

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

**MARCH 2005**



**The ECHO**

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### FROM THE EARTH ACTION TEAM:

The National Council of Churches has issued an "Open Letter to Church and Society of the United States". They call for the churches to acknowledge that we face an ecological crisis as well as a theological crisis.

They call the churches to respond to these crises and act:

*"For too long, we, our Christian brothers and sisters, and many people of good will have relegated care and justice for the Earth to the periphery of our concerns. This is not a competing "program alternative", one "issue" among many. In this most critical moment in Earth's history, we are convinced that the central moral imperative of our time is the care for Earth as God's creation.*

*Churches, as communities of God's people in the world, are called to exist as representatives of the loving Creator, Sustainer, and Restorer of all creation. We are called to worship God with all our being and actions, and to treat creation as sacred. We must engage our political leaders in supporting the very future of this planet. We are called to cling to the true Gospel – for "God so loved the cosmos" (John 3:16)" – rejecting the false gospels of our day.*

*We believe that the caring for creation must undergird, and be entwined with all other dimensions of our churches' ministries. We are convinced that it is no longer acceptable to claim to be "church" while continuing to perpetuate, or even permit, the abuse of Earth as God's creation. Nor is it acceptable for our corporate and political leaders to engage in "business as usual" as if the very future of life-support systems were not at stake."*

*In acting on this call we affirm the following norms for church and society: Justice, Sustainability, Bioresponsibility, Humility, Generosity, Frugality, Solidarity, and Compassion."*  
The full text of the letter can be found at [www.nccusa.org/news](http://www.nccusa.org/news)

Thanksgiving from "Earth Prayers"

"We give-away our thanks to the earth  
which gives us our home

We give-away our thanks to the rivers and lakes  
which give-away their waters

We give-away our thanks to the trees  
which give-away fruit and nuts.

We give-away our thanks to the wind  
which brings rain to water the plants

We give-away our thanks to the sun  
who gives-away warmth and light

All beings on earth: the trees, the animals, the wind  
and the river give-away to one another  
so all is in balance

We give-away our promise to begin to learn  
how to stay in balance with all the earth.

Delores La Chapelle

**Pete's Letter:****Simple Living - Lenten Study**

What is simple living? I realized when I started preparing for the Lenten Study this year that there is some disagreement about what it is we are talking about. Is it getting rid of the clutter around your house? Is it time management? Is it living a more sustainable lifestyle? Is it learning to live below your income? Is it all about Eco-justice? Is it giving up your own resources to share with others? Yes. It seems to be all those things. People write books about simple living and come to classes on the subject for all kinds of reasons.

Yesterday, I attended a workshop on simple living led by a seminary student at Iliff named Sean McRoberts. I may have him come speak to our Thursday evening class before we are done. But for Sean, simple living was mostly about living on less income. He did an experiment his last year in college in which he tried to live on \$9,000 a year, which is the poverty line in Iowa. His experiment led him into a soul searching year of just what he really valued and what was essential to his life, physically, emotionally and spiritually. He learned he could live on a lot less than he thought, and be very happy. Happier, in fact. Sean shared a graph with us that he got from a professor who studied income versus happiness. The vertical side of the graph is happiness and the horizontal is money. The graph shows that as income rises, at first there is a big increase in happiness. Lower income people who begin to have more resources for food, housing, entertainment, etc... at first gain great benefits in happiness. However, the really interesting thing is that as the income continues to rise, the happiness factor levels out. After a point, more money ceases to affect how happy people are and in fact, as income rises too high, the happiness factor decreases. People actually get less happy once they reach the highest levels of income.

Living simply does mean to study one's budget very carefully. But that is by no means all that simple living is about. How one uses one's time is a big part of it too. We must be careful that we are budgeting enough time for doing those things that are really important to us. Are we spending too much time proportionally on our commute to work, for example? Perhaps we need to consider the radical action of getting a new job closer to home, or moving closer to work. Are there things we can get rid of that are taking up too much space in our lives physically or emotionally. One memorable chapter in a book on simple living is entitled, "Sell the damn boat". Is there some toy you have been storing in your garage for years but seldom use? Does it take up more than it deserves of your time and money? Get rid of it.

