

First Congregational

UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

THE HERALD

OCTOBER 2022

Minister's Musings

"There is in all things... a hidden wholeness" - Thomas Merton

"For the good [person] to realize that it is better to be whole than to be good is to enter on a strait and narrow path..." John Middleton Murry

Dearly Beloved,

We are already well into our autumn season, but I wanted to share a little bit more about our theme. The phrase "A Hidden Wholeness" comes from Parker Palmer's book of the same name. Palmer's book describes each of us as whole and explains that our wholeness includes whatever parts of us we may consider less-than-good, shameful or even "broken." Indeed, for Palmer, **we are best able to discern the still-speaking voice of God when we listen from our whole and integrated self.**

The trouble is that our wholeness, our integrated self, is often obscured from vision and even from our own knowledge. As such, **we are called to discover and uncover our hidden wholeness. Palmer suggests that the best way to do this is in community** -- in what he calls a *circle of trust*. *These circles of trust are, most simply put, a community "that knows how to welcome the soul and help us hear its voice."* We hope that through our worship this season, we will practice being such a community.

Part of our worship space this fall is a prayer corner -- a space for a quiet moment lighting a candle or simply being. You're invited to use this space before, during or after worship, anytime you feel moved to do so.

Our autumn scriptures come from the [Narrative Lectionary](#) and draw us into the story of God's love for humanity beginning with the story of Noah. Worship will incorporate silence and some movement. We hope that these different ways of being together will help us discover -- individually and collectively -- the hidden wholeness within us. We pray that our autumn worship will move us to: *"reach in toward [our] own wholeness while reaching out towards the world's needs and striving to live [our] lives at the intersection of the two"* (Palmer, pg 22).

With love and peace,
Thandiwe

P.s. I will be away October 3-16 traveling with my family to visit my parents in England. When I return, I will spend October 17-19 at La Foret serving on the Rocky Mountain Conference Anti-Racism Team.

Sunday Morning Worship, 10:00 am

In-Person Worship

Join us in the sanctuary! Masks are optional. The balcony and west section of the sanctuary are available for physically distanced seating, with masks required.

Zoom Call-In

Dial: 312 626 6799, Meeting ID: 966 390 616#

Zoom Meeting By Computer

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/966390616?pwd=eXBIRC9Kc0V6S3BxM3NBQzIDaHRTdz09>

Meeting ID: 966 390 616; Password: 773088

Sunday Worship on Facebook Live

<https://www.facebook.com/LovelandUCC>



Fall Worship Nights

October 4 and November 1

Join us for Worship Night on the first Tuesday of each month, at 7pm, in our beautiful sanctuary. Everyone is welcome to come experience an uninterrupted time of scripture and praise through music. We encourage you all to take advantage of this unique time to worship God and connect with the Holy Spirit on a personal level. Whether you come to sing along, or just to listen and reflect, we hope to see you there!

Neighbors in Need Special Offering - October 2

In 2022, the Neighbors in Need "BEHOLD!" offering focuses on economic justice. With inflation impacting all of our households, we wanted to provide a way to discuss this topic through a faith lens. One third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to provide funding grants to UCC churches and organizations leading justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects in their communities. Please visit the UCC website at <https://www.ucc.org/neighbors-in-need-special-mission-offering/> for more information.

Please make your checks to 'FCC' and designate your donation as 'NIN' in the memo line.

Fellowship Refreshment Volunteers Needed

Refreshment volunteers are needed after worship to prepare juice and coffee (instructions near the coffee machine) and provide a light snack such as cookies, carrots, or crackers.

Please sign up for your preferred date on the trophy case. Please see Dawn Briggs with any questions.

Hay Ride & Harvest Fun - October 8

Saturday, October 8, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

The Fall Hayride will be Saturday, October 8th, on Jim Croissant's property along the Big Thompson! The time will be from 11AM to 1PM. (Jim's address is 26442 Weld County Road 15, Johnstown. It's about 3 miles east of I-25 along the north side of Colorado 402, before you get to CR15.)

Please plan to join us for a weekend lunch to celebrate the Fall, the harvest, the outdoors, and each other. There will be a campfire, a cookout, singing, games and activities, and perfect weather.

And of course, the wonderful Croissant Hayride! It's sort of like pulling on a rope to ring a church bell. Not everyone can say they've done that or been on a hayride.



Faith Formation will provide hot dogs, buns, lemonade, tea, ice, and the fixings to make s'mores. Bring any other snacks or drinks that you would like. There are a few logs to sit on, but we also recommend that you bring your own chairs.

