

The Evangel
Newsletter of Community Presbyterian Church
Lake City, Colorado
August 2009



- † Centered in Christ
- † Cultivated in Community
- † Called to Care

Guthrie's Leaving Lake City

With deep sadness at leaving dear friends, Pastor John announced to the Session and by letter to the congregation on July 24, 2009 that he had received and accepted a call to serve a church in Utah. John's last Sunday in the Lake City pulpit will be August 16, 2009.

Community Presbyterian Church will be served by the Committee on Ministry of the Presbytery of Western Colorado as the church completes a required mission study and as the congregation elects a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC), which will carry out the arduous but critical work of finding the person God has already selected to become the new pastor of CPC. Even though the PNC is not yet elected, please hold the members of the committee and their work in prayer over the months to come. The PNC will receive and review Personal Information Forms (PIFs) from prospective candidates, and prayerfully consider which candidates seem best matched to Community Presbyterian Church. The PNC will view sermon DVDs, conduct phone and in-person interviews, and finally submit a candidate to the congregation for election at the end of all their labors. The last pastor search (2005-2006) took ten months.

The Session of CPC is already working to secure pastoral services during the interim period. Those services could come from week-to-week pulpit supply pastors or from an interim pastor hired by the Session. Presbyterian polity requires that a Presbyterian pastor officiate at the Lord's Table and moderate Session meetings. Please hold the Session of CPC in prayer as well, as they seek faithfully to lead the church through the interim period. The Session will need much during this period; please ask any one of the Session elders how you can help! They are Lori Winblood, Lynn Hudgeons, Mary Farrar, Jay Farrar, Durell Thompson, and John Roose.

2009 Stewardship Campaign: *Growing a Generous Heart!*

The 2009 Community Presbyterian Church Stewardship Campaign formally ended on Sunday, August 2, 2009. As of August 11, 2009, pledges to the general operating fund of our church for 2010 come to a total of \$89,200. Thank you to all who have pledged so generously to the mission of our church next year. We still

have a ways to go before meeting our pledge goal for 2010. If you have not yet pledged, please return your pledge card as soon as possible, and call the church office if you need to receive a card! Thank you!

The Stewardship Campaign also aims to collect pledges of time and talent for the coming year. As of August 11, thirty-three time/talent pledge cards have been received from our saints. Members and friends have committed to worship greeting, reading scripture, providing treats for coffee fellowship, providing worship music, facilities maintenance, visiting in homes as needed, helping with Vacation Bible School and KLUB (our Wednesday after school program), and in many other ways. If you intend to pledge time and talent for 2010, please return your yellow time/talent card as soon as possible, and let us know if you need to receive a card. Our particular "body of Christ" (Community Presbyterian Church) works only as well as each member contributes to its well-being. Thank you for your pledges of time and talent for the coming year!

Update: Endowment Investment Funds

The Endowment Investment Committee of Community Presbyterian held its annual meeting on August 8, 2009. The primary topic of discussion was the allocation of the church's investment portfolio among equities, bonds, and cash. After much discussion the committee elected to reduce its exposure to the volatile stock market by moving 10% of the current value of the portfolio from equities to bonds. This change leaves the portfolio balance at about 60% equities, 30% bonds, and 10% cash.

The church's endowment funds have suffered over the past two years, as have all funds with equity holdings, but the value of the funds have increased since March 2009, with the general improvement in the market. The value of the church's endowment funds now stands at about \$440,000. The endowment funds support the general operating budget of Community Presbyterian Church, with 3% of the value of the funds transferred as income to the church each year.

The Investment Committee elected a new chairperson on August 8: that role will be filled by Jay Farrar.

Our church benefits from gifts and bequests to the Endowment Fund. Have you considered including Community Presbyterian in your estate planning? Please contact a member of the Investment Committee for more information. The members are Tom Robb, Ed Smith, Jay Farrar, Ron Yates, Helen Thompson, Ron Bruce, and Pat Ezell.

We Welcome a New Member: Tom Moore!

Community Presbyterian welcomes summer resident Tom Moore as a new member of our fellowship! Tom winters in Florida, but owns a home in Lake City.

Tom lived in Kansas City for many years, installing sound systems and practicing photography. Tom is a gifted photographer and guitar player. Welcome, Tom!

Presbyterian Missionary to Visit Lake City

Community Presbyterian Church will host missionary Pix Mahler on Tuesday night, September 29, for a potluck dinner followed by a presentation. Pix serves God's mission by nurturing relationships between Presbyterians in the United States and various ministries of the Episcopal Diocese of Haiti. She sees her work is being a channel of communication. "I help people in the United States discover what gifts they may have that are applicable to ministry with our partners," she says. Please reserve Tuesday night, September 29, to enjoy good food and fellowship and to hear about some of the mission work supported by the Presbyterian Church (USA)!

Summer Worship Schedule

Community Presbyterian's summer worship schedule continues through September 20: two worship services at 8:30am and 10:30am with coffee fellowship in between.

Annual Ice Cream Social

The annual Community Presbyterian Ice Cream Social took place on Sunday, July 19, in Darley Hall and on the church lawn. Darley was filled to overflowing with saints from Community Presbyterian and St. James Episcopal Church. Much homemade ice cream was consumed, and everyone had a great time! Thanks to Helen and Durell Thompson for organizing and coordinating this annual event.

Hawaiian Luau

A new fellowship event, a Hawaiian Luau, happened on Sunday evening, August 2, at the San Juan Ranch Estates picnic pavilion. There was Hawaiian apparel in abundance, lots of great food, and a whole pig barbequed by the intrepid Jerry Sharpe. The event also served as a farewell to the Guthrie family as they prepare to move to Utah. There was much frivolity and joy, in spite of the difficult farewell, and many think the luau should become an annual event! Thanks to Helen and Durell Thompson, Lynn Hudgeons, and Jerry Sharpe for all of their efforts to make the luau a success.

