

# Chimes

September 2019

## Sanctuary Updates!

Sanctuary renovations are underway! We are thrilled about the finishes that have been selected and ordered for the sanctuary. We have completed painting and have ordered new carpeting and comfortable chairs. They all tie in nicely with the current interior and are neutral and durable enough to last well into the future.

Painting occurred in August, with carpet and chairs coming the end of September. All improvements will be wrapped up by early October. We thank you in advance for your patience during this transition period. Furthermore, we are confident this is a positive investment made for the betterment of everyone's worship experience.

The current pews will be available for congregation members to take home. Please email Chris Dodge at [cdodge@rockland.church](mailto:cdodge@rockland.church) if you are interested. Pews will need to be taken on Sunday September 22. The remaining pews will be donated to local churches in need, free of cost. If you know of a church that may need some for their congregation, please let Chris Dodge know.

The Worship Team & The Elders



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# Rockland Bible Study Groups

Rockland community Church has a vibrant and growing Bible study group's community. We have some groups that have existed for decades in the same group while other new groups are forming each year! There are currently fifteen Rockland Bible studies which does not even include groups like CBS and MOPS that also meet at Rockland. Our groups are quite diverse in their makeup with each individual group doing things in their own ways. We call it "free market small groups" where groups get to study what they decide, meet when they decide and all around create a culture that they decide. We have groups especially geared towards women, men, empty nesters, families with preschoolers, mature families, moms, retired folks, couples and more. We have groups that go through the Bible, groups that use video series, groups that use study guides and groups that alternate between those. We have groups that meet at church and groups that meet in homes all around the community. We have groups that meet in the mornings, groups that meet in the evenings, groups that meet on the weekend, and groups that meet throughout the week. We also have new groups planning to start soon such as a group for singles over the age of 40 or a group designed for boys to be mentored by godly men.



At Rockland we believe it is essential for a healthy Christian walk to have biblical community that is more intimate than just the Sunday morning worship experience. For this reason we champion our groups and are constantly looking for opportunities to form Bible study groups. Our goal is not simply to make sure people are plugged in but on a deeper level we desire to be a congregation of disciples of Jesus who are growing together and caring for each other. Our hope is that no one who calls Rockland their home church would fall through the cracks!

To all our small group leaders, facilitators, hosts, administrators and anyone who has a hand in the success of their small group Rockland is truly grateful. In creating a space for Christians to intimately walk out their faith in Jesus you do so much more for the health of our Christian family than you may know! As one united body of believers we truly are family and it takes being known and knowing others on an intimate level for that to be genuinely experienced by those who call Jesus savior.

To all those who are not involved in a Bible study group and are feeling distant from the people of God please pray and consider jumping into one of our many groups! If you find that is something you would like to do reach out to Pastor David at [dbrown@rockland.church](mailto:dbrown@rockland.church) – 303.526.0668 ext. 205.

*So let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.*

*- Hebrews 10:24-25*

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## Habitat for Humanity



### Rockland Volunteers Needed!

#### Building On Faith Day 2019

**Please join Blue Spruce Habitat for Humanity, Thrivent Financial and many congregations in our community for an exciting day of construction and fellowship.**

Together, Thrivent and Habitat For Humanity help those in need build a safe and decent place to call home. You can get involved and make a real difference!

We will be building and raising the walls of the house! Our goal is to frame the whole house in a day, so please come out and join us for an exciting day...no experience is necessary!

Mark your calendar & sign up! <https://bluespruce.volunteerhub.com> and scroll down to **Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>**!

#### Building On Faith 2019

**Saturday, September 28, 2019 / 8:00 am - 5:00 pm**

**Blue Spruce Restore, 1232 Bergen Pkwy, Evergreen, CO 80439**

Please contact Dusty Dodge (303-909-7565) or Kathleen O'Leary (303-674-1127) with any questions.

## Rockland Volunteers Support “Hands Of The Carpenter”

We’ve have a great crew of Rockland folks that provide repairs, oil changes and vehicle inspections at their facility in Golden. These services help single mothers and widows in need that they often can’t afford. The loss of a vehicle often leads to homelessness.

**Join our Rockland “Pit Crew” team!** We volunteer one evening a month from 5:00-8:30 p.m. to perform vehicle repairs for these women – and we have fun doing it! Hands accepts donations and donated vehicles that we repair, so that they can be placed with women in need.

“Hands Of The Carpenter” is a faith-based ministry at Hands Automotive in Golden. No experience is necessary...please consider joining us in this important ministry!

