



Presbyterian
Community Church
of the Rockies

October 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 10



**Harvest
Soup
Festival**

**Sunday,
October 11**



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

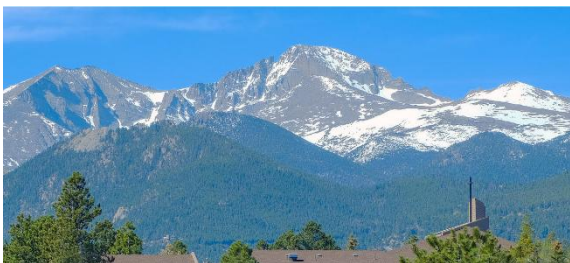
**Paper copies of the newsletter
are available in the narthex.**

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 November Newsletter deadline is
Tuesday, October 20. Please send your
pictures and stories to:**

office@pccrusa.org Thanks!



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Worship Schedule

Sunday Worship in the Sanctuary:

**October 4—10:00am service with Chancel Choir;
World Communion Offering**

**October 11 —10:00am service with the Combined Bell
Choirs**

**October 18 —10:00am service with Chancel Choir and
Chancel Bells**

October 25 —10:00am service with Chancel Choir

**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”.

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 would like to be a part of the prayer team,
you are always welcome to join us!*

October 2026

Message from Pastor Christine Dempsey ...

Dear friends,

Fall is *gift-thinking* season! At least, it is for me, for October is the month that I really start to think about the gifts that I want to make for people. If you go into art stores or subscribe to craft magazines, you will see all the neat things that you can make. For me, making cards and gifts is one of the meaningful experiences in my life, and I think it is because I use the gift making experience to celebrate the recipient, to give the best of what I have even if it is a “lower quality” artwork.



It is also *gift-giving* season in our church. As you know, we began our Stewardship drive in mid-September with the theme, “Gifts from the Heart.” From Paul, in his letter to the Philippians, we learn that God has given us the gifts of resilience, humility, faith and trust. These gifts give us the courage and the strength to respond to the world as Jesus has called us. These are gifts that directly relate to our lives as Christ’s disciples, and ones that call us to live out our faith even when it is hard. It is these gifts that empower us to be gift givers where we give from the heart for the opportunity to share our Christian love.

Because it is *gift-thinking* season, I want you to help us dream about the ways that our church, the Presbyterian Community Church of the Rockies, can continue to give to this community. As you know, one of my dreams is to have every person in Estes Park feel that this is a welcoming place, a home for all who enter and a house that nurtures their humanity. We do a lot to nurture this welcome from hosting out-of-state youth groups to sponsoring organ concerts, to inviting our community’s children to Vacation Bible School to providing emergency funds throughout the world, from cultivating community in our music programs to setting aside a time for intercessory prayer. Imagine how we can continue to give these “Gifts from our Hearts” to our community and our church family! But these all require financial support!

Our goal is to turn *gift-thinking* season into *gift-giving* season, and we do this by making a financial pledge to the church for the upcoming year. Your pledges allow our church to put our dreams into action. It allows us to grow our ministry to this community! So, if you haven’t already, please fill out your pledge cards and return them on Sunday, October 11. This year, we want to improve the ADA accessibility of the church, grow our programming to the community, increase our mission budget, promote the music ministry that brings us together in song, and continue to support our amazing staff. As you prayerfully think about your pledge, give thanks for this amazing community, the beauty of the Estes Valley, and the opportunity to make someone’s life a little better through the love of Christ. Let’s build this church to the glory of God!

Grace and Peace,

Christine

PCCR in September



Crossroads Donation Update



DID YOU KNOW?

November will be Mission Month at PCCR and the Market at Crossroads Assistance Ministry will be the first program highlighted by your Mission and Outreach Committee.

Sunday, November 1st, will be the official **STOCK THE SHELVES DAY**. Practice your **FAITH IN ACTION** by bringing groceries to our worship service. Let's fill our Crossroads Shopping Cart to the brim!

