



an Open & Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

United Church
OF BROOMFIELD

Rooted in Love. Rooted in Faith. Rooted in the Community.

MAY 2024

Monthly Newsletter

The
Visitor

Senior Pastor: Michael Blackwood; Associate Pastor: Andi Fox
825 Kohl Street, Broomfield, CO 80020 303-466-8355 broomfielducc.org



Pastors' Peace

God and the Samba

Have I shared with you the details of my vacation this last February?

I think I might have talked about it with some folks, but not everyone.

Adam and I went to cruise around Argentina, Uruguay, and Brazil. The big highlight of our trip was a visit to Carnivale in Rio de Janeiro.

We were so excited to go because of all the pictures we'd seen, but once we arrived – once we started talking with locals – and after we went to the festival - I realized that I thought I knew what Carnivale was, but the truth was, I had no idea.

Before experiencing Carnivale, I thought that it was simply the original New Orleans' Mardi Gras *"on steroids."* Carnivale, as far as I knew, was a huge festival of costumes, floats, dancing and hedonistic partying as people prepared for Lent. Carnivale begins on the Friday before Ash Wednesday and is a five-day country-wide holiday.

WRONG! What I learned from being there is that while it once was, and for some still is primarily a festival of excess that leads up to Ash Wednesday and abstinence, the "festival" aspect of Carnivale revolves around the *Rio Sambadrome*,

where thousands participate in a Samba **competition**. Yes, a competition.

Of the many Samba schools in Brazil, about two dozen compete in Carnivale where they write, play and sing original Samba music, choreograph and dance original dances, sew and wear original costumes and build five massive floats. The music, dances, costumes and floats are based on new themes and stories created every year. Each of the five nights (Fri-Tue), six schools compete, each having 2500-3000 student performers. Each school must perform for 55-65 minutes. So, Carnivale takes 11+ months of preparation, every single year. It culminates on Ash Wednesday with the announcement of the winner. The competitions happen at night from 9pm until 6am each morning because of the heat, which is typically in the mid- to high- 90's.

Then... during the daylight hours, people party, drink, eat and dance. From attendees to participants, Carnivale attracts around 6 million people, local and foreign.

Did you know any of this? Me, neither. I thought I knew... In reality, what I knew was actually what I assumed and gleaned from bits and pieces. And I'm sure that there is a lot more about Carnivale that I still don't know. I think this is what often happens with God and faith. We think we know, but in reality, what we know is little to nothing and only comes from random bits and pieces... a story passed down from elders, some writing on a piece of parchment, what an official or so-called "prominent" person said. The more we experience, the more we read, the more we engage in dialogue, the more likely it is that we'll know more. But, we might never know it all. And that's good. It's good because with more to learn, we keep returning repeatedly. Oftentimes to re-experience the same things, but sometimes to discover something new and different. That's what God offers – continual, never-ending opportunities to learn and discover, which is fun and exciting. Did you ever think someone would compare God and faith to the Samba and Carnivale? Surprise – something new and different.



early risers will not be meeting in May due to Lawnmower Clinic on May 4th



Fellowship
ALL ARE WELCOME



Join Us
Sat. May 4th
10:15AM
Steele Commons Room

All Are Welcome



Collection
May 5th



Broomfield FISH
1st Sunday each month

Collection:

- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Shampoo and/or conditioner
- Razors
- Bar soap, Body Wash
- Deodorant
- Feminine Products

Bring these...

Send this... Check or charge \$ donations accepted ... please put "FISH" in memo field



Bourbon & Blues

Jack Hadley Band

June 5 | 7:30PM | LAFAYETTE, CO

DATE
Wednesday 05 June 2024

COST
Free Admission

Doors - 6:30pm | Show - 7:30pm | 21+

Let Desi Hill know if you're interested in attending

Jack's career is in high gear with 2013 appearances at Blues From The Top in Winter Park, Colorado; BB's Jazz, Blues & Soups in St. Louis; the Brighton Blues Blast in Brighton, Colorado; and the Rauma Blues Festival in Rauma, Finland, backed by the St. Louis Blues All-Stars featuring keyboardist Bob Lohr, bassist Terry Coleman and drummer Keith Robinson. His latest effort - "The St. Louis Sessions" - was released in October, 2014, on San Telmo Media. Recorded with the St. Louis Blues All-Stars, produced by Bob Lohr. His latest release "Daybreak In Alabama - The Langston Hughes Project" was released in July 2020.

*\$1 off bourbon/whiskey drinks

All are welcome

MORNING STAR FELLOWSHIP

Tues. May 7th 11AM
@ First Watch in Broomfield

J O I N U S



The Gathering Circle will be meeting on
Thur. May 9th at 8:30AM
@ **The Delectable Egg - 1005 W 120th Westminster**



Our spring study
 The Gospel According to
 the Golden Girls
 will continue to meet on
 Wednesdays at 6:30pm
 through May 15th. Please
 join if you'd like ... even if
 you haven't been before.

