



Presbyterian
Community Church
of the Rockies

January 2024 Newsletter

Estes Park's historic mainline Protestant congregation founded in 1907.

Core Value: The Presbyterian Community Church of the Rockies is a Sacred Community formed around Jesus the Christ where we experience God's presence in our lives and service together.

Volume 12, Number 1

All things are become new...



2 Corinthians 5:17



PCCR Directory

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm; closed Fridays

Office Phone: 970-586-4404

Church Website: pccrusa.org

Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Christine Dempsey,,
pastor@pccrusa.org

Financial Manager: Carolyn Hull,
finance@pccrusa.org

Office Administrator:
Meredith Ishida, office@pccrusa.org

Handbell Director: Patti Dolezal,
music@pccrusa.org

Choir Director: Rich Dixon

Organist: Larry Gillum



Paper copies of the newsletter are available in the narthex.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this issue of the newsletter—whether it be your service in this church or providing a written article or photo.

We appreciate your input!

The February Newsletter deadline is Tuesday, January 16. Please send your pictures and stories to: office@pccrusa.org Thanks!



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Worship Schedule



Worship in the Sanctuary:

Sunday, January 7 — 10:00 am: Communion, Installation of Officers

Sunday, January 14 — 10:00 am

Sunday, January 21 — 10:00 am

Sunday, January 28 — 10:00 am

The Rev. Dr. Christine Dempsey, pastor

Larry Gillum, organist

View through Livestream service on our website:

Open the website, <https://pccrusa.org> on the Home page. The livestream player is to the right, below the opening pictures.

The player will automatically start when the service begins.

Sunday Bulletin: The current worship bulletin appears directly below the livestream and video recordings box. Simply click on “View Bulletin”.

Please Look...

- ⇒ Are you in the current church directory?
- ⇒ Has your phone number changed?
- ⇒ Is your email different?
- ⇒ Any family member changes?
- ⇒ Have you moved? Is your address correct?
- ⇒ Would you like your photo updated?

Let the church office know (970-586-4404) if and when you have any changes to your contact information. Thanks!

Check us out on Facebook!

Facebook is a branch of our outreach ministry, a way we invite others to be a part of our church family as well as keep our own members informed.

Check out our page (you don't need a Facebook account) for the most recent updates and articles. <https://www.facebook.com/PCCR1>



Time for a New Church Directory!

If you have not yet done so, please let us know if you have **any changes** to your contact information (phone number, email address, home mailing address), or if you would like a new photo.

Thank you!

JANUARY 2024

Message from Pastor Christine Dempsey . . .

Dear PCCR family,

Happy New Year! This year like all that have come before, we have to remember a new number. If you are like me, you will keep dating checks with 2023 for a couple of months. I have even been known to slip back a couple of years. Yet, there is something truly awesome about the new year, 2024. This is the date that marks 2024 in the year of our Lord. Our “common era” dating system, the one we use every day, is based on the birth date of Jesus. When I think about this, it brings me joy and awe every time I write a date. I am sometimes truly overwhelmed with this, the promise that is embedded into each and every day.

As a historian that has a background in the ancient world, I frequently work in what are known as AD dates or CE dates. AD, as you know, is the abbreviation for the Latin Anno Domini (In the Year of our Lord) and CE is a secular version of the same time period meaning Common Era. Obviously,

people that lived in the ancient world did not have the birth of Christ at hand, so they had to rely on different dating systems. These systems focused on the date of a king. There was no standard dating system. With the birth of Christ, there was a new king. A king of all kings, Lord of Lords, and a new dating system based on his birth replaced the traditional king dates.

Of course, this did not happen immediately. It was first introduced by Dionysius Exiguus in the 6th century and eventually became adopted by not only the church but also the Western World and beyond. This dating system is imperfect as Dionysius did not know the exact date of Jesus’ birth. Modern scholars believe that Jesus’ actual birth was probably around 4 B.C., but the date stuck. Also, Dionysius did not have organizational principle for the events that happened prior to Jesus birth. It wasn’t until the 8th century that the Venerable Bede would adopt the idea of BC dates or (Bene Christus, Before Christ). Bede tied the world before Jesus to the one afterward reminding us of God’s creation and God’s redemption.

I can’t help but think about the beauty and hope in our world where our very day to day practice of writing a date is tied to Christ Jesus. Wow! Jesus came to restore hope, bring justice, establish peace, and champion love. Our dating system based on his birth should help us live into the promises that he brought to us. This makes my heart sing, and reminds me that with each year is a new opportunity to live as a citizen of God’s kingdom once again.

As we enter another new year, let us rededicate ourselves to living as Christ taught us and continue to believe that our words and actions can make a change for the better. So friends, each time we write our new date, 2024, let us remember to add “in the year of our Lord, Jesus Christ.” May this simple gesture be our guide and our prayer.

