

Chimes

Fall 2019

Pews to Chairs!



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Much like the children's story of the Christmas tree that was turned into chairs so it could be useful and loved every day of the year, is the story of our beloved sanctuary pews. All of our pews found good homes!

In the early 2000s, Rockland began to expand and additional pews were built by Boy Scout Troop 737. A majority of the pews were built by Sean Coyle as his Eagle Scout project with the help of his father, Mike Coyle. Sean and his family came out on Sunday and took a few pews home to be enjoyed by family and friends. Several other families took home their regular pew to remember the countless years and special times at Rockland. Rockland employees took pews to grace gardens and to be turned into sturdy picnic tables.

First Presbyterian Church of Golden will use the pews in their new prayer chapel. Crossroads Church of Denver also claimed pews for their new fellowship hall. Red Rocks Community College will use the pews for students who are unable to purchase wood for projects. The pews will be repurposed into tables, chairs and other craft projects. The remainder of the pews will be used as seating for the pre-tour movie at Argo Mill and Tunnel in Idaho Springs.

As bittersweet as it is to say goodbye to the beautiful pews, they have gone on to find happy and useful homes and we here at Rockland look forward to the years ahead in comfy, modern chairs.

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Family Camp 2019

Late in September, 12 families spent a weekend together at Ponderosa Retreat and Conference Center in Larkspur, CO. It was a weekend to kick back, relax and build new or grow deeper relationships with one another. Time was set aside for parents to dialogue and explore with one another what it means to lead their kids towards a life-long journey of faith following Jesus Christ. While the kids did camp-type things like a nature scavenger hunt, human foosball, Bible trivia games, and chasing bubbles.

Saturday afternoon was filled with endless excitement as we first cheered on those who made a go on the climbing wall or high ropes course. Then, endless laughter was heard as all of the families joined in some competitive games of kickball, softball and gaga ball (you'll need to ask one of the kids to explain this game to you!). Saturday ended with a wonderful time of reflection around the campfire followed by a celebration of the Lord's supper. Of course, no campfire is complete without the enjoyment of S'mores! Our final activity of the night was a rousing time of Black Light Dodgeball, where we discovered that some of our youngest campers are the mightiest participants!

As our time together drew to a close late Sunday morning, kids could be heard saying, with disappointment in their voices, "I don't want to go home. Family Camp is so much fun!" God blessed us with good weather in a beautiful location and His love rained down on us in ways that are impossible to articulate. But I think everyone would agree that our weekend together was a success and thoughts of next year have already started running through families' minds.



Tanzania Action Committee

October was Tanzania month at Rockland Church. Updates on our church's mission outreach to Tanzania was provided to the congregation at worship services on October 20 and 27. Members of the Tanzania Action Committee (TAC) provided more information in the Fellowship Hall concerning current needs of the committee.

Rockland Church supports at risk girls in secondary Christian schools (Form I through IV) who would not be able to attend school without the financial support of generous sponsors from our church. In addition, students who have completed secondary school and have tested high enough to continue their education at university or vocational schools receive support through the Pathways program. Sponsors of these students not only contribute financially but also communicate through letter writing and prayer. Some sponsors travel to Arusha with the Rockland mission trip team and meet their sponsored student in person. This month TAC sought to find sponsors for five new Form I secondary students, which was achieved following the worship service update on October 20th.

Rockland also supports the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at Arusha Lutheran Medical Center. Donations were taken during October to support life-saving care for premature infants. TAC also embraced Rockland's mission of "connecting all generations to Jesus" by visiting the high school and middle school youth groups to share what their church does in Tanzania. Students were encouraged to ask questions and pray for our ministry partners in Arusha, and many students wrote letters of encouragement to mothers of babies in the NICU.

A party was held on October 27th at Mt. Vernon Country Club to thank past, present, and future interested supporters of Rockland's Tanzania mission outreach. The highlight was a visit by Patrick Ngala Olemong'i, Rockland's representative in Arusha. Patrick was visiting Colorado for the first time and was hosted by several members of TAC. It was great to share our area with our faithful brother in Christ.

