



Presbyterian
Community Church
of the Rockies

February 2022 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 10, Number 2

Dear PCCR Members and Friends,

Your generosity, heart, and spirit truly take our breath away. Your thoughtfulness and altruistic mindset was greatly appreciated and our family is so grateful to you. The graciousness with time and space you bestowed to Chris was a life saver, as it allowed him to help get our home back in order after the fires. Somehow our home was spared by the fires' path of destruction, but so many friends and neighbors' homes were not.

Every day, on the way to school, a practice, or an errand, our eyes are met with scorched earth, twigs for trees, and neighborhoods that were decimated. While our community is reeling, we are also so incredibly lucky for people like you. Your Love Offering was kind and heartfelt – especially as you don't personally know the individuals and/or families affected. Your donations will help over 100 families affected by the fires at our children's school, Monarch PK-8. It will also directly help six different families that are either close friends of ours, Mattea and Rowan's, or fellow PTO board members. "Thank you" doesn't quite cut it, but thank you, a million times over, thank you.

Thank you SO much for your generous gift.

Best,

Rita, Chris, Mattea and Rowan



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

Interim Pastor: Rev. Chris Davis, 414-690-4488, pastor@pccrusa.org

Handbell Director: Patti Dolezal, music@pccrusa.org

Choir Director: Rich Dixon

Organist: Larry Gillum

Finance: Carolyn Hull, finance@pccrusa.org

Office Administrator: Terry Brigham, office@pccrusa.org

Worship Schedule



Worship in the Sanctuary:

February 6 — 10:00 am, Communion, Congregational Annual Meeting

February 13 — 10:00 am

February 20 — 10:00 am

February 27 — 10:00 am

The Rev. Chris Davis, pastor **Patti Dolezal, liturgist**
Larry Gillum, organist

Virtual Worship:

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".

Join Zoom online: <https://zoom.us/j/86165181814>

Meeting ID: 861 6518 1814 Password: 80517

Or call in by telephone: **1-346-248-7799**



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 March Newsletter deadline is Tuesday, February 15. Please send your pictures and stories to Terry Brigham at: office@pccrusa.org Thanks!

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The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be on **Sunday, February 6** immediately following worship. The purpose of the meeting will be to receive the 2021 annual reports of the Session committees and to receive the 2022 operating budget as approved by the Session.

Copies of the Annual Report are available in the narthex. The final report will also be sent electronically to the Congregation on January 31.

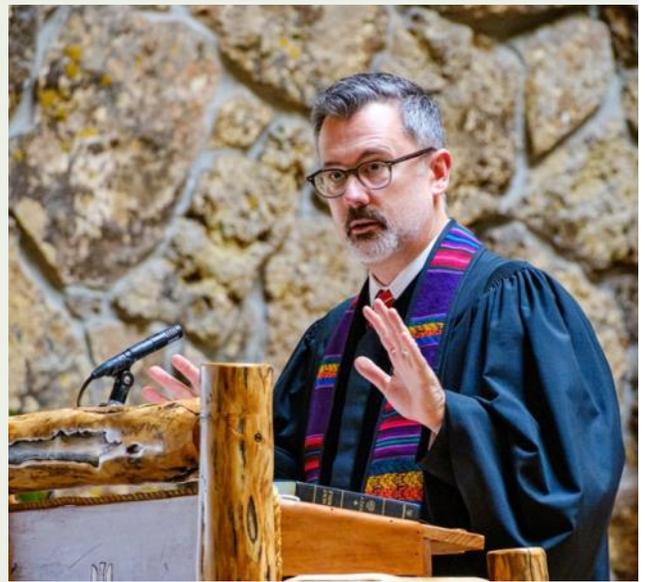


February 2022

Message from Pastor Chris Davis . . .

One of my favorite Hasidic stories is about a rabbi named, Naphtali. The story goes that when Naphtali was a young boy, a friend of his father's came to visit their family. During the visit, the guest called Naphtali to come and sit on his lap. The friend of the family then said to the little boy, "Naphtali, I will give you one gold coin if you can show me where God is."

The future rabbi thought for a moment, smiled, and said, "And I will give you two gold coins if you can show me where God is not."



