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#### **AGENDA**

#### 2017 Annual Congregational Meeting May 21, 2017 – 9:00AM

- I. Call Meeting to Order Janet McIllece
- A. Appointment of Parliamentarian
- B. Establish Quorum Jane Jackson
- II. Opening Prayer Steve Poos-Benson
- III. Approval of May 15, 2016 Annual Meeting Minutes
- & August 14, 2016 Congregational Meeting Minutes to Call Rev. Jane Ritterson as Associate Pastor
- IV. Nominating Committee Report Justin Spurlock
- V. Election of Council, Boards, and Committees Janet McIllece
- VI. Treasurer's Report
- A. Financial Report for 2016-2017
- B. Q&A Justin Spurlock & Lee Ann Smith
- VII. Approval of Pastors' Terms of Call Jerry Clayton
- VIII. Approval of Budget for 2016-2017 Jerry Clayton
- IX. Recognition of Outgoing Elected Officers Steve Poos-Benson
- X. Recognition of Lee Ann Smith
- XI. Building Renovation Presentation Justin Spurlock
- XII. Closing Prayer Justin Spurlock
- XIII. Adjourn the Annual Meeting Jerry Clayton

#### MINUTES OF THE MAY 15, 2016 ANNUAL MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Andy Sexton at 9:11 a.m. It was established that there was a quorum. Rev. Dr. Steve Poos-Benson gave an opening prayer.

Motion was made to appoint Terri Townsend parliamentarian for the meeting. Motion carried.

The minutes of the annual congregational meeting from May 17, 2015 and the November 29, 2015 special congregational meeting were submitted for approval. A motion was made and seconded to approve. Motion carried.

Financial Report and Budget Presentation

A financial report was given by Jay Haworth, the church's treasurer.

We had budgeted to spend \$764,316 but we actually spent \$780,771. We used the Matching Fund, Cell Tower Reserve and General Reserves to end the year with a balanced budget. We had higher than expected staffing expenses, a loss return on our investments, and no excesses in our revenue.

#### 2017 Budget Proposal

It is again a balanced budget. We are using our weekly revenue for the past year to define our budget. We removed investment income from our budget. We are not increasing staff salaries. We have kept all of the program budgets flat. We are maintaining our current staffing and salary levels. We are proposing a \$761,330 budget. This will be a balanced budget.

Following is a brief table showing the revenue and expense comparisons for the past two fiscal years along with the FY2016 proposed budget.

	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017
			Proposed
Revenue	723,519	764,316	761,330
Expenses	719,711	780,771	761,330
+/-	3,808	0	0

It was moved and seconded that the proposed budget be accepted as presented in the annual report. The motion carried.

#### Nominating Committee Reports

Justin presented the new Council Organization Chart. The actual council will become smaller with the addition of three boards that will work under the council. By adding these boards, we move the decision making down to the committees allowing more people from the congregation to participate in the decision making process. We will now have the Board of Ministries, Staff Parish Relations Board and the Board of Property and Finance. The Board of Ministries are all the committees of the church. The Staff Parish Relations Board will replace the Human Resource Committee in handling our staffing concerns. The Board of Property and Finance will handle all issues around the church property and financial issues.

By changing this structure, it allows each board to better meet the needs of its group. The council will oversee the boards but the boards will be able to do most of their work on their own. This will free up the time for things to move more quickly.

Nominating Committee Recommendations

Jerry Clayton (President Elect), Jane Jackson (Clerk), Carrie Rice (Board of Staff Parish Relations Chair), Lorraine Hesselbach (Board of Ministry and Missions Chair), Russ Jackson (Adult Ed Chair), Anne Prather (Congregational Care Chair), Fred Mahe (Connections Chair), Todd Rice (Marketing and Outreach Chair), Tom Rehling (Fellowship and Involvement Chair), Clay Hollandsworth (Member SPRB), Jack Dunn (Property Chair), Mel Roghair Member NC), Dena Way (Member NC), Lindie Woodruff (Member NC).

A motion was made and seconded to approve these nominations. Approved.

Rev. Spurlock recognized all outgoing council members. They are Terri Townsend (Past President), Jeannie Kiel (Clerk) and Betsy Rehling (Congregational Care Committee).

Justin thanked each one for their work the past three years and presented everyone with a plaque of service recognition.

#### By-Law Changes

Janet MacIllece With all the changes in the council structure there will be changes to the by-laws. While these are minimal, we need to review them with you and gain your approval. We are adding the membership term affiliate member. We are changing the Human Resource Committee to the Staff Parish Relations Board.

Motion was made to approve the changes to the by-laws. Approved.

State of the Church

Rev. Justin Spurlock We are doing well. We have lots of energy and enthusiasm. Attendance is growing despite changing from three services to two. Our Neighboring Hubs are working with Wilder Elementary doing some staff appreciation events. It has paid off with some more visitors.

Jane has been terrific. What a great addition.

We have several goals for this year. We will work on reorganizing and aligning our church council. We want to grow our attendance. We need to plan for Steve's retirement. We need to look at our church property with both as short and long term plan.

Rev. Dr. Steve Poos-Benson While Justin crunches numbers and works on realigning things, I get to work on Spirituality, how to enliven your souls. Spiritual growth and development. We are looking at ways to grow our spiritual experiences.

There being no further business to come before the congregation, it was moved, seconded and approved that the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting was closed by a prayer by Rev. Justin Spurlock at 10:02 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeannie Kiel, Clerk

#### SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AUGUST 14, 2016

Nomination of Jane Ritterson as Associate Pastor of Care & Visitation

Columbine United Church

Janet McIlece called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

It was established that there was a quorum.

Stephanie Townsend, chairperson of the Pastoral Nominating Committee, brought forth the name of Jane Ritterson to fill the position of Associate Pastor of Care & Visitation at Columbine United Church. Details of the call package were presented.

A motion was made to install Jane Ritterson as the Associate Pastor of Care & Visitation at Columbine United Church.

