



Presbyterian
Community Church
of the Rockies

September 2026 Newsletter

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

Mission Statement: Presbyterian Community Church of the Rockies is a welcoming community united by faith in Jesus Christ; we seek to serve others, share God's love, and engage all people.

Volume 14, Number 9



Organ Rededication

Sunday, September 13



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:

Tia Shultz, finance@pccrusa.org

Office Administrator:

Brenda Dixon, 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 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 October Newsletter deadline is
Tuesday, September 15. Please send
your pictures and stories to:
office@pccrusa.org Thanks!**



Worship Schedule

Sunday Worship in the Sanctuary:

**September 6—10:00am service with Chancel Choir &
Brass Quartet; Communion**

**September 13 —10:00am service with Chancel Choir &
Scott Beach, bagpipes**

September 20 —10:00am service with Chancel Choir

**September 27 —10:00am service with Chancel Choir &
Kevin Youmans, trumpet**

**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”.



**Heritage Sunday
and
Kirkin O' the
Tartans**

**Sunday,
September 13**

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September 2026

Message from Pastor Christine Dempsey ...

Dear friends,

For four years, as I drove back and forth through the Nebraska farmland, I watched the corn grow, literally. After all, I was in Nebraska. September was the most exciting month of that daily drive. It was harvesting time. There was something so real about watching the farmers bring in the corn crop. There was a sense of calm and urgency all at once. There was a rootedness to the soil and an energy of providing for the world that overtook my senses. While Estes Park is not filled with farmland, there is the same anticipation for this month – the beginning of the elk rut, the sounds of the high school marching band, and smells of pumpkin pie. Our church too is bursting at the seams, where we settle in to celebrate the gifts of God and engage in the fruits of discipleship.

As I thought about the Nebraska harvest, I also thought about Paul in his ministry to the Corinthians. We have two letters in our scriptures that Paul wrote to this church. It is interesting to think about Paul, who in the first letter, wrote to the nascent church in Corinth. The seed of Christ had been planted, but the Corinthians were not fully understanding what it means to live as Christians. By the time he wrote 2nd Corinthians, the church had grown in its discipleship. The Corinthians were ready for their work in extending grace to others. They had matured in their faith. As Paul wrote to them in 2 Corinthians 5:17 “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!” This message is for us too. The newness of life comes when the seed of Christ matures. We too experience faith this way. It is fall. It’s time to harvest what is planted!

Celebrating this harvest, let’s look at September. This is a time to celebrate the ways that God is working in our lives. We begin our September by welcoming back our organ to worship. As the pulse of our worship, the organ helps ground us in the harmony of God and readies us each week to go out and be the church. We also look forward to the return of our bells. Have you thought about the bells? There is no melody or harmony unless they all work together. What an awesome representation of the Kingdom! On Sept 13, we host heritage Sunday reminding us of our denominational roots in the Church of Scotland, but also of our own families and their journeys. Finally, at the end of the September we celebrate the life of our dear sister, Shirley Albers, and the Baptism of her great grandchildren. Friends, let’s bring in the harvest and share its yield in our worship, discipleship and mission!

Grace and Peace,
Christine



PCCR in August

Organ Renovation Project





WORLD COMMUNION

World Communion Offering

“...What does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, **to love kindness**, and to walk humbly with your God.” Micah 6:8

The first Sunday in October is World Communion Sunday, an ecumenical celebration of our oneness in Jesus Christ, bringing churches together in Christian Unity since 1940. This year on October 4, our congregation will celebrate the Lord’s Supper together in spirit with Christians around the globe.

We will also receive a special World Communion Offering that day. The theme this year is **to love kindness**, reconciling God’s people at the Table of Grace through ministries of justice. Our gifts will join with others in the wider Church for justice & peacemaking. Please prayerfully consider making a donation to the World Communion Offering next month.

Joining together touches lives far beyond our individual reach. If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot!

Crossroads Donation Update



DID YOU KNOW?

