This year we are trying a new approach to celebrate and share the story of the ministries of Montview. In addition to the staff articles written in the 2018 Year in Review, we invited all the ministry committee chairs to write brief summaries of their ministries during the past year for including in this 2018 Ministries Report. If you don’t find your ministry included here, please contact Danean Burke at burke@montview.org or 303-355-1651 x109 to make sure you’re included next year.
Adult Education & Spiritual Formation

In keeping with the theme started in the fall by our pastors, “A Prophetic Faith: Living Boldly in Uncertain Times”, Sunday morning classes in the Winter/Spring of 2018 ventured boldly into topics that were provocative, challenging, and affirming. Classes (not an exhaustive list) included:

- Modern Day Prophets series
- Queer Religion: Understanding LGBTQ & Faith series
- Ecotheology series

These all brought fresh insights both from Scripture (taught by Dr. Tim Beal) as well as from the expertise and lived experience of a variety of presenters.

Several book studies Wednesday Night Life offered a Lenten book study, in the spring of 2018, using Walter Bruegemann’s *The Message of the Psalms*, while this past fall, offered an opportunity to read and study *Mercy Matters*, by Matthew Shchmalz. *Citizen: An American Lyric* by Claudia Rankine, was also discussed on two Sundays last May as part of a citywide conversation on race and social justice.

Other Spiritual Formation opportunities offered include a well-attended Saturday workshop on the Enneagram in April, and Sunday morning contemplative prayer during Lent and Lectio Divina meditation during Advent.

“Mercy Matters: Living Mercifully Because God Is Merciful” was the theme chosen for the fall of 2018. The fall session was launched by the author of the book *Mercy Matters*, Dr. Matthew Schmalz, followed by a study of mercy in the Scriptures offered by Dr. Tim Beal. Two series that fleshed out this theme were:

- Mercy in the Marketplace (what the Bible says about money and aligning your portfolio with your values
- Mercy In Action – inspired by the Beatitudes in Matthew 25, a series of presentations by community ministries that practice mercy in practical ways, including the Impact Empowerment Group (offers intervention and diversion for those impacted by gangs and gang violence), Making Choices (a program teaching life-planning skills to women incarcerated at Denver Women’s Correctional Facility), Casa de Paz (lodging and meals for those visiting loved ones in immigration detention.)

Other topics, such as “Mental Health & Gun Violence” previously offered through the Contemporary Issues forum, continue to be woven into the Sunday morning schedule in a single track as they integrate into the theme selected for the year. The committee continues to be inspired and blessed by the wealth of knowledge, education, and expertise available within the congregation and shared so generously with our members! For more information, contact Mary Jo Starmer at mjstarmer@yahoo.com.
Central Visitation Program

Montview is a member of the Central Visitation Program mission partnership through Denver Presbytery, along with Central Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church of Brighton. CVP provides reduced-fee supervised parenting times for low-income families in conflict. Montview members serve as volunteer supervisors and board members and participate in various fundraising efforts. For more information, contact Eric Durland at bedurland@gmail.com.

Children’s Ministry

Christian Education (Sunday School for youth)

- Supported Sunday School volunteers and paid childcare staff with training, supervision and resources.
- Approved curriculums and projects.
- Purchased of supplemental materials.

Safety

- Gave input to Safety Committee regarding churchwide safety concerns.
- Implemented Safety Committee recommendations and procedures.
- Maintained the pagers and radios needed for effective communication.

Events

- Martin Luther King, Jr. Event - Responsible for all logistics including snack bags for 200 plus children and walking children from Stedman Elementary and back. Developed the program for the event.
- Easter Craft Fair – Organized, hosted, and purchased supplies for this event for the congregation.
- Opera Colorado Performance of Cinderella – Organized and helped facilitate this community outreach event. 200 plus children attended this event in March.
- Christmas Craft Fair – Organized, hosted, and purchased supplies for this event for the congregation.

Mission

- Encouraged participation in:
  - Stedman School Supplies Drive
  - Mitten Tree Clothing Drive Project
  - Stedman School Break Food Drives
  - Christmas Eve Food Drive
- Facilitated the Churchwide Mission Projects, a new intergenerational program at Montview, with the Youth and Mission Committees.

New Programs

- Provided a forum for ideas on mom’s groups at Montview.
- Developed a schedule for trial meetings of these groups.
- Continued to support and publicize the MomTime After Dark and FaithTime mom’s groups.

Summer Sacred Art

- Act as advisory board to the Summer Sacred Art Program.
- Approved hiring of teacher for summer of 2018.

Future Efforts

- All of the above, and...
- Purchase Christian literature for church and home.
- Provide a donate/exchange library for our Montview families.
- Promote hospitality and welcome to new families in conjunction with the Membership Committee.