Contact Dusty Dodge at 303-909-7565 for information, and to volunteer!



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## Congratulations Michelle Lange!

We want to congratulate Michelle Lange for having become a RESNA Fellow this summer in recognition for her “significant contributions to the field of assistive technology and to the RESNA organization.”

RESNA , the Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America, is the premier professional organization dedicated to promoting the health and well being of people with disabilities through increasing access to technology solutions. RESNA advances the field by offering certification continuing education, and professional development, developing assistive technology standards, promoting research and public policy and sponsoring forums for the exchange of information and ideas to meet the needs of our multidisciplinary constituency.

*RESNA’s goal is “To maximize the health and well being of people with disabilities through technology.”*

In thinking on her career, Michelle made the decision to work in the field of Assistive Technology when working with pediatric clients who had multiple and significant disabilities. According to Michelle, “I soon realized that traditional therapy alone would not truly improve function. Assistive Technology could and that was exciting!”



Looking back on her more than 30 year career, Michelle recalls that she “ had the opportunity to serve as RESNA faculty for the Fundamentals Course of 10 years; to be a member of the Wheeled Mobility and Seating SIG and Occupational Therapy PSG, to chair the Education Committee; to be a Board Member, Member-at-large and Secretary of RESNA and to be involved in the development of a number of Position Papers. She also edited the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the RESNA Fundamentals in Assistive Technology text, wrote test questions for both the ARP and SMS certification exams. and had the opportunity to work side by side with professionals who are amazing and have taught me so much.

Michelle firmly believes “that we each have value just as we are. Assistive Technology allows the world to see a person, not a disability, and that is empowering and addictive! Again, Congratulations Michelle on this national award and honor.



# EChO

*The mission of EChO is to assist people in our community with their basic and urgent needs and to help them realize their potential on a path to self-sufficiency. Because of the support we receive, we are able to help clients like these.....*

## **A Veteran in his final days reaches out to EChO...**

Xcel Energy will not turn off your power for non-payment if you are using electricity for life-supporting equipment. Having been diagnosed with Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma, Mike was on oxygen 24 hours a day. Due to his other high medical bills, he had not paid his Xcel bill for over a year. But Mike knew that his time was short and he also knew that his wife would be held responsible for the Xcel bill after his passing. He knew that she did not have the resources to pay it which would put her in jeopardy of becoming homeless after his passing. Mike reached out to EChO to see if we could help. Shortly before Mike passed, we were able to pay off the final back due on his Xcel bill using funds from LEAP, Energy Outreach Colorado, and some of EChO's own funds. Giving Mike some peace in his final days was our reward.

## **EChO helps client balance work and child-care costs...**

Mary and Tom found themselves 3 months behind in child-care costs after Tom's medical bills from a recent health problem consumed all their savings. Mary works full-time at an Evergreen bank and the family of 3 has healthcare coverage through her employer. Tom was just at the point of being able to go back to work, when the day care provider gave the couple an ultimatum that their daughter would not be able to attend their program if their day care bill was not paid in full. Forced with deciding between work and taking care of their daughter, Mary and Tom reached out to Evergreen Christian Outreach for assistance in getting current with the day care provider. EChO was able to intercede and provide the funds allowing both parents to work to pay their rent and daily expenses while maintaining their healthcare benefits.

As we move into the fall season, please keep us in mind for your giving on Colorado Gives Day, December 10<sup>th</sup>. And join us on Thanksgiving morning for the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Turkey Trot [www.evergreenchristianoutreach.org](http://www.evergreenchristianoutreach.org) for more details.  
*-Nancy Judge*

## **Loaves and Fishes**

It is hard to believe that school is starting up again. The summer just seemed to fly by. We thank God for all the wonderful moisture we have had this summer and how green are mountains remain.

Loaves and Fishes was busy all summer long. The number of shoppers we served surged by 30 per cent due to people traveling through Idaho Springs and the increase in summer workers. We have seen an increase in homelessness as the cost of living in Colorado soars. Our board set aside \$5000 for an Emergency Relief Fund so that we might address this issue. It is to be used for people who have lost their homes or are in job transition. We helped one family who lost everything in a car accident and were unable to work. The fund provided two months of rent. They were able to keep their rental home, are back at work and are working to pay us back. One of our shoppers told us about a family of seven that were homeless due to the father's illness. We put them up in a motel so that they were able to put together a plan to get back on their feet. He is now back at work. We have provided tents and sleeping bags to folks that come through with nothing but the clothes on their backs. Due to support of Rockland we are able to help these people.

