

### Summer!!!

When Scott and I first adopted our Pea Patch garden plot in May its main residents were weeds and crab grass. The work seemed daunting but we started to dig, pull, sort and with the help of a rototiller we cleared our 400 sq foot plot and were ready for the glorious next season of gardening. Today...after freezes, sun, snow and hail in July we're still working to make what looks like a garden that will produce something. I continue to weed and water trusting that this work will lead to a beautiful harvest of crispy snap peas, earthy beets, spicy garlic and maybe even an heirloom pumpkin.

Why am I sharing all this with you? Well, summer at Columbine is similar to my gardening adventure. There are some exciting early bloomers....fun programs that we have been planning all spring like VBS, mission trips, book groups, and camping trips and our summer movies sermon series. At the same time there is a bit of weeding and cleaning. Summer is good time for our staff, Mission and Ministry committee's and Council (all of our leadership) to look back at the past year and evaluate what we need to let go of, weed out, or organize before the fall. And finally there is the ongoing tilling of the soil and planting seeds for what is next. In my garden I will continue to plant seeds for my fall crops up to August. At Columbine Missions and Ministry committees are planning for fall programs, Council is focused on leading the building renovation capital campaign effort and pastors and staff are dreaming of and planting seeds for what is next here at Columbine. Like gardeners, we look forward the growth and life of this CUC garden. I am personally enjoying all the activities of the summer and looking forward to what will pop up next.