Crossroads Assistance Ministry provides 30 programs that care for neighbors in need in the Estes Valley. In addition to the Market, which gives groceries weekly to clients, here are a few more services for qualified families:

- Mental health counseling
- Vouchers for laundry, showers, gasoline and auto repairs
- Rent, mortgage and utilities assistance
- Medical support
- Food bags and backpacks for students
- Partnership with the Bridge of Estes for non-medical support for cancer patients
- Partnership with Bright Christmas to give gifts and hope to local children

Crossroads also operates Good Neighbor Thrift which offers affordable finds on clothes, small furniture and antiques. Proceeds help support Crossroads’ mission. It’s a win-win!



Thank you for supporting Crossroads Assistance Ministry,
Your Mission and Outreach Committee

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Again this year, the PCCR Mission & Outreach Committee is having a miniature golf outing for fun, fellowship, and fundraising. This year's 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.

We'll start promptly at **5:00pm on Monday, September 14**

Entry fees are:

ADULTS: \$30 per person aged 18 and over

CHILD/YOUTH: \$1 per year of age up to 17 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 international mission. Entry forms will be inserted in the worship bulletin and also available at the church office.



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



Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, September 27

2:00pm at the Outdoor Chapel

Pastor Christine will conduct this special service 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 blessings as witness to our dependence on other creatures and our stewardship responsibility for their care.





PW Brunch for All Women of the Church

September 14 – 11:30 am

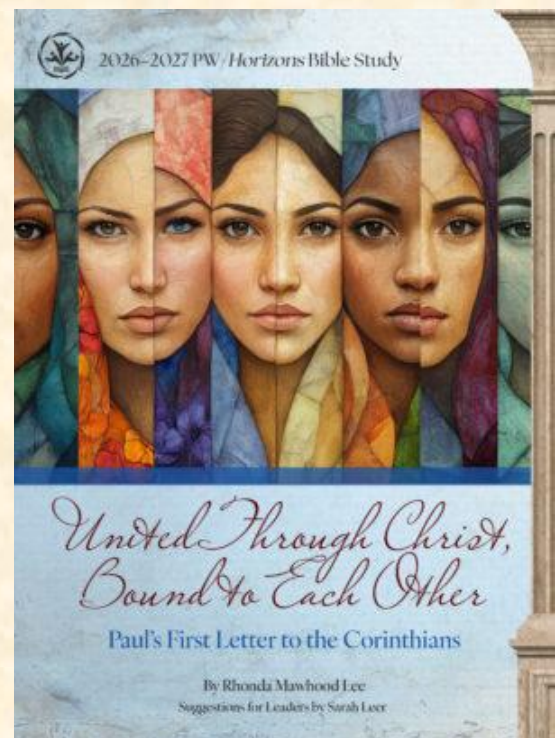
On **Monday, September 14**, all women of the church are invited to a **brunch** in the PCCR Fellowship Hall starting at **11:30 am**, hosted by the Coordinating Team of Presbyterian Women.

The Coordinating Team will provide the meal, so all you need to do is come and enjoy fellowship with other women of our church. Included after the brunch will be the introduction to the Bible study for 2026-27, titled *United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other*. This study, based on Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, was written to a church experiencing conflict. Paul believed the problems were caused by a lack of love, so he called his siblings in faith to a loving unity based on the reality that Jesus Christ had been crucified and resurrected for everyone. Many of the questions asked by the church in Corinth remain ours today. How can our lives demonstrate our trust in Jesus Christ's victory over death? The Bible study books will be available at the meeting for \$15 each. We have a couple of large print editions available in addition to the regular study books. The study books are also available in the church office. Don't miss this opportunity to be in fellowship with other women of the church even if you are unable to attend Circle meetings. We would love to have you join us!

PW Bible Study – Monday, September 21

United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other

After our introduction to the new Bible study, *United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other*, during the brunch on Monday, September 14, Presbyterian Women will meet for their first circle meeting of the year the following **Monday, September 21** in the church library. We will gather at **11:30 am** 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. The PW Circle meets each month, from September through May on the third Monday of the month. In September, we will discuss lesson one titled "Unity in Christ, Wisdom from God" based on 1 Corinthians 1-2. In this lesson Paul reminds his friends in the Corinthian church, who are in conflict, of the importance of unity in Christ. He "calls his friends to relationships grounded in the love made visible in the cross and resurrection." We encourage you to join in fellowship with other women of the church to discuss the ideas presented in the lesson. All women of the church are welcome.



