



WE WILL BE SERVING:

**LASAGNA (REGULAR, VEGETARIAN, OR
GLUTEN FREE)**

TOSSED GREEN SALAD

GARLIC BREAD

DESSERT

TAKE-OUT ORDERS AVAILABLE AFTER 5 PM

**Join us for the VBS FUNDRAISER
LASAGNA DINNER, MARCH 10, 2017
from 5PM to 7:00 PM in the Church
dining room.**

THE MUSTARD SEED

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

December 2016

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

WOMENS FELLOWSHIP

SENIOR TEA

The Senior Tea is scheduled to take place May 2, 2017 at 2:15pm in the Congregational Church Dining Room. Entertainment will be provided by the amazing slight- of- hand magician, Dave Wallin.

Wonderful cookies and sandwiches are prepared by the women of the community and displayed beautifully for the enjoyment of the graduating seniors of both Plateau Valley High School and Grand Mesa High School. Parents and grandparents often accompany their student and frequently a great-grandmother, who attended the Senior Tea when she graduated, will come along, as well.

The Senior Tea is thought to have been started for the senior girls and their mothers as long ago as the 1940's. The event used to require that hats, gloves, and very nice clothes be worn by those attending. Later, in the 1980's the Senior Tea invitations included every graduating senior in the class.

This is a time to celebrate the hard work and a goal reached by all of these Seniors.

Nancy Karlson, Pres.

WINTER COAT GIVE-AWAY

The coat racks have been removed from Collbran Supply after a very successful year of sharing winter coats with many people in the valley. Thanks to everyone that donated good winter coats and thanks to those who came in to take a coat. More coats than usual were given away this year.

Please remember us, as you discover outgrown coats or coats no longer wanted by members of your families. We will be needing coats for next winter. We gave all the winter coats away that we had.

Thank you for your generosity. These coats make a big difference to many of our friends and families.

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Congregational Church, UCC took place January 22, 2017 in the dining room, following a wonderful pot luck dinner. Reports were read and elections held. Officers are as follows:

Moderator: Cindy Price

Moderator Elect: Julia Cox

Secretary: Monica Klingler

Treasurer: Suzanne Bellotti

Trustees:

Jean Kees

Jeanne Reeves

Julia Cox

Stewards:

Cindy Price

Nancy Karlson

Sue Bellotti

Christian Ed.

Sue Bellotti

Musical Director

Sue Bellotti

Anyone wanting to read or review the Annual Report can find a full copy on the church website at Collbrancongregationalchurch.org Click on Newsletters. The Mustard Seed can also be found there.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Collbran Congregational Church UCC

The VBS committee has selected curriculum for the Vacation Bible School program for the coming summer. VBS will take place June 21, 22, and 23, 2017 from 9am to noon. A presentation program will take place

Sunday, June 25, 2017 at 10:30 am.



4YRS THROUGH 6TH GRADE.

TEACHERS NEEDED!

**COME SHARE IN THE FUN! LEARN
S'MORE ABOUT JESUS.**

STORIES, CRAFTS, GAMES SNACKS

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL LASAGNA DINNER FUNDRAISER MARCH 10, 2017 5PM-7PM

The annual fundraiser for Vacation Bible School is ready to go. Order dinner to go or come eat with us in the dining room. We will be preparing the usual lasagna, vegetarian or gluten free. We have even made a cheese free lasagna for those with lactose intolerance.

Lasagna, tossed green salad, garlic bread, and dessert

Adults \$10.00

Children under 12 yrs. \$5.00

Families of 4 or more \$30.00

For take-out orders please call 487-3738 between 4pm and 6pm. Meals can be picked up after 5pm.

Greeting Cards

Additional cards have been added to the display of scriptural greeting cards for Easter, Birthdays, Anniversaries, Sympathy, and Get Well at the back of the sanctuary. Please browse through the next time you need a special card. Donations accepted but not necessary.