A voice vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:17 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Jackson Secretary

## Statement of Receipts and Expenses

	Fiscal Year Ended	Fiscal Year Ended		Fiscal Year
	April 30, 2016	April 30		2017-2018
	Actual	Actual	Budget	Budget
Receipts				
Pledges, Contributions, and Identified Giving	670,350	691,101	704,941	768,761
Plate Contributions	12,794	14,486	10,711	14,942
Investment Income	(2,411)	20,292	0	0
Miscellaneous	10,363	12,900	12,900	14,520
Cash Back Programs	5,010	14,451	6,284	12,000
Breakfast Contributions	8,889	1,861	11,996	1,820
Funded from Reserves	75,775	0	14,499	12,500
Total Receipts and Revenue	780,771	755,091	761,331	824,543
Expen ses				
Staff Expenses	559,662	549,627	558,734	602,616
Operational Expenses	100,816	91,817	92,424	95,678
Programs - Adult Christian Education	0	344	500	700
Programs - Advocacy Committee	Ŏ	0	0	500
Programs - Breakfast	9.411	2,214	8,500	1,200
Programs - Care and Support	98	227	500	500
Programs - Childrens Ministry	3,000	5,193	5,500	3,500
Programs - Fellowship	2,656	2,110	3,000	3,500
Programs - Membership	243	282	500	500
Programs - Music	8,500	7.888	8.500	9,250
Programs - Prayer Shawl	8,300	7,888	0,500	287
Programs - Senior Ministry	0	662	500	500
		002	0	800
Programs - Stewardship/Generosity	1 1	*		
Programs - Worship	2,436	4,360	6,700	5,000
Programs - Youth	10.773	10.429	9.000	9.000
Total Programs	37,118	33,709	43,201	35,237
Total Ordinary Expenses	697,596	675,153	694,359	733,531
D	38,867	21.076	21,870	25,575
Denomination Support		21,876 41,662		44,012
Missions Support Total Benevolences	40,868 79,735	63,538	41,662 63,532	69,587
Total Benevolences	/9,/33	03,336	03,332	09,567
Mortgage Repayment Expense	0	0	0	11,985
Capital Improvements (Building & Grounds)	0	0	0	6,000
Technology	3,440	3,440	3,440	3,440
Grand Total Expenses	780,771	742,131	761,331	824,543
Excess of Receipts over Expenses	(0)	12,960	0	0

Designated Fund Balances	April 30, 2017
Adult Education	S 702
Building & Grounds	49,207
Congregational Care	3,526
Children's Ministry	1,642
Endowments	49,470
Generosity/Stewardship	371
Missions	17,005
Music	31,544
Office & Accounting	39,933
Outreach & Marketing	11,340
Pastors	1,052
Reserves	187,314
Worship	1,481
Youth	3,737
Total Designated Funds	\$ 398,324

## Balance Sheet April 30, 2017

Assets	Balance
Bank Accounts	
Vectra Bank Checking	10,569
Vectra Bank Savings	410
Total Bank Accounts	10,979
Investments	
Charles Schwab	350,534
Presbyterian Foundation	40,248
Total Investments	390,782
Petty Cash Funds	992
Grocery Coupon Stock	355
Prepaid General Insurance	6,828
Prepaid Health Insurance	2,819
Total Assets	412,755
Liabilities and Designated Funds	
Program Designated Funds	144,536
Mission Funds	17,005
Endowment Funds	49,470
Reserve Funds	200,274
Payroll Taxes	575
Accounts Payable	(750)
Accrued Liabilities	1,645
Total Liabilities	412,755

### **Reserve Fund Transactions for Fiscal Year 2017**

#### General Reserve Fund

Date	Explanation	Increase	Decrease	<b>Bal</b> ance
5/1/2016	Opening Balance			86,187
4/30/2017	FY2017 Surplus	12,960		99,147

In 2004 the Finance Committee determined that the minimum level for the General Reserve fund should be 10% of the year's total budget. In FY2018 the total budget will be \$824,543, so the FY2018 target for the General Reserve Fund is \$82,454.

#### Cell Tower Sale Reserve Fund

Date	Explanation	Increase	Decrease	New Balance
5/1/2016	Opening Balance			88,854
4/30/2017	Closing Balance			88,854

The Cell Tower that was in the church's steeple, leased by Cricket Wireless and owned by CUC, was sold to Crown Castle during FY2014. The sale allowed CUC to benefit from the future establishment of other towers on the church property. The lease payments from Cricket were \$12,500 per year at the time of the sale. During FY2017, the cell tower equipment was deactivated and removed by Cricket Wireless. No additional cell tower leases have been added to the CUC property.

#### Copier Replacement Fund

Date	Explanation	Increase Decrease	New Balance
5/1/2016	Opening Balance		10,698.91
4/30/2017	Closing Balance		10,698.91

The Copier Fund is reserved for replacing the major copiers and printers as they wear out.

#### Technology Replacement Fund

Date	Expl anation	Increase	Decrease	New Balance
5/1/2016	Opening Balance			4,157.11
FY2017	Monthly setasides at \$286.67/month	3,440.04		7,597.15
FY2017	Computer Purchases & Replacements		5,624.17	1,972.98
FY2017	Software Purchases		398.97	1,574.01
4/30/2017	Closing Balance			1,574.01

The Technology Fund is reserved for replacing technological items within the church building, as well as computers and associated items for the staff.

### **FY2017 Benevolence and Mission Contributions**

(amounts paid directly by the church from benevolences, donations, or memorial funds)

Organization or Purpose		<b>Amount</b>
Bessie's Hope	\$	2,400
Common Hope (Guatemala)		720
CROP Walk for Hunger		525
Denver Inner City Parish		2,400
HAAT Force (South Metro Homelessness)		1,010
El Porvenir (Nicaragua Water Project)		4,422
Family Promise		915
Integrated Family Community Services		4,600
Just Coffee (Café' Justo)		810
Littleton Meals on Wheels		3,600
Loaves and Fishes / Habitat for Humanity		4,200
Love INC		1,200
Mission Trips		3,725
National Multiple Sclerosis Society		1,225
Network Coffee House		1,800
Pencils of Promise		1,000
Presbytery of Denver (Benevolence and Directed Giving)		9,019
Presbyterian Church USA (Syrian Refugee Disaster Assistance)		500
Rocky Mountain Stroke Center		750
Second Wind Fund		2,920
The Action Center		3,600
United Church of Christ (Benevolence and Directed Giving)		7,292
United Methodist Church (Benevolence and Directed Giving)		7,292
Total	S	65,925

#### ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT

#### YEAR ENDING APRIL 30, 2017

The attached sheets are the Treasurer's Report for Fiscal Year 2017.

- STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES, INCLUDING DESIGNATED FUND STATUS AND FY2018 ANNUAL BUDGET
- BALANCE SHEET
- RESERVE FUND TRANSACTIONS
- BENEVOLENCE & MISSION CONTRIBUTIONS

#### Highlights

- \$65,925 was distributed to Denominational, Local Outreach and Global Mission giving
- Pledges and identified giving received were \$691,101 versus a budget of \$704,941.
- Total Revenue was \$755,091 vs a budget of \$761,331.
- Expenses were \$742,131 vs a budget of \$761,331.
- There is an excess of \$12,960 in receipts over expenses for the fiscal year.

Respectfully Submitted,

James Haworth, Treasurer

#### FINANCIAL REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT

The undersigned member(s) of the Financial Review Committee have reviewed the books and records of Columbine United Church for the twelve months ending April 30, 2017, and have performed certain tests thereon.

Based on our review, nothing came to our attention that would indicate the financial statements as presented require any material modifications, except for what is noted in the addendum

To the best of my knowledge, the attached financial statements fairly represent the economic activity for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2017. I am not aware of any circumstances that should be disclosed to the Financial Review Committee or require modification to the underlying financial records.

Lee Ann Smith, Business Manager

#### Reviewers' Addendum for FY2017 Financial Statements

An entry recording a stock gift in the amount of \$13,228 was excluded in February 2017, thereby resulting in the cash balance being low for FY2017. This change has the effect of increasing both our Cash and Deferred Revenue accounts. A correcting entry will be booked for May 2017, for FY2018. The financial statements for FY2017 are unaffected.

Ву

Date 2017-05-14

By\_

## NOMINATING REPORT 2017-2018

Position Current Person		Term Ends
Council		
Past President	Janet McIllece	May 2018 (2018)
President	Jerry Clayton	May 2018 (2019)
President-Elect	Barb McElroy	May 2018 (2019)  May 2018 (2020)
Secretary/Clerk	Jane Jackson	May 2019
Treasurer/Board of P&F	Jay Haworth	May 2019 May 2018
Board of Staff Parish Relations	Sam Noyes	May 2010
Chair	•	
Board of Ministry & Missions Chair	Lorraine Hesselbach	May 2019
Member-At-Large (B of M&M)	Jerry Koepke	May 2018
Member-At-Large (B of P&F)	David Lewis	May 2020
<b>Board of Ministry &amp; Mission</b>	S	
Chair	Lorraine Hesselbach	May 2019
Past President	Janet McIllece	May 2018
Council Member At Large	Jerry Koepke	May 2018
Adult Ed Chair	Suzan Leach	May 2010  May 2020
Next Generations Chair	Aimee Crispin	May 2018
Worship Chair	Chris Emas	May 2010  May 2020
Congregational Care Chair	Anne Prather	May 2019
Missions Chair	Fred Mahe	May 2020
Connections Chair		May 2020 May 2020
	Empty Todd Rice	May 2020 May 2018
Marketing & Outreach Chair		May 2018 May 2019
Fellowship & Involvement Chair	Tom Rehling Janet Kester	
Advocacy Committee Chair  Hubs & Pods Chair	Empty	May 2019 <i>May 2018</i>
mus & rous Chair	Етріу	Muy 2018
<b>Board of Staff Parish Relatio</b>	ns	
Chair	Sam Noyes	May 2020
Past President	Janet McIllece	May 2018 (2018)
President	Jerry Clayton	May 2018 (2019)
President-Elect	Barb McElroy	May 2018 (2020)
Member	Marianne Andres	May 2018
Member	Clay Hollandsworth	May 2019
<b>Board of Property &amp; Finance</b>	e (Administration)	
Chair	Jay Haworth	May 2018
President-Elect	Barb McElroy	May 2018
Council Member-At-Large	David Lewis	May 2020
Finance Chair	Lindsey Stevenson	May 2020
Stewardship Chair	Marie Schreiber	May 2018
Property Chair	Jack Dunn	May 2019
Nominating		
Member	Sue MacKenzie	May 2019
Member	Mel Roghair	May 2018
Member	Pat Leonard	May 2019
Member	Lindie Woodruff	May 2018
Council Appointee	From Council	May 2018
Council Appointed	1 Ioni Councii	Way 2010

#### SENIOR PASTOR REPORT 2017

#### Rev. Dr. Steve Poos-Benson

The church is hitting on all cylinders. Every aspect of the church is thriving. We have a building remodel in the plans. Our Council and committees are working together to create a dynamic faith community. Our worship is celebrative. Our mission reaches out to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and provide shelter to the homeless. It has been an exciting year to work and pastor at Columbine United Church.

It has been a great blessing to be a part of our church staff. While we are a small team, we are fast and nimble in our work. It allows us to be quick in our response to needs, and able to forecast future opportunities for the congregation. We have eliminated the red tape that often holds other congregations back. I cannot thank my colleague Rev. Justin Spurlock enough for creating this work environment. He is a strong and vital leader creating a vision that we all can follow. It is also a joy to work with Rev. Jane Ritterson. Jane and I not only share an office but we share a passion to walk with people in their joys and sorrows. Jane's installation this past year was a highlight for the entire congregation. Mitch, in addition to being a brilliant musician, is also a true friend that inspires me to bring my very best to life. Lee Ann Smith has done a great job leading us financially. Tag Worley's skills are amazing. He keeps the building and grounds in sound condition. He operates the soundboard and plays the drums in worship. Josie welcomes everyone and serves people's needs on Sunday and throughout the week. Then there's Dot, my other mother. Dot has raised me up as a pastor. She has taught me how to be sensitive and responsive to people's hurts and pains. She has been a confidant in my lowest times and celebrated the many joys of ministry. I am blessed to work with such a gifted and talented group of people.

