



ECHOES

JANUARY 2010

TO INSPIRE, INFORM AND INVITE

CHURCH OF THE HILLS

Epiphany



**COTH WILL CELEBRATE EPIPHANY
ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 10.
COMMUNION WILL BE SERVED
DURING WORSHIP THAT DAY,
RATHER THAN ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH,
IN RECOGNITION OF EPIPHANY
AND THE END OF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON.
COME WORSHIP OUR GOD WITH JOY!**

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PASTOR DEE'S LETTER

A New Season of Belonging.....

It's January, I would imagine snow has covered the ground, perhaps there is ice on the roads. Some of us may be stuck in our homes on Floyd Hill (sorry I know that sounds discriminatory but it does seem to happen there more than other places) or suffering from cabin fever in the lack of social events and connections with our friends. These longings are natural—they are indeed reflective of our created spiritual needs of community.

Have you ever considered how we were created, with Divine intention meant to be in community? Think about the God head - God in three persons - instant community! And if God of all creation, the alpha and omega, needs community, then shouldn't we as well since we are created in the reflection of the divine? Relationships are a large part of our lives together. Relationships are what define us - they are the Imago Dei, the image of God, reflected in our lives.

But the statistics prove that even though we can celebrate and thrive in the joy of community, we as westerners just seem to miss the mark. The Gallup polls show that Americans are among the loneliest people in the world. Wow that's a statement! In a world where we have instant access to people, through the internet, through cell phones and texting, social networks such as Facebook and My Space, even twittering; yet, we are considered the loneliest people. Friends, I believe the church is called to respond to this profound need of our world and of our own lives - with community.

What is community after all? We know it's important. We all have different ideas of what community is and how it is experienced or shared. I think we all agree that it is vital to the life and health of a congregation.

Larry Crabb notes that "the future of the church depends on whether it develops true community. We can get by for a while on size, skilled communication, and programs to meet needs; but unless we sense we belong to each other; with the masks off, the vibrant church of today will be the powerless church of tomorrow."

I think the operative word is "true". Community thrives only if it's a place where Spirit creating life and human intentionality and responsibility intersect; where truth is spoken in love, where people are held in honor and respect, where conflict is dealt within a safe and trusting environment following the Biblical approaches. Within these parameters, community and authentic relationships not only exist but thrive.

In January we begin a journey together in worship reflecting the idea of what does it mean to be community? How do we belong to one another and to God?

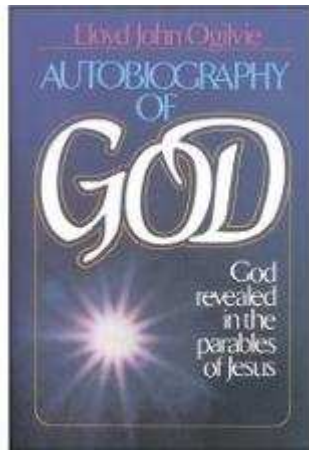
Peace and Joy as we journey together,

Dee



ADULTS

A **New Adult Education Class** will begin January 10 and meet each Sunday at 9:15AM. Entitled, “**An Autobiography of God,**” Terry Buchanan will lead this exploration of the parables that Jesus told to help people understand who God is and what the Kingdom of God is like. Bring your curiosity, your questions, and your desire to learn more about God and how God wants you to live your life.



YOUTH GROUP

Outings in January will include some outdoor adventures – broomball on Evergreen Lake (if it’s frozen!), sledding, and other fun times. Pray for snow! We will also go ice skating and have a Super Bowl Party on February 7. Look for specific details in future bulletins, newsletters, text messages, and emails.



CHILDREN’S SUNDAY SCHOOL

EXCITEMENT COMING!



