

# Pastor Anne's Message, March 2022

Dear Family and Friends of Collbran Congregational Church,

The first day of Spring, 2022 is only twenty days away as I write this message. In our backyard, daffodil and tulip greenery is popping up through the snow of last week in Grand Junction. I have always lived in states (Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Michigan, Kansas, Wyoming, and Colorado) where there were four distinctive seasons, and I have always enjoyed each season!

Of all the church celebrations and holidays on the calendar, my mother Priscilla loved Easter the best! My mother was “all about” the Resurrection of Jesus Christ and Eternal Life. Now that I have been a mother myself for 25+ years, I would agree with the importance of Easter ~ in addition to noting that the preparations for an Easter Day celebration are definitely “lighter” and less involved than what I choose to do surrounding Christmas.

But seriously folks, when you stop and ponder the Season of Lent, the preparation time and Journey of Lent is quite an expedition and process in and of itself! Lent, in the Christian church, is a period of preparation for Easter, often times referred to as a “walk” and “a journey.” In Western churches, it begins on Ash Wednesday, six and a half weeks before Easter, and provides 40 days (excluding Sundays) for study, meditation, reaching out to others, serving others, and, in some cases, fasting. This is in imitation of Jesus Christ's fasting in the wilderness before he began his public ministry. These 40 days are set aside to praise and worship the Lord to anticipate deeper closeness with God.



With that said, I encourage you and your families to consider spending some quality time in your approach to Lent and the coming of Easter on April 17, 2022! All are invited and welcomed to join our Sunday morning worship service at 11:00 AM in our sanctuary, followed by fellowship and light refreshments after the service. There are many devotional books and guides available at bookstores and on-line. Lent is a time to treat yourself to reading portions of the Bible, either favorite scriptures or new ones. Reaching out to the community and doing more for your family or friends are also ways to experience giving of yourself for others who may be lonely, need a hand with childcare or simple errands, or just a cup of tea and conversation on the phone or at your kitchen table.

Be well and please pray for the people of Ukraine and all those in harm's way.

Blessings and peace to you ~

Pastor Anne Djokic

# Moderator Report



Thanks to everyone who is serving on our church council—we need you. Thank you, Jeannie Reeves and Jean Kees, for all your service to the church. Welcome Tilda Evans, Bev Loftus, and Lew Evans as Moderator-Elect and Stewards.

We are looking forward to the Maundy Thursday and Easter celebrations. Vacation Bible School is always a highlight of summer.

We celebrate as Pastor Anne begins her seventh year of pastoral care for our congregation and community.

Julia Cox, Moderator

# Trustees Report

The Trustees are awaiting a meeting with Bryce Group to sign off on the remodel project of updating the church restrooms and installing the small kitchen in the Fellowship room next to the sanctuary.

The remaining bill to close the contract with Ford Construction is being held until all the Operation manuals and instructions have been given to Burke at Bryce Group. We will have a Trustee meeting to go over all of it with Burke. The final bill to close remains under \$9000.00 at this time.

The worshipers have enjoyed the extra space created by the new counter and cabinets in the Fellowship room and we look forward to renting the space for small meetings. It will accommodate about 15 to 20 people and is quieter and easier to heat than the larger area in the basement.

The overhead TV screen can accommodate a power point viewing, and simple refreshments can be served from the new counter. Trustees manage the rent and outside use of the building. Call either Cindy Price 487-3264 or Sue Bellotti 487-3474 to rent or request information on using the church meeting rooms.



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

# Stewardship Letter

Hello Friends and Neighbors,

The Collbran Congregational Church Community Building is your center for events, celebrations, family activities, and meetings. We love partnering with you to serve our community.

We appreciate your past support and donations which have helped us maintain and make improvements to the community building.

The building has been open as of June 2020 for church services, building use, baptisms, weddings, funerals, Vacation Bible School and Christmas Eve Service. Monthly Noisy Offerings support non-profit organizations in the valley.

Woman's Fellowship provides the Annual Thanksgiving Dinner, funeral luncheons, and maintains the Food Bank.



