

The Bell Tower

NEDERLAND COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



September 2017 Volume 17, Issue 9

Gatherings



Book Club

We're going to take a break for a couple months. *Watch for our next read later this fall.*

Women's Group

NEW! Women's Group is starting up, on the first Thursday of each month, 5:15 at the James Peak Brewery. That means 7 September is your first chance, ladies, to get together, with or without a margarita.

Men's Group

Men's Group meets this month on 17 Sept 4 pm at Salto. This is a simple chance for men of the church to get to know each other better, with or without a beer. Guys of all ages are welcome.



Just about every Thursday, 9 am, at *The Train Cars*, everyone is invited for coffee and conversation about life, faith, church and everything in between.

Why I Love NCPC

Aimee Tomlinson,
Elder for Christian Education

There are so many things I love about NCPC. Open Doors... Open Minds... Open Hearts. Our little mountain church lives up to that motto. I love the people and the sense of community. Some people have been coming for years, some every once in a while, but we all play a part in this great church family. I love seeing the children learn about God and come closer to Jesus through the children's teachings. Their songs and stories and crafts light up the church.

I love the sermons that Hansen brings us each week. They make me think a little deeper about the things that really matter. When he throws in a history or language lesson, I also walk away feeling just a little bit wiser. I appreciate Hansen recording his sermons and posting them online so I can listen in if I miss a Sunday or revisit a sermon later. Also, Hansen's outreach into the community really sets a great example for how I think Jesus taught us to care for our neighbors.

Finally, I love the little brown church building itself. Having just celebrated the church's 105th birthday, you just can't help but to feel the history when you walk into the church Sunday mornings. I think about how many people have spent their Sunday mornings in this same church, some coming in with the same worries we have now and finding a moment of peace and hope and community - just as we can today.

The Tomlinsons



Sunday School

Sunday School returns September 10 at 9 am!
Bring your young ones to Sara, so they can learn the lessons of the Bible and the example of Jesus!

Next Worship Series

Last summer we built a table in worship, where each week a different tool served as a metaphor for a different aspect of the Good News. This fall we turn to filling up that table, from the kitchen to the dining room.

The Bible has many images that relate food and cooking to holy living. Jesus talks about water and fish and heaven as a banquet table. Paul makes a list of fruits of the spirit. Elijah makes bread and barbeque, before an angel shows up with a cake for desert. A handful of Hebrew prophets call for God to rescue them from salty, bitter, and sour life. And of course, the central ritual of the church is a meal, shared in remembrance of Jesus' life.

To use those lessons in worship, each of the next seven weeks the children will actually get to take part in some process of the kitchen.

One week they'll get to turn on the faucet, as we baptize a few children. Other weeks they'll make soup, salad, lemonade, and cookies for fellowship. Another week we'll send the kids out and the adults will make cupcakes for them! Join us through September and October, In the Kitchen!



Rise Against Hunger

Come one come all! Join us for a fun night with your neighbors, doing something together that will provide food for hungry people. Rise Against Hunger's meal packaging program is a volunteer-based initiative that coordinates the assembly-line packaging of highly nutritious dehydrated meals comprised of rice, soy, vegetables, and 23 essential vitamins and minerals. Since the inception of the meal packaging program in December 2005, millions of meals have been used primarily to support school feeding programs in developing countries. Hunger is the common thread among the world's most challenging issues. Targeting hunger—specifically by supporting school feeding programs—leverages support to other causes including poverty, disease, education, and the welfare of women and children. Nederland Community Church has joined the community to pack 21,000 meals over the last couple years, and we will be at it again, **12 Oct 6pm at TEENS, Inc.** We'll need a lot of folks to pack another 10,000, so invite your friends. And it would help if we knew how many folks were coming, so please rsvp to: Fran Bauer: fbauer@wildblue.net.



