FROM THE CO-PASTORS

Dear friends of Montview,

This is the issue of The Messenger when we get to recap and highlight what we’ve done this year and celebrate the worshipful work of this vibrant congregation. We have been busy in many corners of the community! From the ongoing, compassionate hospitality of the Women’s Homelessness Initiative to the prayer shawl ministry; from the bouncy castles on celebration Sunday last September to the Agape Latte youth mission fundraiser in March; from the Christian education classes for all ages to the works of compassion of the deacons; from the Christmas concert to the Duke Ellington concert; from the Christmas Tea to the Easter Tea; from the decision to become a Sanctuary church to our current openness to being a “way station” for asylum seekers, we see the ways the church is alive with the Spirit. Of course, a huge focus for this year has been engaging in a bold $7.6 million capital campaign. April 7 was our official kick-off date and June 2 was the date we brought the campaign to a close. We celebrated the closing date exceeding our goal! For all of your generosity, thank you. We are all humbled by the success of this endeavor and eagerly look toward Montview’s future.

As you read through this issue, we hope you discover something the church has been up to that you didn’t know before. We hope you feel as grateful as we do for the astonishing engagement Montview has inside and outside our church walls.

Activity is wonderful, but rest is essential. So, may your summer also provide you much needed rest and renewal.

Blessings to you and see you at church!

Pastors Clover and Ian

REV. CLOVER REUTER BEAL
Co-Pastor
Clover@montview.org

REV. IAN CUMMINS
Co-Pastor
Cummins@montview.org
MUSIC & ARTS AT MONTVIEW

A REPRISE OF DUKE ELLINGTON

Fifty years after Duke Ellington and his orchestra had people dancing in the aisles, Montview Church was once again the site of much dancing and celebration of the jazz legend's music. On May 5th, Minister of Music Adam Waite led the Westminster Choir and members of the Boulder Chorale Tour Singers in a rousing performance of Ellington’s “Sacred Concert”.

Ellington composed the music for a wide-ranging audience to spread the universal messages of love, hope, peace, brotherhood and freedom. When Ellington performed at two sold-out Montview concerts in 1969, the Park Hill neighborhood was rife with racial tension. Montview was a leader in integrating the neighborhood and the concert was packed with people from all ethnic and racial backgrounds.

At this year’s performance, a diverse crowd of more than 800 people packed the pews. In addition to choral and orchestra pieces, the concert featured jazz piano solos by Waite, tap dancing by David Sharpe and vocal solos by JoFoKe and Craig Robertson. During the final song, “Praise God and Dance”, Montview youth led the congregation in dancing and praise.
CHILDREN AT MONTVIEW

Our 2018-2019 Sunday School year was another success. It was filled with church friendships made, joy and fun shared, and Bibles stories read and considered. During our hour each week, we have much to accomplish. We strive to build relationships among the adults and children and to build community and continuity. We set high standards for caring and respect, for contributing and sharing, and we work with the children to make these standards a reality in our time together. And we learn Bible stories.

Each year our children hear and do activities related to stories from the Old and New Testaments. The preschool and kindergarten classes are self-contained and move through the Heartshapers Curriculum lessons and pamphlets in the same classroom each Sunday. The children in grades 1-5 move through units of the Deep Blue Rotation Curriculum with their teachers with a different activity focus and in a different classroom every Sunday.

Our progression of expectations and class routines is age appropriate at each grade level. Our expectations grow as our children do and are always based on the truth of love. We are able to reinforce and discourage behavior in the context of Jesus’ commandment to love one another and in so doing we can become a voice for the different way of being in the world that Jesus taught and practiced. In many ways this is our most important goal.

This year the complex story of Jacob and Esau gave us many opportunities to look at behavior. This story is ripe with issues including family dysfunction, sibling rivalries, competition, taking advantage, deception and ill-gotten gains. It is a story of humans, even grown up humans, getting things wrong. This story allows children to consider these behaviors in ancient, far-removed circumstances. It gives them a vehicle for what-if and if-only conversations at church and at home. One emphasis of this unit was the idea of giving a blessing, an over and against possibility in response to the actions of this story. Blessing was a valuable concept from which to create. And we did.

Sunday School for children is the beginning of knowing what the Bible holds in story and lesson. Sunday School prompts the first reactions to our sacred text, our tradition, our values and promises. Sunday School gives our children opportunities to question and to think about complex plots and characters. It speaks of alternatives to the voices of the world and encourages careful and critical choice-making by our precious children.

It was a good year in Sunday School! We give thanks for this year behind us and for the year ahead. It will be similar and unique. We look forward to joining you for it in the fall.

SANDY PROUTY
Minister of Children & Families
Prouty@montview.org
Greetings!

Arguably the greatest masterpiece written by Austrian composer Joseph Haydn may have been the oratorio, “The Creation,” which begins with form-breaking, prescribed chaos. It draws from the Book of Genesis, John Milton’s “Paradise Lost”, and various psalms to tell the story of God creating the world. The oratorio begins with the “Representation of Chaos” in the first movement, with harmonies and melodies that are not resolved. It progresses to the inevitable climax at the moment when God declares, “Let there be light” and the orchestra bursts out with great explosion of sound.

Throughout this genesis year together, the youth committee has coined the phrase “out of chaos, into creativity” to describe the movement of the youth program through the interim period into a more ordered state with space for creativity. It’s an exciting and generative place to be in as we look forward to the fall and build upon the highlights of this past year, of which there are many.