Dance and tumbling and yoga classes, family events, meetings of groups such as 4-H, Collbran Lion's Club, Cattlewomen, and Horizon Club frequently use the building. Farmer's Market and Collbran Branch Library regularly use Mother's Park. The playground equipment is enjoyed by children and families who use the park for parties and picnics.

The Fellowship Room adjacent to the sanctuary has been upgraded with a sink, counter, and cabinets to better accommodate smaller group meetings. Upgrades have been made to all four restrooms, creating one for handicapped accessible use.

We are requesting your financial support for the continued maintenance of this historic building. Donations may be mailed to Collbran Congregational Church UCC, P.O. Box 160, Collbran, CO 81624.

Please visit our website: [collbrancongregationalchurch.org](http://collbrancongregationalchurch.org) for information about worship services and upcoming activities.

We ask for your prayers as we share our historical dedication to this mission and outreach. Thank you for your support and God Bless!

Collbran Congregational Church, UCC

Stewardship Committee

# Treasurer's Report



This is an awkward time to present a Treasurer's Report as the year has just begun and it is not a full quarter, but I am happy to present some financial information.

In January, there were repairs in the amount of \$2093 to the boiler. There were substantial repairs made following an inspection by the State Boiler Inspector. While the plumber was onsite, he made a repair that had been put off for some time.

There have been additional expenditures of \$514.10 by the Safety Committee for proper EXIT signs, smoke detectors, and fire extinguishers. Nearly all have been installed.

## Gross income/expense for January 2022

Income	Expense	
\$4477.45	\$5604.55	(loss for January \$ 127.10)

## Gross Income/expense for February 2022

Income (3 Weeks)	Expense ( 3 Weeks)	
\$2855.42	\$ 4107.97	(loss at this time in Feb. \$1252.55)

Treasurer

Sue Bellotti

# Memorial Committee Report

The Memorial Committee approved the purchase of a small desk to be used for Audiovisual operations during worship. The cost of the desk was covered by funds donated in memory of Ann Anderson, and by request of Ann's daughter, Toni Gunther.

Ann was a longtime member of the Collbran Congregational Church, with centennial family history of raising sheep and cattle in the Plateau Valley.

Tilda shopped for and purchased a beautifully repurposed student desk that is a perfect fit. A plaque honoring Ann will be placed on the desk.

Thank you, Toni for suggesting this purchase in your mom's honor.



Memorial Committee: C Price and N Karlson



**Monumental Vacation Bible School  
June 22, 23, 24, 2022**

**Collbran Congregational Church**

9:00 am to noon

Children 4 to 11 are invited to attend.

Contact Sue Bellotti, (970) 487-3474, or Pastor Anne, (970) 433-3385,  
for more information.

**Bible Sponsorship**

In Memory Of

In Dedication To

Sponsored By

(circle one)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

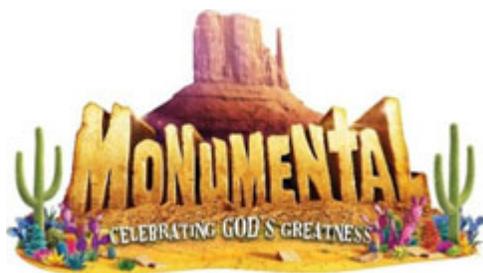
Please provide one form for each Bible sponsored.

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

## MARCH 2022

To contact Pastor Anne Djokic:  
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[www.collbrancongregationalchurch.org](http://www.collbrancongregationalchurch.org)

Editor: Tilda Evans, [lewtildaevans@gmail.com](mailto:lewtildaevans@gmail.com)



Collbran Congregational Church is having a  
Monumental Vacation Bible School  
Lasagna Dinner Fundraiser

March 18, 2022

4:00 to 6:30 pm

**Take Out Only**

Serving fresh homemade lasagna, salad, French bread, dessert  
Contact Sue Bellotti, (970) 487-3474 or Julia Cox, (970) 487-3750  
prior to March 16 to place order.  
Pick up at Collbran Congregational Church