Summer Camp for Kids at X Lazy F Ranch

Three children from Lake City attended the first-ever summer camp for kids held at our presbytery's X Lazy F Ranch near Crawford, Colorado, July 26-29. All camp fees for these kids were paid by Community Presbyterian, and the church

provided transportation to camp and back. The kids slept in rustic cabins, enjoyed great food, hiked, fished, made crafts, played games, and learned a little about God and God's amazing creation. All three kids report a great time, even if a little homesick on occasion!

Wednesday Grill and Bible Study

Wednesday Grill and Bible Study continues through September 2. Supper is scheduled each Wednesday at 6:00pm in Darley Hall, consisting of grilled burgers, hot dogs, and covered dishes. Bible study begins at 7:00pm. This summer participants are studying First and Second Corinthians. Everyone is welcome!

Community Choir Rehearsals Underway

The Lake City Community Choir continues rehearsals for its approaching Gospel Concert. Rehearsals are scheduled every Monday at 7:00pm in the Community Church sanctuary. Please contact Claire Jessee for more information.

Pianists Needed!

The Session of Community Presbyterian anticipates a critical need for worship pianists during the fall-winter-spring months of 2009-2010. If you can play and will be in town for some period during those months, please let Lynn Hudgeons, Lori Winblood, or Mary Farrar know. If you know of any year-round residents of Lake City who might be possible pianists for our worship, please let one of these elders know, as well. Thank you!

KLUB to Begin Soon

KLUB (Kids Living Under the Bible) is our long-running after-school program for Lake City kids, kindergarten through 5th grade. Every Wednesday after school the kids have a snack, make crafts, sing songs, play games, and hear a Bible story. KLUB will be kicking off in early September, and adult volunteers are always greatly needed to help make the program a success. For most of the kids who attend, KLUB is their only regular exposure to Christian teaching and the life of discipleship. If God is calling you to work with the terrific kids of Lake City, please let Mary Farrar, Lynn Hudgeons, or Lori Winblood know. Thank you!

Facility Renovations Update

Pat Holley's carpentry crew is finishing up minor projects in the sanctuary, Darley Hall, and Warner Hall. Pat's painting crew is almost done with the manse.

The carpentry crew will begin work on the sanctuary steeple right away, erecting scaffolding for that purpose. The scaffolding will be in place for several weeks,

so members and friends will have to navigate through it – but the difficulties will all be worthwhile when our newly refurbished steeple is done!

Highlights from August 11, 2009 Meeting of the Session

On July 11 the Session:

- Met Tom Moore and welcomed him into membership!
- Received a report on the church's finances as of July 31, from Treasurer Helen Thompson
- Heard a report from Helen on the current status of received financial pledges for the 2010 general budget
- Received a report from Helen regarding receipts for the church's capital campaign for facility renovations. Nearly all of the pledged donations have been received.
- Heard from John Roose regarding plans for completion of the columbarium
- Discussed repair of the church lawn sprinkler system, repair of the electronic keyboard, construction of a concrete sidewalk on the alley side of the Darley kitchen, and repainting of the Annex fence
- Heard a report from Pastor John regarding Vacation Bible School 2009
- Received a report from Pastor John on the status of the Lake City Student Ministry (Youth Programs), and discussed the need for a replacement representative from Community Presbyterian to the Ministry Council
- Heard a report from Pastor John on the children's camp sponsored by the Presbytery of Western Colorado at the X Lazy F Ranch, July 26-29, 2009
- Heard from Jay Farrar regarding the current status of funds for continuing facility renovations and the status of the renovations themselves
- Discussed possibilities for interim pastor services while the church is without an installed pastor
- Revised the commission for the 2009 Elder Nominating Committee; the committee will have a slate of nominees for consideration by the membership in time for the incoming elders to be installed in January 2010
- Discussed the critical need for worship pianists to serve over the winter; all of the church's stalwart pianists will be elsewhere over some part of the winter
- Discussed plans for hosting Pix Mahler, Presbyterian missionary, September 29-30, 2009
- Heard a report from Jay Farrar on the August 8, 2009 meeting of the church's Endowment Investment Committee
- Discussed the need for revising the 2010 church budget in light of the absence of an installed pastor

Darley Hall is a Hot Spot!

Wireless access remains available in Darley Hall whenever there is not some event happening there. Summer residents and visitors are welcome to bring their laptops and connect!

A Message from Pastor John

Dear Saints,

It is with great sadness that the Guthrie's leave you. You have been generous and loving saints throughout our three years with you, and we have grown to love you as fellow disciples and close friends. You have put up with a newbie pastor as I have stumbled my way along, trying to learn how to faithfully perform the work to which I have been called. Together we have worshipped, fellowshiped, served, and learned. You are dear to both Nancy and me.

The interim time between pastors is always anxious and stressful. I encourage you, with all the earnestness I can muster, to trust that God will carry Community Presbyterian Church through this time just as God has strengthened and encouraged your church for the last 133 years. The scripture passage I quoted to you in my recent letter remains my best message to you: "I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ." (Phil 1:3-6)

I also know this: Those who have been baptized into Christ and who follow him with faithfulness and joy are never parted one from another. Not by time. Not by distance. Not by death. Not by anything. You will always be with us, and we with you.

May God bless you all, and the church of which you are a part, with his most lavish and abundant blessings.

**Your brother in Christ,
John**