

The Bell Tower

NEDERLAND COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Congregation of Caring Friends and Neighbors

Celebrating 100 Years of Service to Our Communities

November, 2011
Volume 28, Issue 11



Food Pantry Sundays — 1st Sunday of every month

The number of people using the Food Pantry continues to grow. In October it served 135 people. That's a bit over 10% of the number Emergency Family Assistance Association (EFAA) averages monthly in Boulder

In October, Community Food Share supplied 4363 lbs. of food, St. Rita's donated 1195 lbs., the co-op 50 lbs. and 435 lbs. were purchased from B&F. In addition, Whole Foods donates bread each month.

In addition to food donations, the Food Pantry needs cash donations. The federal government Emergency Food & Shelter Program has supplied \$1,800 grants each of the past 6 years.

This year the government said the grant would be reduced to \$1,395 because of budget cuts. However, the grant usually arrives in March, and it has still not been received.

If you can help, please make your check out to the church, note "Food Pantry" in

the memo area and circle it to draw attention.

Food donations will be accepted anytime. In particular, on the first Sunday of each month the church invites worshipers to bring food to support those in need. The Food Pantry will accept most anything, for example:

black beans	peas	pineapples
chili beans	tomatoes	pasta
refritos	spinach	cereal (hot/cold)
peanut butter	asparagus	crackers
tuna	canned fruit	soups
canned veggies	peaches	pasta entrées
carrots	pears	(canned)

6,043?

lbs. of food through
the Food Pantry
in October

Lastly, the Food Pantry needs volunteers to help with food collection, distribution and and clean up. Most of the volunteer help comes from outside our church. If you can help, please call Judy Anderson at 303-258-3711.



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Our Extended Family

We had a thoughtful note come in from Ed and Eleanor Busch a couple of weeks ago, and Ed has generously given me permission to share it with readers of the Bell Tower.

We are a worldwide church family, and thus share the concerns which each church faces, whether it be NCPC's search for new leadership, or the ever present budget problems that each of our churches seem to face all the time.

Like almost all of the "summer" folk, Eleanor and I returned to Wellshire Presbyterian in Denver, to shift out of our "small church, know most folk" mode of the summer to the large congregation, big choir (and organ), large staff, and large set of activities for the coming year. As you know, Michael, that is quite a transition, and we look forward to, and enjoy, the opportunities that each of our two churches offers us.

Having been a Clerk of Session for many years, along with serving on several of our search committees for both interims and pastors, both Eleanor and I are very empathetic with what you are now doing. And our prayers go out to all of you as you begin this journey.

I certainly remember the last time NCPC went through this process, and how wonderful it all turned out, with Don and Pennie. I am certain that God will grant you (and us) a similar experience once again in the not too distant future. And we will look forward to seeing all of you again next summer.

The Busch's have been a part of our church family for longer than many of us who are now so actively involved, and it is especially valuable for us to have the perspective and the support they bring. Thank you, Ed and Eleanor, for taking the time to drop us a line.

We trust folks by now have made their transitions back to their winter homes, whether those are in Arizona or Alabama, Ohio or Oklahoma. If you'd like to share your thoughts from those distant lands, we'd love to hear from you as we dig out from our first major snowstorm of the season.

Michael O'Neill, ONEILL543@msn.com
for the Session

**Ask not what
your church can
do for you; ask
what you can do
for your church.**

Attributed to Cicero, John F. Kennedy and a Prophet in the Middle East circa 32 CE source unknown

Congregation Meeting December 6

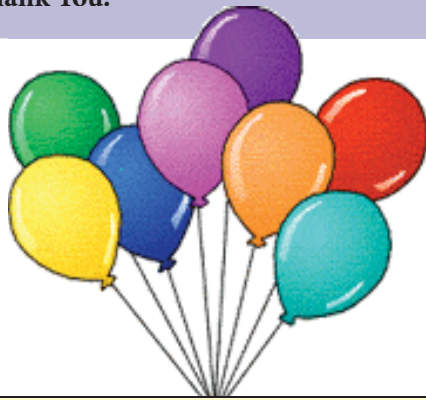
The session called a special meeting of the congregation for November 6 immediately after the worship service. The purpose of the meeting was to elect elders and a deacon.