Those interested in supporting Rockland's Tanzania outreach may inquire about going on the next mission trip to Arusha, scheduled for July 2020. In addition, our committee is always looking for new members!



Loaves & Fishes—So Many Touching Stories

It's amazing all the different people you meet at Loaves and Fishes. A couple of years ago I introduced myself to a husband and wife that were volunteering. The husband upon hearing my name asked, "Did you go in Berea High School in Ohio?" I said yes. He said, "I was in your class!" Turns out these folks were Ray and Carole Waldron who had lived in Evergreen for 25 years and have attended Rockland for 15 years and yet our paths had never crossed. A big thanks to Loaves and Fishes for bringing us together!

There are some incredible stories that come with our shoppers. Their lives can be filled with chaos and hardship but also wonder and victory. I have realized that we at Loaves and Fishes must be careful not to pre-judge our clients when they walk through our door. A couple of months ago a lady drove into our lot in a luxury car, dressed very nicely. I assumed she was dropping off a donation. She then came in our front door and registered to shop. I was taken back. During our intake process, I found out her husband had abandoned her, she then got sick, lost her job and ran up huge hospital bills. I realized all of our lives can change in an instant. She told me later she never believed that she would ever have to use a food bank. She was so grateful we were here and said that she couldn't survive without our services. When people ask, we do not question, we serve.

Two weeks ago, two men were entering our store, covered in tattoos and piercings. They had a Rottweiler service dog! One of our female volunteers said, "Marty, don't leave!" I started a conversation with one and he turned out to be a born-again Christian. He had been clean of meth for three years. He was traveling the country spreading "The Word". (I wondered how I would react if one of Jesus' disciples walked in). I poured him a cup of coffee and he asked me, "Do you know what Coffee stands for?" I shook my head. He said, "Christ Offers Forgiveness For Everyone Everywhere." I told him I was going to put that up over our coffee area. I find when you do service, it's not just for the other person, it's for you too. It brings you closer to God.

November is our fundraising month. This year we have lost two major donors and had numerous maintenance problems with our building. We need to raise \$30,000 to cover these losses. If you are called to help us with this debt or would like to serve as a volunteer, just send me an email at martyhutt@gmail.com. Once again thanks to Rockland Church for your continuing support of our mission.

Marty Hutt
Executive Director
303-349-4091

To Pledge or Not to Pledge

That is the question you may be contemplating during this Stewardship season. I certainly don't mean to make light of the importance of giving to God but I do hope I caught your attention and brought it to the topic of pledging.

Pledging is a very helpful tool for Rockland Church as it helps us plan our anticipated income for the coming year. Through September of this year we were 1.8% over our anticipated giving-to-date. We have received \$942,122 to a budget-to-date of \$925,600. Our income forecasting over the years has been excellent in large part due to your pledging.

Pledging is a very helpful tool for you personally as well; it helps you to set a financial priority before the beginning of the year. Placing God first with your finances is a practice full of rich promises from God. Your pledge is simply your anticipated giving for the coming year. You will not be held to it by the church but it does help us forecast our anticipated annual income.

Please won't you answer the question and make your pledge today?

Overheard By the Church Mouse...

...Henry David Thoreau, American author famous for writing *Walden*. Someone asked if he had made peace with God. Thoreau answered “*I didn’t know we had ever quarreled.*”

How did that happen, you ask? Sometimes, the history is so insightful that it adds measurably to the overall story. Thus, it is with our mountain missions. Nancy Judge, EChO Development Director, and Sandy Madigan, long-time supporter of EChO and Loaves & Fishes shared some details of the past with us. In the middle 90s, EChO was serving many families from Idaho Springs and Clear Creek County in addition to Evergreen. In most cases providing gas vouchers from the station across the street to get them back home. Several years before, they had tried to get the churches, Elks and others interested in having at least a food bank, but to no avail. They continued to serve those who made the trip.