Grace and peace,

Christine



Christmas Eve 2023





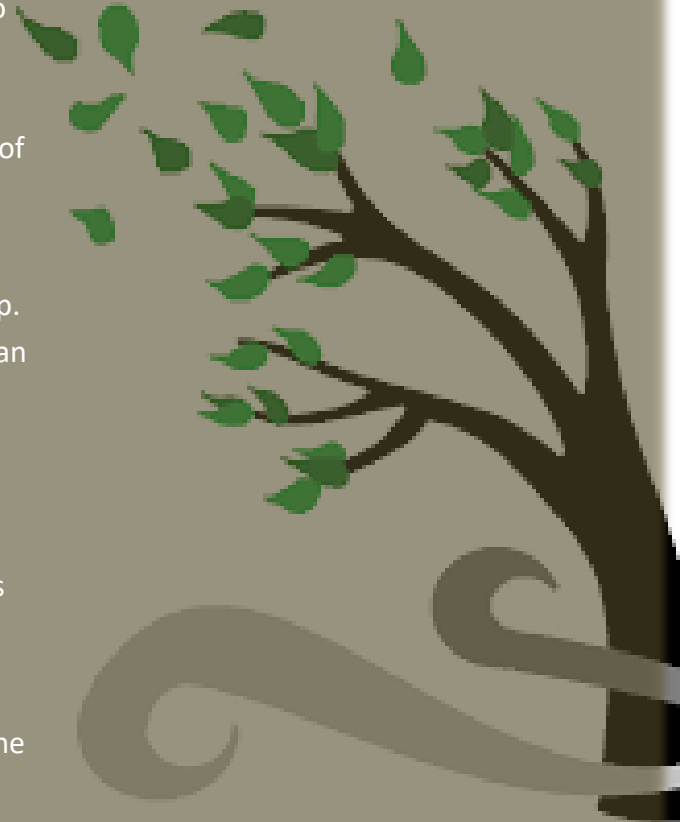
Assistance to Refugees Arriving in Denver

This year, Denver has received some 30,000 refugees from Central and South America. Most have come here from Venezuela. They are fleeing from dangerous conditions in their home countries and seek asylum and work here. They arrive with little and need help and asylum. Most have been sent here on busses from Texas.

Denver, on a per capita basis, has absorbed more refugees than other inland cities. The refugees are simply dropped off and left to fend for themselves. The random nature of this migration complicates the work to find shelter, and the cold winter weather makes it more important to do so. This compounds the problems of working with Denver's homeless population and has put a huge strain on Denver's budget.

The Mission and Outreach Committee has looked for a way to help. We decided to contribute to Lutheran Family Services, which has an active presence in assisting refugees coming to Denver. Lutheran Family Services is a faith based, nonprofit human services agency that, among a host of other activities, provides refugee and immigration services. The organization has been doing this work since 1948. We sent them \$1,000 in December. The money comes from an allocation to the Mission and Outreach program from pledges made by the congregation, and thus comes from all of us.

As noted in Matthew 25, verse 40, "whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."



Support for The Market at Crossroads

During 2023, our church collected and donated more than 500 pounds of groceries and sundries to the food bank at Crossroads, now known as The Market at Crossroads. This generosity helps relieve food insecurity for many in the Estes Valley. We plan to continue our efforts in the coming year. Collections occur on the third Sunday of each month when we put out our grocery cart. Look for it in the narthex. Crossroads tells us that their main needs are for:

- Canned fruit, such as peaches, pears, pineapple and mixed fruit cocktail.
- Canned soups, especially chunky vegetable beef, chicken noodle, vegetable, lentil and chicken vegetable. Apparently tomato soup is not popular and Crossroads has asked that we not donate this item.
- Ramen noodles.
- Canned dinner items, including Dinty moore stew, canned chili, and beef ravioli.
- Salad dressings.
- For sundries, toilet paper.



Thanks to PCCR from Malawi

Last July, the Mission Committee asked for donations to buy blankets for the extreme poor in northern Malawi as well as for funds to provide a Christmas dinner for these same people. These two events were put together because the committee does not want to ask you more than once for such special offerings. You came through with amazing responses! Not only was money raised for the blankets, but extra was set aside for the Christmas dinner! We have just received a report from Mr. Leman Kayira about the blankets. Your gifts provided 164 blankets! 54 were given to orphans, 39 to senior citizens and 71 to widows and other vulnerable people. Mr. Kayira sent this note of thanks to each of you:



“The beneficiaries are very grateful for the donation of a blanket each which they received from the Presbyterian Church of the Rockies. The blankets signify great love and compassion toward fellow human beings.