Mark Haynes was elected to complete the term of Carolyn Armstrong (class of 2013).

In addition, Curt Will and Cinda Kochen were elected to the elder class of 2015. These terms will begin in January, 2012.

Lastly, Pat Ennor was elected to the deacon class of 2015.

What should we say to these folks? How about a **huge Thank You!**



November Birthdays!

1	Mary Commers	17	Cinda Kochen
1	Andy Hartman	24	Floy Walberg
2	Rosalie Bargmann	25	Dan Harrison
2	Esther Rings	25	Janice Rundle
5	Charlene Morrison	26	Eleanor Busch
5	Debbie Stevens	27	Pat Ennor
6	Dave Blanchard	27	Matthew Zeman
9	Hayden Hardt-Zeman	29	Peaches Piper
10	Russ Peterson	30	Charlie Allen
11	Kathleen Henningsen	30	Mark Haynes



November Anniversaries!

23	Bob & Cinda Kochen	24	Betty & Don Hunt
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Sorry for the November Newsletter delay!

The newsletter editor abandoned MS Word and acquired state of the art software and it's changed markedly in the twenty years since he last used it. That said, among a variety of interesting options, it does include the capability of creating interactive Portable Document Format (PDF) files. The challenge will be moving it to the printed version. ☺

Stewardship at NCPC

Each year at this time we begin planning for the next year in the life of our church, and the success of that planning depends in many ways on an estimate of what our resources will be. We arrive at that estimate by asking the members of our church family to commit themselves to a level of giving, in both financial terms and in terms of sharing of time and talents.

Responsible management for our church staff and programs requires us to live within our means, and we have a strong tradition of doing so at Nederland Community Presbyterian Church.

In some church families the stewardship program is treated as a campaign, a battle to be waged with specific targets identified and aggressive actions taken to meet those targets. That is not who we are.

In our church family we take a quiet, I daresay dignified approach, one that respects the lifestyle we choose to live in our beautiful mountain forests and valleys. Our program is short—lasting only a little over two weeks—and

Thoughts on Time and Talent . . . and a request

In addition to the stewardship letter that invites our financial support of the church, the envelope will contain a Time and Talent survey that asks each of us to return after marking how we will serve our community with brains and muscles. This is important information to return promptly to the stewardship committee. It helps committee chairs know who is willing to help with the worship service, fellowship time, Christian education and special events just to name a few.

Our treasurer, Judy Hubbard, accounts for all monies that come into and go out of the church following sound accounting practices. However, as the Time and Talent survey implies, a lot more goes into running a church than just the money.

is focused on two actions.

1. For three Sundays in early fall we share stories about what our church family means to us.
2. We send out a letter informing you that the time of sharing of resources has arrived and ask that you prayerfully consider your level of support and activity for the coming year.

On Sunday mornings in November you'll be hearing about these ideas for the next few weeks. And shortly you'll be receiving a letter asking you to participate in the necessary support of our church family.

We'd invite you to begin considering your support for your mountain community church, as we approach our second hundred years of nourishing the spiritual well-being of this place we call home.

Thank you,
Michael O'Neill
For the Session.

Unlike the money, there's no system in place to account for the time, mileage and unreimbursed expenses that are put into the church each month. For most it is viewed as a time, or love, tithe and an accounting of it is not sought or wanted.

Yet, without any accounting, the time it takes to run the church is a mystery that is at best a wild guess.

For example, to attend a recent Presbytery meeting (part of two days) took 19 hours including travel time. The point isn't to impress but to impress upon us that folks volunteer their time to church activities and there's no accounting of those gifts to the church—and most of us haven't got a clue.



Thoughts on Time and Talent . . . (cont.)

