

Community UCC
2650 Table Mesa Drive
Boulder CO 80305
303-499-9119
www.cuccboulder.org

Worship and Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Rev. Pete Terpenning, Minister
An Open and Affirming Congregation

MAY 2006



The ECHO

2006 GLBT RETREAT AT LA FORET:

As gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons we experience God's grace in a unique and transforming way – our experience and the freedom to share it is our gift to the body of Christ. Explore the GLBT experience in a safe environment, where sharing and vulnerability are honored. We will explore the past and the present and dream into the future. Join with other GLBT persons and straight allies for "Healing Our Spirit, Embracing Our Selves" at La Foret, May 19-21. Cost is \$135. Please register with the Conference Office by May 12. (Use pre-registration forms at www.rmucc.org, click the camps and retreats link).

BCAP EVENT:

In Conjunction with the International AIDS Candlelight Memorial, the Boulder County Interfaith AIDS Coalition will host an open house reception, candlelight walk, and vigil on May 21st. This year's theme is "Lighting the Path to a Brighter Future". The BCAP office, located at 2118 14th Street, will open at 6:45 pm for the reception. The silent candlelight walk will commence at BCAP at 7:30 pm and proceed through downtown Boulder to the AIDS Memorial Garden located on the south side of Arapahoe and 13th.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

The Sister Carmen Community Center in Lafayette would like a group from our church to come out on a monthly basis to help with various tasks such as their Thrift Shop and Food Bank. This would be a fun way to get to know people in our church and be useful in our world. If you are interested in participating occasionally or monthly, please contact Kris Zbranek at 303-499-2216.

CARING MINISTRIES

We now have three caring ministers helping members of the congregation with such needs as transportation, family support and caring visits. An active and intentional prayer community will begin in May. Any interested person can participate in this new ministry; one doesn't need to be a trained Caring Minister. If you are interested in joining, come to the organizational meeting after church on May 7th. Call Anne Carson with questions. (303-449-7330)

From Thich Nhat Hahn (Buddhist priest from Vietnam; author of many books about creating a spiritual-centered life)

"The miracle is not to walk on burning coals
or in thin air, or on the water.

The miracle is just to walk on the earth.
You breath in; you become aware of the
fact that you are alive.

You are still alive and walking on this
beautiful planet.
The grandest of all miracles is to be alive."

Solar Power at CUCC

Last week the Church Council voted to go ahead with the plan to install solar panels at the church to create electricity. Some of you will remember that we had a presentation from Namaste Solar Electric Co. and a long discussion of this at the Annual Meeting of the Congregation in January of this year. That meeting voted to empower the Council to proceed with the installation of panels if they (the Council) thought enough money was raised and that it was the financially sound thing to do. The proposal presented at that meeting was to pay \$6,000.00 out of the Good Idea Fund (Catherine Van Gundy Fund) and raise the rest of the cost (about \$24,000) by selling the panels to congregation members and friends at the cost of \$625 per panel for three years. Namaste would be paid by taking a loan from the United Church of Christ Cornerstone Fund (who holds our mortgage) and pay it back as people pay for their panels over th next three years.

The Earth Action Team, who initiated this proposal, with the leadership of John Graham and John Putnam, have successfully sold 18 panels and more everyday, so the Council decided we could go ahead with the plan and voted to initiate the loan process wiht Cornerstone and buy the panels from Namaste. The Earth Action Team did get other bids, but Namaste was the lowest. In fact, they have even come down on their price \$2,000 and we may only have to take \$4,000 out of the Good Idea Fund.

The panels we are getting are Photovoltaic panels, which convert Sunlight to Electrical Energy. We are installing a 9.8 kW solar system which will create about 1,176 kW hours of electric power per month. At today's prices, this will save the church \$1,000 a year. Once the system is paid for, this savings will be used to pay back the Good Idea Fund so it can fund other projects. In the long run we hope it will help the budget. But regardless of cost savings, the real benefit will be to do the ecologically responsible thing and create energy with solar instead of fossil fuels.

With the new system in place under Proposition 37, with Xcel Energy, the power we create in excess of what we use can be sold back to Xcel. We are also receiving rebates on the cost of installation worth \$45,000. (total actual costs to Namaste for installation are around \$75,000).