The Market is currently giving out 20,000 pounds of food and necessities each month, which is more than the Market takes in. Something will have to give so that the Market can continue to help its 1,400 clients get enough food to eat!

TAKE AN EMPTY BAG; BRING IT BACK FULL!

Need an empty bag? Your committee will hand them out on Sunday, October 25. What to donate? Canned vegetables, canned chicken, pasta, breakfast food, protein drinks and toilet paper are always in demand.

As Crossroads' Executive Director, Brian Shaffer, says "Your giving doesn't just fund programs; it purchases peace, warmth and a new beginning for an Estes Park neighbor in crisis."



With thanks,

Your Mission and Outreach Committee



To all of you that have been praying for me over the past months, thank you! I have felt your love and support and strength to feel life on hard days. That's because I have known that our Lord has been holding me and answering your prayers! Extremely difficult and frightening medical situations kept being only Medical answers to my forever difficult "drumstick." I believe your prayers were answered by our Father in what seems impossible ways! I had two incredible surgeons and as of last week I was given a wonderful gift. It appears I do not need complex surgery. I do not have a silent infection, and I will not lose my leg. Instead my issues target my greater trochanter, lower back, and hip - all of which will be treated medically. I am now using a walker. I know our Father answered your prayers on all of these issues! I trusted Him and all of you all along. Thank you from the bottom of my heart! I am still taking one step at a time, but it is going forward, and I feel whole again! All due to your cards and gifts to me, and your prayers on my behalf to our Lord.

*Much love,
Marianne Solms*



WORLD COMMUNION OFFERING

OCTOBER 4TH



WORLD COMMUNION

This Sunday, on World Communion Sunday, we will receive this offering, one of the three special offerings of our denomination.

As Micah reminds us, God requires us to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God. We are called to see one another as beloved children of God, even those who are different from us or living far away from us. Loving kindness is the practice of seeing every person as worthy of dignity, belonging, and hope. This offering will provide funds to ministries here in the U.S. and around the globe that work for peace and justice.

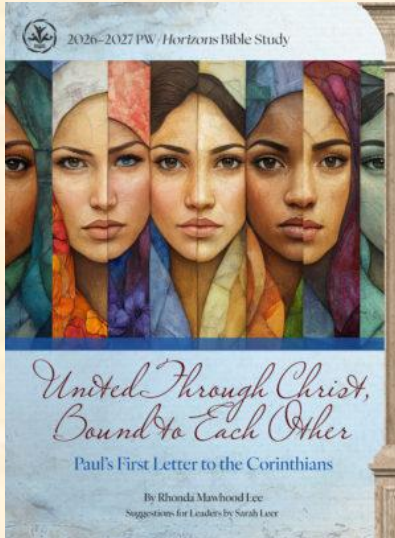
Please consider a gift toward peace in our world. There will be special envelopes in the pews. You can also mark your check or online donation for World Communion Offering. Thank you!

PW Bible Study – Monday, October 19

United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other



All women of the church are invited to share in the Presbyterian Women's Bible Study held on the third Monday of each month, from September to May in the church library.



This year's Bible study is based on Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians. On Monday, October 19, we will meet in the library to discuss the second lesson titled, "Connected in Christ." Through our baptism in Christ, we have all the gifts we need to live well, grow spiritually, resolve conflicts, and care for each other as members of one family. We will gather at 11:30 a.m. 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 snack to eat during the meeting. Zoom will be available for those who cannot attend in person. Please let Karen Daugherty (karen@daughertys.us) know if you plan to attend on Zoom. We encourage you to come and join in fellowship with other women of the church to discuss the ideas presented in the lesson. If you would like a study book, they are available in the church office for \$15 or at our circle meeting. We hope to see you there!