The month of May was a full month of milestones as we recognized our seniors and were blessed by their leadership and wisdom in worship on Youth Sunday. We also celebrated our confirmation class and their commitment to journey together in a pilgrimage of faith exploration. Confirmation is confirming the promises that were made at their baptisms by reaffirming the vows that were made on their behalf. In being confirmed our confirmands recognized that faith is a lifelong journey of discovering and claiming God’s love and mercy in our lives. It was a joy to accompany the youth along their confirmation journey and I’m so grateful for their presence in our community! We are a better community because of them.

As we look forward to this upcoming year, we will be expanding confirmation to extend over the course of our program year and parallel our Sunday school classes, beginning in September and concluding in May. In addition our middle school Sunday school teachers have been working diligently to create an engaging and formative education program for 6th & 7th graders. In many ways the relationships that are formed during these years as well as the learning that will take place will all be in preparation for confirmation in 8th grade.

If you have an 8th grader or high school student who would like to take part, be on the lookout for registration. And if you would be interested in joining the confirmation class as a partner, please reach out to me for more information on the commitment.

God’s artwork of creation, as one scholar writes, “is not a sudden one-day affair; God doesn’t snap the divine fingers and immediately bring the creation into being. God takes time in creating: There was evening and morning, one day, two days... I look forward to what is yet to emerge from the creative energy of the youth and their leadership in the upcoming year!

Grace and Peace,

[Signature]

AME NDA OSENGA
Minister of Youth & Families
Amanda@montview.org
The Mission Life Committee (MLC) responds to God’s call by educating, equipping and inspiring the congregation to respectfully listen and learn as we develop collaborative relationships that address the needs of our community and the world. Keeping this mission statement in mind, and using the following principles to guide our work, the MLC spent the first quarter of 2019 prayerfully discerning the best use of the $67,000 in grant funding allocated to Mission Life by the Session. The pie chart below provides a visual representation of how the funding is being shared with our Montview mission partners locally, globally and within our building.

**The Guiding Principles for Mission at Montview**

- Develop and sustain long-term relationships while responding to short-term needs;
- Emphasize both local and global projects;
- Offer work that is highly visible and accessible to the congregation;
- Distribute funds through grants and individual asks, and donate space within the building;
- Engage the congregation in multi-generational and family-friendly opportunities;
- Address social justice issues and emergency relief efforts; and
- Develop an annual or multi-year initiative highlighting a specific theme.

With gratitude for the hundreds of Montview members who participate in these many mission programs and activities – we appreciate you!

**Montview General Fund Mission Allocation 2019**

**Total:** $67,000

**Local Partners**
- Casa de Paz
- Habitat for Humanity
- Iglesia Presbiteriana Valverde English Class
- Impact Empowerment Group
- Park Hill Tutoring
- Senior Support Services
- Stedman Elementary

**Montview Programs**
- Homeless Packets
- Churchwide Mission Projects
- Montview Manor
- 2019 Spotlight on Immigration
- Soul Food—Senior Support Meals
- Women’s Homelessness Initiative
- Mission Reserve Funds

**Global Partners**
- Ipoderec, Mexico
- Musana, Uganda
- IDE Nepal
- Nepal Youth Foundation
- Seeds of South Sudan

**Larger Church**
- General Assembly
- Presbytery

**JEN SEWARD**
Mission Life Coordinator
Seward@montview.org
For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home.
—Matthew 25:35

Powerful words, especially these days when strangers in our midst are being assailed on all sides for being different, being foreign, for not speaking English. We find ourselves in the middle of a growing crisis of faith. How do we love the stranger? To what extent do we invite the stranger to our table? To our home?

Montview Boulevard Presbyterian Church has chosen to embrace the stranger among us. The Session has declared Montview to be a Sanctuary Church. This means several things. First, it means that we are open to inviting a person who needs protection to live in our building while a legal case is pursued.

Persons seeking sanctuary are carefully vetted by the American Friends Services Committee for their potential to succeed in their cases. Some individuals come alone, and others have families that may visit them. To date, no church in the USA has been approached by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) with the purpose of arresting a sanctuary guest. Montview is committed to hosting someone who needs our support.

We also have found that sanctuary is not solely defined by housing an individual over time, but by temporarily supporting those who are seeking asylum in the United States based on “credible fear” of imminent danger. ICE allows asylum seekers who have been vetted to join family and other sponsors in the United States.

At present, in El Paso alone, ICE and Border Patrol are releasing between 600 and 1,300 asylum seekers each day (most of them family units) on to the streets. That has resulted in horrific overcrowding and has taxed the faith communities in that area.

Denver churches have pledged to accept asylum seekers who arrive by bus and need housing until they can procure transportation to their families and sponsors, a process that typically takes 24 to 60 hours. Montview has volunteered to be one of these transition churches -- to provide beds, showers, food, a change of clothing, and a place for children to play for this short period of time.

Yes, Montview is welcoming strangers, soon to be friends. And we are open to all that we can learn from them. We appreciate any questions you may have, and we invite your participation. Even an hour of time, a donation of food or clothing, or a ride to the bus station makes a tremendous difference in someone’s life. Won’t you join us?