I thought when I started looking into this that it would be mostly about sustainable living - living responsibly on our small planet. Though this is not the only part of simple living to consider, it is important. Deciding, for example, to get a bus pass or riding your bike more often (or both) might save the earth some burning of fossil fuel, and it has the added benefit of slowing down your frantic schedule. If that solution doesn't work in your life, there may be other things you can do to better reduce, reuse and recycle.

One participant in a workshop I attended said her main contribution to simple living is helping elderly people in her church clean out their closets. The clutter in our lives of unused and underused possessions greatly complicates our lives and makes it hard for me to walk through my garage. One thing we can start to do is get rid of this stuff (in responsible ways, of course). One book recommends getting rid of something each week until the clutter is reduced. When you buy new clothes, consider getting rid of the same number of old ones.

In the Lenten Study group on **Thursdays at 7:00 pm** at church during Lent, we are exploring what it means to live simply. I caution you, it is not always a comfortable subject for it gets down into the roots of what we value, what makes us feel secure and how we spend our money. But it makes for great discussions. Join us - it is eye opening.

In Peace,

Pete

**ECHO DEADLINE:**

The deadline for the April edition of the CUCC newsletter, *The Echo*, is **Sunday, March 20**. Please get articles to Susan Carter Ruskell (ruskell@pobox.com) no later than **3 p.m.** that day. Early submissions are appreciated.

**NOTICE ANYTHING MISSING?**

Do you notice gaps in the information available in the newsletter? If so, please send the information to the editor (Susan Carter Ruskell, ruskell@pobox.com). I would rather get the information multiple times and edit for the most complete information than leave out important news about what is going on at CUCC. And don't wait until close to a deadline — early submissions actually make my job easier!

**"Don't let your worries get the best of you, remember, Moses started out as a basket case"**

**"When you get to your wit's end, you'll find God lives there."**

**BULLETIN INFORMATION:**

Please get bulletin announcements to Kathy Leftwich, our Administrative Assistant. E-mail is preferred ucochrist3@qwest.net or call the church office (please have announcements written out before calling) 303-499-9119.

**GROCERY COUPONS:**

If you have not purchased these coupons in the past, please consider doing so. You pay face value for the coupon (or gift card) and the church gets 5% of that face value for our budget. See Carl Love to purchase coupons for most of your favorite area grocery stores, including Safeway, King Soopers, Vitamin Cottage & Wild Oats!

**COMMUNITY UCC:**

Minister: Rev. Pete Terpenning  
 Administrative Assistant: Kathy Leftwich  
 C.E. Coordinator: Karen Sterner-Howe  
 Youth Group Leader: Jamie Paul  
 Moderator: Sue Levy  
 Narrator: Cathy Russell  
 Scribe: Kathy Leftwich  
 Treasurer: Kathy Rudge  
 Financial Secretary: John & Vicky Graham  
 Nominations: John Putnam

## YOUTH GROUP:

The youth group has moved its meetings to right after church and coffee hour. We meet in the youth room beside Pete's office, and would be glad to have any new high school students join us from about **11:15 - 12:45 every Sunday**. If you would like to help the youth with any of the following activities, please call Jamie at 720-490-3400, or email her at [Jamie@dandilion.org](mailto:Jamie@dandilion.org).

We are also looking for volunteers to help chaperone and drive the group on our summer work trip to Northern New Mexico and Arizona from **June 12 - 19**. We will be doing service work, camping, and backpacking. If you love road trips, high schoolers, the outdoors and physical labor AND you have access to a min-van, you are just what we are looking for!

The Youth will be raising money for their trip with a pancake breakfast, car-lot car wash, and peanut butter easter egg sales! Look for these exciting opportunities for fun and fellowship, as well as a chance to support our youth in the coming months! We hope to keep trip costs to an absolute minimum so that all our youth can participate!