There have been some exciting programs this past year. Adult education has provided opportunities to expand our faith. My theme for this year is, "Understanding Racism." The Adult Ed committee, working with the Advocacy committee, has provided classes and forums for these discussions to take place.

Our Advanced Spirituality class has brought in speakers from other Religious traditions. The Tuesday Faith Forum has covered a vast array of topics. I was excited that CUC hosted a class on Mindfulness Meditation. Mindfulness comes from the Buddhist tradition. It represented the ecumenical nature of our spirituality. I encourage all of you to attend an adult education class to expand your faith.

Our Fresh worship services have been fun and inspiring. Fresh is our interfaith worship experience. Susan Smith leads us in Church Yoga. She carefully selects a yoga theme that sets the tone for the evening service. Jane Ritterson and I lead the service itself. We have covered such topics as Enlightenment, Yom Kippur, Samhain, Advent, and Lent. We conclude our Fresh evening with a wine and cheese celebration. Fresh has been a wonderful addition to the worship life of CUC.

This June I begin my 34th year as your pastor. Every year has been a joy and celebration. You are my blessing.

Steve

## **EXECUTIVE PASTOR REPORT 2017**

#### **Rev. Justin Spurlock**

Exhilarating! That's how I would describe our past 12 months here at CUC. New members and new families. New committees and new structures for ministry. New processes for marketing, outreach, serving our neighbors. And... new building plans. With all of the new and exciting ministries taking place, the year flew by quickly. Our amazing staff was very busy working with a wide array of volunteers and leaders both inside and outside our church walls. All of this excitement sets the foundation for an incredible year to come.

#### Appreciation

This past year, I had the privilege of working with our Council President, Janet McIllece. Janet led our Council with grace and vision. She helped us listen, discern, imagine, and make decisions. Janet, thanks for your leadership over the past 12 months!

New Members & Families

Attendance was overflowing during the past several months! In fact, we have been dealing with the best problems a church can deal with – where can I sit and where can I park? We have seen so many new members and new families visit CUC and make CUC their church home. Our follow-up with visitors has been stellar over the past year. Susan Smith and Lisa Castro volunteer their time each week to email, call, and follow-up with our visiting families. We are connecting returning visitors with other individuals and families, groups, and next-step events here at CUC. We look forwarding to being able to build on these efforts in the year to come and take our outreach, follow-up, and connection next steps to the next level.

#### New Structures and Processes

Last year, we implemented a new Council, Board, and Committee structure. Honestly, I thought it would be difficult to implement. Generally, changing a church's organizational structure is like learning a new language. Instead, we adapted with ease and excitement. We are seeing more committees and programs collaborating, which creates more energy and excitement, which in turn creates new connections, and generates better programs and ministries. A huge thanks to all of our Council, Board, and Committee Chairs and Members – you are changing the way people see and experience God!

New Building

And speaking of new structures, we have spent the past two years working on ideas, and now plans, for a building renovation. The scope is comprehensive – we will use the 99% of the current building footprint but will be touching almost every square inch of our building and property to provide needed updates, create more effective spaces for ministry to adults and children, provide for more accessibility to the whole building with an elevator, create more welcoming spaces for new visitors, and provide necessary maintenance. Our Renovation Steering Committee is composed of the following church members and staff members:

Congregational Liaisons - Stephanie Townsend and Richard Boorom

Capital Campaign - Linda Tafoya and Jason Wagner

Council Representative – Janet McIllece

Architect Liaison – Lee Ann Smith

Contractor Liaison – Tag Worley

Team Lead: Pastor Justin

Seventh Year

July 1 will begin my seventh year here at CUC. Thank-you for allowing me to minister with you and to you. I look forward to what the next year holds for us a church. God is using us to change the way people see God. God is using you to change the way I see God. Thank-you!

## COUNCIL PRESIDENT REPORT 2017 Janet McIllece

Dear Columbine United Church,

Thank you for the honor and privilege of serving as your Council President over this past year. Your Council is a true group of mindful, faithful and prayerful leaders. They are committed to growing CUC in specific ways: growing the way we think, growing the way we reach out to our community, and growing how we serve our congregation. Through 2016 and 2017 we have been blessed with setting the foundation for coming years and seeing many parts of this commitment come together.

In 2016 we transitioned from having several independent committees to a structure of three boards that guide respective related committees:

- Ministry and Missions
- Property and Finance
- Staff and Parish Relations

The three board chairpersons attend Council meetings each month to contribute to setting CUC's direction and priorities. Each board's chairperson and committee chairs then take this direction and work collectively with their respective committees to set priorities and direction for those committees. The committees are using this direction to guide their activities and decisions. This new structure has generated tremendous positive energy, momentum and efficiency. Kudos to everyone for having faith and embracing change!

CUC is in dire need of facility upgrades and modernization. Over the past year CUC's Council and many Boards and Committees have set out to create a modern vision for personally experiencing CUC, and they submitted and compiled a rich set of dreams and "why's" for desired building improvements to our facilities. What resources do our members need? What do we want visitors and our community to feel and understand about us when they visit CUC? We contemplated the drivers of our ministries and the important elements of our congregational and community lives and missions. The ultimate goal is for our physical resources to buoy our spiritual direction.

Council has engaged a local, trusted architecture firm and we are in the midst of creating a plan that will repurpose, modernize, and rethink the rich resources that we truly already have. We seek visual and spatial creativity to unlock and breathe life and energy into our facilities. Think of it as a pragmatic, spiritual version of Fixer Upper if you will (for my fellow HGTV fans). We are excited to share designs and visuals of where this is headed and look forward to your participation in making this happen.

The future is in our youth. The resurgence and energy in our middle and high school youth program is in big thanks to CUC's fantastic staff and volunteers. Continually injecting fresh programming and fellowship helps build a strong path for our kids to explore their own faith journeys. Continue to look for exciting things to come as this ministry evolves.

Rev. Jane Ritterson has truly been a gift to CUC since the day she entered our doors. She is instrumental in our care ministries, brings life to CUC's women fellowship, and balances our pastoral team in a way we have never had. We had the honor of supporting Jane through the Presbytery's calling process and installing her at CUC on November 20th and her impact in our lives continues to grow.