The 9.8 KW system we are installing means 800 square feet of photovoltaic panels (a 21 X 31 foot rectangle) to be installed in front of the church for maximum solar exposure. The roof had too much shade, unfortunately, but perhaps we can put hot water panels there someday. The panel being so prominently displayed is a blessing and a challenge. On one hand, it will be a message to the community that this church is seeking to be ecologically responsible. On the other hand, it will be a challenge to make them more attractive. Currently, we are hoping to use wooden fencing materials, with plantings (possibly a living fence of climbing plants).

The energy saved by installing these panels will be equivalent to planting 1,100 trees and the amount of fossil fuel saved each month will be the save as driving a car 2,900 miles. We may well be the first, or at least one of the first UCC churches to choose to create our electricity by solar power, Hopefully, the panels in the front yard will be a witness to our community of the importance of alternative energy. Information on donating money for a panel or a portion of a panel is available each Sunday at church or from the church office. So far, our youngest donor is an elementary school student who is donating 1/16th of a panel. With this project we hope to do something good for our planet, be an example of good stewardship of God's creation to our community and even save the church some money!

Pete

ECHO DEADLINE:

The deadline for the **June 2006** edition of the CUCC newsletter, *The Echo*, is **Sunday, May 28, 2006** Please get articles to Susan Carter Ruskell (NEW OFFICIAL EMAIL ADDRESS: newsletter@cuccboulder.org) no later than **3 p.m.** that day. Early submissions are appreciated. PLEASE NOTE: The next deadline will be **June 25** for the **July/August** newsletter so please plan ahead to get articles and dates for August & early September into the newsletter.

DO YOU HAVE A COUPLE OF HOURS ONCE A MONTH?:

The CUCC office is looking for a few people who would be willing to take on the task of folding, placing mailing labels and sorting the Echo each month. It would take about 2 hours for 2 or 3 people on the first Thursday or Friday of each month,. Linda or Sue would give you a training session. The job is not difficult. Please call the office if you are interested. Thanks.

CAMPUS MINISTER POSITION OPEN AT CU:

It is a 12 month position at half time. Email Ms. Suzanne Dysard at Suzanne.dysard@att.net or call her at 303-530-0411. The CUCC office has details about the position.

BULLETIN INFORMATION:

Please get bulletin announcements to Sue Hagadorn and/or Linda Krumpeck. E-mail is preferred: office@cuccboulder.org or call the church office (please have announcements written out before calling) 303-499-9119.

CHURCH GARAGE SALE:

As you do your organizing and re-evaluating of what you own, set aside items to donate to this worthy event (to be held later this spring, watch for details). Someone's junk is someone else's treasure, you know. Kris Zbranek is coordinating this fund raiser.

COMMUNITY UCC:

Minister: Rev. Pete Terpenning
Administrative Assistants: Sue Hagedorn & Linda Krumpeck
C.E. Coordinator: Karen Sterner-Howe
Moderator: Frank Ciskovsky
Narrator: Vicki Tonski
Scribe: Jayson Webb
Treasurer: Carl Love & Kathy Rudge
Financial Secretary: John & Vicky Graham

TAIZE REPORT:

Taize services continue to grow a bit and their success have led us to continue having them through June 4th. We plan to take the summer off, but Taize will be back by popular demand in September. As far as we know at this point, Taize will continue to be at 8:30 am on Sundays next Fall! Many thanks to the Taize Planning Committee who have planned and led these services each week since the beginning of Advent: Anne Carson, Harriott Quinn, Julie Parmenter, Pete Terpenning and Lu Walters!

BIBLES FOR THE SANCTUARY:

The Spiritual Life Commission decided that it would be a good addition to our worship if there were Bible available for those who wish to follow along with the readings and/or other meditative use during worship. We have therefore purchased 20 Bibles and plan to place them in a small bookshelf at the rear of the church where parishioners can easily pick one up on their way into worship. If you would like to donate the cost of one or more of the Bibles as a memorial or honor to someone, we will record the memorial or honor inside the cover of the Bible.

The cost of each Bible is \$20. Just contact the Church office to donate a Bible.