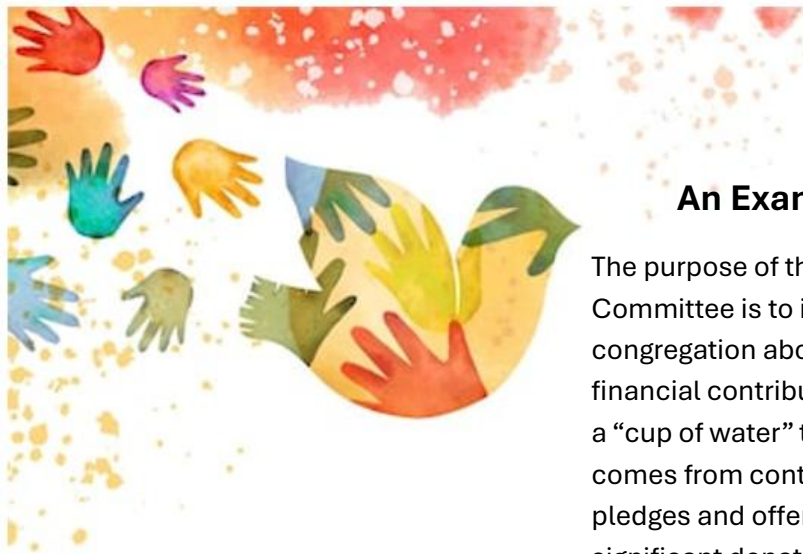
Heritage Music Fund

We are pleased to announce that the Session has approved the formation of a Heritage Music Fund to serve as a clearly identified destination for donations, bequests and memorials. This will support our heritage of worship built around traditional sacred and classical music and be professionally managed by the financial advisor for the church (currently First National Bank of Omaha).

PCCR has a rich heritage of worship involving traditional sacred and classical music, supported by our highly qualified musical staff, individual musicians and music library, and built around the organ, the grand piano, and our hand bells. The recent fund-raising program to support renovations to our organ was successful beyond expectations. In the spirit of giving, two recent donors have contributed additional and significant funds to perpetuate our traditional music program. We anticipate additional bequests and memorials in the future. These funds will be managed carefully and transparently to ensure that the wishes of the donors are honored and to encourage new gifts.



For more information, contact Kent Meyer at Kent.meyer.22@gmail.com or Pastor Christine at pastor@pccrusa.org



An Example of Mission Work

The purpose of the PCCR Mission and Outreach Committee is to inform, involve and excite the congregation about mission. Our mission focuses on financial contributions to organizations that are giving a “cup of water” to strangers in need. The money comes from contributions gathered through our pledges and offerings. We have also received several significant donations made by anonymous contributors.

We look for groups that support strangers in need efficiently and directly with the least amount of administrative overhead. One such organization is World Central Kitchen, which takes to heart its vision that it is first to the frontlines. It provides fresh meals in response to humanitarian, climate and community crises. Last month we sent World Central Kitchen a donation to help with the earthquakes in Columbia. This month we sent them a contribution from the anonymous contributor fund. This is an extract from a recent World Central Kitchen web posting that shows how the money gets to the people in need:

On August 26, a glacier collapsed on the Nepal-China border, sending a catastrophic debris flow more than 60 miles downstream along the Trishuli River, wiping out bridges, roads, and settlements across a vast stretch of northern Nepal.

Communities were cut off entirely – reachable only by helicopter or on foot. WCK mobilized immediately and teams are now cooking from a community kitchen in the hardest hit area.

Our early focus was Nuwakot Province, where evacuees were being airlifted to a makeshift airfield in Bidur. Families waited at the gates, straining for a familiar face. The moment survivors landed, WCK and our partners were waiting with a hot meal.

Through the first few days of the response, WCK has served thousands of meals – including local staples like samosas and momos.

We are impressed with the cultural sensitivity of World Central Kitchen exhibited by their practice of providing local food wherever they go and their focus on constructing community kitchens for use by people whose homes have been destroyed.



Groups and Events

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.



**The Church Office
will be closed
Monday, October 12
In observance
of a Federal Holiday**

Interested in leading an Advent study?