An Invitation: Pick four consecutive weeks and keep a record of all time spent on church activities including travel time, mileage to and from, as well as any other unreimbursed expenses. Put your completed four-week record in my box at the church (Clerk – Gary Ennor). I will tabulate the data and report in a future newsletter.

You may put your name on your time record if you wish. However, no names will be mentioned in any reports. *This isn't about scoring brownie points with God or one upping another congregant.* It's about having some idea what it takes to operate the church.

For example, until I talked to Judy Anderson last week, I had no clue how the numbers using the Food Pantry had grown or the amount of food (tonnage!) that it is distributing.

Questions or suggestions? See, call or e-mail me. – Gary Ennor



ADVENT MUSIC/CHOIR DIRECTOR

At its October meeting, the session approved finding and engaging a qualified person to direct music/choir for the Advent season and Christmas. A proposal is anticipated within the first week or two of November. The outcome will be announced during the worship service.

A New Metaphor? – Gary Ennor

Michael O'Neill introduced the annual stewardship mailing during the October 30 worship service. Included in his message was his intent not to call it a campaign. In our society that's a term associated with the military, politics, sports, business and . . . well, you get the point.

War and conflict metaphors are pervasive in our world. Benjamin Zander, the conductor of the Boston Philharmonic Orchestra, invites people to create and adopt different metaphors to live by—to begin a *movement* away from the war/conflict metaphors. He suggests using music and musical terms to generate new metaphors. That evokes thoughts of harmony, attunement, rapport, unity, proportion, symmetry, symphony, inclusion and *movement*.

Wouldn't it follow then that when we find ourselves in harsh and discordant circumstances, self-inflicted or not, it's our responsibility to work to quiet the cacophony and return the circumstance to a more unified, symmetrical orchestration? Each instrument and each voice has a well-timed and well tuned part to play.

Why would this be important or useful to us? Perhaps because the metaphors we use—often habitually and unconsciously without thinking about them—mold, shape, and direct our thoughts, words and actions.

When we use fighting words and metaphors, we generate conflict, anger and ultimately war. If we teach ourselves to use calming words and thoughtfully crafted musical metaphors, we can train ourselves to generate harmony, inclusivity and ultimately peace.

Orchestration instructs us that every participant has a part to play—timing is critical—and unwavering practice is essential. This concert is incomplete without each of us.

You might say it's like the words in that response we frequently sing in our worship services: "*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.*" Those few words speak volumes for what's missing and needed in this world today.

We need to do our part to really *experience* the spirit of the living God falling afresh on us. After all it's not God's job to step in and give us a tune up — but it is our responsibility to **attune up!** *And the spirit of the living God is falling afresh on us in every moment!* And we will become increasingly aware of this as we attune ourselves to the *Grand Concert*, discover our voice and instrument, and practice, practice, practice doing our part.

Anyone who has studied voice, learned to play a musical instrument or supplanted one habit with a better one, knows that it takes practice and a commitment to *doing* the work it takes. This is a realm of doing, not trying. As Yoda said to Luke Skywalker: "*No. Try not. Do, or do not. There is no try!*"

And there's the rub. It's far easier to talk about, write about, or try than it is to do.

But help is available. According to the stories, *it came upon a midnight clear* to us in a small, seemingly insignificant package, born in that *little town of Bethlehem* over 2,000 years ago—a Grant Concert Master—the *Maestro* of all Maestros!

More on that next month. In the meantime, let's find our voices, learn our instruments and join the *Grand Concert* . . . and support one another along the way!

(That's one person's initial offering towards a new metaphor. Now, we need yours to reach critical mass! Please share yours!)

PEAK TO PEAK CHORALE: COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Put December 9th on your calendar. At 7 pm the Peak to Peak Chorale will provide a Nederland community holiday concert at the church.

The Chorale, under the able direction of Ann Wyss and with the gifted accompaniment of Andre Mallinger, is made up of singers in our front-range mountain counties from Idaho Springs to Nederland and Golden to Central City.

