

# 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)

March 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

Easter celebrates life over death and changed possibilities. It's also a time to give thanks for the Spirit of Life visible in Jesus, and in each one of us, in all people and all of creation. Yet, even as we celebrate, we recognize that all we have are stories, shaped and reshaped by people of faith across generations.

In those stories, the authors said something important – *not* about Jesus' *death* – but about his *life*. Jesus' death mattered to them because his life mattered more. So, they spoke of his death in ways that affirmed his life. And they came to see that Jesus stood for something so important he was willing to give his life for it: a vision of life called the kin-dom of God.

They reaffirmed their own commitments to the ethics embodied in Jesus' words and actions. They believed that no cross could destroy Jesus' vision of a new kin-dom. We, too, can reaffirm our commitments to the ethics embodied by Jesus as a way of life, becoming co-creators of the kin-dom of God.

Resurrection isn't simply a bunch of stories about an alleged past event. Resurrection can, and does, happen every day. It happens in what the words and actions of the one we call Jesus the Christ do in and for our lives. All we have are the stories that tell us that in the midst of brokenness, healing stirs; in the midst of darkness, a light shines; in the midst of death, life breaks forth; when all seems lost, hope springs eternal. And that is Good News, indeed!

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.



## OFFERING DATE MARCH 10, 2024

One Great Hour of Sharing® is one of five special offerings of the UCC. This Lenten Offering supports the disaster, refugee, and development ministries of the United Church of Christ within Wider Church Ministries.



## 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 • Jacquie 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.



# easter flowers



Please help decorate the sanctuary chancel with spring flowers on Easter. We are requesting a donation of \$10.00 for each potted blooming plant, (e.g., tulips, daffodils, iris, hyacinth, lilies – based on availability). You may take the plant(s) home after worship on Easter Sunday to decorate your spring table and/or plant in your flowerbeds. Please place your order at the church by March 24.



Our offering on Easter Sunday will benefit Sharing Ministries.



## BOOK STUDY



Book Study begins in April. We will be reading the following two books:

*The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World*  
by the Dalai Lama XIV and Desmond Tutu with Douglas Carlton Abrams  
<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/29496453-the-book-of-joy>

*Radiant Rebellion: Reclaim Aging, Practice Joy, and Raise a Little Hell*  
by Karen Walrond  
<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/71327482-radiant-rebellion>



If you wish to donate items, in March we are collecting hygiene items (toothbrushes, toothpaste, bath soap, shampoo). 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."



## Rummage Sale



**April 19 & 20**

Donations may be dropped off at the church in March and April. Please, no large electronics (e.g., TVs, PCs, printers, stereos). More information to come!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>"May the blessing of each day be the blessings you need most." – Saint Patrick</p>					<p>1 <b>WORLD</b> Day OF <b>PRAYER</b></p>	<p>2</p>
<p>3 Third Sunday in <i>Lent</i> Communion SUNDAYS</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 Coffee  Talk Coffee Trader 9-11 am</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>
<p>10 <b>THE GREAT HOUR</b> OF SHARING Fourth Sunday in <i>Lent</i>  <b>Church Council Meeting</b></p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>
<p>17 Fifth Sunday in <i>Lent</i> <b>ST. PATRICK'S DAY</b></p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 <i>Spring</i> <i> Begins</i></p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 Coffee  Talk San Juan Brews 2-4 pm</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24 <i>Palm Sunday</i></p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 <i>Maundy Thursday</i> <i>Women's Union</i> 12-2 pm</p>	<p>29 <b>GOOD</b> Friday</p>	<p>30 <i>Holy</i> SATURDAY</p>
<p>31 <b>Easter SUNDAY</b> <i>He is Risen</i>  Sharing Ministries Offering</p>	<p>"Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song." — Pope John Paul II</p>					