Diane Bassett – Sanctuary Task Force
dbsassett52@gmail.com

Doug Easton – Asylum Seekers Logistics Coordinator
douglaeaston@comcast.net

You might have noticed a few changes in our Easter Sunday services this year.

For starters, we had three services of worship – at 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. – instead of two. You likely were greeted by several smiling teens and adults. And you may have encountered a professional photographer offering to take a free photo of your family.

Montview’s Membership and Communications committees, with a lot of assistance from operations and program staff, started planning Easter in February with an eye toward making Montview more welcoming than ever to our congregants and their guests.

The result? First, one ongoing change is staffing a Guest Services desk in a prominent spot in The Commons to help direct folks and answer their questions. Other helpful changes were to deploy 40 greeters, including youth, and set out 37 signs to direct people to and from parking lots and to child care. Thanks to Membership’s Pat Shepard and Jenni Hadlem for these improvements.

Attendance increased by 14 percent, for a total of 2,125 people. The Miller Center and Reception Room absorbed some overflow at the two later services, but no one was turned away. After each service, professional photographers secured by Linda Orosz and Mary Jo Brooks shot photos of about 130 family groups with blue skies and Montview’s gardens for a backdrop. Notes of thanks for those photos poured in from those families.

The Easter Tea was extended to two hours to accommodate guests from all three services, under the excellent coordination of the Three Amigos.

Ben Lusz provided overall coordination. Currently in real estate, Ben brought his prior experience in event planning to the Tea. Todd Rembe recruited volunteers to donate time and sweet and savory treats. Mike Bufton brought it all together on the day of the event. Mike, who previously worked as a caterer, takes the approach of “Why make it good when you can make it fabulous?”

Communications is considering how to parlay that success to the next big event, Montview’s September kickoff to the program year.

Jan Paul, Carol O’Dwyer
Looking to the future with faith, hope and love, the Montview Boulevard Presbyterian Church community has surpassed the ambitious $7.6 million goal for its 2019 House of Prayer for All People capital campaign in just five months.

The campaign’s success has its roots in focus, discernment, prayer and planning. The capital campaign committee, co-chaired by Mary Medley and Doug Wiley, began preparing last November with the help of Tryba Architects and CEC fundraising consultants. They prepared materials and helped kick off the campaign.

When the pledging phase of the campaign closed on June 2, the Montview community had committed to $7,723,946 for the campaign.

“Tours of the building, led by our co-pastors and committee members, especially Lorraine Alcott, helped demonstrate to congregants one by one the plan’s ambitious goals and creative solutions. Print materials comparing the existing spaces to renderings of the upgraded proposals helped the community envision what could be accomplished, as did the video that brought the new Montview to life.

Now, with our pledges, she said, we have moved the meter to “what will be accomplished.”

The life of Montview and its spaces is one of fluid continuity; constantly connected to our tradition of worship and work, while adapting to the changing needs of our world and community. Our plans provide a flexible and adaptable framework to meet these needs into the future, and for a multiplicity of uses now.

The campaign’s success is a tribute to Montview’s strong, growing congregation, and the church leaders’ ability to look into the future with bold ideas and exciting plans for both the church and the Park Hill neighborhood.

As our co-pastors, Clover Reuter Beal and Ian Cummins, wrote at the launch of the campaign, “For 116 years, Montview has welcomed all who seek spiritual sustenance. Through economic crises, world wars, civil rights movements and political change, Montview has sustained an active presence here.”

In the 1950s, the existing sanctuary was built, and the original sanctuary became a multi-use space known as the Miller Center, used for community theater and special presentations.

“Today,” they continued, “Montview Church is strong, vibrant and growing, thanks largely to the faithfulness and dedication of those who came before us. Now we have ensured that this church we cherish and its ministry in the world will be here for generations to come.”
These improvements will equip Montview to continue its legacy of bold engagement in the world, excellence in music and the arts, rigorous theological inquiry and faith formation for all ages. The work will take place over three to five years. It falls under four major headings that will unfold in roughly the following order:

**ONE:** Invest in critical stewardship projects across the campus, including sanctuary roof repairs, HVAC upgrades, window refurbishment, and fire safety systems. The Buildings and Grounds Committee helped identify the need for these improvements.

**TWO:** Preserving our historic spaces will follow. With careful reorganization, the Library and Heritage Center will maintain its role as a historic and cultural heart for the campus and provide a vibrant space for social gatherings on Montview Boulevard. Focused restoration and updated programming will equip the Miller Center to provide a new multi-purpose worship and performance space for the congregation and community. The plan envisions Miller Center as a space for smaller worship services, weddings and funerals, and theater and musical performances.

In addition to interior historic spaces, the landscape along Montview Boulevard will be replanted and repurposed as a well-defined outdoor “garden room”. Extending the existing hedge and planting a line of ornamental trees will enhance the streetscape with seasonal color; while two gated entries will form a courtyard and function as a new entry for events in the Miller Center.

**THREE:** By strengthening Montview’s exterior and interior entrances, we will create more welcoming areas for communal gathering and reflection.

The current means of entry for Sunday worship, weekday events and the church offices can be confusing and ambiguous. The interior welcoming spaces, the Commons and the Narthex, will be upgraded to better facilitate arrival, information, social exchange, spiritual transition and decompression.

