

CAMPUS MINISTRY PIE AUCTION!

MARCH 21ST

4:00 PM

ZOOM ID: 703 843 108



THE SIGNAL

MAR. APR. MAY.
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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CONTACT US:

our-saviours.org

970-484-3133



A NOTE FROM THE PASTORS

After the snow....

It can feel overwhelming to look outside right now at the thick, wet snow that drapes our community. Overwhelming to try and dig out the car and get back to work. Overwhelming to see the large piles when it's plowed. Strong steel blades and the men and women that wield them are busy throughout the community, and we know that as overwhelming as it is, we will overcome it. The sun will bring warmth and the snow will be transformed into a gift. The daffodils only await a clear path to the sunlight. Normal snow? No, but even this outlier will be overcome by Spring.

Normal last 12 months? No, and as we consider the pandemic, we realize that it has done the same thing to many of us as the snow, just on a much larger scale. There is nothing normal about it. It has kept us stuck in our homes, and has been like a thick wet blanket covering not just our community, but the world. Our shovels have been like our masks and the piles of snow have been the loss of so many. The economic weight of this pandemic has crushed the most vulnerable and now we are set to start digging out.

As we look at the landscape of our community in the midst of the pandemic, we have the helpers at work in recovery everywhere. We give thanks for those that have worked in the midst of the storm. From the health workers to the grocery store workers we are grateful, but now many more needs are evident.

Who can you bring hope to? How can you be a gift to your neighbor? What is it that you need to be more healthy yourself? As we ask and seek to answer these questions, we give thanks for the community we have at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church. We have weathered the storm and we are using our resources to help the community recover.

Our church council has determined that with an abundance of resources much is expected of us, and so we have given special gifts to numerous organizations in our community that are helping the most vulnerable. Through their help and special gifts from generous donors within the congregation, our church has given over \$25,000 to our partners in ministry this month alone; over and above our regular benevolence.

Now as many of us receive relief checks from the government, we want to lift up to you a few of those organizations and invite you to consider making a special gift through the church to help others in the midst of this storm. We recognize that for many of you these checks will be needed in our own homes but for many others the gift of this check can be like a steel blade on the front of a truck that can bless a neighbor and we encourage you to give if you are able.

The following organizations we want to highlight to you:

Homeward Alliance- Provides a safety net for homeless through multiple coordinated efforts and recently began a rental assistance program that is designed specifically to keep the most vulnerable in their homes at this time.

ISAAC - Interfaith organization of Northern Colorado providing advocacy and accompaniment for immigrants and refugees.

Faith Family Hospitality- Interfaith organization that partners with churches in Fort Collins to house and accompany homeless families in Northern Colorado.

The Family Center- Provides childcare and supportive services for Northern Colorado with an emphasis

NEW STAFF!



DONNA LOPEZ—ACCOUNTANT

Donna is our new accountant. Please direct any questions regarding finance to them at: donna@our-saviours.org

My name is Donna L. Lopez. I have been a member of Our Saviour's since April of 2016, along with my spouse Tina. My Bachelor's is in finance, and I worked in the corporate finance world for 30 years. I also have a degree in Agricultural Business, and I am in the process of obtaining a master's degree in Public Policy and Administration from CSU, for work in a 2nd career in non-profits and medical access. A little-known fact, I was born and raised in East Los Angeles, but over 7 generations of my family are from southern Colorado. We can trace our roots back to Spain and the move to Mexico where in 1670, they left Mexico City, along with eleven other families to found what is now San Miguel, New Mexico.

2021 SUMMER CAMPS REGISTRATION IS OPEN

This registration form is for all 'camp' like events: VBS, High School Trips, Middle School, Elementary, and Summerfest Family Camp! Please use this form to sign up for which camps you would like to attend. You can simply fill out for only the ones you are interested in.

Deadline for responses is April 1st so that we can get numbers to the camps. (Covid precautions will be taken as needed per CDC and county guidelines at the time. If you should need to cancel your registration later on please give as much notice as possible)

Questions?

Contact Pastor Leta (leta@our-saviours.org or 979-893-2890) or Pastor Jon (jonfry@our-saviours.org or 970-484-3133)

Link to Register: <https://forms.gle/u3QNidMYhwd7eUn27>

From Kent Weitendorf and Rosie Goetz:

Dear Friends,

Some of you may know that I have kidney disease. Over time, my kidney disease has gotten worse causing my kidneys to approach the point they will not to work well enough to keep me alive. This is what I am facing now, and my treatment options are limited to dialysis treatments or a kidney transplant. Getting regular dialysis treatments will help my kidneys do their job and keep me alive, but a transplant would offer me more freedom and the ability to live a longer, healthier, more normal life.

However, finding a kidney for a transplant is not easy. I am currently on the waiting list for a deceased donor kidney... However, time is not on my side. Some wait for years; many die while waiting. The average wait time is five years or more for a kidney from a deceased donor. However, there is another option: receiving a kidney from a living donor.

Asking a family member or a friend to consider donating a kidney to me is difficult, but it greatly improves my chances of getting a transplant. A living kidney donation typically lasts longer and has better function.

