



OPEN LETTER

Capitol Heights Presbyterian | 10:30 Catholic Community | Dignity Denver | White Forest Sangha



CAPITOL HEIGHTS FAITH COMMUNITIES

1100 Fillmore Street
Denver, Colorado 80206
303-333-9366

Church Administrator: Debbie Yeager
Admin Email: capheightsoffice@gmail.com

Capitol Heights Presbyterian (CHPC)
<https://capheightspres.org>
chpcnews@gmail.com
Facebook [@capitolheightspreschurch](#)
Youtube

10:30 Catholic Community
www.1030catholic.org
Facebook

Dignity Denver
www.dignitydenver.org
Facebook
Dignity: 720-515-GLBT

White Forest Sangha (WFS)
<http://www.whiteforestsangha.org>
mushin@whiteforestsangha.org
Steve: 303-324-0365

Sunday Worship Services
Presbyterian 9:30 a.m.
10:30 Catholic 11:00 a.m.
Dignity Denver 5:00 p.m.

WFS Tuesday Meditation
7:00 - 8:15 p.m.

WFS Wednesday Meditation
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

WFS Saturday Meditation
9:15 - 11:20 a.m.

Send all announcements for the OPEN LETTER to the Church Administrator (capheightsoffice@gmail.com) by 12 PM Thursday

To schedule a meeting or event, please call the church at 303-333-9366 or send an email to capheightsoffice@gmail.com.

To view the Open Letter online visit capheightspres.org or scan the QR code



The Whole Inhabited Earth in the Season of Creation 2022

"Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy ground."
(Exodus 3:5)

We are now in the Season of Creation, an ecumenical movement which will last September 1 - October 4. The symbol selected for this year is the burning bush - a holy fire that neither consumes nor destroys. Resources to aid your reflection and action in this season can be found below. The 10:30 Catholic Community has disseminated *A Season of Creation Calendar* with suggested actions and reflections for this time period and it can be viewed on the last page of the Open Letter.

Season of Creation Week 2 Reflection from Creation Justice Ministries: *Gonna Trouble the Water*, a reflection by Dr. Miguel A. de la Torre

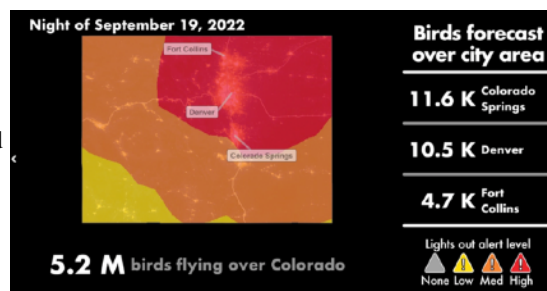
"There's a sacredness to water that all too often the religious sensibilities of the West simply cannot grasp. In the West, water is a commodity: something to use, to abuse, to make money off of. But in many indigenous cultures, water is a spirit in and of itself. So many Indigenous cultures around the world have a reverence for water, see water itself is a deity. Among the Yoruba people, the rivers are known as a goddess, and it is to her that one gives honor by respecting water. The act, then, of polluting water is not just polluting water, but desecrating and blaspheming against the deity. The spirituality and sacredness of water is present in so many traditions, and we are poorer as Christians for not having that..." [Read the full reflection HERE.](#)

Sacred Water: Oceans and Ecosystems - Resource from our friends at JustFaith: In the context of community, participants explore their relationships with water, in both the Christian Scriptures and their daily lives. [LEARN MORE.](#)

Thursday, September 29, 4:00 PM MDT Sacred Sanctuaries: Resilience in God's Marine Creation: On the 50th anniversary of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act, join Creation Justice Ministries to learn about the role marine sanctuaries can play in building resilience for God's planet and people. [REGISTER HERE.](#)

Thursday, October 20, 11:30 AM MDT Environmental Justice Is Racial Justice - Faith Communities Respond: Across our country and our world, communities of color are impacted first and worst by pollution and climate-driven disasters, and among the strongest advocates for change. Learn how your faith community can stand with them with insights from a panel of leaders on the front lines of environmental justice. Event hosted by Creation Justice Ministries, The Alliance of Baptists, and others. [LEARN MORE HERE.](#)

Fall Migration is underway!
Check out [BirdCast Migration Dashboard](#) from EBird to see the varieties and numbers of flyers passing through your State. You can take the next step and keep informed on when "lights out" alerts are in effect in your area to reduce outdoor lighting during peak migration nights. Check out [CSU's AeroEco Lab website](#) to find local alerts for every State in the Country!