The concert will present a mix of sacred and secular holiday songs followed by a Christmas-carol sing-along to close the concert. A dessert reception will follow the concert. Bring your voice and holiday spirit.

If you cannot attend the concert at our church, then bring friends or family along to one of the other concert locations:

Friday, December 2, Tommyknocker Community Candle Walk and Carol Sing with lighting of the City Tree at 6:30 PM, followed by a pot-luck dinner, with the concert at approximately 7:30.

Saturday, December 3, Coal Creek Canyon Improvement Association Hall, 2 PM; refreshments will be served

Wednesday, December 7, Rocky Mountain Evangelical Free Church, 7:00 PM; refreshments will be served

Saturday, December 10, Winter Arts Festival, Gilpin Recreation Center, 2:00 PM



Peak to Peak Chorale at St. James Methodist Church—Central City

And the Beat goes on



Ben Brantley sets up a rhythmic backbeat for a contemporary version of a traditional hymn.

Drumming for Worship

The Session approved the purchase of Congo drums for the musicians' use during worship services. Funding came from gift funds in our music fund that were giving by seasonal members of the congregation—part of our extended family—showing their continuing commitment to our mountain church. Thank You!

Property

Energy Efficiency — The Fellowship Hall ceiling received new blown-in insulation in October. This energy conserving work was made possible by a generous donor. *Halleluiah!*

Night Lights! Frank Lutz is exploring options for some better lighting to light the path from the Fellowship Hall to the bridge over the creek. This is an important safety issue for those attending evening meetings. Funding will come from the building budget.

PEOPLE IN OUR PRAYERS: Carolyn Armstrong, for speedy return to health; Gwen Burak's mother, Carole Lloyd; Michael Dexter, recovering from an on-the-job injury; Gloria Fraser, Blair Justice, Bob Kochen, Diana Nelson's mother, Carol Gregory, Rhonda Skeie, Janet Turnburke's mother, Jean Kluge, Vince Melander and all out friends in Oklahoma and N. Texas who were rattled recently by earthquakes!

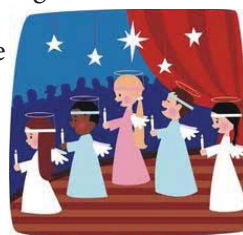
Also for those who are unable to worship with us on a regular basis, including Jane Bauder and Florence Gruchy; for those serving in the military; for leaders throughout the world; for our church in this time of transition.



Children's Christmas Pageant

The annual Children's Christmas Pageant is just around the corner. All children are invited to participate—even if they do not regularly attend NCP. If you know of any children who might like to be a part of our pageant, please pass these dates along to them.

Encourage them to attend.



All practices start at 10 AM, except for the day of the pageant—then we will practice at 9 AM, followed by pageant in the sanctuary at 10 AM.

The practice date are November 13, 20, 27 and December 4 and 11.

Transition updates

In addition to announcements in the monthly newsletter and the weekly Order of Worship, the Session will place up-to-date information as it becomes available in a 3-ring binder on the credenza at the back of the sanctuary. The pages will be organized in reverse order—the most recent information will be on the top sheet.

Interim Pastor — Session has approved searching for a part time interim pastor and outlined the specific areas of responsibility it wants covered. The proposal was submitted on November 1 to John Hess, our assigned representative from the Committee on Ministry (COM). The Session will work with COM to iron out any wrinkles.

Frustrated? Some complaints have been heard about how *s l o w* this transition

process is. Why can't it go faster? Is the Session, or are some of the elders, leaning on the plow?

This is just the Presbyterian way of proceeding in an orderly manner. There are many procedures that must be followed and it takes time to do things in the prescribed manner.

In the meantime, we will continue to have pulpit supply pastors lead our Sunday worship services. They are all well experienced and qualified pastors. Please welcome them to our church.

Patience Please!



Christmas Party at Highlands

Highlands Camp will host a Christmas party on December 3 from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.—including both a silent and live auction to help reduce the camp's mortgage debt.

