

Our ministry...extravagant **W**elcome, openness to **W**onder,
positive and proactive **W**itness to the possibility of a just world.

November 2010



Responding to God's love, we are First Congregational United Church of Christ, an inclusive, ecumenical, and spiritual people, who through worship, education, fellowship, and outreach seek to embrace the mystery of God.



If This Is Christianity...

By Rev. Benjamin Broadbent, Lead Minister

Every summer, I look out from the pulpit and see a startling sight: Rev. Dr. Robin Meyers sitting in the southeast corner of the sanctuary. You'd think I would have come to expect seeing him there, but I'm always humbled when I notice the Oklahoma City pastor and professor of rhetoric worshiping with us. When I speak with him after services, he sets me at ease, for he is down-to-earth and affirming of my ministry and of the witness of our Colorado Springs church.

"I woke up thinking, 'If this is Christianity and these are Christians, I must not be one.'"

Robin Meyers is a preacher who believes that "preaching is... an audacious and dangerous act." Whether preaching in his own congregation or as a guest somewhere, lecturing to his students or speaking at a public rally, Robin's words are always audacious and (potentially) dangerous. In the days leading up to the 2004 election, Robin delivered a speech in Norman, Oklahoma that was widely distributed. In what became known as "The Speech Heard Round the World," he said, "War is the greatest failure of the human race – and thus the greatest failure of faith."

Meyers' latest book is called *Saving Jesus From the Church: How to Stop Worshiping Christ and Start*

Following Jesus. In the prologue, he describes a disturbing dream. In it, "churches had ceased building sanctuaries and opted for metal auditoriums without steeples or religious symbols. While the band played and the privileged wept tears of self-satisfied joy, young warriors for Christ were taught to love Jesus by hating Darwin and homosexuals. I woke up thinking, 'If this is Christianity and these are Christians, I must not be one.'"

Meyers does not shy away from using, nor from critiquing, traditional Christian language. He identifies two heresies that are dominant in our contemporary culture: "One is the heresy of docetism, the belief that Jesus was not human at all, but God masquerading on earth as a human being. The second is the so-called prosperity gospel, the heresy of believing that God wants believers to get rich and that material abundance is proof of God's love." These heresies are connected, Meyers argues, in that they both have to do with greed. The first says to believe in an other-worldly God, or else you're doomed. The second says if you don't have wealth, you're not saved.

"How can our faith become biblically responsible, intellectually honest, emotionally satisfying, and socially significant?"

Robin Meyers is among the best scholars, pastors, and preachers that the liberal Christian tradition has to offer. His critique of the tradition is meant to embolden liberal Christians who often feel overwhelmed by cultural assumptions about Christianity and intimidated by their more confident conservative sisters and brothers.

Robin will be with us on Sunday, November 14, our first ever Fall James W. White lecturer. He will be preaching at services that morning and offering a lecture and workshop that afternoon at 2:00 in the sanctuary. The questions he will pose are among the most important for us to consider as a church:

- What is the proper object of our worship?
- What would it take to make Christianity compelling, even irresistible, again?
- How can our faith become biblically responsible, intellectually honest, emotionally satisfying, and socially significant?

I hope that Robin Meyers' questions are compelling, even irresistible to you, and that you will make time in your schedule to hear him and engage with him on November 14.

See Lois Matthews' article on Page 6 for more information on Robin Meyers.



Church Council

COUNCIL OFFICERS

Moderator

Andrea Barker

Vice Moderator

Lee Lehmkuhl

Treasurer

Polly Strovink

Secretary

Pete Hokanson

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Care & Fellowship

Jane Gazal

Outreach

Deidre Schoolcraft

Worship & Spiritual Life

Patty Lee

Education

Beth Garrison-Kemp

Ad Hoc Staff

Wedding Coordinator

Gari Steadman

Funeral Coordinator

Carol Fields

Appointed Officers

Membership Clerk

Lois Benson

Historian

Wil Green

Volunteer Staff

Communicator Editors

Kris Jones

Jane Warren

Communion Coordinator

Peggy Dyer-Weissman

Fellowship Coordinator

Lori Goodwin

Flowers Coordinator

Ann Benson

Flute Choir

Phyllis White

Head Ushers

Lisa Cook

Oscar Ridings

Lay Representative to ESM

Laura Pfender

Liturgist Coordinator

Marsha Garrett

Parish Nurse

Nancy Lippincott

Associated in Ministry

4-Way Covenant

Rev. Darlene Avery

Rev. Lyn Boudreau

Rev. Pat Dolin

Rev. Derek Krehbiel

Rev. Patty Walker

In-Care

OPEN

Seminarians

Jeff Dodson

Marta Fioriti

Kelly Ryan

Deborah Saxon

Mandy Todd Moore

Cathy White



20 East Saint Vrain Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

(719) 635-3549 phone

(719) 633-4715 fax

E-mail: office@fcucc.org

Office Hours:

9:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. M-F

Website: www.fcucc.org

Staff Team

Lead Minister

Benjamin Broadbent

Associate Minister

Jacque Franklin

Business Administrator

Ruth Roland

Office Administrator

Christy Kessler

Administrative Assistant

Richard Grebenstein

Organist & Director of Music

Frank Shelton

Chancel Choir Director

Mandy Todd Moore

Handbell Choir Director

Carol Fields

Education Coordinator

Del Hokanson

Youth & Young Adult Coordinator

Marta Fioriti

Nursery Attendants

Spencer Kellogg

Linda Margrave

Elise Rayner

Kayla Schroeder

Custodians

Lee Hamilton

Bob Scheafer

Sunday Sexton

Teri McCabe

Pastors Emeriti

Rev. Dr. Jerry Jordan

Rev. Dr. James White

Committee Chairs

Acacia Dinner Ministry

Janice Simonton

Audio / Visual

Paul Schwotzer

Bereavement Receptions

Patti White

Clergy/Congregation Relations

Karen Brown/Jon Vigne

Community Life

Lin Luinetti Quinlan

Faith Formation

Tom Francis

Financial Advisory

Polly Strovink

Health Ministry

Nancy Lippincott

Historical

Bob Murray

Human Resources

Gordon Riegel

Ministry Discernment

Steve Brown

Justice & Peace

Jerry White

JWW Lectureship

Sue Scott

Kitchen Witches

Lois Benson/Dolly Eager

Library

Jeanie Tate

Communication & Marketing

Mike Matthews

Membership

Scott Huger

Mission Giving & Outreach

Angie Adams

Movement Ministry

Jenny Finn

Jenny Glick

Music & Arts

Dave Nath

Mystery Tradition

Nancy Forg

Nominating

Eric Ridings

Open & Affirming

Trey Austin

OWL Steering

Sara Qualls

Planned Giving

Bill Edmondson

Plymouth Circle

Marilyn Johnson

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Teri McCabe

Risk Reduction & Response

Nancy Dawson

Sanctuary Arts

Chris Hall

Spiritual Formation

OPEN

Stewardship

Lori Pinello

Whole Earth

OPEN

BOOK GROUP

The FCC Book Discussion Group meets quarterly in members' homes to discuss the selected novel. We invite anyone who likes to read to join us. Typically we choose one book from each of the following categories each quarter:

- Classic
- Best Seller
- Spiritual/Religious
- Southwestern/Western

The next meeting will be on Sunday, November 7th at the home of Kathy and Burl Kreps. Watch the church bulletin for details. RSVPs are requested for planning purposes for the hosts.

Our current selection is Alan Paton's classic 1948 novel, *Cry The Beloved Country*. It is an impassioned novel, which offers an insightful look at apartheid through the eyes of an elderly Zulu pastor trying to find his lost child.

For more information, contact Linda Boles at jobolesjr@comcast.net.

THANKSGIVING DINNER AT THE CHURCH

A Thanksgiving dinner will be held at our church on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 25th. The building will be open at noon and dining will commence at 1:00 p.m.

This is a nice way to share in a feast without having all the work of preparation and clean up. We will provide the turkey and we ask each person or family to bring their favorite Thanksgiving dish or dishes, with enough to share. We will work together to set up, serve, and clean up. Come by yourself, bring your small or large family, and we'll make a convivial group together.

A sign-up poster will be available in the Founders' Room. If you have any questions, please contact Steve Brown at 328-1294 or skiabrown@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS IN NOVEMBER

Plymouth Circle is once again participating in the Salvation Army Christmas Fill-a-Stocking Program. This program helps provide Christmas Stockings for 3,000 local area children and teens.

Your help is needed this year! Please join with us in this worthwhile project. Stockings will be available in the Founders' Room during the month of November. Information and suggested items will be provided as well as age group and gender.

