



Presbyterian
Community Church
of the Rockies

August 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 8

"Bake or Buy, Bring a Pie"

***Pie Social
and Hymn Sing***

Sunday, August 14, 2022

***11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall
immediately following worship***



***The Membership and Hospitality Committee
invites you
to join in the fun, music, fellowship,
and of course, enjoying the delicious pies!***

**Bake or buy a pie to share
and bring it
to the church kitchen
before worship.**





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

Financial Manager: Carolyn Hull, finance@pccrusa.org

Office Administrator:

Terry Brigham, office@pccrusa.org

 **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 September Newsletter deadline is Tuesday, August 16.
Please send your pictures and stories to Terry Brigham at: office@pccrusa.org Thanks!

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Worship Schedule



Worship in the Sanctuary:

August 7 — 10:00 am, Communion, Rev. Brent Eelman, guest

August 14 — 10:00 am

August 21 — 10:00 am

August 28 — 10:00 am

The Rev. Chris Davis, 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".



Important

PCCR's Nominating Committee is asking the congregation to prayerfully consider individuals to serve on our church's **Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC)**. The PNC comprises (7) individuals and the PNC will create our Church Nominating Form (CIF) which will be circulated throughout the denomination "advertising" PCCR's Senior Pastor position. The PNC will conduct interviews with candidates and once a candidate is chosen, the PNC will nominate the person to the congregation for approval.

Each Sunday in August there will be nomination forms in the bulletin. If you will not be in church during August, you may contact Evelyn Wilson, chair of the Nominating Committee or Pastor Chris and give your nominees to one of them.



Sunday Greeters Needed

If you are interested in serving as a Greeter on Sunday mornings and have never been asked, please contact Lois Ellingwood, 970-586-3064,

lellingwood13@gmail.com and she will get you scheduled.

August 2022

Message from Pastor Chris Davis . . .

Dear PCCR Family,

I want to take some time this month and update you on the search process for PCCR's new pastor. I am happy to report that the presbytery's Committee on Ministry approved our Mission Study Report at their July meeting. This means PCCR can move on to the second phase of the call process. Specifically, we may begin forming the church's Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC).



The PNC will be comprised of seven PCCR members. The process of forming a PNC is very similar to electing deacons and elders. The church's Nominating Committee will meet later this month to discern, ask, and nominate individuals to serve on our PNC. Once the Nominating Committee has their slate of nominees, we will call a Congregational Meeting to elect the nominees as PCCR's Pastor Nominating Committee. Tentatively, the Congregational Meeting will take place in October.

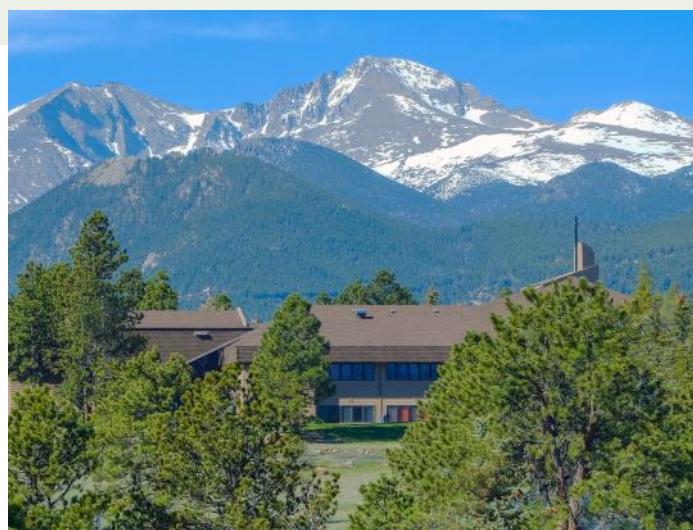
Beginning August 7, we will have nominating forms in each Sunday's bulletin through the end of August. Please give prayerful consideration to who in our congregation you feel may have the gifts needed to serve on our PNC. If you are unable to attend worship in August, you may submit nominees to Evelyn Wilson, the chair of the Nominating Committee or myself.

