

# Pinedale Community Church United Church of Christ July-August 2010 Newsletter

Whoever you are,  
Wherever you are in life's journey,  
You're welcome here!

## **Pinedale Community Church**

United Church of Christ  
P.O. Box 646, 113 South Maybell  
Pinedale, WY 82941  
(307) 367-2528

### **Our Mission**

"Our doors and ministry are open to all who follow Jesus and have a sincere desire to share God's love with others."

### **Church Schedule**

Sunday Worship ..... 10:30 am  
A nursery is provided during the worship service.

Preschool-Grade 5 Bible classes meet on Wednesdays after school.

For additional information, please visit these links:

#### **Our Web Site**

<http://www.pinedalecommunitychurch.org>

#### **Calendar of Events**

<http://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=yhwahp5a%40hotmail.com>

## **UCC REGIONAL NEWS**

**Wyoming Association passed a motion to realign the Wyoming Association.** Green River, Rock Springs, and Pinedale UCC churches are invited to covenant with Utah. Wheatland, Casper, Douglas and Laramie UCC churches are invited to covenant with Northeastern Colorado Association. Transition teams will be formed to begin the process of realignment and renaming. \$800 was donated to the Conference to defray costs of the Clergy/Partner retreat. Current balance of the camp scholarship fund prior to donation \$1505.75; seminary scholarship fund \$353; and checking account \$3,524.77. Monies will be divided appropriately with realignment.

According to Tom Rehling, of the RMC: "This is not new math and it is not magic. We are in the process of reducing the number of Associations in the Rocky Mountain Conference from 6 to 5 with no net losses and a win/win situation for everyone.

This spring the Utah Association, Wyoming Association, and Northeastern Association have agreed to work together on a mutual realignment merging the current three Associations into two new Associations. The 10 churches of Utah will combine with the 3 western Wyoming churches, and the 10 churches of northeastern Colorado will combine with the 4 churches of eastern Wyoming.

Our hope is to have the realignment completed by next year's Annual Meeting. In the meantime, the three Associations are working together to dissolve the current Associations and write Constitutions and Bylaws for the new Associations, while considering new names for both."

### **Meet Your Moderator: Rev. Pete Terpenning**

The Rocky Mountain Conference is happy to welcome Rev. Dr. Peter Terpenning as its moderator. Pastor Pete, as the children of his church call him, has been leading Community UCC in Boulder since 2001.

Although he says he did not seek the role of moderator, he is happy to fill the role because it is part of the responsibility of membership. "I'm a big fan of the UCC," he says, "so I figured it was time to put my money where my mouth is."

That wasn't always the case, though. Raised as a Methodist in the Cleveland suburb of Chagrin Falls, OH, Pete attended Duke Divinity School intending to be a professor. Though planning to take the academic route, "I found myself out being a minister."

Working in a church and working with people agreed with him, but the Methodist system did not. The policies of the Methodist Church, the hierarchy and the conservative stance especially, chafed the young Terpenning, who was then engaged to a medical student. "I just couldn't see being subject to these powerful bishops, who could decide to send you to a small church in the middle of nowhere as a punishment."

When his future wife Laura went to finish medical training in Chicago, he found the UCC and became an enthusiastic convert, eventually earning his PhD in the sociology of religion from Chicago Theological Seminary. He was ordained at University Church in Hyde Park, a Disciples of Christ/UCC church that had the same progressive views as he did.

"It was empowering that I was ordained only if the people of that church wanted me, not some bishop somewhere deciding," he recalls. "It felt much more powerful to have the people lay their hands on me instead of a bishop I might never see again."

Even after 20-some years in years in Chicago, Cleveland, Michigan and now Colorado, he still believes the democratic polity of the UCC is the best system. So, when nominations representative Rev. Benjamin Broadbent asked him to serve, he thought it appropriate to respond. "I challenge all lay and clergy of the church to do the same."

He notes that not all committees may be as functional as they could be, but that is just a matter of who is serving on them. "There are many ways for us all to get involved; if something isn't being done, it's our responsibility to step up and figure it out."

Getting more people involved in the workings of the conference is one of his goals. "As I see the money drying up, clergy and lay people are going to have to step up and take leadership."

He notes that the early church did not have paid staff at the conference level. "The local church did all the work," he says. "If people don't want to pay for a conference minister, they are going to have to do the work themselves."

The independent spirit of the West, he suspects, creates some reluctance to support a "bureaucracy" at the church level. "Back East, the historically German churches had no problem with hierarchy." But it comes down to whether people want to do the work or have an office to provide support.

He'd also like to see more RMC people involved at the national level and to make our social justice voice heard, participating in ecumenical and interfaith organization.

