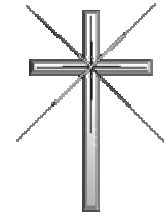




The Evangel

*Summer 2006
Newsletter of Community Presbyterian Church
429 Gunnison Ave.
P.O. Box 184
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Pastor's Greeting

Dear Friends in Christ,

As of this date, I have been your pastor for a little longer than three months. They have been, as you might expect, busy and filled with activity. I am learning the culture and history of Community Presbyterian Church, a process that takes some time. My family and I are utterly thrilled to be in service with you in Lake City, certainly one of the loveliest places in the world.

I will be doing much learning over the years to come. Please bear with me as I grow and develop as your pastor. Unfortunately, we do not emerge from seminary fully formed. In fact, the real process of pastor development happens in the church. Thanks indeed for being my teachers and tutors, and for your patience!

Along with you, I look forward eagerly to the plans that God has for Community Church over the next several years. I have a strong calling to ministries in evangelism, discipleship, and missions. Each of you has gifts and vocations (callings) of your own. Part of my work is to help you identify and employ those gifts and vocations. I can hardly wait! God will do marvelous things among us, of that I am sure! How good it is to be in service with you in the name of our living Savior!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor John

PNC Report - January 15-June 4, 2006

After our church's Mission Statement was updated and approved by COM, the Pastor Nominating Committee was elected by the congregation on January 15, 2006. The team included Jay and Mary Farrar, Ellis and Laura Linsey, Jim Rhinehart, John Roose, Durell Thompson, and Lori Winblood.

We began by completing our Church Information Form which was placed on the national Church Leadership website for a matching process. It was also available to pastors conducting their own searches. In March, we received 40 matches from the website as well as many self-referrals. After a busy time of evaluating the matches, we began the process of finding the best match by corresponding with 20 of our top choices. We were blessed with many good candidates but finally narrowed it down to five. After listening to sermon tapes and conducting phone interviews, we held three neutral pulpits in May. We asked John to preach in Lake City on June 4 when he was unanimously elected by the congregation. During the process of finding the pastor best suited both for our and their own needs, we began to feel God's hand guiding us. We are delighted to have John and his family here with us!

Annual Independence Day Community Worship Service – July 2

The Lake City Churches joined together again on July 2 this summer to worship on the community school grounds. Pastor John was the preacher this summer. While the summer has

been unusually rainy, the weather cooperated on July 2, and the community was blessed to worship God together.

Vacation Bible School July 10-14

Community Church held its annual Vacation Bible School this summer during the week of July 10-14, under the very capable leadership of director Dorothy Schmidt. Dorothy provided an outstanding curriculum based on a Mexican/Southwestern theme. It was a terrific success! Children heard Bible stories, played games, acted in skits, made crafts, enjoyed snacks, sang songs, and generally had a great time learning that Jesus is our life, friend, helper, leader, and savior! Abundant thanks to Dorothy and the twenty-or-so volunteers who helped to put on a terrific VBS for the summer of 2006!

Wednesday Grill and Bible Study – July-August

Members and friends of Community Church met through the months of July and August on Wednesdays this summer for food, fellowship, and Bible study. Wednesday Grill, a Community Church tradition, was made successful by the many efforts of dedicated cooks and serious students of the Bible. Each Wednesday participants met for hamburgers, hotdogs, and covered dishes, followed by a study of Matthew's gospel. Pastor John led the discussions.

Gold Hill...Rained Out Again! – July 23

Members and friends of Community Church mounted Gold Hill on the Vickers spread once again on Sunday, July 23, in hopes of enjoying good food and fellowship in the great outdoors. Alas, it was not to be. The rain and lightning came (as in previous years), and everyone was forced to flee to lower ground. Disappointed, but not defeated, many of those who had climbed the hill gathered in homes and the Annex for an indoor picnic. We will try again next year, perhaps earlier in the day. Great traditions like Gold Hill must be maintained!

Pastor John's Installation and Annual Ice Cream Social – August 20

John Guthrie was installed as pastor of Community Presbyterian Church on August 20, 2006 by Western Colorado Presbytery. Representatives from the presbytery and CPC elder Mary Farrar formed the administrative commission for the installation service of worship. The service was held outside on the church grounds, and the annual CPC ice cream social followed the service. Thanks to Helen Thompson for coordinating the annual ice cream social. It was a wonderful day in the history of our church and in God's work among us!

Lake City Student Ministries Council Update

All six of the Lake City churches recently joined together to form the Lake City Student Ministries Council, an independent entity whose purpose is to provide for the spiritual nurture and growth of the town's middle and high school students. Our Presbytery donated \$1,600 to foster the work of the Council which has been meeting and working since the beginning of the year with the intention of hiring a full-time youth director. The Council has offered the position to a very capable and experienced individual, and we are waiting to receive his answer. More news to follow in the next issue of the Evangel! In the meantime volunteers will coordinate and provide activities and Bible study for the town's young people.

Facilities Assessment Grant Received

Community Church has received a Historic Structural Assessment Grant of \$10,000 from the Colorado State Historical Fund. This grant will pay the expenses of an architect and his team to completely assess the structural and mechanical conditions of the church building and manse. When the assessment is complete, the church can then apply for further grants from the State

Historical Fund in order to finance part of the costs for repairs and renovation. The assessment could begin as early as this fall and will take several months to complete. Jay Farrar has been the point man in pursuing the assessment grant. Many thanks to Jay!