This phase of upgrades includes the Dahlia Street landscape, the Westminster Commons and the Narthex, the Eudora Street entrance and construction of a new space above the Commons. That space has been dubbed the Lantern, reflecting the welcoming, lighted glass space that will be visible from Dahlia.

**FOUR:** Lastly, a new Mission Impact Fund will allow our church community to be more strategic and intentional with its international and local mission projects, investing in new or expanded projects over the next five to seven years and stewardship of all mission partnerships.

Such a fund will allow Montview to leverage dollars through matching grants with other funding partners, deepening its impact. Together, we will continue Montview’s history of bringing hope and healing to God’s creation in Denver and around the world.

“As co-pastors of this historically impactful church within the Denver community, Ian and I are humbled by the continued generosity of resources and spirit that make Montview the special faith community it is,” said co-pastor Rev. Clover Beal. “God has blessed this church to be a blessing to the world; we will continue to fulfill our calling. We welcome our neighbors to come visit us as the process of transformation unfolds.”

If you missed the pledging window for this ambitious fundraiser, please know that you can still participate by contacting Jason Hays, Executive Director of Operations and Finance, Montview Church at jason@montview.org. As of July 19, the total amount of funds pledged is $7,876,077.

Juli Davidson
What is Faith Leader?
In the Fall of 2016, Montview Church launched our first 28-week, high commitment, spiritual formation experience called Faith Leader. In Spring of 2019, the third small group of nine persons completed their 28-week experience. Based on biblical models of leadership and reclaiming spiritual practices from the Christian tradition, Faith Leader equips participants in discernment, both of their own call to ministry and the call of God to this particular congregation. As a result of this program, participants craft a new vision of spiritual leadership based on their own particular spiritual gifts and their unique, spirit-filled call. Faith Leader allows participants to look beyond administrative models of leadership to name and implement ministries, for example, of teaching, hospitality, justice, vision, discernment, administration, and compassion. The group is co-facilitated by two staff members: Pastor Clover, and Minister of Children and Families, Sandy Prouty; the group has eight to nine lay participants. The program year begins in September and ends in late April. This includes 27 weekly, two-hour meetings, a Fall and Spring retreat, and reflection/practice assignments between sessions.

Why Faith Leader?
Congregations are transformed by individuals who are exploring their own gifts, engaging in prayer practices, meeting in a small group of trusted individuals, and discerning God’s invitation to use those gifts for the world. Participants emerge from the program with the permission to say no to that which does not give them energy and joy; instead all are encouraged to pursue works of ministry in the areas that give them life. Participants emerge from the program with the permission to say no to that which does not give them energy and joy; instead all are encouraged to pursue works of ministry in the areas that give them life.

What’s next?
We look forward to the fourth group beginning in the Fall of 2019. If you are interested in more information about this high commitment, faith formation program, please contact Pastor Clover at clover@montview.org or Sandy at prouty@montview.org. Putting a Faith Leader group together each year entails a group discernment practice rooted in prayerful consideration of the group being formed. Gender balance and age group representations are considered. The invitation brings a spiritual consideration to each person who desires to make a 28-week commitment to going deeper in their faith. The participants were Josh Batchelder, Andrew Newcomb, Bob Homiak, Sean Barclay, John Goerner, Debby Sycamore, Kathy Price, Martha Carlson, and Kera Murphy.

Reflections from FL3 Participants
Faith Leader became a community of faith, friendship, and deep trust, in which we all openly shared our journeys. We explored many topics, which caused uncertainty, doubt, questioning, worthiness, commitment, and sacrifice. Also, hope, connection, trust, service, family, growth. We felt connected to the disciples as well as other members of our church and communities, which also have likely shared these emotions during their experience and service. Faith Leader is comprised of four primary sections:

In Spiritual Discovery, we reviewed Biblical leaders and each of their calls, connecting us to Spiritual Gifts – gifts from God that we possess, should surrender to, and use in our lives. From Galatians 5: 22-23 “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.”

In Spiritual Practices, we cultivated our own Practices of Prayer, Personal Integrity, Presence of the Spirit, Community, Word, and Faithful Living… habits of the body, heart, and mind that deepen our relationships with God, self and others. From that, we developed our own personal Guides for Living: an intentional guideline for daily spiritual practice and growth.

In Discernment, we used our spiritual practices to unravel the mystery of discernment and to look for the presence of God on a daily basis and his will for us. Many of us struggled through discernment because the process yields a path, which is not clear, and requires time, thought, faith, prayer, and community support.

In Personal Plan for Ministry, the culmination was to define, integrate, and use those God-given gifts through service, or action in our daily lives. God asks us each to use our gifts in whatever big or small way, to love our neighbors. Faith Leader serves as a practice and process to identify and name God, make God personal, and take action in our lives based upon our own spiritual gifts with which we can deliver to the world. The process of Faith Leader makes our journey credible,
important, accessible, and supported. Through this journey, we attach those same attributes to our journey of faith.

–Josh Batchelder

It’s hard to put into words what Faith Leader has meant to me. I didn’t know what to expect, and wasn’t sure if I was going to accept, when I was asked. I’m so glad I did. To summarize, it has enabled me to dig deep into my faith; to explore my spiritual gifts; and to spend time contemplating and discussing how I may best use those gifts. Maybe even more importantly, it has helped me to develop a guide for how to best put my faith into practice by establishing regular habits that assist me in carving out space to seek God. It has made me more aware of the Holy, and provided a web of support and community with my fellow Faith Leaders. It has been a very fulfilling experience.