## FROM THE MODERATOR

Council meeting dates are

9/15

12/15

10/13

1/12/2011

11/17

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## FROM THE PASTOR

### A little Night Music

No, Stephen Sondheim was not present, but lots of other locally famous folks were! July 18th was a fun evening sharing our musical gifts and personal history.

*"As a long-time former church musician, the Night Music was terrific. Sue and George on guitars led us in a couple of sweet, old country tunes. The pianists were great; I especially liked Candy's playing of "Holy, Holy, Holy" one of the great hymns we all grew up with. The fellows from Rock Springs were so talented and friendly and got everyone in the mood. So from piano solos, to Carol's lovely rendition as well as Val's, to the choir and JJ's great rhythmic fingers on the keyboard, to Morgan and Katherine singing so sweetly, we had a diversified, relaxing, pleasant time. Do it again sometime?" ~Barb Wise*

George Ditton & Sue Briggs both on guitar led us in a couple old favorites. Steve Mitchell (interim pastor of Rock Springs UCC) sang a couple solos. Paul Allen (also of Rock Springs), and Candy Herda Scott shared piano numbers with us. Val Lee, Carol White, and Kathryn Konicek all sang solos accompanied by JJ Huntley. Kathryn & Morgan Holtz sang a duet. And our wonderful choir shared several numbers.

*"We thoroughly enjoyed it. Thank you for putting it on, hope we can do something like that again in the near future."*  
~Cathleen Mitchell

One of the best parts was getting to know one another better thru music. (Although the chili supper before hand and the cookies afterwards weren't too bad either.) Thanks to all who contributed and to those who attended for making this a special evening.

*"I think we speak "quite loudly" of our faith journeys through music. God allows us to transcend our ordinary lives as we come together in poetry and rhythm. Thank you, Great GOD!!"*  
~Julie "JJ" Huntley

Look for an upcoming musical service with the congregations of Vernal, Utah; Rock Springs, Wyoming; and Pinedale, Wyoming all together some evening in Rock Springs.

### Cowboy Sunday

July 25th our fourth annual Cowboy Hymn Sunday, marked several personal and congregational firsts. It was the first time I had ever led a church service in jeans, let alone the first time ever in cowboy boots! And they tell me it was the first time anyone wore spurs and chaps to light the candles and collect the offering! Said that wouldn't a' been done in the olden days. At coffee fellowship afterwards, Paul Hagenstein regaled us with a lonely cowboy song. Then there was the gal who showed up in her jammies... but that's a whole 'nother ball game. If you missed it, ask about "the Lord's Prayer" drama. And speaking of the Lord's Prayer, if you didn't get and read a green handout at the end of that day's service, here is what it said:

## **A Change is Coming: difficult but necessary**

Language is fluid and dynamic. Over time, words alter in meaning. I think it is past time for us to make one simple change in the way we as a congregation recite the Lord's prayer.

What do we mean when we say "forgive us our trespasses"? Do we use the word "trespass" anywhere in the rest of our ordinary lives? Not unless we are putting up "keep out" signs, or being arrested for ignoring those same signs.

There are two versions of the Lord's Prayer, one in Matthew 6 and another in Luke 11. The four translations we most often use in church are: the New American Standard (NASV); the New King James (NKJV); the New Revised Standard (NRSV); and Today's New International Version (TNIV). In all four of these versions, Matthew 6:12 uses the words "our debts" and "our debtors".

In three of these versions, the NASV, NKJV and NRSV, Luke 11:4 uses "sins" and "indebted." And the TNIV uses "sins" both places. None of them use the word "trespass."

Trespassing is an action, a violation, an encroachment or intrusion: something that we should not have done but did do. Debt is inaction, something owed, a liability or an obligation: something that we should have done and did not do. Trespassing is a sin of commission. Being a debtor is a sin of omission. Neither term encompasses both concepts.

So, with your kind permission, beginning next week, August 1<sup>st</sup>, we will use the word "sin" and "those who sin against us" when we recite the Lord's Prayer.

## **Lakeside Worship**

August 22nd is the date set for this year's outdoor worship service. We will meet the same time and place as always: 10:30 at the upper boat ramp. Bring your lawn chairs, table service and food to share. We'll sing with guitar, and after worship we'll share a meal together. Bert White will be barbecuing burgers & dogs. Don't forget to wear your sun screen and bug repellent!

~Carol

## **QUILT PATCHES**

Okay, I have a confession to make. I LOVE to read mystery novels. But, not just any mystery. I like what are called "cozy mysteries". They're the kind without most of the blood and gore. Kind of "Colonel Mustard in the library with a candlestick" and then we get on with solving who did it.