For more information, contact Karen Waelke at karen.waelke@gmail.com.
**Chrismon Guild**

Montview has a group of dedicated volunteers that form the Chrismon Guild. The word *Chrismon* has been adopted to refer to special Christmas tree ornaments that have been constructed to display symbols of Christ and Christianity. All ornaments are done in white and gold. Montview maintains three trees that appear in the Narthex and the McCollum Room during the Christmas season. There are several hundred of these ornaments that have been carefully constructed by members past and present. Past members have left us a wonderful collection of beautiful ornaments which are proudly displayed each year. Occasionally, the group meets to create new symbols or to repair existing ornaments. All are welcome to join this group when the trees are decorated each year. For more information, contact Lindy Doty at lindydoty@aol.com.

**Colorado Faith Partners United to End Gun Violence**

Montview is an endorsing member of this ecumenical group of congregations focused on raising awareness and providing education about the issues surrounding gun violence. As part of CFCU’s rapid Response Network, many Montview members contact state and federal legislators regarding gun-related legislation. For more information, contact Susie Pappas at susiepappas@hotmail.com.

**Columbarium Commission**

The Montview Garden Columbarium has been a ministry at Montview for over 40 years. The Columbarium is the final resting place for the ashes of members and others who choose to be interred here. It is a quiet garden of peace, beauty, and reflection for all – a sacred space.

The Columbarium is managed by a Commission of nine Montview members, who care for the Columbarium, encourage crypt sales, and make future management and operational decisions. The Commission is assisted in its duties by a group of volunteers, who give their gardening expertise, love, and time to care for this important space.

Each spring, current and past Commission members clean the grounds, pruning, fertilizing, and planting new flowers in preparation for the annual Memorial Day Columbarium Reception. Throughout the spring, summer, and early fall, these same volunteers weed, prune, and water the garden. In late fall, the garden is again cleaned and prepared for the annual All Saints’ Day ceremony, during which Montview remembers those who passed away during the prior year.

In 2018, the Commission met three times, held spring and fall cleanup and planting days, tended the garden, and hosted its annual Memorial Day reception. It also began to restore the lawn - a needed project long under consideration. It is also completing a review of four decades of records.

Today, as it has for over 40 years, the Montview Garden Columbarium provides a quiet place for reflection, both for those who have loved ones buried here and for those who simply enjoy its peace, serenity, and beauty. All are welcome.

For more information, contact Susan Schneider at schneider.susan45@gmail.com.

**Communications Committee**

In 2018, your Communications Committee shifted part of its focus beyond our beautiful stone walls to the surrounding community. Montview has a great story to tell – its history, its music program, its programming for children and adolescents, the depth of its preaching and spirituality, its dedication to mission and social justice.

Here’s how we did that:

- We bought a simple flutter flag and used it for weekly social outings to City Park’s Jazz Festival over the summer. Hosted by different groups, our gathering grew from 5 to 50, and we’ll reprise it this year.
- We recruited a small band of marchers for the Park Hill Fourth of July parade, and we hosted a table at the Park Hill Street Festival, pulling in visitors with a bubble machine and branded bottles of bubbles.
• In addition to regularly publicizing church activities in the local papers, we advertised Celebration Sunday and purchased an underwriting message on CPR to publicize Elaine Pagels’ lectures this fall.

• In late November, we sent a postcard listing Montview’s Advent and Christmas activities to about 700 new households in Park Hill and Stapleton.

• Next month, we’ll brainstorm with the Membership Committee for new ways to tell our story to the community. We continue moving toward digital communication of the myriad activities that take place at Montview every day. The Messenger continues to grow; in 2018, it moved to primarily digital distribution, with hard copies available for those who prefer to read it that way. We launched the online directory with emailed instruction on how to log in, and we began taking snapshots to help populate some of the active accounts. For those who are not online, Pat Garcia can print a small, text-only directory upon request.

  We also are in the initial stages of recording podcasts of certain programs and speakers and interviews with members. Extending the reach of the live broadcast of Sunday worship, we will record the sermon only as a podcast that can be shared across social media.

  Speaking of social media, we encourage you to “like” Montview on Facebook and share our postings, and to connect with us on Twitter and Instagram. We need your help to spread the good news of all that is happening within our stone walls.

  I would like to thank Pat Garcia for her hard work, talent, good nature and diligence in producing a mountain of communications each week that keeps all of us connected and engaged. For more information, contact Jan Paul at janpaul@sbcglobal.net.

Denver Inner City Parish
The Parish is a non-denominational, non-profit agency dedicated to serving West Denver’s low-income community. Services include hunger relief, seniors programming, education and continued community support to the La Alma/Lincoln neighborhood. For more information, contact Frank Debick at frank@debicklaw.com.

