

# The Beacon

A monthly publication of Lakewood United Church of Christ



October 2011

Volume 56 Issue 10

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## That They May All Be One

"I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one." John 17: 20-21

People fight. People argue. People disagree. But it seems that arguments within families stir more passion and have more potential for damage than other kinds of disagreements. Perhaps it is because we care so deeply. Perhaps it is because we know all the right buttons to push. Perhaps it is our familiarity with one another that allows us to zero in on one another's weaknesses and vulnerabilities with laser-sharp precision. Jesus knew that familial ties hold the potential for real and lasting damage if we aren't careful, which is why just before his arrest in the garden, Jesus prays for unity among his disciples and for those who would come after them in faith.

"That they may all be one" is the motto of the United Church of Christ, drawing on this passage from John's gospel. The UCC was founded in 1957 under the idea that what we have in common (Christ) is more important than any other divisions and distinctions which might divide us. Unfortunately, arguments and fights within the world-wide Christian family are among some of the most damaging and divisive of all religious arguments. And as much as we might love to blame "them" for the vitriol, it definitely goes both ways. Those of us on the "liberal" or "progressive" end of the Christian continuum have as much to confess as our brothers and sisters on the other end of the continuum. Jesus prayed for unity, and sadly we haven't been unified for a very long time.

World Communion Sunday is an effort, for at least one day, to focus on what we share as Christians. While we may disagree on the details, the practice of communion is something we all hold in common. On October 2, we'll once again be celebrating World Communion Sunday as a witness to the unity of the global Christian Church. We'll be singing songs from different countries and cultures. We'll receive communion "in the round" as a way to embody the unity hoped for in Jesus' prayer. We'll be hearing from our Mission Team on their trip to the Pine Ridge Reservation, and we'll also be collecting our "Neighbors in Need" offering. It should be a big, busy, and beautiful day in the life of our church.

While celebrating "World Communion" together won't settle old scores or erase old scars, it has the potential to remind us of just how big and diverse our Christian family is, and perhaps will put us on a path towards greater unity. Imagine how much we could do together if Christians world-wide decided to stop fighting each other and to start fighting together against injustice, hatred, poverty, and other social sins. Jesus prayed that we might all be one. Sunday October 2, we'll do our best to be an answer to Jesus' prayer. We hope you'll join us.

Blessings, Curt

## Moderator's Reflections

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Remember the old saying about how the vice president doesn't have anything to do? Well, the vice moderator of our church may stay out of the limelight, but she has a very full plate. Molly Hughes, who is vice moderator this year, has two primary functions without which we would be in a great deal of difficulty. At LUCC, the vice moderator chairs the Personnel Committee, and this group is just wrapping up a very important function, the evaluation of the work done by our staff. Working in conjunction with the Board of Church Operations, the Personnel Committee may propose salary increases for 2012 once the stewardship campaign is completed later this year.



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A second important task for the vice moderator and Personnel Committee is the preparation of the nominations slate for 2012-2013. While this task is scheduled for early next year, it can be a daunting one as we attempt to fill 93 positions! Many talents make light work for LUCC, so we encourage you to think about how you might serve the church in the coming year. It's not a requirement that you wait to be approached; instead, we encourage you to step forward and tell Molly of your interest. You will be glad you did.

Tabby Bernardo,  
Moderator



### Hey, High Schoolers, . . . Come to Camp!

La Foret Retreat Center (near Colo. Springs) is the THE place to be on October 14-16 for senior high Fall Retreat. The retreat is planned and led by high school youth and promises to be a truly amazing weekend. Check-in begins at 7:00 p.m. on Friday night (arrangements can be made if you need to be later) and ends at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday. *Never been to camp?* Don't worry, this will be a perfect introduction complete with games, discussion, stuff that glows, worship, and a costume-optional dance. The cost is \$150, but we have scholarships, so don't let the cost keep you from having a great experience. Get your complete registration packet in the office or from Curt. Questions? Ask Curt or Danielle (I'll be there that weekend!) you at camp!

