

  
**The Evangel**  
**Newsletter of Community Presbyterian Church**  
**Lake City, Colorado**  
**June 2008**

Summer Residents and Visitors Arriving!

After a long, cold, snowy winter we are thrilled to welcome newly-arrived summer residents and visitors. Attendance has been running 130 to 140 since two worship services began. We are overjoyed to see dear friends again this summer!

Capital Projects Update

The Capital Projects Committee has received bids for replacement and repair of the exterior siding and trim on the sanctuary and manse, new paint for the siding, and new plexiglass protection for the stained glass windows in the sanctuary. Bids have also been received for replacement of the siding on Darley and Warner Halls, to match the sanctuary siding, plus new windows in these additions. Within the next week or so the committee will be meeting to select one of the bidding contractors. The committee is finalizing an agreement with an electrical contractor for replacement of outdated wiring and fixtures throughout the sanctuary and its additions. The committee plans to have these projects completed this summer.

Other projects include stabilization of the steeple and refurbishment of its exterior, replacement of the sanctuary roof, and remedial work on the propane plumbing throughout the sanctuary and additions. These projects will likely be scheduled in the summer of 2009.

Successful Capital Campaign!

Community Church launched a special capital campaign at the beginning of June in order to supplement a grant from the Colorado State Historical Fund to renovate the exterior of our historical physical facilities. The required supplement is \$50,000, and the session of Community Presbyterian added a tithe of \$5,000 to that figure, to be used to support local and foreign missions.



We have met and exceeded our capital campaign goal! As of June 29 donations and pledges to the capital campaign were \$58,225! Sincerest thanks to all members, affiliate members, and friends who donated and pledged in order to carry out badly needed repair and restoration of our historic buildings.

Donations and pledges are still welcome, because the state grant does not apply to needed renovations of Darley Hall, which is not considered to be historic. If you have not yet pledged or donated, your gift is still needed! Remember that all pledging families receive a complimentary copy of George Darley's book, *Pioneering in the San Juan*. If you would like a copy mailed to you, just contact the church office.

Thank you, thank you, thank you for your faithful support of our capital campaign!

### Tuesday Book Study Suspends for the Summer

The Tuesday Book Study group has suspended its meetings for the summer. The group finished its studies for the year with discussion of C.S. Lewis's classic, *Mere Christianity*. The group plans to resume in the fall. Everyone is welcome!

### Summer Sunday Worship Schedule Underway

The summer worship schedule began on June 15, with services at 8:30 am and 10:30 am and a time of coffee fellowship in between. The summer schedule will extend through September 21. Please join us in worshipping the living God each Sunday this summer!

### Wednesday Grill and Bible Study Underway

Wednesday Grill and Bible Study began on June 18 and will conclude on September 17. This summer participants are studying the prophecy of Isaiah. Join us for burgers, hot dogs, potluck dishes, great fellowship, and an encounter with Isaiah!

### Gold Hill a Success!

Despite glowering clouds, a hearty crew of fifty-two saints climbed Gold Hill at Vickers Ranch on Sunday afternoon, June 29, and had a great time conversing, sharing dishes, and being overwhelmed by the view from the top of the hill. The weather cooperated this year! Our sincerest thanks to the Vickers clan for their hospitality, and to the Thompson and Roose families for arriving early to start the cookout fire.

### Pastor's Potluck Dinners

All members and friends of Community Church are welcome to join the pastor and his family for supper on a Friday night of your choice! Guests are invited to bring a dish to share with others and to gather at the pastor's house for good food and conversation. A sign-up sheet is posted on the Darley Hall bulletin board. Come join us!

### Ice Cream Social

The annual Ice Cream Social is scheduled for Sunday, August 17 in Darley Hall. Ice cream providers are needed! Please contact Helen Thompson if you can bring homemade ice cream.

### Annual Summer Community Worship Service

The annual Summer Community Worship Service is scheduled for Sunday, July 6, 10:00 am, in the yard of the Lake City Community School. The Lake City Band will play and the Lake City Choir will sing. Chuck Specht, a deacon at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, will preach the sermon. No worship services will be held in the Community Church sanctuary on July 6. Please plan on joining all of the Lake City churches at the school for worship together! Remember to bring a hat and lawn chair.

### Shirley Williams Memorial Service

The memorial service for Shirley Williams is scheduled for Sunday, July 6, 2:00 pm in the Lake City Armory. A reception will follow the service.

### Celebration Singers Coming to Lake City!

The Celebration Singers are a youth choir of 60 voices from the Cornerstone Bible Fellowship of Sherwood, Arkansas. On Thursday, July 10, at 7:30 pm this talented group of young singers will present a choral concert in the Lake City Armory. You won't want to miss it! Please mark your calendars!