Enter the 2000s, Emily Corey and the EChO board at that time, a couple of Idaho Springs pastors and concurrently, Ernie Gilbert heard the call, and they felt the hand of the Lord, to be sure.

The first office/food bank and Teen Center in Idaho Springs was located on Main Street in the former newspaper offices. The first distribution of food was in early November from the sidewalk, since the certificate of occupancy had not been issued.

By the time the snow fell, the people were served from indoors with a fire in the stove: there were about 25 households being served. Due to the uncomfortable exposure of the shoppers to the public, the Board began to look for a different venue. Evergreen Physical Therapy had property with two buildings, the smaller of which (the annex) was adequate as office, storeroom, distribution center, with a working lavatory. The teen center was the beginnings of the now Rock House.

Today EChO in Evergreen, Loaves & Fishes and Rock House in Idaho Springs, these organizations have grown from an idea to reality helping so many. They touch on the many facets of life’s needs: food, clothing, shelter, school supplies, job centers and resale shop. EChO developed Loaves & Fishes and Rock House at the beginning. They continue to work together for our mountain mission work.

...life is not about waiting for the storms to pass, but learning how to dance in the rain.

You’ll be reading about a “GOD thing” in the story of Mean Street in this edition. Amazing how God works for us. James Fry was there on Channel 7 facing a predicament that was quickly solved; but in the meantime, James had just been recognized for winning the “Mayor’s Inspiration Award” in Lakewood. James as founder and director of Mean Street was described as having made, “significant impact in the Lakewood community” and held in regard as “A Reflection of Persistence.” We congratulate and celebrate this great honor for a man who so justly deserves it.





Welcome Home

Volunteers at Blue Spruce Habitat for Humanity built a house on Saturday, September 28th.



Dusty Dodge writes a message to the new owners of the home on one of the beams at a Blue Spruce Habitat for Humanity build.

Much like an old-fashioned barn-raising, volunteers nailed together the frames and stood them up, showing the exterior of the 1,110-square-foot house. Once the exterior walls are built in the lot behind Habitat's Restore in Bergen Park, they will be hauled to Empire and assembled into the third of eight Habitat homes being constructed there. We had 117 volunteers during four 2-hour shifts and finished an hour early.

Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit organization devoted to building simple, decent, affordable housing. Blue Spruce Habitat covers from C-470 to the Eisenhower Tunnels, western Jefferson County and Park County to Kenosha Pass. Since it started in 1990, it has built 40 homes.

The people who get the homes must meet income and other qualifications, put in sweat equity to help build the house and get a mortgage with payments no more than 30 percent of their gross income. On Saturday morning, the sound of 20 hammers nailing boards together filled the air as volunteers from the community, a Colorado School of Mines fraternity and other groups got to work. When they were finished, they used permanent markers to write well-wishes to the disabled couple that will receive this house. Volunteers wrote messages such as "Grace and peace to you," "Welcome home," and "Prayers and love" into the home's frames.

Saturday's event was a partnership between Blue Spruce Habitat and Thrivent Financial, according to Blue Spruce Habitat Executive Director Kathleen O'Leary. The organization also reached out to churches and other organizations to help.

The volunteers agreed that the goal of Saturday's event was to help the community, and in the process, they learned a new skill. "This gives people a chance to experience what would be involved in building a wall," said Dusty Dodge, who brought his wife Chris, son Matt and his son's girlfriend, Kate to help frame walls. Craig Rutherford also volunteered. "It's a sense of accomplishment."

Dodge, who also serves as president of Blue Spruce Habitat's board of directors, added: "It's fun, and it's a wonderful cause. There's such a huge need for housing."

Brady Gannett and Dalton Weigel, members of the School of Mines' Alpha Tau Omega fraternity, said they had never participated in a build of this magnitude, adding that Habitat's reputation for helping the community was enough to make them get up early on Saturday to help out. Some of the Evergreen football team and their coach also volunteered.

