

**The Evangel**  
**Newsletter of Community Presbyterian Church**  
**Lake City, Colorado**  
**May 2011**



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

### **Summer Worship Schedule**

**Community Presbyterian's summer worship schedule will begin on Sunday, June 12, 2011** with two worship services at 8:30 am and 10:30 am, and coffee fellowship in between at 9:30am.

### **Welcome to our New Members**

We are delighted to have eight new members of CPC! Bonnie Fleming; Peggy and Billy Martin; Nora and Burton Smith; and Faye, Meredith and Michael Underwood have joined our congregation. We are excited to have you all with us and look forward to serving our Lord with you!! Welcome!!

### **The Season of Pentecost**

Pentecost Sunday is June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Join us for a special Worship of God's gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church. Red is the color of Pentecost and all are invited to wear the color of red.

### **135<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Our 135<sup>th</sup> anniversary has been scheduled for Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup> in Darley Hall and on the church lawn. Please join us for ice cream, cake and fellowship for this wonderful event! God has blessed us with 135 years of ministry in Lake City, and we look eagerly into the future to see what God will have us do. We are blessed by our past, joyous in our present, and anticipatory towards our future. Help us celebrate God's work in our Church and in our Community and around the world. Rejoice!

### **Our Church is Celebrating 135 Years and We Need Your Help**

Those 135 years are filled with a rich history that we want to remember and publish in a small soft cover book. You are a part of this rich history, and we would love to have your remembrances, stories, facts, pictures, and other mementos to be included in the book. Please send any information you have to [cpchistorybook@gmail.com](mailto:cpchistorybook@gmail.com) as soon as possible or mail it to Community Presbyterian Church, History Book, Post Office Box 184, Lake City, CO 81235. Do not mail any non-replaceable items. Be sure to include your name, address, and phone number in case we have questions. If you would like the items returned, please let us know. We will try to use as many stories and photos

as possible, but some of the entries may not be included. If you have any questions, please send an e-mail to [cpchistorybook@gmail.com](mailto:cpchistorybook@gmail.com) or call Faye Underwood at 970-944-0297 or Mary Farrar at 970-944-5010. Thanks to all of you that have already submitted information. We look forward to hearing from many more of you. Thanks so much!

### **Trinity Sunday**

The first Sunday following The Day of Pentecost is Trinity Sunday. Trinity Sunday signifies the majesty and the miracle of God: Three In One, One In three: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Trinity Sunday this year is June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

### **The Reverend Curtis Keith, June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

The Reverend Curtis Keith will be our Visiting Minister on Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Please welcome a friend over the years back to our pulpit. Curtis and Barbara will be with us for the summer.

### **Community Choir Rehearsals Underway**

The Lake City Community Choir has begun rehearsals for its regular summer concerts. Rehearsals are scheduled every Monday and Thursday evenings in the Community Church's Darley Hall. See Milt Pullen for more information.

### **Wednesday Grill and Bible Study**

**Wednesday Grill and Bible Study will begin on July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011.** Supper is scheduled each Wednesday at 6:00 pm, consisting of grilled burgers, hot dogs, and potluck dishes. Bible study begins at 7:00 pm. Everyone is welcome! **This summer we will be looking at the Gospel of Mark**, the earliest of the Gospels.

### **Tuesday Evening Book Studies**

The Tuesday evening book study continues with John Roose. The present book is *Earth-Wise: A Biblical Response To Environmental Issues* by Calvin B. DeWitt. The time is 7:00 each Tuesday evening in Darley Hall.

### **Annual Summer Community Worship Service**

The annual Summer Community Worship Service involving all of the Lake City churches is scheduled for Sunday, July 3 at 10:00 am on the Community School grounds. Bring a chair or blanket and come join us! Hats are OK for this service, too.

### **Vacation Bible School 2011**

Community Presbyterian's 2011 VBS week is scheduled for Monday-Friday, **July 11<sup>th</sup> –**

**15th** The VBS theme this summer is "**PandaMania.**" Dorothy Schmidt has graciously agreed to serve as VBS Director with assistance from Amy Humphreys and a team of volunteers. As always, youth and adult volunteers are needed to work with the children. It's great fun! Please call or email Dorothy or Pastor Rick if you can help with VBS this summer.

### **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!

### **Lake City Youth Update**

Our ecumenical youth group (.epic.) continues to meet weekly under the leadership of Brannon Brown. *Epic* meets on Sunday evenings in the Church Annex. The time is 7:00. Join them for an evening of fun and fellowship.

KLUB meets on Wednesdays for Bible study, fellowship and fun during the school year. Director Amy Humphreys leads this lively group. KLUB is on Summer Vacation now, but they will return in August. Thanks so much to Amy and her great group of Volunteers who do so much to make this ministry such a wonderful, vibrant and special ministry in the life of our Church. Thanks to all! Special and impromptu events will be scheduled throughout the summer.

### **Pastor Rick's Message**

Easter changes everything. Everything. What was once death, has been transformed into life. What was once sorrow, has been transformed into joy. What was once unbelief, has been transformed into belief. What was once astonishment, now has been transformed into wonder. When once the day was dark, now the day is light. Where once there was no future, there is now a bright future. Easter changes everything.

On the Thursday side of the cross (Maundy Thursday), there was puzzlement, betrayal, denial, running away, doubt and confusion about who Jesus was and what Jesus was saying.