We'll be exploring current issues like disability,
 immigration, and homelessness alongside the Bible and
 this popular 80s sitcom.

Though *The Golden Girls* made its debut on September 14, 1985—the series still remains fresh for generations of new viewers thanks to great writing and syndicated reruns. Here are a few things you might not have known about the show~

• **BETTY WHITE AND RUE MCCLANAHAN PASSED THE TIME WITH WORD GAMES.**

Betty White had always been a fierce competitor when she appeared on *Password* back in the day, and she found a kindred spirit in Rue McClanahan when it came to word games. The two ladies frequently played alphabet games in between takes throughout the entire day of taping.

• **QUEEN ELIZABETH WAS A HUGE *GOLDEN GIRLS* FAN.**

The Queen invited the stars of the show to perform live at 1988's Royal Variety Performance in London. The Girls reenacted two of their kitchen table scenes (with a bit of censoring, so as not to offend any royal sensibilities).

• **MCCLANAHAN GOT TO KEEP BLANCHE'S CLOTHES.**

McClanahan had a clause written into her contract that allowed her to keep all of Blanche's custom-made clothing. She reportedly had 13 closets full of designer duds.

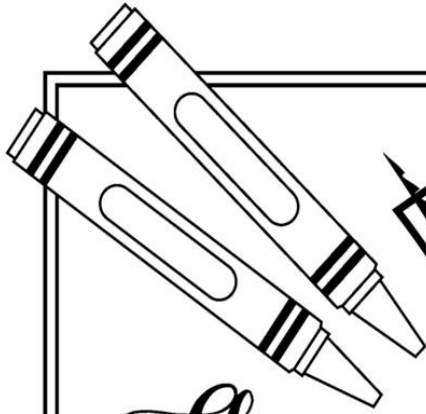


**THE
 TRIAL
 OF
 JESUS**



The Adult Sunday
 School class that
 meets in the front
 part of the Steele
 Commons Room
 will continue their
 study on Jesus' trial
 before Pilate.

Our last Sunday to meet before we dismiss for the summer will be May 12. We will resume our class on September 8 when we will discuss the crucifixion of Jesus. If anyone is interested and would like more information, please contact Pat James.



PUZZLE

The psalmist's prayer

The Psalms are full of wonderful verses about God's care and protection.

Directions: Find each missing letter in the alphabets below.
Use the resulting words to complete Psalm 86:7, NIV.

A B C E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z	___
A B C D E F G H J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z	___
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R T U V W X Y Z	___
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S U V W X Y Z	___
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q S T U V W X Y Z	___
A B C D F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z	___
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R T U V W X Y Z	___
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R T U V W X Y Z	___
A B D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z	___
B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z	___
A B C D E F G H I J K M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z	___
A B C D E F G H I J K M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z	___
B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z	___
A B C D E F G H I J K L M O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z	___
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R T U V W X Y Z	___
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V X Y Z	___
A B C D F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z	___
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q S T U V W X Y Z	___

When I am in _____, I _____ to you,
because you _____ me. Psalm 86:7, NIV

Answer: When I am in distress, I call to you, because you answer me.
Psalm 86:7, NIV

Church Council MEETING

Thur. May 16th 7:00PM via Zoom



We will be discussing "The Very Secret Society of Irregular Witches" by Sangu Mandanna

**Friday, May 24th
at 1:00 PM in the
afternoon in the Steele
Commons room at church.**





The **Rocky Mountain Conference's Annual Celebration** will take place June 6 (starting at 2:30 pm) through June 8 (ending at 1:30 pm) at La Foret Retreat and Conference Center in Colorado Springs, CO. This year's theme is Blessed Flexibility, which will focus on the many shifting needs happening within the conferences churches, neighborhoods, cities and regions.

At the annual celebration clergy and lay members from the conference and all of its 73 churches in Utah, Wyoming and Colorado will gather to handle business matters, engage in spiritual learning and worship as a community .

Participants can attend in person or virtually. For those attending in-person there are options for room and board if you would like to stay at La Foret for the event. Financial support is available. Registration is required. If you're interested in participating, please speak with Pastor Michael for further details.



Walking Joy Group

Interested? Contact Jane Shelton



Do you like playing board or card games? We're starting a new GAMES Joy Group. If you're interested talk with Pastor Andi or Brenna Pula for further information.



"DISMANTLING WHITE SILENCE IN CHURCHES" ONLINE CLASS AT ILIFF AUGUST 12 – 30

Rev. Dr. Nancy Niero will be teaching this class. The class will engage in childhood memories of racism and construct an anti-racism theology. This is an ideal class for clergy and lay people who want to engage in a deeper way in the mission and ministry of racial justice work in faith communities. The cost of registration is \$200. Contact Nancy at nancy@anoointjourney.com for further information.