Over the past month this story has been in my mind a lot. Since the Marshall Fires, I have found it difficult to see God in the destruction left from the fires on December 30. The stories I have heard from fire victims are heartbreaking and the number of stories I have heard is overwhelming. Whether you lost your home or not, no one living in Louisville, Superior, or unincorporated Boulder County has been immune from the emotional toll of this disaster.

Through it all, I have chosen to look for God even in the darkest places or in the saddest stories. Sometimes God is readily visible and other times God is not. Regardless, my choice to look for God is a theological one grounded in our tradition's belief of resurrection and new life.

I have leaned on and found comfort in two scripture passages, one from Psalm 23 and the other from John 14. The Psalmist writes, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me." Jesus tells his disciples in John 14, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."

As Boulder County looks to rebuild; as families begin to ask and find the answers to the question, "What do we do now?" My prayer is for resurrection and new life in the life of the community as well as in individual lives. I thank all of you for your continued support and prayers. Your acts of kindness, your words of comfort, and your financial gifts given to help the victims of the fire have kept the flames of my spirit burning brightly.

Regarding the Love Offering for Fire Victims, I am humbled and so grateful to report PCCR received over \$14,985.00 from members and friends of PCCR. In the days ahead, Rita and I will distribute \$1,200.00 checks to six families we know personally. The remaining balance will be given to our children's school, Monarch PK-8th Grade and it will directly support many families whose children attend Monarch.

Because of your friendship, support, and generosity, I continue to see God, find hope, and have faith in a God who does not abandon us, but instead, chooses to walk with us.

*In Christ's Faithful Service,
Pastor Chris*



The purpose of the **Mission and Outreach Committee at PCCR** is “to inform, involve and excite the congregation about mission.” At the start of 2022, we also *invite* the congregation to join us. We are wanting to increase the voting members of the committee so we can have different ideas presented, new thoughts about how to “do” Mission and an increasing enthusiasm for doing this particular part of God’s work in the Church. You need not be a “missionary” to join us; you need not even have traveled beyond the bounds of Estes Park! All you need is a heart for serving and helping others, a mind that can stretch as needed, and a willingness to attend one meeting each month.

The M&O committee (sounds a bit like a trolley line, doesn’t it?) meets on the **second Thursday of the month at 10 a.m. at the church**. Visitors are always welcome – and a visit does not mean a commitment! Talk to anyone on the committee if you have questions: **Lisa Plaut (chair), Stan Osborne, Evelyn Wilson, Betty Meyer, Carol Nussbaumer; Dave Thomas and Pat Waltermire** are non-voting members with much valuable advice to give.

A Letter from Jeremy and Luta Garbat-Welch, Presbyterian mission coworkers serving in Malawi

Dear friends,

I (Jeremy) love movies. They stick in my brain and rattle around and come to mind in a wide variety of situations. As I was considering how to write this letter, a line from the Matrix movies came to mind: “Everything that has a beginning has an end, Neo.” I think the purpose of the Oracle saying this to Neo, was to encourage him that though the situation he was facing looked bleak, the fact that he was facing an ending is inevitable. Endings happen. Rather than resisting the ending, we should consider, how can we end something well?

This came to mind, because our time of ministry with the General Assembly of the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (CCAP) is coming to an end. Our current term ends at the end of June, and yet the pandemic continues to delay our return. We do not know yet what is next for us. We have many questions, but we are trusting that God’s grace, which has always sustained us, will continue to sustain us.

We are continually grateful for the support we have received during our ministry in Malawi. The financial gifts that have been given have enabled our ministry. Especially during the COVID pandemic, and all of the uncertainties and strains it has brought, it has been humbling to see the faithfulness with which you have supported us. Your prayers and emails and friendships have carried us through both times of blessing and times of difficulty.

There is a time for everything; that does not mean everything is wanted. There is much we are learning from this time, and much we will take with us. Though we wish that our end in Malawi was much further in the future, we remain grateful for the time we had. We will miss our friends and colleagues, but we will keep the impact that they had on us.