We continue our mission to serve stomachs and souls. We see about 120 shoppers each week. (Our food will serve about 500 people each week) They will get a warm lunch and then shop. On average they will take home twenty to thirty pounds of food. We also provided food to school children through our "Schools Out" program. They get a box of food and a gallon of milk to help replace the food they would normally receive at school. This week we will also be supplying school supplies to children at Carlson Elementary as they get ready to head back to school.

As it reads, "Man does not live by bread alone". Loaves and Fishes has to address many of our shoppers needs. In addition to food, we provide shelter, clothing, showers, transport, an encouraging word, a smile and prayers. Rockland allows us to do these things. Thanks again for your wonderful support.  
*-Marty Hutt*

## Why Community Bible Study?

With a vision of “Transforming lives through the Word of God,” Community Bible Study’s (CBS) mission is to make disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ through in-depth Bible Study available to all. CBS has been doing just that for 44 years and the Evergreen/Golden just celebrated 40 years of serving our community.

So, why CBS? Unlike many theme-based Bible studies, we are an expositional study that studies verse by verse and focuses on the Word of God through five essentials of personal bible study. First, each member completes at-home study questions, taking about 10-15 minutes per day. Second, our teaching and associate teaching directors provide cultural and historical references/background and in-depth teaching to clarify confusing or controversial points. Third, in a small-group, you discuss your at-home-study answers to ensure there are no unanswered questions from the teaching. Here, you are also blessed to get to know these women, pray for each other, and deeply fellowship in a safe and loving environment. Fourth, CBS provides commentary for each lesson written by scholars trained in theology. Finally, each group exists within a caring community that seeks to grow in their relationships with each other outside of class.

In addition to the study, you will benefit from fellowship prior to class, worship time, and openings that can help you see God in a variety of ways through stories and testimonies. CBS is a beautiful picture of God’s intention of living in community through Him.

We also provide a Children’s Ministry that goes beyond child care. Yes, for two hours, your children will be cared for by our excellent teachers and caregivers. Yet, they will also begin to memorize scripture, learn to pray for each other and their families, sing praise songs, do Bible-based crafts, and play with the heart of a child of God. Twice a year, they will display this newfound knowledge in two performances for families.

**The Evergreen/Golden CBS begins on September 5<sup>th</sup> (Thurs) & September 10<sup>th</sup> (Tues) at Rockland on Thursdays from 9:30 to 11:30 am with coffee/tea and fellowship available from 9:00 to 9:30 am and Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. For 2019-2020, Evergreen/Golden will be studying the *Book of Acts*.**

We welcome all ladies no matter where you are in your familiarity with the Bible, CBS will deepen your knowledge and love of this life-changing book. *Contact Stephanie Sodia at [stephanie.sodia@i2controls.com](mailto:stephanie.sodia@i2controls.com) or 303-929-2647.*

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## Mothers Of Preschoolers (MOPS)



**TO  
THE  
FULL**

Join us Starting September 5<sup>th</sup> at Rockland!  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday  
9:30-11:30am  
Childcare provided

# Breaking Bread through the Daily Bread Food Ministry

For over eight years our precious sisters in Christ, Joanne Burnham and Linda Jansen, have served here at Rockland, in the coordination of the Daily Bread Food Ministry. Through the many lives that have been touched by their service and of the volunteers, as well as my time here at Rockland, I can honestly say that the impact of the Daily Bread Ministry has not only served those in need, but has developed relationships and created moments of fellowship at a deeper level.

The Lord is calling Joanne and Linda to step down as the Coordinators for the Daily Bread Food Ministry here at Rockland. While it makes me sad to see them move on, I am also overjoyed that these wonderful ladies will be able to take the time they need to see what the Lord has next for them. Joanne and Linda, I know that I echo the entire Care Team Ministry and the Rockland family in our gratitude for your ministry service. I am so thankful to the Lord for your support of me in serving the Lord by being the hands and feet of Jesus. I love you both dearly.

Please take the time to send your heart and thoughts to Joanne and Linda.

I am equally joyful that the Lord has brought two wonderful sisters in Christ, here at Rockland, to take on the ministry role as Daily Bread Food Ministry Coordinators! Amy Sidoroff and Jan Bakken have shared their heart and zeal to serve in this capacity! They are coming with a new vision and mission to increase the level in which we care for people through meals!

