE GREEN!!!**

Please recycle everything possible at CUCC. We have bins in the office and Fellowship Hall to make it easy.

---

** Backpack Program**

Food items always in demand:

- Shelf-stable milk (Horizon milk in cartons on shelf at Walmart, white or chocolate)
- Fruit cups (individual) *Chef Boyardee, pasta, etc.
- Pudding Cups *Granola or Cereal Bars

As always, cash donations are appreciated, too!
The Faith Education Team
Develop a passion for learning.
If you do, you never cease to grow.
Anthony J. D’Angelo

Starting a new year is exciting for the team. The first kick-off meeting was a success. Getting to know each other and appointing new Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary was accomplished.

With that done, we went over some goals for this year:

1. Lifelong learning
2. Children’s Church (find an Educational Teacher, NEED Volunteers to sign up for Sundays)
3. Summer activities
   a. Jim Close Memorial Garden (composting)
   b. Family Camp (AKA find new name, assemble a task force.)
   c. 4th of July pie sale

And this, folks, is a beginning of great things.

Leadership and Learning are indispensable to each other.
John F. Kennedy

Next meeting March 15th, at 4:00pm.
Respectfully submitted by Ruby Hamilton, Vice Chair

SILVER SNEAKERS
The Silver Sneakers program is a health insurance benefit that allows you to use fitness places all over the country a certain number of times per month for free, though each one will have its own process and not all insurance plans make it available. Locally, Peak Fitness in BV, Mt. Princeton Hot Springs, and the Salida recreation department are partners with the program.

You don’t have to be 65 or older to join, but check with your health insurance plan to see if you are eligible. The easiest way to do so is to go to the following webpage and plug in your name and birthdate. You’ll be in the system if your plan has this benefit. You can either print out your paper card instantly or ask for a laminated card at a later time.

https://tools.silversneakers.com/Eligibility/CheckEligibility?_ga=2.78092764.1434723219.1543445465-1637426727.1543445465

**Cloth hand towels are now in the restrooms – please feel free to use them instead of the paper towels. They are washed every week.**
CUCC Council Minutes
February 20, 2019

Present: Kay Allinger, Ann Condra, Helen Duncan, Marge Erickson, Ron Erickson, Ron Hassell, Cindy Helm, Rebecca Kemper Poos, Betty Neas, Janet Steiner, Kathy Roman, Ron Rak.

Marge Erickson called the meeting to order at 7:09pm, opening with a prayer of encouragement. A review of upcoming events on the church calendar was noted on the Meeting Agenda. Changes included the March 10 Outreach Team meeting changed to 11:45am, and the Faith Education Team meeting time is 4:00pm.

Continuing Business

Memorial Window Replacement Project. Janet opened the discussion with a request to rename the project something other than Memorial Windows. Suggested were 140th Anniversary Windows, Honoring Families, Family Celebration Windows, Celebration Windows. Ron Hassell noted that the maximum number of windows will be 15, starting in the Sanctuary, then the Office, then the Fellowship Hall. Work is expected to be done in phases depending on costs, budget and availability of windows. No stained glass windows. Local suppliers will be researched, and it was decided that the windows will be professionally installed. It’s expected to be all be done by next winter.

Pastor’s Report. The first priority is working on filling out the March calendar. Lenten preparations are under way, to include creative ideas such as Call to Worship traditions in the worship and praising God’s beauty and creation. Jim Hight is planning to conduct a dialogue on March 14 (location TBD) on the recent Red Flag law being considered by the state legislature, gun violence and related topics. Rebecca has offered to assist with the Sunday evening March 14 service at the Episcopal church in Leadville, since the pastor is dealing with cancer-related health issues. Plans for the Backpack’s sabbatical are ongoing. Updates for the congregation will be posted on a bulletin board and in the monthly newsletter. A sabbatical planning team is being assembled. The sabbatical is scheduled to begin June 10 - September 15.

General Business and Reports

Minutes from the January 16 Council meeting were reviewed. Ron Erickson/Ann Condra moved to accept the minutes as written; motion passed. [NOTE: Minutes from the January 27 Congregational Meeting are in process and should be approved at the next Council Meeting. Bylaws will need to be changed to clarify when minutes from the newly planned quarterly congregational meetings are approved.]

Clerk’s Report: Ron Rak noted no reported changes in the congregation since the last meeting.

Treasurer’s Report: Cindy Helm highlighted the January Financial Statement, noting from the end-of-report summary page that general contributions for January were under budget by $3,872, and there were no concerns expressed by the Finance Team this early in the year. A major change in procedure will be initiated next month to reduce paperwork and get the financial reports to each team as quickly as possible by emailing reports to each team chair, instead of distributing five copies to each team in the mailboxes.

Moderator’s Report: Based on a request from the UCC, Marge requested prayers for the United Methodist Church in their deliberations this week on sexual gender issues in the Methodist church which have been plaguing the denomination for many years. The next quarterly Congregational Meeting will be on March 31 immediately after the Sunday worship service and will include evaluation of how the church team structure is working and an update on the sabbatical preparations.