Stockings must be returned to the church by Sunday, November 28. Plymouth Circle truly appreciates your support and generosity in helping with this worthy program.

POPS HOLIDAY PARTY

Our traditional Pooped Out Parents Christmas party will be held on Saturday, December 11th at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Jane and Eric Ridings. Ham, turkey, and beverages will be provided. Bring your good cheer and your favorite holiday side dish. Please look for an email invitation in late November. If you have questions or want to be put on the email distribution list, please contact janeridings@hotmail.com or call Jane at 540-0596. Newcomers are always welcome.

PLYMOUTH CIRCLE

Plymouth Circle will meet on Wednesday, November 3rd at 1:00 p.m. in the Founders' Room. Hostesses are Ruth Connell & Karen Miskel. Devotions will be given by Dorothy Krimm.

The Daytime Handbell Choir will provide music and we'll have a member ring-along. Guests are welcome to join us for this special fun time!

ADVENT TAIZÉ PRAYER

A contemplative service of worship using readings, music, chants, and silences

4:00 p.m.

in the Church Founders' Room
Gathering chants begin at 3:50 p.m.

Sunday, November 28th

FORUM CLASSES

Forum classes are held each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel. Time is left open afterwards for questions and discussion

- November 7th: Joe Pickle will continue with the second week of his presentation of important concepts preparing for the James White Lecture presentations on Sunday, November 14th.

- November 14th, 21st, and 28th: Bruce Sage will present the theme "Inner Healing Through Synchronicity." His material will be drawn from *The Spontaneous Fulfillment of Desire* by Deepak Chopra, and *Law of Attraction* by Michael J. Losier.

Contact Bruce Sage at brucesage251@msn.com for more information.

COMMUNICATOR OPT-OUT

SAVE PAPER, MONEY, TIME!

Email Richard Grebenstein at richardg@fcucc.org if you'd like to opt out of the printed monthly newsletter. We appreciate the many folks who have already done so. Receive the full-color electronic copy even sooner than the mailed edition; access it (or any old issues) at any time from the church website; magnify it on your screen to suit your reading style; print only what *you* need; go green!



PeaceJam Youth Ministry

By Marta Fioriti, Youth and Young Adult Coordinator

"As we move into the season of giving thanks, consider creating a family journal of gratitude that will be shared together every Thanksgiving."

We have had great success with the beginning of our program year. Our youth have spent six weeks learning about, experiencing, and talking about peace issues in our community and beyond.

Our curriculum, PeaceJam, has allowed both our middle school and high school groups to dive into these issues which are so important to us as people of faith and as Christians in Colorado Springs. Empathy, human rights, compassion, violence, and community are words we are learning to understand in this context. We are still answering the question, "Why are we talking about these issues in The Dwelling Place or sitting around a table at Rico's?"

A PeaceJam bulletin board in the Atrium of our church will give image to some of our work this fall.

As we move into the season of giving thanks, here are some ways that you and your family can make it meaningful:

1. Take on the family project of writing a Thanksgiving poem or prayer together.
2. Ask each family member to read a favorite Bible verse before the meal.
3. Prepare a Thanksgiving offering to give to a needy family or one of your favorite charities.
4. Adopt a family at Thanksgiving by providing their Thanksgiving meal or

groceries in advance.

5. Create a family journal that will be brought out every Thanksgiving. Each family member writes things that they are thankful for throughout the year, and on the day of Thanksgiving, the family brings out the journal to read out loud to each other.

Our youth ministry programs continue to meet every Sunday from 10:30 a.m. to noon. The Middle School (6-8th grade) will meet in The Dwelling Place. The High School (9-12th grade) will meet at Rico's.

For more information contact Marta at marta@fcucc.org.



FCC Adds to the Success of CROP Walk

By Rev. John Snyder, Member of the Mission Giving & Outreach Committee

It was like a walk in the park. On October 3rd, twenty-five FCC members of all ages joined some 300 members from local churches for the Colorado Springs CROP Walk.

CROP stands for *Christians Responding to Overcome Poverty*. Walking a 3.1 mile loop, our youth and adults joined members from 13 other local churches.

Besides the fun, walkers and sponsors raised about \$14,000 for CWS (Church World Service) and IHN (Interfaith Hospitality Network). Our group contributed \$840.

CWS, through its CROP Walks nationwide and with other sources, raises money to help in disaster and poverty relief throughout the world, including the current crisis

in Pakistan.