Prayer Team

Do you know that we have a prayer team that meets every Monday at 11:00am? During this sacred gathering, we lift up your prayers for you personally, for family and friends, for God's presence and the healing of Christ. You are invited to submit these prayers to Pastor Christine via email at pastor@pccrusa.org, the prayer cards found in the pews, or any other means. If they are private but you still want them held up, please indicate this on the prayer request.

And, if you want to join us as part of the prayer team, you are welcome to join us!

Heritage Sunday & Kirkin O' the Tartans

Sunday, September 13

Calling all Scots or want to be Scots to take part in our annual "Kirkin O' the Tartans" service on Heritage Sunday at 10:00am.

Heritage Sunday is set aside not only to celebrate the church's Scottish heritage but also the heritage of all members of this community.

Each of us come from a rich family lineage to be celebrated on this day. So, bring your tartan, a plaid, or any piece of checked cloth that reminds you of your personal heritage for this wonderful service of blessing.

Our piper Scott Beach, the Chancel Choir, Verlène on piano, and Larry on the organ will combine their talents to enrich this very special service.



Groups and Events



Save the Date!

Harvest Soup Festival

Sunday, October 11 at 11:00 am

Join us for lunch and fellowship!

The Hospitality Committee invites everyone to attend our annual Harvest Soup Festival after worship on **Sunday, October 11 at 11:00 am**. Each PCCR family is asked to bring a crockpot of hot soup to the Fellowship Hall prior to the 10:00 worship service. Cornbread and dessert will be provided.

Let's give thanks for our blessings.



Are you looking for a unique way to serve your church?

Pastor Christine has a few special projects, and she is looking for volunteers! Contact her for more information at 970-586-4404



**The Church Office
will be closed
Monday, September 7th
In observance of Labor Day**

Voices of the Pipes

An Organ Recital Series at
Presbyterian Community Church of the Rockies

September 25 @ 6:00 Organist: Weston Jennings
"A Kaleidoscope of Colors"

October 17 @ 2:00 Organist: Larry Gillum et al
"Larry and Friends"

April 23 @ 7:00 & April 24 @ 2:00
"Durufle Requiem"
with the Oratorio Society of Estes Park

June 20 @ 2:00 Organist: Larry Gillum
"Nuts and Bolts Organ Demonstration"

Celebrating the new additions to the pipe organ
Concerts are open to the public. No charge but donations accepted.

Wednesday Bible Study with Pastor Christine

Come and join us for Bible Study on Wednesdays at noon in the church library as we continue a study series on the book of Exodus. All you need is your bible.



Schedule for September:

September 2 – “The Golden Calf” Exodus 32

September 9 – “Mysterious Leadership” Exodus 33

September 16 – “Identity Redefined” Exodus 34

September 23 – NO Class

September 30 – “Starting Over” Exodus 35-39

See you there!

Adult Study Group



September! Fall is nearly here and it is time for new beginnings. Remember how exciting it once was to have a new box of crayons to carry to a new class? Learning is part of being human. It keeps the brain active when there is something new; learning with others around is good for us as we age. Make this month the time to become part of the Adult Study Group that meets **every Friday at 10:00am in the Church Library**. We learn about the Faith and sometimes are surprised at what we don't know. We've studied parts of the Old Testament and parts of the New. We've learned how the land itself shaped Biblical events and just where were all those places mentioned during Jesus' ministry. The present study is on the book of Matthew; coming up this fall is a study on Romans chapters 9-11 "All Israel Shall Be Saved" and a step out of the well-trod path to learn about "Roman Military in Israel".

Not sure? You are welcome to come see for yourself if this is a fit for you! No contract to sign; no hard feelings if this is not your cup of tea.