New Business

Confirm Delegates to the Rocky Mountain Conference. Marge noted that our nominated church delegates for this year are Ron & Linda Rak, with Ron & Marge Erickson as alternate delegates, and asked Council to confirm the delegate appointments. Helen/Ann noted to confirm the 2019 delegate appointments; motion carried. There was brief mention of highlights of the June 6 - 8 RMC Annual Celebration meeting in Grand Junction. [NOTE: Ron & Linda plan to attend.]

Reports of Teams, Affiliated Organizations, Committees

Facilities Team. Ron Hassell is Chair, Mark沃尔kers is Vice Chair, Bowie Duncan is Secretary. Meeting time is 6:00pm on the 2nd Thursday. At the first meeting they reviewed projects and members skills to make assignments for the various projects. Current emphasis is on finishing details to the three restrooms and converting the front entryway to Union to union.

Faith Education Team. Ron E. reported that Arlene Waldorf is Chair and Ruby Hamilton is Chair. Donna Maloney sat in the meeting to determine if she wants to serve on the team or teach Sunday school.

Worship Team. Co-chairs are Betsy Neas and Barb Gray and Ruthanne Schofield is Secretary. A new plan idea from the first meeting is to celebrate birthdays on a monthly basis on the 4th Sunday to provide equal recognition for everyone. Perhaps the team will provide cake and even lunch.

Outreach Team. Helen Duncan is Chair, Ron Rak is Secretary, and Ken Rehborn will continue to coordinate the Backpack Program. Significant changes to the Backpack Program were noted. Doug Brady of new organization called “BV Backpack Program” as a 501(c)3 entity to more easily solicit and accept community donations to the program, especially from those who don’t want to contribute to a church-related program. Cucc will continue in the program by providing facilities and volunteer support as needed.

Stewardship/Visioning Team. Ann Condra is Chair, Bob Stocker is Vice Chair, and Judy Hassell is Secretary.

Finance and Budget Team. Bill Waldorf is Chair, Lesley Lagerberg is Vice Chair, and Cindy Helm is Secretary. Initial work will be determining policies and procedures and reviewing checks and balances within the team. Kay Allinger, Cucc’s Financial Secretary, attended the meeting to inform the team as to what her duties have routinely been.

Women’s Missionary Society. Kay Allinger reported that the program for the March meeting is a presentation about the AirMedCare Network (REACH) helicopter medical evacuation program at the Buena Vista airport.

Prayer Concerns/Adjournment
Next meeting is scheduled for March 27 at 7:15 p.m. (Lenten Soup Supper Night at Grace Church).

Prepared by Ron Rak, Clerk

FACILITIES TEAM NEWS

Dear, dear Ron, Rebecca and all our dear Members of Congregational United Church of Christ,

“Wishing you everything that makes a Valentine’s Day happy…family, friends, and lots of love.”
You will always be our Valentinis of our hears and we love you and miss you.
A very special hug from Reggie & Judy Nelson

Dear, dear Ron, Rebecca and all your dear Members of Congregational United Church of Christ,

The new Facilities Team met for the first time February 17 with Darrel Hamilton, Bowie Duncan, Paul Dorfmeister and Ron Hassell in attendance. Mark Wolters and Rhonda Funston were unable to attend. Ron Hassell served as facilitator.

—Conducted a brief roundtable with everyone sharing a bit about their background and experience, then presented a brief review of what the Facilities Team is likely to be responsible for.

—Bowie offered and was elected Secretary.
—Ron Hassell was elected Chair.
—Mark was suggested as Vice Chair, As of this date, have not heard from Mark if he would accept the position.
[It was learned at a later date that he did accept.]
—It was decided that the Team’s meeting will be held the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:00pm.
—We spent some time reviewing recent and current projects and discussing the windows project and some other possible needs. Windows project will proceed with Mark and Ron helping with the windows committee.
—Discussed the committees and who might be interested in which committee. Final decision was made; will wait for a full team to finalise the committees.

—All received a copy of contact information and no corrections were noted. Most correspondence will occur via email unless urgent—then the phone is appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,
Ron Hassell, Chair

Reaching the Pastor

If I’m not at the church, I might be out visiting, at a meeting or writing a sermon.

Leave a non-urgent message at the office at 719-395-2544, call my cell at 719-252-6890, or email me at revbecca@icloud.com.

Ruby Hamilton thanks her friends at CUCC for the meals and prayers after her surgery.

They meant the world to her!

“New England and Canada Autumn Cruising!”

stops in Portland, Maine, Bar Harbor, Maine, Saint John, New Brunswick, and Halifax, Nova Scotia departs September 21, 2019 from NYC

See the kiosk in the narthex for more information.
Also contact Barb Rudolph for more information and reservations at 503-358-3410 or barb@etravelunlimited.com.