

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

**JUNE 2004**



**The ECHO**

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#### **PATIO COMMITTEE:**

At last year's semi-annual meeting we voted to set the priority that the next major landscaping project (after the Holly Bridge and paths) was to build a patio out the east side of the fellowship hall. There is a little money left from the Organ Project that the Council (with the permission of the donors) has allocated to the patio project - but we will need more. So begins another long range project. We will need donations, of course, probably some fundraisers and lots of volunteers to help design and develop the project and put it into execution. If you are moved to be part of this project, see Pete or Sue Levy to find out how you can get involved.

#### **LIBERTY RUN & FESTIVAL OF RIGHTS:**

**July 4, 2004 - 8 am to Noon** - Washington Park  
Join the runners, walkers, and their families on July 4, 2004, for the third annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Liberty Run & Festival of Rights. SIGN UP ONLINE TODAY! See the ACLU website, [www.aclu-co.org](http://www.aclu-co.org), call 303-777-5482, ext. 100, or email [info@aclu-co.org](mailto:info@aclu-co.org) for more information on the event and for volunteer opportunities.

The 4<sup>th</sup> of July Liberty Run & Festival of Rights features a "kid's fun run" kickoff sprint, a four-mile digitally-timed run, followed by a one-mile walk - a perfect way for the family to kick off the holiday! Children's games and activities, the reading of the Declaration of Independence, a "GraFFREEtI" wall, featuring drawings and/or writings by students of all ages of "What Freedom Means," traditional music, together with prizes for top runners, patriotic costumes, food and beverages - constitute a fun-filled, inspirational experience.

#### **FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:**

Here are some changes concerning fellowship. There will be a bulletin board with upcoming events to the left of the stairs going up to the C.E. classrooms. As an event is drawing near there will be verbal and printed announcements on Sunday. I will be trying to plan one event per month. I am starting a fund to purchase a sound system and large screen T.V. that will be stored in an armoire like cabinet in the fellowship hall. There would also be a microphone for speaking. Any contributions would be appreciated.

Right now the next event is "Cabaret" at the Boulder's Dinner Theater. Sunday matinee **July 25th**. Seating begins at 12:15. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions on anything concerning fellowship please contact Frank @303-678-8426, [fjcgiskovsky@juno.com](mailto:fjcgiskovsky@juno.com)

#### **SAVE YOUR STUFF!**

Garage Sale -Early August!

Many people have been asking if we are having a garage sale and when. The answer is that yes, we decided to have a garage sale, and Kris Zbranek has graciously agreed to be in charge (again). She will need some help, of course, and there will be others to thank later. The exact date has not been set, but it will most probably be one of the first two Saturdays in August. So start putting aside garage sale items and saving stuff to sell!

**Pete's Letter:**

What is the Rocky Mountain Conference of the UCC?

I often get questions about how the United Church of Christ governs itself as a denomination. How is it different from the Methodists or Presbyterians, etc...? I am attending the Rocky Mountain Conference of the UCC this **June 11-12** in Ft. Collins and need a delegate to attend, so I thought I'd use this letter to give a quick lesson in UCC polity and perhaps someone will be inspired to be a delegate!

It goes back to the Pilgrims and their determination to separate themselves from the Church of England and the authority of the Bishops and Priests. Churches such as The Church of England, Roman Catholics or Methodists have what you might call top down authority structures. The authority to set doctrine or make decisions begins at the top and is passed down to laypeople. Pastors are appointed by the hierarchy, doctrine is determined at the upper levels and church buildings are owned by the denomination. The separatists believed that each person had the power to choose their own doctrine, and that leadership should be elected from below. It was more of a bottom up authority structure. They left the Church of England and many came to New England where they established churches with "congregational polity". This meant that each church was independent, elected their pastors, owned their own buildings and believed in non-doctrinal communities (that is, each person ultimately determines what they believe). Individual churches were therefore the heart of the denomination and voluntarily "associated" themselves with the larger denomination. Originally this was the New England Congregational Church.