IHN is the Colorado Springs agency that coordinates churches hosting families who are seeking ways out of homelessness. FCC is a host church two weeks a year in addition to making mission grants.



Congregational Life

By Rev. Jacque Franklin, Associate Pastor

Thank you...

Our Sunday worship is challenging with the pews gone, the scaffolding erected, and the lighting changed. But we remain flexible and patient, as we keep the big picture in mind. There are cushioned chairs in the back rows of the sanctuary for people who prefer a little additional padding. We extend a big thanks to **Paul Schwotzer** and the **A/V Team** for removing and reconfiguring the sound system. Our wonderful liturgists continue to volunteer for both services to read scripture and prayers and help to lead us in worship: **Kennan Cole**, **Judith Rice-Jones** and **Deb Saxon**. We thank our guest preacher **The Rev. Dr. Tom Rehling**, the UCC Conference Minister of the Rocky Mountain Conference. Musical offerings for the past four Sundays have been incredible with **Mandy Todd Moore** singing a solo; **Joyce Hannagan** playing an oboe duet with **Frank Shelton** at piano; **Sounds of the Wood** playing didgeridoos and other primitive indigenous instruments; and the **WoodDove Recorder Consort**.

It was exciting to send our organist **Frank Shelton** to Paris for an organ recital. We lived vicariously through his adventures to Notre Dame and St. Sulpice. In the meantime **Ruth Lehmkuhl** came out of retirement and filled our sanctuary with beautiful piano music.

October was Stewardship month. Stewardship is more than our monetary resources. It is our time and talent, too. For example, Kris Akse shared his graphic design talent to create the campaign poster to fit the theme, "A Sower Went Out to Sow." **John Saxon**, a witnessing steward, shared his original piano composition, "Till for Grace," to kick off the Stewardship Pledge Drive. Another witnessing steward, poet **Deidre Schoolcraft**, shared an original composition.

Without the many volunteers sharing their time and passion for peace and justice, mission and outreach, and community life, we would not be the church we are today. Many thanks to volunteers who served 132 meals to seniors at the Acacia Park Apartments: **Jennifer & Jillian Sundman**, **Dolly Eager**, **Frances & Bob Tippy**, **Evelyn & Jeremy Howard** and **Janice Simonton**.

Thanks to the following volunteers we have a photo directory. On the Photo Directory Coordinator Team were **Larry Patzer**, **Carol Fields**,

Mike Matthews, **George & Sharron Waterhouse**, and **Tiffany Hauber**. A special thanks goes to **Richard Grebenstein** for office support, volunteer recruitment, and getting the project going. All other volunteers were: **Andy Kort**, **Ann Howard**, **Ann Skinner**, **Anna Adams**, **Ardith Hanson**, **Burl Kreps**, **Carol Fields**, **David Doman**, **Dolores Green**, **Elfriede Jopp**, **Francis Tippy**, **Gayle Jordan**, **Gloria Latimer**, **Ila Almond**, **Jane Gazal**, **Jane Warren**, **Janet Carpenter**, **Janice Simonton**, **Jean Archer**, **Jean Hall**, **Jerusha Goebel**, **John Boles**, **John Shada**, **June Hallenbeck**, **Karen Miskel**, **Kathy Beck**, **Kathy Kreps**, **Lee Tatum**, **Lin Quinlan Luinetti**, **Linda Boles**, **Linda Lemieux**, **Lois Benson**, **Lois Matthews**, **Margery Layton**, **Mary Hope**, **Mike Matthews**, **Miriam Giese**, **Neil Lehmkuhl**, **Paul Carpenter**, **Peggy Weissman**, **Ralph Hall**, **Ray Almond**, **Ruth Lehmkuhl**, **Sue Prendinger**, **Virginia Carlson**, **Will Green**, and **Howard Ray**.