## The Action Center Beautiful Junk Sale

Friday, October 14, 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 15, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Special Early Bird Shopping

7:00-8:30 a.m. Friday Only \$20

Jefferson County

Fairgrounds

15200 W. 6th Ave.

Golden, Colorado

All proceeds benefit the Action Center.



## TIDINGS

As the fall season begins, we note that the Wednesday Bible Study continues to grow. While attendees used to gather around one table, then two, in the glass-enclosed conference room off the narthex, the group now requires three tables and extends into the Fellowship Hall. As Janet Hehr reminds us, growth is a very good problem to have.

If you have ever thought about Bible study as a way to learn, grow and share, we invite you to join the group Wednesday mornings from 10:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Prior study experience is not required, and Pastor Curt encourages our embracing diverse thoughts and opinions. If you're worried about space, we have the entire Fellowship Hall to fill.

Wasn't it great to have "our" Erica Calderon join Anne Rowland, her musical group, and "our" Steve Goebel in leading our musical worship on September 18?



**Let's Get Acquainted** with Marcia Jane Forney, who sees a need and quietly does what she can to fill it. A prime example of this is the Good Grief group, which Marcia formed in 2007, shortly after the death of her husband, Frank. Good Grief is an informal gathering for folks who have suffered a loss, whether through death, divorce, alienation or any other experience. As she explains it, we all go through a lot of pain, especially in the initial stages of grief. Over the years, a number of people have come to rely on the group for support. From that group, which meets monthly, evolved the Out to Lunch Bunch, at which all church members are invited to meet at a local restaurant for Sunday lunch. That, she says, is a ministry of its own. September's gathering, held at a Chinese restaurant, drew about 20 folks.

Marcia grew up in New York, Pennsylvania and Kentucky and graduated from the University of Richmond, Virginia, with a major in psychology and a minor in religion. She became a social worker for a

children's home and studied for a sociology degree while her first husband did graduate work at the University of Iowa. She also attended seminary at Southern Baptist University in Louisville, KY. Marcia later earned a master's in art therapy at the University of Texas at Arlington and worked at a residential treatment center in Texas. From this marriage she has a son, George, who has a wife and two children in Texas, and a daughter, Paige, who has a husband and three children in Castle Rock.



*Marcia later married Frank Forney and the couple moved to Colorado, where he was in charge of computer services at Regis University. They joined LUCC in 1993. The late Ben Smith, LUCC's interim pastor at the time, suggested Marcia apply for a position with the UCC conference office, which she did. She worked there for several years and later became LUCC's Christian Education director, retiring in June 2006. She hasn't slowed down, though. She's a soprano in the chancel choir, is a regular at the weekly Bible study, is part of the Prayer Group, has chaired the Alternative Gift Market several times in past years, and recently became a member of the Shepherd Committee.*

Art has always been a large part of Marcia's life, but she didn't become an artist, she says, "because I would starve to death." In the past she has done portraits in pencil, pastels, and oil, but now she is concentrating her efforts on wild animals. "My art is for my own pleasure," she says, citing that some of her works decorate her home. She has been known to head into the mountains for a few days of renewal, meditation and art. She is also devoted to the two cats in her life.

Marcia enjoys reading and cites as one of her favorite books "School of Prayer," by Olive Wyon. She received it as a gift from her mother and describes it as helpful and meaningful. Another favorite is "The Prophet," by Kahal Gibnan.

When asked what her favorite food might be, she answered with a smile in her voice, "Eating with others."

*Tabby Bernardo*

*Photos by Jenny Merriman*

## Christian Education

Lakewood UCC - Christian Education (CE)  
(Children, Youth and Adults)

### 1. Building Blocks of Faith (BBF) – Children’s Sunday School

BBF Student October 2011 Curriculum:

Teaching Series –The Lord’s Prayer  
 October 2, 2011 – Jesus Taught Us How to Pray  
 October 9, 2011 – I Talk with God, God Hears My Prayers  
 October 16, 2011 – Why Should I Pray?  
 October 23, 2011 – The Purpose of Prayer

BBF Teachers Needed! (Please contact Jen Keyes if you are able to help.)