Council has had much conversation over the past several months about ensuring that we encourage and provide healthy forums to discover and explore the issues and struggles of today's world. From a recommendation through our Ministries and Missions Board, Council approved CUC Advocacy Committee's official participation in the Interfaith Alliance of Colorado. Now more than ever, this involvement and direction by CUC is relevant and necessary.

Behind the appearance of everything coming together so serendipitously and smoothly is the inspiration, vision and dedication of many of you who serve and have served before us. Thank you to all who take these batons and are inspired to action today to bring life, light and love to the lives of so many in ways we often never realize. Thank you to all who craft new batons and pass them forward.

After 19 years of being a member here, I continue to be truly excited about the life and future that Columbine United Church brings to me, my family, our congregation, and our communities. This is truly where faith and life meet.

Peace, Janet

## CLERK'S REPORT FOR MAY 1, 2016-APRIL 30, 2017

Church Membership on April 30, 2016 522 families/ 753 members Church Membership on April 30, 2017 525 families/774 members SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACTIVITY New members by letter of transfer or confession of faith 29 Confirmations 0 Baptism Infant/Child 7 Baptism Adult 0 Marriages **Memorial Services** 4 Members transferring to other churches 5 Members removed from the roll at their request 1 Made inactive and removed from the roll 0 Members removed from the roll due to death 2 Members moved to affiliate status 0 New affiliate members 7 Respectfully submitted,

Jane Jackson

#### **BOARD OF MINISTRY AND MISSIONS 2016/2017**

This is the first annual report from the Board of Ministry and Missions. The board reports to Council and provides decision-making and advisement to the Council for CUC's ministries and programs. The board is composed of the following committees and chairs:

Board Chair: Lorraine Hesselbach Board Vice Chair: Andy Sexton Adult Education - Chair: Russ Jackson

Advocacy - Chair: Janet Kester

Congregational Care - Chair: Anne Prather

Connections - Chair: Fred Mahe

Fellowship and Involvement - Chair: Tom Rehling

Marketing and Outreach - Chair: Todd Rice

Missions - Chair: Susan Markely Next Generation - Chair: Aimee Crispin

Worship - Chair: John Hausman

The formation of the board fulfills the vision to change the leadership structure, processes, and procedures, which Justin discussed in last year's annual report. This new structure allows the committees, which comprise the board to be the decision makers for those committees. The Ministry and Missions board then reports decisions and information to Council. The committee chairs meet on a monthly basis with the intent of sharing and working collaboratively, instead of individually, to accomplish CUC's vision and mission.

During the first year, the committees were asked to identifying their annual goals, and align those goals with CUC's strategic objectives: 1) to organize and align committees; 2) strive for thriving attendance; 3) identify building and property impacts as they relate to their programs.

Working together as one board, we shared these common goals, developing new and innovative ways to develop joint mission, market our programs and outreach, by coordinating these efforts across the different committees. Themes such as racism, homelessness, and hunger were coordinated efforts between committees. You will see specific example of these efforts in the individual committee reports.

It has been my pleasure and privilege to work with these dedicated people, as well as their committee members. Their vision, creativity, and commitment to CUC is impressive. I am continually amazed by their passion for the work they do for CUC and the community.

Respectfully submitted, Lorraine Hesselbach

#### ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

#### Janet Kester, Chair

The Advocacy Committee is a relatively new committee but we have been busy this year. We currently have four active members (but need more). We meet monthly, usually after the second service on Sunday mornings. Our mission is to engage our church community in conversations on social issues and potential injustices. We hope to give voice to the voiceless and encourage people to take action for others or to advocate for themselves. We believe that our faith requires us to work together as we promote the common good. We arranged programs on a variety of subjects this past year.

Relationship Violence - (4 programs) Speakers from domestic violence organizations, speakers from the Arapahoe County District Attorney's Office on elder abuse, and a program on technology use/abuse in teen relationships

Government & Election Issues - (2 programs) League of Women Voters on ballot issues, and Compassion & Choices on the End-of-Life Options Act on the ballot

Interfaith Alliance - We were instrumental in having our church join the Interfaith Alliance and we signed the Organizational Commitment to the "Force for Good." Justin will be preaching on this subject this summer and individuals will have the opportunity to sign. Committee members are regularly attending Interfaith Alliance meetings of progressive faith communities in the metro area.

Racism - (8 programs) In support of Steve's goal around the topic of racism, we did 5 programs on Sunday mornings and 3 programs for Faith Forum.

Green Team - We encouraged the formation of a Green Team to promote green practices at church as well as educating the congregation on environmental issues. They are now thriving independently with 9 members under the leadership of Tom Econopouly as a subgroup of the Advocacy Committee.

Visibility - We are working with the Marketing Committee in hopes of providing a more visible presence of our emphasis on social justice with professional banners or posters.

Our committee would welcome new members as well as ideas for future programs.

It has been my pleasure to serve with my fellow committee members: Nancy Bierman, Karen Hardison, Sheila Jones, and Judith Wright

#### ADULT EDUCATION COMMITTEE

#### Russ Jackson, Chair

Committee Members

Russ Jackson, Suzan Leach, Ruthann Moomy, Ken Sweet, Dr Rev Steve Poos-Benson

#### **Sunday Morning**

A synopsis of classes offered 2016-2017 are listed below:

- Pastor Steve led a discussion on the Sermon on the Mount
- Relationship violence discussion led by Police Officer Dirk Smith and a member of the Gateway Court Advocacy Program.
- My Best Thought eight presentations from members of the congregation in which they discussed their own faith journeys.
- Relationship Violence series from last spring continued with the class Technology Use/Abuse in Teen Relationships.
- JJ Fraser presented on the Pachamama Alliance. Pachamama Alliance is a global effort that offers people the chance to learn, connect, engage, and travel for the purpose of creating a sustainable future.
- Pastor Justin Spurlock led a 4-week study of how faith influences our opinions of our government and our voting decisions.
- Arok Gayana, one of the Lost Boys and a survivor of the South Sudan genocide presented his own story of the genocide and his current work with the Seeds of South Sudan education organization.
- Sheila Jones led a discussion on Black Men in Public Places
- Ruthann Moomy and Dr. Steve Poos-Benson led a discussion on the book Embracing an Adult Faith by Marcus Borg.
- Pastor Steve and Pastor Justin led a discussion on the book Waking Up White by Debbie Irving as part of our focus on racism in 2017.
- Ruthann Moomy and Janet Kester led conversations on "Current implications of Racial Preferences" and "How did the concept of Indentured Servants turn into Slavery in the American colonies".
- Marci Pokrywka and Joyce Hooker led a program on "Faith and the Environment". Plan to share ideas for recycling.
- Instead of Adult Education every week numerous Sundays concentrated on casual fellowship with the Pastors in Biel Hall.