Trunk or Treat - October 29

Saturday, October 29, Time TBD

Church Parking Lot (800 N Lincoln Ave)



We would love to offer Trunk or Treat again, and we need some additional volunteers to work with Faith Formation Board to plan, organize, set-up and clean-up. Please speak with Pastor Thandiwe or Linda Greaves if you can help. Thank you!

All Saints Day Remembrance

During the service on November 6, we will once again remember loved ones. We will read aloud the names of those who have passed since November 1, 2021, and print the names of those who have passed prior to November 1, 2021. We also invite you to bring a photo of the person to place on the altar.

If you would like to include your beloved ones' names, please let the office know by Sunday, October 30, at office@lovelandUCC.org or (970) 667-4884.

New Members Class

October 23 & 30 following worship

Are you interested in learning more about our congregation or becoming a member? Come to our New Members class! This is a chance to learn more about the United Church of Christ and our congregation more specifically, to ask questions and to better understand what it means to be a member. All are welcome!

God's Giving Inspires Our Giving - Autumn Stewardship Season

When thinking of the spiritual practice of generosity, the symbolism of the Table is twofold. *At one level, it represents God giving Christ for the salvation of the world. The giving of the bread and the cup embody the depth, power, and unrelenting quality of God's steadfast love. At another level, the Table calls to mind the fact that God intends for those who gather at the table to become a giving people. The presence of the living Christ empowers us to give in our smaller worlds as God through Christ to the larger world.*

Stewardship, simply put, is what we do with what we have. We invite you to prayerfully reflect on the resources you have -- your finances, expertise and time -- and consider how God is calling you to share those resources with this congregation to support our ministries to this congregation, our wider community and the world.

Our stewardship team consists of: Craig Bialy, Frank Kauffman, Karen Jazowski and Sara Gardner, and we look forward to sharing lots more about stewarding resources and generosity as a practice of our faith as the autumn continues.

UCC Pakistan Response Fund

Following massive flooding across nearly three-quarters of the country, the United Church of Christ is issuing an appeal in support of the people of Pakistan.

With more than 33 million people affected by the flooding so far and an estimated 6.4 million in need of humanitarian assistance, this response is greatly needed. Through our membership in the ACT Alliance and contributions to its Rapid Response Fund, the United Church of Christ is already supporting early relief efforts. Emergency food and water, medical supplies, temporary shelter kits, and protective services are being offered by ACT members Community World Service Asia and Norwegian Church Aid.

Your gift to the [United Church of Christ's Pakistan Response Fund](#) will help maintain this relief work and support the long-term recovery for vulnerable persons and affected communities. Through our work with global partners and the ACT Alliance, your gift will be joined with others to bring hope, healing, and a helping hand to our neighbors in Pakistan.

UCC Still Speaking Writers Group

The UCC Still Speaking Writers Group is coming to Boulder's First Congregational UCC and will be offering an event in their Sanctuary on Tuesday evening, September 27 at 7:00 pm. It's an opportunity for the members of our congregations to meet them and be in conversation about some of their favorite devotionals.

The link to the registration portal if you want to join the Still Speaking Writers Event on YouTube is [here](#).

What's in Our Constitution?

WHAT ABOUT THE DEACONS?

In last month's newsletter I told you a little bit about what our Trustees do, but you now may be wondering what the Deacons do so here's what our church constitution says about the role of the Deacons.

Our church constitution states that "The Board of Deacons shall cooperate with the Pastor in administering to the spiritual needs, church growth and interests of the church and community." The Deacons help prepare and serve communion and assist "in caring for the poor, the sick, the sorrowing, the indifferent and the stranger." They "shall give attention to discipline as provided for in this constitution."

So, what does all that mean? Along with preparing and serving communion, the Deacons serve as the greeters on Sunday mornings and help with baptisms, dedications and confirmation. They reach out to visitors and answer questions about the church as well as assist with new member orientation, education and welcoming. The Deacons serve as the main hosts for funeral services, making sure the church is prepared beforehand and then locked up afterward. They also assist with those needing to use the elevator, select guest ministers as needed and maintain our membership list. The Deacons help the pastor with pastoral care so you may even receive a phone call from a Deacon just to see how you are doing. There are also other items they are responsible for such as certain offerings, the House of Neighborly Service food drive and the purchasing of flowers for the Easter and Christmas seasons. Wow, the Deacons serve the church in so many ways!

As you can see, the role of a Deacon is a very important part of our church. Those currently serving as Deacons are: Eunice Baer, Dawn Briggs, Linda Carpenter, Lee Daniels, Ali Eleam, Elizabeth Endicott, Kim Leibbrand and Dana Stanke (chairperson). When you meet them at the door on Sunday morning or at any other time you get a chance to, please let them know how much their service to the church is appreciated!