October Teaching Needs:  
 October 16, 2011 – Doves (Older Kids)- 2 Teaching Spots

#### Teacher Appreciation

A special thank you to the CE Board for teaching the month of September. You are a wonderful team: Priscilla Ingebrigtsen (Chair), Paul Michalec, Nancy Krebs, Lisa Lloyd.

### 2. Youth At Church (YAC)

#### YAC Schedule for October 2011

October 2, 2011 - YAC at Church – 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
 October 9, 2011 - YAC at Church – 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
 October 16, 2011 - YAC at Church – 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
 October 23, 2011 - No YAC  
 October 30, 2011 - Corn Maze – Leave Church at 4:30 p.m. – Return 8:00 p.m.

### 3. Adult Education

#### Titles for upcoming presentations- Nooma Series

The adult series will be held on Sundays after Worship at 11:30 a.m. in the Stage Room upstairs. All are welcome to enjoy a wonderful presentation and discussion.

10/02 - “NOISE”  
 10/09 - “KICKBALL”  
 10/16 - “ LUGGAGE”  
 10/23 - “ RAIN”  
 10/30 - “TBA”



**CHRISTIAN  
EDUCATION**

**4. Confirmation** meets on October 9 from 11:30-1:00 p.m., and on October 23 from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

## LUCC News

Here is a brief synopsis of our financial picture as of August 31, 2011:

Pledged income (\$148,584) was 96% of expectations (\$155,238) for this time of year.  
Unpledged income (\$9,149) was 104% of expectations (\$8,768) for this time of year.  
Total income (\$174,702) was 96% of expectations (\$182,794) for this time of year.  
Total expenses (\$178,544) were 97% of expectations (\$184,010) for this time of year.  
As of August 31, 2011, expenses exceeded income by (\$2,626).

Net income was budgeted at (\$1,216). The actual was a net loss of (\$3,842). The difference of (\$2,626) was due to pledged income being 4% lower than budget.

Board of Church Operations

### **Immediate Opening for Confirmation Sponsor**

I'm happy to report that we are going to have about 10 youth going through the Confirmation program here at Lakewood UCC. However, we are still looking for an adult who would like to help lead the program alongside Curt. The only requirements are that you enjoy walking, talking, joking, and laughing with youth and that you have an open heart for questions of faith. No previous experience necessary. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Curt.

### **Introduction to the Labyrinth on Monday, October 3**



Did you know Lakewood UCC has a labyrinth? Have you ever walked it? Whether you want to know more about how to use this spiritual practice to deepen your faith or just want to give it a try for the first time, all are welcome. We'll gather at 9:45 a.m. in the courtyard. Pastor Curt will offer a brief introduction to walking the labyrinth and then we'll all walk. Time permitting, we'll reflect on our experiences and share our insights. Please contact Curt if you have any questions.

### **New Member Inquirers Lunch Sunday, October 16**

New to Lakewood UCC? Been around a while but never joined? We have an opportunity for you! We are gathering for lunch and conversation open to all who are interested in learning more about what we believe, how we operate, and what it means to become a member of Lakewood United Church of Christ. Coming to the meeting does not commit you to joining. Please RSVP to Curt by Oct. 9, so we know how many to expect. New members will be received during worship on October 30.