Scott Deem and Richard Hartford with Rancho Deluxe Fine Homes in Conifer were team leaders, teaching the volunteers what they needed to do to get the job done. Deem said volunteers spent Friday cutting the boards and laying things out so production day would go smoothly.

Rebecca Rutherford of Evergreen was among the first batch of volunteers, saying she decided to help because she shops in the organization's Restore and her son, who is on the EHS football team, would be volunteering later that day. She called it fun to learn about building a house and to help others.

"I've never framed a house," Rutherford said. "It's nice to have the community come together and do something for somebody else."



Dedicated volunteers from Rockland's Habitat team!

A Great Way to Give

If you have been blessed to reach the wonderful age of 70 ½ years of age, then, you may have a great opportunity to enhance your generosity. In my experience as a professional stewardship consultant, I have learned there are many who may not be aware of the benefit of giving from required minimum distributions (RMDs) of your Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs). You are able to make direct contributions from your RMDs and your qualified IRA to qualifying nonprofits. This is a great way to give or enhance your generosity to the church you love, Rockland.

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) does not allow us to keep retirement funds in our IRAs indefinitely. Normally, you are required by the IRS to begin taking withdrawals from your IRA, SIMPLE IRA, SEP IRA, or retirement plan account when you reach age 70½. Roth IRAs do not require withdrawals until after the death of the owner.

So, your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) is the minimum amount you must withdraw from your account each year after reaching the age of 70 ½. Normally, this amount is taxable during the year it is withdrawn.

- An IRA owner of age 70½ or over, can directly transfer, tax-free, up to \$100,000 per year to an eligible charity, including Rockland Community Church, as a qualifying nonprofit.
- To qualify, these funds must be transferred directly by your IRA trustee to the eligible charity (Rockland). These distributed charitable amounts may be excluded from the IRA owner's income – resulting in lower taxable income for the IRA owner. However, when the IRA owner excludes these distributions from income, by making a direct transfer donation, they have already received their current tax benefit. Hence, no additional tax deduction may be taken, such as a charitable contribution deduction on [Schedule A of your IRS tax form](#).

Your IRA account trustee can easily calculate your (RMD) in minutes and the paperwork is amazingly simple. Note: Rockland does not assume the role of your professional financial advisor(s). Regardless of your plans for giving, it is always wise to consult your financial planner or tax advisor before withdrawing from an IRA.

Carl Graber

Romania Outreach Mission News

We were delighted to welcome our visitors from Romania this past September. Our coordinator with World Vision Romania, Ciprian (Cipri) Tehei, his replacement, Cristina Constantinescu and two current high school students were on hand to share the successes of the program, visit local sights and meet with all of the sponsors from the congregation.

The four were introduced during the worship services on September 15 and spoke individually with members in Fellowship Hall. They had memorable local experiences at Red Rocks' "Worship on the Rocks," attended the CU/Air Force football game, attended the Colorado Symphony and took a day trip to Breckenridge.

Prior to the visit, nine students were in need of sponsors. Thanks to Rockland's generosity, this need was met and we can fulfill our commitment to sponsor a total of 45 students for the current school year.

Save the Date

A critical component of the Romanian Outreach is the annual "HEARTS FOR ROMANIA" fundraiser. This festive and fun-filled Valentine themed dinner dance will take place on Saturday, February 8, 2020 at Mount Vernon Canyon Club. Don't miss out! Watch for registration details beginning in December.



EChO: Helping Our Community

Success is very personal. How one person defines success is very different from another. Here is one story of success that our staff and volunteers have had the privilege to be a part of....

An under-employed, middle-aged mom had worked for a fast food chain for 10 years. She arrived at the EChO Job Center wanting to obtain a higher paying job and a job that provided for more growth. We worked with her to create a new resume highlighting transferable skills - such as customer service and handling cash. After two interviews, this mom accepted a job at a local branch of a national bank earning more than \$2 additional per hour. Now, she also receives full benefits, paid holidays and paid time off.

