

The Bell Tower

August, 2011
Volume 28, Issue 8

NEDERLAND COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"The Little Brown Church with the Bell"



*We are a Congregation of
Open & welcoming doors
Open & growing minds
Open & faithful hearts*

P.O. Box 467, 210 Jefferson Street, Nederland, CO 80466
(303) 258-3579
www.nederlandpc.org

Hold it to the Light!

The past seven years have been some of the richest and most rewarding of my entire ministry. When we arrived in Nederland Pennie and I knew we were stepping into a different world. We've learned many things about life in the mountains, like how much wood it takes to heat a house for an entire winter, and what the "sunny side" of the mountain means. Those things are good to know! I've also learned a lot from friends about high altitude gardening and have come to understand why people become so enraptured with "Springtime in the Rockies" they write songs about it. We never tire of life in the quiet forest, nor will we ever forget the awesome view of the Indian Peaks we have enjoyed through the windshield of our car as we made our way down muddy Magnolia Road to church.

What truly made our time here a blessing however, are the members and friends of this small mountain church. At my previous churches I had many more volunteers and lots of other resources available to me to develop programs and organize events, which makes me even more amazed at what we have accomplished here at NCPC. We are one of the smallest congregations in the Presbytery and we must struggle every year to "reduce the deficit". It can be tiresome, worrisome and frustrating, but unlike the US Congress, we deal with such issues "decently and in order", and as friends.

On the 19th of this month NCPC will celebrate 99 years of faithful service to Jesus Christ in the Nederland Community. Then next month you begin the search for a new pastor. These two hallmarks provide you with a very unique opportunity to pause as you remember the journey that brought this church into the present, even as you begin to look forward into the unknown future.

The process for calling a new pastor has been carefully designed by the Presbytery of Plains and Peaks

to help guide congregations as they move forward. While that future can never be fully known, the way will be revealed more clearly with each step of the process.

The Biblical metaphor here is "journey". At God's invitation Abraham, *by faith*, packed up his family and belongings and set out with nothing more than a lick and a promise; God's covenant promise of a new home in a new land he would be shown.

On Tuesday as the Book Study group was deep in a discussion about the difference between *faith and belief* when we were interrupted by a phone call suggesting we go outside to see the rainbow that had appeared over Barker Reservoir. It was one of the most beautiful rainbows I have ever seen. To some, a rainbow is nothing more than sunlight refracted through raindrops, splitting it into a multi-colored bowed prism. We *believe* that because we learned it in seventh grade science class. But for people of faith, the "bow in the sky" is also a symbol of something much more. It is a reminder that while we cannot control the future, the God of Noah, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all of those many people of faith who have traveled this road before us have walked in the same promise of God's future. For those who walk by faith, the way forward is clearly revealed in the life of Jesus Christ who is the Light of the World. And so we walk by faith in him.

At times when it all seems so uncertain and the future seems a bit scary, an astonishingly perfect rainbow in the sky like the one on Tuesday afternoon speaks volumes to people of faith. For those with eyes to see it, the message was clear: "Hold it to the Light ... and you just might be given a rainbow."

We love you all, Don and Pennie

A Time of Transition and Change

On Sept. 1 our church will officially enter the “between time”; that period between Don’s departure and the arrival of our new pastor. Your Session Elders are taking on new responsibilities and are counting on each of us to do his or her part during this time of transition

The Session has identified several very important areas where we will need *immediate support* from the congregation. If you have the skills and the willingness to help with any of the following, please speak with any Session member listed below. Don and Pennie are willing to give tutorials for anyone interested but who are not quite confident they have the skills or knowledge to do any of the following:

- **Newsletter** – writing and editing articles, formatting, printing and mailing monthly newsletter.
- **Maintaining Google email groups** and sending communications via email for the Session.
- **Database** – Maintaining accurate records of members and friends of NCPC.
- **Master Calendar** – Maintaining the NCPC Google Calendar.
- **Order of Worship** – Creating and printing the weekly order of worship.

Your Session Elders:

Gary Ennor	Clerk
Michael O’Neill	Finance
Carolyn Armstrong	Worship
Dennis Whalen	Mission
Frank Lutz	Property
Cinda Kochen	Christian Education
Janet Turnburke	Fellowship

Happy 99th Birthday NCPC

Nederland Community Presbyterian Church is celebrating the beginning of our Centennial Year with a 99th Birthday Party August 21, 2011.



This will be the beginning of a series of events leading up to the 100th year celebration in August 2012. This is a huge milestone for our community and church that deserves recognition and celebration. Come to the kickoff celebration and enjoy a cake & ice cream social after church on Sunday August 21.