### 2008 Stewardship Campaign

Community Church members, affiliate members, and friends will be invited to pledge time, talent, and treasure for the year 2009 during the 2008 stewardship campaign, beginning on July 13 and finishing August 10. Small group meetings are not planned as a part of this year's campaign. A series of letters will go to the church's members, affiliate members, and friends, and a series of speakers will address the congregation before worship each Sunday, as has been done in recent years. Ron Yates is the coordinator for this year's campaign.

Please begin now to pray and think about your contributions of time and gifts and financial resources to the ministries of Community Church for the next year. The body of Christ is strengthened by the gifts of all its members!

### 2008 Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School will be held this summer the week of July 14-18. Crystal Dady will again serve as director. Volunteers are needed to help in a variety of ways, including providing snacks for the kids on one of the days that VBS runs. Irene Pate is coordinating snacks. Come enjoy Lake City's little angels!

### Worship Musicians Needed

Community Presbyterian is blessed to have many gifted musicians among our summer residents and visitors, as well as those who live year-round in Lake City. If you would be willing to share your musical gifts with our church during worship, please see or call Pastor John.

### Seminary President Coming to Lake City

The Rev. Dr. Ted Wardlaw, President of Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, will be in Lake City on Sunday, July 20, to preach and teach. Ted will preach at both worship services and lecture at 1:00 pm the same day. Dr. Wardlaw is a highly respected preacher and leader in the Presbyterian Church (USA). Please make a special effort to attend worship on July 20, then return at 1:00 pm for Ted's lecture, followed by Q&A.

### Thursday Morning Men's Prayer Breakfast

Men from all of the Lake City churches meet every Thursday morning at 6:30 am at the First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall for breakfast, conversation, prayer, and Bible study. Come join us!

### Highlights from the June 12, 2008 Meeting of the Session

- The session voted to supplement the collection from the Easter "One Great Hour of Sharing" collection, to a total of \$500. The OGHS collection supports Presbyterian disaster assistance, self-development, and hunger relief programs.
- The elders discussed a number of small-scale repair jobs that need attention, including re-staining the sanctuary front doors, repairing the Darley kitchen counter, and minor repairs to the manse roof. Contractors are being sought to perform these jobs.
- The session approved a new employment contract for Crystal Dady, hired to direct Community Church's Wednesday afternoon program (KLUB) for elementary school children and also the summer Vacation Bible School program. Crystal and husband Seth will occupy the church manse without rent as part of the new contract.

- The session approved measures to promote and build excitement for both the church's capital campaign for facility renovation and the approaching annual stewardship campaign.
- Pastor John reported on the spring meeting of the Presbytery of Western Colorado.
- The session approved a contribution of \$1,000 to Western Colorado Presbytery's Al Ruth Fund, which supports redevelopment and evangelism initiatives in the churches of our presbytery.
- Elders studied and suggested changes to a draft 2009 budget submitted by Jay Farrar.

#### Youth Programs (.epic.) Update

Eight young people and our youth group directors, Crystal and Seth Dady, performed mission work on a Navajo reservation in Arizona the week of June 8-14. The team worked on the grounds of a Christian school, painting, repairing fences, and doing other chores. The group made a quick trip to the Grand Canyon as well. The participants report having a great time (even though temperatures were significantly higher than those in Lake City). They also report a great sense of satisfaction in improving the facilities for the Native American children who learn and grow at this particular school.

The youth continue to meet on Sunday and Wednesday nights for Bible study and fun. A rafting trip is planned for later in the summer.

#### WiFi Now Available in Darley Hall!

Summer residents and others are most welcome to bring their laptops and connect to the Internet in Darley Hall whenever there are no scheduled events happening there. A strong wireless signal is now available in Darley!

#### Opportunities for Extra Giving to Community Presbyterian

Opportunities abound for extra financial gifts to Community Presbyterian Church. Please remember that contributions to the Community Presbyterian Church Endowment Fund are always welcome. This fund provides income to the operating budget of our church each year, supplies a source of emergency revenue, and allows us to engage in mission work that would otherwise be far beyond our means. Please remember that you may also support the Endowment Fund in your estate planning. Please contact Pastor John, who will place you in touch with one of the Endowment Fund trustees.

Memorial and honorary gifts may be contributed to Community Church at any time. Memorial gifts are held in separate accounts to be used as directed by the families of those who have passed away. Memorial gifts may also be made to the Columbarium Fund, whose purpose is to provide for the construction and maintenance of a columbarium (repository for ashes) on the Community Church grounds. Please call the church office for more information.