EChO By the Numbers....	
Client Services	
• Average number of households our team help per month:	270
That number of 270 households per month breaks down into....	
• Average number per month who are Veterans:	15
• Average number per month who are Seniors	68
• Average number per month who are homeless	25
• Average number per month who are disabled	33
Food Pantry	
• Average number of unique number of households using our Food Pantry per month:	223
• Average number of individuals served by our Food Pantry per month:	1,001
Job Center	
• Average number per month of individuals we assist with Job Search	23

Every November and December, we provide between 250-300 holiday meals to local families. These include all the fixings for clients to prepare a meal at home, including a turkey or ham. For our homeless clients, we provide a pre-cooked meal. Will you help us make sure all our neighbors have a nice meal this upcoming holiday season? Your financial contributions will help us reach our goal.

To make a tax deductible contribution, go to:
www.evergreenchristianoutreach.org and click on the link on our home page.

\$25 will feed a family of 4 one holiday meal while \$100 feeds 4 families both a Thanksgiving and a Christmas meal. Thank you for your generous support!



Mean Street Received Help From God!

Sometimes God answers our prayers in unexpected ways. Mean Street's board and staff have been brainstorming ways to reach a wider audience, increase our volunteer and donor base, and offer services to more folks in need. God came up with a strategy we never could've conceived!



On Thursday, October 10, we arrived at the Mean Street office to find that our brand new, 16-year-old box truck had been stolen. This box truck picks up around 15,000 pounds of food per month – food used to stock our food bank, provide a hot breakfast daily in the café, provide food for needy local elementary school families as well as local motel guests. Without the truck, a major portion of the ministry would not be able to continue to operate within days.

But God had an unknown and amazing plan in store for the ministry. A Facebook Post about our stolen truck brought a call from Denver 7 News. Between the news story that aired that evening, and our Facebook Post, we were inundated with people and organizations wanting to help. We couldn't keep up with the calls and posts offering trucks, manpower, money and prayers! God's hand was at work in a mighty way.

The following Monday, 7 News came back to offer us a gift! They introduced us to the wonderful owners of 3R Technology Solutions. Pete, Tim and Terry of 3RTS presented Mean Street with the first box truck they had purchased. Tuesday afternoon we went back and picked it up.

On Wednesday, October 16, Mean Street was officially back in business, able to gather the needed food for distribution! The ministry was shared with the community at large in a much bigger way than we could have imagined. Our Facebook Post was viewed by over 15,000 and over 50 people reposted the story on their own Facebook Pages. We are still returning calls and messages to people that contacted us to help in so many capacities and we are so grateful that they have reached out to us.

And our gratefulness extends to you, Rockland! You have been part of Mean Street from the beginning and we cherish you and thank you so much for all of your years of support. You uphold us with your prayers and your donations and we couldn't do what we do without you.

As we roll headlong into this winter season, any donations of winter supplies for our clients are much appreciated! As you know, we always need warm coats, gloves, backpacks, rolling bags, sleeping bags, warm blankets, as well as various toiletries, shaving supplies, female supplies and diapers/wipes. Of course, monetary donations are always so helpful to meet the ever-changing variety of needs.

Thank you again, Rockland for being such a "Rock" of support to us. May you be blessed as you bless us!

In gratefulness,

The staff and board of Mean Street Ministry

Elder's Corner

Your elders have met monthly since the last Chimes update. We always begin with prayer and a devotional seeking the Lord's wisdom and guidance in all we do and consider.

At several meetings, we discussed and reviewed recommendations for changes to our Constitution from the Document Review Team. A final version was approved by the elders at the September meeting and will be part of the basis for upcoming meetings with the congregation to answer any questions before it is presented, along with the bylaws, to the congregation for approval at the annual meeting in February 2020.