Other churches that came together to form the UCC were the Christian Church and Evangelical and Reformed Church. These denominations also had autonomy for their churches and similar polity. (Though the E&R Church was a slightly more connectional system)

Our church is autonomous, therefore. The congregation voted to join the United Church of Christ and associate themselves with other UCC's in Denver. We are associated with the Denver Metropolitan Association of the UCC. Metro Denver Assoc. is in turn associated with the Rocky Mountain Conference of the UCC. This is a regional association of UCC churches which in turn is part of the General Synod of the UCC, an international association of churches and instrumentalities of the church.

When we send delegates from our church to the Metro Denver Assoc. or the Rocky Mountain Conference we are participating in a democratically run organization which makes decisions for the denomination. If a major policy, financial or theological issue is to be decided, it is done by churches, associations, conferences and the Synod democratically. Typically, Rocky Mountain Conference meetings are a gathering of pastors and lay people who decide the business of the UCC in this region, reconnect with each other, vote on pronouncements and policies and gather for worship and fellowship. It usually lasts, as it does this year, for more than one day, lasting from Friday through Sunday. It's hard to find the time, but I am always glad I have gone!

Julie Parmenter and I will be attending on Friday and Saturday. We can take one other delegate and a youth delegate (under 18). Call me if you are inspired to attend!

Yours in Peace,  
Pete

**NATIONAL GATHERING OF THE UCC COALITION:**

There is a special event taking place in Denver this year as the UCC Coalition of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender persons is having their national gathering at the University of Denver this summer on **July 7- 10**. There is a wonderful program of speakers, worship and workshops planned. If you are interested in attending all or part of this gathering, information is available from our church office or the Rocky Mountain Conference, UCC office in Denver.

**ECHO INFORMATION:**

The deadline for the **July/August 2004** Echo is Sunday, **June 20, 2004**. Please email articles to Susan Carter Ruskell no later than 3 p.m. that day.

**Please Note:** This will be the last one until at least late August.

**Help Needed:** Please contact Susan Carter Ruskell (ruskell@pobox.com or 303-403-8593) if you would be willing to cover her newsletter editing duties in August and September, while she's on "maternity leave." A template for each month can be provided (in MS Publisher, MS Word, OpenOffice, or StarOffice). Otherwise the July/August might be the last one until sometime in September or October!

**BULLETIN INFORMATION:**

Please get bulletin announcements to Tom and Karen Sterner/Howe by **5 p.m. on Wednesdays**. E-mail is preferred (karen5757@earthlink.net) or call (please have announcements written out before calling) 720-890-7217.

**COMMUNITY UCC:**

Minister: Rev. Pete Terpenning  
C.E. Coordinator: Karen Sterner-Howe  
Moderator: Sue Levy  
Narrator: Cathy Russell  
Scribe: Eric Hansford (until June)  
Treasurer: Kathy Rudge  
Financial Secretary: Kamilla Macar  
Nominations: Vicky Graham

### **PEOPLE'S WALK FOR HOUSING JUSTICE:**

This summer a group of people will be walking through the entire state of Colorado to bring focus to the issue of the need for low cost housing in Colorado. They will be coming through Boulder via Longmont on **June 17th**. At 5:00 pm Boulderites are invited to join them at 30th and Valmont and walk the last leg of the walk to St. John's Episcopal downtown. There will be food and a chance to talk with the walkers. We are hoping many people will walk and get people to sponsor them and thus focus attention on Housing Justice! This is being organized statewide by Berkley Rich of First Plymouth UCC and Housing Justice and locally by Thistle Housing and other concerned citizens. We need someone to organize a delegation from our church. See Pete for info.

### **CONFIRMATION 2004:**

The last stage of confirmation has been reached for 8 young people in our church. All have participated in Uriah Bueller's Confirmation Class over the last three years. (some for all three years, and some for less since they just moved here) The last stage is a Spring time class with Pete Terpenning, a retreat and individual meetings with Pete. They then make their final decision about Confirmation of their baptism. They can: 1) decide to join this local church and confirm their baptism into membership in the UCC 2) decide to confirm their baptism as Christians and join the church universal (but not this local church) 3) decide to not be confirmed, but be affirmed by this local church in their faith Journey. Participating in this year's class were: Brenda Cole, Rose Eppinger, Julia Hansford, Shannon Leftwich, Samantha Levy, Betsy Keith, Rose Keith and Luke Shuttlesworth.