–Kathy Price

I found the Faith Leader program to be very rewarding. The weekly sessions were well guided and the homework provided the basis for some very lively and enlightening discussions. I have a much fuller and deeper understanding of my faith as a result of this program.

–Bob Homiak

The Faith Leader program was a tremendous blessing for me. The opportunity to develop relationships with ten other people in the Montview community is unique and very special. With a group mix of genders, faith experiences, professions, ages, political persuasions (as they were revealed), and family styles made for initial hesitancy but was a critical dynamic and allowed us to see and seek unity in diversity. It’s not often that people who don’t really know each other can connect and have in depth personal discussions of faith—questions, fears, habits, and desires. Bottom line, I am a different person from the Faith Leader experience, one whom I hope will/can become a closer follower of Jesus.

–Martha Carlson

The Communications Committee started a new tradition this past summer by creating a gathering “spot” for members and friends to enjoy the Sunday night City Park Jazz concerts together. The idea is to socialize with each other, but also to be a welcoming and visible presence to others in the community who may be curious about Montview. Each Sunday different families, committees, supper clubs and social groups sign up to host “the spot” by staking out an area, putting up the Montview banner, and providing some simple refreshments. Each week the gathering grew and seems to have the traction to become a long-lived summertime tradition.

Linda Klein Oro
This Youth Sunday, we heard from a few high school senior members of MOB for their first-ever sermons. Middle and high school Montview members took over every aspect of the service, giving the congregation a taste of the next generation’s dedication and challenges. To recall the energy of that day, we have obtained a copy of Ryan Wolfer’s text from this past Youth Sunday.

My First-Ever Sermon
by Ryan Wolfer

Today, we’re talking about times that we’ve strayed and returned to God, so it’s only fair that I share my time. Last fall, I lost all the feeling and movement in my left arm after a hit that I’ve made countless times. I felt cut off from God. For two long dark months I could not move that arm. I worked so hard to start, and my senior year ended with a whimper. The pit, or sheol as it is referred to in the passage, is a place of stillness and darkness, cut off from God.

And it’s not going to look the same for all of us. It might be the lake of fire promised in Revelations, it could be being homeless, being alone, being depressed, or being diagnosed with a terminal illness. Some of us are still in that place, most of us will be, or get there. But what God has planned for you can be truly beautiful. It may not be fully an empty void of darkness; seen through a different lens, it may be full of light.

And maybe, just maybe, there is a lesson in God’s silence. Maybe God isn’t just playing hide & seek. Maybe God is teaching us that we can’t call on him only on our rainy days. We have to call on him when everything in our lives is going great. And we can’t only praise God when everything is perfect. Because, let’s be honest. Anyone can be a Christian when the sun is shining. When you haven’t lost someone you love. It’s not really about who deserves it either. You can go to church every Sunday, read the Bible, volunteer, go on all the work trips, do all the productions, you can do everything right. And the rain still falls. And you’re still suffering.

When I was writing this sermon, I found a Charlie Brown quote. He had just had one of his characteristic bad days, and Linus says to him on the way back, “The rain falls on the hills and the valleys. It falls on the cities and the fields. The Just and the Unjust.”

At some point in your life, you will suffer. And it’s never a hundred percent fair. God has something planned for you, it probably won’t come on your time. But it will be for a lifetime. As for me, I’m going to praise God forever. And ever. Hallelujah. Amen.
A GLIMPSE FORWARD

MUSIQUE & MASQUE | SEPTEMBER 12–15

Save the date! Musique and Masque will bring The Boyfriend to Miller Center on September 12, 13, 14 and 15. This is a song and dance show, a spoof on 1920's musicals (think Thoroughly Modern Millie). It features our high-schoolers, with a full cast of over 70 singers and dancers, and is pure entertainment! Watch for future announcements and posters. Tickets will go on sale on August 11.

AN ON-GOING IMAGINATION: A CONVERSATION ABOUT SCRIPTURE, FAITH, AND THE THICKNESS OF RELATIONSHIP | NOVEMBER 2 & 3

Dr. Walter Brueggmann is this year’s Montview Lecturer. He is a William Marcellus McPheeters Professor Emeritus of Old Testament at Columbia Theological Seminary, an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ, and the author of dozens of books, including Sabbath as Resistance: Saying No to the Culture of Now, Journey to the Common Good, and Chosen? Reading the Bible amid the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict.

Mark your calendars for the public lecture on Saturday, November 2 at 7:00pm, as well as worship and Adult Education Sunday, November 3 at 8:30am, 9:30am, and 11:00am.

AN INVITATION TO EXPLORE MEMBERSHIP

Does Montview feel like your church home and you’re interested in learning more about membership? Are you a member and know someone who is curious about the church?

Five times a year Montview offers a two-part Inquirer’s Class that offers an opportunity to explore membership. The class is not a commitment to join the church, but rather a time to learn and receive answers to your questions. If, after the class, you decide to join Montview, you will be welcomed as a member during a special portion of a scheduled Sunday service.

Here are the dates of the last two Inquirer’s Class opportunities for 2019:

Saturday, September 28 9:00 a.m.-12:00 pm (Part 1)
Sunday, September 29, 9:30-10:30 (Part 2)
OR
Saturday, November 23, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 pm

To learn more or to register, contact Carol O’Dwyer by calling 303-355-1651 ext. 106 or by emailing odwyer@montview.org.