Other:

- A memorial services team was established and seems to be working well. We are searching for a paid staff person to assist in this important ministry.
- In addition to acts of benevolence and compassion, Outreach is working to be intentional in sharing Christ in our activities. Although both are important, we want opportunities to pray *with* people not just pray *for* them.
- The board reviewed our progress toward achieving our goals for 2019 and began working on goals for 2020. In general, we are satisfied with our progress. Giving is on target, we are growing in membership and attendance is improving. Our preaching and teaching continue to be solidly Biblically-based and applicable to our lives today.
- There have been five new Bible study/small groups started this year and we anticipate an additional three before year end.
- We have 22 youth in the Confirmation class; we had 61 men at their retreat and 68 women at their retreat (the women, as usual, win again); and we had 11 families at our family camp. Finally, we are pleased to have Jamie Toussaint join Rockland Staff as Kids Ministry Coordinator and Alana Dylan as Communications and Office Manager.
- We anticipate the sanctuary remodel project to be completed by the end of the month.

If there are any questions or comments please contact Jim, Ed or one of the Elders.

Respectfully,

Jed Burnham, Joyce Dunbar, Bob Ehret, Pastor Gribnitz, Steve Hannah, Jessica Kern, Pastor Lange, Penny McDonald, Gordon Steere



The 2019-2020 school year is underway and the Rock House mentoring program has hit a new record! This year, we have 17 kids and 24 mentors. We have never had more mentors than mentees so we are extremely blessed with the number of adults who are willing to make an impact in a child’s life. Deborah Bautista is the new mentoring coordinator and is doing a fantastic job planning outings and events for paired mentors and students. With each event, the Rock House is sure to teach the kids something. Whether it’s cooking and learning about measurements or working on table manners at meals with the mentors, the students are able to leave each Tuesday Gathering with another tool to help them in the future. Many of the mentors and mentees have already started building a strong relationship so we are excited to see where they are at the end of the school year!

Our mentors attend monthly trainings covering a wide variety of topics. These trainings equip our mentors with some of the necessary tools to handle specific situations and also give them the opportunity to share their experiences and individual skill sets with the other mentors.

Our annual Thanksgiving Dinner is November 19th and is fast approaching. Every year, we invite the mentees’ families to the Rock House so they can not only enjoy a nice meal with their children, but so they can see the Rock House, meet the staff and get to know the other families involved. We are so grateful for all the volunteers who have signed up to take part in this special event.

Tutoring for this school year is off to a great start! Right now, there are 10 students signed up for tutoring throughout the week and we expect that to increase as the school year continues. We have recently added books to several of the computers the students use. If a word in the book comes up that the student doesn’t understand, they can tap on the word for a definition. This is such an easy way to improve the student’s comprehension and we are excited to help them continue to improve. Our dedicated tutoring staff is always looking for substitute tutors, so please email Barbara Oakley at tutoring@clearcreekrockhouse.org if you think you can help.

We would like to share our thanks and appreciation to the Eve Borman Foundation for their contribution to the new Rock House sign. We love the look it gives to the Rock House and wouldn’t have it without the Foundation.

The Rock House has also been busy with numerous community events. We were a part of the Back to School nights in August and Parent Conferences in September for all the schools in the district sharing our hopes and vision to support this community. And in October, attended Clear Creek High School’s Homecoming Parade and tailgated with Communities that Care and Young Life before the football game. We’re looking forward to celebrating the holiday season with our staff, mentors, tutors and students in December; specifically, an etiquette dinner, Christmas season play and a day of skiing with the students.