Farewell to the Dexters

On Sunday, August 28th, we will celebrate Don and Pennie’s seven years with our church with a “Special Potluck” after the service. They have made significant contributions to our church during their years with us.

- Janet Turnburke – Fellowship Elder

In Our Prayers:



Let us pray for the Urnes family upon the tragic, unexpected death of Jim Urnes, Jr., Dan Burack's cousin and for Liz Preston, mourning the death of her aunt, Dorothy Meneses; for healing and strength for Rhonda Skeie, Bobbi McIntosh, Megen Stadele and Carole Lloyd (Gwen Burak's mother) all undergoing cancer treatment; for Kathleen's father, Don for successful recovery from pacemaker surgery; for Bob Kochen who is experiencing neck and arm pain; and for Gloria Fraser, Blair Justice, and Diana Nelson's mother Carol Gregory whose health is in decline. Travel mercies for all those traveling this summer, including Crystal Skeie studying abroad in Spain. Pray for those serving in the military, and those who are unable to worship with us on a regular basis, including Florence Gruchy and Jane Bauder. Pray for our church during this time of transition; for those less fortunate than we, in our neighborhoods and in our world; for those who are recovering from natural disaster; for those who are oppressed or ravaged by war; and for leaders of people everywhere to have strength, patience; tolerance and forgiveness.

Special Meeting of the Congregation

The Session has called a special meeting of the congregation to be held immediately following worship at 11:00 on Sunday August 14. There will be three agenda items:

1. Vote to dissolve the congregation's relationship with Rev. Donald Dexter
2. Elect a nominating committee for the election of new Deacons and Elders for 2012
3. Vote to ratify the bylaws as amended by the Session.

(You may review the proposed bylaws on the church website: www.nederlandcpc.org.)

At this meeting the Session will provide an initial briefing regarding how members of the congregation may contribute directly to the various processes that ultimately lead to the calling of a new pastor. In the meantime, let us continue to support one another with our time, talent and prayers as we move forward in this exciting time of transition. Thank You. - Gary Ennor, Clerk of Session

Centennial Committee

- **Frank Lutz, - Centennial Committee Moderator**

This Centennial Year will be an exciting time of renewal and celebration for our church and community. If you would like to become involved in the work of any of the following committees, we can sure use you! Please contact any of the members listed below.

Note: Summer Residents many of you have been associated with NCPC longer than any of us year-round residents, so you have a very special role to play.

- **Janet Turnburke – Programs and Activities**

The Program Committee is compiling a list of “100 Things about Nederland Community Presbyterian Church”. Ideas such as collecting “100 Recipes from NCPC”, holding a reunion Sunday for past pastors, celebrating all baptisms done at the church, community events like BBQ’s, clean up day at the cemetery, music event, and home made ice cream socials are few of the fun kind of events that have been suggested. There are many ways to get involved. You could help host one of the events at the church, organize prior to the event, shop for supplies, decorate and of course cleanup are a few ways to participate in this important celebration. If you have some ideas or would like to help with various events please contact me at 303-258-7031 or janet@turnburkeassociates.com

- **Dennis Whalen and Carolyn Armstrong - Missions and Special Projects**

We are working to identify specific projects for the church and community to focus on during the centennial year. Give us your ideas!

- **Justine Irwin, Michael O’Neill, Judy and Jim Hubbard – History**

As co-chairs of the 100th Anniversary History committee, we are sending out a request for photographs from family albums of congregational activities and events that could be used in an updated book or pamphlet about our church in the past century. We also are seeking interesting stories about congregational events ... things that went right, things that were difficult, things that were funny, things that went wrong. Consider especially stories of difficult periods in our nation's history such as WWI; the Depression era; WWII, Korea, Vietnam; and the current state of world affairs as they affect the church. We plan to interview various members and former members of the church to recall early Sunday School classes, picnics, prayer services, etc. We will be working with documents in our archives, session minutes, and membership rolls, as well as with documents from CWS and the former Nederland Ladies Aid Society. The Nederland Area Historical Society will also be working with us. If your family has input for our historical project, please contact myself, Michael O'Neil, or Judy and Jim Hubbard. Your input will be most appreciated as we do our best to tell the story of 100 years of the Nederland Community Presbyterian Church. Thank you.

- **Michael O’Neill and Barbara Hardt – Publicity and Outreach**

As one of the oldest organizations in Nederland housed in one of the oldest structures, the Centennial is reason for the entire community to celebrate with us. We will be working to create a logo and theme for the year as well as other ways to tell our story. Like the other committees, we will value any and all suggestions.

MCMAA presents:

Konrad Kono in concert



Sunday, August 21 at 4:00

Konrad Kono will be with us the weekend of August 21 to give our Charles Walter Piano a real workout. He will be our accompanist for worship that morning.