#### Columbarium Update

Speaking of the columbarium, plans for its construction are proceeding! The session of Community Church is near to completing specifications for the structure, and member Paul Hudgeons will contract a stonemason to build the enclosure. The columbarium is scheduled for completion this summer. Pat Ezell has been and continues to be the coordinator and point of contact for the columbarium project.

God's Call: A Remarkable Story (from BL Jordan)

I am writing this, asking for your indulgence, because you see, you are all part of this story I want to share with you.

During the summer of 2003 I had frequent thoughts about why I never went into the ministry. I would push the thoughts out of my mind because what difference did it make anyway? I had an exciting, successful career and what "might have been" certainly didn't matter. I didn't even bother to tell Ray about the thoughts because they were irrelevant. In September of 2003 after church one morning I was in the hall between Darley Hall and the Sanctuary. Norman Fowler stepped out of his office and said, "BL, may I ask you a question?" I said, "Of course!" Norman said, "BL, why are you not in seminary?" I held my hand up to him in a "STOP" position and told him that I would not talk with him about it. Of course, he knew me so very well and knew how to take my action. I was totally unnerved that he had surreptitiously crawled into my mind and my heart and knew what I had been grappling with during the summer. At that very minute, a knot formed in my stomach. That event was God's call to my life, and you see, being part of the family of Community Presbyterian Church, you are part of my call, as well. That afternoon as we drove back over Slumgullion Pass and Spring Creek Pass, Ray said, "If we need to go to seminary, we'll find a way." I will always cherish those words as probably the most loving, understanding set of words ever uttered to me. But the thanks Ray got was the same "STOP" hand and the words that we certainly did not need to go to seminary.

I returned home to Denton and St. Andrew Presbyterian Church. I worked with our minister there and began answering God's call to service...you see, it had to be a call to service because I am retired and way too old to begin study to become a Minister of Word and Sacrament, and also, if God wanted a minister, he would call someone who was special, not an ordinary person like me. So, over the next four years I worked in service to our God in a variety of ways, each of which had value and provided a wonderful learning opportunity for me. But after each was completed, the knot still was there.

September of 2007, four years after God's initial call, I was working at our dining room table at the cabin preparing to teach Romans to our Disciple group at St. Andrew. Our table was covered with reference books, Bible commentaries, and interpretive series. As I moved from book to book, I finally got it. I raised my hands toward heaven and said, "I surrender." The knot went away.

I stepped outside and asked Ray if he could come in because something remarkable had just happened. I told him that the past four years had been wonderful experiences and had provided assistance to many, mostly me, but that I had applied my own personal limitations to God's call and had not listened to the call with God's viewpoint. Ray bolted up the stairs and returned with the weekly copy of "Presbyterian Outlook", a magazine we both read, but I had not read yet. He showed me an article called 'Exploring a Call' which was a seminar being held at the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary (UDTS) in three weeks. When I queried the UDTS website, the screen that popped up was a picture of the first class, 2007, of Masters of Divinity students who were involved in the Distance Learning MDiv. I called about the seminar, enrolled, and Ray and I drove to UDTS after returning to Denton in late September. We

experienced a sense of home while we were there, and more importantly, a sense of God's call to be there.

Since then, I have applied to and been accepted at both UDTs and at Brite Theological Seminary at Texas Christian University in Ft. Worth, TX. For a variety of reasons, I have accepted the invitation to be among the 2008 cohort at UDTs. I'll be able to explain more about the structure after I've been there. I'll be in Denton, Dubuque, Denton beginning July 18<sup>th</sup> and returning here on Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup>. My fall semester classes begin on September 2<sup>nd</sup>. My first two classes will be Old Testament and Greek I.

I realize this is a lot of information, but I wanted to share it because it was at Community Presbyterian Church, among all of you, that I received God's call to my life. Although I will be under care from Grace Presbytery in Dallas during my journey as an Inquirer, then a Candidate, I consider Lake City, Community Presbyterian Church, Pastor John, and each of you vital components to my journey. If you will indulge me, I would like to share progress reports as "we" take this journey together. I covet your prayers and counsel. These past four years were not a waste as I was continuing to discern God's call. I am going to share Pastor John's story from today's sermon, "I'm not what I ought to be and I'm not what I'm gonna be, but thanks to God I'm not what I used to be either." I don't know what I want to be when I earn my MDiv, but I will count on you to help me discern that over time, just as you helped me discern my call. I don't know what God wants of my life over these next years, and you may not know what God wants of your life either. But if, together, we continue to pray, seek, be in community, and discern, it will become clear...for all of us.

I cherish each of you. Blessings, BL Jordan