

The Bell Tower

NEDERLAND COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



December 2019 - Volume 19 - Issue 7



Advent & Christmas Season

Advent is here, a time to prepare for the arrival of God into the world and our lives! Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love highlight the first four weeks, as we follow the stories that lead to Jesus' birth. Then, after Christmas Eve, we follow our tradition of a carol sing on the last Sunday of the year.

Christmas Eve

Family Friendly Worship, 5:00 pm
Cookie Pot Luck, 5:45 pm
Contemplative Candlelight Service, 6:30 pm

Christmas Eve Cookie Pot Luck

Between the Family Friendly Worship and Contemplative Candlelight Service, come for our Christmas Even Cookie Pot Luck! Bring your best batch of goodies – either baked in your own oven or purchased from your favorite store. We're not picky!

Christmas Eve Pageant

Parents and kids, let's get ready for the Christmas Eve pageant! If you want a speaking part, come to Sunday School to practice at 9 am, 8 Dec, 15 Dec, and 22 Dec. Then everyone is invited at 4 pm on Christmas Eve (before the Family Friendly Worship) to get your costumes and prepare the story for us all!

Winter Plans

The Presbyterian Church (USA) allows for Pastors to take a 3-month Sabbatical, after 6 years of service to a congregation. And the NCPC Session approved that I take that time for rest, spiritual renewal, and continuing education, from January through March, 2020.

I am going to spend time growing as a person of faith and a Christian leader, recommitting to some spiritual growth and studying homeless systems management around Colorado, so I can bring back some good ideas for our summer program. The Session and some of you will be taking on the week-to-week functions of being a congregation, and hopefully will consider your identity as a church community, apart from your Pastor. And leading you through this time will be Jim Reed, a commissioned lay pastor who lives in Black Hawk and has been a part of our family for about a year.

Jim has completed all the certifications to lead a Presbyterian church, without going through the many hoops of ordination. He'll be preaching most Sundays, and available by phone/email for pastoral care and the ministry of administration. This is a part time gig for Jim, as he still works full time in Denver, but it will be fantastic to have a consistent presence here. He and his wife Suzie are excited be part of NCPC in this new capacity!

A few other details:

- a) We won a small grant to help offset most of these costs. Thank you to our regional body of Presbyterian churches!
- b) I will return for Holy Week, back in the office 1 April, and leading worship on Palm Sunday (5 Apr), Maundy Thursday (9 Apr), Good Friday (10 Apr), and Easter (12 Apr).
- c) Until then, you probably won't be able to reach me. In order to make the Sabbatical most valuable, I won't be looking at email or checking in. If you happen to have my personal email or cell phone, please do just leave them be.
- d) The concern has come up a couple times already, but I am not looking at other jobs! Sabbatical is a break, for a purpose, to come back here, renewed for stronger ministry.
- e) This all begins on Jan 1, so I will be here throughout Advent and Christmas. Come to the Hymn Sing on 29 Dec, to send me off in prayer!

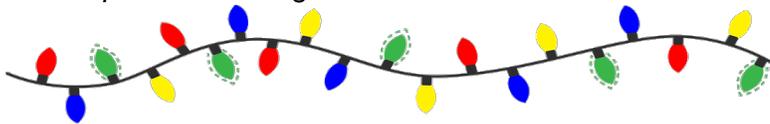
Fellowship Time

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, bbrooksrnm@aol.com).

A fellowship reminder as we enter the fall/winter seasons: We've tried to simplify the fellowship time by asking volunteers to scale back on the menus -- donuts, bagels, coffee cake, sweet rolls, etc. -- to go along with our regular coffee. Sign up sheets for October/November will be posted on Sunday outside the kitchen. Your help is always appreciated ... Blessings!

New Custodian

We are happy to have a new Custodian, Hilliary Martin! Hilliary and her daughters have been coming to church for a few years – with the shortest commute, just across the street. She has offered beautiful, raw prayers in worship. She has helped reach out to neighbors in trouble. And she has jumped into this position with vigor!



Housing UPDATE

The congregation is a big supporter of Tungsten Village, the new county housing project in Nederland. How exciting to see the construction moving along! We have a roof now! In under a year, we should be welcoming about 50 residents into stable, below-market-rate housing, just a block away from church. That's justice in action!



Men's Group

Men's Group meets the next couple months at 4 pm at 15 Dec, 19 Jan, 16 Feb & 15 Mar, all at Salto. This is a simple chance for men of the church to get to know each other better, with a beer, coffee, or whatever. Guys of all ages are welcome.

Several men got together to buck and split about three cords of wood, to prepare the NCPC Wood Bank. Any neighbor in need is welcome to get some firewood to stay warm through the winter



Soul Sisters

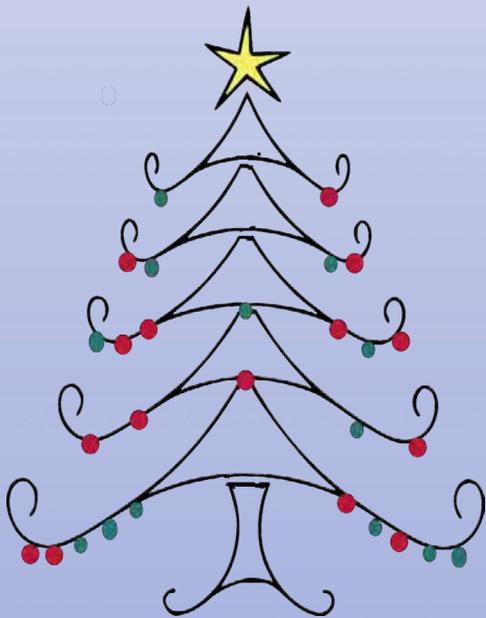
Soul Sisters (the NCPC women's group) meets now on the first Wednesday of each month, at Busey Brewing (formerly James Peak). That's 4 Dec, 1 Jan, 5 Feb, 4 Mar, at 5 pm. Come get to know some other ladies, with or without a margarita.