- ✎ Prayers for a colleague of Pastor Michael's, Mark Long, who serves on the board of directors with him at La Foret Conference and Retreat Center. Mark recently learned that he has stage IV prostate cancer that has metastasized to his spinal column. This is a complete shock for him, his family and everyone else. He remains optimistic as he begins to learn and determine what his therapy will look like. Prayers for healing, peace and guidance.
- ✎ Please keep Erma Sauer and family in your prayers. Last week, Erma had a fall due to weakness in her legs. She went to the hospital for treatment and observation and is now in rehab. It's unknown exactly how long she'll be in rehab, but her prognosis is good.
- ✎ An update on Theresa Holst's dad. He has been moved out of the ICU, which is wonderful news! He's continuing his recovery with ongoing observations and assessments. With several broken ribs, he'll eventually need to go to rehab when he's strong enough.



If you would like to share a prayer request with Pastor Michael, please call the Church Office at (303) 466-8355 or via email at prayers@broomfielducc.org.



- ★ Haydn & Zach Primrose
5/10/2011
- ★ Bill & Neola Roberts
5/12/1962
- ★ Matthew & Rhonda Davis
5/26/1990
- ★ Nate & Molly Bean
5/31/2014



*If we missed your Birthday or Anniversary
please contact the church office.*

Our Mission Statement

Our Church is dedicated to the love of God as demonstrated by Jesus Christ and inspired by the Holy Spirit. We demonstrate our love of God through everyday living. Everyone is welcome to join us as we grow in our faith and in our relationship with God and each other through worship, teaching, caring and fellowship.



- * Jackie Lyells~5/1
- * Louise Taylor~5/1
- * Josiah Brinckerhoff~5/2
- * Mary Beth Jones~5/3
- * Jeff Jones~5/4
- * Dax Joo~5/6
- * Jerry Buderus~5/8
- * Sue Roberts~5/21
- * Jennie Belval~5/22
- * Debbie Kulby~5/22
- * Marie Valenzuela~5/27
- * Larry Vorwerck~5/30
- * Seth Boughton~5/31



Your 2024 Church Leadership

Michael Blackwood - Senior Pastor
Andi Fox - Associate Pastor
Brian Conn - Moderator
John Pepperdine - Vice Moderator
Eleanor Witte - Clerk
Financial Secretary - Jonathan Wade
Gary McKee - Treasurer
Jackie Lyells & Sara Worcester
- Members at Large

Committee Chairs

Corey Hill - Trustees
Alice Kidney - Worship
Jane Shelton / Kathy Wathen - Spiritual Care
Jennie Belval - Christian Education
Mary Beth Jones - Mission
Desi Hill - Fellowship



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ADULT CHOIR PRACTICE: 8:15AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL: ADULT 9AM ; CHILDREN DURING 10AM WORSHIP AS NOTED
SUNDAY WORSHIP 10AM IN-PERSON & STREAMING VIA FACEBOOK & ZOOM

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 BOOK STUDY 6:30PM	2	3	4 LAWNMOWER CLINIC #2 KNITTING 4 PEACE 10:15AM @ CHURCH
5 FISH COLLECTION	6	7 MORNING STAR FELLOWSHIP 11AM @ FIRST WATCH	8 BOOK STUDY 6:30PM	9 GATHERING CIRCLE 8:30AM	10	11 LAWNMOWER CLINIC RAIN DAY
12 MOTHER'S DAY	13	14	15 BOOK STUDY 6:30PM	16 CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING 7PM VIA ZOOM	17	18 ARMED FORCES DAY
19 PENTECOST PROMOTION SUNDAY STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH COLLECTION DEDICATION OF TREES	20	21	22	23	24 BOOK CLUB 1PM @ CHURCH	25
26	27 MEMORIAL DAY	28	29	30	31	

If you see something on our website, Facebook, newspaper that you like - please tell others ... 'like' a Facebook post ... forward to your friends, neighbors. Help more know why you like our church.

June 2024



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SUNDAY WORSHIP 10AM IN-PERSON & STREAMING VIA FACEBOOK & ZOOM

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 EARLY-RISERS FELLOWSHIP 7:30AM @ FIRST WATCH KNITTING 4 PEACE 10:15AM @ CHURCH BROOMFIELD PRIDE
2 FISH COLLECTION	3	4 MORNING STAR FELLOWSHIP 11AM @ FIRST WATCH	5 BOURBON & BLUES 6:30-? FREE NICCI'S IN LAFAYETTE	6 RMC ANNUAL CELEBRATION @ LA FORET OR ONLINE		8
9	10	11	12	13 GATHERING CIRCLE 8:30AM	14	15
16 FATHER'S DAY	17	18	19	20 CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING 7PM VIA ZOOM	21	22
23 PRIDE SUNDAY	24	25	26	27	28 BOOK CLUB 1PM @ CHURCH	29
30 WORSHIP IN OUR PARK						