Community News

October 8 & 15 9:45 AM - 4:30 PM - "Going Deeper" a workshop with Casa de Paz:

You are invited to participate in this program specifically designed for the Casa de Paz community which helps you deepen your anti-racism skills and process your volunteer experience. In the workshop a "Brave Space" will be created to encourage dialogue that recognizes difference and holds each person accountable to do the work of sharing experiences and coming to new understandings. The event will be held in person at First Universalist Church of Denver, 4101 E Hampden Ave. 80222. [Please complete THIS FORM to register.](#)

Volunteer Opportunities with Capitol Hill United Ministries: Would you like to provide sack lunches or breakfast items to help local organizations with their outreach to our unsheltered neighbors? [Click to sign-up today](#) to make lunches or breakfast items in October.



1972 - 2022 Celebrating 50 Years of Diversity at 1100 Fillmore

This October will mark the **50th Anniversary** of when the 10:30 Catholic Community joined Capitol Heights Presbyterian Church in sharing worship space in our beloved church building. From welcoming immigrants, making lunches for the homeless, providing shelter and hospitality to neighbors, to surrounding our **Nation's Capital city with a ribbon of peace**, these past 50 years have been rich, varied, and blessed and we have truly come to see that diversity is not a threat, but a celebration!

Mark your calendars for **October 2, 2022** at 11:00 AM when we will have a joint Ecumenical Worship Service celebrating our 50 years of Unity in Diversity!

Colorado State Historic Grant Matching Funds

The restoration work on the West Façade is underway with architectural drawing and paperwork being prepared by our grant manager **Shannon Stage** of Historic Denver, and our architect **Natalie Lord**. The team also includes **Jonas Landes & Graham Johnson of Spectrum General Contractors**; & **Jane & Phil Watkins of Watkins Stained Glass**. Debbie Yeager is representing the Church and signing on our behalf on all the necessary forms.

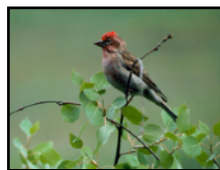
The current work is made possible by a grant from the Colorado State Historic Society with matching funds coming from your generous donations - thank you!

The **Historic Building Fund** will remain **OPEN and donations can be directed** to it at any time to support further restoration work of our beloved building.

Children's Ministry

For younger children & families: Check out some stories and prayers that we have made available **online HERE**.

In many ways every child is born a scientist—exploring their world, leading small experiments, asking questions, searching for answers. Audubon for Kids is tapping into that innate curiosity with their Audubon for Kids webpage. The goal of the activities isn't to teach a child how to name and identify a bird, but rather to give them space to explore and connect to the natural world. **Check it out HERE**.



Capitol Heights Presbyterian Church

We are part of an old tradition, made new with each person who comes to us. We witness to a greatness that transcends what we now say, know, or do, but is graciously made present in acts of kindness, hope and peace. We are called to be a community of such hope for the sake of the God of all, and we delight in all who choose to join us.