On Mission Sunday, friends from 16 organizations with which we partner came to educate and inspire us about the positive work they do in our wider community. Our Mission Giving and Outreach committee (MG&O) makes grants to a variety of local projects. Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) is one of those projects. Besides our grant, we host families 1-2 times each year. Thank you to the 50+ volunteers whose helping hands provided short-term housing for homeless families at our church the week of 9/26 - 10/3. In the set-up and tear down crew were **Sid Shelton & Robbie Limpert**, **Tom & Pat Shipp**, **Amy Colwell**, **Christie Garrison**, **Jerry & Cathy White**, **Ellie Coriell**, **Rick Shick**, and **Rick Cameron**. Overnight hosts were **Jerry & Cathy White**, **Sid Shelton & Robbie Limpert**, **Paul Schwotzer**, **Sharon Owen**, **Bill & Becky Weiss**, **Steve Brown**, **Ceil Malek**, **Christie Garrison**, and **Ellie Coriell**. Meals and activity support involved **Rick & Blake Purinton**, **Patty Lee**, **John & Lorelei Vollmar**, **Angie Adams**, **Sara Doud**, **Alyce & Dave Morgan**, **Laura Pfender**, **Bob & Carol Rushmore**, **Shirley & Sid Skirvin**, **Jill & Drew Robinson**, **John & Celia Snyder**, and **Christie Garrison**. Additional thanks to our friends at Temple Shalom.

Prayers...

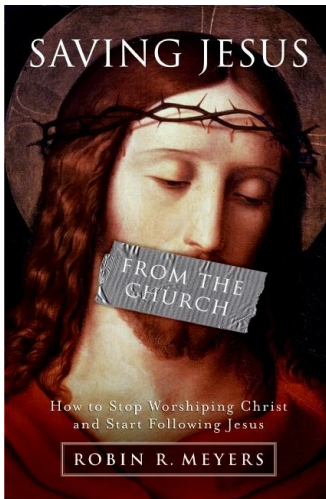
On our prayer list the past four weeks we remember **Ron Young** who is currently in hospice care at home. **Louise Smith** had a stay in skilled care for physical therapy after a dizzy spell. **Tom Connell** also had some physical therapy in skilled care and plans to be on the golf course soon. **Bill Budington** moved to a nice home care facility after his wife Irma died. Prayers for members and their ailing parents who are elsewhere, such as **Deb Saxon's** father in Waco, TX; **Shannon Kilzer's** father, recovering from a fall; **Eleanor Bowman's** mother whose health is declining; **Andy Laffely** whose mother, **Nancy**, is hospitalized with heart issues in Maine; and **Del Hokanson's** parents who are now in nursing care in Australia. There were several members who underwent knee surgery and are on the mend such as **Ester Seright**, **Dave Doman**, **Kathy Sparnins**, and also **Benita Martinez's** mother, **Maria**. **Sid Skirvin** had hip surgery and hopes to be walking better soon.

Condolences...

We share our grief with the members of our faith community whose loved ones have died. We grieve with the family of **Joedan Saunders** who died on Oct. 8. There will be no memorial service at his request. We heard through friends that long time member and co-founder of Pikes Peak Hospice, **Flo Carris**, died on Wed., Sept. 29 in hospice care of Southern Maine. Her memorial service is scheduled for Nov. 13 at First Christian Church at 10:30 a.m. with **Rev. Jim White** officiating. Member **Emely Carman**, mother of **Jerusha Goebel**, died on Sept. 16 in hospice care at St. Francis Nursing Home. Emely's service was held at First Christian Church on Oct. 2 with **Rev. Benjamin Broadbent** officiating. One of our oldest members of the church, **Harriett Wallace**, died Sept. 22 at age 97 in hospice care. Her memorial service was held at Cheyenne Place on Oct. 1 with **Rev. Lyn Boudreau** officiating. **Irma Budington** died in hospice care on Sept. 4. Her memorial service was held in our chapel on Sept. 30 with **Rev. Jacque Franklin** officiating. **GL Scarborough** lost his brother-in-law in Texas. **Lee & Mary Tatum** lost their favorite cousin, **Mary Jo Johnson**, from New Mexico. **Susan Holman** lost her mother on Sept. 19 in Colorado Springs. We continue to remember our friends and families in their loss as the grief process takes time to heal hearts.



"Without the many volunteers sharing their time and passion for peace and justice, mission and outreach, and community life, we would not be the church we are today."



"The Rev. Dr. Robin Meyers will be offering the JWW Lectureship on Sunday, November 14, 2010."



The James W. White Lectureship with the Rev. Robin Meyers

By Lois Matthews, JWW Lectureship Committee Member

Jesus: Galilean Sage or Supernatural Savior?

Sunday, Nov. 14th
9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services

What Kind of Church Would You Find Irresistible?

Sunday, Nov. 14th
2:00 p.m. Sunday Afternoon Workshop

Recent discoveries about the first three centuries after the crucifixion of Jesus have shed a bright new light on a series of old enigmas. An explosion of interdisciplinary biblical research about the early church has produced a strong consensus that Christianity, in the words of Harvey Cox, "deteriorated from a movement generated by faith and hope into a religious empire demarcated by prescribed doctrines and ruled by a priestly elite."