Of course there are many questions to answer. We hope to return to Malawi in January to pack up our things and say goodbye. You should have already received a letter from Mission Engagement and Support offering suggestions for other mission co-workers within the PC(USA) to support when our term has ended. We pray that as you blessed us through your mission partnership with us, that you will find similar connections with other mission co-workers.

In Christ’s Service,
Jeremy (for the Garbat-Welchs)

Dear partner in Christ,

It is difficult to believe that another year is upon us, especially as we continue to live in the spectrum of challenges the pandemic brings to each of us in our daily lives.

Though the future is uncertain, I am grateful to know that your support accompanies us and gives us strength amidst the unknown. Thank you for your contribution this fall and for continuing to walk with and encourage us as we navigate and discover new ways to be faithful partners alongside our sisters and brothers in Peru.

Though we continue to serve virtually from St Louis, due to the ongoing PC (USA) travel ban and the risks of COVID-19, we have assured our Peruvian partners that they are not alone. They know that we have celebrated the joys of re-opening institutes, seminary graduates, health recoveries, and their faithful community outreach with them in spirit and love. Your support and presence are also in that loving spirit and they know that.

Thank you for your support of God's mission in Peru. We are grateful to be part of such a giving and caring community.

Peace and blessings for this new year,

Chenoa



Chenoa Stock is a Presbyterian mission coworker who serves in Peru, along with her husband Jose' and son, Leandro.



Adult Bible Study has begun a new course, "The Jewish Gospel of Matthew."

We meet in the Lounge at 8:30 a.m. each Sunday and all are invited. Each Sunday's study stands alone and the printed lecture notes are always available if you need to miss a class. Classes run about 30 – 35 minutes with time after for discussion.

Here is what is coming up in February and March:

- Feb 6: Jesus' Teachings – Church in Matthew
Jesus' Teachings – Transfiguration
Jesus' Teachings – Divorce
- Feb 13: Jesus' Teachings: Suffering for Others
Jesus in Jerusalem: Cleansing the Temple
Jesus in Jerusalem: Taxes and Resurrection
- Feb 20: Jesus in Jerusalem: Woes and Judgement
Passion, Resurrection, Commission
- March 6: Passion & Resurrection: The Blood Cry
Passion & Resurrection: Crucifixion and Psalm 22

If you have questions, contact Carol Nussbaumer 586-2437 or carol@nussbaumers.net

Introducing our Substitute Organist Karl Isaac Johnson

TO: My Wonderful Friends, Colleagues, and
Church Family at PCCR
FROM: Larry Gillum, Organist

I am pleased to introduce Isaac Johnson to you, a fine competent organist who will fill my shoes and organ bench during much of my medical leave. Isaac will assist our faithful local musicians — June, Fran, and Verlene — in providing continuity in worship through the ministry of music. I know you will welcome Isaac with the care, love, and gracious support and encouragement that I have enjoyed from your generous kindness over the past 22 years.



Isaac is originally from Murfreesboro, Tennessee, and received the Bachelor of Arts-Fellow in Philosophy and Religion (*summa cum laude*) from Samford University with a minor in organ. Subsequently, he graduated from Yale University Divinity School and Institute of Sacred Music with a concentration in Liturgical Studies, organ, and choral conducting. At Yale he earned the Master of Arts in Religion Degree.

Before arriving at CU, Isaac enjoyed a successful career as a church musician in the roles of music director, organist, pianist, choral conductor, tenor, cellist, arranger, and composer. He has performed organ recitals in churches and cathedrals across the United States and Canada

Isaac with his wife and their two young children, ages 3 and 1, moved to Longmont recently. His wife is an ICU nurse at Long's Peak Hospital, UCHHealth, in Longmont. Isaac is now a doctoral candidate (Ph.D) in music at CU Boulder. He is a member of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians, and is a Colleague in the American Guild of Organists.





