

THE MUSTARD SEED
THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
COLLBRAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
PO BOX 160
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Winter Coat Giveaway



Warm winter coats, snow pants, mittens, hats, and some boots are available at Collbran Supply during the cold weather. Generous donations of very nice coats in all sizes and colors have come in to the Congregational Church for this coat rack. Many children's coats and snow pants are also available.

PLEASE STOP BY AND PICK UP WARM OUTER WEAR FOR THIS WINTER. DON'T BE COLD THIS WINTER!!

Pastor Anne's Message, January 2021

Grace to you in peace from God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit! Welcome the New Year 2021! As we greet the new year with all its hope and promise, let us look back together at some of the special highlights of the "Year 2020." Sunday, December 27th, my message to the congregation was about "Recognizing the Silver Lining." Read on for the "silver linings" of our year, 2020, together.

Five members of our congregation were baptized in February, July, August, and September. The August baptisms were in the Colorado River at Palisade's Riverbend Park. We are so pleased and proud of Rachael Jennings who is the artistic director and instructor for her "PV Tumblers Dance Studio." Children and adults alike look forward to the time she may reopen her studio in the church's gym and resume teaching.



Our Sunday morning worship attendance is strong and steady. Before the pandemic, we had as many as 48 people in worship (February 9th); and on February 23rd, for our regular and Ash Wednesday Services, 40 people worshipped and received ashes. The trend continues with numbers increasing week by week as most of our families have been able to return.

We remember with great joy the Reception of New members on March 8th and March 15th. We welcomed thirteen new members! We gathered for worship for eleven Sundays, January 5th through March 15th, 2020. Then, due to the coronavirus, we immediately and temporarily stopped in-person worship and changed to worship services mailed out in print and on email to 58 households. This number grew to 75 households by spring.

Sveto continued the Daily Sentinel newspaper delivery to Collbran on Mondays, throughout our building closure. Remember that "the church remained open and active, only the building was closed." 😊 E-mail communication increased throughout the months within

our many households and in several states.

On Sunday, June 7th, we returned to in-person worship, following the guidelines of the Rocky Mountain Conference, the state, and Mesa County. Communion has been responsibly and safely given. On June 21st, we celebrated Father's Day with eleven dads receiving Enstrom candy bars.

I participated in making the Rocky Mountain Conference Puppet Show through ZOOM calls and virtual filming. My puppet was "Edith", and the purpose of the puppet show was to invite all Rocky Mountain conference churches to the Annual Celebration/Conference Meeting in July, also held via ZOOM call. I attended throughout the week of July 20 – 24.

Saturday, August 8, I officiated for the Memorial Graveside Service for Rose May Branson at Cedar Crest Cemetery.

Sunday, September 13, red roses were given to all grandparents in observance of Grandparent's Day.

Pastor Anne attended the two-day class (Via ZOOM) required by the conference: "A Position of Trust: Committing to Healthy Ministry." In the past it was called "Boundary Training." Pastors are to renew this training every 5 years. This was Pastor Anne's second-class completion.

Monday, November 30, I officiated for the Memorial Graveside Service for Dorothy Hawkins at Cedar Crest Cemetery.

Our Advent Candle lightings were on November 29th ~ HOPE; December 6th ~ LOVE; December 13th ~ JOY; December 20th ~ PEACE and the CHRIST candle; and December 27th ~ ALL CANDLES were relit. Lew and Tilda Evans, the Yanez Family, Jerry and Charli Gaddy, the Murphy/Cox Families, Sylvia Spangler, and Beverly Loftus were our candle lighters this Advent Season.

On Sunday, December 27th, we celebrated Advent IV and our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service combined, at 11:00AM. We look forward to the hope and great expectation of holding the candlelight service next Christmas Eve, December 24, 2021 open to the community once again!

Love and gratitude to every one of you for your love, support, flexibility, diligence, patience, prayers, and encouragement throughout this unprecedented year of challenge and growth.

Blessings and peace in the new year!

Pastor Anne Djokic



Women's Fellowship



The Annual Turkey Dinner was a great success. It was prepared by the women of the church and served as Take-out. The food was some of the best ever and we served 140 dinners. This is a record for the Women's Fellowship. We want to thank all the wonderful cooks and helpers who

prepared the food and the valley for joining us to support the church for this Thanksgiving meal.

There was no December meeting with the snow storm late in the day and lack of business to take care of.

Women's Fellowship will meet Tues. January 12 at 10am for a winter meeting.



Musicians Report

December is a favorite month for all of the church musicians. We all love Christmas music.

Charlie Gaddy shares her flute talents with the congregation joining Sue Bellotti at the piano for hymns and the Prelude and Postlude nearly every Sunday.

Dec 20th, Jerry joined Charli for a duet of flute/saxophone carols. Kayte brought her violin and joined in with the Service of the Carols, which is usually presented at the Christmas Eve Service. Sue Bellotti played the organ, completing the trio.



We are so blessed to have everyone so happy to share their musical talents with the church.