Questions?

Talk to Carol Nussbaumer or contact her at carol@nussbaumers.net
or 970-586-2437.

NOTICE: ASG will NOT MEET on September 4

Journeys

Journeys is a community of ecumenical faith-travelers working toward building a fellowship that supports each person as they seek spiritual wholeness. The discussions cover a broad range of topics. All are welcome.

Journeys will begin its fall session on September 20. A variety of programs have been planned for the remainder of 2026 by the Journeys Leadership Team. One of them is a series that will delve into the concepts of intelligence and consciousness. The series will begin with a look at the seemingly intelligent behavior of many plants based on the book *The Light Eaters* by Zoe Schlanger. It will then move onto intelligence exhibited by animals. Next, human consciousness will be explored using the book *A World Appears: A Journey into Consciousness* by Michael Pollan. The series will be concluded with a look at the newest form of "intelligence" on our planet, machine intelligence, better known as AI.

Journeys meet Sunday mornings in the church library. Gathering begins at 8:15am, 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=UG5OWk5yV1R2b1lCVmtENnUxTCtIU09>

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

(Journeys is a community-based study group led by independent facilitators.)

Meet Weston Jennings, organist...

Enchanting audiences worldwide with a “virtuoso technique always in the service of the music,” organist and conductor Weston Jennings is one of America’s leading young concert artists.

Having first encountered the pipe organ at the Interlochen Summer Arts Camp (Michigan) at the age of sixteen, Mr. Jennings later graduated from the Interlochen Arts Academy. He earned his Bachelor of Music Degree and the prestigious Performer’s Certificate at the Eastman School of Music. In May of 2017, he graduated from the Yale School of Music and the Yale Institute of Sacred Music with his Master of Music Degree. Prior to his studies at Yale, he completed two years in England as the Organ Scholar of Canterbury Cathedral and Chelmsford Cathedral. During this time, he was also appointed the first Organ Scholar to the Royal Festival Hall, London.

Following his recital debut at The Kennedy Center (Washington, DC) in 2009, Mr. Jennings has performed across the United States and Europe, including Westminster Abbey (London), St. Paul’s Cathedral (London), Saint Thomas Church Fifth Avenue (New York), The Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels (Los Angeles), The Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception (Denver), the Chapel of the Queen’s College (Oxford), The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception (Moscow), Royaumont Abbey (France) and the Berliner Dom (Germany).

Before moving to Texas in 2017, he was Instructor of Undergraduate and Secondary Organ at Yale College. Mr. Jennings has also served on the faculty of the Interlochen Summer Arts Camp, the Department of Music at The King’s School, Canterbury, and taught and performed at several Pipe Organ Encounters across America. His performances and interviews have been broadcast live on BBC Radio 3 and American Public Media’s *Pipedreams*.

Mr. Jennings currently resides in Tyler, Texas where he serves as Director of Music and Organist of First Presbyterian Church (PCUSA). He is also the Founder & Artistic Director of New Texas Sinfonia, Texas’ newest professional chamber orchestra.



***All are invited to attend an organ recital by Mr. Weston Jennings on
Friday, September 25th at 6:00pm in the Church Sanctuary***

Financial Information July 2026			
	July	Jan-July	Year to Date—Budget
Total Revenues	\$204,078.00*	\$631,809.00	\$454,814.00
Total Expenses	\$233,138.00**	\$628,100.00	\$499,309.00
Net Total	-\$29,060.00	\$3,709.00	-\$44,495.00