## Flowers in Worship

*For many years we have had flowers on the communion table to enhance the worship space and to celebrate special people and events in our lives. The **Flower Chart** on the bulletin board in the narthex has been our primary way of doing this. We'll continue to use the flower sign-up chart, but it will be on a table for easier signing. To help all of us remember, **email or postcard reminders will be sent to you** prior to the Sunday you have chosen. Please bring whatever you choose, but keep in mind that simple and small serves just as effectively as large and dramatic to help us focus on God and the beauty of God's world. If you would like to pay for flowers, but are not able to arrange for them to be here, please contact Jean in the church office and she will make the necessary arrangements.*

When you do bring flowers you are welcome to take them home after the worship service for your own use. Or, if on occasion, you would prefer to have them **shared** with members who are unable to come to the church for worship, you will be given the opportunity of indicating this by putting an **asterisk (\*)** by your name on the sign-up poster. In this way your floral contribution can have the added purpose of bringing joy to others who are home-bound. Thank you! If you have questions about any of this, please contact Marcia Forney by phone (303-238-5283).

## STEWARDSHIP

Do you count yourself blessed? Do we as a church feel we are blessed? Hopefully, the answer to both questions is a resounding "Yes!" The Stewardship theme for this year is "Count Yourself Blessed," based on the scripture from Luke 6:38. This scripture reads, "Give and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap, for the measure you give will be the measure you get back." We want you to start thinking about your many blessings, and how we can all show our appreciation for what we have received. The Stewardship campaign will be held the first three Sundays in November, culminating on Nov. 20 when we will dedicate our pledges and celebrate together. Stay tuned for more information at a later date. Until then, blessings to you all!

The Stewardship Committee - Ken Bernhardt, Bill and Glenda Bobby, Les Hayes

**Stewardship**  
Time | Talent | Treasure



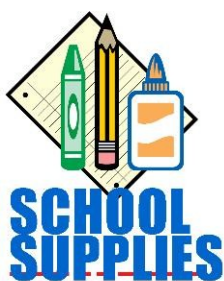
Please join us as we celebrate **World Communion Sunday**, on October 2, 2011 at 10:15 a.m.

## BOARD OF MISSION, OUTREACH & EVANGELISM

### SOUTH LAKEWOOD OPPORTUNITIES

Our relationship opportunities with South Lakewood Elementary School are numerous this year. People can choose to donate time and/or supplies.

One of the needs at the school is helping with Homework Club, from 3:35 to 4:10 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays. This program has a new coordinator this year and is looking forward to a successful program. Also, the specials teachers could use help any day from 1:10 to 1:55 p.m. The library can use help shelving books every school day at any time (sign up sheets on the Welcome Center).



We are also looking for help with stocking the school's supply closet with #2 pencils and wide ruled loose leaf paper. Our very own Miles McNeill noticed that many students in his class did not have snacks to eat, so the school would welcome donated snacks, such as goldfish crackers or pretzels (big bags, not individual packages) and fruit rolls or dried fruit. These would be made available to teachers to distribute to students identified with needs. Please contact Mary Ann Rothenburger if you have any questions.



### ACTION CENTER

The Action Center provided school supplies to 5,090 Jeffco students, an increase of 33% over last year. Barbara, the volunteer coordinator, would like to be able to give a backpack to each student, but only had enough to give one to a family. If you see backpacks on sale, please consider purchasing one or more for next year.



### ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET

The Mission Board is looking for volunteers to help coordinate or participate in the Alternative Gift Market taking place the first three Sundays in December. If you have any interest in helping with this worthwhile project, please contact Marcia Forney at 303-238-5283 or Sue Preston at 303-683-3092. More information on the Market to come in the November Beacon.

**KICKOFF POTLUCK** Thank you to all who helped set-up and clean-up for the Kickoff Potluck: Nancy and Craig Jorgensen, Brian Weishaar, Marilyn, Charlie and Katie Ransdell, and Rob and Tiffany Beaström.

We're off to a great start, please be sure to join in our adult and children's Sunday school education classes.



# SERVICES

Please join us at 10:15 a.m. on Sundays for Worship.

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

LUCC office hours are 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon, Monday through Friday. Feel free to contact the office manager if you will need assistance outside of regular office hours.