We are looking to transition to a new model of teaching and learning in our Children’s Sunday School program. The new model, known as Workshop Rotation, will utilize a proven educational theory (Multiple Intelligence Theory) and lots of hands-on and fun learning experiences. Our plans are to create an art & cooking studio, a drama & music room, a movie theater, a game room, and a computer lab. Children will rotate through these workshops on a weekly basis as they learn about and experience Biblical stories and themes. My experience in using Workshop Rotation in other churches has been truly exciting. Children have loved it; parents have loved it; teachers have loved it. You will be hearing lots about this exciting transition in the coming weeks and months. There will be many opportunities for everyone to join in the excitement!

NURSERY

A nursery is provided throughout Sunday morning as well as at other church-wide programs. We also try to provide nursery care, upon request, for classes and team meetings held at the church.

JUNIOR CHURCH

Following the Moment for Children during the worship service, children up through 2nd grade are invited to leave the sanctuary to participate in Junior Church where they will enjoy story time, videos, and other learning activities.

***The Church of the Hills Stewardship Team
thanks the following for their 2010 pledges***

Mike and Deidre Ackerman
Carolyn Alexander
Mel and Jackie Andrew
Zi Antweiler
Rick and Ginny Bailey
Margaret Bailey
Kurt and Janet Ballantyne
Lois Battle
Jane Gardner-Bennett
Dick Blodgett
Rick and Anita Boucher
Sherwin and Sherry Boyd
Bill and Peggy Braun
Doug and Sue Brown
Jerry and Donna Bucholz
Jack and Darlene Carpenter
Tammy Carpenter
Ron and Theresa Chase
Bill and Joanna Cook
Bob and Sally Cook
Dee Cooper
Chuck and Emily Corey
Steve and Kim Cox
Kelly and Lilly Croke
Bob and Kay Culp
Hal and Sue Davidson
Jean Davis
Don and Betty Donner
Brian Ehrle
Rose Marie Elmgreen
Mark and Greta Faraco-Hadlock
Marcelle Farnham
John and Van Farnsworth
Pat Femmer
Susan Fitzwilson
Judy Forbes
John and Ginny Frank
Bob and Diane Gansauer
Graham and Jeanne Gibbard
Dean and Cathy Graves
Anne Greulich
Jim Gulbrandsen
Aaron and Tracy Hansen

Kristie Heidbreder
Mike and Jill Hesser
Rod and Carolyn Hock
Dale and Eve Hoffman
Tanya Ignacek
Judy Jensen
Dolly Johnson
Carolyn Jones
Ann Joseph
Jack and Sondra Kellogg
Scott and Julie King
Lee and Rosalie Kistler
Ron and Sharon Klusman
Ruth Koons
Kelly Krueger
Larry and Linda LaGrange
Jim and Sharron Leonard
Larry and Marianne Loritz
Margi Masquelier
Oralie McAfee
Bud and Jean McBride
Bob and Carla McFadden
Margery McKnight
Jeffrey Mershon and Jean Martin
Ira and Bambi Moss
Joan Murphy
Steve and Tina Nelson
Lee and Carole Nield
Frank and Virginia Pasqua
Bob Payne
Judi Quackenboss
Kimra Perkins and Randy Sackerson
Al and Ruth Petrick
Tom and Vicki Pinder
Dan and Char Ray
Dick Reed
Mary Richards
Bryant and Susanne Robert
Cal and Amanda Ruleman
Don and Cindy Sahli
Bill and Marilyn Sandifer
Don and Marie Schell
Lloyd Schiever

Jan Schoonveld
Mike and Julie Sciarabba
Bill and Kathy Short
Dave and Karen Smit
Ethel Snowbarger
Margie Sterlin
Paula Stoecker
Timothy and Tammy Stortz
Phil and Dorothy Stough
Lee Strattan
Lee and Jeane Sweetland
Susan Sweetra
Jim and Joanie Tadewald
Luther and Muffy Trower
Deb Vasko
Ashland and Frances Vaughn
Bonnie Vivian
Herb and Marion Walker
John and Valorie Wells
Mark and Joyce Whan
Louella Young
Bill and Carol Zager

WHAT IS STEWARDSHIP?