#### **Faith Forum**

As with previous years, the Tuesday morning Faith Forum group provided a varied and entertaining lineup of topics. Following is a sample of classes offered:

- Rev Justin Spurlock led a discussion on Sin and Salvation.
- Betsy Reiling led a discussion on Living with Compassion, Generosity, and Gratitude.
- Dr. Tom Rehling discussed the choices we make in life, how we focus those choices, and learn new ways to focus on positive choices.
- Ruthann Moomy and Nancy Bierman facilitated a study The Sacred Way: Spiritual Practices for Everyday Life, by Tony Jones.
- Pastor Justin Spurlock discussed "The Great Schism: Why Christians Divided & Never Re-United." In 1054 CE, Constantinople and Rome parted ways and have yet to reunite.
- Audrey Clendenning and Yetta Halderman led a study of the prophet Daniel.
- The process to become a United States citizen was discussed.

- "Adam & Eve: Our Earliest Myths, The Bible, and The Future of Humanity". Pastor Justin led an in-depth look of the ancient Hebrew stories of human origins and provided a framework for understanding our future through the eyes of Adam & Eve.
- Pastor Steve led a discussion of Breakfast with Buddha by Roland Merullo
- Dean Pickett presented a program explaining gender issues in the public schools.
- Tom and Betsy Rehling led a discussion on, "Call Me Malcolm", a documentary about one man's struggle with faith, love and gender identity.
- "Before God Was God". Pastor Justin presented the development of God why did our modern understanding of God evolve and how did we get from an age of gods to a world predominantly monotheistic.
- Audrey Clendenning introduced a guest speaker who shared her compelling immigration story from migrant farm worker to the Executive Director of Dress for Success Denver.
- Yetta Halderman and Rich Schreiber discussed the role the minor prophets played in the fall of Israel and it's restoration.

#### **Other Classes**

#### Fresh

Fresh meets once a month for two hours with Rev. Dr. Steve Poos-Benson facilitating. The class begins with yoga session followed by meditation, prayers of peace, and teaching.

#### **Advanced Spirituality**

Rev. Dr. Steve Poos-Benson led discussions on a variety of topics ranging from Contemplative Prayer, study of Sufism, study of Baha'I, and discussion of the book God: A Story of Revelation by Deepak Chopra,

#### Mindfulness

Chris Katzenmeyer led an introductory class on Mindfulness, January 12th – March 16th. Mindfulness helps people to "pay attention on purpose, in the present moment without making judgments. Mindfulness teaches us a way of being instead of doing."

**Grief Support Group** 

Pastor Jane Ritterson led a four-week grief support group designed to explore the loss of loved ones, how to support one another through our difficult journeys, and learn tools to integrate our loss.

#### Men's Room

The Men's Room participants discussed a variety of topics that were relevant to men in today's ever changing world.

**Advocacy Subcommittee** 

This year the Advocacy subcommittee was removed from under the control of the Adult Education Committee to become it's own committee reporting directly to the Board of Ministry and Missions. See the Advocacy Committee's report for a review of their 2017 activities.

Finally - Anyone wishing other topics to be considered for future Adult Education classes please contact any member of the Adult Education Committee.

Respectfully Submitted,

Russell Jackson, Adult Education Chair

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE ANNUAL REPORT Anne Prather, Chair

The Congregation Care Committee is made of up of 9 members including Jane Ritterson. We meet twice monthly to go over Joys and Concerns that will appear in the coming Sunday's bulletin. The Joys and Concerns are submitted by the church staff as well as church members. The names submitted may or may not be church members. They could be friends and/or family who need our prayers. Permission is always obtained before an individual's name is published in the Sunday bulletin. Frequently, although not always, an address is included so that congregation members may send a card. In addition to the names listed there is a paragraph at the bottom of the page which lists the names of people who have ongoing concerns and also need our prayers. The number of people included under Concerns varies from half a dozen to a dozen plus. Names are kept in the bulletin for at least 2 weeks and then removed or placed at the bottom. Occasionally, we will keep a name in the bulletin indefinitely as we follow them in their treatment and update the congregation as to their progress. At least one card is sent by a committee member from Congregational Care to an individual on the concern list. Many times several personal cards are sent by members of the committee at the time the name is listed and later as a follow up. Additionally, when a prayer shawl is requested or suggested a committee member will select and then deliver the shawl.

We have made a concerted effort to look for Joys and have felt successful. Under Joys, we include baptisms, marriages, graduations, milestone birthdays, activities at the church or events in which the church is represented (Channel 9 Health Fair, the Second Wind Walk or the Walk for MS as examples), or a positive update on someone we have been praying for formerly under Concerns.

Agape ministry is a part of Congregational Care. They are self-directed with individuals they call upon. There are currently 8 members in this group. They receive names from the ministerial staff. Many of these relationships have been going on for years. We had one meeting in the past year with 4 of the Agape team members to ask for their feedback and suggestions as to how we can support their work.

Care Groups fall under Congregational Care. Currently one is being formed which is the second one started in the past year. We do not follow them once they are established.

Respectfully Submitted,
Anne Prather, Chair of Congregational Concerns

#### FELLOWSHIP AND INVOLVEMENT TEAM

Members of the team are: Jeff Adams, Carol Boorom, Danny Debolt, Brittany Gonzales, Tom Rehling, and Lynn Swanson. Our year was a bit less active than usual since we had to cancel our Mardi Gras Party do to family situations with several of our team members.

In September we hosted, with the help of the Next Generation Committee, Homecoming Sunday. The event featured games for the kids and adults, a car show, and pulled pork sandwiches.