## From Our Shepherds

**Please keep the following people in your prayers:**

- Bea Auch and Ed Mitchell
- Henry and Margaret Wiese
- Tim Randle and family
- Paul Michalec


### Sunday Schedule

**9:30 a.m.** Nursery Care Available  
**10:15 a.m.** Worship Service  
 (Children begin in worship and transition to Sunday school)  
**11:15 a.m.** Fellowship hour


Large print bulletins and hearing assists are available at each worship service. If you need one, ask the greeter for one as you enter the Sanctuary.

### Child Care Available

Child care is available in the nursery from 9:30 a.m. until the end of the service. Sara Ulricksen and Marissa Maestas are our childcare providers. We also have youth assistants in the nursery. Childcare is available for children age 3 and younger. Visiting children are welcome. The nursery is located at the far north end of the upper level.



### OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH



Good Grief "Out to Lunch Bunch" will meet at noon on October 16 at the Egg and I at 7830 W. Alameda Ave #100. Everyone is invited to join in.



# ATTENDANCE

Date	Attendance	To Date	This Was...
8/28/2011	80	9263	Church in the Park
9/4/2011	93	9356	Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
9/11/2011	115	9474	Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
9/18/2011	108	9579	Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**OUR APPRECIATION FOR THOSE THAT HAVE SERVED US**

**Greeters for September**

9/4 Charlie and Marilyn Ransdell  
 9/11 Rob and Tiffany Beastrom  
 9/18 Deb Dunn and Doii Mast  
 9/25 Nancy True and Jesse Anderson

**Fellowship Hosts for September**

9/4 LaNelle Haxton and Carmen Jaeger  
 9/11 Kickoff Sunday potluck  
 9/18 Judi Baxter and Sheldon Picard  
 9/25 Rob and Tiffany Beastrom



**Christmas Survey—Please Help Us!**

Every couple of years Christmas Day falls on a Sunday and this is one of those years. The Worship Committee is trying to determine the best time to have

worship on Sunday, Dec. 25, in order to get the most participation and provide the most meaningful worship opportunity.

Obviously, whatever is decided will not work for everyone, but we'd like your input. Right now we are considering one of the following options:  
 10:15 a.m. (as usual),  
 mid-afternoon (around 2:30 p.m.)  
 or early evening (around 5:00 p.m.).

Please find and fill out the survey on the Welcome Center. Thank you.

**Welcomers for September**

9/4 Mary Ann Rothenberger  
 9/11 Sue Preston  
 9/18 LaNelle Haxton and Carmen Jaeger  
 9/25 Marilyn Bloomberg



Congratulations to **Ruth Blosser** on reaching her 95th birthday on October 11.

Birthday Blessings from your friends at LUCC!!

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY ED MITCHELL**

Please join our family as we celebrate Ed Mitchell's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday at an Open House on Sunday, October 9, 2011 from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at LUCC.



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**BEACON:**  
**How do I submit articles?**

Submit an article for use in the *Beacon* via email to the following address:  
**[lakewoodbeacon@qwestoffice.net](mailto:lakewoodbeacon@qwestoffice.net)**  
 You may also place your articles in the *Beacon* folder in the church office.  
 Email submissions are accepted either in the body of the email or as an attached Word document.

**The monthly deadline is the third FRIDAY of the previous month!**

The mission of the Lakewood United Church of Christ is to develop our faith in God, enabling us to know the abundant life Christ promised by nourishing our spiritual journey, fostering community, inviting others to join on the journey, and going forth into the world through service to do justice, love others, and promote peace. We are an Open and Affirming church, respecting all God's children regardless of race, color, ethnicity, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, age, or disability. We adopt and embrace the Policy to Protect against Sexual Abuse and Harassment.

**LUCC STAFF**

Curt Preston, Minister  
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Jen Keyes, CE Director  
Joan Wagner, Director of Music Ministries  
Brian Weishaar, Finance Manager  
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