APPLIED SUICIDE INTERVENTION SKILLS TRAINING AUGUST 24-26, 2006

In August our Church is hosting a national United Church of Christ event for the UCC Coalition for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Concerns. Dr. Tim Brown, a member of our church, and Coordinator for the UCC Coalition of LGBT is organizing this event to train professionals and non-professionals how to recognize suicide risks. There will be a focus on LGBT youth/young adults. For the first 24 applicants the cost will be only \$25 due to a special grant underwriting this training seminar. The fee includes 2 1/2 days of training, all participants materials, a certificate of completion, a Suicide Intervention Handbook, supplemental packet of materials on LGBT youth suicide and refreshments both days. Registration forms available from our Church office. Questions? call 720-941-1062 or go online at yyacoord@uccCoalition.org.

LYNDA FREUND COMPLETES HER TIME AT CUCC:

At the end of May, Lynda Freund will be finishing her internship as Associate Pastor of our congregation. Lynda is graduating from Iliff Theological Seminary this June. Lynda has made an enormous, positive impact on our congregation. She has preached and participated in leadership on many committees and Commissions. Particularly, she has been active with organizing and teaching Confirmation, the Caring Ministry Steering Committee and training, helping reorganize the Youth Ministry Team and the Middle School Youth Group. We will miss her work as Intern, but luckily not Lynda, as she is a member of this congregation and will still be around. We will be honoring Lynda on Sunday, May 28th! However, she will see the year through to June 4th when the Sunday School season ends.

MASSIVE YOUTH FUNDRAISER!!!!!!

The youth will hold a bake sale and car wash on May 21 to raise funds for the Western Regional Youth Event in Colorado Springs this summer. Please bring your wallet, your appetite, and your dirty vehicle!

MONTHLY POTLUCKS:

The **first Sunday of every month** we have an All Church Potluck. The **fourth Sunday of the month** is our GLBT Fellowship Potluck (Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Straight Allies are all welcome—no agenda, just fellowship!).

C.E. NEWS!

June 4th - Last day of Sunday School

On Pentecost Sunday this year we will have our closing Sunday School program and honors Sunday. Classes will be making final presentations and children and teachers will be honored for their participation! Following Worship will be an all Church Potluck with games for children.

FOR SENIOR HIGH YOUTH:

Beginning Sunday morning, **April 23**, there will be a new offering for Senior High Youth - during the worship hour. A different movie clip, and a "life of faith" theme, will be the source for group discussions, each Sunday. Retired minister, and new CUCC member, Jim Luallen will host this program utilizing a published curriculum titled "Reel To Real," (available through Cokesbury).

KAREN STERNER/HOWE RESIGNS:

As most everyone now knows, we regret that Karen Sterner-Howe, the Christian Education Director is resigning, effective June 4, 2006. For personal reasons, Karen has made the difficult decision to resign and seek work that will fit the schedule of her family better and hopefully produce more income. Karen will not be leaving the Congregation, however, and plans to keep her membership here. She says she is looking forward to worshipping as a regular member! We will be honoring Karen for her work on Sunday, May 28th!

The CE Commission (Pat Gilbert, Chair) and the Council have begun the process of replacing Karen and are working on a job description and timetable for her replacement. There will be opportunities for church members and parents to have input into this process as we progress. The first opportunity for input will be the CE Commission meeting on Monday, May 15th at 7 pm at church. These are open meetings and all are welcome.

BOOK LAUNCH & SIGNING:

Elizabeth Wrenn's novel, *Around the Next Corner* (NAL/Penguin)--about love, marriage, and a guide dog--will be at the Boulder Bookstore, 1107 Pearl St., Boulder, CO on **June 6, at 7:30 pm**. She cordially invites you and your friends, family and book groups to this celebration. For more info about the book, please see my website, <http://www.elizabethwrenn.com>

May/June 2006

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thur</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
7 8:30 Taize Service 10 a.m. worship Potluck after worship	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Happy Mother's Day 8:30 Taize Service 10 a.m. worship	15	16	17	18 6:30-8:30 p.m. Caring Ministry Meeting	19	20
21 10 a.m. worship Youth bake sale & car wash fundraiser!	22	23	24	25 Community Table 3:30-5:30 pm	26	27
28 Echo Deadline 8:30 Taize Service 10 a.m. worship Potluck after church	29	30	31	June 1	2	3
4 Last day of Sunday School 10 a.m. worship Potluck after church	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 10 a.m. worship	12	13	14	15 6:30-8:30 p.m. Caring Ministry Meeting	16	17
18 Happy Father's Day 10 a.m. worship	19	20	21	22 Community Table 3:30-5:30 pm	23	24