

Christ Church CONNECTIONS

CHRIST CHURCH UNITED METHODIST, 690 COLORADO BLVD., DENVER 80206



Christ Church United Methodist: A Reconciling Congregation

✘ War & Peace ✘

every Thursday evening during Lent
7:00—8:00 p.m. in the Chapel

sponsored by the Adult Education Committee

February 25 — Naming Evil in Our World

March 4 — Terrorism in our Front Lawn

March 11 — War & Peace with Bonhoeffer

March 18 — Concepts of a Just War with Bush & Obama

March 25 — Panel discussion on supporting our veterans.

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✘ Children's Choir ✘

The Children's Education Committee will be having a choir robe fundraiser beginning on February 14. We hope to get 20 robes made for the children. Parents can help by sending packets to grandparents or relatives who sew. We are asking you to help in one of two ways: 1) Pay for a choir robe to be made for the children (total cost is \$40 per robe), and/or 2) take a ready-to-make packet and sew a robe for the children! Each packet will include fabric for the robe and the stole, a zipper, thread, and a pattern for a specific child. Questions about sewing can be directed to Kirsten Reilly, chair of Children's Education.

Christ Church is a United Methodist congregation committed to theological pluralism and cultural inclusiveness. Our faith community encourages a thoughtful approach to religion, taking seriously both the heart and the mind in nurturing the spirit. We strive to meet the world around us with compassion and love. We seek wholeness in living by working to identify, articulate, and act on the connections between our personal lives and the world around us.

Our hope is that you will find here a Christian community of integrity that will challenge you and encourage you in your spiritual journey. We offer many opportunities for congregational involvement and community service. We invite you to be a part of our congregation.

✧ Water Words ✧

A few weeks before Christmas I challenged Christ Church to collect 50 sleeping bags for the homeless to be handed out on Christmas Day in Civic Center Park. Some of you did not hear my report about that experience the Sunday after Christmas, so I want to share it with you now.

First of all THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU for your generosity and support of this project. We ended up with 90 sleeping bags! And several of you were able to come to the park and help hand them out.

We were met with expectant eyes and hands of homeless people who had heard there would be sleeping bags given away. (How they learned that is another story!)

I heard comments like: “Can you believe they gave us a brand new sleeping bag?” and “You mean no one else has ever slept in this? It still has tags!” Several people cried as they said thank you. Others left in a hurry to go tell their friends on the street what was going on. After only 45 minutes we were down to the last bag as two young men came running to our location. The first got a bag, the second looked on in disbelief that he missed out.

We were all left with the feeling of having made just a little difference in the lives of 90 people for just a little while. We were also left with the sadness that no matter how many bags we might have had, someone wasn’t going to get one.

Just because there isn’t enough to go around doesn’t mean you don’t start giving what you have! The next day, a member of another United Methodist congregation in Denver went out and bought 20 more sleeping bags and took them to the park. The young man from Christmas Day may or may not have gotten one. But there would also have been a 21st person.

I hope your generosity will never end. I hope your willingness to care about others will stay alive. And I hope that we don’t wait until next Christmas to remember how to be compassionate.

—Carolyn Waters

✧ Welcoming Committee ✧

The Welcoming Committee is looking for some volunteers to as we attempt to interact better with visitors and guests. Since November 1, 2009, Christ Church has had 55 first-time visitors to the church. WOW! This is an amazing number. We are attempting to deliver bread to each and every visitor and call visitors after their third visit to invite them to engage with the church at a deeper level. If you would be willing to spend 2-3 hours once a month delivering bread, please contact Kristen Hampton at cricket_concerto@hotmail.com. If you would willing to make 3-4 phone calls each week, please contact Eric Strader at estrader@christchurchcolorado.org.

Christ Church Staff

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Sunday Morning Schedule:

9:00 a.m. Children’s Sunday School

& Adult Education

10:15 a.m. WORSHIP

11:15 a.m. Coffee Hour

Church Office Hours:

9:00 a.m.—12:00 noon;

1:00 — 3:00 p.m.

Monday—Thursday

CLOSED on Friday

Announcements

• **Health Kits for Haiti:** Would you like to help with Haiti relief? Here is a way to combine your money with your hands to help earthquake survivors. Please bring either as many full kits as you can or buy bulk of any one item (such as 24 bars of soap). Items need brought to church on Feb. 7 and 14. We will have an assembly line on Feb. 14 to put kits together. Join as we express our love for those who suffer on this Valentine's Day.

- 1 gallon size Ziploc baggie
- 1 hand towel (15" x 25" up to 17" x 27", No kitchen towels)
- 1 washcloth
- 1 comb
- 1 nail file or fingernail clippers
- 1 bath-size bar of soap
- 1 toothbrush
- 6 adhesive plastic strip sterile bandages
- \$1.00 to purchase toothpaste



Cares & Concerns

• **Christ Church Food Pantry** is once again in desperate need of donations. The church office gives out an average of 8-12 full bags of groceries every week! Your donated items go to community members in need, many with families to feed. Please consider buying an extra bag of non-perishable food items the next time you visit the store. PLEASE no back-of-your-own-pantry salad dressings and canned pumpkin! Canned meat, pastas & vegetables, protein bars, and single-serving meals are needed most.