UPCOMING INQUIRERS’ CLASS

Saturday, September 28, 9:00a.m.-12:00 p.m.
&
Sunday, September 29, 9:30a.m.-10:30a.m.
NEW MEMBERS
APRIL 2019

Brian Brauer
Brian’s path to Montview has zig-zagged its way here—in Missouri from Mexico to Kansas City to Memphis to St. Louis to Denver. Not surprisingly, travel is one of his interests, along with walking, working out, and scuba diving. Brian is a physician with UC Health.

Richard Simatupang
Richard has worked in the restaurant business for many years and plans to study to be a nurse. In his free time Richard enjoys cooking, travel, food, fashion, and exercise.

Jason and Cassidy Phillips
Jason and Cassidy are the parents of 7-month-old Savannah. They hope to engage with other parents at Montview. Jason is an asset manager with a focus on affordable housing. In his spare time he enjoys skiing, biking and hiking. Cassidy, Jason, and Savannah enjoy their walks in Wash Park with the family dog. Cassidy finds time to ski, run, travel, and watch college sports.

Heidi Shahtaji
Heidi and her husband Eric are the parents of Ella and Miles. Two birthdays are coming up: Ella will be three and Miles will be one. Heidi is a medical sales manager. When finding spare time, she enjoys being outside and working out.

Kelly Keeseer
Kelly has been involved at Montview for several years, so hers is a familiar face. Kelly’s days find her busy as a sales representative. In her spare time she skis, bikes, hikes, and enjoys Crested Butte.

Lynne Sheridan
Although she has lived in Colorado since 1984, Lynne considers herself to be from Atlanta. She has been an interior designer for 40 years. Lynne enjoys painting, hand sculpture, gardening, bicycling, and going to the movies.

Alison Terry
Ali and her husband Colin moved here from Virginia about thirteen years ago. They have two children. Victoria is in 4th grade; and Thrace is in 5th grade. An alumna of George Mason University, Ali is a business strategist with a construction firm. She enjoys ballroom dance, reading, and sewing.
NEW MEMBERS
APRIL & JUNE 2019

Susan Wroble
Susan and her husband Guy have lived in Park Hill for many years. Their grown children went to Montview Preschool. She has been involved in the community over the years with Girls Scouts, Canine Companions, and, through her daughter, Music and Masque. Susan is a writer for children’s magazines and adult newsletters. She has therapy dogs and volunteers at Children’s Hospital and Denver Museum of Nature and Science.

Karen Garvey
Karen and her husband, Robert, have a son, Nicholas, who will be starting college in the fall. She is a writer and a journalist. In her spare time Karen likes to read, bake, attend concerts, compete in trivia contests, and play fantasy football.

Beth Grant
Beth moved to Denver from Waterbury, Connecticut in 2017 to be near her son and three grandchildren: 9 year old twins and an 11 year old granddaughter. She is retired from her work in cardio-pulmonary rehab at Waterbury Hospital. Beth’s husband, Jeff, passed away last March. Beth likes to golf, bowl, and go on walks with her dog, Sammy.

Rebecca Leavenworth
Rebecca is a recent college graduate—earning a degree in Liberal Arts from Regis University. Her interest in music extends from singing in multiple choirs in the Denver area to writing about music. She loves Montview’s music program and often finds rest in the Meditative Garden. Rebecca likes to walk and garden, and spend time with her son, Jake.

Erin Linn
Erin and her husband Michael moved here six years ago from Pittsburgh. Their son is Nathan, who will be in kindergarten. She is a nurse practitioner. Erin enjoys Colorado’s outdoors and likes running, mountain biking, and playing volleyball.

Sarah McNeil and Charles Weschler
Charley enjoys his commute to Boulder where he works as a developer of solar farms. Sarah runs the early learning department at the Denver Public Library. Their son Alec will soon be two years old. Charley enjoys fishing, cooking, and gardening. Sarah loves team sports, especially soccer and basketball. She likes to hike, ski, and camp.
NEW MEMBERS
JUNE 2019

Laurie and Eric Muller-Girard
Laurie and Eric moved here recently from Cleveland where they attended Forest Hill Presbyterian Church, Clover’s former church. They are long time friends of the Beals. Eric is retired and worked in art and design. He makes stained glass, jewelry, and builds boats. It was Laurie’s job as regional sales executive for Key Bank that brought them to Denver. Laurie enjoys cooking, gardening, traveling, and entertaining. They enjoy spending time with family including their two 20-something daughters.

Melanie Smith
Melanie works in corporate real estate as a facilities consultant. She has a daughter, AnnaRose, who is in the 7th grade. Melanie has many interests: skiing, biking, hiking, camping, cooking, sustainability, politics, ongoing education, and volunteerism.

Michele Murray
Michele works in marketing communications for Children’s Hospital Colorado. She and husband Sean are the parents of two daughters: 8 year old Lucy and 11 year old Adelyn. Michele likes to hike and run and organizes a Food Truck Night at Stapleton’s Central Park West.

MaryJo Starmer
MaryJo is a familiar face at Montview. She is the chairperson of adult education and has taught many classes here. She walked the Camino de Santiago in northern Spain with Ian and other Montview members in the spring of 2015. MaryJo has two adult sons and loves going to farmers’ markets.