This season the study will be based on the book entitled "On the Way to Bethlehem: An Advent Study" by Rob Fuquay. Scriptures are included to go along with each lesson.

Contact Pastor Christine at pastor@pccrusa.org for more details



Wednesday Bible Study with Pastor Christine

Come and join us for Bible Study on **Wednesdays at noon in the church library!** On the first Wednesday in October, we will conclude our study series on the book of Exodus. Then the following week we will begin a study on Leviticus. All you need is your bible.



Schedule for October:

October 7 – Exodus Chapter 40 followed by a review of the book of Exodus

October 14 – “Approaching God” Leviticus 1-10

October 21 – “Day to Day” Leviticus 11-17

October 28 – “Relationships” Leviticus 18-27

See you there! New study partners are always welcome.

Adult Study Group



In October the Adult Study Group will continue with a study of Matthew, specifically Jesus' Passion and Resurrection. By mid-month we will be starting a new study which is not yet decided on but may be a re-run for new members of “Listening to the Land of the Bible.”

Without naming names, we had some new people attend recently and one said after class, “You mean this has been going on all this time and we didn’t know about it?!” No time like the present to discover for yourself how much you don’t know about the Bible! The group meets **every Friday at 10:00am in the Church Library.**

Questions?

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

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 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.)

LARRY & FRIENDS IN CONCERT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17TH

2:00PM

**Celebrate the sounds of PCCR's "new" organ with
organist, Larry Gillum, and friends**

Jill Hunt, PCCR substitute organist

Joe McConathy, First Presbyterian in Fort Collins

Joel Bacon, Colorado State University

Dennis Fromholzer, Our Lady of the Mountains, Estes Park

Don Shelley, formerly at Allenspark Community Church

Financial Information August 2026

	August	Jan-Aug	Year to Date—Budget
Total Revenues	\$38,046.00	\$669,869.00*	\$454,814.00
Total Expenses	\$34,341.00	\$662,440.00**	\$499,309.00
Net Total	\$3,705.00	\$7,427	-\$44,495.00