Organ Refurbishment

Community Church's historical pump organ is nearly ready to play again! CPC friend Bob Scott has been refurbishing and repairing the organ for the past several months. He has nearly completed his work, and the organ should be back in place and functional by the end of September. Our thanks to Bob for many, many hours of volunteer labor in rebuilding a dearly-loved instrument. (A write-up on the organ may be found in the History portion of our website.)

Annex Renovation Continues

The mortgage on the Annex has been completely paid! CPC member Pete Main has been repairing windows and applying stain to the exterior of the building in preparation for the winter. John Roose and a corps of dedicated volunteers have finished a concrete sidewalk extending from Silver Street to the front of the Annex, with a patio extension around the south side of the building. The sidewalk will make access to the building much safer and more convenient this winter. Our thanks to John and all of the volunteers who helped build the sidewalk.

2007 Stewardship Campaign

As has become our custom in recent years, Community Church held a one-month stewardship campaign at the end of July and through most of August this summer. Faithful member Joe Steele once again stepped forward to plan and coordinate the campaign. Joe arranged for nine small group meetings in homes of members and affiliate members over the campaign period. Pastor John attended each meeting, giving him a chance to know CPC members and friends better. John collected ideas, dreams, and hopes from the attendees, and answered questions regarding the church's finances and many other issues (as best he could). Joe also arranged for a stewardship minute in worship for each of four Sundays, given by different members of our fellowship. Many, many thanks to all small group meeting hosts and stewardship minute presenters!

On Sunday, August 27, members and friends were invited to submit their pledge covenants of time, talent, and treasure, and they responded exceedingly faithfully. Following the service, we enjoyed a celebration potluck ably coordinated by Elsie Steele. Thanks to all who helped.

As of this writing, pledges to Community Church for 2007 have reached a total of \$90,265, a remarkable sum, indicating the spiritual vitality of our members and friends. In addition, the church has received many pledges of time and talent for the coming year from many faithful saints. Pledge covenants are still fully needed and greatly appreciated from those who have not submitted one. Thank you most sincerely to every CPC saint who has covenanted for the year 2007! Generous giving of time, talent, and treasure is one important mark of strong discipleship!

Endowment Fund Developments

Community Church's Endowment Committee, which consists of Ed Smith, Tom Robb, Pat Ezell, Ron Bruce, and Durell and Helen Thompson, has been very busy over the past few months. The committee reviewed investment strategies for CPC's growing endowment funds including the recently received Heath and Harmon bequests.

On September 7 the session approved the committee's proposal for the consolidation of the endowment funds in an account to be supervised by Vanguard Asset Management Service. The

endowment fund now totals over \$528,000, a tribute to the faithfulness and generosity of many who have been, and some who continue to be, joined to our fellowship. The new investment strategy will significantly strengthen the income-producing potential of the endowment fund over the coming years. We are especially grateful to Ed Smith who spent countless hours researching various options and then following up on the endless details necessary to complete the consolidation.

The continued growth of the endowment fund will strengthen the financial stability of our church and help provide for a long and vibrant future for our fellowship...until Jesus returns! Thank you for considering and praying about a gift or bequest to the CPC endowment fund!

Children's Fellowship Underway!

Children's Fellowship, an important mission of Community Church to Lake City children, resumed on September 13 for the new school year, under the capable leadership of co-directors Joan Scott and Barbara Moore. The children have had a great time hearing stories from the Bible, playing related games, making related crafts, and enjoying delicious snacks. Many thanks to Joan and Barbara and all of the dedicated volunteers who make this ministry possible!

Community Church to Host Western Colorado Presbytery

Community Presbyterian Church will be hosting the Fall Stated Meeting of Western Colorado Presbytery on Friday and Saturday, September 29-30. WCP is the regional authority of our denomination, consisting of 15 churches, one of which is CPC. Our church will provide meeting space and facilities, as well as two meals and assorted snacks for the 50 or so commissioners expected. We appreciate the dedicated work of elder and session clerk Jay Farrar, who has overseen preparations for the meeting. Thanks also to Helen Thompson who is coordinating food and refreshments. We look forward to greeting and hosting sisters and brothers in Christ from the western part of our state.

News from Members and Friends

- Lori Winblood just completed her term as the Chairperson for the Western committee of PCUSA Self-Development of People. She and David attended a conference in the Dominican Republic earlier this summer and said it was a life-changing experience.
- Clarence Natelborg left this life on June 29, 2006. May God comfort Marian, Ken, Sharon, and all those who hold Clarence dear.
- Jim and Dot Main celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary (a little early!) on Sunday, July 2 in the church yard. Many dear friends were present to help Jim and Dot celebrate God's blessings to them over 60 years. The Mains are now living in Amarillo, Texas.
- Congratulations to Ron Bruce who was recently elected as the Republican candidate for sheriff of Hinsdale County. He will be running un-opposed in the November elections.
- James and Mary Ann Underwood will become seasonal residents of Lake City as of this winter. The Underwoods have sold their Lake City home and will spend the summers in Grand Prairie, Texas. They fully intend to be back for many Lake City summers!
- Faithful member, elder, and session clerk Joanne Drake will be moving to Fruita, Colorado in October. She will be greatly missed. God's blessings, Joanne!
- Welcome to new members Alan and Barbara Moore who have moved here full-time from Texas. We are excited to have them join us.