GIVING IS EASIER THAN EVER
WE OFFER MULTIPLE WAYS TO GIVE

GIVE IN CHURCH
Traditional giving is available by placing cash or check in the collection plate on Sunday.

TEXT TO GIVE
Text a dollar amount (with a ‘$’ in front) to 720-452-6449. You will receive a response text giving instructions to set up your name, email credit card number, and your gift amount. For members, your gift will be reflected in your contribution statement.

GIVE ONLINE
You may also support Montview by visiting our website on the Giving page at: www.montview.org/giving
Or go directly to your personal church account at: www.shelbygiving.com/montview
NIFTY NINETIES
HIGHLIGHTING A FEW OF OUR 90 AND ABOVE MEMBERS

JACK CAREY

If you ever saw the movie Giant, you have a visual image of the world in which Jack Carey grew up. With wooden oil derricks rising up against the sky, he visited remote sites with his dad and worked on rigs himself as a lad. In fact, oil and gas rigs framed Jack’s career choice, one that took him far and wide. Even to the jungles of Venezuela.

Jack grew up in McPherson, Okla., which was on the frontier of oil exploration. He remembers climbing on the wooden oil derricks as a youth and learning how an oil rig functioned by working on it. Fortunately, he returned from those jobs with all his fingers and limbs.

His parents were originally from Colorado, and they moved the family to Denver when Jack was in high school. Jack graduated from East High School where he had enjoyed playing the trombone and earned the rank of Eagle Scout rank. Outside of school, he spent time in the mountains and helped out on the family ranch in Cherokee Park, north of Fort Collins.

Influenced by his dad and a high school math teacher, he attended the Colorado School of Mines and graduated with a degree in geophysical engineering. Later, he did some graduate work at the University of Colorado. His first job took him to Venezuela, where for two years he lived in a tent in the jungle and worked with a Spanish-speaking crew. This experience shaped his interest in travel, international affairs and social justice.

He was drafted into the military during the Korean War. On the advice of a buddy, he volunteered to work in counter intelligence in the hope that he would be sent to a city where he could have a social life. Instead, he spent three years in Iceland.

Jack returned to civilian life in Denver and worked for Mobil Oil, locating oil and gas reserves for future development. Always curious and interested in learning, Jack earned a law degree at the University of Denver. That equipped him to combine his interests in geophysics, law and land.

Jack and his first wife, Betsy Borgman, raised four children, in whom Jack takes great pride. When the children were in college, he met Jean Cooper, a marriage and family therapist. Jack was in training for Ride The Rockies when rain and snow forced him to take shelter at some cabins. By chance, Jean and several girl friends were spending the weekend at the cabins. Having friends in common, Jack and Jean’s paths crossed a couple more times and by summer’s end they were spending time enjoying Colorado together. They married more than 30 years ago.

Jack loves the outdoors and has cooked up many adventures: downhill skiing, cross-country skiing, skiing the hut-to-hut Haute Route in Italy and Switzerland, hiking 14’ers, biking and road trips abroad and in the U.S. He stays current on topics such as renewable energy, international politics and social justice. Being an avid reader and lifelong learner, he regularly reads the Montview book selections, attends the special lecture series and adult education classes. Jack finds that Montview members, pastors and community provide a thought-provoking environment that keeps him engaged and involved.

DUGAN FREDERICK

Dugan Frederick takes great pleasure spending time with her older brother and sister in Kona, Hawaii, to play games, reminisce, visit the beach and catch up with each other. That places them among a very small cohort of siblings.

Dugan grew up in Bloomington, Ind. Her father, whose family were long-standing New Englanders, was in the third or fourth generation of Presbyterian ministers. Her mother, whose family immigrated from England, was an outgoing, gracious minister’s wife who could greet every newcomer who showed up in church.

The family lived opposite the Indiana University campus. Dugan recalls roller skating on campus and sledding down its hills. As a preteen and teen, she would slip into the Student Union Building on Friday evenings when the big swing bands played at formal dances. One evening, Dugan came within a few feet of Frank Sinatra, shortly before he sang a song he would later make famous, “There’s a Small Hotel.” Sinatra was then about 20.

The family spent summers on Martha’s Vineyard, where Dugan’s grandparents had a cottage in town and a bungalow on Katama Bay. When she was a high school junior, Dugan’s father took a job teaching religion and philosophy at Hanover College in Hanover, Ind. Dugan finished high school at Northfield School for Girls in Northfield, Mass. After graduation, Dugan attended Hanover College, where she majored in humanities. She met her husband, Bob, and they married in 1950.
The young couple was ready for challenges and moves. In 1951, they traveled by train to Lubbock, Texas, where Bob had a position at Texas Tech. A year and a half later, Bob joined the Navy and later became an instructor at the Naval Academy Prep School in Bainbridge, Md. After Bob completed his doctorate in 1960, the young family of five drove the Alcan Highway to Anchorage, Alaska, where Bob taught at the brand-new Alaska Methodist University. Dugan calls the four years she spent in Anchorage “the best years of my life.”

In 1964, during Bob’s sabbatical, the family traveled to Boulder where Dugan’s sister and mother lived. Dugan and Bob decided to separate but remain friends. Dugan went to work for IBM in Boulder as a secretary; in time, she moved to personnel management and education. She enjoyed the corporate world and the learning opportunities it offered, but she opted to change course in her mid-50s. Her mother and sister had moved to Hawaii, so Dugan moved to the Big Island and the town of Kona where she opened a bed and breakfast. For several years, she enjoyed meeting people and experiencing tropical living.