Lenten Devotionals



Diving Lessons | 2017 Lent Devotional (The Stillspeaking Writers' Group)

The Lenten Devotional books are in. This year's title is **Diving Lessons** from the Stillspeaking Writers' Group. The books are on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Our cost is \$6.50. Donations accepted but not necessary to enjoy the book.

Christian Education

Sunday School classes have been divided into two groups. As of January it was felt that the older children required a different level of education and discussion than the younger children.

The Large Group opening gives the children a chance to sing old favorite songs and learn new ones. A song will be presented at the Easter Service.

Please bring your children and let them experience the joy that faith can bring as they learn of Jesus' love and salvation.

The Easter Egg Hunt will take place in Mother's Park following Sunday School on Easter Morning.

Sue Bellotti

Blessings from Pastor Anne

March 2017 Message from Pastor Anne

Dear Collbran Congregational, United Church of Christ Church Family and Friends,

It is with a joyful heart, filled with affection and anticipation, that I greet you as we usher in our second year together! Our Annual Meeting was well attended on January 29, 2017. Thank you for your love, support, and encouragement in our journey together. I will strive to continue to provide meaningful and inspiring worship, cherishing long held traditions as well as breathing new life and ideas (together as a team) into our worship. Pastoral Care is always a priority for me as well.

The Season of Lent is upon us! We observed Ash Wednesday immediately following the Sunday, February 26 worship service. This was a creative way to share the tradition of an Ash Wednesday Service ~ and the imposition of ashes ~ on a Sunday morning.

The season of Lent is one of thoughtful reflection. During this time of the church calendar, Christians ponder the unfolding events that led to Jesus' condemnation and crucifixion: His triumphal march into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday; His firm words of warning about the events to come; His trial, brutal scourging, and horrific crucifixion. No day could be any darker; no travesty more calamitous than the slaying of God's own Beloved Son. And yet, that's what we find on Golgotha: our sins demanding His death on a cross to satisfy the Father's righteous judgment. Taken from the cross, the lifeless form of Christ was placed in another man's tomb. With that action the world thought the ordeal complete. But God's work was not quite done. Three days later, out of a sealed tomb (guarded to prevent theft) Jesus rose from the dead. And with that thunderous crescendo, mankind's disgrace is forgiven through the blood of Christ. Lent is when we turn our eyes to the cross. It is there where Jesus, the sinless Son of God, suffered the indignity and shame of dying for our sins. And it is there where God's wrath was satisfied by His Beloved Son's supreme sacrifice, winning salvation for all who call Him their Savior. (Source lhm.org devotional) I invite you to join us with your presence and within your prayers as we embark on the pathway to Easter, through the Journey and Season of Lent.

God's blessings to each and everyone,

Love,

Pastor Anne

DINING ROOM FURNACE REPLACEMENTS

Gray Gourmet (Collbran) attendees enjoy their lunch in the comfort and warmth of the dining room. Note the new heater in the back upper right. After serving the Valley for forty-plus years, the two dining room heaters began to fail and the room was too cold for comfort. Donations given specifically to support the heater fund were used to help pay for their replacement, as well as memorial monies honoring Neta and Ben Hayes, Velma McDaniel-Marek and Larry Price.

Various other groups and organizations use the Community Building. 4-H Clubs meet in the basement, gymnastics and basketball in the gymnasium, Grey Gourmet in the dining room, and a new addition is music lessons upstairs. There are, frequently, family parties in the dining room and the park is a busy place in the summertime. Chairs and tables are rented for many events around our valley.

The fees we have set at a level to be welcoming but they don't cover even the basic costs of building upkeep and maintenance. We feel it is important to keep the building busy and used.

Upgrades and replacements to the aging building are frequently very expensive and the costs are outside of the church budget. The replacement cost was \$7,000.00 for the pair of new heating units for the dining room.

If you want to donate to the church in honor of loved ones, or just to help keep the building in use, please send to Collbran Congregational Church, UCC, P. O. Box 160, Collbran, CO 81624, and note how or where you would like the money to be spent.

Blessings to all!

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