***Stewardship is not just
raising funds;
It's raising Christians.
Stewardship is not a matter
of budgets;
It's a matter of faith.***



SPARES & PAIRS

Start the New Year off right by coming to our monthly potluck dinner on Friday, January 8 at 7PM. It will be at the home of Kay and Bob Culp. Please bring a dish to share (appetizer, salad, main dish, or dessert) and plan to have a great time!

SKI DAYS AT COTH

Ski trips to Loveland are planned for Fridays, January 15, February 19, and March 12. Cost for lift tickets will be \$28. What a deal! Let Terry know which days you want to go so that he can reserve one of the limited number (9) of lift tickets for you. Join the fun and fellowship!



NOMINATING

A CALL TO LEADERSHIP

The Nominating Team is still gathering member names to fill the officer positions of Elder and Deacon along with At-Large Members to Personnel and Nominating. Term lengths of these positions vary—but they are either one year or 3 years.

You will find a Nomination Form enclosed with the *ECHOES*. If you know of a member that you would like to nominate, fill out the enclosed form and either mail it in to the church office, or contact any one of the Nominating Team members by phone or e-mail.



COMMUNITY SUPPER—WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13

We're starting off a new year! Please sign up in the Narthex if you can help. We especially need table hosts to share who we are and what we do at COTH. A big **Thank You** to all our helpers for December. Thank you, thank you, thank you! For more information, contact Ann Joseph or Linda LaGrange.

MEN'S GROUP BREAKFAST

The Men's Breakfast will meet on Friday, January 22 at 7AM at LePeep in Bergen Park. All you guys need to grab a friend and have some wonderful grub and gab at 7AM. For more information, contact Kelly Garrod.

MISSION

SECOND MISSION TRIP TO ALAMOSA

Due to the excitement and success of our first church-wide mission trip to La Puente, we are gauging interest in a return trip **February 12-15, 2010**. Schools are out on both Friday and Monday this weekend which allows for a 3-4 day mission trip to lend a hand to the many poor and homeless people of Alamosa. The trip is open to youth, adults, and families. Elementary-age children need to be accompanied by a parent. Please let Terry Buchanan or Don Sahli know as soon as possible if you are interested so that we can make reservations if we have a large enough group.

SPOTLIGHT ON MISSION

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Shawl Ministry was conceived in 2007 by a small group of talented members passionate about knitting. The group meets weekly, welcomes knitters from the community, and has grown significantly over the past two years. This special "ministry of love" has presented shawls to dozens of people, touching the lives of many people of all ages.

TREASURER'S REPORT ~ ECHOES

<u>November</u>	Actual	Budget	Variance	<u>YTD</u>	Actual	Budget	Variance
Revenues	\$31,065	\$27,518	\$3,547	Revenues	\$284,175	\$308,574	(\$24,399)
Expenses	<u>\$25,681</u>	<u>\$34,566</u>	<u>(\$8,885)</u>	Expenses	<u>\$297,381</u>	<u>\$304,396</u>	<u>(\$7,015)</u>
Net Total	(\$5,384)	(\$7,048)		Net Total	(\$13,206)	\$4,178	

Donations of \$30,557 in November were the highest since February (and \$3,517 above budget), which improves the financial outlook a bit from a month ago. Expenses were \$25,681, \$8,885 below budget (or \$3,045 below budget when removing the insurance payment in the budget that was made back in August to save fees). Expenses were helped by the freezing of non-essential expenditures. THANK YOU to all members who made an effort to get their pledge giving up to date or gave something extra last month! My estimate through November is that we still will have a deficit of about \$16,950 for the year.

Bill Cook

ECHOES TEAM

Co-Editors:	Perry Osmer & Cathy Graves
Backup:	Judy Forbes
Web-Servant:	Cathy Graves
Production Team:	Oralie McAfee, Linda LaGrange, Margaret Bailey, Al Petrick, Don and Betty Donner, Pat Femmer, Maria Garrod, Lloyd Schiever, Eve and Dale Hoffman

Echoes Submission Guidelines:

Please email space reservations and materials to echoes@churchofthehills.com. Content is preferred in a Microsoft Word document, and special formatting with headers, spacing, bullets is NOT preferred. Photos and graphics should be submitted as separate .jpg or .tif files; please do not import them in a Word document or an email attachment.