Beneficiaries sincerely appreciate all the wonderful thoughts about them and the prayers being offered; they also sincerely appreciate the funds which you and the Mission Committee send to alleviate the great suffering. Their prayers are to you and all those who donate towards the funding. They know that it is only those people who have the holy spirit in their hearts and who are the servants of the Almighty

God, who can think of alleviating the suffering of others. May God bless you.”

In a separate letter, Mr. Kayira asked for help with the Christmas dinner he and his wife provide for these extreme poor in his area of Chitipa, Malawi. Because you gave in July, the dinner will be held on Christmas Day and will be the only meal these people will have that day. He will serve about 200+ people with meat, greens, rice, red beans and nsima. If funds can stretch, there may be a boiled egg and even a Coke!

Things are very difficult in Malawi right now. Their currency, the kwacha, has been devalued by almost 70% in 2023. “... the kwacha has become a valueless paper for transaction. The sufferings of the people are visible everywhere. The plight is dire....”

The Mission Committee has sent your money from July (\$1000) to Malawi for the Christmas dinner. We have also sent an additional \$500 for food insecurity relief which will be used to buy maize at a cost of \$27 per 50kg bag. Each bag will feed a family of 4-5 for a month. Thank you for your generosity!



Thank You Awesome PCCR Staff

We had a fabulous 2023 at PCCR and much of it is attributed to all of the hard work and dedication of our staff. We thank you for all that you do and all that you are.

Pastoral Staff

Chris Davis served us as our part-time interim pastor for the first 6 ½ months of 2023. Chris lovingly and with expertise guided the congregation and the staff. Thanks to Chris we remained a healthy church ready for our next pastor.



Bruce Brackman is our loving shepherd who carried us through those COVID times and beyond. Always a smile on his face and love in his heart. We think we have almost made him a Presbyterian too!



Christine Dempsey arrived at PCCR with energy, enthusiasm, love, and hope for the future. Her love for the church and love of the congregation is evident. We look forward to all that she brings in the years to come.



Office Staff



Carolyn Hull has managed the finances of PCCR for over 25 years. Carolyn knows the ins and outs of the church and makes sure we always pay the bills. Whenever anyone needs to talk with Carolyn there will always be a smile on her face and wise words from her mouth.

Meredith Ishida manages the office. She is the newest employee but has joined the staff with great enthusiasm and knowledge. No matter your question, no matter your concern, Meredith will find the answer for you and always with a smile.



Rich Dixon is our choir director and composer. Rich makes sure that every Sunday has a message woven throughout the service. He cares deeply about every member of the choir and makes sure they can perform at their best at all times. And if there isn't a piece of music to convey a message – Rich will write it!



Music Staff

Larry Gillum is our gem of an organist. Some people may wonder how the angels play the organ in heaven – but we already know... Larry puts so much love into every piece that he plays and the congregation benefits.



Patti Dolezal leads the handbell choirs and so so much more. She is the Music Department Coordinator and makes sure that each Sunday the sanctuary is ready for worship. Most people may think that those Easter lilies and Christmas poinsettias just magically appear and are taken care of.. but someone is behind the scenes making that happen.



Smiles on their faces and love in their hearts – that is the description of the PCCR staff. We are lucky and we are blessed. And we look forward to a fabulous 2024 with our staff. THANK YOU!!

Personnel Committee

Thank You, Class of 2023!

OUTGOING ELDERS

Jan Boatman, Dot Rohrbaugh



OUTGOING DEACONS

Sharyn Gartner, Carol Pearson, Tami Scace, Robert Sherrod



We are grateful for your service.

Happy Birthday, Marv Gee!

Editor's Note: Journeys class founder and former PCCR member Marv Gee was looking forward to his 95th birthday, December 27th. When he unexpectedly passed away in October 2023, the Journeys class decided to celebrate in his honor with brunch at the Seasoned Bistro, a restaurant that Marv frequented. The most popular dish that day? The Marvin: one slice of French toast, thick-cut bacon, and berries. The following is an excerpt from a tribute that Marv's good friend, Rick Taylor, gave during the gathering.



A few weeks before he died, Marv shared with me something he had intended to read at that month's upcoming Journeys in-person group that we call "Soulful Stories." I read the complete version to our group at the time, but I thought I'd share with you a bit of what he wanted to say. A few snippets of his 'soulful story'.

He started with two quotes, the first from Mark Twain who said: "The two most important days in your life are the day you were born and the day you find out why." The second from David Brooks, the New York Times columnist and a favorite of Marv's: "Should you live for your resume' or your eulogy?"



He wrote that his birthright was to become a whole human being: complete, authentic, and grateful. He saw it as an opportunity.

He wrote of the Journeys class as being a paradigm shift for him. He thought of the class as a new

worldview, a work in progress, and a kind of spiritual conversion for him. A change of both mind and heart. He wrote that Char took great delight in believing and declaring that his experience with Journeys completed the loop of his life. I would add that Marv loved good questions. It is his legacy to us.

