



ECHOES

Inspire . . . Inform . . . Invite

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October/November 2011

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It's Coming November 6th!

Jambo dear family and friends of Church of the Hills!

What a joy to be back home, in Evergreen, with friends and family. I welcome the time to share in the stories and adventures from this summer. I seem to want to keep expressing my appreciation for the opportunity to go and explore this summer. And I am mindful the sabbatical team, the staff and the leadership have stepped forward in so many ways to have made this time an easeful flow for us all. I am deeply appreciative. I hope as you hear stories and see pictures, I can share with you the insights and learnings for me this summer. It has been a time of restoration and refreshment. I can say my soul is full and I feel grounded and clear as I return to serve our Lord and this community of faith as your pastor. I have learned a lot about myself, my strengths, and my limits. It provided for me time to reflect and soak in the spaces, people, and animals that made my heart truly sing and wonder about what makes our community's heart sing? And even more so what makes God's heart sing?

Some of you might have already heard that I climbed Kilimanjaro to 17800 feet (1400 feet from the summit). It was an amazing, dangerous, and insightful journey for me. On the mountain I struggled with several asthma attacks, while climbing through volcanic ash and dust. It was unexpected and very challenging. I found strength and a new perspective of the praise song *This is the air I breathe*. I experienced firsthand of how air is not something to take for granted. And I wondered

when do I take God's presence for granted. Really do I perceive God's spirit as vital in my life and necessary as this air which was in such limited quantity and such a precious need during my hike? I wondered where and how do I take for granted the Loving Creator of all of life? Do I only notice God, on Sundays? When I have a need, a request, or an urgent matter? And I wondered if noticing God, seeing God, and breathing in (like one breathes in air) the overpowering flow of God's love, makes God's heart sing? Just noticing and wondering... what about you?

I have learned many lessons about myself (a deeper love and appreciations of lions - hence the photo - sheer joy you see). You will be seeing some changes in my priorities, my leadership, and my very way of being. I guess it is what happens when the air gets thin or when we pause and notice the Loving God of Creation is loving us too.

Blessings,

Dee



Christmas Wreaths and Garlands

Troop 535 will be selling Christmas wreaths and garlands again this year.

They will be here to take orders the first two Sundays in November,

If you will not be here but want to order please contact Bambi Moss 303.670.3881 or email scouts@biea.net.

Watch for a flyer to be posted in the Narthex soon.

The wreaths and garlands will be delivered the first part of December.

Community Supper

COME JOIN US TO HELP SERVE OUR COMMUNITY!

All individuals are welcome, we need multiple shifts covered each month. Come for one shift or come for all - there is no limit on how much you can help!

ARE YOU PART OF A GROUP THAT WOULD LIKE TO HELP??

Please contact Bambi Moss if you would like to sign up your group for a month. The supper is on the 2nd Wednesday of each month through May. Sign up sheets for individuals for the October 12th supper are in the Narthex. Questions? Call Bambi Moss 303.670.3881. Upcoming dinner dates are November 9th and December 14th.

A "New" Member Directory - with Photos - Coming Soon!

Informal pictures will be taken during the month of October, before and after worship by COTH photographers. Bring your family, bring your pets! Watch for additional information in the Sunday Happenings, Friday Features, etc.

The Member Development Team and Volunteers

Spares & Pairs

Join us at 7 p.m. on Friday, October 14 for a restaurant night! Once again we will be supporting our local LePeep Restaurant in Bergen Park which will serve us a private dinner that evening! Menu selections will be posted on the Narthex bulletin boards. Call Jean Martin with your reservations no later than **Tuesday, October 11** (303.674.3478 or jabmartin@aol.com).

Looking ahead: Our November 11 dinner will be at the home of Kay and Bob Culp, 32171 Buffalo Creek Road, Evergreen, 303.674.4626.

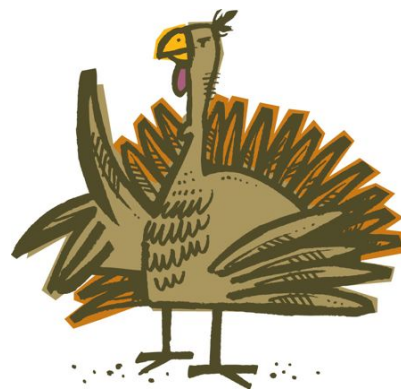
Thank You!

We just want to thank those of you who prayed for us, sent us good thoughts and cards for my Mother's death and Will's birth. It has really been a time of ups and downs for our family and your support has kept us going!

Fondly, Marilyn and Bill Sandifer

Happy Thanksgiving!

