

# THE OUTREACH

Keeping you informed about the mission and ministry of  
**Hillcrest Congregational United Church of Christ**  
611 South Hillcrest Drive, Montrose, CO 81401 | (970) 249-9047

[www.montroseucc.org](http://www.montroseucc.org)

May 2024

 God  
is still  
speaking,

## Ministers All

Rev. Wendy Kidd, Pastor

## Sunday Worship

10:00 AM followed by  
coffee and conversation

## Communion

Celebrated on the first  
Sunday of each month

## Children's Corner and Infants' Room Available

## Stay in Touch

Please let us know if you  
change your address,  
phone number, or email  
address so we can update  
our records. Call (970)  
249-9047 or email  
[office@montroseucc.org](mailto:office@montroseucc.org)

## Visit our website at

[www.montroseucc.org](http://www.montroseucc.org)



facebook.com/  
hillcrestucc

## Pastor's Ponderings

Our youth have expressed an interest in exploring the Christian faith and theology, and the United Church of Christ. We're going to start with an informal retreat this month on May 25. We'll have brief overviews of Christianity (e.g., scripture, church history, creeds, the Lord's Prayer, worship, world religions, and social justice) and the United Church of Christ (e.g., history and structure, sacraments, the church year, and the ministry of all believers). We'll also have food and fun!

Growing in our faith is a lifelong process in which we take ownership of our faith journey by asking questions, reflecting on scripture and the world around us, and seeking out opportunities to serve others. It's my hope that this is just the beginning of a lifelong exploration and engagement with faith and spirituality for these great young people.

As I'm planning this youth retreat, I've been thinking about the things I'd have liked to know as a teen. And I'm wondering what you would have liked to learn, too. Or perhaps there are things you'd like to learn more about now as an adult. Drop me an email, note, or text to share your questions and topics. Chances are that others have the same or similar questions. Let's see what we might learn together.

Grace & Peace,

*Rev. Wendy*

# \* Hillcrest Happenings \*



Beginning Thursday, May 2, we will meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. in Von Hagen Hall.

We are reading *The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World* by the Dalai Lama XIV and Desmond Tutu with Douglas Carlton Abrams.

Please get your copy from the library or your favorite bookseller.

Feel free to bring your lunch.



**\* Please note the day changes. \***

Rev. Wendy is available for drop-in conversation twice monthly:

**SECOND Tuesday**, 9 – 11 a.m., at the Coffee Trader, Main St.

**FOURTH Thursday**, 2 – 4 p.m., at San Juan Brews, Main St.

(Subject to change based on the pastor's schedule.)

You may also contact Rev. Wendy, (303) 913-2123 or [revwendykidd@gmail.com](mailto:revwendykidd@gmail.com), to schedule coffee and/or conversation.



**Pentecost Sunday, May 19, 2024**

The Strengthen the Church (STC) Offering reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. Conferences and the national setting equally share the gifts given by members and friends through their local congregations. The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. By your generosity to this offering, you build up the Body of Christ. As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity plants new churches, awakens new ideas in existing churches, and develops the spiritual life of our youth and young adults.



As we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit on **Sunday, May 19**, you are encouraged to wear **RED** to worship. Red signifies the “tongues of flame” that appeared among the disciples at Pentecost, fifty days after Easter.



## Church Council



The Church Council will meet on ***the third Sunday, May 19***, due to Mother’s Day.

### 2024 Church Council

Bob Idsardi, Financial Secretary • Bruce Herr, Member-at-Large  
Eileen Izzo, Treasurer • Jacquie Mercer, Moderator • Kevin Eber, Secretary  
Lael Van Riper, Member-at-Large • Pat Idsardi, Church Clerk  
Rev. Wendy Kidd, Pastor



The Women’s Union meets on the ***3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month*** from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. in Von Hagen Hall.