It is hard to separate Marv's birthday from the birth of the Journeys class. And so, let us all raise a glass to celebrate the birth of our friend and founder, Marvin Gee.

—Rick Taylor



Women Forging New Paths

A Letter from Chenoa Stock, serving Peru

Dear friends,

On November 16, more than 30 people from around the U.S. and Peru, gathered virtually for the third and final (of the year) PERUSA South-North Dialogue Series, "Commitment to Gender Equality." Together we heard our Peruvian partners from the Evangelical Church of Peru (IEP) share their experiences of theological formation of women within their denomination's ministries.

Pastor Eduardo Arboccó, president of the Peruvian Joining Hands Network, gave an informative presentation about the history of the IEP. We learned that the formation of the IEP began with a small seed planted in the late 1800s by a Swedish woman, Frederica Petersen, who simply wanted to create a space to teach the Bible to children in the Callao region of Peru. Soon after, other missionaries arrived and formally founded the denomination, eventually naming its first Peruvian pastor. Though the IEP follows the Presbyterian structure for its administrative structure, it also recognizes the indigenous origins of the national population. Thereby, it uniquely mixes church doctrine with elements of its indigenous culture to carry out the important work of its mission and church in a communal way. Unfortunately, throughout the growth and development of the IEP, there are not many official written documents with the names and great works of women leaders and missionaries of the church. Eduardo's hope is that one day, the IEP will formally recognize and write the stories about the women who played such an important role in forming and strengthening the denomination.

Though there is still work to be done in acknowledging women in the past, thankfully, our IEP Peruvian partners lift up and empower women in the church through their present-day ministries within the Cuzco region of Peru. We heard about these ministries from Pastor Santiago Condori, director of the IEP Sicuani Seminary, and Pastor Leopoldo Aguilar, director of the Sajiruyoc Bible Institute, that offers a 12- module course for women leaders who cannot go away to seminary. Both the seminary and the Bible institute's course for women are spaces where women can study the Bible and learn how to be confident leaders in the church. While they cannot become pastors, many women who graduate with theological certificates and diplomas from these institutes and courses are now working with churches and offer their gift of ministry to Sunday Schools, the IEP Women's Leagues, congregational pastoral care, or leading worship and even preaching.

We then heard from Yanet Aedo and Yovana Grajeda, two women who shared their first-hand experiences of the transformation that has happened within them, personally, and with their families, as they take the



A German missionary teaching Peruvian women at the IEP Sicuani Seminary.

course for women leaders with Pastor Leopoldo. While learning more deeply about God's love and the Bible, they have made friends, improved their relationships, become more involved in the church, and discovered a new confidence in their gifts and abilities. We will celebrate with them when they graduate on December 28!

Finally, to complete our series and tie together the theme of women empowerment and religion, we invited Yenny Delgado to speak. Yenny is a dual citizen of Peru and the U.S., a psychologist and theologian, activist, Elder of the Bethesda PC in Maryland, Director of PUBLICA Theology, and convenor of Women Doing Theology in Abya Yala. We learned that Abya Yala is the unified name to represent both North America and Latin America. It is a way to remove names of colonial divisions and speak of one land. Yenny spoke of her work with Women Doing Theology as a process of communal work that seeks to empower women by calling them into reflection. This reflection is ecumenical, theological and intercultural, and looks to recover the ancestral stories and traditions that celebrate the diversity of indigenous women, while also recognizing their shared roots. It is also a call to mobilize into action to liberate the invisibility and challenges of women and recognize their important role in the church. This is reflection and work that requires "Abya Yala Theology" – theology that embraces, listens to, and learns from ancestral traditions and stories in order to create a new church with greater women participation and leadership.

It was a thought-provoking time, to say the least. We are looking forward to reflecting on this series and preparing more South-North dialogues for 2024 so we can continue to learn together.

Another item on which I am reflecting and preparing is discerning my role as a mission co-worker while continuing to serve from the U.S. After conversations with my Peruvian colleagues, Presbyterian World Mission, and my family, it was decided that the best path forward for my ministry with our partners and for my family is to continue to serve remotely from Cleveland. The pandemic created a lot of change in our lives and world and one blessing amidst those changes is that we have learned to intentionally relate and engage in partnership, even when not in person. I will continue to accompany our Peruvian partners in their ministries, act as liaison between U.S. churches and our partners, and be faithful to my role as a mission co-worker, as I have been the past 18 years. It will be a transition. It will be different. It will be new. For all of us. But I trust that God's Advent Spirit of preparation will be with us as we walk the path of discernment together.

I give thanks for the women who call on their ancestral stories to create new and empowering stories in their lives, for our partners who understand that partnership knows no boundaries, and for you all, who encourage me daily through your prayers and words of support. I have grown in faith in each of the four countries I have served and will continue to do so as I now discover a different part of Abya Yala and what it can teach me while walking with our partners in Peru.