Drifters
After over 50 years of doing so many worthwhile things in the community and at Montview, we’re at this point of only wanting to enjoy the time that we have with each other and it certainly is meaningful at this time, with the loss of three of our special friends—Maggie, Margo and Janet. For more information, contact Shirley Burkhart at sabhiggins@q.com.

Empowering Incarcerated Women: Making Choices
After over 50 years of Montview is a member of the Making Choices mission partnership through Denver Presbytery, along with Central Presbyterian Church and Trinity Presbyterian of Arvada. Making Choices provides classes and mentoring for incarcerated women, helping them to make behavioral and attitudinal changes, reduce recidivism and improve their ability to re-integrate into society in a healthy, positive way. Montview members participate as teachers, re-entry mentors and spiritual directors. For more information, contact Jen Seward at seward@montview.org.
Global Missions

Nepal

Montview’s mission presence in Nepal has roots that run deep. Since 2000, nearly 200 Montview and community members have participated in Nepal work trips and have raised nearly $500,000 for scholarships, teachers and computers at the Mary Ward Schools, nine village water projects, various health initiatives, land for the Nutrition Rehabilitation Hospital in Kathmandu and earthquake relief. To learn more about Montview’s rich history in Nepal, contact frederick.grover@ucdenver.edu, lynn@teamhetterich.com or LindyDoty@aol.com.

Uganda

The Musana Community Development Organization was created when a team of Ugandan and Boulder students at CU discovered 162 children living at an orphanage in the worst conditions imaginable. Today, Musana has grown to include a primary school, secondary school, health center, café/guest house and women’s skill development center. Contact Marilynn Ackermann to learn more at marilynn.ackermann@gmail.com.

Sudan

The Seeds of South Sudan organization was founded by a former Lost Boy of Sudan, Arok Garang, one of the thousands of children who fled the genocide of entire villages in Sudan. In 2001 Arok escaped the Kakuma refugee camp in Kenya and immigrated to the United States, where he remains committed to rescuing and educating 100 orphaned children trapped in the camp. Today 89 students in primary and high schools, and six college students (including two in medical school) are being sponsored and will become the “seeds” for a new generation of leadership in South Sudan. Contact John Gonder at john.gonder@gonderpr.com.

Mexico

Located in Puebla, Mexico, IPODERAC serves 72 orphaned boys in six houses where 12 boys of similar age live, do their homework together and learn personal development skills. Nineteen Montview members journeyed to IPODERAC last summer to celebrate the boys’ graduations from their respective levels of education. To learn more, contact Mary Buckley at marygbuckley@mac.com.

Ethiopia

Ethiopia Reads has been establishing libraries for children, donating books, supporting the publishing of local language books and training librarians and educators around children’s literacy in Ethiopia since 2003. Ethiopia has 50 million children under 18 and an extreme shortage of available books to read, especially in Ethiopia’s own languages. For more information, contact Leah Oliver at leahcnoliver@yahoo.com.

Habitat for Humanity

Since 2000 Montview Church has been partnering with Habitat for Humanity of Metro Denver to help build homes for deserving low income families. This is a close-to-home project that engages congregation members of all ages. Our partnership includes raising money to cover part of the cost of building materials and providing volunteers to work on construction of a home. Planning for each year’s project is done by a seven-member Montview Habitat for Humanity Steering Committee.

In 2018 Montview was the partial sponsor of a two story, four-bedroom townhome at 3785 S. Irving Street in the Sheridan Square community which will ultimately include 63 affordable energy-efficient homes close to several schools. Our goal for 2018 was to raise $10,000 and provide 60 construction volunteers to help build the home. Highlights of our 2018 “May is Habitat for Humanity Month” campaign included a high energy, entertaining “Founding Fathers” skit presented by a talented group of Montview youth on Mother’s Day. Thanks to more than 86 people who contributed, we raised $10,025. A hardy group of 45 construction volunteers ranging in age from 16 to 70+ filled 56 construction slots during July and August. Montview families who preferred not to swing a hammer supported...
the crews by bringing wonderful lunches to the worksite on our six build days. This was a great chance to view the ongoing construction and an opportunity to include younger family members.

Other volunteer groups completed construction of the home in November. The family we sponsored, Mohammad and Roqya and their 4 children, received the keys to their new home at a joyous Dedication ceremony on January 9, 2019.

For more information, contact John Howell at howelljohn31@gmail.com, or Jim Robertson at jrrcmr@gmail.com.

Heritage Committee

Mission: The Montview Heritage Committee meets weekly to maintain the life and record of Montview’s activity in the broad community, past and present. We evaluate and organize archival donations, search records, develop articles, and build displays for current events.