## YOUTH RETREAT

**Saturday, May 25**

Spend the day with Rev. Wendy exploring faith, Christianity, and the UCC.  
See Rev. Wendy for details.



## Sharing Ministries Food Bank



If you wish to donate items, in May we are collecting peanut butter. Sharing Ministries can purchase many food items at a discounted rate, so financial contributions are welcome. Please make checks payable to HCUCG with the memo line made out: “For Sharing Ministries.”

## Check Out Our Website!

Our website, <https://www.montroseucc.org/>, has a new look, thanks to Shelly Spalding. On the website, you can find a brief history of HCUCG, our Open & Affirming Covenant, sermon videos, newsletters, calendar, a contact link, and more. Shelly will be adding more photos, links, and information over the coming months. If you have any questions or suggestions, please reach out to her, [sjspalding@hotmail.com](mailto:sjspalding@hotmail.com).



“**THANK YOU**” to everyone who helped with the Annual Rummage Sale – whether you donated, helped set up, worked a shift, provided refreshments, helped clean up, and/or took remaining items to donation sites.

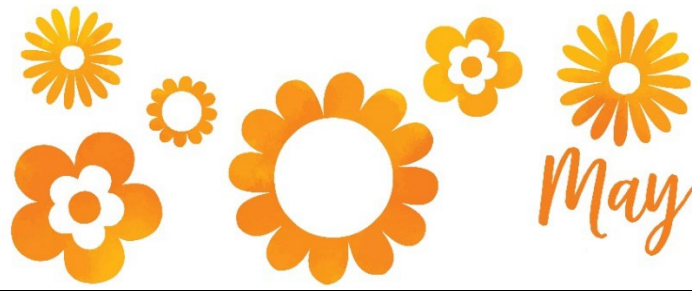
Even though it was Spring Break week, we received \$717 for our efforts. Funds support a special project providing personal hygiene items for Sharing Ministries and the ongoing work of the Women’s Union.



## **Blessed Flexibility: Annual Celebration 2024**

**LaForet Conference & Retreat Center • June 6 – 8**

Over the last fifty years, our churches have encountered so many shifting needs within our neighborhoods, cities, and regions. In 2024, we have even more changes to navigate, from our relationships to our physical buildings and the challenges of a post-COVID world, to clarifying our sense of purpose and discerning how we are uniquely poised to participate in creating a just world for all. Throughout the Annual Celebration weekend, we want to discuss all the ways in which we can embrace the virtues of flexibility so that we can grow and adapt in ways that will help us address these challenges. What do you, the leaders of the UCC, hope to see emerge from our churches today? How can we be better about supporting each other as we strive to authentically respond to our communities’ changing needs? And what does it mean for us to bend as Church to the call of the Spirit? We look forward to all of these conversations and so much more in June! You can find information about dates, costs, and lodging, as well as links to relevant documents (resolution form, standing rules, nomination form), and Eventbrite registration at this link: [https://rmcucc.org/events/annual-celebration-2024/?mc\\_cid=3f76c26c2d&mc\\_eid=933fc8d0b9](https://rmcucc.org/events/annual-celebration-2024/?mc_cid=3f76c26c2d&mc_eid=933fc8d0b9)



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>“The Pentecostal power, when you sum it all up, is just more of God’s love. If it does not bring more love, it is simply a counterfeit.” — William J. Seymour</p>			1	2  BOOK STUDY 12:30-1:30 pm	3	4
5  Communion SUNDAYS	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 <i>Mother's Day</i>	13	14  Coffee & Talk Coffee Trader 9-11 am	15	16  BOOK STUDY 12:30-1:30 pm <i>Women's Union</i> 2-3 pm	17	18
19  Pentecost  STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH  Church Council Meeting	20	21	22	23  Coffee & Talk San Juan Brews 2-4 pm	24	25 <b>YOUTH RETREAT</b>
26  TRINITY SUNDAY	27  Memorial Day	28	29	30	31	