Advent peace and hope,
Chenoa

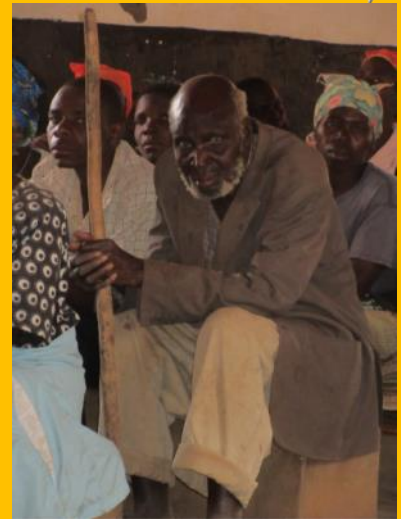
Classes and Groups

Bible Study with the Pastor

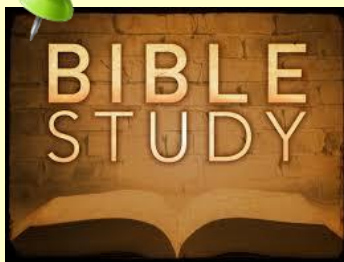
Wednesday Bible study will resume on January 10, 2024. Join Pastor Christine for our continued study of the Book of Mark! "God is Doing Stuff!"

Come to Malawi—January 14

Following worship on January 14 --- after you've had time to get coffee and a nibble and chat a few minutes -- mission volunteers Jim and Carol Nussbaumer invite you to "come to Malawi" for a short visit. 2023 marked their 25th year going to Malawi; this presentation will answer the "why", "where", and "what" questions about a one-time visit that has stretched out for a quarter of a century. "We will introduce you to some of the Malawian people who have impacted our life, become friends and changed our world view." You will see a little bit about the shallow well project of Marion Medical Mission and the Embangweni Schools for the Deaf.



Adult Sunday School



Bible study will resume on January 7. We will continue the course "Listening to the Land of the Bible". Visitors are always welcome! 8:15 Sunday mornings; we finish by 9:00 for choir members.

Sign Choir

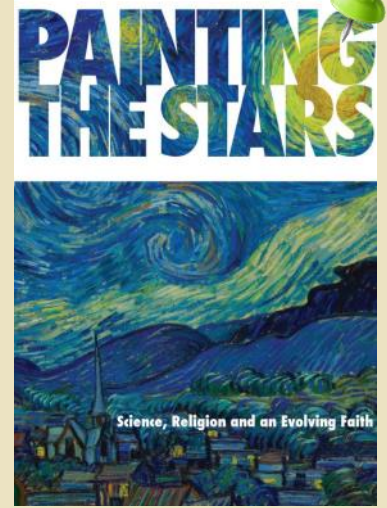
Sign choir will no longer meet on a regular basis. We meet when there will be "sign-able" music in worship with a week or two notice. New signers are always welcome! With an additional 2 or more people we will resume weekly classes. We can teach you the basics and help you get to the point where you are comfortable signing in worship. Or just learn and never sign publicly. Let Carol Nussbaumer know you are interested – we'd love to have you!

Journeys

RECONNECT SCIENCE AND RELIGION

TO ENHANCE OUR SENSE OF THE DIVINE AT WORK IN AN EVOLVING UNIVERSE

Christianity (and any other spiritual path) must be in an honest conversation with science if it is to be relevant in the 21st century. The scientific method emerged as the best tool we've found so far to help us answer the question, "What is real?" Yet even our best scientists sense that there is something inherent in the fabric of the universe that is beyond what they can observe or measure. They would say that whatever is pointed to by the mystery we call God must be intimately involved in the evolutionary processes of nature, consciousness, culture, and social systems. Using the video series *Painting the Stars*, produced by the Living the Questions group, Journeys will explore this mystery and attempt to reconnect science and religion to enhance our sense of the Divine at work in an evolving universe.



Journeys will also start a series of programs about sacred spaces. A sacred space can be either a time or a space, it can be something we consciously create or something which spontaneously arises, where we experience a depth, richness, and sense of meaning that usually escapes us in fast-paced everyday life. Simply put, a sacred space brings one uniquely close to God.

Journeys meets Sunday mornings in the Church library. Gathering begins at 8:15 a.m., with the program starting at 8:30.