"I have never understood why anyone would roast the turkey and shuck the clams and crisp the croutons and shell the peas and candy the sweet potatoes and comote the cranberries and bake the pies and clear the table and wash the dishes and fall into bed exhausted when they could just as easily sit back and enjoy a hamburger or a pork sandwich."



—The Turkey

Consecration Sunday Is Coming

Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

Our congregation's stewardship team has selected the *New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program* as a way to teach the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this year.

New Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. *New Consecration Sunday* encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

During morning worship on Consecration Sunday, we are asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world.

Every attendee and member who completes an *Estimate of Giving Card* does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday. We urge people to attend who feel strongly opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During morning worship our guest leader will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

We will encourage participation in Consecration Sunday events through the Consecration Sunday team and governing board members. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend Consecration Sunday worship.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in Consecration Sunday events.

The Consecration Sunday Team

The Security Myth

Helen Keller said, "Security is mostly a superstition. It does not exist in nature. Nor do the children of men as a whole experience it. Avoiding danger is no safer in the long run than outright exposure. Life is either a daring adventure or nothing." [John C. Maxwell, *The Confidence That Convinces*, Audio Tape]

Many people who withhold their wholehearted support from God's work are victims of that "superstition of security" to which Helen Keller referred. They somehow failed to learn that no amount of money makes us totally secure from the painful experiences that life flings against our windshields without the slightest warning.

What happens when we try to create our own security blankets by avoiding the risk of being generous? Our selfishness costs more than money. It robs us of a spiritual relationship with God.

Self-giving does not bring us total security. Nothing does that. Being alive puts us at risk in a thousand ways. But generously giving our money to God's purposes gives us a sense of meaning and purpose as we work with other people in God's great causes. That is a far greater reward than anything we can obtain by striving for the myth of security.



Alternative
Gift Fair 11th Annual

November 12 & 13, 2011

FACT SHEET



WHO: Evergreen/Conifer area faith-based organizations sponsor an annual fair that helps non-profit organizations raise funds needed for worthwhile local, national and international causes. The volunteers from a diversity of local congregations work together to make the fair a warm and welcoming community initiative in the true spirit of the holidays.

WHAT: The two-day gift fair features hand-made crafts, jewelry, textiles and some food items. All the funds raised from the sale of these gifts go to the charities. Displays also spotlight charitable and community organizations seeking volunteers and other types of support or in-kind donations.

WHEN: November 12 – 13, 2011, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM – *One weekend only!*

WHERE: Hosted at Evergreen Lutheran Church on Highway 73 in Evergreen, CO 80439

WHY: **GIFT TWICE** means that purchases not only provide unique all occasion gifts for loved ones, the funds raised also go to charities to make a difference for people in need. The **ALTERNATIVE GIFT FAIR** attracts shoppers from around the region who want to find unique gifts or gift certificates that **GIFT TWICE**.

In 2010, the tenth year of operation, the fair raised over \$112,000 from the sale of goods and gift certificates, 100% of which was distributed to the charities participating.

SUPPORT: *The event is created and operated entirely by volunteers. There is no paid staffing. The event relies heavily upon designated donations from area congregations, businesses and individuals to cover operational expenses that include credit card fees, consumable supplies, and equipment rentals so that event proceeds go to the participating charities. A bake sale raises funds to defray the promotional costs, such as newspaper advertising space and printing costs for flyers, signs and banners. Volunteer crews come together to set up, take down and operate the fair each year. The event could not succeed without volunteer workers who generously give their time and talents.*

See Jan Schoonveld about the Bake Sale, which raises money to support the fair.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please sign up to assist as a volunteer on the weekend of the fair:
 Assistance with set-up or take-down and clean-up
 Van drivers to transport volunteers who park at Church of the Hills
 Workers to be onsite at Evergreen Lutheran Church

An information table will be in the Narthex in October.



CHURCH OF THE HILLS PRESBYTERIAN (USA)

AUGUST 31, 2011

ANALYSIS OF REVENUES & EXPENSES - YTD 2011

	August	August Budgeted	Variance	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance
REVENUES						
Pledges	\$16,024	\$22,210	(\$6,186)	\$191,651	\$187,109	\$4,542
All Others	\$11,781	\$1,094	\$10,687	\$28,726	\$15,089	\$13,637
TOTAL REVENUES	\$27,805	\$23,304	\$4,501	\$220,377	\$202,198	\$18,179
EXPENSES						
Personnel	\$17,386	\$20,362	(\$2,976)	\$153,633	\$163,471	(\$9,838)
All Other	\$10,009	\$10,664	(\$655)	\$61,730	\$72,330	(\$10,600)
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$27,395	\$31,026	(\$3,631)	\$215,363	\$235,801	(\$20,438)
NET TOTAL	\$410	(\$7,722)	\$8,132	\$5,014	(\$33,603)	\$38,617