* \$176,891.00 Foundation transfer for Roof Project

** \$176,891.00 Payment for Roof Project

September 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
10:00am-Worship-Sanctuary	6 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 3:00pm-Ballet Renaissance-L	7 10:00am-Building & Grounds-L 12:00pm-One Day at a Time AA-Lounge 12:00pm-Quota Club-Rm6 3:00pm-Worship & Music Committee-L 3:00pm-Ballet Renaissance-FH 4:30pm-Deacons-L 6:00pm-Estes Valley Chamber Singers-MR 6:45pm-Hispanic Bible Study-Rm6	8 10:00am-Mission & Outreach-L 12:00pm-Bible Study-L 4:00pm-Joyful Bells-FH 6:30pm-EP Chorale Rehearsal-FH	9 1:30pm-Boy Scout Troop 184-Rm6,4,5 10:15am-Estes Valley Library Book-L 4:00pm-Chancel Bells-FH 6:30pm-One Day at a Time AA-Lounge 6:30pm-Chancel Choir-MR	10 Boy Scout Troop 184-Rm6,4,5 10:00am-Adult Study Group-L 3:00pm-Ballet Renaissance-FH	11 Boy Scout Troop 184-Rm6,4,5 5:30pm-One Day at a Time AA-Lounge
HERITAGE SUNDAY	13	14 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	15	16	17	18
Boy Scout Troop 184-Rm 6 10:00am-Worship-Sanctuary 12:30pm-EVICS Childbirth Class-Rm6	9:30am-Finance Committee-L 10:00am -Garden Club-Rm6 11:00am-Prayer Team-L 11:30am-PW Brunch-Fellowship Hall 3:00pm-Ballet Renaissance-FH Lounge 5:00pm-Mini Golf Tournament 5:30pm-Estes Valley Library-L	12:00pm-One Day at a Time AA-Lounge 1:00pm-Personnel Committee-L 3:00pm-Ballet Renaissance-FH 6:00pm-Estes Valley Chamber Singers-MR 6:45pm-Hispanic Bible Study-Rm6	12:00pm-Bible Study-L 4:00pm-Joyful Bells-FH 6:00pm-EP Education Foundation-L 6:30pm-EP Chorale Rehearsal-FH	3:00pm-Columbarium Committee-L 4:00pm-Chancel Bells-FH 6:30pm-One Day at a Time AA-Lounge 6:30pm-Chancel Choir-MR	10:00am-Adult Study Group-L 3:00pm-Ballet Renaissance-FH	5:30pm-One Day at a Time AA-Lounge
CROSSROADS DONATION DAY	20	21	22	23	24	25
8:30am-Journeys-L 10:00am-Worship-Sanctuary 4:00pm-Oratorio Society Rehearsal-FH	10:15am-Estes Valley Library-L 11:00am-Prayer Team-L 11:30am-PW Circle-Library 3:00pm-Ballet Renaissance-FH Lounge	12:00pm-One Day at a Time AA-Lounge 12:00pm-Quota Club-Rm6 3:00pm-Ballet Renaissance-FH 6:00pm-Estes Valley Chamber Singers-MR 6:45pm-Hispanic Bible Study-Rm6	4:00pm-Joyful Bells-FH 6:30pm-EP Chorale Rehearsal-FH	2:00pm-Rehearsal Weston Jennings-S 4:00pm-Chancel Bells-FH 6:30pm-One Day at a Time AA-Lounge 6:30pm-Chancel Choir-MR	9:30am-Merry Mathias-Lounge 10:00am-Weston Jennings-S 10:00am-Adult Study Group-L 2:00pm-Weston Jennings-S 3:00pm-Ballet Renaissance-FH 6:00pm-Rectal Weston Jennings-S	10:00am-Memorial Shirley Adbers-S,FH 10:00am-Girl Scout Troop 70449-Rm6 5:30pm-One Day at a Time AA-Lounge
8:30am-Journeys-L 10:00am-Worship-Sanctuary 2:00pm-Blessing of the Animals-Outdoor Chapel 4:00pm-Oratorio Society Rehearsal-FH	27 9:30am-Hospitality Committee-Lounge 11:00am-Prayer Team-L 4:30pm-Grace and Grib-FH	28 12:00pm-One Day at a Time AA-Lounge 3:00pm-Ballet Renaissance-FH 6:00pm-Estes Valley Chamber Singers-MR 6:45pm-Hispanic Bible Study-Rm6	29 12:00pm-Bible Study-L 4:00pm-Joyful Bells-FH 6:30pm-EP Chorale Rehearsal-FH	30		