Articles Written for Publication

- 100th Anniversary of the Auditorium and Tower Building (current Miller Center): Montview Messenger. Display developed
- Story of Montview’s Communion Table Journey: Presbytery Website
- List and text, Historic Montview Milestones: Montview’s Sunday bulletins

Research

Provide resources and advice for CU Denver Master’s degree graduate student to create Amendment to Montview’s designation for placement on National Register of Historic Places. Ceremony will follow in 2019.

Records

Record the following information annually: baptismal records; Session and Board of Deacons membership; public records related to historical events at Montview; active membership of Montview for 50+ years; list of those who have died within the current year. Response to requests for said information.

Reorganization

Continue organization of files; exploration of and movement toward digitization

Photographic files

Identification, designation, organization of groups of photos

Discovery

Printed source challenging information in Spirit of Montview’s version of early Denver and Denver Presbytery history.

Heritage Committee, 2018

Bob Matchett, Chair; Shirley Burkhart, Martha Fitzpatrick, Phyllis Kester, Sarah Breen, Rosalie McCall-Johnson and John Howell. For more information, contact Bob Matchett at rrmatch@msn.com.

Homeless Packet Project

Few missions could be simpler: food, water and human contact. Church members from age 5 to 85 are involved in packet assembly, distribution and the knitting of headbands that are added to the packets in the winter months. Others donate money to keep the supplies flowing. This project enables Montview members to provide mission outreach on a daily and often spontaneous basis, engaging with the homeless of Denver while going about the responsibilities of our lives. For more information, contact Doug Easton at douglaseaston@comcast.net.
Iglesia Presbiteriana de Valverde

Presbyteria Iglesia is an outreach ministry that promotes English language proficiency for the Hispanic community, provides citizenship classes for qualifying individuals, and offers programs and tutoring for children. For more information, contact Eunice Williams at e.williams73@comcast.net.

Impact Empowerment Group

IEG is a community-based non-profit working to ameliorate the impact of gangs and gang violence in northeast Denver. IEG connects men and women who want to leave the gang life with viable economic and job opportunities. For more information, contact Craig Maginness at cmaginness@msn.com.

Membership Committee

The Membership Committee continues to look for new ways to make Montview a vibrant and welcoming community for visitors and congregants alike. Having a place to really belong on one’s faith journey is at the heart of who we are. The committee has been working diligently to provide support for the Inquirer’s Classes to help new members feel welcome and to get involved with various ministries in the church. The heads of Montview committees are notified of the new members’ interest in their groups. Within a few months of joining new members are contacted to see if there are questions and to be sure that the heads of the various ministries have reached out to them. Of the 102 members received in 2018, more than 75% are involved in worship and/or various service opportunities. Ministries they have chosen include Greeting, Habitat for Humanity, Pathfinders, Supper Clubs, Mission Life, Soul Food, Social Justice, Women’s Homeless Initiative, Sunday School Teaching, and Westminster Choir.

Several members of the committee have met with the Communications Committee to discuss new ways to “get the word out” about the many opportunities at Montview.

We have had several coffees for women of the church to get to know each other, often matching one to two new members with experienced members who are involved in the ministries that are of interest to those new members. We have reached out to male congregants in an effort to determine interest in connecting for discussions or walks in the neighborhoods. We have initiated several ways for our members to connect with others outside of church. Included in these are starting a single mom’s group, women’s discussion groups, a walking group and women’s Bible study.

Welcoming new members into our large, vibrant church community and finding ways to support connection with all who enter our sanctuary continues to be what motivates the Membership Committee. For more information, contact Pat Shepard at pshep55@yahoo.com.

Montview Foundation

The Montview Foundation oversees multiple endowment funds that are a result of the generosity of long-time members who have made permanent gifts to provide for the ongoing financial stability of the Church. In 2018 the Montview Foundation received new gifts and bequests totaling $362,139. The endowment funds are invested in a diversified portfolio, with the goal of increasing the principal over time while making annual distributions to the Church to support its activities and programs. Distributions from the Foundation to the Church for 2018 totaled $211,034, the largest in Montview’s history. The Montview Foundation is governed by a board of directors approved by the Session. For information, contact Dan Gasser at gasser@montview.org.
Montview Garden Club

The Montview Garden Club is a fun group of people of varying ages that meets once a month for a few hours to maintain the gardens around the church. We spend most of our time in the Outdoor Sanctuary and at the entrances along Dahlia street pruning, deadheading, weeding, and planting. Occasionally, we spread yards and yards and yards of mulch. We are social gardeners, where wanna-be green thumbs can learn from the more experienced green thumbs, plus we have coffee and scones during our morning break! We are a flexible group that meets when we can at 9:00 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month from early spring through the fall and we take the winter off...just like the plants! We would love to grow our group so join us when you can! For more information, contact Pamela Johnson at johnstonpm@yahoo.com.