For those who are unable to attend in person, there is an opportunity to join the gathering remotely. Since Journeys is primarily a discussion group, the Zoom platform is used for remote access. The Zoom link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8457412756?pwd=UG5OWk5yV1R2b1ICVmtENnUxTctlUT09>

Meeting ID: 845 741 2756 and Passcode: 80517 (only if necessary)

The program schedule for January is:

| | |
|------------|---|
| January 7 | Towards Healing the Rift (between science and religion) |
| January 14 | A Renaissance of Wonder |
| January 21 | Getting Genesis Wrong |
| January 28 | Sacred Spaces |

Journeys also hosts a once a month in-person gathering called Soulful Stories. It takes place on the second Thursday of the month at 4 p.m. in the library. These gatherings consist of sharing of stories and casual conversation related to one's individual spiritual practices and spiritual growth.



PW Bible Study—January 15, 2024

Sacred Encounters – Lesson Five

Our PW Bible study lesson on January 15, challenges us to overcome our prejudices, embrace others, and invite them into the community of faith. Sylvia Adams and Kari Morrill will be leading us through this lesson, based on Luke 17: 11-21 which is the story of Jesus encountering the lepers. We will gather at 11:30 a.m. in the church library for a brief social time, with the lesson beginning at 12 noon. Because the meeting occurs during the lunch hour, you are welcome to bring a sack lunch to eat during the meeting. If you don't yet have a study book, please contact either Karen Daugherty (jk@daughertys.us) or Renee Warren and we will make sure you receive one. The meeting will also be available via Zoom. The Zoom link is: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/5046760289> and the password is 80517. All women of the church are invited to participate in this study. We hope you can join us!

Events

Installation of Officers - January 7, 2024

On **Sunday, January 7**, during worship, our newly elected Elders and Deacons will be installed. Please join us for this joyful ceremony.



Glezen Dinner - January 21

The annual Glezen dinner, sponsored by Presbyterian Women, will be held on Sunday, January 21, immediately following the church service. All members and friends of Presbyterian Community Church of the Rockies are invited to join in on this delicious dinner. Presbyterian Women will provide the ham and turkey, with the rest of the meal being potluck. Please bring a side dish, such as vegetables, salads and desserts to complete the meal.

Margaret Glezen was a long-time member, very active in Presbyterian Women. In her will, she left a trust fund to provide a Holiday dinner to the "singles" in the church that might not have any such holiday with friends. Gradually there were so few "singles" that were not homebound that PW suggested we make the event for everyone. The Glezen Dinner has become a whole church potluck and a time to honor Margaret Glezen and long-time members as well as the singles in our church family.

This is a great way to welcome our New Year together in community. Mark your calendar now to plan to attend the Glezen Dinner on January 21!

You Belong Here!