I was a sickly kid, so I fell in love with books as soon as I could read. We don't own a Kindle, and I don't download books to my computer, so I can read them on my monitor. I just love books. I love the feel of them, the colors of the covers, sometimes the art on the covers, and the way you can stick 'em on the counter while you're cooking or take 'em in the car or read 'em in bed before sleep. (When I was much younger, I used to balance 'em on the edge of the bathtub and read. That ended for obvious reasons quite awhile ago.) I use the library a lot and ILL (interlibrary loan) lots of books when our library doesn't own them.

I tell you all this so that I can relate something that happened last week which I can't say I've ever run into before. I had ILL'd a mystery in one of my favorite series. Couldn't wait to get it, so I was thrilled when our librarian here called and said it was in. I settled in for a nice read. Much to my surprise, I got about a third of the way through the book and came upon a place where half a line had been scratched out with a black pen. Needless to say, I'm nosy, so I peered closely enough to read "Oh, my God, man,...." Okay, I thought, someone didn't like that God's name was used. Let that one go. BUT, by the time I had finished the book, I had counted ten times this person had marked out words, phrases, even half-sentences because God's name was used.

Okay, absolutely we are not to use profanity, especially with God's name in it. Apparently, this person had been offended by the use of it in this book. Dave and I have, however, been discussing this incident since I discovered it and here are some of the conclusions we've come to:

1. Yes, profanity is not acceptable. But, this is a LIBRARY book. We don't own it and have no right to deface someone else's property in the name of Christianity - if that's why he/she did it. As Dave pointed out, it's equally possible that he/she could be an atheist who didn't like seeing God's name in print. Who knows?

2. Libraries, as we all know, don't usually have humungous budgets that allow them to replace defaced books any old time.

This one, by the way, was a large print book, which means even more expensive. And, how many more books in the Cheyenne library have been altered by this person? Do we have the right to cause someone else to pay out money they may not have because we feel we must demonstrate our distaste for their beliefs/actions on their property?

3. Yes, I'm going to mention the Bill of Rights. When I am reading a book and there is profanity or the use of God's name in it inappropriately, I sort of "blank it out" of my mind and skim right past it. Perhaps you do, too. Don't get me wrong; I believe that such language is unnecessary and adds nothing to the book. The addition of this language, as long as it's not every other word in the whole book, doesn't usually lessen my enjoyment of the rest. More important, though, is that what I feel about the language is not necessarily what every other reader does. I don't think I've been appointed Book Censor for the world nor do I believe this person, whoever he/she may be, has been appointed the B C for the entire patronage of the Cheyenne library. That can get into a very, very scary area, if we start censoring benign books. What's next?



4. This book was, certainly, a secular one. Jesus, however, said that we are to live in the world, just not of it. (Finally, I'm getting to my point. Yay!) As I understand it, we are to live as Christians everyday, loving each other AND non-Christians, too. I don't, though, believe that He was saying to hammer our beliefs home to people, or hurt other people or their property to further our beliefs or assume that we are right so therefore everyone else is wrong and must be forced, if necessary, to believe like we do. How, exactly, does any of that even help our mission to spread the Word? The person who scratched out words in this library book certainly did not make ME feel more kindly toward them. I didn't say, "Yay for you for making sure everyone who reads this book knows what you believe!" I'm actually horrified that anyone would deface public property because THEY were offended by the words. Personally, I'd rather decide for myself, thank-you-very-much.

All of this is very long, I know, and I hope not too tiresome. I think it all boils down rather nicely to one of my very favorite quotes, which Dave and I are still arguing about the author of. I say it was Richard Cardinal Kushing, he says someone else. Oh, well.....

here it is: "Preach the Word of God daily, and if necessary, use words."

I would add to that, "and be careful how you use those words."

## AUGUST LECTIONARY

	First* reading and Psalm	Alternate First reading and Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
August 1	Hosea 11:1-11 Palm 107:1-9, 43	Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23 Psalm 49:1-12	Colossians 3:1-11	Luke 12:13-21
August 8	Isaiah 1:1, 10-20 Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23	Genesis 15:1-6 Psalm 33:12-22	Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16	Luke 12:32-40
August 15	Isaiah 5:1-7 Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19	Jeremiah 23:23-29 Psalm 82	Hebrews 11:29-12:2	Luke 12:49-56
August 22	Jeremiah 1:4-10 Psalm 71:1-6	Isaiah 58:9b-14 Psalm 103:1-8	Hebrews 12:18-29	Luke 13:10-17
August 29	Jeremiah 2:4-13 Psalm 81:1, 10-16	Proverbs 25:6-7 Psalm 112	Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16	Luke 14:1, 7-14

## LET'S CELEBRATE!

(Since we didn't publish a newsletter for early summer, we apologize to those members of the congregation whose special days were not recognized publicly. We wish you happiness and blessings, too!)