Montview Manor

Located at 1663 Steele Street, this independent-living community was built by Montview Church in 1963 to meet a growing need for affordable housing for seniors. Montview members serve on the board and help to ensure the Manor honors privacy while nurturing the spirit of community. For information, contact Pat Harper at admin@montviewmanor.org.

Montview Memorial Library

- The library is open during church hours and books can be signed out for several weeks. Non-church members may sign out books. The library accepts suggestions and recommendations for new books.
- Books used in classes and lectureships are always purchased.
- In 2018, 97 purchased or donated books were added to the collection.
- Montview authors are encouraged to include their books with the many others set apart on special shelves.
- In 2018 book circulation was 450, the greater being children’s picture books.
- To keep the library running in good order, library workers now number 5. The staff includes Cathy Fanning, Peggy Walker, Ruth Norman, Julie Ripley and Jim Hague. All have special duties.
- In 2019 the library will hold a free book event in The Commons in June.
- Our goal continues to be to increase readership. Having fellowship hour in the Heritage Center should help in addition to advertisements and publicity.

For more information, contact Catherine Fanning at hiketh14er@q.com.

Montview Quilt Group

Montview Quilters have been sharing their quilting projects with Montview Church and other community groups for almost 30 years. The two hallmarks of the group have been the enduring bonds of friendship and the encouragement of creativity that has been fostered among the members as we have worked together learning new patterns, skills and creating lovely quilts to give to others.

Participation in our group has grown during this past year as new members and some long time Montview members have joined our Monday Morning sewing group. As a result, this year we have been able to provide the Ministers with over 2 dozen quilts to give to Montview members, Nifty Ninety members and new babies. We have a rotating quilt display in the Reception Room where we showcase new quilts monthly. We will be holding our 3rd annual Quilt Show in the Gallery Room in February 2019 featuring over 20 treasured ‘heritage quilts’ from Montview members’ families.

Over the years, we continue to be motivated by the stories of appreciation we hear from the many recipients in Montview Church and the community: foster children, Ronald McDonald House, Brent’s Place & Judi’s House.

The Montview Quilt group is deeply appreciative of the long-standing support from the Montview Session and the many people who have donated fabric to keep the comfort of quilts going out to the Montview community.

For more information, contact Brooke Durland at brookesewcreative@gmail.com.
Musique & Masque and Pulpit Players

This has been a banner year for both M&M and PP! We began the year with our K-5 Pulpit Players production of Miracle Math, the story of Jesus feeding the 5000, with 33 actors and 5 teen wranglers on board. Next up was the fall M&M production of Dear Edwina, an endearing and funny kids show, backed up by our adults, which kept about 70 kids and adults off the streets and kicking up their heels in Miller Center for 6 weeks! Overlapping the end of the fall show, 6-12 Pulpit Players launched into their fall production of A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to Damascus. And we are now kicking off 2019 with K-5 and Shorty in the Treetop, looking ahead to Bye Bye Birdie with the M&M gang in the fall. Wow!

Perhaps the best possible review of these programs is this:

“Musique and Masque is a unique mission at Montview that brings together people of all ages and experiences. The leaders know how to scaffold their approaches to make it a welcome environment to so many different people. My kids have learned how to be in community and work hard with others. Musique and Masque has helped them find their Voice. They can stand in front of a group of people with poise, grace and confidence because of their participation in the musicals and Pulpit Players,” said one parent.

“I’ve been in other theater programs, and they are nothing compared to the attention and kindness I get in M&M,” according to one youth cast member.

One adult cast member stated, “I never thought I could handle a lead role, and I said so, but Jean wouldn’t let me off, which led to one of the most challenging and fun experiences of my life.”

“My daughter blossomed during the show. She gained confidence and a sense of ease and purpose that carried into the rest of her life,” said another parent.

Community—that’s what these programs build, one person at a time reaching out to another person, and so on. The intergenerational aspect of M&M has created magic on our stage – as well as off-stage. And we hear over and over how that magic spreads out into the universe. As a staff, we continue to work to support these adults and kids, and then stand by to marvel at the magic which is created. For more information, contact Jean Sibley at jeanannsibley@gmail.com.

Park Hill Tutoring

Volunteers work one-on-one with students in this after-school tutoring program at Park Hill Elementary. Montview members have been providing tutoring support at Park Hill since 1993. For more information, contact Lois Bray at braybilo@comcast.net.