I November we had our second annual Orange Out Tailgate Chili Cook Off. We had over 20 contestants for the chili contest with plenty of awesome chili for everyone to sample. We are already looking forward to next year's OOTCCO!

Our next all church party will probably be mid summer. Watch for more information and don't miss out on the fun!

### MISSION COMMITTEE Susan Markley, Chair

My name is Susan Markley and I chair the Columbine United Church Missions Committee. The Missions Committee consists of approximately 10 members that represent supported missions. We meet on the third Monday of the month, at 7:30 pm in the Parlor. All are welcome to attend.

Our mission is to build relationships that open the door to God's love through caring community outreach. As an outreach church, we are heavily invested in providing meaningful change in the surrounding community. Our mission efforts are in the following areas:

Hunger and Homelessness Intervention Youth and Education Support Senior Support Community Support and Development Disaster Response Member Support

We supported several organizations with funding and volunteering; a list of our activities follows.

#### **Local Food Missions**

We supported The Action Center and Integrated Family Community Services (IFCS) with funding and food collection, which together totaled approximately 15,000 meals. This year we shifted our food collections to solely support IFCS, which is close to Columbine United Church, and serves our local area. We provided funding to both IFCS and The Action Center, and provided half of the offering from the Christmas Eye service to the Action Center and IFCS.

#### **Homelessness Mitigation**

**Family Promise:** We continued our partnership with St. James Presbyterian Church to host homeless families for the week for five times during the year. We also donated to this organization on Colorado Gives Day (Dec 6th, 2016), and provided part of the Christmas Eve offering to assist their activities.

**Warren Village:** On Colorado Gives Day we supported their work with single parent families. Homelessness Awareness/Action Task (HAAT) Force: CUC supported HAAT Force to maintain a southwest metro area severe weather overnight shelter in partnership with Love, INC.

**Habitat for Humanity**: CUC sponsored a home construction in Denver and provided volunteers to build it. The home was completed and dedicated in April 2017.

**Network Coffee House:** We continued our partnership with Network Ministries, which runs the Network Coffee House in Denver, and covered part of operating costs for the hospitality center. Sock it to 'em: CUC collected over 400 pairs of socks for this effort for homeless support.

#### **Youth and Education**

The Action Center - BackPak Program and School Supplies drive: Columbine continues a partnership with Light of the World Catholic Church for this mission. We gave 1,800 meals to youth in Jefferson County this year. Additionally, CUC collected school supplies for the Action Center and IFCS.

#### **Senior Support**

TLC Meals on Wheels: Columbine provided funding and several church volunteers for this program, which provides hot prepared meals and volunteers to deliver them to shut-in local seniors.

**Bessie's Hope:** Columbine provided funding to support operating costs, and organized volunteers for this program, which connects visiting volunteers with seniors in assisted living facilities.

#### **Community Development**

Denver Inner City Parish: Columbine supported Denver Inner City Parish (DICP), which provides education, community and senior programs for low-income families in downtown Denver.

**Love, INC:** Columbine United Church provided support to the Love INC Stepping Forward Mentoring Program, which assists people referred for short term mentorship. We also provided a one-time donation on Colorado Gives Day to assist their work with the local community.

**During the Diaper Drive** in the month of April, Columbine United Church collected 1803 diapers and 34 wipe packages for Love, INC. This equates to supporting 18 babies for the month.

#### **Community Development Local and International Missions**

**CROP:** CUC donated to Church World Service through the Foothills CROP Walk.

**Agua for Nicaragua** (El Porvenir - Nicaragua): We continued ongoing support to El Porvenir for water and community development projects in Nicaragua, and sent a team to build a community project.

**Café Justo:** We provided coffee for the congregation through Café Justo, a Mexican coffee cooperative that provides livable wage and healthcare to its members in Chiapas, Mexico. The same coffee is available for sale on the second Sunday of each month.

**Pencils of Promise:** CUC matched a donation by Temple Sinai in Denver to build a school in Africa.

Compassion International: We supported the Walk with Compassion event assisting overseas children.

#### **Disaster Response**

The Missions Committee provided a one-time contribution to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for Syrian refugee assistance. Additionally, we support the efforts of Care Group 9 in knitting Peace Pal Dolls, which are sent to areas where children are impacted by war, floods and evacuations.

#### **Member Support**

The Missions Committee provided Thanksgiving baskets for shut-in members, sponsorship for youth mission trips, and one-time gifts to medical causes for which members have requested. This year the Committee supported Rocky Mountain Stroke Center and the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

## NEXT GENERATION ANNUAL REPORT 2016-2017 Aimee Crispin, Chair

Our children and families have had a very full year with many activities for all ages. In May of 2016, our 3rd graders participated in a bible study program that culminated in them receiving their own bibles to keep. In June we had an excellent VBS program with almost 70 students. The middle and high school students also participated in youth group trips. In the fall, we held a Pumpkin Palooza pumpkin carving celebration. During the Christmas season, many of our students participated in the Christmas pageant and we held a "Parents Day Out" where we provided child care with crafts, games, and activities while parents had an opportunity to do some last minute Christmas shopping. January was our give-back month where over 30 of our youth and families participated in the "Feed My Starving Children" event to provide food for impoverished children. Our Easter Eggstravaganza was a huge hit where we hosted games, crafts, egg roulette, an egg hunt, and much more, and welcomed many new families who were visiting CUC.

### WORSHIP COMMITTEE John Hausman, Chair

Hello Columbine! The Worship Committee has been working to continue to assess the future needs and look of the worship spaces at Columbine as Council begins to work on the remodel and update of some interior spaces within the church. Over the past year, new communion tables were purchased for the sanctuary. In addition, screen walls, lights cubes and multi-colored lighting were added to the stage area to provide an updated and clean look to both services.

The committee also continues its work coordinating the holiday decorations during the Advent and Christmas season. In addition, the flowers used at the Easter services are coordinated and prepared by the committee.

The committee would like to extend a special thank you to Barry Brown who provided beautiful seasonal decorations for the sanctuary during both the Christmas and Easter seasons. Your talents are greatly appreciated!