Font: Calibri 11pt.

The next issue of Echoes is scheduled for February/March. We will be sending a reminder to everyone when articles are due.

PLEASE NOTE DEADLINE DIFFERENCES DUE TO LENT AND EASTER

Echoes Deadlines	February/March 2010	April/May 2010
Space Reservation	Friday, January 22	Friday, March 5
Articles Due	Friday, January 29	Friday, March 12
Layout Completed	Friday, February 5	Friday, March 19
Proofing Completed	Monday, February 8	Monday, February 22
Printing	Wednesday, February 19	Wednesday, March 24
Collating/Mailing	Thursday, February 11	Thursday, March 25

Church of the Hills

Presbyterian Church (USA)

P. O. Box 1210 • 28628 Buffalo Park Road • Evergreen, CO 80437-1210

Phone: 303.674.6641 • Fax : 303.679.1785 • Email: www.churchofthehills.com

Office Hours M - F: 9:00 AM–5:00 PM

Sunday Worship: 10:30 AM

Sunday School: 9:00 - 10:20 AM

PASTOR

Rev. Dee Cooper

STAFF

Church Administrator

Carolyn Jones

Director of Christian Education & Youth Ministries

Terry Buchanan

Director of Music Ministries

Cheryl Denslow

Organist

Matt Witherow

Nursery Coordinator

Stacy Minion

Custodian

Brian Ehrle

Maintenance

Dieter Becker

Parish Associate

Don Bennett

VOLUNTEER STAFF

Treasurer

Bill Cook

Assistant Treasurer

Bill Braun

BOARD OF DEACONS

Co-Moderators

Maria Garrod and
Bob Gansauer

Margaret Bailey

Donna Bucholz

Kay Culp

Jean Davis

Margi Masquelier

Margery McKnight

Cal Ruleman

Jeff Sahli

Lloyd Schiever

Deb Vasko

ENDOWMENT TEAM

Kurt Ballantyne, Bill Cook,

Emily Corey,

Graham Gibbard,

Kelly Krueger

SESSION

Dee Cooper, Moderator

Jerry Bucholz

Joanna Cook

Kellie Cox

Bob Culp

Diane Gansauer

Tracy Hansen

Ann Joseph

Scott King

Ron Klusman

Linda LaGrange

Jeff Mershon

Dan Ray

Don Sahli

Lee Strattan

Judy Jensen, Clerk of Session

NOMINATING TEAM

Mel Andrew, Kurt Ballantyne,

Lilly Croke,

Greta Faraco-Hadlock,

Marilyn Sandifer

PERSONNEL TEAM

Rick Bailey, Sue Brown,

Kelly Croke, Jill Hesser,

Julie King, Jeff Mershon

IMPORTANT DATES IN JANUARY

JANUARY 1 ~ NEW YEAR'S DAY

JANUARY 6 ~ EPIPHANY

JANUARY 10 ~ BAPTISM OF THE LORD

JANUARY 14 ~ CREATIVE WORSHIP SERVICE

JANUARY 18 ~ MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY

JANUARY 18 ~ JANUARY 25 ~ WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY



Return Service Requested
Time Valued Mail — December 17, 2009

Presbyterian (USA)
PO Box 1210
Evergreen CO 80437-1210

Church of the Hills



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Our Mission

*Church of the Hills is a family of faith in Christ
that is called together with open hearts and minds
to live out our faith within God's world and within the
framework of the Presbyterian Church USA.*



***Join us for our
10:30 AM Worship Service***

Please Note:

**If your address, phone number, or e-mail has changed,
please notify Carolyn in the church office at 303.674.6641.**

Echoes available online at www.churchofthehills.com