- **Service and Dialogue September 18:** All are welcome to join us for our 9:30 AM communion service. Following worship we will have a dialogue at 11:00 AM. Both events will take place in person in the sanctuary or can be attended using the zoom link below.
 - ▶ [Click here to Join Zoom Meeting with video](#)
 - ▶ One tap mobile with a Smartphone: +13462487799,,82045841954# OR +16699009128,,82045841954#
 - ▶ Or Call: (+1) 253 215 8782; enter MEETING ID when prompted: 820 4584 1954 #; PASSCODE 1 2 3 4
- **Sunday, September 18, 2:00 - 5:00 PM:** You are invited to join us in celebrating the 98th birthday of our own dear Fran! Fran and her husband Merrill joined CHPC in the 1940's following WWII. Together, they have gifted our community with an active and faithful life of service, friendship, and love. **We will gather at Cary, Ray, and Ceaghan's house for the celebration and you are welcome to arrive anytime between 2-5PM.** If you would like to bring some small snacks to share that would be welcome. Please note, that Fran has requested this to be a *presence* party, not a *present* party - no gifts required apart from the gift of your own selves! If you have any questions or need help with directions to Cary's place you can call her at 303-908-8202 or email yogacary@gmail.com.
- **Community donations** are being received online or by mail: To mail a donation send your contribution to **Capitol Heights Presbyterian Church, 1100 Fillmore St., Denver, CO 80206**. To donate online visit capheightspres.org/donations.
- **Grocery cards that support CHPC** are available for Safeway and King Soopers grocery stores. As you put money on your card and use it to buy your groceries, a portion of your weekly grocery purchases will support CHPC. Call Charlie Fiser (303-770-6362) if you are interested in participating.

News from Presbytery & other Partner Organizations

- **From the PC(USA) Compassion, Peace, & Justice Ministry:** During the Season of Peace, which began Sept. 4, the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program is encouraging Presbyterians to consider how they can promote peace, not only in their communities but around the globe. Read more about this work and other activities in the PCUSA Compassion, Peace, & Justice Newsletter [HERE](#).
- **Denver Presbytery's** September 16th Friday E-News [can be read HERE](#).

10:30 Catholic Community

We are a Christ-centered, Spirit-directed Catholic worshipping community. In response to the teachings of Vatican II, we come together, searching for ways to reflect the person and work of Jesus Christ in our time, to our world.

- **11:00 AM Mass in the Park: For the remainder of the summer** the 10:30 Community liturgy will be in Little Cheesman Park at the corner of High St. and 7th Ave. for Mass at 11:00 am. Be sure to bring your own chair. We will celebrate the October 2 Ecumenical Service at the church building. Otherwise, we will continue to worship in the park so long as the weather allows.
- **Community Contributions:** The Community made third quarter contribution of \$500 to each to the Colorado Afghan Legal Project and MetroCaring. If you would like to recommend that the Community make a donation to a particular organization, please send your recommendation to Bill Dixon, Jim Butz or Gene Lang.
- **Community donations** are still being received and can be mailed to the following address: c/o Gene Lang, 10:30 Catholic Community; 1100 Fillmore Street; Denver, CO 80206.
- **COVID Safety Protocol:** Council requests that members who test positive for COVID and attended mass (or another 10:30 community function) at a time when they may have been infectious to pass that information along to the Chair so that other members can be informed and supported.

Dignity Denver

Dignity Denver envisions and works for a time when gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender Catholics are affirmed and experience dignity through the integration of their spirituality with their sexuality and as beloved persons of God.

- **Dignity Denver will hold a Mass at 5:00 PM** in the Sanctuary every 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday in the month.

Community Events

Sunday

CHPC Sunday Schedule

9:30 am Service (Sanctuary / [Zoom](#))

11:00 am Dialogue (Sanctuary / [Zoom](#))

10:30 CC Sunday Schedule

11:00 am Mass will be held in Little Cheesman Park

Dignity Denver Sunday Schedule

5:00 pm Dignity Denver Mass *every 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sunday*

Sunday AA

9:00 am Basement Social Hall or South Garden
Benches as weather allows.