Natalie Andersen
Clear Creek Rock House Media Specialist & Volunteer Coordinator

Masthead: The Chimes / Our goal is to inform, inspire and connect the people to the community of Rockland church

<p>All articles will be published and/or edited at the discretion of the editor and the staff of Rockland Community Church. Questions? Call Shirley Johnson 303-670-0520</p> <p>Editor: Shirley Johnson</p> <p>Contributing writers/photographers: Natalie Andersen, Jed Burnham, Diane Chapman, Chris Dodge, Dusty Dodge, Alana Dylan, Carl Graber, Marty Hutt, Coleen Jeffrey, Nancy Judge, Jennifer Kelly, Lori Fulmer, Tammy Roth, Tammy Roth, Rene Ruland, Kelly Selva.</p>	<p>Production Manager: Alana Dylan</p> <p>Production Staff: Steve Engle, Joy Gabler, Joyce Gollhofer, Liz Hawkins, Tom Hobson, Marion Ilgen, Jack Kintner, Diana McMichael, Betty Nissler, Sid and Ann Platt, Sue Sells, Anne Trimble.</p> <p>Jim Gribnitz, Lead Pastor, Ed Lange, Associate Pastor, David Brown, Discipleship Pastor</p>
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Our new sign! Thanks again to the Eve Borman Foundation.

Women's Ministry Fall News

We enjoyed our annual fall retreat at the home of Linda and David Smith. A beautiful gathering of 68 women enjoying the day of music, prayer, togetherness and our wonderful guest speaker, Carol Kuykendall! What a wonderful blessing it was for all of us to hear her beautiful essays.

We appreciate the generosity of those who are helping in so many ways. We could not have done it all without you. Drivers, those who set up and cleaned up, those who were prayer partners, greeters, small group leaders and financial helpers. We are all blessed to be part of this circle of love and friendship.

We look forward to our next event *Advent by Candlelight* on Tuesday, December 3, and hope many of you will be there to prepare our hearts for the Advent Season. Please look for upcoming news regarding this event.

Blessings to all!

Tammy Roth and Rene' Ruland

Rockland Women's Ministry Team



Wednesday, November 20th

9:30am-12pm

Tickets \$15

MOPS Market and Silent Auction

Join Us

for catered brunch, speaker

Elisa Morgan, and a

Silent Auction. Proceeds

benefit Rockland and

Global MOPS.

Childcare provided.

For tickets and details contact Evita Klava 303-947-7192

evitaklava@gmail.com

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*Connecting all generations to Jesus
As we stand for the Truth of the Gospel,
Show God’s grace to all people,
And raise up the next generation to do the same.*

Current resident or



Hanging of the Green

Hanging of the Green is Rockland’s way of decorating the church for Christmas but it is also about tradition. We as individuals and families come together the day after Thanksgiving to share fellowship and fun.

In Isaiah 60:13 we find these words: *‘The Glory of Lebanon shall come unto you, the fir tree, the pine tree together, to beautify the place of your sanctuary.’*

Our ancestors called the procuring of the evergreens, “Bringing home Christmas!” Our evergreens and the 18-foot tree donated from a home in Genesee will grace our sanctuary. On the day after Thanksgiving those who are able will start from the church at 8:30am to get the tree and have it set up by noon. If you would like to join this remarkable group contact Pastor Ed Lange at 303-526-0668 or email him at ELange@Rockland.Church. This holiday tradition has been going on for 30+ years.

While working with other Rockland members you will create wreaths, find personal joy in seeing the tree lighted, ribboned, hoisted up the big ladder and displayed for all to enjoy during the Christmas season. I hope this will encourage all – both young and old- to join our Rockland community as we “Deck the Halls.”

Hanging of the Greens has always been an integral part of the Holiday Season – something fun to do to help us get into the Christmas spirit and spend time together as a church family. Hanging of the Green is the perfect way to start the season and remember the impending birth of our Savior and King.

Rockland always looks so beautiful after the Hanging of the Green and keeps the Christmas spirit in mind for the entire congregation for the remainder of the season. Come join us! **Friday, November 29, 3:30-5:30pm**. A pizza dinner will follow as we celebrate.

Rockland’s Christmas Luncheon

Tuesday, December 10, 11:30am-1:00pm, Mt. Vernon Canyon Club! Come and gather for a time of celebrating the Christmas Season by enjoying a fabulous Christmas lunch! \$20.00 the cost! For more information, please contact Ed Lange at ELange@Rockland.Church!