Amy and Jan, I am incredibly grateful to have you on board a crucial part of what we do in caring for all here at Rockland! Here are just a few fun statements from Amy and Jan!

**Amy** - "In my opinion, one of the best things about Rockland is our caring church family! Jesus commanded, "Feed my sheep." We are privileged to be given work that makes a difference for His kingdom. I am very excited to be expanding Daily Bread's ministry under Dawn's guidance while nourishing the souls of our flock! Please reach out to me at [amysidoroff@gmail.com](mailto:amysidoroff@gmail.com) to inform me of a need for yourself or a neighbor/friend that would benefit from a nutritious meal. Thank you!"

**Jan** - "I have always been known as the school lunch lady! I love to cook large portions to ensure that no one goes away hungry. If you have needs please contact me at [janbakken@gmail.com](mailto:janbakken@gmail.com)"

To share my heart. Often times we are unaware of the depth in which bringing someone a meal can do for someone who is in need, in a time of celebration and yes, even just to say we love you. After all, Jesus began many of His times of ministry with the simple, but intimate act of breaking bread. The most crucial of those times is one we celebrate even today. Remembering Jesus Christ our Lord, in the Lord's Supper. It is my hope that we can increase the relational outreach to our Rockland families and community as well as to provide a Holy Spirit led conduit, in which people of all ages can plug in and serve.

If you have questions in regards to the Daily Bread Ministry, please do not hesitate to contact me, Dawn Wanser, Care Ministry Associate, via email [DWanser@Rockland.Church](mailto:DWanser@Rockland.Church) or please talk with Amy or Jan.

[DailyBreadRCC@gmail.com](mailto:DailyBreadRCC@gmail.com) / [AmySidoroff@gmail.com](mailto:AmySidoroff@gmail.com) / [JanBakken@gmail.com](mailto:JanBakken@gmail.com)



# Kid's Ministry



**COME JOIN IN THE FUN!**

Ball Fields  
Campfires  
Human Foosball  
Great friends!

Playground  
Hiking Trails  
Archery  
And so much more!

**Who:** Families with kids 0-18

**Where:** Ponderosa Retreat & Conference Center in Larkspur, CO <https://www.visitponderosa.com/>

**Dates:** Friday, September 20 - Sunday, September 22      Check-In begins at 4:00pm Friday!

**Cost:** Varies based on the # of adults and ages of your kids

What's included: 2 nights lodging, 5 meals (Friday dinner through Sunday Breakfast), and endless activities for all ages.

Ponderosa is located in a beautiful setting in Larkspur, CO. They provide wonderful accommodations for families and groups of all sizes. Each family has their own cabin with beds and private baths. All linens and towels are provided.

The weekend is designed for families! We will play, fellowship, worship, rest in the beauty of God's love and grow in relationship with one another as the body of Christ.

Want to find out more? Contact Lori Fullmer – [LFullmer@Rockland.Church](mailto:LFullmer@Rockland.Church)

**We have a few spots remaining! Sign-up today!**

To register, go online: [www.Rockland.Church](http://www.Rockland.Church) and click on the Family Camp Logo

## INVEST IN THE SPIRITUAL LIFE OF OUR KIDS!

Want to see the kids at Rockland learn more about Jesus and grow in their faith?

### Be a part of the Kids' Ministry teaching team!

Opportunities available to join one of our Sunday morning teaching teams.

Commit to teaching at least 1X/month

9:00 am – Preschool, K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade or 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade

10:30 am – K-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

Contact Lori Fullmer- [LFullmer@Rockland.Church](mailto:LFullmer@Rockland.Church)

*"Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.  
Glory belongs to him both now and forever. Amen." 2 Peter 3:18*

Our nursery has a new look...  
Come check it out!



# Romania - outreach update

Thirteen Rockland members traveled to Romania in late May to engage with our partners at World Vision Romania (WVR), visit with students and explore local sites in the Cluj area. Trip participants included Lynne and Cara Feldkamp, Howard and Ann Hargrove, Stan and Nancy Hill, Bob and Kitty Ehret, Richard, Penny and Ariana Kunter, Heidi Duston and Dusty Dodge.

Cipri and Vali from WVR had the events well organized. In Lynne's opinion, a real highlight of the trip was a pizza party held on the first night, which was attended by 21 of our scholarship students (Rockland supports 45 students in total). Since transportation to and from school is an enormous challenge for many students in the program, one day was devoted to a visit of a rural village outside Cluj. It brought home the obstacles facing those who strive to complete a secondary education in an underdeveloped country.