* includes \$342,531.70 Foundation transfer for Roof Project

** includes \$342,531.70 Payment for Roof Project

October 2026							
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
				4:00pm-Chancel Belts-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 6:30pm-Mixed Nuts At-Aton-L	9:00am-Card-Making Group-FH 10:30am-EVCS Children's Choir Rehearsal Rm6 5:30pm-One Day at a Time AA-Lounge	3
8:30am-Journeys-L 10:00am-Worship-Sanctuary 11:00am-New Member Information-Lounge 4:30pm-Oratorio Society Rehearsal-FH	4 10:00am-Christian Education-L 11:00am-Prayer Team-Conference 3:00pm-Ballet Renaissance-FH Lounge 5:30pm-Estes Valley Library Writing-L	5 12:00pm-One Day at a Time AA-Lounge 12:00pm-PEO Chapter AV-L 1:30PM-Nada Quarter Rehearsal-MR 3:00pm-Ballet Renaissance-FH 6:00pm-Estes Valley Chamber Singers-MR 6:45pm-Hispanic Bible Study-Rm6	6 12:00pm-Bible Study-L 2:30pm-Membership Comm-Lounge 4:00pm-Joyful Belts-FH 6:00pm-EP Education Foundation-L 6:30pm-EP Chorale Rehearsal-FH	7 10:15am-Estes Valley Library Book-L 1:00pm-Foundation-L 4:00pm-Chancel Belts-FH 6:30pm-One Day at a Time AA-Lounge 6:30pm-Chancel Choir-MR	8 10:00am-Adult Study Group-L 3:00pm-Ballet Renaissance-FH 6:30pm-Mixed Nuts At-Aton-L	9 9:00am-Setup for Harvest Fest-FH 10:00am-Girl Scout Troop 70449-Rm6 10:30am-EVCS Children's Choir Rehearsal Rm6 5:30pm-One Day at a Time AA-Lounge	10
8:30am-Journeys-L 10:00am-Worship-Sanctuary 11:00am-Harvest Fest-FH 4:30pm-Oratorio Society Rehearsal-FH	11 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 3:00pm-Ballet Renaissance-FH Lounge	12 10:00am-Building & Grounds-L 12:00pm-One Day at a Time AA-Lounge 12:00pm-Quota Club-Rm6 1:30PM-Nada Quarter Rehearsal-MR 3:00pm-Worship & Music Committee-L 3:00pm-Ballet Renaissance-FH 4:30pm-Dacons-L 6:00pm-Estes Valley Chamber Singers-MR 6:45pm-Hispanic Bible Study-Rm6	13 10:00am-Mission & Outreach-L 12:00pm-Joe Bacon rehearsal-S 12:00pm-Bible Study-L 4:00pm-Joyful Belts-FH 6:30pm-EP Chorale Rehearsal-FH	14 3:00pm-Columbarium Committee-L 4:00pm-Chancel Belts-FH 6:30pm-One Day at a Time AA-Lounge 6:30pm-Chancel Choir-MR	15 10:00am-Adult Study Group-L 2:30pm-Jill Hunt Rehearsal-S 3:00pm-Ballet Renaissance-FH 6:30pm-Mixed Nuts At-Aton-L	16 10:30am-EVCS Children's Choir Rehearsal Rm6 2:00pm-Larry & Friends Concert-S 5:30pm-One Day at a Time AA-Lounge	17
CROSSROADS DONATION DAY	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8:30am-Journeys-L 10:00am-Worship-Sanctuary 4:30pm-Oratorio Society Rehearsal-FH	9:30am-Finance Committee-L 10:15am-Estes Valley Library Writing-Rm6 11:00am-Prayer Team-Conference 11:30am-PW Circle-Library 3:00pm-Ballet Renaissance-FH Lounge 4:00pm-Session-L	12:00pm-One Day at a Time AA-Lounge 12:00pm-PEO Chapter AV-L 1:00pm-Personnel Committee-Conf 1:30PM-Nada Quarter Rehearsal-MR 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 Belts-FH 6:00pm-EP Education Foundation-L 6:30pm-EP Chorale Rehearsal-FH	4:00pm-Chancel Belts-FH 6:30pm-One Day at a Time AA-Lounge 6:30pm-Chancel Choir-MR	9:30am-Merry Marthas-Lounge 10:00am-Adult Study Group-L 3:00pm-Ballet Renaissance-FH 6:30pm-Mixed Nuts At-Aton-L	10:00am-Girl Scout Troop 70449-Rm6 10:30am-EVCS Children's Choir Rehearsal Rm6 5:30pm-One Day at a Time AA-Lounge	24
8:30am-Journeys-L 10:00am-Worship-Sanctuary 4:00pm-Oratorio Society Rehearsal-FH	25 9:30am-Hospitality Committee-Lounge 11:00am-Prayer Team-Conference 3:00pm-Ballet Renaissance-FH Lounge	26 12:00pm-One Day at a Time AA-Lounge 12:00pm-Quota Club-Rm6 1:30PM-Nada Quarter Rehearsal-MR 3:00pm-Ballet Renaissance-FH 6:00pm-Estes Valley Chamber Singers-MR 6:45pm-Hispanic Bible Study-Rm6	27 12:00pm-Bible Study-L 4:00pm-Joyful Belts-FH 6:30pm-EP Chorale Rehearsal-FH	28 4:00pm-Chancel Belts-FH 6:30pm-One Day at a Time AA-Lounge 6:30pm-Chancel Choir-MR	29 10:00am-Adult Study Group-L 3:00pm-Ballet Renaissance-FH 6:30pm-Mixed Nuts At-Aton-L	10:30am-EVCS Children's Choir Rehearsal Rm6 5:30pm-One Day at a Time AA-Lounge	31