✧ Community Life ✧

ADULT SEMINAR

Sunday, February 7, Dr. Edward Antonio, Iiff Professor and Diversity Officer, will share with us "The Rewards of Diversity." February 14 and 21, our own Dr. Gene Tucker will lead us in an exploration of "America's Changing Environment." On February 28, our own Dr. Katherine Turpin will share with us her insights as reflected in her recent book *Branded: Adolescents Converting from Consumer Faith*. —Jane Smith

ACOLYTE TRAINING

All children in grades 2 through 6 are invited to attend a special acolyte training session on February 7 following the worship service. We will spend about 15-20 minutes discussing how to acolyte and the reason we light the candles at the beginning of worship.

COFFEEHOUSE THEOLOGY

Coffeehouse Theology will begin a new series on the first Sunday of Lent, Feb. 21. We will begin a journaling series, exploring both the Lenten scriptures with the writings of Theologian Howard Thurman. Each Sunday we will discuss our thoughts and writings. Howard Thurman was a theologian and civil rights leader who was Dean of Chapel at Boston University. All are welcome to come and go during this series. Journals will be available on Sunday Feb. 21. Eric Strader facilitates this class, which will meet in the Upper Room from 9:15-10:00.

LABYRINTH: FIRST WEEKEND OF LENT

Lent is a time to explore the soul, to journey with God, intentionally. Lent is at time to be in self-denial as a way of being mindful of God's presence. You will have an opportunity to prepare yourself for Lent by walking the Labyrinth on Saturday Feb. 20 and Sunday Feb. 21. On Saturday the Labyrinth will be open from 3-6 for meditation and reflection. On Sunday the Labyrinth will be open from 9-12. We hope you will take the time to take a walk with God as you begin your Lenten journey.

YOUNG ADULT BRUNCH

Young Adult brunches are back!! After a break for the holidays, we will join together for brunch at Hotcakes, 1400 E. 18th Street, on Sunday, February 28, following the worship service. This is a great way to meet new people, reconnect with church friends, and share the hospitality of others.

METRO DISTRICT CELEBRATION

The Metropolitan District will hold a celebration of our ministries and churches on February 27 at Trinity United Methodist Church. The CCUM Children's Choir has been asked to participate in singing for the worship service. Contact Kenita Gibbins, District Co-Lay Leader for more information on this celebration. —Eric Strader

Christ Church Calendar: February 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:00 p.m. Rocky Mountain Children's Choir 	2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00 p.m. Boy Scouts 	3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 p.m. Dances for Universal Peace 7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir 	4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3:00 p.m. Neuropathy Support 5:30 p.m. Mosaic Youth Chorus 6:00 p.m. Easting Disorder Support 	5	6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 a.m. Debtors Anonymous
7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 a.m. Education Hour 10:15 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Coffee 11:30 a.m. Social Action Committee 11:30 a.m. Worship Committee 11:30 a.m. Acolyte Training 6:30 p.m. Denver Gay Men's Chorus 	8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:00 p.m. Rocky Mountain Children's Choir 	9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00 p.m. Children's Ed Committee 6:00 p.m. Trustees 7:00 p.m. Steering Committee 7:00 p.m. Program Committee 	10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 p.m. Dances for Universal Peace 7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir 	11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30 p.m. Mosaic Youth Chorus 6:00 p.m. Easting Disorder Support 	12	13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 a.m. Debtors Anonymous 10:00 a.m. UMW Valentine Tea
14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 a.m. Education Hour 10:15 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Coffee 11:30 a.m. Health Kits for Haiti assembly 6:30 p.m. Denver Gay Men's Chorus 	15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:00 p.m. Rocky Mountain Children's Choir 	16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00 p.m. Boy Scouts 	17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11:00 a.m. Lions Club 7:00 p.m. Dances for Universal Peace 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday worship 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir 	18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3:00 p.m. Neuropathy Support 5:30 p.m. Mosaic Youth Chorus 6:00 p.m. Easting Disorder Support 	19	20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 a.m. Debtors Anonymous 3:00 p.m. Labyrinth opens
21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 a.m. Education Hour 10:15 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Coffee 11:30 a.m. Adult Ed 6:30 p.m. Denver Gay Men's Chorus 	22 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:00 p.m. Rocky Mountain Children's Choir 7:00 p.m. UMW VIBE Circle 	23	24 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 p.m. Dances for Universal Peace 7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir 	25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30 p.m. Mosaic Youth Chorus 6:00 p.m. Easting Disorder Support 	26	27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 a.m. Debtors Anonymous 9:00 a.m. Metro District Celebration (offsite)
28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 a.m. Education Hour 10:15 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Coffee 11:30 a.m. Young Adult Brunch 6:30 p.m. Denver Gay Men's Chorus 	<p>Christ Church Connections Deadline for March article submissions: February 20, 2010 Submit articles to: briggs@christchurchcolorado.org</p>					