On the Friday side of the cross (Good Friday) there was a show trial, pain, torture, and, finally...death. "Well," the world said, "that takes care of that problem. Let's get on with life!"

On the Saturday side of the cross (Holy Saturday), there was the complete darkness of death. Jesus was dead. Jesus was gone. Jesus was in the tomb. Dead is dead and that's the end of that!

And then...

And then...there was (and is) the Sunday side of the cross. New life! Rising from the dead! New hopes! New dreams! New visions! New aspirations. A new way of doing! A new way of seeing! A new way of being. A new connection opened between God and humanity! The old passed away! The new came! Where before there was no way, now a new way had been created. Where once there was doubt and confusion, now there was clarity and assurance! Where once there had been betrayal, now there was a rejoining and a reforming of the ranks! Where once there had been denial, now there was affirmation!

Easter changes everything!

Ah yes, viewed from the Sunday side of the cross, Easter does indeed change everything.

But, actually, it is not so much Easter that changes everything as it is what happened on Easter. Had it not been for the Resurrection, Easter would have been just another nice, sunny spring day. The flowers begin to bloom. The days become both longer and warmer. The birds appear and begin to sing and chirp again. A man who was dead rises from the dead. The bears come out. The snows melt. The breezes blow soft and warm. The....huh? Wait a minute! What's wrong with this picture? They don't have bears in the Middle East. And besides that...the dead are dead...when you are dead, you are dead. End of conversation. Dead is dead.

Really! New York Yankee great and baseball Hall of Famer, Yogi Berra once said, "It ain't over until it's over." Maybe Yogi Berra did not say that first. Maybe God said that first and centuries later Yogi picked up on it. Maybe God said something like, "You think Jesus is dead? It ain't over till it's over and it ain't over until I say it is over and I have not said it is over. In fact, not only is it not over, it is just the very beginning of something new and wonderful." Then maybe God rolled up God's sleeves and said "I am going to totally and completely vindicate everything Jesus said and did while He was on earth. I am going to prove to the world that death is not the last word. The last word is life and the new last word is life eternal. Because Jesus lives, you will live and not only will you live, you will live eternally. The world thinks it has seen the end of Jesus. The world is wrong! I am God and the world is not! I am God and death is not! I am God and life is life and life leads to life eternal! I am God and I say to Jesus, "Rise! Be alive!" "Go forth!"

And it begins.

And it continues.

Today.

Tomorrow.

Forever.

The Resurrection changes everything! There is a new world, a new creation, a new being. There are no dead ends. There are infinite chances, opportunities, dreams, visions, hopes, aspirations. The darkness has passed, the light has come. The light shined in the darkness, and the darkness could not overcome it. The light of the world

was (and is) Jesus! A highway has been made in the wilderness of life. A highway to God. The crooked has been made straight. By God. You have been given a life to live. For God. Each day is a new beginning. Each night is a restful rest, a gift of God to you. You have another chance...and another...and another. You are welcomed by God! You are embraced by Go! You are empowered by God! Jesus walks not only beside you along the highways of life, but Jesus also lives inside you as you travel those highways of life! Because of the Resurrection of Jesus, don't stop thinking about tomorrow.

Because of the Resurrection of Jesus, we, the followers of Jesus - we, the present-day disciples of Jesus - can, indeed, ford every stream and climb every mountain that life presents us!

We can go where we never dared to go before...because of Jesus.

We can live like we never prepared to live before...because of Jesus.

We can live like there is no tomorrow because there is an eternity of tomorrow's...because of Jesus.

We can ride the merry-go-round-of-life and we can grab the brass ring that is offered to us as a gift by God through Jesus! The ring is a circle, never-beginning, never-ending, never-complete..just like eternity!

Carpe diem! (Latin for "seize the day".) Why? Because, the day belongs to Jesus anyway. So seize it and run with it!

Jesus is alive and well! There is every reason in the world for this assurance. There is every reason to leave the past behind. There is reason to move forward into God's bright future! Jesus is alive and well and standing beside you now through whatever stage your life may be in at this point. You are not alone. Neither will you ever be. You are not abandoned. Neither will you ever be. You have as your constant companion and friend, the One who rose from the dead. The One who brings new life and life eternal! The One who calls each of us forth to receive the Resurrection power of God and to live in that same Resurrection power of God for all the days of our lives. As God told Jesus to "Rise and go forth," so God tells each one of us today to "Rise, and go forth" with the love, the power, the compassion, the mercy, the presence, the peace, and the comfort of God through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. This is why the Resurrection changes everything!

It is the Season of Eastertide. Rejoice! Be glad! Be thankful! Give thanks and praise to God!

The Lord is risen!

The Lord is risen!

The Lord is risen, indeed.

Alleluia.

Christ is alive!

Christ has come!

Christ will come again!

And, though there are no bears in the Middle East and though Easter is about more than chocolate bunnies and brightly colored eggs...bears are wonderful, the candy is good...and Jesus is alive and well!

Thanks be to God!

"Rise! Go forth!"

Why?

Because the Resurrection changes everything! Now! Today! Tomorrow! Forever!  
(And that's a long time!)

***We are looking forward to the return  
of our summer members! Safe travels to all!***

***If you are already here, Welcome Back!  
If you are not yet back, we look forward to seeing you very soon.***

***Peace, Courage, Blessings,  
We're All In This Together,***