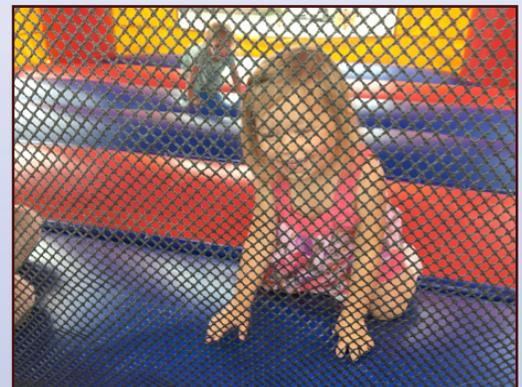
Back-to-School Pot Luck!

Thank you to everybody who joined in the fun last month, with our 105th anniversary and our 2nd annual pot luck to celebrate students, teachers, and neighborhood schools! Especially for those who cooked and cleaned, bounced in joy and bowed in prayer, and for Joshua Lake who shared in the sermon, God bless!

2017
Community
Pot Luck



Fun in the
bouncy
castle!



Fellowship Time

Have you been looking for a way to serve at church, but can't make a long term commitment? Arranging the fellowship time after worship is for you! Sign up on the sheet outside the kitchen, or contact BG with any questions. (303-748-9172, bbrooksrmn@aol.com).

CHURCH ONLINE.....

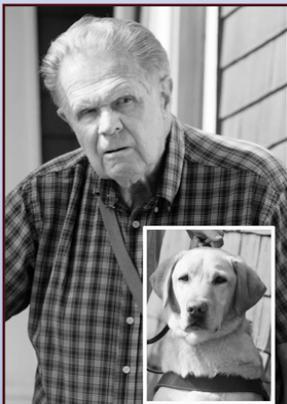
Check out the church website (www.nederlandcpc.org) and our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/nederlandcpc) for recorded sermons, videos of special worship music, pictures and stories about the life of the church, articles about religion, & plenty more!

ONLINE GIVING.....

Sure, there is an offering plate every Sunday. But if you can't come to worship, or don't carry cash, now you can also give to NCPC on-line! Try it out at: www.nederlandcpc.org, with the obvious "Give Now" button. We want to make it as easy as possible for you to support the great things God is doing in this community!

Ride List

The Deacons are keeping a list of folks who can help bring Ray and Milo to church. If you could pick them up and drop them off on an occasional Sunday, talk to Hansen or David Ford.



Thanks to Justine!

Thanks to Justine Irwin, for offering a sermon on the Sunday that Hansen was away! We all have a story that gives us a special perspective on faith. May this church always be a place where we can share that with each other, and grow from our experiences and understandings!



Socks & Sandwiches recap

This past summer campers and locals in need gathered behind the Nederland Community Presbyterian Church every Thursday for lunch, socks, hygiene supplies, water to put out camp fires, trash bags, books, and for the opportunity to socialize with other locals. As Hansen likes to say, "With partners like the Food Pantry and Peak to Peak Counseling, we were able to care for folks in body, mind, and soul". While enjoying a sumptuous lunch, presentations and visits from the Nederland Fire Department, Parks and Wildlife, the U.S. Forest Service, and the Boulder County Sheriff's Department, provided an educational experience on how to be safe for themselves and the community. As a result of education, Hansen has noted that camp sites have been cleaner this year and campers have been more diligent about fire awareness.

This past summer due to caring and dedicated volunteers, lunches have evolved from sandwiches to a more elaborate spread, including salads, casseroles, homemade cookies, appetizers, and sometimes a main course such as roasted turkey breast with all of the sides. The grand finale lunch looked a lot like Thanksgiving dinner with homemade pies, veggie dishes, cranberries, turkey, stuffing, and mashed potatoes and gravy. Participation increased significantly this summer with one lunch at 31 guests and a large number of volunteers!

The guests participating in the program and the volunteers enjoyed their interaction with each other and guests repeatedly expressed their appreciation and often volunteered to help with preparation and clean up. The program was highly successful this summer due to the large number of caring volunteers and because our community is fortunate to have a compassionate pastor who is an avid advocate for persons in need.

~ Diana Nelson