Aug 3 - Paul Hagenstein  
 4 - Emma Lee Hecox  
 14 - Joey Graham  
 16 - Karen Moulton  
 18 - Tim & Candy Herda-Scott (Anniv.)  
 23 - Coke & Molly Landers (Anniv.)  
 27 - Jim & JJ Huntley (Anniv.)  
 28 - Paul & Bette Hagenstein (Anniv.)

Sep 1 - Ken Konicek  
 2 - Dave Bell  
 6 - John Mitchell  
 10 - Connie Andrews  
 17 - Sue Briggs  
 Kathryn Briggs  
 Kathryn Konicek  
 24 - Kevin & Susan Mitchell (Anniv.)  
 27 - Brenda Doyle

## PRAYER NEEDS:

<b>Cindy Briggs (Nancy Reed's sister)</b>	diabetes and lupus
<b>George Ditton</b>	broken hip
<b>Dave Doyle</b>	arm surgery
<b>John Doyle</b>	healing for ongoing health issues
<b>LuAnn Freeman</b>	shingles

Les Fluckiger  
Bette Hagenstein  
Tammie Heuck  
Chandler McClellan  
Dave Moulton  
Stella McKinstry  
Paige Williams

death of son-in-law J. R.  
removal of skin cancerous growth  
ongoing  
healing after surgery  
(He's coming home!) continued healing  
(She's home!) continued healing  
ongoing heart problems

**Thanks for all the hard work that you put into our landscaping! It will look awesome when it is done.**

That was going to be the headline for a paragraph in the newsletter, but on second thought, that says about everything. Thanks!

**PLEASE HELP US!**

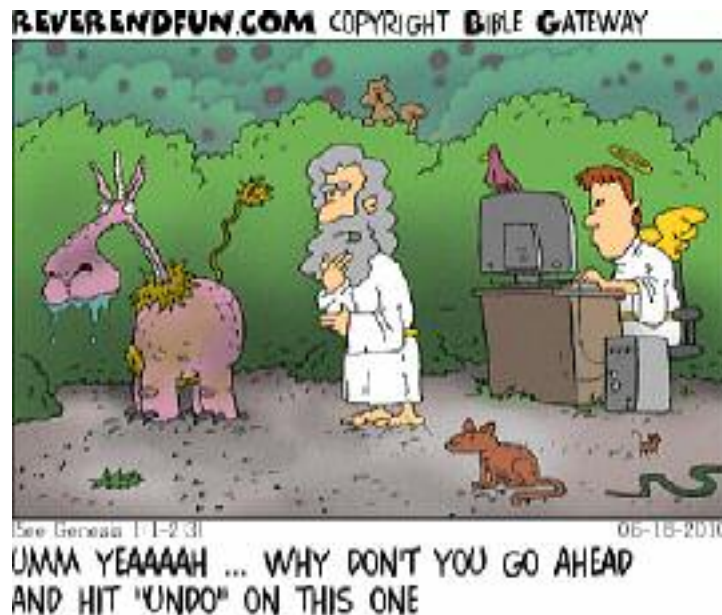
If you have an article, an item of interest to you, a coming church event that you'd like published, or a poem, saying, whatever you'd like to have noted in the newsletter, please drop it in the basket that is sitting on one of the music stands in the fellowship hall. It would be helpful if you sign each article, so that, in the event of questions, we may contact you. We love to have your contributions, as our "think tanks" sometimes run pretty dry!

Would you like to read scripture some Sunday during worship? Please call Maxine Leckie (8598881) and let her know.

**JUST A THOUGHT...**

"Reputation is what men and women think of us; character is what God and angels know of us."

~ Thomas Paine



# The Back Page

## Ministers this month

### August 1

Ushers: Donna Siever  
Nursery: Kathryn Konicek  
Flowers: Paul & Bette Hagenstein

### August 8

Ushers: Mark & Cheryl Eatinger  
Nursery: Needed  
Flowers: Kathryn Briggs

### August 15

Ushers:  
Nursery:

### August 22

Ushers:  
Nursery:

### August 29

Ushers:  
Nursery:

## Contact Information for Rev.

### Carol B. White:

Church Office: .....367-2528  
Cellular: .....231-5818  
Home: .....367-3286  
Email: ..... YHWHpsa@hotmail.com

### Office Hours:

Tuesday .....1:00pm – 3:00p.m.  
Wednesday .....1:00pm – 3:00p.m.

### Pastor's Days Off:

Friday & Saturday

## 2010 Church Officers

Moderator ..... Maxine Leckie  
Vice Moderator.....Ken Konicek  
Secretary.....Cheryl Eatinger  
Treasurer .....John Mortensen

### Council Members:

Cindy Carlson  
Aubrie Doyle  
Jack Doyle  
Jim Huntley  
Debbie McClellan

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