



**ANNUAL TURKEY DINNER
NOVEMBER 18, 2017
DINNER WILL BE SERVED FROM 11:30AM
TO 1:30 PM**

THE MUSTARD SEED
THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
COLLBRAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
P.O. BOX 160
COLLBRAN, CO 81624

OCTOBER 2017

To contact Pastor Anne Djokic:
Church 970-487-3349
Email annef.djokic@gmail.com
www.collbrancongregationalchurch.org

**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS RECITAL
DECEMBER 3, 2017 5:00 pm**

REFRESHMENTS TO FOLLOW



**This recital is held in memory of
Shirley Lyons, a long time music
teacher in the valley.**

**If you would like to share your talents
with us please contact Sue Bellotti at
487-3474 or bellotti4@msn.com**

**We would love to have you sing or
dance, or play an instrument, or
prepare a seasonal reading. All ages
are welcome.**

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday School has gotten off to a good start this Fall with the help of Julia Cox. Thanks for being so quick to fill in.

The children will be studying Old Testament stories until the last week of November, when we will begin to prepare for Christmas with the Advent Sundays.

The children will begin to prepare songs to perform in church and at the Christmas recital on Dec. 3rd.

We would love to have your children join us. Sunday School begins at 9:45am each Sunday morning and ends at 10:30. All ages welcome.
Sue Bellotti Christian Ed.

CHRISTMAS RECITAL DECEMBER 3, 2017

The Christmas Recital has been scheduled for December 3, 2017 at 5:00 PM. This concert began as a recital by Shirley Lyons for her students. Each year piano pieces were practiced and shared with family and friends. We have joined in this celebration of the season with piano, organ, flute, guitar, and violin music, as well as vocal solos, groups, and seasonal readings.

Please reply by November 1st so the program can be arranged and printed. We would like to know the name of the piece or pieces (2) you will be sharing, as well as special set-up or equipment you will be bringing.

Sue Bellotti 487-3474 bellotti4@msn.com



Sue Bellotti – Music Director

WOMENS FELLOWSHIP

Mission projects planned for the coming months include:

September – Collect socks matching or not for Homeward Bound of the Grand Valley. All sizes and colors accepted.

October will begin the collection of hats and mittens or gloves for preschool children at Plateau Valley School. Please bring these items to the church and we will deliver them Oct. 31, 2017.

November is the outreach program at Veterans Hospital in Grand Junction. We collect new socks, winter hats, and gloves or scarves in adult sizes. We will deliver them to the VA on Nov. 26, 2017.

December health kits for the Grand Junction Rescue Mission will be assembled. We collect soap, shampoo/conditioner, hand lotions, tooth paste and brushes, combs, disposable razors, and hand towels and washcloths to go into these kits. Hotel sizes are super for this project. These will be delivered by December 15. Please bring items you would like to donate to the church prior to Dec. 10th.

The **Winter Coats** project will be set up at Collbran Supply. We thank Fred Feller for the generous use of the space to set up and display these winter coats, snow pants, hats, gloves, and boots. Please drop clean heavy winter clothing items off at the Collbran Supply or the Congregational Church. We are always in need of children's winter gear. As you buy new for this school year please think of us for last year's coats and snow clothes.

The Annual Turkey Dinner November 18, 2017

This annual fundraiser for the Collbran Congregational Church brings you a full turkey dinner with homemade rolls, fresh stuffing, mashed potatoes and gravy, vegetables, relishes, and desserts.

Cost is \$10.00 per Adult

\$5.00 children

Children under 5 yrs Free.

The Womens Fellowship would like to thank everyone who came to help with the luncheon for the Hill Family after the service for John Leslie Hill. Our hearts go out to the family and our community.

Cookies and coffee were provided for the Maigatter family following services for Dorothy (Blondie) Maigatter on Sat. Sept 30.

Being able to provide this service for our friends and families has been a large part of this church's service to the community. It would not be possible without the help from each of you.

Nancy Karlson 487-3740

Julia Cox 487-3750

Clara Mae Ward 487-3297



Mustard Seed ~October 2017: Pastor Anne's Message

Dear Members and Friends of Collbran Congregational, United Church of Christ, Greetings from Pastor Anne!! I hope this newsletter finds you well and looking forward to cooler weather, a change of seasons, and all that the Autumn Season brings in beautiful Western Colorado! The peaches and corn, all vegetables and special treats from lavish gardens from Grand Junction, to Palisade to Plateau Valley and Collbran have graced our family tables for weeks now and weeks to come. The Collbran Farmer's Market on Saturday mornings has taken up residence in Mother's Park behind the church. Come one, come all, and enjoy the fruits of many hard working folk's labors. (I know I have!!)