New Member discussion - January 28

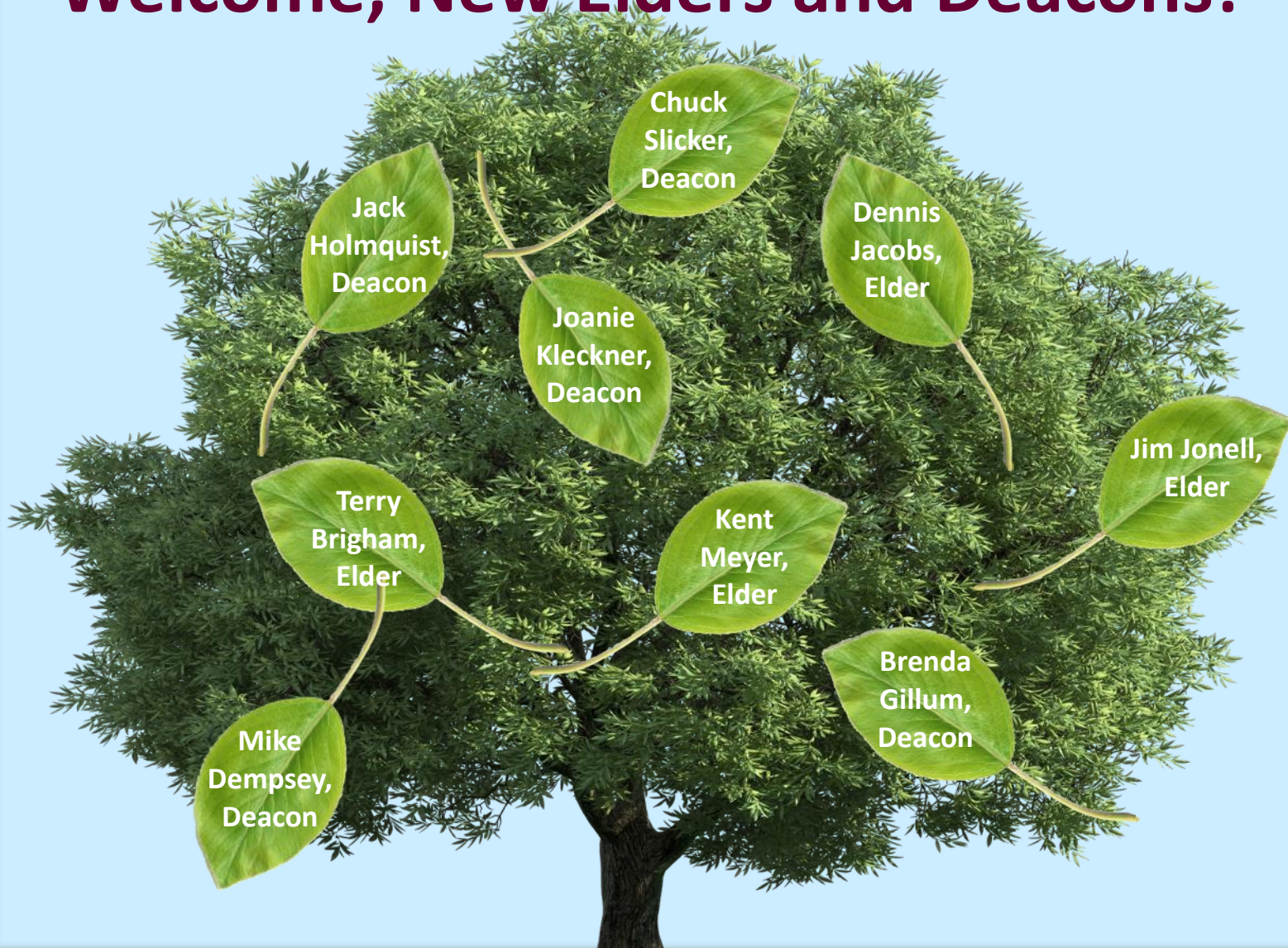


You are welcome to join us for an informal conversation about membership at PCCR. Bring all of your questions about what it means to be a community church, to learn about our heritage in the PCUSA, and to ask questions about how we live and serve God. You are welcome to join us if you are a full time resident or an occasional visitor.

Our next New Member gathering will be on **January 28th after worship** with fellowship and a time for question and answer. Please contact the church office, in person, or by phone 970-586-4404 or office@pccrusa.org with any questions. Be there!



Welcome, New Elders and Deacons!



Chuck
Slicker,
Deacon

Jack
Holmquist,
Deacon

Dennis
Jacobs,
Elder

Joanie
Kleckner,
Deacon

Jim Jonell,
Elder

Terry
Brigham,
Elder

Kent
Meyer,
Elder

Mike
Dempsey,
Deacon

Brenda
Gillum,
Deacon

Budget Questions?

On February 4, we will have our annual meeting to receive the budget. The approval of the budget is an act of session, but as the congregation, you are welcome to ask questions. This is best done prior to the annual meeting. So, if you have questions about the budget please contact the office, and we will lead you to the right person to answer your questions.

—Pastor Christine

Christmas Joy

Thanks to your generosity, PCCR sent \$800 to PCUSA for the Christmas Joy Offering. Thank you also to the Mission and Outreach Committee for their work surrounding this collection.

From the Columbarium Committee

Attention Deed owners of Columbarium Spaces. The Policies and Procedures pertaining to the Columbarium have been modified over the years. A copy of the most recent one, as approved by Session on November 20, 2023, can be sent to anyone in the Congregation that requests one. Contact Bill Smith. 970-420-1033

Session Highlights ~ December 2023

- ◇ Heard from Hospitality Committee that they will be serving hot chocolate and cookies following the Christmas Eve service on Dec. 24.
- ◇ Noted that the separation of the Membership and Hospitality committee into two individual committees will be effective January 1, 2024
- ◇ Approved the updated Employee Handbook from Personnel committee.
- ◇ Clarified the liability impact for members who provide transportation for other members. If it involves transportation to/from a church-related event, our insurance would provide coverage in the event of an accident or other claim. If the transportation is not for a church-related event, the church insurance policy would not provide coverage.
- ◇ Heard a report from Sue Yowell and Jim Nussbaumer that at the recent Presbytery meeting, Commissioners approved having Highlands Camp enter into a conservation easement arrangement with the Estes Valley Land Trust. This plan will provide tax benefits to Highland Camp as well as protection against commercial development.
- ◇ Re-scheduled the January 2024 Session meeting to January 22 because of the Federal holiday (MLK Day) on January 15.
- ◇ Re-scheduled the February 2024 Session meeting to February 29 to be held during the Session/Deacon retreat.
- ◇ Voted to approve the 2024 proposed budget. Pledges are still coming in to the office, so all figures are not yet final, but will be in place by February 4 at the Annual Meeting.
- ◇ Reviewed the Terms of Call for Pastor Christine Dempsey. These will be voted on by the congregation at the February 4 Annual Meeting.