2017 marks the end of the three-year term for the current Worship Committee and committee chair. It's been a pleasure serving the Columbine community and we look forward to turning over the reins to a new committee and chair who will continue the updates in the sanctuary coordinating with the church remodel team. In the coming years, be on the lookout for things such as updated carpeting, more seating and updated and new technology such as microphones, video cameras and projectors.

Please feel free to continue to share your suggestions and comments for the future of the worships spaces at Columbine. Thanks for your continued patience and support as we continue move together towards our future vision for Columbine United Church!

## BOARD OF PROPERTY AND FINANCE Jay Haworth

The Inaugural year of the Board of Property and Finance has come to a close. The Board was created last year to focus on the administrative aspects of finance, stewardship, and our building and property. The Board members are: Jay Haworth (Treasurer), Jerry Clayton (President-Elect), Laura James (Finance Chair), Jack Dunn (Property Chair), Marie Schreiber (Stewardship Chair), Craig Monroe (Council Member at Large), Rev. Steve Poos-Benson, Rev. Justin Spurlock, and Lee Ann Smith. Thanks to all who helped shape the board and drive their committees this year.

CUC Stewardship Committee – 2017 Pledge Campaign Report

#### Marie Schreiber

Thank you to the members of this committee: Rev Justin Spurlock, Marie Schreiber-Chair, Richard Boorom, Jennifer Burton, Richard Schreiber, and Jason and Brooke Wagner for a very successful year. As one of the many activities this year, the Committee sent letters to inactive members in August asking them to pay the minimum of \$85 to cover their denominational dues. We moved the Pledge Campaign a month earlier to October, in order to have time to receive commitments before the Holidays. Letters from the Pastors were sent to members and friends, with an attached current giving statement, informing them of the church goals for our pledge campaign in October. These goals were 1) Increasing our Reach by Inspiring More People to pledge, 2) Update and Maintain our Building & Property, and 3) Staff our Ministries Appropriately. Each card and letter were personalized with an increasing percentage/amount based on their previous contribution, and we also included a personalized pledge card. Approximately 90% of the total pledges came in by 11/29/2016. The final result of the campaign in February on week 20 is shown below, with 3 year's results of comparable campaigns.

Year	\$ Pledged	% Cha	nge	No. of pledges	Average Pledge
2017	\$584,402	10.7%	251	\$2,328	
2016	\$528,030	4.1%	217	\$2,433	
2015	\$507,220	0.0%	222	\$2,285	
2014	\$507,288		225	\$2,255	

#### **CUC Finance Committee**

Thanks to all members reviewing the finances this year and proposing next year's budget. Please see the included Financial Report.

# PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT FOR

#### **CUC 2017 ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGREGATION**

The Property Management Committee was formed by the organizational changes agreed to at the 2016 annual meeting. Its primary purpose is to focus attention on current building and property issues and propose plans for future maintenance activities—proactive versus emergency reactive decisions—and to support the staff in dealing with on-going maintenance activities.

The members of this committee are: Jack Dunn, Chair; Rick Hinn; Rich Schreiber; Jim Rudolf; TAG Worley, Facilities Coordinator; and Pastor Steve Poos-Benson

The early activities of this committee consisted primarily of developing information about the history of the buildings, recent maintenance issues, and equipment changes made over the years. We then toured the property and discussed areas which would be future needs for maintenance and improvement. We have approached this by looking at the facility as it was created, and then trying to project on-going needs over the next 15-20 years so we can pass on a property which reflects good stewardship.

For instance, a new main boiler was installed in 2014 at a cost of \$35,000. It heats the Sanctuary, Biel Hall the basement rooms and the Narthex, but not the older office building. A small boiler heats the office complex and Fireside Chapel and should be replaced in the not too distant future.

The 5 evaporator units on the roof of the Narthex provide cooling and supplemental heat to the Sanctuary, Biel Hall, and Narthex. They were installed in about 1997 when the Narthex was built. They are approaching the end of their useful life and some parts are no longer available. This will be a substantial capital expenditure. The rubber membrane roof of the Narthex dates from the same period, has some leaks, and has never been replaced.

All of the sprinkler system used to maintain landscaping is at the end of its useful life and now regularly develops leaks. Some of this system dates from the mid 70's. The parking lot needs repair in several areas and needs to be recoated and restriped to prevent further deterioration. It also dates from when the Sanctuary was built. This is a \$14,000 project.

There are other similar projects we have documented, many of which will be integrated into the proposals currently being developed by our architects.

Some historical facts: The original office building dates from the early 1970's or before. The cornerstone for the Sanctuary was laid in 1975. The Fireside Chapel and office addition was in 1989. The Narthex and Biel Hall construction dates from planning in 1996 to dedication in 1999. It is interesting to note that for some 20 years the office building and Sanctuary were not connected, but separated by a rose garden.

Submitted by Jack Dunn

## MARKETING AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE Todd Rice, Chair

Columbine United Church is known as the best kept secret in South Jeffco. The marketing committee has done everything it can to change this persona.

Over the last year we have helped numerous committees in marketing events through flyers and passing out event agendas.

We have had a very successful social media campaign with events, committees, and pastoral leads all talent lead by Susan Smith. Susan has done a fantastic job and continues to bring relevant information to social media.

The committee did a t-shirt printing that didn't go great but in the end worked out. We printed out the shirts but were unable to recuperate the cost through sales. At this point we have been donating them to committees for their meekness.

We currently are registered to host a table at Western welcome week in downtown Littleton on August 19th. We will be passing out info on the church and providing face painting and possible balloons.

The marketing committee is also currently helping organizing a support trip to the Pride Festival and parade in downtown Littleton.

We are in the middle of organizing a welcome bag for new visitors to the church that is easily recognizable and filled with pertinent information to continue the success and growth of the church.

Finally, the committee has committed to mailing out six different postcard mailings to new homeowners within a geographical location relevant to the church. In the last 12 months the marketing committee has sent out 4 different mailings and plans to do another one this fall. If we find this being successful we will be mailing completing 6 mail outs every year.

Members of the Committee over the last year:

Todd Rice, Susan Smith, Amy Dougherty, Nancy Noyes, Brook Braun, Matt Mattson, Lauren Moss (no longer on committee), Justin Spurlock