A generous supporter will match 2 for 1 each dollar donated. That's right—\$2 for each \$1 donated up to \$100,000!

Consider adding this to your holiday event

schedule and gift giving.

R.S.V.P. at registrar@highlandscamp.org or phone 303-747-2888

Saturday, December 3, 2011 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Silent Auction 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Live Auction begins at 2:00 p.m.



Several people have asked about a book study. If you are interested in participating, put a note in the clerk's mailbox* at the church noting where, when and how you see it coming together. (Translation: You would plan to come)

* Or e-mail ennorg@towardhealth.org



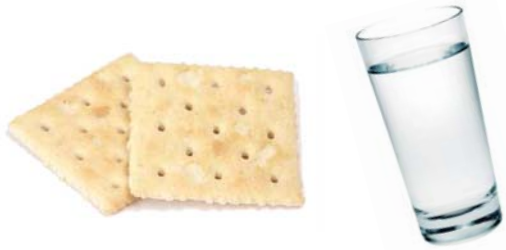
Jefferson St, Nederland, Colorado — November 2, 2011

Job Openings! — Correspondents-Photographers

Great pay!* Set your own hours. See you name in print. Need to attend church related events and meetings. Must have, and be handy, with a camera, i.e., point and shoot! Report stories and /or submit photos for this newsletter. Help keep the calendar accurate. Interested? Put note in the clerk's box or e-mail ennorg@towardhealth.org.

* (Same as what the church paid Brownlee Guyer to count attendance all those years— 1¢ per annum — if that)

Fellowship Hour Hosts — We all enjoy the fellowship hour immediately following worship. We are grateful to those who organize and provide the refreshments. Please take your turn hosting a Fellowship Hour. A sign up list is posted on the kitchen door. No one has signed up to do Fellowship for the rest of November! And, there's only one sign up for December!



The Annual Hanging of the Greens


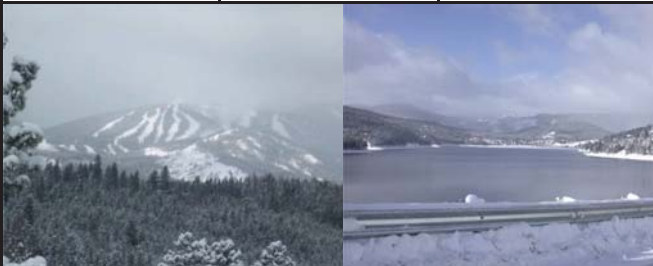
Save the date! December 4, 2001 is the Annual Hanging of the Greens at NCPC—a day of joy and fellowship.

Join us after church for a hardy potluck and hanging of the greens. We will decorate the church and the freshly cut tree. Thanks to the Lutz family for the generous donation of the native rocky mountain Christmas tree.

Bring your favorite holiday dish to share and your holiday spirit too. You will be able to make an advent wreath if you'd like or help the children decorate holiday cookies. Share the spirit of Christmas with us as we enter this joyous holiday season.



November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 The Palette Gallery 1:30–4:00 3:30 - 5:00 pm Music Lesson	3 10:00 am Food Pantry	4	5
6 10:00 Worship Service and Communion with Rev. Bruce McQueen 10:30 Church School	7	8 CWS 1:00–3:00 pm	9 The Palette Gallery 1:30–4:00 pm 3:30 - 5:00 pm Music Lesson	10	11 Veteran's Day	12
13 10:00 Worship Service with Frank Lutz 10:30 Church School	14	15	16 3:30 - 5:00 pm Music Lesson	17 6:30 pm Session	18	19
20 10:00 Worship Service with Rev. Dr. Joanne Dobie 10:30 Church School	21	22	23 3:30 - 5:00 pm Music Lesson	24 Thanksgiving	25	26
27 First Sunday of Advent 10:00 Worship Service Rev. Bruce McQueen 10:30 Church School Potluck moved to Dec. 4 December Newsletter Deadline	28	29	30 3:30 - 5:00 pm Music Lesson			



NEDERLAND COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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