

PASTOR'S MID-YEAR REPORT--July 8, 2018

TEAMS

Adult Christian Ed- The 2018 Summer Film Series is underway. We have seen some great flicks and have had some wonderful discussions following—and tasty potluck dinners, too! Films continue through August on Sunday evenings. Thanks to you, we were able to purchase a new audio-visual system for Callahan Hall. Gene Albright found all the new equipment and he and Tyler Lindauer deserve thanks for the install.

Association & Conference- The Conference sent me to Nashville earlier this year for an advanced training session on Clergy Boundaries. Our Conference Minister, Rev. Sue Artt, will be attending our July 15th special worship service dedicated to healthy ministry relationships. Your voice is heard through my service on the Rocky Mountain Conference Board of Directors and our Southeastern Association Committee on Ministry. In April, Angie Law and I finished our IGNITE leadership training. Angie Law serves as the Chair of the Association Committee on Ministry. Next Saturday and Sunday, we are hosting representatives from all over the Conference, as we work together to redesign our current Boundaries Training protocols for ministers and lay leaders. Sue Artt will be here as well for our worship service Sunday.

Building & Grounds- Thank you to everyone who contributed funds and sweat equity to get our new water well installed. Thanks especially to Dick Sherer for leading this project. We should have a water source now that will provide for our future needs. We were able also, through the generosity of Bob & Holly Jay to get installed a new kitchen dishwasher and a much-needed ceiling fan for the church office. Randy Mann quietly works away with body and mind at B&G projects as its leader—thank you. Rosanne French and Shellie Luallin keep our grounds looking nice, and Randy Mann & Chris Dawson keep up with our mowing. Gib Neal has done painting for us. Jeremy Birdwhistell (Jason, too!) and Justin Courtright provide creative thinking and get-it-done action wherever needed.

Care and Nurture- Where would we be without Martha Sprague, who takes good care of us! Thanks to her team of caregivers within the church. Joanne Murray coordinates monthly trips to Ft. Collins to visit Jeanne Wells. Jan Narracci

schedules the Meal Train for our families in need of nutrition. Katie Birdwhistell, Grace Albright, and Katie Graham have provided child care for us on occasion. Thanks, gals!

Church Council- Council recently passed an Alcohol Policy, affirming that we are an alcohol-free church and campus. Council approved changing the name of Fellowship Hall to Callahan Hall, and we celebrated that action with a formal ceremony and breakfast. Thank you to our Moderator, Angie Law. Thanks also to our Financial Secretary, Bill Matthews, and to our Treasurer, Denise Mann. Jeannine Glendenning deserves our thanks for heading up the Grocery Card program these last several years. Paul Campbell has now taken this over as the Chair of Stewardship.

Children & Youth Education- Special thanks to Holly Jay, who heads up our school programs. We are grateful for all the persons who signed up to teach our Summer Sunday School. We have set our teaching pairings for the Fall. Thanks to all of our teachers this past year: Jean Sherer, Christy Jones, Janet Thoma, Eileen Enterline, Darci & Harv Harvey, Tiffany and Dawson Roberts, and Heidi Bailey and Angie Law as backups, Karen Graham, Chris Dawson, Jack Nordin, and Bob Jay (youth). Eileen Enterline and I have begun Confirmation classes for 8 youths ranging from 6th to 11th grades. Thanks to your generosity, we are sending four kids to La Foret Summer Camp. We were able to fund 2/3 of their tuition through donations, boundary training fees collected, and scholarships from both the Association and Conference. The nursery and the youth room were painted and decorated by many eager volunteers (thanks to all of you), and new chairs were purchased for the youth room, which now can also serve as an additional meeting room.

Community Outreach, Social Life- Thanks to the leadership of Eileen Enterline, we again sponsored for the community and for special missions and operating expenses, the Hilltop Art Fair and Silent Auction (thanks, Ann Pidgeon). We were fortunate to also host a barbeque and private concert at church by nationally-known singer/songwriter, Bobby Jo Valentine, on Saturday, June 16th. The next day he provided the music for our worship service. Thanks for the great map and set-up, Rosanne French, Terri Rock and Chris Dawson for cooking, and, for being our own very DJ extraordinaire, JJ Chontos! Thank you to Susan Zeeb for taking over our monthly Bridge game coordination.

Hospitality- Big thanks to Shirley Alsager who has taken over Hospitality Hour sign-ups. You just can't say no to Shirley! We appreciate all who have taken a turn at providing post-worship snacks for us. We are especially appreciative of Martha Sprague and her daughter, Mary McElligatt, who have provided food for our special events!

Memorial Garden- Work continues to develop the Garden site, a new sign was installed for the ash scattering area, more pavers were installed and many young bushes were planted around the site. Thanks to Al Thompson, Gene Eliassen, Roger Long, Shellie Luallin, Don Sprague, and others for their work on this project.

Missions- We completed our Conference obligations ("5 for 5 offerings"), the Buckley Scholarship Drive, Women's Sunday offering and supplies to 6th Avenue UCC Women's Homeless Initiative, collected new underwear for our Undie 500 mission, toiletries and supplies for La Puente, and soup, Easter baskets, and canned food for Parker Task Force. We continue our support of Hellen, our Guatemalan student through Common Hope. Angie Law heads this team. Special thanks to Dick and Jean Sherer, Roger Long, Pam Thompson, Ardie Thompson, and Floyd Murray for their Missions work, and to the Penney/Sippel family who are again sponsoring Horseshoes for Cousin on July 28.

New Members and Outreach- We have several folks who will be joining the church this summer. Thanks to Denise Mann who co-chairs this effort, and to Martha & Don Sprague for hosting our New Member Interest dinners.

Pastor Parish Team- This group, led by Gary Dordahl, continues to meet regularly in the interest of maintaining healthy ministry relationships within the church. Other members are Eileen Enterline and Melissa Birdwhistell. Thanks to Pam Sippel who also served on this team this year.

Safety- Randy Mann and I attended an FBI church safety training in Denver in February. A Safety Team has been formed and has met. Shellie Luallin and I attended a film this spring dedicated to suicide prevention.

Worship- We are averaging 50 folks in worship this summer, and 78 the rest of the year. We had a couple of weeks where we had over 100 attending. Thanks to

Julie Robuck, our Music Director, for her leadership and her vocal talents, too! Thanks also to our musicians: Susan Neal, Andy Sharp, Ellie Yoakam, Lisa Jones, Sandy Woodrow, Joe Narracci, our choir and our other soloists for the worship music we enjoy. We are happy to have and hear over 20 persons who rotate through the church year as Liturgists. Our deacons, headed by Randy Mann, keep things running smoothly on Sunday mornings. Denise Mann keeps me sane on Easter and Christmas, organizing all the activities and supports necessary for our special worship services. Shirley Wick takes many a week leading the children's sermon. Barb Kellogg keeps our altar flowers beautifully arranged and season-appropriate. Jean and Dick Sherer change out our worship drapes. Many thanks. Special thanks to my wonderful office manager, Karen Rangel, who produces the bulletins each week!

Visioning- Al Thompson leads this team. Other persons who have agreed to be on it are: Gus Burkard, Brooke Albright, Bill Matthews, and Denise Mann. I will also be on this team, at the leader's request. Our first meeting will take place later this summer.

[If I missed naming you, I apologize, but know that you have the thanks of your pastor and your church!]

May God continue to bless our church and its Christian heart. Reading this report, you should now know what fuels its growth and gives it strength. It's YOU.