### YOUTH GROUP CALENDAR:

**March 6** – regular meeting after church (Julia has devotions / focus) begin taking egg orders to fund raise for work trip

**March 13** – regular meeting after church continue egg orders after church

**March 20** – service meeting, possibly prepare eggs for egg hunt after church/ make peanut butter eggs for work trip fundraiser. This meeting will be longer than usual

**March 27** – Easter, no regular youth, set up egg hunt in morning, before church, deliver eggs after church during coffee hour.

**April 3** – regular meeting after church

**April 10** – social meeting bowling and pizza after church Back at church by 3 pm, parking lot car wash during church to raise money for work trip

**April 17** – Host potluck and games for church family after church

**April 24** – service meeting Denver Inner City Parish, details to follow

**May 1** – social / service meeting (May Day Basket Breakfast – meet at church at 7 AM, create and deliver may day baskets to older members of the congregation)

**May 8** – no regular meeting, Mothers Day, host Mothers' Day refreshments, host Mothers' Day Service

**May 15** – host potluck and games for church family after church

**May 22** – pancake breakfast before church to raise money for work trip

**May 29** – off for Memorial Day weekend

**June 12-19**- Work trip to northern New Mexico / Arizona for service on the reservations along with Sierra Vista UCC youth, and possibly others (Tentatively the 12 – 18th of June)

**June 26** – tubing party and end of year bar -b-que

**July 31** – night hike (all other weekends in July we will be on summer vacation)

**DAY BEFORE SCHOOL** water world day. (Details to follow)

**August 20 – 21** – Fall kick-off lock in at church

**"Forbidden fruits create many jams."**

## CONFIRMATION REPORT:

Pete is once again teaching his final part of the Confirmation process (three years) this spring with 9 young people participating. Classes are Sunday mornings at **8:30 am -9:30am on first and third Sundays**. There will also be a confirmation retreat to be announced. We will be working toward confirmation Sunday in late May or early June.

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

March will have us exploring the "Conversion of Saul" as well as a Palm Sunday presentation. Rarely a dull moment around here! I do believe children and adults are learning and having fun. This is a good community in which to learn and share. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or suggestions.

Karen SternerHowe  
Christian Education Director

## GIVING UP WORRY FOR LENT:

This is not a joke... Craig Martin gave up worrying for Lent some years ago, and found it a great gift to his life. So this year he is doing it again and Pete Terpenning decided to join him. We decided to open this to others and meet weekly to discuss our progress and share the struggle. Sort of a Worriers Anonymous meeting. We have had some great discussions. Join us, it's not too late to give up worrying this year. We are meeting at Craig and Diane's house on **Saturdays at 8:00 am** to share how the non worrying is going. Look in the church directory for the address or call for directions from the church office. All are welcome...but don't 'worry if you miss a week...obviously.

**"Opportunity may knock once, but temptation bangs on your front door forever."**

## ADULT C.E. OPPORTUNITIES:

### Adult Confirmation (Foundations of Faith) 7:30 Thursdays

Some parents of this year's confirmands expressed the desire to learn what their kids were learning in confirmation class. So every other week this spring, on the Thursday after the Confirmation class meets on Sunday, I will teach the same material I covered with the kids on Thursday. Generally, this will be the first and third weeks of the month. We will cover biblical interpretation, church history, ethics, theology, non-Christian faiths, spiritual disciplines (yoga, meditation), and other things I can't remember at the moment. The next class is this Thursday, Feb. 24th, then March 10th and 24th, April 7 and 21, May 12 and 26 and perhaps one in June. We are a small group so far, so come join the discussion. No degrees will be awarded at the end, sorry.

### New Member Exploration

Pete is leading a New Member Exploration group this month. The purpose to explore what it means to be a member of the United Church of Christ. There is no commitment involved in coming to the class, in fact, long time members sometimes attend to learn more about the UCC. We will discuss UCC history and program, a little theology, a little church history, etc... We meet for three sessions starting next week, Sunday, Feb. 27th at **8:30 am before church**. The next meeting time will be arranged at that gathering. Come for the food - Pete brings bagels

### Lenten Study – Thursday Evenings in Lent

Using our Lenten Theme of Simple Living as a starting point, Pete will be developing a video-discussion series on Simple Lifestyle: slowing down our lives and being responsible stewards of God's creation. **7:00 pm at church on Thursdays**.