Pathfinders

The Pathfinders group is comprised of a wonderful collection of Montview women over 50 who meet on the second Friday evening of the month. Our time together varies from educational programs and social events to service opportunities. In 2018 we learned from Co-Pastor Clover Beal and speakers from Habitat for Humanity, Habitat Heroes and the League of Women Voters. We attended a fun production of HMS Pinafore, an annual summer picnic and a much-anticipated Christmas Party. We also look forward to an annual book review that yields a great reading list. Our service projects include donating to the Delores Project, a homeless shelter for women and providing delicious meals for the Women’s Homeless Initiative at Montview. We also have an opportunity to provide Fellowship Snacks during the education hour on Sundays several times a year. We provide these things to others, but what we reap from our time together is amazing friendships. For more information, contact Pat Shepard at pshep55@yahoo.com or Ellen Oakes at echoot@msn.com.
Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl knitters had another successful year. We are a fun group of mixed ages and abilities. Our primary focus is knitting warm and cozy Prayer Shawls which are available for the pastors and the congregation to distribute to anyone in need of comfort and healing. The Shawls are available in our closet in the Rotunda, across from the water fountain. We also knit headbands for the Homeless Packets and hats for the Mitten Tree which go out to children and adults in need all over Denver.

In 2018, we completed 101 Prayer Shawls. Since our inception in 2006, we have knit a total of 1121 Prayer Shawls. We meet on the 3rd Sunday after the 11:00 a.m. service—please join us. For more information, contact Ellen Reath at 303-355-5062 or magreath@ecentral.com, or Ellen Oakes at 303-333-8991 or echoot@msn.com.

Sanctuary Guild

The Sanctuary Guild members prepare the communion elements for the monthly Celebration of the Lord’s Supper as well as for Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday. Tray service is prepared October through May and intinction service June through September. The guild members clean up after worship and care for the trays, baskets, and linens used. Two teams carry out the work on alternate months. Team members take turns purchasing the bread to be used. Many of the guild members have dedicated years to providing this behind-the-scenes service, but new members would be welcome to join us. For more information, contact Martha Fitzpatrick at fitzpatrickmartha@hotmail.com.

Senior Support Services

A day shelter for hungry and homeless seniors, Senior Support serves three meals a day and provides individual case management for clients. In 2018, Montview’s Soul Food group partnered with Mission Life to prepare and serve a monthly Sunday dinner at Senior Support. For more information, contact Shirley Burkhart at sabhiggins@q.com or Paul Heitzenrater at p.r.heitzenrater@comcast.net.

Social Justice Ministry

The Montview Social Justice Ministry advocates on behalf of struggling individuals and families in Colorado and beyond. In addition to leading Montview’s volunteer and advocacy efforts at Stedman and Hallett elementary schools, this group monitors legislation and take positions at the state and federal level in keeping with the teachings of Christ and the Office of Public Witness of our national Presbyterian Church (PCUSA.) We are a member of Together Colorado, a non-partisan, multiracial, multi-faith community organization; the PICO national network, which also advocates on justice issues; and More Light Presbyterians, working toward the full participation of LGBTQ people in the life, ministry and witness of the PCUSA. We encourage Montview members and friends to sign up for our email alerts, sent especially when important legislation is before Congress or the Colorado Legislature. For more information, contact Peggy Gonder at peggy@gonderpr.com or Karen Timmons at karenjtimmons@comcast.net.

Sojourners Fellowship Group

Sojourners is a Montview Fellowship group for people who are born from 1948 to 1961 (some of our partners & friends may be a tad younger or tad older which is fine). Baby Boomers. We are singles and couples. We are unmarried, divorced, widowed, widowers, gay, straight. New members are added all the time. We are approximately 300+ strong on our rolls.

We are primarily a social group who occasionally does a service project together like cooking/serving dinner to WHI. We meet as often as the group rallies an activity. We attract 25-50 people each event. In 2018 we gathered 5 times:

- We had a White Elephant Epiphany Party in January.
• Made/served dinner at WHI in the spring.
• Hosted a documentary/potluck night in April where we showed and discussed I Am Not Your Negro, an award winning, documentary about author, James Baldwin (tying in the church’s theme of Courageous Conversations on Race and White Privilege).
• Had a lunch at Yak and Yeti lunch followed by Putt-Putt golf in June.
• Had a Bocce Tournament/BBQ in October.
• Hosted the Christmas Tea in Fellowship Hall.

Those of us who who've been around for 30 years appreciate the friendships nurtured through the decades. Yet, we have been thrilled to add such deep and wonderful new relationships as we've grown and expanded. New folks say, “This is such a great place to get to know what’s going on in the church and who’s involved in the different projects and where I might fit in.” “I didn’t know there were so many people at church who I’ve never met!” Marilynn Ackermann, coordinator preaches regularly that “these are the people we will grow old with together at Montview. This is our circle of caring as we have surgeries, go through illnesses, celebrate new babies, deal with aging parents and our own mortality together. This ministry at Montview makes us feel known and less lonely.”