**The Service of Ordination
and Installation**

Sunday, January 23, 2022

**Presentation of New Elders
and Deacons**

**Prayer and
Laying on of Hands**



**New Ruling Elders for
the Class of 2024 are:**

**Jim Nussbaumer,
Bill Solms,
Pat Waltermire**

**New Deacons for the
Class of 2024 are:**

**Bill Almond,
Mimi Hardendorf,
Bonnie Vanderveen,
Diane Palmer**



*Photos credit:
Peter Plaut*

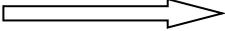
What My Grandmothers Taught Me

PW Circle Meeting & Bible Study, Lesson 6 – February 21, 2022



On Monday, February 21, Linda McCreery will lead us in the study Bathsheba which starts on page 52 of our study book. According to our study outline, Bathsheba is not named in Matthew's genealogy. Instead, as the "wife of Uriah," she is defined by her relationship to a man. At first it appears that she is silent and powerless, but when she steps onto the stage, she finds her voice and exhibits an ability to influence kings. Bathsheba's story illustrates the corrupting influence of power as well as the support she, as a queen, can provide for her son's reign.

We hope you can join us for what promises to be another interesting and informative discussion. The lesson will begin at 12 noon, but you are welcome to join the Zoom session at 11:30 a.m. to chat with other members of the group before the lesson begins.

Instructions for joining Zoom 

If you would like a study book or have a question about joining via Zoom feel free to contact Karen Daugherty (312-810-3671 or jk@daughertys.us).

PW February Circle Meeting

Monday, February 21, 2022

Gather at 11:30 am; Lesson at 12:00 noon

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/93520280634>

Meeting ID: 935 2028 0634 Passcode: 80517

Or Dial by telephone: 1-346-248-7799

PW meets on 3rd Monday monthly.

Kathleen Black's Memory Page

Kathleen's family has set up an online memorial page to honor their mother. They would love it if those who knew Kathleen, would be willing to add a memory to the page. The page contains photos of Kathleen as well as memories of her family and friends.

In order to view the memorial, search for **Memories.net**, open the site, click on the search feature (magnifying glass) and type in Kathleen Black. Once you click on her picture, you will be able to view everything that has been posted so far.

Anyone can request access to add written memories, photos, or videos of their own. If you are viewing the page on your phone, click on the three lines in the top right-hand corner of your screen and then click on REGISTER. If you are working on a computer, click on REGISTER in the top left-hand corner of your screen. This process will allow the family to designate you as a contributor to the memorial. The registration is only for security purposes.



Ford and Merry Nielsen are looking for some help. Here is an opportunity for someone to live in beautiful Estes Park, CO and provide in-home health care for two wonderful and gracious elderly residents. Light assistance is needed to stay in their comfortable home that has an outstanding view of the Continental Divide. Hourly salary to include 4-5 hours a day of hands-on, plus a night wage for on-site. The work schedule could allow for other part-time employment. There will be two days and two nights off, plus private bedroom, bath, and small kitchen/living area.

Duties include light assistance with activities of daily living, social and recreational activities. Family support and participation is available and present. Applicant must have some type of training or certification in the field of health care. Call for details, 303-823-5902, or email phyllistucker1952@gmail.com.

Phyllis Tucker

Session Highlights ~ January 2022

- ◇ Welcomed new Elders Bill Solms and Jim Nussbaumer to Session, and Deacon Liaison Mimi Hardendorf.
- ◇ Heard report from Pastor Chris regarding the Love offering made from PCCR members for the victims of the Marshall fire. To date \$14,985 has been collected—some being distributed in the form of gift cards and some as direct cash gifts.
- ◇ Approved a request from Presbytery for PCCR to host the August 27, 2022 Presbytery meeting.
- ◇ Approved the annual Statistical Report for submission to the National office.
- ◇ Approved Communion services for the first Sunday of each month, plus Maundy Thursday and Christmas Eve in 2022.
- ◇ Approved Sue Yowell and Bill Solms to serve on the Church Nominating committee for 2022.
- ◇ Approved Sue Yowell as one of our two Commissioners to Presbytery meetings in 2022.
- ◇ Moved the Session meeting for February from the 21st to the 28th because of the Presidents' Day holiday, and moved the April Session meeting from the 18th to the 25th because of the Easter holiday.