### **MEN'S GROUP REPORT:**

Men's Service Day - Saturday, **June 5th**  
Again this month the men are gathering at The Egg and I in Basemar Shopping center for breakfast at 7:30 am and then heading out for two hours of work at the homes of some of our members. This a great chance for fellowship with other men (over 16 unless accompanied by a guardian) and do some service for others. We will be painting, doing some yard work and other minor repairs ( though one team recently cracked up and removed an entire patio!!) Join us Saturday!

### **OUTREACH NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES:**

CUCC has been asked to cosponsor a family from Somalia through the Ecumenical Refugee Service. We would be working jointly with 1<sup>st</sup> Plymouth Church in Denver. Our support would consist of providing necessities such as clothing, canned food, and furniture. 1<sup>st</sup> Plymouth has a town home available in which the family will be living. Additional details will follow as we are in dialog with a representative from ERS.

Scott Rudge is planning Habitat for Humanity work days for this year. Information on the projects will follow in future Echo articles.

### **MUSINGS ON OUR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - Karen SternerHowe**

I am continually amazed at how the earth continues to rotate around the sun, as we find ourselves again at the edge of summer. We have just finished our first year using the Rotation Model for Sunday School. I am pleased. While not perfect (though the many who have volunteered are darn close!) I believe it is a good blueprint that we can tweak here and there. I already have some modifications rolling around in my brain, and the Christian Education Commission has set aside our June meeting for evaluation. Also, in the hopes of getting more of the congregation's view of it, there will be a survey form available in the June 6th bulletin regarding our church's education program. June 6th will be quite a celebration with student recognition, Sunday School leader recognition, confirmation, Youth Sunday, and Bibles given to our third graders. Please come celebrate our young ones! I have the Summer Sunday School Sign-up Sheet available. Spots are going quickly, so please take a moment to grab a Sunday morning or two with the kids. It's fun, informal, and (almost!) anything goes! See Karen SternerHowe if you have any questions.

### **JAN HEUSMAN RETURNS:**

In case you haven't heard, Jan Heusman is moving back to Boulder! Her friend Bill is flying down to Arizona with his father and they will drive her car and a moving truck back up to Boulder on June 14. They may need help unloading late on the 15th and/or early on the 16th.

Jan's friend, Claire, found a woman, Kate Montgomery, to live with Jan. Kate will help out with the gardening (Jan can't wait to get back to her garden!), house care, and daily life stuff. Kate is a Naturopathic Doctor, a Certified Respiratory Therapist, Certified Sports Massage Therapist and a safety and wellness consultant, so she should be a wonderful companion for Jan. The church community could help by giving Jan rides to medical and other appointments, as well as ensuring that she has an active social life! Her health has been up and down, but she is very much looking forward to building up her strength walking on sidewalks and swimming at Mapleton. Her phone number has remained the same: 303-494-0417.

### **YOUTH SUNDAY JUNE 6, 2004:**

We have a celebration of youth taking place on June 6th. Uriah Bueller's Confirmation Class will be leading the service and we will be giving out awards to teachers and students who participated in the Sunday School this year. We are also celebrating Confirmation Sunday as those young people who have completed the confirmation process of our church will be confirmed and join the church or be affirmed in their faith journeys.

A special congratulations to high school seniors Andrew Carson and Eric Hansford!

# June 2004

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thur</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<p><b>6</b></p> <p>8:30 meditation Communion 10 a.m. worship</p>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
					Rocky Mtn Conference in Ft. Collins	
<p><b>13</b></p> <p>8:30 meditation <b>9 a.m. outreach</b></p>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
				People's Walk for Housing Justice		
<p><b>20</b></p> <p>10 am worship <b>Echo Deadline</b></p>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
				Community Table 4:30-6:30		
<p><b>27</b></p> <p>8:30 meditation 10 a.m. worship</p>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>July 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<p><b>4</b></p> <p>8:30 meditation 10 a.m. worship Liberty Run and Festival of Rights</p>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
				UCC Coalition Gathering @ University of Denver		
<p><b>11</b></p> <p>8:30 meditation 10 a.m. worship</p>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>