The church is buzzing with activity as you can see by the news this month. We have been blessed by visits from precious grandchildren and family, relatives and friends throughout the summer. We have welcomed many visitors and guests at our service on Sunday mornings. Come join us in worship anytime you can! In School District #51 where I teach fulltime, we were back on duty August 7th. Students arrived on August 16 and we are up and running! The excitement and newness of a fresh start of the school year can be felt in the rhythm of school busses, football games, students starting kindergarten for the very first time, middle school kids experiencing the opening of the lock on their lockers, high school young people realizing that they are nearer to graduation than they thought! Summer memories are grand; yet, we are on to new adventures and horizons. Even if you are not in school you can catch the excited energy of the children. It's a good time to start a new activity or experience an unexplored hobby for yourself.

2 Corinthians 5:17 reads: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." Read also Ephesians 4: 22-24: "To put off your old self and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness."

Blessings and love to each and every one! I look forward to seeing you in the weeks and months to come.

Pastor Anne Djokic



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL SUMMER OF 2017

"S'MORE ABOUT JESUS"

Another successful Vacation Bible School was held in June. We had helpers and teachers for six full classrooms and a director for Crafts. The kitchen was managed by ladies from the Womens Fellowship serving some of the best snacks in the valley. A very special thanks for the wonderful help we had in all areas. The older kids really picked up the slack and added a youthful element to our group.

This year the study was learning "Smore" about Jesus, with a great outdoor camping theme. There were bears galore and green pines in many corners. The tents in the gym were a real hit for the kids to stretch out with lots of pillows and listen to a Bible story. Music with Pastor Anne is always exciting and the puppets talked about all kinds of issues the kids could relate to.



There was a night sky in the pastor's office where the children could lie on their backs and gaze at the galaxy projected onto the ceiling. Amazing what you can do with black plastic trash bags over the windows. It made for the perfect opportunity to discuss God's handiwork. Maybe the kids will be able to spot the Big Dipper, Orion's Belt, or another celestial design the next time they are lying on the grass or in a sleeping bag gazing up at the amazing night sky. Nothing makes you feel more awed by God's power than the night sky.



TRUSTEE REPORT

October 2017

Trustees have overseen several repairs and updates for the church, dining room, and parsonage this summer. Keeping in mind the limited funds available, we have attempted to make needed repairs as basic as possible, to achieve the desired outcomes.

A much needed major clearing of the lilac bushes on the west of the church was done earlier in the summer, and a lot of limbs and trash were removed. MANY thanks to Sveto Djokic for donating his time and expertise in that project, and for guiding the volunteers helping him. Sveto also trimmed the Spirea along the east side of the church – another job that was much needed.

The dining room windows have been repaired and sealed from the melting snow and ice damage over the past several years. The canopy over the north dining room entrance has been stabilized and sealed from the standing ice and snow, and the thorny shrub has been removed to prevent the snow and ice from being caught and trapped in that area. Thanks to Sveto Djokic for that repair and landscaping update. The dining room and kitchen doors have been painted, and door knob and locks have been replaced.

Sue Bellotti, Delbert Koehn and Nancy Karlson keep on top of the sprinkler system needs.

There are still small water leaks downstairs in the men's restroom and in the prep sink area that need to be repaired.

An outside faucet also needs to be replaced, and discussion continues concerning deflection of the snow, ice and rain on the south side of the kitchen, while preserving the sprinkler system in that lawn. The gutter drain from the gymnasium to the gutter on the west side of the church has been re-attached. We continue to consider suggestions for preventing water drainage in the south kitchen entrance.

The parsonage pergola was cleaned, sealed and repaired. Discussion continues regarding the lawn landscaping needs at the parsonage.

The building and gymnasium continue to be used by multiple community members. If you want to rent the building, or chairs and tables, please contact Nancy Karlson to schedule. (487-3740)

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Price, Julia Cox, Nancy Karlson, Sue Bellotti

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

DECEMBER 24, 2017 7PM

Please join in the singing of carols and sharing of the Christmas story. We welcome everyone to this family oriented service. Welcome Christmas into your heart and home with us.