You might not know a lot about living donation - I know I didn't before kidney disease affected my life. Understandably, some people are afraid about the surgery and what living with one kidney will mean for them. Here's some basic information about kidney donation:

- You only need one kidney to live a healthy, long life.
 - Most donor surgery is done laparoscopically, meaning through tiny incisions.
 - The recuperation period is usually fairly quick, generally two weeks.
 - The cost of your evaluation and surgery will be covered by my insurance. The hospital can give you extensive information on this. Additionally, there is possible assistance for other expenses from National Living Donor Assistance (www.livingdonorassistance.org).
- You will have a separate team of healthcare professionals to evaluate you as a living donor. Their job is to help you understand the risks and benefits and look out for YOUR best interests.

You can also learn more about living donation on the National Kidney Foundation (NKF) website: www.kidney.org/livingdonation or by contacting the NKF's free, confidential helpline at 855.NKF.CARES (855.653.2273) or nkfcares@kidney.org. If you want to talk to someone who's already donated a kidney, NKF can also help.

Thank you for taking the time to read my story. If donating a kidney to me is something you would like to consider, I would be happy to tell you more about my story and explore the process of determining if you are a match for me. You can also contact my transplant center directly at UCHealthlivingdonor.org.

However, I know living donation may not be right for everyone — but you can still help! Consider being an organ donor after death and also, help me by sharing my story with everyone you know. At the very least I want to bring awareness to kidney disease and living donation. I am hopeful my efforts will help me receive a kidney sooner and encourage others to consider helping the many people on the wait list.

Thank you,
Kent Weitendorf (Rosie Goetz – support team)
keroja@comcast.net
970-286-1840

on the Latinx population.

Lumin Campus Ministry at CSU- Providing support for students experiencing homelessness.

Food Bank of Northern Colorado- Providing food resources for those in need in Northern Colorado.

We want to emphasize that this is certainly not a complete list, but organizations that we wanted to highlight that are doing terrific work for the community's vulnerable population. There are many others that you can donate to as well. If you would like to make a donation to any of these organizations you can make a check out to the church and place the organizations name in the memo line.

As for the church, we certainly will continue to have financial needs but due to your faithful support, we are thankful to be in position to invite this special offering.

Blessings and Peace,

Pastor Leta Behrens, Pastor Michael Stadtmueller, and Intern Pastor Jon Fry



WORSHIP WITH US

Sundays 8:30 am In-Person (RSVP Required)
Sundays 9:30 am In-Person (RSVP Required)
Sundays 10:30 am Online via Facebook/Website
Wednesdays 6:30 pm Online via Zoom

RSVP AT: [HTTPS://RSVP.CHURCH/R/H38TFYYD](https://rsvp.church/r/h38tfyyd)



Just a reminder that for the safety of everyone and CDC guidelines for public spaces, we are still requiring masks inside of the building even if you have been fully vaccinated.



Worship in Person 8:30 am and 9:30 am
 Registration Required: <https://rsvp.church/r/k38TfYYd>
 Online 10:30 am
 Watch on Facebook: facebook.com/oslcfortcollins
 Website: our-saviours.org/weekly-worship

Palms! Come on March 25th between 3 pm - 5 pm to pick up palms for March 28th! Pastors will be available for conversation at pick up!

Stations of the Cross will be set up and you can either come on your own or during the following scheduled times. Doors will be open Monday - Thursday 10 am - 2 pm. OR you can join us for a walk-through worship on Maundy Thursday at 6:30 pm or Good Friday at 12:00 pm in Person.

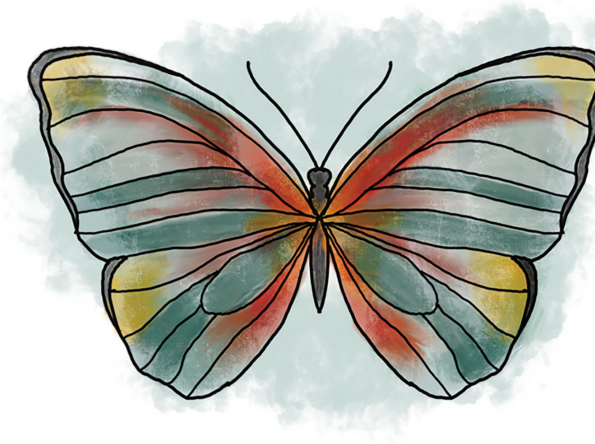


Ecumenical Online Worship with Heart of the Rockies, Plymouth, American Baptist Church, LuMin CSU, and Westminster Presbyterian! We have joined together with these congregational communities for an online service.



SAVE THE DATE!
...for an Easter Vigil Service
from PLTS!

PLTS will be recording an Easter Vigil Service of the Word that will be available by March 31 for your use. And they will host a watch party on April 3 at 7:00p.m. Pacific Daylight Savings Time. More information coming soon!



Last year you were sent a butterfly for Easter and this year, we are sending butterflies again AND asking that you be a part of the Easter day and seasonal festivities! You will be sent a butterfly to be colored in! Here are the details:

- Please color your butterfly however you want!
- Glue the craft stick to it
- Take a photo of you and/or you and family with the butterfly and email to karyn@our-saviours.org
- Mail or drop off at the church (in the box on the Main Office Entrance coffee table) before Easter or bring it on Easter Sunday!



Registration Link: <https://rsvp.church/r/k38TfYYd>