Now, onto the ministry life of our community in August. Please join me for two special events happening at PCCR this month. The first is the Annual Pie Social and Hymn Sing taking place after worship in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, August 14. This will be a wonderful time of fellowship, singing, and of course delicious pie!

The second event is a Blessing of the Animals Service on Sunday, August 21, 1 p.m. at our outdoor chapel. This service emphasizes the relationships we have with our pets. It is a time to celebrate all God's creatures and to ask God's blessing upon them as we enjoy their company in our daily lives.

Enjoy this beautiful month in the Rockies and I'll see you in church!

*In Christ's Faithful Service,
Pastor Chris*



Meet Cheryl Barnes, Mission Coworker in Malawi

Our church traditionally offers modest financial support to Presbyterian Church (USA) mission coworkers in ministries in two parts of the world. For many years we provided financial aid for Rusty Edmondson and Sara Armstrong who were based in Lima, Peru. When they finished their time in Peru, we continued our support for ministry efforts in that country by adopting Chenoa Stock, who moved from Bogotá, Columbia, to Lima, through the Presbyterian Mission Agency. Our other geographic area has been Malawi, where we offered financial assistance to the mission coworker couple Jeremy and Luta Garbat-Welch. They returned to the United States before the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic and recently decided not to go back to Africa. We learned that the Presbyterian Church had already put a new mission coworker in Malawi, with a different focus to the ministry. She is Cheryl Barnes, who began her work there just before the pandemic shut down movement people under the ministry program. The Mission and Outreach Committee intends to contribute to the Presbyterian Mission Agency in her honor. One of the ways we raise money for this purpose is through the golf tournament. Please see the article about this on page 6 of this newsletter, following Rev. Cheryl's letter.

Cheryl Barnes is an ordained Presbyterian minister from Georgia who accepted a call to improve the education offered through the schools of the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (CCAP) in Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe. She moved to Malawi in 2019, just three months prior to the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic. While the Presbyterian Ministry Agency summoned most mission coworkers back to their home countries, Cheryl chose to stay in Malawi. Her movement within her supported countries has been limited, but she used the time and remote access to develop relationships with the education directors of the five synods under the CCAP umbrella. One program she is working on with them is called *Educate our Girls*, which addresses the continued education needs of girls who drop out of school due to pregnancy. Cheryl writes a quarterly letter about her ministry, and her latest is included in this newsletter. You can find more about her, including prior letters [HERE](#).



Cheryl Barnes and Moses Kasitomu, education director for Blantyre Synod, in front of the newly constructed secondary school on the Synod campus.

Dear friends,

Some would believe that my arrival in Malawi in 2019 and beginning a new era in ministry happened at the worst possible time, and it is perfectly reasonable to believe such. After all, it was approximately 12 weeks after I arrived in Malawi, that the COVID-19 pandemic surfaced and mission co-workers from many organizations including Presbyterian World Mission were summoned back to their home countries. It was truly a time of uncertainty, anxiety and fear. After prayer and discussions with my family, World Mission and the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (CCAP), I chose to shelter in place in Malawi while the world held its collective breath. It has been a liminal time, like the day of Holy Saturday that follows Good Friday. Just as Mary waited at the tomb of Jesus, we all figuratively waited for a new day to appear.

In the two years of liminality that followed, the world has changed. Every part of the globe endured untimely deaths, cancelled plans, school and business closures, and overworked first responders. No one was left untouched in any way. Although we are not post-pandemic yet, the world has accepted a new way of living, working, socializing and traveling. Most have come to accept that the norms and normalcy of life will always look different, even as the world is healing.

My work and assignment as an education facilitator has been my outlet. I have been able to remain productive by using my time working from home and developing relationships with the education directors of the five synods under the CCAP umbrella.