**"Quit griping about your church; if it was perfect, you couldn't belong."**

**"Be ye fishers of men. You catch them - He'll clean them."**

## **SPIRITUAL LIFE :**

**USHERS & GREETERS:** We are always in need of ushers and greeters and love to see new as well as familiar faces in these roles. Signing up for 3 months at a time is optimal--for instance, every 1st Sunday for March, April, and May--but is not a necessity. Instruction sheets are available to help you know your "job description" for Sunday mornings. If you need one, please contact: Deborah Hayes at 303-494-4458 or Jean Scott at 303-460-1391. Sign up charts are posted on the wall next to the kitchen or you may let Deborah know you want to volunteer.

**CHRIST CANDLE PRAYERS:** During the prelude, you are invited to light a small candle from the Christ Candle for any prayer concerns or gratuities.

**HOLY WEEK:** Easter is sneaking up on us early this year with **Palm Sunday on March 20th**. We will be having a Maundy Thursday Service on **March 24th at 7:00 pm** with a Tenebrae service and communion. On Good Friday all are invited to St. John's Episcopal downtown Boulder where an ongoing **Good Friday** service will take place between **12 noon and 3:00 pm**. Pete will be contributing to that service with a meditation and prayers at 2:00 pm. Then on Easter we will have our usual schedule of an early service with guitars and communion at **8:00 am**, the Easter Egg hunt and continental breakfast at **9:00** and our regular service at **10 am**.

**EASTER LILIES AND TULIPS:** If you would like to order an Easter lily or pot of tulips please contact Sue Thoele at 303-530-1619. Order blanks will be available March 6th and 13th.

**AFTER SERVICE DISCUSSION:** Pete is interested in your feedback on holding discussions after some Sunday morning services. Please share your ideas and desires with him.

**PEACE PRAYER CARDS:** Beautiful small cards with meaningful peace prayers from many cultures and religions are just outside the sanctuary doors and available for you to take home.

## **COMMUNITY UCC ONLINE:**

We have two online newsgroups for members and friends of the Community United Church of Christ in Boulder, CO. We are a community of spiritual seekers who believe there are many paths to God and a fellowship of diverse, thoughtful individuals seeking to follow Christ on the path of compassion, wisdom and joy. This group is designed to give our members and friends a forum in which to discuss issues, concerns, ask for prayers, ask for help, and discuss issues related to progressive Christianity.

The newsgroups are:

CUCCBoulder@yahoogroups.com and

CUCCDiscuss@yahoogroups.com .

Anyone interested can check them out online at:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CUCCBoulder/> or

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CUCCDiscuss/>.

The CUCCBoulder list is for announcements of church activities, personal requests, notices about members who need help or caring, and other CUCC general concerns.

The second list CUCCDiscuss is for those who wish to share announcements of outside events that would interest members, or for extended discussion. Topics might include social justice issues, discussions of books, community issues, political announcements, articles of interest, etc.

**"People are funny, they want the front of the bus, the middle of the road, and the back of the church."**

## **LENTEN CHOIR SCHEDULE:**

February 27 Twenty-third Psalm - Althouse 9:15 am

Choir rehearsal 11:30 am

March 06 Canticle of Hope – Hallquist 9:15 am

Choir rehearsal 11:30 am

March 13 A Little While – Williams/Lantz 9:15 am

Choir rehearsal 11:30 am

March 20 The King of Glory! - Larson 9:15 am Palm Sunday

March 27 The Lord is Risen – Mozart/Hopson 9:15 am Easter

**"Some minds are like concrete, thoroughly mixed up and permanently set."**

## **CARING MINISTRY – SANDY MACKAY**

PRAYER - the breathing of the soul

Prayer is one of the most powerful things we can do in life. The Lord's Prayer was so special in the early church that only the confirmed members could pray it. They figured that spectators and inquirers weren't ready for the power and mystery of the prayer. It was called the "believer's prayer." Jesus does not want us to say the Lord's Prayer. Jesus wants us to become the Lord's prayer. REAL praying is God moving in us through the Spirit. Real praying is the Spirit of God praying in and through us, making us into the likeness of Christ. In the words of François Fénelon: "Lord, teach me to pray. Pray thyself in me." Prayer is the breathing of the soul.