For more information, Marilynn or Jeff Ackermann at mjackermann@msn.com or marilynn.ackermann@gmail.com.

Stedman Elementary School and Hallett Academy

Montview’s Social Justice Ministry supports fundraising and volunteer efforts at Stedman and Hallett, two DPS schools just a few blocks from Montview, where most families qualify for free or reduced-price lunch. We collected school supplies in the fall, as well as food and gifts for families at Christmas. We also provided dinner for families at Back to School Night and the Black History celebration. Members volunteer at the school for special activities, such as the book fair and tutoring. For more information, contact Karen Timmons at karenjtimmons@comcast.net.

Visual Arts Guild

Most years the MVAG has 2 to 3 shows for local artists to participate in. 2018 was different. We were unable to have a spring show because the MVAG Committee of one (me) was unavailable to organize at that time. The good news is Montview member and fellow artist, Jan Fitzpatrick has agreed to help, and interest was expressed by a new member, Ron Brady, this fall.

In September we had our first “One Woman Show” by life-long artist Anne Sunderwirth who, though not a Montview Member, attends Montview and has been part of the MVAG since it began around 1990. The Holiday Show included 11 artists, 3 of whom are members and 2 attenders. Artists who participate in a show pay $2 entrance fee per painting or photograph. In addition, 10% of sales go into the MVAG fund. Money from the fund is use for MVAG expenses as well as support of other exhibits like the upcoming Montview Quilters show. There is also potential for supporting other non-profits.

In past years MVAG has exhibited photography from the Gathering Place, quilts made from the children at Colfax Community Network, Ethiopia Reads Auction and others. There is potential for more exhibits like those. With the increased use of websites to market artwork, there are fewer opportunities for artist to exhibit their work. The MVAG is one place that is available for those who do not or cannot use the internet.

Feedback from members and visitors to Montview has always been very positive. In fact, when there is no show, many ask me when the next show will be. It is another example of Montview’s support of the arts. For more information, contact Debby Cella at dscella@gmail.com.
West Side Fellowship (WSF)

Our fellowship has existed for 30 years. We are a fun group of older folks who live in the western suburbs and enjoy a monthly potluck dinner or lunch in our homes. We continue to be a strong group averaging between 16 and 24 at gatherings. We enjoy interesting and informative conversation and the sharing of our lives. Living far from church and each other, we try to maintain support for our members in joyous and troublesome times. For more information, contact Catherine Fanning at hikethe14er@q.com.

Women's Homelessness Initiative (WHI)

The WHI is a consortium of churches working through Capitol Hill United Ministries to give sanctuary and hospitality every night of the year to women experiencing homelessness. Since 2013 Montview has hosted 25 women on Monday nights every other month. An intergenerational volunteer team of supper clubs, book clubs, neighborhood and work groups, Scout troops and others prepare and serve dinners for our overnight guests. Other volunteer teams set up the cots in Fellowship Hall, offer one-on-one hospitality before bedtime, prepare breakfast bags for distribution in the morning, and spend the night to create a safe space for these women in crisis. New volunteers are always welcome.

In 2018 Montview’s WHI program received a $2,500 Mission Life Grant for laundry expenses and supplies. Montview also hosted an orientation/training session for volunteers from all of the WHI sites. For more information, contact Susie Pappas (susiepappas@hotmail.com) or Mary Deffenbaugh (mdeff12@hotmail.com).

Women’s Ministries

Approximately 35 Montview women gathered at YMCA of the Rockies Estes Park campus for a retreat led by Marjory Zoet Bankson of Lumunos. We were fortunate to have the retreat co-sponsored by Lumunos, a non-profit organization that offers programs, resources and facilitation to enhance well-being by inviting people to reflect on their lives, relate to their values, and reenergize their journey. During the retreat, we considered the way God’s call spirals through our lives at different times in different ways, engaging with the story of Lydia in Acts 16:11-40— and in the Book of Philippians. Thanks to Maureen Upton, Suzy King, and Mary Deffenbaugh for their leadership at the retreat.

To continue the connections and inspiration from the retreat, some participants met for a series of seven “Sacred Conversations” using a resource book from Lumunos by that name. There was a Monday evening group led by Linda Rumbarger and a Wednesday morning group led by Jill Eleson. For more information, contact Linda Rumbarger at lrumbarg@hotmail.com.