What got lost in the process was the truly radical nature of the early church as an underground movement in which women were elevated to positions of authority, congregations

practiced radical hospitality, the wealthy sold their possessions and redistributed their wealth to those in need, and the church was a visible and subversive alternative to the values and obligations of the Roman Empire... The only viable future for the church is to change its axis from salvation to wisdom. – Robin Meyers

Meyers is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ (UCC), a tenured professor in the philosophy department at Oklahoma City University, an author, a syndicated columnist and an award-winning commentator on National Public Radio, and has been the senior minister of Mayflower Congregational UCC of Oklahoma City, the fastest-growing UCC church in the Kansas-Oklahoma conference.

He graduated from Wichita State University (1975) and earned his MDiv at the Graduate Seminary of Phillips University (1979) and his Doctor of Ministry degree at Drew University in Madison, N. J. (1981). In 1991 he was awarded a

PhD degree by the University of Oklahoma's Communication Department for his work in the area of persuasion and preaching.

In addition to his book, *Saving Jesus from the Church: How to Stop Worshipping Christ and Start Following Jesus*, from which he will speak, Meyers has also written *With Ears to Hear: Preaching as Self-Persuasion*; *Morning Sun on a White Piano: Simple Pleasures and the Sacramental Life*; *The Virtue in the Vice: Finding Seven Lively Virtues in the Seven Deadly Sins*; and *Why the Christian Right Is Wrong: A Minister's Manifesto for Taking Back Your Faith, Your Flag, and Your Future*.

Saving Jesus from the Church was published in 2009 and is available for purchase during the 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour.

For more information, contact Lois Matthews at ldmatt333@comcast.net.



Prayer of Invocation

Offered by Rev. Benjamin Broadbent
at the Service of Ordination & Installation for Rev. Clare Twomey,
Manitou Community Congregational UCC



October 10, 2010

*God, would you take offense if we called you strange?
Strange in your hiddenness, strange in the ways you reveal yourself.
And what a strange purpose to which you summon us today...
To voice a call, as if our voice could stand in for your voice.
To invoke a blessing, as if our invocation could cause you to be present.
To lay on hands, as if our hands could transfer your ministry to another.*

*We are not alone in our beholding you as strange. When you spoke...
Eve and Adam blushed
Abel glowed and Cain sulked
Abram departed and Sarah laughed
Moses thought you had the wrong guy
Miriam made up a song
Samuel thought he was hearing voices
David danced so hard his ephod suffered a "costume malfunction"
Jeremiah said, "But I'm just a teenager"
Amos said, "All I know is sheep"
Joseph said, "Wake me up, I'm dreaming"
Mary said, "How can this be?"*



How can this be, O Strange One, that we are here, claiming to have heard you calling in the night. How can this be?

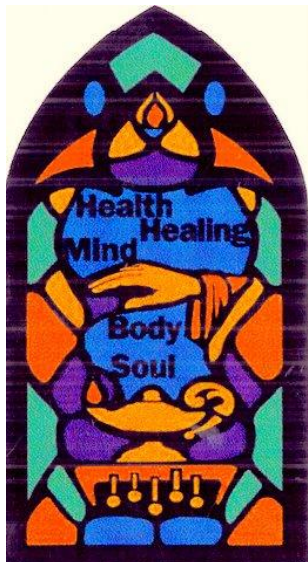
How can this be, that you call persons such as your servant Clare, to do this work, this often hard, grueling, not-always-clear-what-it-is-exactly-that-I'm-supposed-to-be-doing work? How can this be?

We enjoyed a perfectly normal, settled existence before you called, you who are so often stranger than we had previously imagined. Are you sure you have the right person? Are you sure you know what you're doing?

By faith and with hope we give ourselves to you today and agree to enter the strangeness you have initiated. Remake us into the image and likeness of your strange self.

*Strange enough to say... I hear you calling.
Strange enough to say... Here I am
Strange enough to say... Bless you, my child
Strange enough to say... Receive this ordination in the name of the one who claimed nothing for himself, but who emptied himself, giving his life so that others may live.*

God, may we not be offended when they call us strange. Amen.