Peace,
Pat Kukus
Constitution Committee Chairperson

Need a Nametag? Want to Receive our Emails?

Please let us know if you need a nametag or would like to be added to our weekly email. Contact Staci in the office at office@lovelanducc.org or (970) 667-4884.

Thank You to Those Serving in October

GREETERS:

10/2 Dana Stanke and Lee Daniels
 10/9 Ali Eleam and Dawn Briggs
 10/16 Elizabeth Endicott and Linda Carpenter
 10/23 Eunice Baer and Kim Leibbrand
 10/30 Linda Carpenter and Dana Stanke

ACOLYTES:

10/2 Mya & Jeslyn Haux
 10/9 Gavin & Grayson Snyder
 10/16 Lucas Gardner & Colton Leibbrand
 10/23 Josiah & Jehu Nalwood
 10/30 Mya & Jeslyn Haux

TRUSTEES:

10/2 Brian Kukus and Mary Kauffman
 10/9 John Schwartz and Jerry Sundberg
 10/16 Greg Greaves and Alexandra Stanke
 10/23 Allen Lebsack and Bernie Depperschmidt
 10/30 Brian Kukus and Dawn Briggs

REFRESHMENTS:

10/2 Ali Eleam and Linda Carpenter
 10/9
 10/16
 10/23
 10/30 Noreen Flood

AUDIO/VISUAL:

10/2 Jon Haux & Craig Jump
 10/9 Craig Jump & Jacob de Bes
 10/16 Craig Jump de Bes & Jon Haux
 10/23 Jon Haux
 10/30 Craig Jump & Jacob de Bes

LAY READERS:

10/2 Karen Jazowski
 10/9 Paul Heintzleman
 10/16 Craig Bialy
 10/23 Rhonda Racicot
 10/30 Heather Jackson

USHERS:

10/2 Colton Leibbrand, Lucas Gardner, and
 Craig Bialy
 10/9 John Schwartz and Georgene Hill
 10/16 Troy Jackson and Judy Bernard
 10/23 Allen Lucas and Georgene Hill
 10/30 Colton Leibbrand, Lucas Gardner, and
 Craig Bialy

October Celebrations

Birthdays

Ginny Carnes
 Grayson Snyder
 Sandra Drage
 Mya Haux
 Lila Sholes
 Dawna Depperschmidt
 John McCoy
 Chris Mason
 Sheryl McCoy

Anniversaries


Daniel & Sara Gardner



**If your birthday or
 anniversary
 is NOT listed,
 please let the office
 know.**

OCTOBER



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 Choir Rehearsal 9 am Worship 10 am Children's Worship 10:15 am Fellowship 11 am Confirmation Class 11:30 am	26	27 Virtual Lectio Divina 8 am Nominating Committee 7 pm Choir Rehearsal 7 pm	28 "A Hidden Wholeness" Book Study 7 pm	29	30	1
2 <i>Neighbors in Need Special Offering</i> World Communion Sunday Choir Rehearsal 9 am Worship 10 am Fellowship 11 am	3 Pastor Thandiwe Out of Office Cabrini Day - Office Closed Executive Committee 6:30 pm Deacons 7 pm	4 Pastor Thandiwe Out of Office Virtual Lectio Divina 8 am Worship Night 7 pm	5 Pastor Thandiwe Out of Office "A Hidden Wholeness" Book Study 7 pm	6 Pastor Thandiwe Out of Office	7 Pastor Thandiwe Out of Office	8 Pastor Thandiwe Out of Office Hay Ride & Harvest Fun 11 am
9 Pastor Thandiwe Out of Office Choir Rehearsal 9 am Worship 10 am Children's Worship 10:15 am Fellowship 11 am	10 Pastor Thandiwe Out of Office Columbus Day Indigenous People's Day Trustees 6:30 pm Church Board 7:30 pm	11 Pastor Thandiwe Out of Office Virtual Lectio Divina 8 am Choir Rehearsal 7 pm	12 Pastor Thandiwe Out of Office "A Hidden Wholeness" Book Study 7 pm	13 Pastor Thandiwe Out of Office	14 Pastor Thandiwe Out of Office	15 Pastor Thandiwe Out of Office
16 Pastor Thandiwe Out of Office Choir Rehearsal 9 am Worship 10 am Fellowship 11 am	17 Pastor Thandiwe Out of Office Budget Committee 7 pm	18 Pastor Thandiwe Out of Office Virtual Lectio Divina 8 am Choir Rehearsal 7 pm	19 Pastor Thandiwe Out of Office "A Hidden Wholeness" Book Study 7 pm	20	21	22
23 Confirmation Sunday Choir Rehearsal 9 am Worship 10 am Children's Worship 10:15 am Fellowship 11 am New Members Class 11:15 am	24	25 Virtual Lectio Divina 8 am Staff Meeting 10 am Nominating Committee 7 pm Choir Rehearsal 7 pm	26 "A Hidden Wholeness" Book Study 7 pm	27	28	29 Trunk or Treat (time tbd)
30 Choir Rehearsal 9 am Worship 10 am Fellowship 11 am New Members Class 11:15 am	31 Halloween 	1 All Saints Day First Day of American Indian Heritage Month Virtual Lectio Divina 8 am Worship Night 7 pm	2 All Souls Day "A Hidden Wholeness" Book Study 7 pm	3	4	5