St. Mary's daycare was on the agenda as well. In previous years, the Rockland Outreach mission took on a large fundraising program to support this facility and contributed to the new physical structure, which is today a model facility for disabled adults.

The DOLLAR BILL PROGRAM in September benefits the Romanian Outreach Mission. We will be fortunate to have Ciprian Tehei visit later in the month, along with two of the current students who are supported in the scholarship program, Rebecca and Katy.

*-Jennifer Kelly*



# What did you do with your summer vacation?

Well, we all know what our Lead Pastor Jim Gribnitz did with his. Jim took a month's sabbatical after being with us for nearly four years. Jim chose to take a month this year rather than to accumulate the time and take an extended period in a few years. He is deeply grateful for the time as he explained that not all churches are generous enough to give their Pastor the precious time as a sabbatical to rest and study.

He is also extremely grateful to Pastors Dave Brown and Dennis Jeffrey for filling in for him Sunday mornings at the pulpit and to Ed who also did a lot of "holding down the fort" in Jim's absence.

During the month, Jim, Nikki and their three children: Hannah, Seth and Abigail made three trips to Colorado Springs, one in which they went to the top of Pikes Peak. They visited Breckenridge and spent a week in Florida. One of Jim's goals was to have lots of family time, and they did.

Since study is an integral part of a sabbatical, Jim studied the Greek language and read a number of books in Greek in order to become more proficient with that language. (Timely, too, as Rockland will be sponsoring a trip to Greece in just over a year from now).

In anticipation of the church's upcoming study of the Book of Romans, Jim read two books concerning that Scripture and read and reread Romans 30 times. Since a sabbatical is also a time of rest he confessed that much of the reading was done by Evergreen Lake or other scenic spots in our mountains – all with the help of a laptop. For fun and games the family shared lots of time and many Rockies games.

What did Jim resolve after this special month? He said he felt an even greater boldness in his calling to his preaching ministry. And as he presented Romans to two of Rockland's Bible Study groups, he emphasized that the way we should live is to be accountable to God. In these troubled times in our world Jim feels that we all need to practice compassion and directness when it comes to what is important in our lives – we are accountable to God.

Thus, his upcoming sermons will be on the study of Romans, a book in the Bible that is appropriate and fresh enough to have been written for us...now. Romans has a message for today. As we look at the young people we are seeing them being preyed upon as they look for a cause, a way of fitting in or being a part of our modern culture not accountable to God. Thus the challenge!

After his time of study he is ready and anxious to delve into Romans and make it apparent the we must be accountable to God first and foremost.

And lastly Jim and Nikki repeat how very grateful they are to the congregation here at Rockland for giving Jim this special time on sabbatical.



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

<p><b>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</b></p> <p><b>Editor:</b> Shirley Johnson</p> <p><b>Contributing writers/photographers:</b> Marty Hutt Stephanie Sodia, David Brown, Diane Chapman, Dusty Dodge, Nancy Judge, Jennifer Kelly, Judy Wanning Liz Bent, Rebecca Bernal, Dawn Wanser Lori Fuller</p>	<p><b>Production staff:</b> Polly Lownsberry, Production Manager</p> <p>Joy Gabler, Anne Trimble, Dick Over, Marion Ilgen, Betty Nissler, Tom Hobson, Jack Kintner, Sid and Ann Platt, Sue Sells, Diana McMichael, Liz Hawkins Steve Engle, Joyce Gollhofer</p> <p>Jim Gribnitz, Lead Pastor, Ed Lange, Associate Pastor, David Brown, Discipleship Pastor</p>
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# Clear Creek Rock House

The Rock House has had a great summer! Weekly, we had our Wild Wednesdays which offer students a safe alternative way to spend some of their summer evenings. Almost half of our volunteers for these events attend Rockland Community Church. We truly could not do what we do without our phenomenal volunteers. Every week we had anywhere from 15-25 students! Each student has their own story. Many of them are seeking an identity and belonging. The Rock House doors are open with a hot meal ready for them. I think of when the disciples sat before Jesus in some serious confusion as they listened:

"They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?' He will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.' Matthew 25: 44-45

“The least of these” is who you will find at the Rock House: kids that their own parents have rejected, the outcasts, those with empty pantries, the homeless, students facing juvenile charges in court, kids wearing the same outfit you’ve always seen them in. Your support, your presence is serving our Lord. And for that, we say an extra “thank you” for responding to His charge.