As restrictions are loosened, I am moving into a new era of work that allows me to personally engage with colleagues whom I have only met through Zoom meetings. During the first quarter of this year, I had the opportunity to meet in person with two of the education directors, Amos Kachilele from Livingstonia Synod, and Moses Kasitomu from the Blantyre Synod. Hearing the directors speak about the priorities of their respective synods allowed me to focus on the specific needs of their synods and discover ways that we can partner together to meet those needs. I also had the wonderful opportunity to do school visitations within both synods, which allowed me to engage with students and teachers. These visits provide valuable insight on the possibilities for upcoming trainings.

The “Educate Our Girls” (EOG) project, which began in response to the desire to address the dropout rate of girls who became pregnant during school lockdowns, has begun distributing funds to the synods. These funds will help ensure that girls, who were in danger of permanently dropping out of school because they had an infant to care for, could resume their education. Following an application process, a review with CCAP leadership and discussions with the education directors, 52 girls were selected to receive a scholarship to resume their education for one year. We will continue to prioritize this project and seek additional funding to assist as many girls as possible with the opportunity to further their education. The project will also be expanded to include educational funding for girls whose families are in severe financial hardship or who are orphaned.

The CCAP office space is undergoing some significant changes also. Because of the generous donations of congregations, we have begun a grounds project that will add to the security of the CCAP office where I now spend two days per week working alongside the Leadership of the General Assembly. The grounds project includes the building of a fence around the CCAP office building, and the clearing of the land to begin a pilot tree nursery project in partnership with the Alliance for International Reforestation, Inc. (AIR). We are also clearing space to support an outdoor pavilion for income generating activities.

The new year has also brought unfortunate changes including the departure of dear colleagues who are considering new ways God is calling them to service, and the loss of a long-time financial supporter. But even with these events, I recognize that it is God’s special timing. I am reminded that God’s time is always the best time; there is an appointed time for every vision to be realized. The prophet Habakkuk writes in chapter 2:2-3: *“Then the Lord answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end, and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay.”*

Those who do God’s work will never be ashamed; those that trust in God shall not be disappointed. The prophets of old did not back down from their assignments; neither did Christ. Jesus went on with his work, setting his face like a flint; until his appointed time to die and then rise again. God requires that we also continue on our course regardless of the obstacles. Yet, we are reminded by the Holy Spirit to be gentle with ourselves, for disappointments will come as we await the completion of the vision.

This new year brings new challenges as well as new opportunities to discover how to best utilize my time and talents to do the work that is before me. If you are not yet doing so, please consider making a financial gift of support as I continue my assignment in partnership with the CCAP to improve the quality of education for the children in Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

Zikomo (Thank you)
Rev. Cheryl Barnes



Students enjoying a break at the St. Colomba CCAP Private Primary School in Blantyre.



Mini-golf FUN-raiser scheduled!

Sunday, September 11 at 5:00 p.m.



In 2019, the PCCR Mission & Outreach Committee discontinued the traditional golf outing that had raised financial support for PC(USA)

mission co-workers. Again this year, we're having only a miniature golf outing. Proceeds from this event will support these PC(USA) denominational mission co-workers:

Chenoa Stock serves in Peru as delegations and partnership coordinator, working with visiting PC(USA) delegations to foster partnerships with our Peruvian covenant partners, the Evangelical Church of Peru (IEP) and the Joining Hands Peru Network. Chenoa organizes, accompanies, and interprets for visiting delegations, helping to ensure that these visits reflect the mutual mission priorities of the partners. She sets up in-country logistics, assists in planning itineraries, and works with trip leaders and the communities that are visited by the delegations. Chenoa and her husband, José Luis Claure, have one son: Leandro Aiden. Since the COVID pandemic began, she and her family have been staying near relatives in the United States.