"Homiletics"

## **UMHE WORK TRIP 2005 Garden of the Gods/CO Springs**

Fundraising Dinner Saturday, April 2, 7:00-9:00pm  
First Christian Church

Join UMHE for this fabulous event to raise money for the students' 2005 and 2006 work trips. This May the students will be going to Colorado Springs where they will be working with the Rocky Mountain Field Institute to do eco-justice ministry work to beautify the Garden of the Gods, as well as working alongside Urban Peak Teen Shelter to fulfill the social-justice piece of the work trip.

At UMHE our theology tells us we don't have to travel far to do service. While we are at the Garden of the Gods, we will be doing trail maintenance, weed removal, and debris clean up. Every night and half our days spent in Colorado Springs, UMHE will be working with Urban Peak distributing and delivering meals in their soup kitchen and helping troubled teenagers find more purpose and direction in their lives.

Josh Hagin of First Congregational Church will prepare this year's gourmet meal, with help from John Bizzaro of John's Restaurant on Pearl Street. There will be great options to choose from and the food will be delicious. As a special treat, the students of UMHE will be providing live entertainment for all guests! We'll be selling tickets at your church, so be sure to keep an eye out for us. This is an opportunity you don't want to miss!

For more information or to purchase tickets, please email Laura at [Laura1327@yahoo.com](mailto:Laura1327@yahoo.com) or call 303-443-3960. You can also send your donation to the work trip to 1041 Grandview Avenue, Boulder, CO 80302.

*Tickets will be on sale at CUCC after service on  
**Sunday, March 13.***

## **WOMEN'S GROUP TO UNDERGO MENOPAUSE:**

The musical, that is. The March meeting of the Women's Group will feature an outing to the Denver Civic Theatre for a showing of *Menopause: The Musical*. The performance is **at 8 pm Wednesday, March 16**. Tickets are \$32, unless we have 15 people or more, which will make it \$30. Women wishing to attend should call Kathy Leftwich at 303-319-3287. We will meet at the church at **6:30** for a brief dinner, then carpool to the theater.

The April meeting currently has no host; if you'd like to volunteer, call Kathy. If no host is found, we will meet at church.

The CUCC Women's Group meets monthly for potluck dinner, fellowship and guided meditation or other spiritual programs. Dinner begins at 6:30 pm on the third Wednesday of each month, with the program following at about 7:30

## **VOLUNTEER OPORTUNITY:**

The Denver Inner City Parish is looking for individual mentors for individual children, for a year-long friendship. The children have parents in prison and are from our community. Adult volunteers are screened, trained, and supported by Metro Denver Partners. Children are age 8-17. Commitment averages to a once-a-week get-together. Please contact Rev. Malcom Himschoot at 303-629-0636 for more information.

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:**

**COMMUNITY FOOD SHARE:** Our church has been asked to provide a crew of 10 to 12 to help sort food for CFS's Spring Food Drive. We need your help on **Friday, March 25, from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm**. Individuals, youth, and families are encouraged to participate. Children must be 12 years old to work in the warehouse. Families with younger children should call for other volunteer opportunities. Please call or email Jessie Inglefield (303-651-2609, [jfingle@hotmail.com](mailto:jfingle@hotmail.com)) to reserve your spot.

**FOOD DRIVE GREETERS:** Community Food Share needs individuals or families to be greeters at the entrances of grocery stores in Longmont, Lafayette, Louisville, Lyons, Niwot or Gunbarrel to hand out flyers and encourage donations of food during the Spring Food Drive. Greeters are needed anytime from **Wednesday, March 16 through Monday, March 28**. When greeters are present, people donate 3 to 4 times more food, making for a successful food drive! If interested, call Sue Ericson at CFS: 303-652-3663 for more information.