Eventually, she answered the call of the mountains and moved to Denver, where her son lived. For many years, she was a member of Wellshire Presbyterian Church but would visit Montview for the Lectureships, holiday programs and special concerts. Through Montview friends she was invited to be part of the Lectureship Planning Committee because she loved doing research on new topics and speakers. After attending a particularly magnificent Easter service, she realized she had found a new church home at Montview. Dugan also participates in the Knitting Group, Pathfinders and social justice issues. She feels enriched by the music program, the great organ music, the preaching and the community of caring members.

Dugan credits her longevity to growing up in a family with a positive outlook, being a lifelong learner, an avid reader and a writer of letters.

After the girls became older, Pam moved to Pine, Colo., where she bought horses and rode extensively. She loved living in the foothills but started coming to Denver to volunteer at Emily Griffith School; eventually, she was hired to teach computer classes. For six to seven years, she organized a large and successful Job Fair for the students. She really enjoyed the contact with students and watching how their lives were changed and enriched by their new skills.

Pam has traveled widely, but her most memorable trip may have been to London, when she was able to shake hands and chat with Princess Diana.

Pam grew up in Baltimore, Md., with a different sort of royalty as the daughter of Dr. and Dr. Phelps. Her father, Dr. Winthrop Phelps, was a renowned physician who first identified and treated children with cerebral palsy. He went on to found an institute to treat children, train other physicians and conduct research. To this day there is a portrait of him hanging at Johns Hopkins University Hospital, where he worked for many years. Pam’s mother was bilingual, had a PhD in French history and had her books published, no small feat for a woman in the 1920s.

Pam particularly remembers the years she attended summer camp in Maine, where she learned to ride horses, sail, swim and explore. She attended a girls’ school, Elmira College in New York, where she majored in biology. After college, she married Bill Campbell, a pediatric specialist, and they moved to Denver in the 1950s. The couple had three daughters, and Pam became very involved in their Girl Scout troops, Junior League, a bridge group and big family holidays with extended family who lived in Colorado Springs.

In the 1960s, friends introduced her to Montview, and she and her daughters joined the church. They were very involved in the church’s adult and children’s choirs.
HELEN RAMSEY

Helen Ramsey is not just 90 years old, she is a spry 93 years young.

Helen was born in Fort Morgan, the daughter of a Presbyterian minister. After giving birth to three children, her mother had thought she was too old to have another when Helen came along. Her family moved to Nebraska and Indiana when her father was called to other churches.

Helen describes a close-knit family with loving parents. The family often took summer vacations to Estes Park, where Helen developed her love of hiking, swimming and being outdoors. Helen has always loved cats and would bring home strays who were allowed to live under the sleeping porch.

Her parents were determined that all of their children would go to college. They asked Helen to choose a Presbyterian school, so she went to Hanover College in Indiana to study nursing. World War II was under way, and she remembers only four boys, who happened to be 4-F, attended the college. She got her nursing degree at Presbyterian Hospital in Denver and her Bachelor of Arts at Denver University.

After working for a number of years, Helen returned home for three years to help care for her father, who had suffered a stroke. Over the course of her career in Denver, she worked at Children’s Hospital, Denver General and Spalding Rehabilitation, and she taught nursing at Presbyterian. She remembers the years that the polio epidemic filled the wards at Children’s, and she was grateful when a vaccine was developed.

Helen learned to crochet from her mother. She remembers crocheting while her mom read Dickens novels aloud to her. Helen learned to knit during WWII; at the time, it was acceptable to knit in class to create socks or scarves for the soldiers.

She joined school choirs and participated in Montview’s choir but often her schedule interfered with practice or performing. While in seminary, Helen’s dad had known Arthur Miller, who was in a different class and would later become pastor of Montview. However, Helen found Montview on her own and joined 66 years ago, in 1953.

While living in Denver, Helen would walk across City Park to attend church on Sundays. She was an early member of the Prayer Shawl Ministry. Helen enjoys living at Brookdale Tamarac Square, and she and her friends attend the fitness classes, movies and musical performances. She appreciates visits from Pete Hulac and occasionally gets rides to church from Montview members. While she has a niece in Kansas City who checks in on her, she enjoys living in Denver and her apartment with a view.

From the looks of it, Helen is on a glide slope to celebrate her 100th birthday.

Brooke Durland
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WORSHIP HOURS CHANGE
SEPTEMBER 8
We will return to our regular service schedule with two services at
8:30AM & 11:00AM

PREACHING SCHEDULE

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>July 28</td>
<td>Rev. Clover Reuter Beal</td>
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<td>August 4</td>
<td>Rev. Ian Cummins</td>
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<td>August 11</td>
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<td>August 18</td>
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<td>August 25</td>
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<td>October 13</td>
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<td>October 27</td>
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OUR STATEMENT OF MISSION

We believe that the love of God surrounds us. Our call is to nurture this love in ourselves and each other. Through prayer, worship, education, outreach and mission, we seek to foster spiritual fulfillment, community, tolerance, peace, non-violence and social justice. We dedicate ourselves and our church to follow the Spirit of Christ by word and deed.