Based in Malawi, **Cheryl Barnes** serves as the education facilitator for the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (CCAP), collaborating with the CCAP Education Department and the education departments of the five CCAP Synods — three in Malawi, one in Zambia, and one in Zimbabwe — to improve the quality of primary school education in the many schools under the CCAP umbrella. In her role as an education advisor, Cheryl strives to assist the CCAP in improving the quality of teaching and implementing best practices in educating children, including those with special needs. A focus of Cheryl's ministry is working with the CCAP to safeguard the rights of children by developing child protection policies and implementing them in schools. Of particular emphasis is protecting young girls against violence and empowering them to continue their schooling.

The 2022 PC(USA) Mission Benefit Mini-Golf Outing will be held at the beautiful Cascade Creek course at Ride-A-Kart, located at the corner of U.S. 34 East and Mall Road. The Mission and Outreach Committee of PCCR is grateful to the new owners of Ride-A-Kart and Cascade Creek — Kelly and Andrew Kessler — for the generous support they have extended to our church for the use of their course.

The outing will start promptly at **5:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 11**.

Entry fees are:

- \$30 for an individual adult (age 21 and over)
- \$50 for a couple
- \$100 for a team of four registering together
- \$1 per year of age up to 20 years

Contributions from non-players are definitely welcome and encouraged, so even if you can't play that day, you can still help our church support these PC(USA) mission co-workers.

Get your team together and come out for a fun evening of fellowship!



Photos are from a previous mini-golf outing at Cascade Creek

Blessing of the Animals

On Sunday, August 21 at 1 p.m., PCCR will offer a **Blessing of the Animals** at the church's outdoor chapel along the Meditation Trail. Pastor Chris has conducted this service for other congregations to include pet family members in a celebration of God's love for all his creation.

All pet animals—dogs, cats, horses, llamas, birds—are welcome to receive individual blessing as witness to our dependence on other creatures and our stewardship responsibility for their care. As Psalm 36:6 proclaims "Thy righteousness is like the mountains of God. . .man and beast thou savest, O Lord."



Dear Church Partners -

Greetings to you from the staff here at Crossroads Ministry.

Together with you, we have been providing basic human services to those in need here in the Estes Valley for almost 40 years.

We are aware that from time to time you have individuals experiencing homelessness, or in immediate need, that stop by your church for help. We just want you to know that Crossroads is here to serve as a resource and partner for you on these occasions.

We are well-connected with the police and other resource services in the Estes Valley, so as one pastor put it, "why should I try to do all the vetting of a person in need, when you've already done that? So I find it most efficient to work with Crossroads in addressing these needs."

We are blessed to have a case manager and also a client advocate on staff, and between them, they know most folks who are circling in the area. Please feel free to contact Eva or Jess directly if a need arises at your door. Their contact information is shown below.

So, again we want to emphasize that we are here as a resource and a team that you can reach out to for information, or send folks to who are in need of services.