Pledge revenues were \$6,000 below budget. This was to be expected with the summer ending and a WORKshop Sunday during August. The good news is that YTD pledge revenues continue to track above budget by \$4,500. I continue to be encouraged by the members who have paid their per capita. We are only about \$1,195 below budget on this. We will keep reminding people to pay their per capita. The major increase in revenues for August is attributable to the shortage in parking at EHS and the subsequent increase in parking fees collected for the full school year. We also received the \$1,500 payment from SRC for the Extension Services use of building. Even with the church being fully staffed, we continue to experience below budget Personnel costs. There were not any unusual expenses during August for all the teams. Costs associated with the beginning of fall programming were incurred, but they had been budgeted for. We continue to operate a little over \$5,000 in the black year-to-date (versus a budgeted deficit of over \$33,000), which is great news! Thank you to all of our good and faithful servants. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Cathy Graves, Treasurer

Editor: Cathy Graves
Assistant Editor: Judy Forbes
Webmaster: Cathy Graves
Production Team: Kathy Donner, Pat Femmer, Dale & Eve Hoffman, Jean Martin, Bob Payne, Lloyd Schiever



Newsletter Team

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 a separate .jpg or .tif file format; please do not import them into a Word document. **Font: Times Roman 11pt**

Echoes Deadlines

	December 2011	January 2012
Articles Due	Friday, November 4	Friday, December 9
Layout Completed	Friday, November 11	Friday, December 16
Printing	Wednesday, November 16	Wednesday, December 21
Collating/Mailing	Thursday, November 17	Thursday, December 22

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 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday School: 9:00 - 10:20 a.m.

Worship: 10:30 a.m.

PASTOR

The Rev. Dr. Dee Cooper

STAFF

Director of Christian Education & Youth Ministries

Terry Buchanan

Church Administrator

Carolyn Jones

Director of Music Ministries

Cheryl Denslow

Organists/Accompanists

Karen Peterson

Joyce Scheel

Children/Youth Choir Director

Lilly Croke

Nursery Coordinator

Becky Shalanberger

Custodian

Brian Erhle

Maintenance

Greg Ploysa

VOLUNTEER STAFF

Treasurer

Cathy Graves

Assistant Treasurer

Jeff Mershon

Volunteer Coordinator

Cathy Graves

BOARD OF DEACONS

Zi Antweiler

Sherwin Boyd

Kay Culp

Jean Davis

Ande Hesser

Marianne Loritz

Margi Masquelier

Mat Matson

Ruth Petrick

Lloyd Schiever

Jan Schoonveld

Julie Sciarabba

ENDOWMENT TEAM

Kurt Ballantyne, Emily Corey,

Cathy Graves, Steve Nelson,

Bill Sandifer

SESSION

Jerry Bucholz

Chuck Corey

Judy Forbes

Dean Graves

Tracy Hansen

Ron Klusman

Oralie McAfee

Tina Nelson

Marilyn Sandifer

Amanda Sciarabba

Lee Strattan

Carol Zager

Judy Jensen, Clerk of Session

NOMINATING TEAM

Kurt Ballantyne, Dick Blodgett,

Tammy Carpenter, Carolyn Hock

PERSONNEL TEAM

Chuck Corey, Kelly Croke,

Jill Hesser, Kelly Krueger,

Jim Leonard, Cal Ruleman

STEWARDSHIP TEAM

Dick Blodgett, Sherry Boyd,

Chuck Corey, Dean Graves,

Sharon Klusman



IMPORTANT DATES IN OCTOBER

OCTOBER 2 WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY
 OCTOBER 10 COLUMBUS DAY
 OCTOBER 30 REFORMATION SUNDAY
 KIRKIN' OF THE TARTAN



IMPORTANT DATES IN NOVEMBER

NOVEMBER 1 ALL SAINTS' DAY
 NOVEMBER 6 CONSECRATION SUNDAY
 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS
 NOVEMBER 11 VETERANS DAY
 NOVEMBER 20-27 NATIONAL BIBLE WEEK
 NOVEMBER 24 THANKSGIVING DAY
 NOVEMBER 27 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Return Service Requested
Time Valued Mail - September 29, 2011

Church of the Hills Presbyterian (USA)
PO Box 1210
Evergreen, CO 80437



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Evergreen, CO

October/November 2011

Echoes

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
"Faith Trails" for children
and Adult Study
at 9:00 a.m.
Followed by Worship
at 10:30 a.m.*

Please Note:

If your address, phone number,
or email has changed,
please notify the church office at
303.674.6641.



Echoes is available online at www.churchofthehills.com