Women of West Side (WOW)

Around 10 years ago the Women of West Side (WOW) formed a book group which meets 6 times a year in our homes. Our group now includes anyone who would like to participate. To date we have read 50 books! For more information, contact Catherine Fanning at hikethe14er@q.com.
Worship, Music, Arts Ministry

The Worship/Music/the Arts Ministry provides advice and support for the pastors, the minister and directors of music, and the congregation in its worship programs and activities. In 2018 the committee took these actions:

The Sanctuary

- The committee worked with Cate and Steve Cearley, adding speakers to the existing sound system to improve clarity.
- The final stage of restoration of the leathers in the loft organ (Reuter/Morel) was completed.
- New paraments (altar cloths, ministerial stoles) were added to the Sunday services, reflecting the season of the church year.
- Large print hymnals were purchased and made available in the narthex; copies of the hymn ‘Where Mountains Lift the Eye’, composed by John Kuzma and Tom Troeger, were added to the new hymnal.

Special Service Notes

- Traditional concerts
  - The Christmas Concert included the composition of the winner of the John Kuzma Award, Tony Domenick,
  - Dvorak’s Mass was presented at the Spring Concert.
  - Evensong, a new service held at the beginning of Lent, was well attended.
  - Confessional Banners, based on the creeds used in the Presbyterian Church, were incorporated into the service on Reformation Sunday.

Publications (in progress)

- Pew pamphlet: Explanation of Montview’s worship service
- (Further work to be determined)

Choir Tour 2019

- The Boulder Choral will join the Montview Choir in a summer river cruise tour of the Netherlands, presenting Duke Ellington’s ‘Sacred Songs’ in towns along the way.

Worship/Music/the Arts Committee: Sharon Craft, Jordan Stoddard, Paul Ward, Martha Tracey, Will Tracey, Barbara Hulac, Barbara Wollan (Spring), Jay Mead (Fall), Adam Waite, Minister of Music; Ian Cummins, Co-pastor; Rosalie McCall-Johnson, Chair. For more information, contact Rosalie McCall-Johnson at hgjmccall@comcast.net.

Youth Program

The youth program has left its days of continual transition behind it with the hiring of our permanent Minister of Youth and Families Amanda Osenga. Amanda has made the last six months feel like a fresh start, while at the same time upholding the old traditions of the youth program that feed our youth’s spirits.

The major areas of youth participation were:

- Morning Sunday School
- Pulpit Players
- Youth Choir & Handbells
- Evening JAM & MOB

Fall 2018 Statistics

One hundred and fourteen unique (and we mean that) individual youth participated in at least one the youth programs. Participation in Sunday morning dropped slightly, but Sunday evening participation rose by nearly 20%.

Worktrips 2018

- The senior high group (MOB) spent a week in Chicago with the DOOR program. (Discovering Opportunities for Outreach and Reflection)
- The junior high group spent 5 days doing service learning at Ghost Mountain Ranch in New Mexico.
Youth Council
The still burgeoning Youth Council (an advisory group made of both senior and junior high youth) met several times in 2018 and is finding its voice.

Major Youth Events at Montview in 2018
- **Agape Latte** – A youth talent show and coffee house, brought in much needed worktrip funds as well as showed of the talents of our youth.
- **Confirmation** – Over twenty youth participate in the Confirmation program, defining their faith and becoming members of the church.
- **Winter Retreats** – both MOB and JAM had weekends in the snow this past winter for fellowship, contemplation and some silliness.
- **Service Projects** – The youth spent a Sunday at a Refugee Center just outside Denver and worked in their vegetable gardens.
- **Youth Sunday** – The youth lead both worship services on a Sunday in May. The theme of Youth Sunday this past year was Galatians 5 “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.”

Parents Wisdom Circle
A parents of teens discussion and support group was started by Julie Evans and has enjoyed great success with the group planning to expand the number of meeting per month.

For more information about Montview Youth programs, contact Linda Orosz at youthcommittee@montview.org.
**MONTVIEW STAFF**

The Rev. Clover Reuter Beal (Co-Pastor)
The Rev. Ian Gregory Cummins (Co-Pastor)
Dr. Jason Hays (Executive Director of Office and Finance)

**Full-Time**

Danean Burke (Administrative Assistant)
Pat Garcia (Graphic Designer & Production Manager)
Dan Gasser (Director of Finance)
Charles Johnson (Sexton)
Tony Johnson (Lead Sexton)
Carol O’Dwyer (Membership & Events Coordinator)
Amanda Osenga (Minister for Youth and Families)
Sandy Prouty (Minister of Children and Families)
Adam Waite (Minister of Music)

**Part-Time**

Mary Louise Burke (Artistic Advisor for The Westminster Choir)
Cate Cearley (Sound Operator, Sundays)
Bob Cloud (Facility Manager)
Juli Davidson (Communications)
Doug Easton (Sunday Manager)
Kristen Harris (Graphic Design Assistant)
Sara Hashman (Office Clerk)
Barbara Hulac (Associate Minister of Music & Organist)
Pete Hulac (Minister of Visitation)
Debra Johnson (Sexton)
Craig Robertson (Director of Music for Children and Youth)
Jennifer Seward (Mission Life Coordinator)