With appreciation for your partnership,

The Crossroads Team

Eva Banuelos - Case Manager - eva.crossroadsep@gmail.com - 970.577.6774

Jess Borries - Client Advocate - jess.crossroadsep@gmail.com - 970.577.0610

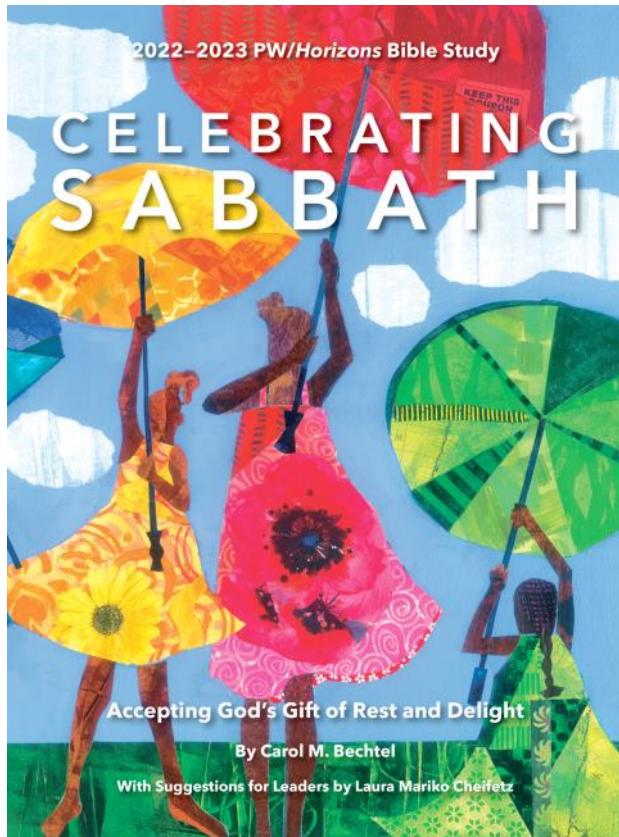


Presbyterian Women (PW) Bible Study Books Available for Fall

Each year Presbyterian Women join together to participate in a monthly Bible study, using the study guide from Horizons Magazine. The Bible study for 2022/23 is titled *Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight*. The study is authored by Reverend Dr. Carol Bechtel, a professor of Old Testament at Western Theological Seminary in Holland, Michigan. There are nine sessions and the themes are Sabbath and...Celebration; Creation; Sunday; Surrender;



Servitude; Hospitality; Self-Care; Justice and Community. The author explains that, "Sabbath is not a burden, it is a blessing-a celebration that has the potential to reform and redirect all our ways of living. It should be the source and goal that inspires and nourishes the best of everything we do." The study is meant to be an invitation to practice Sabbath in real and practical ways. We hope you will join us as we journey through this study together.



We encourage you to pick up one of the study books on the back counter in the church office sometime this summer. The cost is \$10 per book. There is a spreadsheet on the counter, like the one we used last year, so you can mark when you pick up the book and check when you paid. Please put your \$10 payment in an envelope (also provided), marked PW Study Book and include your name. Place the payment in Carolyn Hull's mailbox on the wall just outside her office. I have added extra lines on the spreadsheet so if you don't see your name listed, just add it to the spreadsheet. We welcome all women who would like to join in this Bible study. If you are unable to come to the church to pick up a study book, please let Renee Warren or Betty Meyer know, as they would be happy to deliver the books to you.

We will begin the study in September with the introduction and overview, led by Pat Waltermire, on Monday, September 12 and the first lesson on Monday, September 19. It is the hope of the PW Board that we can meet in person, but a final determination will be made closer to the date. Watch for more information in the September newsletter. Please join us as we study and learn together.



An excellent opportunity awaits someone to live in beautiful Estes Park, CO and provide in-home health care for two wonderful and gracious elderly residents, **PCCR members Ford and Merry Nielsen**. 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 living space.

Duties include 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. Red Cross online training available. Certified Nurse Assistant preferred.

Call for details or email: CynthiaNielsenLmt@gmail.com

719.298.0360

Cynn Nielsen

August 2022



Note: Calendar events subject to change

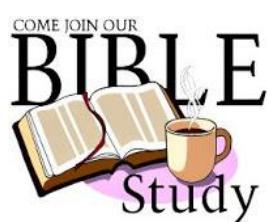
Session Highlights ~ July 2022

- ◊ Received approval of our Mission Study from the Presbytery Committee on Ministry, with only a few suggestions for improvement. This means PCCR may now proceed to elect a pastor nominating committee (PNC) that will then begin the search process for an installed pastor.
 - ◊ Noted that Pastor Chris will be on vacation the first week of August.
 - ◊ Continued developing the plans to host the Presbytery meeting at PCCR on Saturday, August 27.
 - ◊ Heard from Building and Grounds that a draining and flushing of the heating system will occur soon.
 - ◊ Received a report from the Foundation President, Mike Warren. It appears that our overall earnings may be down this year, but in the fourteen years that First National Bank has been our investment agency, we have always shown growth.
 - ◊ Scheduled the Church Pie Social for August 14.
 - ◊ Noted that the annual mini-golf tournament will be on September 11 at 6 p.m. at the mini-golf course on Mall Road.
 - ◊ Scheduled a Blessing of the Animals for Sunday, August 21 at 1 p.m. in our outdoor chapel. All are welcome to attend, whether or not you bring a pet for blessing.
-