## **PFLAG EVENT- March 5th at First Methodist Church:**

Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) of Boulder, CO is sponsoring an a conference entitled, "Finding a Common Voice: Reclaiming Moral Values for the Religious Right," **Saturday, March 5, 8:30 – 4** at First United Methodist, 1421 Spruce St., Boulder. Workshops will be held on legal and legislative issues, language, and liberal faith coalition building. The keynoter is Jimmy Creech, defrocked Methodist pastor and board chair of Souforce, Inc. Cost for lunch is \$7. Films and discussion groups are also scheduled. For more information or to RSVP, contact Ron Gould, [rongoaldr@earthlink.net](mailto:rongoaldr@earthlink.net) More information is available on the Boulder PFLAG web site, <http://members.tde.com/pflagbldr>  
Helping lead workshops and Panels are some names you may recognize: Malcolm Himschoot, Phil Campbell, Jean Hodges and Pete Terpenning.

## **MEN'S SERVICE DAYS:**

The men's group continues to meet for breakfast and work at the homes of church members on the **first Saturday of each month**. We meet for fellowship, food and work assignments at The Egg and I in Basemar Shopping Center **at 7:30 am** and then go out and work from **9-11**. We get home for lunch. We have already helped out quite a few folks with odd jobs they need help with around their homes. Once we "adopt" someone, we keep going back until they feel they are caught up on jobs. We move furniture, fix plumbing, paint rooms, put up weather stripping, fix furniture...we even put up a fence. Join us, it's fun to get to know other guys and do something useful. If you can only come once in awhile, that doesn't matter... we work with whoever shows up.

## **JANET PINKOW'S RECITAL:**

Master of Music Recital with pianists Naoko Suga and Richard Holbrook.

**Monday, March 28, 2005, 4:30 pm**

Grusin Music Hall, University of Colorado School of Music  
"Duo" Sonata in A Major for Violin and Piano, Op. posth. 162, by Franz Schubert

Rhapsody No. 1 for Violin and Piano, by Bela Bartok

Sonata in A Major for Violin and Piano, Op. 13, by Gabriel Faure

# March-April 2005

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thur</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>	
<p><b>27</b></p> <p>8:30 meditation 8:30 am New Member Exploration Class 10 a.m. worship</p>	<b>28</b>	<b>March 1</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
				7pm Lenten Study		Men's Work Day	
						Giving up worry for Lent 8:00 am	
						PFLAG Event	
<p><b>6</b></p> <p>8:30-9:30 Confirmation 8:30 meditation Communion 10 a.m. worship Youth Group</p>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
				7:30 Adult Confirmation		Giving up worry for Lent 8:00 am	
				7pm Lenten Study			
<p><b>13</b></p> <p>Youth Group 7:30 (skiing) 8:30 meditation 10 a.m. worship Community Job Fair</p>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>		<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
			Women's Group 6:30 pm (Musical)	7pm Lenten Study		Giving up worry for Lent 8:00 am	
<p><b>Echo Deadline 20</b></p> <p><b>Palm Sunday</b> 8:30-9:30 Confirmation 8:30 meditation 10 a.m. worship Youth Group</p>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>		<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
				7:30 Adult Confirmation		Good Friday Service @ St. John's noon-3	Giving up worry for Lent 8:00 am
				7 pm Maundy Thursday Tennebrae Service		6-8:30 Food Sorting at CFS	
<p><b>27</b></p> <p><b>Easter</b> 8:00 Early Service 9:00 Breakfast &amp; Easter Egg Hunt 10 a.m. worship</p>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>		<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>April 1</b>	<b>2</b>
<p><b>3</b></p> <p>8:30-9:30 Confirmation 8:30 meditation Communion 10 a.m. worship Youth Group</p>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>		<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
				7:30 Adult Confirmation			