Tuesday

5:45 pm NA - "Don't Know Diddly" (Social Hall)

7:00 pm - "Beginner's Mind Zazen," meditation with White Forest Sangha

Wednesday

5:30 pm CHPC Music Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

White Forest Sangha Meditation (Basement Meditation Room)

6:00 - 6:15 logon/seating in the zendo

6:15 - 6:55 zazen

6:55 - 7:15 chanting service

7:15 - 7:25 prepare for discussion

7:25 - 8:00 Dharma discussion

8:00 p.m. Bodhisattva vows and closing gathering

7:00 - 8:30 pm Comedy Therapy with Dr. Alison Sheesley for people struggling with social or generalized anxiety. (Nursery) [More information HERE](#)

Thursday

6:00 pm Women's AA (Room 104)

Saturday

White Forest Sangha Morning Meditation

(Basement Meditation Room)

9:15 - 9:30 arrive and take seat in zendo

9:30 - 10:10 zazen

10:10 - 10:20 kinhin

10:20 - 11:00 zazen

11:00 - 11:20 service

11:20 informal tea

For more information contact Steve Mushin Crisman ([303-324-0365](tel:303-324-0365) / mushin@whiteforestsangha.org)

10:00 am SLAA (Room 104)

10:30 am NA - "Primary Purpose" (Social Hall)

ONGOING EVENTS:

Every Fourth Thursday of the Month

7:00 PM Journey with Migrants Mission Partnership meeting (held on zoom)

Leaders of the Capitol Heights Faith Communities

Ecumenical Leadership at 1100 Fillmore

Shared Operations Leadership:

CHPC Session • 10:30 Catholic Council • Dignity Denver Board

Charlie Fiser

Treasurer, Shared Operations

Debbie Yeager

Building Administrator

Charles Norton

Insurance, Rental Agreement Consultant

Historic Building Team

Debbie Yeager

Sonya Yeager-Meeks

Dan Jacobs

Shannon Stage & Historic Denver

Ecumenical Worship Committee

Bibiana Hager

CHPC

Jeanne Jeffas

CHPC

Mary Sullivan

10:30 CC

Sylvia Sullivan

10:30 CC

Garden Team:

Mary Lou Fenili

Liz Pinckard

Debbie Yeager

Sonya Yeager-Meeks

Lindsey Snow of *Remedy Permaculture Design*

Outdoor Kiosk Manager:

Mary Hupp



Capitol Heights Presbyterian Church

Session Elders:

Jeanne Jeffas

(Class of 2022 - 2nd Term)

Erik Sabina

(Class of 2022 - 2nd Term)

Charles Norton

(Class of 2023 - 1st Term)

Sonya Yeager-Meeks

(Class of 2023 - 1st Term)

Mary Hupp

(Class of 2024 - 1st Term)

Rodney Shuff

(Class of 2024 - 2nd Term)

Rev. Mark Meeks

Spiritual Leader

Rev. Bill Sanders

Moderator

Bonnie Jensen

Clerk of Session

Charlie Fiser

Treasurer

Jean Demmler

Commissioner to the Presbytery of Denver

Bibiana Hager

Deacon

Sonya Yeager-Meeks

Co-Director of Music

Debra Yeager

Co-Director of Music

Debra Yeager

Children's Ministry

Pastoral Life Committee:

Fran Adams

Cary Mead

Lillian Shuff

Mark Meeks

10:30 Catholic Community Council

Kelz Kelzenberg

Chair

480-297-5003

Bill Dixon

Co-chair

303-388-4973

Gene Lang

Treasurer

303-399-5692

Kristen Insana

Secretary

440-223-0101

Meg Johnson

Liturgy Liaison

303-399-5692

Jeanne McLaughlin-Powers

Religious Education

303-355-8603

Liaison

Mary Sullivan

Social Action Liaison

703-371-9105

Estela Bogaert-Martinez

Member At-large

303-618-6617

Patricia Peterson

Member At-large

303-475-6675

Dignity Denver Board

Brad Cameron

President

Brad Cameron

Co-Treasurer

Mike Misgen

Member at Large



Listen to the Voice of Creation

SEASON OF CREATION 2022

The Burning Bush
Ex 3, 1-12

September 1—October 4, 2022

Theme, prayers, reflections and action created for people & parishes of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis



September 4 23rd Sun. of Ord. Time Introduce Season of Creation to parish at Sunday Mass		September 5 Make every Monday a "Meatless Monday" https://www.mondaycampaigns.org		September 6 Refuse single-use plastic; Bring cloth bags; refuse use of a beverage straw http://www.plasticfreechallenge.org/		September 7 Reflect on: "The entire universe speaks of God's love. Everything is a caress of God #84		September 1 During this season of Creation explore ways in which you could save energy in your home: LED Lights, clean filters		September 2 Discuss how to save water in your family—commit to one new way		September 3— Memorial of St Gregory Do a local Earth Examen Introduce Season of Creation to your parish at Sunday Mass	
September 11 24th Sun. of Ord. Time Patriots' Day (911) Pray for peace in your home and in the world.		September 12 Make every Monday a "Meatless Monday" https://www.mondaycampaigns.org		September 13 Mem. Saint John Chrysostom—Preached against the abuse of power of both church and government leaders. "There is a need for forthright and honest debate." #16 Where is your voice today?		September 14 Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross The Earth is suffering. Spend time with her today, seeing the magnificence, smelling the diversity, paying attention to the birdsong and wind		September 8 Nativity of Mary Pray "Blessing of Mother Earth"		September 9 Mem. of Saint Peter Claver— Apostle of Slaves Pray for those trafficked today https://internationalpresentationassociation.org		September 10 Clean up trash in your neighborhood, park or Church. Make it a community event	
September 18 25th Sun. of Ord. Time Share your garden produce at your local food shelf		September 19 Make every Monday a "Meatless Monday" https://www.mondaycampaigns.org		September 20 Memorial of Saints Andrew Kim Tae-gon and companion martyrs—lay leaders of a persecuted Korean Church Who is sacrificing life for faith today?		September 21 Feast of St Matthew Patron of economists and accountants. "It is imperative to promote an economy which favors productive diversity and business creativity" for the welfare of all. #129		September 15 Our Lady of Sorrows Pray for mothers who have lost children through violence https://mothersagainstviolence.org		September 16 Practice the 5 R's: Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Repurpose, Recycle https://guide.michelin.com		September 17 Care for our Common Home Retreat. St Bernard, Cologne 10-6pm	
September 25 26th Sun. of Ord. Time Care for our Common Home Retreat, St Timothy, Blaine		September 26 Make every Monday a "Meatless Monday" https://www.mondaycampaigns.org		September 27— Memorial of St Vincent de Paul Read a creation story to a child today		September 22 The Creator of the Universe instilled a sense of the interconnectedness in all creation. Reflect on this principle of UNITY		September 23 Native American Day On the fourth Friday of Sept. we celebrate the irreplaceable heritage, contributions, and knowledge of the Native American populations. It is a day to remember the enduring legacy of their fortitude, energy, and strength.		September 24 Visit a Farmer's Market and meet the growers of your food.			
October 2 27th Sun. of Ord. Time Blessing of animals		October 3 Make every Monday a "Meatless Monday" https://www.mondaycampaigns.org		October 4 Memorial of Saint Francis of Assisi Pray "Hymn of St Francis" What one new act can you do to Care for our common home?		<p><i>The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of God's hands.</i></p> <p><i>² Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge.</i></p> <p><i>³ They have no speech, they use no words; no sound is heard from them.</i></p> <p><i>⁴ Yet their voice^{2d} goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world. Ps19</i></p>							



This year for the Season of Creation, Creation Justice Ministries is exploring the theme "Sacred Lands, Sacred Waters." Throughout the month they will be featuring perspectives from theologians, activists, and spiritual leaders. [Learn more and read the blog HERE.](#)

RESOURCES FROM CREATION JUSTICE MINISTRIES:

- Join us in the fight to protect 30% of lands and waters by 2030! [Learn more HERE](#)
- Check out the "Liturgy" section of our Resource Hub to find prayer, litanies, and other items you may need for Season of Creation worship. [Learn more HERE](#)



SEASON OF CREATION

INVITATION TO JOIN SEASON OF CREATION 2022

The Season of Creation is the annual Christian celebration to listen and respond together to the cry of Creation: the ecumenical family around the world unites to pray and protect our common home, the Oikos of God.

The Season "Celebration" begins 1 September, the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, and ends 4 October, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology beloved by many Christian denominations.