Deacon Highlights ~ July 2022



- ◊ Deacons held their first in-person meeting in 2022.
 - ◊ Bill Almond will represent the Deacons at the July Session meeting.
 - ◊ Joys and Concerns were reviewed and cards sent.
 - ◊ Received a Memorial Reception gift from the family of Joan Shoemaker.
 - ◊ Deacons to serve Fellowship Hour on August 21.
 - ◊ Plans for the August 27 meeting of Presbytery at PCCR were reviewed and Deacons will be available to help as needed.
 - ◊ Next monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 9 at 7:00 p.m. in Grether Library.
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The **Adult Bible Study group** is presently studying the **Book of Revelation** (from a Jewish context taught by a Jesus-believing Jew). This study will continue until early September.

Note: Adult Bible Study will not meet September 11 through October 16.

As always, each session stands alone and anyone is welcome to come to one “just to see” what it is about. Join us in the lounge at 8:30 each Sunday morning or drop in when you can. We finish in time for bell ringers and choir singers to go to rehearsal. For more information, contact Carol Nussbaumer 586-2437 or carol@nussbaumers.net

Financial Information June 2022

	June	Year to Date	Year to Date—Budget
Total Revenues	\$25,250	\$159,282	\$183,041
Total Expenses	\$39,333	\$198,685	\$212,568
Net Total	-\$14,083	-\$39,403	-\$29,527



"For the past 35+ years, caring ministry has been a hallmark of our Christian faith community. It is at the heart of all we do. Let us know if we can be of help."

~ Your PCCR Stephen Ministers

Journeys

Journeys is on summer break until September 18.

Journeys is an ecumenical group of faith travelers focused on religious education. Individual participants are not required to accept any specific set of beliefs. It can be said that most members would endorse the following statements:

1. Believe that following the way and teachings of Jesus can lead to experiencing sacredness, wholeness, and unity of all life, even as we recognize that the Spirit moves in beneficial ways in many faith traditions.
2. Seek community that is inclusive of all people, honoring differences in theological perspective, age, race, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, class, or ability.
3. Strive for peace and justice among all people, knowing that behaving with compassion and selfless love towards one another is the fullest expression of what we believe.
4. Embrace the insights of contemporary science and strive to protect the Earth and ensure its integrity and sustainability.
5. Commit to a path of life-long learning, believing there is more value in questioning than in absolutes.

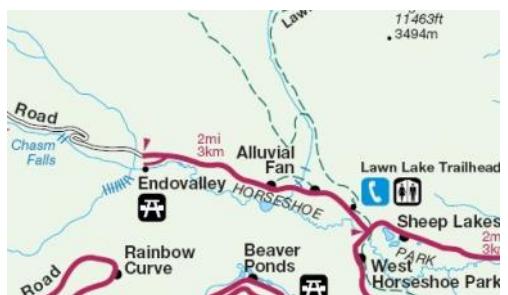
From progressivechristianity.org



Grace and Grub Cookout

Monday, August 22, 4:30 p.m. at Endovalley picnic area
All are welcome!

Hotdogs, buns, condiments, and tableware will be provided. The rest of the meal is potluck.
Bring a side dish to share, your own drinks, and lawn chairs.



Meet at the Endovalley picnic area located along the Fall River. Turn off Hwy 34 at the Old Fall River Road entrance, past Alluvial Fan at the west end of Horseshoe Park.

Contact Joy Holcomb, joyholcomb11@gmail.com or 970-586-9600 for more information or to sign up.



Hope you can join the fun!



*A good turnout at the
Grace and Grub Picnic
July 25, 2022*