Our last Thursday morning coffee time at Train Cars will be 5 Dec, 9 am. After Easter, we'll find another time to gather to talk about life, faith, church and everything in between.

Stewardship

There are so many ways to give back to this little church! Some of you serve in volunteer roles. Others share your compassion with each other and our community. Several of you pray from afar, or sing loud on every Sunday morning. And many of you share your financial offerings. Thank you, to all, for making this a stronger community of faith. Every year we invite you to make a stewardship pledge, to help our spiritual board of directors to prepare a budget for the following year. Thus far in 2019, we have had a fabulous response!!! And there is still time for you to join us! There are pledge forms in the back of the sanctuary; they go in the wooden box, only to be seen by Hansen and our Treasurer Cindy. Or get in contact with Hansen (ncpcpastor@gmail.com) or our Elder for Finance, Marylou Harrison (marylou.nederland@gmail.com), to discuss what you plan to offer to the ministry of our church for 2020. We are sure to make a dent in our deficit budget next year, but you can help us get closer to becoming financially self-sustainable.



NCPC Online - ICYMI

The most popular social media post over the last couple months was...

the sermon, [Who in the World is David?](#) A Sinner, in which Hansen & Will sing the classic song, Hallelujah. (Be prepared, the sermon touches on a very difficult subject.)

You should also take a listen to Guest Musician, Billy Shaddox. His song, [Hold Me Up](#), was definitely one of the most holy moments we've ever had in the sanctuary.

You can watch it all on our church Facebook page (www.facebook.com/nederlandcpc) or Hansen's YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/hansenwendlandt), or linked from our website (www.nederlandcpc.org), under Worship.

When you interact with our online content, that has a way of spreading the good news with our community, which makes you a modern media-vangelist!



Rise Against Hunger

Thanks to everyone who came out to help pack 10,000 meals for hungry children abroad! This is our fifth year sponsoring the Rise Against Hunger project, and welcoming the Nederland Community to love neighbors locally and globally. We will know soon where our meals will be sent – likely to some school, so that parents are incentivized to send kids for an education, which is the key to breaking the cycle of poverty.

You can help us raise money for the 2020 Rise Against Hunger meal packing event! If you haven't ordered your holiday wreath, you still can! For \$30 you get a beautiful wreath and can feed a child for over a month. Reach out to Hansen (ncpcpastor@gmail.com) or Fran (fbauer@wildblue.net).





Bill (Marylou's brother-in-law)
Robert Bauer
Friends and family of Justin Blakeslee
Jane Davis
Rich Deubel
Crystal Epperson
Nick Kassera family and friends
Addy, Jaylan, Braeden, and Dusty
Jaydene Morrison (recovering from heart surgery)
Miles Pancoast
Barbara Parker (BG's sister)
Justin Quigley and family
Mary Wingate and David Blanchard
Town of Nederland Police & Fire Departments
all those who have and are now serving in the military...

Do you have questions or comments about NCPC?

In the Presbyterian denomination, the ministry of administration for each congregation is handled by its Session of Elders (like a spiritual Board of Trustees), and the ministry of compassion is directed by the Deacons.

Here are your church leaders and staff:

Elder for Christian Ed, Aimee Tomlinson
Elder for Cultural Engagement, Will Ford
Elder for Fellowship, BG Brooks
Elder for Finance, Marylou Harrison
Elder for Property, Jim Reis
Elder for Worship, John Records
Deacon, David Ford
Deacon, Al Meyer
Deacon, Jaydene Morrison
Custodian, Hilliary Martin
Director of Childcare, Sara Sandstrom-Kobi
Director of Finances, Cindy Hauser
Guitarist, Emily Haynes
Pastor, Rev Hansen Wendlandt
Pianist, Daniel Herman
Rocky Mn. Mission Work Coordinator, Jim Reis
RMM Community Coordinator, Bailey Johnson
Summer Homeless Advocate, Claudia Schauffler



The Spirit of Giving: CO Gives Day is next Tuesday December 10th

~ Sue Churches

First of all - many thanks for your previous financial support of TEENS, Inc. - you enable us to continue the work we do in our community. Sometimes we've chosen to work behind the scenes - for instance, providing our gym at no cost for the Rise Against Hunger NCPC event or making sure you have this newsletter every month.

For our non-profits this is an important day of fundraising for people who would like to donate to local causes.

It's a big deal - donated funds are matched - so giving goes further... (?s contact sue@teensinc.org)

We depend on your contributions to continue making an impact on youth lives here in Boulder County - and our unending belief that with support, guidance and encouragement - young people can persevere and change the course of their lives for the better, despite potentially challenging and difficult circumstances.

THANKS for GIVING your tax deductible DONATION and go to: www.teensinc.org



Open Doors, Open Minds, Open Hearts.