

J U L Y 2 0 0 9 E D I T I O N

# Christ Church CONNECTIONS

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



*Christ Church United Methodist: A Reconciling Congregation*

## ✘ All-Church Picnic ✘

SUNDAY, JULY 19 — 11:45 A.M.

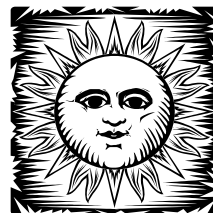
**Robinson Park (Fairfax St. & E. 3rd Ave.)**

**Invite your friends & neighbors to join us!**

The Children's Education Work Area is excited to present the Annual CCUM All-Church Picnic, to be held this year in Robinson Park just following the worship service on Sunday, July 19. Come to worship on July 13 in your best "picnic attire," then join us at the park for great food and fun! Games will include a water-balloon toss, piñata, 3-leg race, and other activities appropriate for all ages. A main dish will be provided; please bring salads, desserts, chips, water bottles and other non-alcoholic beverages. Other great items to bring to the picnic include lawn chairs, card tables, frisbees, and other outdoor games. See you on July 19 at the CCUM All-Church Picnic!

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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 monthly column by Christ Church pastor, Rev. Carolyn Waters*

The path we are on is not necessarily the path that will take us where we are going.

Change is the most difficult and the most exciting part of life! Some changes are welcomed, others dreaded. Some changes come by choice; others are forced upon us by the circumstances of living. Change of thought is perhaps the most challenging! Change of perception of another person can also jar our relationships.

But life is about change. When we stop changing, we die... both emotionally, spiritually, and literally.

I am amazed by the changes taking place at Christ Church. The energy of the young adults who are coming through the doors, the spiritual hunger of aging baby boomers, and the quest for meaning of the wise old ones all inspire me for the ministry that is to be done.

The changes in the neighborhood are also challenging. Paying attention to and participating in our local community is much of what it means to be a community of faith.

I hope that you welcome the changes you make, both those anticipated and those unexpected. Change is the fertile soil for personal growth and the perfect opportunity for spiritual renewal. The thought of spring sounds like a good idea to me right now — just a little change in the weather would be nice!

Be about the opportunity of transformation! It's how God shows up in the world.

—Carolyn Waters

*EDITOR'S NOTE: This "Best of Water Words" column originally appeared in the April 2008 edition of Christ Church Connections.*

## ✧ Upcoming Events ✧

### DINNER FOR 8 (OR MORE!)

This is a great opportunity to get to know other members of Christ Church over dinner. Here is how it works: get a group of people together and Eric will plan the event. If you want to be included in a dinner but don't have a group, just let Eric know, too. Email Eric at <estrader@christchurchcolorado.org>.

### ADULTS (20-35)

Brunch at Hotcakes on Sunday July 26.

—Eric Strader

## Christ Church Staff

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### Sunday Morning Schedule:

SUMMER Schedule:

10:15 a.m. WORSHIP

11:15 a.m. Coffee Hour

*(Children's & Adult Education  
will resume in September)*

### Church Office Hours:

9:00 a.m.—12:00 noon;

1:00 — 3:00 p.m.

Monday—Thursday

**CLOSED** on Friday

## Joys & Thanks

- **Congratulations to Stephanie Chamberlain & David Stewart** on the birth of their son Louge last month.
- Thank you to everyone who participated in the **Trustees Summer Clean-Up day** last month. The outside grounds of the church look beautiful!
- Thank you to everyone who marched in the **Denver Gay Pride Parade** on Sunday, June 28. We had around 30 Christ Church congregants participate in the parade this year.



## Cares & Concerns

- **The Ecumenical Refugee Services** will once again be at Christ Church at the end of July to help refugee children, most of whom are from Bhutan, get a good start in American schools. Many of the children will be attending charter schools and are in need of school supplies and new uniform trousers—both for girls and boys, in khaki, navy or black (available at Target, Sears, Penney's & Old Navy.) Also needed are jeans, socks and underwear. All the help you can give is appreciated by the students. If you would like to donate food, please bring in bags of rice and beans. Donations must be received by Sunday, July 19.

## \* Financial Report \*

### QUARTERLY FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT TO THE CONGREGATION

In order to keep the congregation informed as to how CCUM is doing on its financial operations, this is the first of four quarterly financial reports to the congregation. For the quarter January through March the budget and actual amounts are as follows:

<u>Income</u>	Budget	Actual	Difference
Pledges/Contributions	\$49,775	\$41,340	-\$8,435
Use Fees	\$12,500	\$13,595	+\$1,095
Fund Raising	\$3,750	\$0	-\$3,750
Gifts from the Past	\$10,814	\$10,814	\$0
Interest Income	\$2,250	\$992	-\$1,258
<b>Total Sources</b>	<b>\$79,089</b>	<b>\$66,741</b>	<b>-\$12,348</b>

### Expenses

UMC Apportionments	\$7,510	\$4,217	-\$3,293
Programs	\$1,937	\$3,446	+\$1,509
Office Expenses	\$2,849	\$2,505	- \$567
Church Staff	\$47,852	\$46,291	-\$1,561
Utilities and Facilities	\$18,293	\$15,499	-\$2,794
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$78,441</b>	<b>\$71,958</b>	<b>-\$6,483</b>

Notes: Although the category of Use Fees was ahead of its budgeted income for the three months, there was no money from fund raising events budgeted to be \$3,750. Pledges and Contributions ran \$8,435 below budget and total sources of income were \$12,348 below budget.

On the expense side we ran behind in Conference Apportionments by \$3,293, which we will catch up by the end of the year. All other expense areas were at or below budget for the three months.

The net effect of this rate of expenses and sources of income is that we are running about \$2,000 per month behind in our budget through the first quarter. Even if we reach our goal of raising \$15,000 in special fund raising events the budget deficit may reach \$24,000 by year-end.

—Finance Committee

# Christ Church Calendar: July 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Christ Church Connections</b> Deadline for August article submissions: <b>July 25, 2009</b> Submit articles to: <a href="mailto:briggs@christchurchcolorado.org">briggs@christchurchcolorado.org</a>			1	2	3	4
5 • 10:15 a.m. Worship Service	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 • 10:15 a.m. Worship Service	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 • 10:15 a.m. Worship Service • 11:45 a.m. All Church Picnic	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 • 10:15 a.m. Worship Service • 12:00 p.m. Adults (20-35) brunch	27	28	29	30	31	

## ✧ Reconciling Ministries ✧

### PRIDE PARADE EXPERIENCE

Ben and I had an awesome experience both parading and selling the water to help Jay out! I saw people I know who rushed out to thank me; a lady on sidelines thanked Charles and me for basically representing the real spirit of Christians.

Everyone of all diversity seemed to be having fun. Young guys seemed a little amazed to walk up to our water booth and see a lady of mature years such as me and thanked me.

This is in fact the huge civil rights issue of the autumn of my life and I would love to be included in anything Ben and I can do to help. Civil rights for African Americans was the issue of the spring of my life and while I spoke up for them and did some things, I can now see my helping so

much more on this civil rights issue. We are progressing, folks, step by step by step!

Let us each “Be the change we want to see in the world.”  
 —Gandhi —Sandy Houston

## ✧ United Methodist Women ✧

### UMW ACTIVITIES

A group of UMW members got together June 12 for a tour of The Gathering Place and was enjoyed by all. It’s an impressive place providing the community with a much needed service.

The UMW brunch, June 27, was also a pleasant and enjoyable time in fellowship together. There are no UMW activities planned for July. Enjoy your summer!

—Sheryl Byers