

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

February 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

Visit our website at

www.montroseucc.org



facebook.com/
hillcrestucc

Pastor's Ponderings

The last time Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day coincided was in 2018. The two days will overlap again in 2029.

Ash Wednesday is the start of the 40-day period of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving of Lent, while Valentine's Day is a day of romance and affection. "Lent" and "love" don't seem to go together. But these two days have much more in common than we might think.

Jesus died for preaching God's love and liberation; Valentine, a priest in third century Rome, was put to death for defying Emperor Claudius' decree outlawing marriage for young men by performing secret weddings. Both gave their lives in acts of love.

With the Lenten season beginning on Valentine's Day this year, maybe we can make it a Season of Love. Lent is most often thought of as the time Christians give up something as a form of sacrifice. Rather than focusing on the sacrifices we're making, we could focus on the love that inspires it. This year, instead of giving something up, perhaps we can follow the examples of Valentine and Jesus. Let's put God's love into action by showing love to someone every day during Lent. Perhaps we'll also fall in love with the season of Lent.

"This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35). Lent is for lovers.

Grace & Peace,

Rev. Wendy

♥ Hillcrest Happenings ♥



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

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

THIRD 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, to schedule coffee and/or conversation.



Church Council



The Church Council meets on the **2nd Sunday** of the month after worship and fellowship.

2024 Church Council

Kevin Eber, Secretary

Bruce Herr, Member-at-Large

Jacque Mercer, Moderator

Bob Idsardi, Financial Secretary

Pat Idsardi, Church Clerk

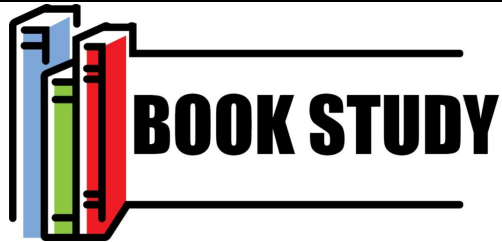
Eileen Izzo, Treasurer

Lael Van Riper, Member-at-Large



Women's Union

The Women's Union meets on the 4th Thursday of the month from 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. in Von Hagen Hall.



Do you have a reading recommendation for the book study group?

We are currently taking suggestions for this year.

Please send ideas to Rev. Wendy, revwendykidd@gmail.com, or (303) 913-2123.

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

We still have one office for rent:

Office D: 360 sq ft w/ small closet, \$360/month

Renters have access to the kitchen and meeting space.

Interested renters may contact the Church Office, (970) 249-9047,
or Rev. Wendy, (303) 913-2123.

Worship Accompanist

We are still looking for a piano/organ accompanist for the second and fourth Sundays of each month. We are also seeking other musicians who would be willing to play (solo/ensemble). Please contact Rev. Wendy, (303) 913-2123 or revwendykidd@gmail.com, for more information.



If you wish to donate items, in February we are collecting laundry soap. 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."*





February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>"The love we give away is the only love we keep." — Elbert Hubbard</p>				1	2 	3
4 <i>Communion</i> SUNDAYS	5	6  Coffee Talk Coffee Trader 9-11 am	7	8	9	10 LUNAR NEW YEAR 2024
11  RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY  Church Council Meeting	12	13	14  ASH Wednesday <i>Valentine's Day</i>	15  Coffee Talk San Juan Brews 2-4 pm	16	17
18 First Sunday in <i>Lent</i>	19  Presidents Day	20	21	22  Women's Union 12-2 pm	23	24
25 Second Sunday in <i>Lent</i>	26	27	28	29 <i>Leap Day</i> 		