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Vacation Bible School

June 2019



From Rev. Miller

“MINISTER’S Message”

Earlier this month I submitted to our Moderator, Cherise DeKraai, my letter of intent to retire. Before you lament or rejoice, please note the date. My last day as your Executive Minister will be December 31, 2020—that’s 18 months away.

Our church Cabinet and other leaders have discussed the possibility of engaging in a process of Succession as you seek new pastoral leadership. This is in contrast to the Interim model that most of us are familiar with. When a minister plans to retire, it provides a unique opportunity with more than a year to seek a new pastor. In the Succession model, the church initiates and completes a search while the soon-to-be-retired minister completes his or her term. That way there can be a seamless transition as you enter 2021. Sometimes there is a very brief period of overlap. Whether you choose an Interim or Succession model is entirely up to you. But the only way to offer the choice is to announce my plans this far in advance.

It’s way too early to start saying “good-bye.” A friend of mine reminded me that saying “good-bye” too early means you’ll be “forgotten but not gone”! In the meantime, I will savor our shared ministry these remaining 18 months and continue to find joy and blessings as I serve among you.

With Great Hope,
 Rev. Nathan Miller



Blessing the Habitat Guatemala Mission Team



PAKT House Swan Song Concert

**Parker Steinmetz,
 Anthony Azari,
 Ken Lewis, & Tom Barbour**

**Accompanied by
 Sandy Varley**

Welcome to Joseph Noëlliste

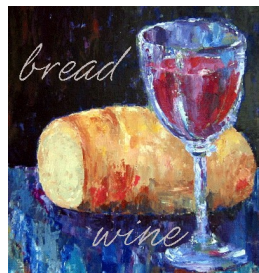
We are pleased to announce that Joseph Noëlliste has been selected as our Director of Adult Choirs (chancel, chapel and bells). Joseph is a Ph.D. candidate (ABD) at Baylor University. As a “missionary’s kid” in Jamaica, he began playing for worship at age eight. Joseph brings extensive experience as a conductor, composer, arranger and pianist along with a deep sense of the place of sacred music in worship. He is delightfully energetic and is excited about sharing his gifts with our congregation. His wife, Erin, serves as a faculty member teaching German at UNC. The couple lives in Johnstown.



Joseph will begin August 15. Vocal choirs begin rehearsing August 29. Bells will start September 5. Please join us in welcoming Joseph and Erin!

Communion Servers Welcome!

Would you be willing to serve communion some Sundays? We offer communion the first Sunday of every month and have a team of about a dozen



servers at 10:00. However, those twelve are seldom all available any given month. So we’re looking for a few more people who would like to participate in this special ministry. You only need to show up 20 minutes early to receive

clear instructions from our Communion Team leader, Bob Lindsey. Please speak to Rev. Miller if you are interested in helping out.



Spiritual Retreat Days at the Abbey of St. Walburga

This summer there are two opportunities, on July 22 and August 10, to join a group from the church on a day-long spiritual retreat at the Abbey of St. Walburga. Please contact Rev. Ben if you would like to learn more or if you would like to register to attend one or both of the retreat days.

King Soopers Community Rewards

Over the past couple of years, a number of church members have used the King Soopers Rewards Program to help raise thousands of dollars to support our youth group’s mission trips. This has been so great! What is even better is that the program has become much easier to use. If you have not yet signed up to have a percentage of your King Soopers purchases go to support the church, please consider doing so. It’s simple, doesn’t cost extra, and is a significant contribution to our church! Sign-up instructions are available in the narthex on Sundays, or you can call the church office for assistance.

Richard Rohr Book Study Group Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. - St. Drogos Porch

This summer we are holding a book study of Richard Rohr’s book *The Naked Now—Learning to See as the Mystics See*. Richard Rohr is a Franciscan priest and a renowned contemplative Christian teacher and author. The book study continues on the evenings of July 25 and August 1 and 8. Please contact Rev. Ben if you would like to learn more or are interested in participating.

Middle School MISSION TRIP

There will be a Middle School Mission weekend at Sixth Avenue UCC in Denver over the weekend of August 2-4. More details coming soon!

Fellowship of the Grape (Fog)

FOG is a fun opportunity to gather together for a couple of hours to visit and to taste various favorite wines and nibble a shared



appetizer. Guests bring a small appetizer to share as well as a favorite wine. Not a wine lover? That’s great, too. Just bring your favorite beverage. The hosts are expected to provide water, napkins and plates. The Fellowship Committee will provide the wine glasses. All we need is a host who picks the date and time. About 20-30 people attend. Interested in hosting? If so, please contact Terry Lynch (lynchte@hotmail.com) for more information.

Dear Church Family,

A huge thank you for all the cards, visits, food, and loving support through prayers and thoughts over the past 2 months following my lung cancer surgery. The surgery and recovery have been hard; however, with time I have been healing and getting stronger. I have learned that I do not need either radiation or chemo treatments. What a blessing! I credit your encouraging words and my stubbornness—of course the skills of my doctors as well. Thank you one and all.



Peace and blessings,
Wynne Levelle & Rick Mawson

Summer Place at the Table



The final summer Place at the Table large group gathering will be **Sunday, August 11, 5:30-7:30**, hosted by Barb and Bob Lowenbach. Meal will be potluck, so please bring something to share!

In the fall, Place at the Table will return to small meal group gatherings. If you have feedback to share about your experience with Place at the Table, please contact Barb Lowenbach or Rev. Ben.



On Saturday, July 6, we hosted a car show in our east parking lot to benefit the children in the Pediatric Ward at NCMC. The price of admission was a toy, and a room full was collected!