Deacon Highlights ~ January 2022

- ◇ Verlene Thorp expressed appreciation for the Deacon retiring Class of 2021
- ◇ Devotions by Sharyn Gartner based on Proverbs 3:5-6
- ◇ Deacons contributed to the fund for victims of the Marshall Fire
- ◇ Three cards were sent for illness or bereavement
- ◇ One meal was delivered, and more meals will be delivered by Deacons later this month
- ◇ New Deacons were examined by Session and trained in December, 2021
- ◇ Officers and committees are as follows:
 - Moderator: Verlene Thorp
 - Scribe: Bonnie Vanderveen
 - Session Liaison: Robert Sherrod
 - Memorials: Joan Buhlmann, Carol Pearson, Sharyn Gartner, Verlene Thorp, Bonnie Vanderveen, Bill Almond
 - Sunshine and meals: Tami Scace will cook; all Deacons will take turns delivering
 - Cards: Verlene Thorp
 - Communion Deacon Duties: Mimi Hardendorf



Can You Help?

Our church has an established Facebook site, but we need help maintaining it and posting updates. Who knows? By sharing news of our church, worship services, and social events we just might provide the connection someone needs.

Facebook is one way we can provide an outreach ministry, inviting others to be a part of our church family as well as keeping our own members informed.

If you would be willing to help, please contact Terry or Pastor Chris at the church office.

Financial Information December 2021

*Thank you to our PCCR congregation for support for
the mission and ministry of our church.*

	December	January to December	Year to Date—Budget
Total Revenues	\$24,746	\$429,893	\$372,763
Total Expenses	\$45,747	\$387,461	\$412,894
Net Total	-\$21,001	\$42,432	-\$40,131

Revenues include SBA PPP Forgiveness \$49,585

Thank You!

On behalf of the Finance Committee, the Session, and the entire congregation, we want to thank you for your financial support of our church in 2021.

As you recall we budgeted a deficit of approximately \$40,131. Thanks to a pandemic relief payment of \$49,000 and more importantly, your generosity of \$31,000 over budget, your church attained a profit of \$42,000. This level of support would be exceptional in any year but during the pandemic, it is truly extraordinary.

Looking ahead to 2022, the financial picture continues to be very bright. Your generosity has been in response, in part, to the highly effective stewardship campaign that Pastor Chris developed. The remainder, I am sure, is in response to the realization of how important the church is to each of us. From my own experience and speaking with many members, the fellowship and guidance that has been lost due to COVID has left a big hole in our lives. Chris has done a wonderful job of holding the church together and preventing that hole from getting deeper.

Just as you have committed resources, so also, we want to commit ourselves to you. We pledge to you that we will do our best to be good stewards of the funds you entrust, seeking to make the best decision possible to further our church's ministry and mission in the world.

Finance Committee members for 2021 included Jack Boatman, Jay Harroff, Bob Holcomb (Chair), Michael Moon, Ginny Page, Mike Warren. Staff resources are Chris Davis and Carolyn Hull. Please contact any of the above with questions and for additional information.

Again, thank you for your continued support of our church. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the church finances, please contact me at 720-252-8560.

Bob Holcomb
Finance Committee Chairperson

Journeys

Journeys meets each Sunday morning via Zoom. All are welcome.

We start February by hearing from two members as they tell their own faith journey story. It is amazing how each story is unique and enlightening. The second and third Sundays will be another look at racism in America. On the fourth Sunday we will return to the popular **Living the Questions** video series. The videos include presentations by thirty scholars and theologians.

The schedule is:

- February 6 Two Personal Faith Journey Stories by members of Journeys
- February 13 Book discussion: My Grandmother's Hands, by Resmaa Menakem
- February 20 "Towards a Framework for Repair", Resmaa Menakem & Robin DiAngelo
- February 27 Living the Questions: The Prophetic Jesus

You can use the link below to join the meeting. The Zoom session opens at 8:15 each Sunday, with the program starting promptly at 8:30. We adjourn at 9:45.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8457412756?pwd=UG50Wk5yV1R2b1lCVmtENnUxTCtIU09>
Meeting ID: 845 741 2756 and Passcode: 80517 (only if necessary)



A new sign has been installed to direct folks to the Columbarium on the church grounds.

It was paid for with funds donated in memory of Ken Cole and Roger Thorp.