*"Dr. Robert Muller,
author of 'Decide to be
healthy,' was a shining
example of inner and
outer peace."*

Decide to Be Healthy

By Margery Layton, Health Ministry Committee Member

One of my favorite inspirations is a collection of poems by Robert Muller in his *Decide To* booklet. Robert Muller began corresponding with me in 1987, and ever since has been sharing his own writings. The poem *Decide to be healthy* fits with my participation with the Health Ministry Committee.

Dr. Robert Muller, former U.N. Assistant Secretary General, Chancellor Emeritus of the U.N. University for Peace in Costa Rica, and recipient of the 1989 United Nations Educational, Scientific, Cultural Organization Peace Education Prize (UNESCO), and prolific author, constant advocate, and shining example of inner and outer peace, died on September 20, 2010.

In a holiday letter sent by Robert to me in December 2000, he closed it by saying, "Our dream for you and your family is that this Holiday Season and the year 2001 will be your healthiest and happiest ever. God bless you." This is a continuing gift to each and all of us.

Decide to be healthy

*Pray to God every day for good health
Take health as your sacred, Godgiven duty
Make no room whatsoever for the slightest
thought of sickness.
Never.*

*Encourage your trillions of faithful
little cells through joy,
happiness and confidence
Thank them, talk to them, sing to them*

*Let no foul air, food and liquids
poison you
Let no anger, anxiety or bitterness
enter you*

*Wake up every morning with gratitude
for your resurrection
And repeat ten times
I am the happiest and
healthiest person on earth
Repeat it again before your sleep*

*Close your eyes on the thoughts of God,
good health and happiness
And thank your Father in heaven
Who has given us a body never
to be sick
A mind never to be dull
A consciousness never to be
empty
And a spirit full of
the heavens and of the Earth*



NOVEMBER WORSHIP

**Sunday services
9:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.**

**November 7 –
24th Sunday after Pentecost**
Today we celebrate Holy Communion at both services. The Joyful Noise Children’s Choir sings at the 9:00 service and the Chancel Choir sings at the 11:00. Rev. Broadbent preaches his second Doctor of Ministry in Preaching project sermon. Based on Luke 20:27-38, it will explore resurrection as one of the great Christian themes of embodiment. This is the second to last Sunday to bring your pledge card.

**November 14 –
‘Saving Jesus’ Sunday**
Today the Handbell Choirs share worship music and we welcome guest preacher and Fall James W. White lecturer, Rev. Dr. Robin Meyers, author of *Saving Jesus from the Church: How to Stop Worshiping Christ and Start Following Jesus*. Today we need to have received pledge cards from all church friends and members.

**November 21 –
Stewardship Celebration /
Reign of Christ Sunday**
While 60+ worship at La Foret in Black Forest at the Women’s Retreat, a guitar group offers worship music and Rev. Broadbent preaches a sermon on Colossians 1:11-20 entitled “Thanks for Everything.” With pledges received, we anticipate celebrating a successful Stewardship Pledge Drive that will enable our ministry and mission in 2011.

**November 28 –
1st Sunday in Advent (Sunday morning)**
The Christian liturgical calendar begins today and we light the first of four Advent candles, the candle of HOPE. Rev. Broadbent preaches a sermon on Matthew 24:36-44, entitled “Wait and See.”

**November 28 –
Advent Service of Taizé Prayer**
(Sunday at 4:00 p.m.)
All are welcome to this annual Advent Healing Service in the style of the Taizé Community. Candlelight, chants, silence, and readings of scripture create an experience of contemplation and healing in the presence of God. Prayer scrolls will be added to the chancel tree.