That afternoon at 4:00 he will perform for our MCMAA Concert Series once again. One never knows what to expect when Konrad begins to play. He is an accomplished musician in many styles including classical, jazz, Latin, blues, hip-hop, and others that don't yet have a name. This will be a fun concert for the entire family – bring kids and friends. Nederland Area Seniors will host the reception for this concert.

Local Lore Live Speaker Series

This year we will again host the Chautauqua Speaker Series presented by the Nederland Area Seniors. Each program will be held on a Thursday evening at 7pm and there is no cost. There will be a "tip jar" at the reception for those who thoroughly enjoy our very special guests and want to show their appreciation. Here is the lineup:

- **August 18** – Molly Brown tells her story
- **September 8**, Henry Teller - stories of local history.



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Linda Bennett	7
Valerie Armstrong	8
Michael Rundle	9
Kristina Heller	15
Florence Gruchy	19
Julia Stadele	23
Emily Haynes	24
Sierra Tomlinson	24
Ginny Leever	25
Dean Rundle	28
Dennis Whalen	30
Tami Kochen	31

The Counselor's Corner ~ *Shaping our Stories*

After my Dad's death, Donald inherited his old guitar. It's not the finest instrument, but it played many a hoedown in its day. When quite young I was ill with a high, reoccurring fever for over a year and Daddy would serenade me on that guitar; my favorite being "Big Rock Candy Mountain," an itinerant song about a hobo's idea of paradise. Of course, Daddy sang the sanitized version with "peppermint trees", "lemonade streams", and promises like "You never have to clean your room or put your toys away; there's a little white horse you can ride of course; and you can jump so high you can touch the sky in the Big Rock Candy Mountains." Somehow the imagery of that song, and of course Daddy's attention, made me feel a little better.

There are times in each of our lives where we are disheartened and perhaps can't see beyond hardship. It is only in retrospect that we find meaning. The meaning we put to events molds how we tell our story; and the way we tell it can shape how we see puzzling, random or difficult experiences in our lives. In the end, we don't tell stories, they tell us. Life stories not only tell something about our past, but shape our future by focusing either on the negative memories, or spinning messages of hope for the future. Stories are very powerful sources of self-persuasion and the lens we choose may color our world view. I'm not saying we should gloss over the pain and turmoil of memories, resorting to "Pollyannaism" or pretend we live on a Big Rock Candy Mountain. On the contrary, embracing and giving voice and definition to the conflict, struggles and disappointments in life are what can release us from their power. I'm still "shaping" some of mine.
Pennie Dexter, PhD, Keystone Counseling, LLC.

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Andy & Amy Hartman	1
Larry & Lynn James	2
Dean & Janice Rundell	4
Carolyn Armstrong & Mark Moll	5
Frank & Justine Irwiin	6
Emily & Mark Haynes	11
Megen & Lee Stadele	15
Carol & Bob Rhoads	27

“Leadership gains authority and respect when the voiceless poor are treated fairly.”

Proverbs 29:14

~ August 2011 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 6:30 Soup Supper 7:00 Book Study	3 3:30 – 5:00 Karplus	4 10:00 Food Pantry	5 Boulder County Aging Services Council FH 8:30 – 12:00	6
7 9:00 Choir 10:00 Worship and Communion 10:30 Church School	8	9 CWS 1:00 – 3:00	10 3:30 – 5:00 Karplus	11	12	13 9:30 – 11:00 USDA and Food Pantry Langland Party 12:00- 5:00 Presbytery, Otis, Co.
14 9:00 Choir 10:00 Worship 10:30 Church School	15	16	17 3:30 – 5:00 Karplus	18 7:00 Local Lore Molly Brown 6:30 Session (At Dexter Home)	19 Happy Birthday NCPD	20 One Hour Weed Pull 7:30 – 8:30
21 9:00 Choir 10:00 Worship 11:00 99th Birthday Party 4:00 MCMAA “Konrad Kono”	22 Newsletter Deadline	23	24 3:30 – 5:00 Karplus	25 10:00 Food Pantry	26	27
28 9:00 Choir 10:00 Worship 10:30 Church School 11:00 Goodbye Pot Luck for the Dexter’s	29	30	31 3:30 – 5:00 Karplus	Notes: Aug 19 – Happy Birthday NCPD Aug. 20 – One Hour Weed Pull Aug 21 – MCMAA – Konrad Kono Sept. 18 – MCMAA - Dr. Obadiah Ariss		



Nederland Community Presbyterian Church

P.O. Box 467
210 Jefferson St.
Nederland, CO 80466

*If you no longer
wish to receive
this newsletter,
please notify us
at
(303) 258-3579,
or the address
listed above.*