

Pastor Anne's Message, March 2021

The eagle pair nesting near Cameo has returned to the area along the Colorado River and built a new nest. The daffodil and tulip green shoots are up in the garden patch off our patio in Grand Junction. The smell of Spring has caught my senses a time or two when the snow has melted off and the sun has been warming the earth after Sunday service. It may take a bit of imagination; yet the season of Winter is losing its grip and despite what Mr. Punxsutawney Phil predicted, Spring is inching her way to Western Colorado ~ the Vernal Equinox is March 20th.

The Season of Lent is upon us as well! We observed Ash Wednesday at the close of our worship



service on February 14, the Sunday immediately before Ash Wednesday. The first Sunday of Lent was February 21. The scripture was from the Gospel of Mark 1:9-15 and looked at our Wilderness Journey accompanied by God. This was the backdrop that set the stage for our 40 days of preparation and readiness for Lent = 5

Sundays, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter on April 4.

The COVID-19 death toll for our nation is staggering, and we pray for and remember the lives of those lost and the families missing loved ones so dear! Sveto and I have received our two vaccination injections and take seriously our responsibility to the congregation and community to do our part and stay safe.

Every Friday afternoon from 1:00 – 4:00 PM, I am in my office at the church for “Chocolate, Chai, and Chat with Anne.” You are invited to drop-in for a sweet treat and a visit. You may also make an appointment, if you would prefer. This is a comfy and casual time to get further acquainted, chat about whatever’s on your mind, and have conversation. Please share about your garden plans, children, grandchildren, families, pets, animals, hobbies, concerns ~ you get the idea!

If you are interested in baptism or joining the church, please contact me at (970) 433-3385.

Let’s enjoy and keep the momentum of our church and community going in the directions of love, compassion, and celebration as we prepare for Easter and the Resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

With blessings to one and all,

Pastor Anne

Christian Education Report

We are preparing to serve the annual Lasagna Fundraiser Dinner for what usually helps pay for our Vacation Bible School in June of each summer. I purchased the materials needed for VBS last year only to not be able to have the classes, so we do not need to purchase them for this summer.

It was discussed with the Church Council in the January meeting to set the date for March 19, 2021. The information is on the poster, which is included. Please share the time and date with friends and family.

The Council also decided at the meeting to donate half of the net profits to the Plateau Valley Assembly of God Food Bank of the Rockies program. This mission serves so many children and families in our valley.

We are looking forward to feeling safe enough to return to regular Sunday school and events for the children. You all will be taller, older, and wiser when you return. We have missed you so.

Christian Education Chair - Sue Bellotti



Women's Fellowship

Women's Fellowship sorely misses the routine of a normal year. No Senior Tea to plan.

The Winter Coat drive was very successful over the last winter. Collbran Supply, once again, provided space for the rack and easy access for people to pick up coats or other cold weather clothing that was so generously donated by the community.

The rack has been tucked away until next fall. As you begin to put winter coats, snow pants, hats or mittens away, please remember this mission project. We will be happy to meet you with a donation. Please call Julia Cox or Sue Bellotti to arrange a drop off.

Sue Bellotti, President

Trustees' Report

The Trustees have been busy keeping up with snow and ice removal. Thanks to all those who work hard to help us keep the walks cleared and the snow melting.

The Trustees met with Burke from Blythe Group and have received the drawings and first proposal. Hopefully this bathroom remodel project will be ready to bid and build very soon.

We welcome Bernice Yanez as the new member of the Board of Trustees for the church. We so appreciate her stepping up to help.

Trustees, S. Bellotti, C. Price, J. Cox, and B. Yanez

Moderator's Report



Updates for the Articles of Association and By Laws are scheduled to be voted on, Sunday, March 14 after the Worship Service. Please contact Cindy Price (970) 487-3264, if you have comments or concerns regarding the suggested By Laws updates.

We appreciate Pastor Anne's enthusiastic drive to continue to provide worship services in person as well as for those unable to attend. Her efforts in providing Office Hours on Friday afternoons have been received with positive response. Thank you, Pastor Anne!

Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy Price, Moderator

Stewards' Report

Easter Bouquets and Lilies are available to order for Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. Please fill out the form which is available from a Steward before church. Often these flowers are in memoriam or to honor a family member or friend.

Sylvia Spangler is managing the orders. The cost is \$10.00 for either a bouquet which will be prepared by the Plateau Valley FFA or an Easter Lily which will be purchased.



Treasurer's Report



February passed quickly. The church income for the month was \$2270.67, down from \$2874.00 in 2020.

We are just on the borderline of meeting our expenses each month or having to borrow some from the Savings account or the investment fund.

Our expenses for February 2021 were \$2838.87. We had a loss of \$568.03 for the month.

The Noisy offering for Habitat for Humanity of Mesa County during January brought in \$106.30.

Noisy offering received for HopeWest Children's Grief Program during February brought in \$284.87.

We are finding that collecting for the Noisy Offering during the month generates larger donations for the charities we have selected to support for the year. Thank you so much for your support.

Treasurer, Sue Bellotti

THE MUSTARD SEED
THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
COLLBRAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
PO BOX 160
COLLBRAN, CO 81624

MARCH 2021

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Vacation Bible School Lasagna Dinner Fundraiser



**½ net proceeds will go to Foodbank
of the Rockies at PV Assembly of
God Church.**

March 19, 2021

Pickup between 4:00PM & 5:30PM

**Serving regular and gluten free lasagna,
salad, French bread, dessert**

TAKE OUT ONLY – Call (970) 487-3474

prior to March 17, 2021 to place order.

Pick up at Collbran Congregational Church.