BIRTHDAYS

- 11/1 Jamie Cotton
- 11/1 Ceil Malek
- 11/2 Kathy Beck
- 11/2 Barbara Carlton
- 11/2 Andy Finn
- 11/2 Alysa Webb
- 11/3 Sharon Avery
- 11/3 Kandiss Horch
- 11/3 Robbie Limpert
- 11/4 Lynn Young
- 11/5 Sheryl Korthals
- 11/5 Guy McPherson
- 11/5 Sarah Smith
- 11/6 Jan Diers
- 11/6 Amy Frenz
- 11/6 Karen Miskel
- 11/6 Marilyn Turner
- 11/7 Alena Akse
- 11/7 Mary Ellen Beltracchi
- 11/7 Elfriede Jopp
- 11/8 Judah Buck
- 11/8 Robert Carlton
- 11/8 Donna Drake
- 11/9 Diana Baker
- 11/9 John Stefoni
- 11/10 Stu Kilzer
- 11/10 Betty Lynn Mahaffy
- 11/11 Claire Eslinger
- 11/12 Benjamin Broadbent
- 11/12 Heatherlyn Hoffman
- 11/12 Zack McComsey
- 11/12 Jazzlyn Owen-Chapman
- 11/13 Mark Owen
- 11/13 Jim Strubel
- 11/14 Molly Garrison
- 11/14 Pam Lehmkuhl
- 11/14 Nick Riegel
- 11/14 Roselyn Steadman
- 11/14 Olga Tatter
- 11/15 Bruce Downs
- 11/15 Lee Lehmkuhl
- 11/15 Kiara Nath
- 11/16 Harold Miskel
- 11/18 Kris Akse
- 11/18 Louise Holladay
- 11/18 Jerry Jordan
- 11/19 Cassidy Hyatt
- 11/19 Ellery Lane
- 11/19 Wanda Skarke
- 11/19 Arnie Sparnins
- 11/20 Owen Church
- 11/20 Alyssa Nickler
- 11/20 Ashley Rodriguez
- 11/21 Erik Martin
- 11/21 Patty Walker
- 11/22 Talley Cain
- 11/22 Marsha Lee
- 11/22 Brian Love
- 11/22 Sharon Owen
- 11/22 Pat Steffens
- 11/23 Erica Halvorson
- 11/23 Promis Hoffman
- 11/23 Gayle Jordan
- 11/23 Robyn Lindeman
- 11/23 Caleb Stitchka

BIRTHDAYS (CONTINUED)

- 11/24 Aaron Eslinger
- 11/24 Andrew Finn
- 11/24 Truman Fox
- 11/24 Toby Glick
- 11/24 Heather Nickler
- 11/25 Jerry Birnbaum
- 11/25 Kyland Palen
- 11/25 Mark Qualls
- 11/26 Sarah Herbert
- 11/27 Lucy Bell
- 11/27 Mil Clark
- 11/27 Judy Jones
- 11/27 Sandy King
- 11/28 Kelli Kennedy
- 11/29 Marilyn Robbins
- 11/29 Susan Turner
- 11/30 Annika Birnbaum
- 11/30 Sam Brooks
- 11/30 Bret May
- 11/30 David Petersen
- 11/30 Kelli Scarborough

ANNIVERSARIES

- 11/3 Melinda Hockensmith & David Hyatt
- 11/21 Fawn & John Bell
- 11/24 Becky & Michael Parrinella

November 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

December 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	





20 East Saint Vrain Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80903-1198

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Colorado Springs, CO
Permit 607

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

IN THIS ISSUE...

If This is Christianity...
Book Discussion Group
Thanksgiving Dinner at the Church
Taizé Prayer
Christmas Stockings in November
POPs Holiday Party
Youth Ministry
CROP Walk
Congregational Life
JWW Lectureship with Robin Meyers
Invocation for Rev. Clare Twomey
Health Ministry
November Worship
November Birthdays & Anniversaries
And more!...

COMING NEXT MONTH...

Advent Sundays of Peace, Joy, and Love; Weekly Services of Taizé Prayer; 99th Annual Christmas Mystery Pageant; Christmas Eve services at 4:00, 6:00, & 11:00 p.m.

*FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
UCC IS AN "OPEN AND
AFFIRMING"
CONGREGATION. WE INVITE
PEOPLE OF EVERY AGE,
RACE, MARITAL STATUS,
SEXUAL ORIENTATION,
GENDER EXPRESSION,
MEANS, ABILITY, AND
SPIRITUAL TRADITION TO
JOIN US IN THE LOVE OF
GOD AND NEIGHBOR
THROUGH CHRISTIAN
WORSHIP, DEDICATION TO
EDUCATION, AND
COMMITMENT TO SERVICE.*

INFORM & INSPIRE

The Communicator invites articles, notices, and letters relevant to the life of our congregation. Submissions may be edited for length, clarity, and correctness. Opinions expressed by writers do not necessarily reflect official FCC policy. For the next installment, please make submissions no later than **Friday, November 12th, 2010.**

Article submissions should be 500 words or less. Please use Times New Roman 12-point font and left-justify your submission. Suggest a title for your article and include the author's information (name, church role, and additional contact information). If at all possible, please include your article already typed up as a Word attachment in your e-mail message to janedwarren@gmail.com.