Thank you all. Sue Bellotti – Music Director

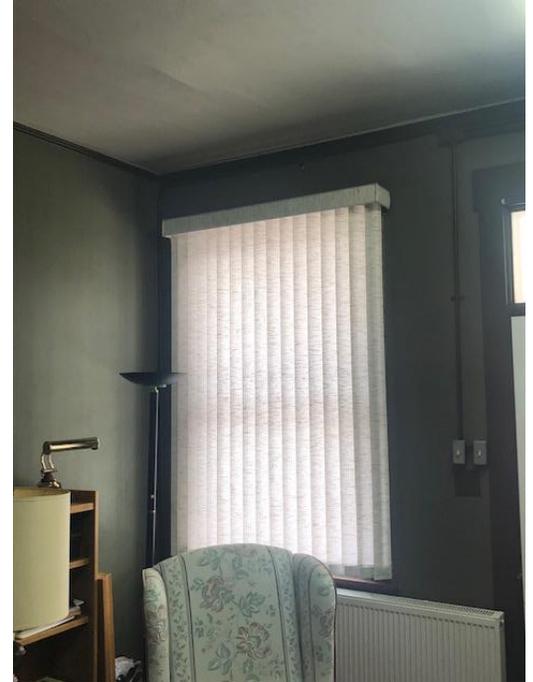
Trustees' Report January 2021

The Trustees continue to make improvements at the church. Several things have taken place.



The new desk and chair arrived for the pastor's office to replace the small antique library table that has served as a desk for many years.

Blinds were purchased for the Pastor's office and Nursery Room to replace the plastic shades and ancient curtains.



Exterior mud rugs have been replaced at the entrances. Interior rugs are in place inside the doors to protect the carpets in the building.

The architect from Burke & Co. became ill in November for a few weeks and is just now getting back to the bathroom remodel at the church. He will be serving as Project Manager. The electrical engineer and plumber have made their trip through the building for the project, so we expect to be moving forward with this project early in 2021.

Trustees: Cindy Price, Julia Cox, Nancy Karlson, and Sue Bellotti

Stewards Report January 2021



Sylvia, once again, made time to purchase the beautiful poinsettias to decorate the sanctuary for the Sundays of Advent. Individuals purchased the flowers in memoriam of family members and friends.

Tom and Julia Cox in memory of Grandma Ann and Grandma Ruth
Cindy Price in memory of Raymond and Shirley Lyons

Jay and Peggy Shiflet in memory of Judy Bunch and Rob Robbins

Sylvia Spangler in memory of Winnie Cook

Sveto and Anne Djokic in memory of Miodrag and Helena Djokic and
Don and Priscilla Morrison

The Christmas tree will be taken down and put away Friday, January 8th at 10AM. Please help if you are available.

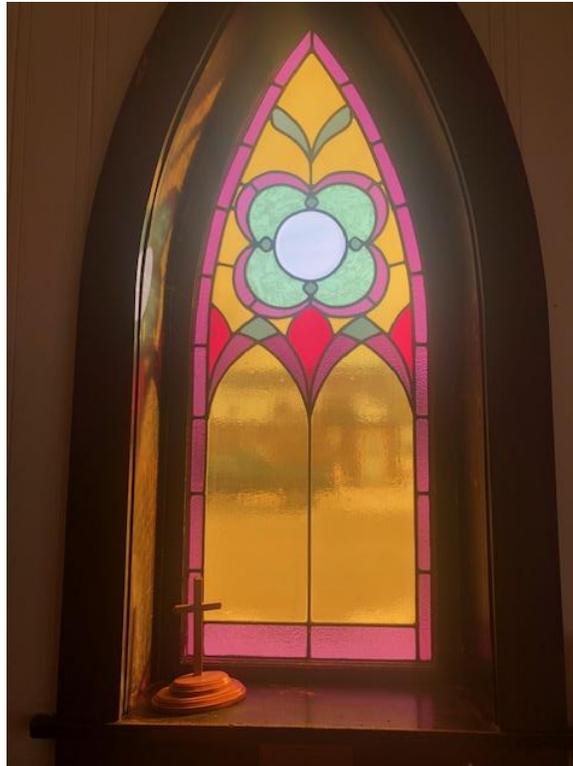
Stained Glass Windows Update



In the fall of 2019, the Trustees contacted Willet-Hauser Architectural Glass Restoration for an evaluation of the stained glass windows. After an on-site visit and evaluation, Willet-Hauser determined that we needed to clean and reseal the exterior of the glass, stabilize and replace the protective covering, and repair and repaint the exterior frames.

The crew arrived after our first December snowstorm. I am sure many of you saw the canvas wrapped scaffolding over the windows as they worked. The foggy plexiglass was replaced with a transparent acrylic that should

remain clearer. It has been over 25 years since the windows were refurbished. It is so important to maintain the integrity of the glass and frames. These repairs should protect the windows for another 25 years.



These windows were installed in the building in 1903. Their iconic beauty is a statement to pioneers who decided that in church was an early building the need for a church enough to spend years building the

the dedication of the order to have a real town a block. People believed in donate the property and structure.

The people of the valley fundraisers to generate the church. The Community reality.

Helen Young tells of the construction of churches in the towns in our valley, made possible only by the generosity and hard work of those early families.

We have continued the time-honored tradition of caring for and maintaining this building and these beautiful windows. Your donations to the Memorial Fund, honoring family members and neighbors, has made this restoration possible.

gave donations and held money needed to build the support made the church a