RMC Anti-Racism Ministry Team

Pastor Thandiwe Serving on RMC Anti-Racism Ministry Team

With approval from the delegation to the 2022 Rocky Mountain Conference, UCC Annual Celebration, the Antiracism Ministry Team in the Rocky Mountain Conference is established!

In partnership with The Rev. Dr. Anthony Scott, the Ministry Team will implement and provide support for the conference's stated mission priority of establishing a sustainable culture of anti-racism in the Rocky Mountain Conference.

The Ministry Team is comprised of nine members and has representation from all five RMC Associations. They have had an initial meeting in September and will engage in a time of formation and retreat at LaForet October 17-19. Pray for their collective striving and success!

To learn more about the Antiracism Ministry Team, visit the [RMC Antiracist Space](#).

RMC Anti-Racism Fall Book Study

Tuesdays @ 6:30 pm, October 4 - November 9 on Zoom, Register [HERE](#)

This fall, RMC Antiracist Readers will read and engage *The Color of Compromise: The Truth About the American Church's Complicity in Racism*, by Jemar Tisby.

Tisby's book offers historical insight to the deeply entrenched history of allyship, compromise, and silence the church in the United States has offered racism and racists. This text will help us to understand why it is crucial that churches participate, in the work of dismantling racism.

All sessions will be held on Zoom. Register [HERE](#), on the RMC Facebook page, or on the Antiracist Space. Purchase "The Color of Compromise" via your book seller of choice and come be in community. If you cannot afford a book and would like to participate, email anthony@rmcucc.org.

RMC Anti-Racism Work: Stay Curious

Curiosity is a portal which can lead to understanding, empathy, and be the impetus for growth and change. In this section, there will be a word or phrase to be researched, explored, and pondered. Stay curious. You just might be transformed.

The Intersection: Race and Disability Lecture

Wednesday, October 5, 6:30 pm on Zoom, Register [HERE](#)

Intersectionality: (Noun) The ways in Which Systems of oppression overlap to create distinct experiences for people with multiple identity categories.

The Antiracism Ministry of the Rocky Mountain Conference of the United Church of Christ, in observation of Access Sunday, will host a lecture on the intersection of race and disability. The Rev. H. Russell Ewell, II, pastor, scholar, and disability justice advocate will join us in a time of lecture and O&A.

Online & Text Giving is Available!

ONLINE GIVING: First Congregational Church is set up to accept online donations! Please go to: <https://FCCUCC.breezechms.com/give/online>



TEXT TO GIVE: Simply text the amount that you'd like to give (e.g. 10) to (720) 674-7372. You will be directed to a secure link to give to the church.

Financial Notes

Budgeted Offerings through August: \$113,333.32

Offerings Received: \$99,878.08

Donation of Goods/Services in August: \$22.76

Loveland UCC Merchandise Available

Visit our Loveland UCC web shop to show your church pride and support congregational programs. There are shirts to fit infants through adult size 5X. You can buy t-shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, canvas bags, hats, pins, water bottles, and more with the First Congregational Church logo on them. Please visit: bit.ly/lovelanducc. See Sara Gardner for more information.

Congregations Alive 5! - February 23-25, 2023

Theme: Climate Justice for All

Where: First Plymouth Congregational Church

3501 S Colorado Blvd, Cherry Hills Village, CO 80113

Featuring Rev. Dr. Jim Antal, recently retired conference minister of the Massachusetts Conference UCC. He remains a denominational leader, climate activist, public theologian and author of the book, *Climate Church, Climate World*. AND Rev Peter Sawtell, retired from his long-time role as Executive Director of Eco-Justice Ministries in Denver, he is an advocate and activist for the Climate and Creation in the Rocky Mountain Conference. Come for outstanding workshops, meaningful worship and renewing friendships with colleagues.

WATCH FOR REGISTRATION MATERIALS IN THE FALL WITH EARLY REGISTRATION STARTING IN DECEMBER. SAVE THE DATE!

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