This summer the Rock House hired on our next mentor coordinator, Deborah Bautista. Last school-year she served as one of our mentors and decided to come on staff. Deborah has had several years of experience directing numerous youth programs, like AWANA for over 200 students! She worked five years with high school students in the SIED (Significant Identifiable Emotional Disability) department. Deborah brings passion and experience with great hopes to grow the mentoring program. However, we are in need of more mentors. We have our sights on at least three male students we would like to add to the program but do not have mentors for. The Rock House does our best to directly and intentionally pair an adult and student to have the greatest success. If there is any interest in becoming a mentor, which is September through May commitment on Tuesdays, Deborah would love to meet you. Contact her at [mentoring@clearcreekrockhouse.org](mailto:mentoring@clearcreekrockhouse.org).

Finally, an update on our tutoring program. We were so excited to host a summer tutoring session in July to review materials and keep students academically engaged through the long summer break. This was a great experience, and we look forward to getting back to our weekly work with students entering this fall. The Rock House will be present for the back-to-school nights in the district to make our free support known to all students in Clear Creek County. Contact [tutoring@clearcreekrockhouse.org](mailto:tutoring@clearcreekrockhouse.org) if you have questions about our tutoring program.



We are so grateful for your support and could not do what we do without you!  
*-Rebecca Bernal*



# Mean Street Ministries



Hello wonderful Mean Street Ministry supporters! We hope that your summer has gone well as we are fast approaching the fall season! As you know, Mean Street Ministry could not operate without our wonderful volunteers and donors! You are appreciated! We have a few items of interest to pass on you below:

First of all, we celebrated at our **16<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL PICNIC IN THE PARK** on **Saturday, August 24th!** We barbecued up a feast for our homeless community and our volunteers! The picnic was a great time for all and we loved having our volunteers here.

Second, **GREAT NEWS!** Our café expanded its services several months ago and is feeding between 30-50 people a hot meal each day! Our guests love the home-made food and the kind volunteers that serve them. Guests can eat a meal Monday through Thursday if they so choose! Volunteers are needed Monday through Thursday to help cook/serve, visit with guests, and clean up. Shifts, duties and hours are flexible!

If you would like to know more about volunteering, please call **Diane at 303-232-2500 or email her at [diane@meanstreetministry.org](mailto:diane@meanstreetministry.org).**

**Thank you so much for your support!  
Happy August to you!**

Blessings and love from the Mean Street Ministry Team!



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## ...overheard by the church mouse

This summer the Mouse was again a guide and interpreter on Mt Evans. Visitors from every state and many countries around the world come to see our gorgeous Rocky Mountains. One day a group arrived: five Nuns who looked like they just stepped out of “Sound of Music” with their flowing robes. None spoke English but they ran around admiring the scenery and showing great appreciation for sharing God’s creation. They were accompanied by a Priest who DID speak English and explained that they were from Lithuania. He and the Mouse spoke for nearly half an hour and during that time he said “you know, we’re Catholic.” “Yes, said the Mouse, “I figured as much.”

Then he inquired as to the Mouse’s family and what was their faith. The Mouse explained that a brother in Oklahoma was a Church of Christ pastor, a brother in Greeley was an Episcopalian, a deceased brother had been a Baptist missionary in Haiti, grandfather had been the treasurer of his Methodist Church for 65 years, and that a great-grandfather was a circuit-rider preacher for the Methodists.

The priest then asked the Mouse, and you? Well, our church is a community church with the early roots in the Congregational Church going back to the Pilgrims.

The priest bowed his head, held his hands in prayer and was quiet for some time, then with a shout he threw up his hands and exclaimed “and we all believe in Jesus Christ.”





*Connecting all generations to Jesus*

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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**

A large, empty rectangular box with a dashed border, intended for the recipient's address.A decorative border of various flowers, including pink and blue roses, and green leaves, framing the central text.

*Women's  
Retreat*

Sat. October 5<sup>th</sup> / 9:00-4:00pm

At Linda Smith's Home in Evergreen

**Guest Speaker: Carol Kuykendall**  
Christian author and speaker "The Power of Our Stories"  
Learn more about her at [www.carolkuykendall.com](http://www.carolkuykendall.com)

Rockland Women's Ministry Team  
Email: Tammy Roth- [coroth@comcast.net](mailto:coroth@comcast.net)