Following the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, we begin the Season of Creation "Preparation" to reach local leaders and call our communities to participate actively by raising awareness of the theme, and how to respond to the cry of creation where the Lord calls us in our diverse contexts.

The Psalmist declares, "The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims God's handiwork. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge their voice is not heard; yet their voice goes out through all the Earth, and their words to the end of the world." (19: 1-4) Creation never ceases to proclaim, but do we listen?

During the Season of Creation, our common prayer and action can help us listen for the voices of those who are silenced. In prayer we lament the individuals, communities, species, and ecosystems who are lost, and those whose livelihoods are threatened by habitat loss and climate change. In prayer we center the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor.

Listening to the voice of creation offers members of the Christian family a rich entry point for interfaith and interdisciplinary dialogue and practice. By listening to the voice of all creation, humans from all cultures and sectors of life can be joined in our vocation to care for our common home (oikos).

May this 2022 Season of Creation renew our ecumenical unity! And may this season of prayer and action be a time to Listen to the Voice of Creation, so that our lives in words and deeds proclaim good news for all the Earth!

2022 THEME

This year we will unite around the theme, "Listen to the Voice of Creation."

During the COVID-19 pandemic, many have become familiar with the concept of being muted in conversations. Many voices are muted in public discourse around climate change and the ethics of Earth-keeping. These are voices of those who suffer the impacts of climate change. These are voices of people who hold generational wisdom about how to live gratefully within the limits of the land. These are voices of a diminishing diversity of more-than-human species. It is the voice of the Earth. The 2022 Season of Creation theme raises awareness of our need to listen to the voice of creation.



The 2022 Symbol:

"I have heard their cry...I know their sufferings...Come, now! I will send you... i will be with you" (Ex 3, 1-12)



The Burning Bush
Ex 3, 1-12

Listen to the Voice of creation
SEASON OF CREATION 2022

The burning bush is the Symbol for the Season of Creation 2022. We invite you to use the symbol of a burning bush during your events. Today, the prevalence of unnatural fires are a sign of the devastating effects that climate change has on the most vulnerable of our planet. Creation cries out as forests crackle, animals flee, and people are forced to migrate due to the fires of injustice that we have caused. On the contrary, the fire that called to Moses as he tended the flock on Mt. Horeb did not consume or destroy the bush. This flame of the Spirit revealed God's presence. This holy fire affirmed that God heard the cries of all who suffered, and promised to be with us as we followed in faith to our deliverance from injustice. In this Season of Creation, this symbol of God's Spirit calls us to listen to the voice of creation, and faithfully respond through worship, repentance and action. As you celebrate this Season of Creation, light candles, light the Easter fire, adorn a bush in your place of worship or action. And may this symbol remind us to take off our sandals, contemplate our connection to holy ground, listen for the voice of creation, and be filled with hope to quench the fires of injustice with the light of God's healing love that sustains our common home.

Join Season of Creation:

We hope that this Season of Creation renews and unites us by the one Baptism and call to care for our common home.

We invite you to schedule your own participation in the Season. As a first step, go to SeasonOfCreation.org. You will find the **Faith Leaders' Letter** inviting us to join the Season, the **Theme presentation**, and, later in May the official **Season of Creation Celebration Guide** with a wide range of resources (to be translated into various languages).

Individuals and communities are invited to participate through prayer, sustainability projects, and advocacy:

Prayer: Host an ecumenical prayer service that unites all Christians to care for our common home, journey together in Creation or in places affected by climate change and biodiversity loss, liturgical moments to listen from the Book of Lord and the Book of Creation

Sustainability: Lead a public awareness event reaching a wider public of people with the good news that each of us can bring its contribution.

Advocacy: Raise your voice for climate justice by participating or joining an ongoing campaign, such as the movement to divest from fossil fuels.

See [HERE](#) for concrete proposals to participate through prayer, sustainability projects, advocacy.

As an unstoppable wave, Christians from all over the world will witness to listen and respond together to the cry of creation and as we care for our common home (oikos), each initiative will be an essential piece of the mosaic that only together we could create.