Deacon Highlights ~ December 2023

- ◇ December 2023 Deacon's Highlights
- ◇ Deacons contacted the 6 new members on the prayer list.
- ◇ We asked for the same budget as last year.
- ◇ Deacons will assist with serving communion in January.
- ◇ The deacons will participate in a retreat on February 28 and 29.

Financial Information November 2023





| | November | Jan-Nov | Year to Date—Budget |
|----------------|----------|-----------|---------------------|
| Total Revenues | \$57,845 | \$363,297 | \$331,494 |
| Total Expenses | \$38,643 | \$351,597 | \$424,719 |
| Net Total | \$19,202 | \$11,700 | -\$93,225 |

***Revenue includes \$16,011 Employee Retention Tax Credit**



January 2024



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|--|
| | 1 6:15pm-Girl Scout Cadettes* | 2 11:45am-AA Group* 6:45pm-EVICS Group | 3 3:00pm-Girl Scout Brownies* 4:00pm-Joyful Bells-FH | 4 11:00am-Staff Meeting-Ofc 11:45am-AA Group* 4:00pm-Chancel Bells-FH 6:30pm-Chancel Choir-Music Rm | 5 3:30pm-Ballet Class-FH | 6 |
| 7 8:15am-Adult Sunday School-Lounge 8:30am-Journeys-L 10:00am-Worship: Installation of Officers | 8 9:00am-Finance-L 11:00am-Worship and Music-L 3:30pm-Ballet Class-FH 4:00pm-Sign Choir-L | 9 10:00am-Bldg & Grounds-L 11:45am-AA Group* 1:00pm-Personnel-L 4:30pm-Stephen Ministers-L 6:45pm-EVICS Group* 7:00pm-Deacons-L | 10 12:00pm-Bible Study-L 3:00pm-Girl Scout Brownies* 4:00pm-Joyful Bells-FH 5:30pm-Estes Park Chorale-Music Rm 6:30pm-Estes Park Chorale-FH | 11 8:30am-EPNRC Board* 10:00am-Mission and Outreach-L 11:45am-AA Group* 1:00pm-Foundation Work Group-L 3:00pm-Journeys: Soul 4:00pm-Chancel Bells-FH 6:30pm-Chancel Choir-Music Rm | 12 3:30pm-Ballet Class-FH  | 13 9:00am-Card-Making Group-FH |
| 14 8:15am-Adult Sunday School-Lounge 8:30am-Journeys-L 10:00am-Worship | 15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day: Office Closed 11:30am-PWL 2:00pm-Girl Scout Cookie Rally-Lounge, * 3:30pm-Ballet Class-FH 4:00pm-Sign Choir-L 6:15pm-Girl Scout Cadettes* | 16 Newsletter Deadline 11:45am-AA Group* 12:30pm-PEO-L 5:00pm-EVICS Mom's 6:45pm-EVICS Group* | 17 12:00pm-Bible Study-L 3:00pm-Girl Scout Brownies* 4:00pm-Joyful Bells-FH 5:30pm-Estes Park Chorale-Music Rm 6:30pm-Estes Park Chorale-FH | 18 10:00am-Staff Meeting 11:45am-AA Group* 3:00pm-Columbarium-L 4:00pm-Chancel Bells-FH 6:30pm-Chancel Choir-Music Rm | 19 9:30am-Merry Marthas-FH 3:30pm-Ballet Class-FH | 20 3:00pm-Setup for Glezen Dinner |
| 21 8:15am-Adult Sunday School-Lounge 8:30am-Journeys-L 10:00am-Worship 11:00am-Glezen Dinner-S | 22 4:00pm-Sign Choir-L 3:30pm-Ballet Class-FH 6:30pm-Session-L | 23 11:45am-AA Group* 5:00pm-Learning Place Family Café-FH 6:45pm-EVICS Group* | 24 12:00pm-Bible Study-L 3:00pm-Girl Scout Brownies* 4:00pm-Joyful Bells-FH 5:30pm-Estes Park Chorale-Music Rm 6:30pm-Estes Park Chorale-FH | 25 11:45am-AA Group* 4:00pm-Chancel Bells-FH 6:30pm-Chancel Choir-Music Rm | 26 9:30am-Merry Marthas-FH 3:30pm-Ballet Class-FH | 27  |
| 28 8:15am-Adult Sunday School-Lounge 8:30am-Journeys-L 10:00am-Worship 11:00am-Membership Information and Discussion | 29 9:00am-Membership and Hospitality-L 3:30pm-Ballet Class-FH 4:00pm-Sign Choir-L | 30 11:45am-AA Group* 6:45pm-EVICS Group*  | 31 12:00pm-Bible Study-L 3:00pm-Girl Scout Brownies* 4:00pm-Joyful Bells-FH 5:30pm-Estes Park Chorale-Music Rm 6:30pm-Estes Park Chorale-FH | |  | |

Note: Calendar events subject to change *Downstairs Room 6

